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One more body found, families mourn as plane search continues

WITH one more body discovered yesterday, the total number of retrieved bodies from a military transport plane crash reached 32.

Amid severe weather in the Andaman Sea, the search for the plane that went missing with 122 people on board entered a third day yesterday with the help of eight navy ships, 20 local fishing boats and multiple sonar systems.

Out of 30 bodies pulled from the sea by Thursday evening, 16 were able to be identified after forensic examinations at Dawei Hospital. The bodies were then cremated in the presence of the relatives, according to the Ministry of Defence.

More than 100 relatives and friends wept quietly and others offered prayers to commemorate the identified victims, who were cremated yesterday in Dawei on a rainy afternoon.

“What we found now is my granddaughter. Her father and mother’s bodies are not found yet,” said one of the mourners, Ma Myat Thaw May, her voice trembling as she spoke of the 7-month-old girl.

Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Khin Aung Myint and



Divers from the Tatmadaw search for bodies and the missing plane in the Andaman Sea yesterday in rough weather. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED BY MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**

senior military officers consoled the relatives of the victims at the Mingaladon Airbase in Yangon.

Donors presented cash assistance yesterday reaching a total of more than K568 million.

The money will be provided to the families of the victims, said the statement.

With 90 passengers and crew still unaccounted for, scores of soldiers were on standby

yesterday to help if more bodies needed to be carried ashore in the fishing village of Sanlan, about 600 km (372 miles) from Myanmar’s largest city, Yangon.

Twenty-three adults and

eight children made up the tally of bodies searchers have pulled from the Andaman Sea since Wednesday, the military said on its official page on social media site Facebook. **SEE PAGE-2**

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sends condolences to families of missing Tatmadaw plane

DURING yesterday’s meeting of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the legislature confirmed and put on record a motion of condolence to families and friends of the victims of the

missing Tatmadaw transport plane, with representative observing two minutes of silence in memory and prayer to the victims.

The hluttaw then put on re-

cord the appointments of Deputy Minister for Construction and Ayeyawady Region Government Minister for Planning and Finance sent by the President.

Next, Speaker of Py-

idaungsu Hluttaw announced for the enrollment of hluttaw representatives who object to the appointment of Union Supreme Court judges U Mya Han, U Myo Tint, U Soe Naing

and U Khin Maung Kyi and Union Election Commission members U Myint Naing and U Than Htay proposed by the President.

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw sends condolences to families of missing Tatmadaw plane

FROM PAGE-1

Afterward, the hluttaw representatives debated a report number (6/2017) of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Public Accounts Joint Committee views and remarks on a report sent by the Union Auditor General's Office on the findings of the FY 2015-2016 development fund related to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

U Kan Myint of Thayet constituency, U Khin Cho of Hlaing-

bwe constituency, Daw Thandar of Einme constituency, Dr. Kyaw Ngwe of Magway Region constituency 10, U Yan Lin of Kyaiklat constituency, U Kyaw Htay of Leshi constituency, U Sein Win of Maubin constituency, Daw Than Than Lwin of Hpa-an constituency and U Aung Thike of Seikpyu constituency debated the report.

Union Auditor General U Maw Than then explained the report number (6/2017) and com-

ments of the hluttaw representatives.

Afterward the hluttaw agreed to put on record the Union Auditor General's Office report on the findings of the FY 2015-2016 development fund related to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and confirmed the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Public Accounts Joint Committee report number (6/2017).—Myo Thu Hein, Aye Aye Thant (MNA) ■



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw being convened in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA



Workers loading boats with bags of rice that will be exported to neighbouring Bangladesh. PHOTO: YE HTUT

Maungtaw exports over US\$1mn to Bangladesh

Min Thit (MNA)

THE Maungtaw District's Ministry of Commerce said the value of exports to Bangladesh in May reached over US\$1.076 million, with virtually no imports from Bangladesh.

U Aung San Thein, the Vice Chariman of the Maungtaw Merchants Association, said that these days Maungtaw exports hilsa fish, rice, ginger, dried fish and other edible products.

Maungtaw's exports make up 90 per cent of the border trade, with imports from Bangladesh consisting only of alumi-

num pots and pans and water tokens.

The Maungtaw Border Trade Group said normally Maungtaw exports saltwater prawn, dried fish and bamboo, among other commodities, while cement, aluminum pots and pans and clothing products are imported from Bangladesh.

A local resident from Maungtaw said trade with Bangladesh is not the same with other neighbouring countries. Thailand and China have a high amount of imports into Myanmar. Bangladesh's business is mainly in textile production, so they have low import

rates. In the 2015-2016 financial year, imports from Bangladesh reached only US\$60,000.

Another local resident said border trade is conducted based on trust between merchants. Payment is made only after the merchandise has been sold.

Imports from Bangladesh mainly arrive through Sittway and Maungtaw in Rakhine State. Among the two, Maungtaw is the primary trade route with Bangladesh.

According to the Maungtaw Trade outpost, trade with Bangladesh during the 2014-2015 financial year reached

US\$7.7 million in exports and US\$106,000 in imports. In the 2015-2016 financial year exports reached US\$5.4 million and imports reached US\$66,000. In the 2016-2017 financial year exports reached US\$2.9 million and imports reached US\$27,000.

To improve border trade with Bangladesh, a trade zone is being constructed near Kanyin Creek in Maungtaw with the Rakhine State Government allotting Ks600million and private companies putting in Ks400million into the project. A main building, a warehouse, a jetty and several office buildings have finished construction. ■

Another body recovered as search for military plane continues

FROM PAGE-1

"We have not received any information about survivors," said Phyu Phyu Win, a regional social welfare and relief official. "Hopefully someone would survive."

Soldiers, family members and crew were on board the weekly flight from several coastal towns to Yangon when it went missing.

Contact with the Chinese-made Y-8-200F transport plane was lost 29 minutes after takeoff, while at a height of 18,000 feet (5,485 metres), about 43 miles (70 km) west of Dawei, the military said.

An aircraft wheel, two life jackets and bags with clothes - believed to be from the missing plane - were found on Thursday. Some oil patches were also spotted, the military said.

The cause of the incident has yet to be confirmed.

State-owned China National Aero-Technology Import & Export Corporation, maker of the plane, said it would assist Myanmar authorities in investigating the crash.

Survivors are unlikely more than 72 hours after contact with the plane was lost, despite warm sea temperatures, experts have said.

Many bodies fragmented into several pieces and no victim wearing a life jacket has yet been recovered, a member of the emergency team said.—Reuters and GNLM ■

Matriculation examination results to be released

The matriculation exam results for the 2016-2017 academic year will be released nationwide on 17 June early morning.

The examination results will simultaneously be announced at the examination

centers in respective townships, states and divisions.

Besides, the examination results of the states and divisions will also be posted at No. 1 Basic Education High School in Insein Township, No. 1 Basic Education High

School in Yankin Township, No. 3 Basic Education High School in Kamayut Township, No. 1 Basic Education High School in Lanmadaw Township, No. 2 Basic Education High School in Dagon Township and No. 1 Basic Education High School

in Thingangyun Township.

Exam results will be announced at schools and exam centers, and can be found online at the website of Myanmar Boards of Examinations: www.myanmarexam.org. — Myanmar News Agency ■

State Counsellor meets Canadian Governor General Mr. David Johnston

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met Canadian Governor General Mr. David Johnston in Rideau Hall, the official residence and workplace of the Governor General, Ottawa at local standard time 9:45 a.m. 8 June.

At the meeting, matters relating to education, water resources management, agriculture, travel and tourism, and preservation of cultural heritage and historical buildings were discussed.

Later, the State Counsellor attended a discussion on the role of the military in the federal system of Canada, military-civil relations and the role of the Canadian police force arranged by the Forum of Federations in Andaz Ottawa Market Hotel after which she gave a word of thanks on a successful federal study visit. Forum of Federations is an international network of federal countries, elected officials, civil servants and scholars. The

Forum was established by the Government of Canada in 1999 and currently has nine other partner governments: Australia, Brazil, Ethiopia, Germany, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan and Switzerland.

In the evening, the State Counsellor met with the Premier of Ontario Kathleen Wynne in Queen's Park, Toronto and exchanged views and discussed matters relating to the national reconciliation and peace process in Myanmar, ethnic nationals living together in harmony, sharing Canada's federal system experience, increasing bilateral relation of students and teachers through visits and sending volunteers from Ontario province to Myanmar.

Present at the meetings were Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin, Myanmar Ambassador to Canada U Kyaw Myo Htut and high ranking officials.—Myanmar News Agency ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi holds talk with Canada Governor General Mr. David Johnston in Rideau Hall in Ottawa on 8 June. **PHOTO: PE ZAW**

Flooding in Yangon to be resolved with World Bank loan

By Ko Moe, Zaw Gyi (Panita), Su Hnin Le

Flooding and inundation that occurs annually in Yangon during the rainy season will be resolved with US\$100 million from a US\$125 million loan obtained from the World Bank, said Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein yesterday.

The remark came at the press conference on the one-year performance of the government in Yangon yesterday.

There is flooding and inundation during heavy rain because drains are clogged with garbage. New construction also blocked the drains and underground pipes.

In addition, water collecting ponds that existed in the past prevented flooding and inundation in Yangon and construction of such ponds will be done, said Yangon Mayor U Maung Maung Soe.

At the press conference on their one-year performance in Mingalar Hall yesterday, Yangon Region ministers explained by sectors their performance and responded to questions raised by the media.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein said he is satisfied with the one-year performance of the regional government, adding that in some cases, success can be seen within a short time but for others, the results can be seen only after the passage of a few years.

A master plan for development of Yangon was drawn up by the regional government in cooperation with international organisations like Japan International Cooperation Agency and Alliance Francaise (French Cultural Center) while upgrading of the industrial zone was also conducted, said U Phyo Min Thein.

The Yangon Bus Service (YBS) system that is now up to international standards was rolled out on 16 January to reduce traffic congestion, with plans underway to start the Yangon Water Bus that will ply the Yangon River/Hlaing River and Nga Moe Yeik Creek.

In the agricultural sector, the one-year performance featured maintenance of drains, dikes and sluice gates, said U Han Tun, the minister for ag-



Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein delivers a speech at the press conference of Yangon Region Government on one-year performance in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: PE ZAW**

riculture, livestock and irrigation. Distribution of high-yield, good-quality seeds and training, education, research and development of agriculture methods were also conducted.

During the past year, aging and cluttered electric cables were replaced and the main power grid line and electric power sub-stations were constructed, said minister for electricity, industry, road and communication Daw Nilar Kyaw. She added that in addition to the Yangon populace, work is being done to provide full electricity to industrial

zones, including the Thilawa Special Economic Zone (SEZ).

Work programmes of the Yangon regional government include potable water supply required under the city and rural development, upgrading of waterway transport, upgrading of 29 industrial zones in the region and upgrading of Thilawa SEZ.

In addition, arrangements for the upgrading of the Yangon circular railway, implementing an upgrade of the Yangon railway station based on a design that includes the railway, car parking, shopping mall and roads for vehi-

cles, resettling and resolving the requirements of the squatters in the region and setting up and upgrading of new satellite towns were conducted, it was learnt.

Similarly, rural development works were implemented in Thanlyin, Thongwa, Kawhmu, Hmawby, Taikkyi townships during fiscal year 2016-2017, using the Ks300 lakh rural development fund.

Furthermore, Ks32.2 billion earmarked for road overpasses were diverted to rural development works in 12 townships outside of the Yangon city development area. Rural development works that include concrete road construction, pond digging and bridge construction were done in Twantay, Thongwa, Kungyangon, Taikkyi, Dagon Myothit (east) townships using Ks1 billion.

Ks64 billion is invested in the construction of buildings to resolve the difficulties caused by squatting and for departments and organisations of City Bank under the Yangon City Development Committee, while Ks70 billion is invested in the public bus company under the YBS system. ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is welcomed by Hon Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario on 8 June, 2017. **PHOTO: MNA (NEWS ON PAGE 3)**

Japan donates 4 fire engines to Thilawa SEZ

By Ye Khaung Nyunt

The Society for Promotion of Japanese Diplomacy (SPJD) donated four fire engines worth US\$ 1.8million and a ceremony for the donation was held in Thilawa Special Economic Zone (SEZ) yesterday.

The Thilawa SEZ was constructed for the development of Myanmar's economy and to attract foreign investment and has achieved success since its establishment. Myanmar Japan Thilawa Development Limited (MJTD) has conducted a 5-day training to its staff and firefighters from Thanlyin and Kyauktan Township firefighters so that they are capable of systematically handling the new fire engines and equipment.

Yangon Region Minister of Electricity, Industry, Road and

Communication Daw Nilar Kyaw said the new fire engines give a boost of energy not only to Thilawa SEZ but also to Thanlyin and Kyauktan Townships. The fire engines will be kept under the administration of the Head Fire Department while the fire engines themselves will be stationed in Thilawa SEZ. Currently there are 83 companies from over 17 foreign countries are investing in the SEZ. Thirty-three companies are conducting businesses, thirty-eight companies are setting up for business and twelve companies are constructing factories.

Minister Daw Nilar Kyaw accepted the signed documents for the four fire engines at the ceremony. A demonstration of the fire engines in action was given by the MJTD staff members and firefighters from Thanlyin and Kyauktan Townships. ■



Demonstration of the fire engines' capabilities. **PHOTO: PHO HTAUNG**

VP U Henry Van Thio addresses ceremony for returning confiscated farmlands



Vice President U Henry Van Thio (Third from left) inspects building embankment to prevent salt water. **PHOTO: MNA**

VICE President, U Henry Van Thio inspected the repair of salt water embankment at Alote village in Paung Township, Mon State yesterday afternoon, and addressed the ceremony for returning confiscated farmlands to original owners held in Kyaukmaraw.

U Henry Van Thio, Vice President and Chairman of the National Committee for Management of Natural Disasters, arrived at the site for repairing salt water embankment at Alote village in Paung township, accompanied by Union Minister Naing Thet Lwin, Mon State Chief Minister Dr Aye Zan, Deputy Minister Major General Aung Soe and responsible officials. The Vice President and party were briefed by responsible officials regarding the situation of the destroyed salt water embankment due to Cyclone Mora on May 27, 2017, emergency prevention arrangements and planned targets for fortifying the embankment.

Afterwards, the Vice President said, "The embankment was built at the expense of K 456 million, its dykes slid down due to the strong storm. In fortifying embankments in future, potential risks need to be calculated in every way systematically and Australian Vertiba Grass and mangroves should be grown for strengthening the soil."

Alote village is situated in Paung township, and it is a wave-and-tide-prone area. The ebb and flow are happening twice a day, especially severely on Full Moon Days and New



Embankment is seen in Paung Township to prevent sea water. **PHOTO: MNA**

Moon Days and wind speed at the time when it coincides with storms is over 50 miles per hour.

Following that, the Vice President addressed the ceremony for returning confiscated farmlands to original owners held in the Shwe Hin Thar Hall in Kyaukmaraw township.

At the ceremony, the Vice President said, "The Union government is making arrangements for returning confiscated farmlands and other lands to their original owners in accordance with rules and laws. It takes time as farmland cases need to be scrutinized whether they comply with paperwork on ownerships and other particulars or not. Now farmers who had got their lands in their possession are urged to transform their farms from conventional farming to mechanized farming for national development. Government servicemen and officials should perform their office work with "cetana" and transparency by applying land laws and rules, procedures and

the farmers also need to cooperate fully with the government officials, for the speedy accomplishment of the task at hand."

Afterwards, Union Minister U Naing Thet Lwin, Mon State Chief Minister Dr Aye Zan, Deputy Minister Maj Gen Aung Soe, Permanent Secretary of the Defence Ministry Brig-Gen San Win and Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Industry U Ko Ko Lwin gave (forms - 3) certificates for temporary lease to original farmers.

It has been learnt that there were 118 farmers who were given out certificates of temporary lease on the use of 442 acres out of 638 acres of land confiscated by the Ministry of Industry.

After the ceremony, the Vice President greeted the farmers cordially, after which he inspected the "One Stop Shop" in Mawlamyine, which was launched in 2015. This shop is being served by service personnel from 10 departments.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Reduced stamp duty not have impact on real estate market

By May Thet Hnin

The rate of stamp duty levied on real estate transaction was reduced by one percentage point from 5 per cent, but the real estate market remained cool with no significant change, said U Khin Maung Than, the chair of the Myanmar Real Estate Services Association.

“There is no profound impact on the market with a stamp duty reduction of 1 per cent. The market remained unchanged. We will request the government to reduce more and more. The rate decreased by one third than the previous rate”, he added.

Previously, 15 per cent of the house’s value had to be paid, in maximum, when the real estate transaction was made. Starting from August 2014, 35 per cent was paid for real estate selling and buying in maximum. Real property price are still on the rise, said real estate agents.

“The real estate sales did



The ariel view of Yangon’s developing real estate on 20 May 2017. Photo: GNLM/ Phoe Khwar

not significantly rise, but houses worth Ks50million are being sold in suburban towns like Hlaing-thaya Town in Yangon,” said U Aung Naing Thu, a real estate

agent.

The Myanmar Real Estate Services Association, as associate member of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers

of Commerce and Industry, also has plans to hold a discussion with Vice President (1) U Myint Swe , said U Khin Maung Than.

“We will submit a report to

prescribe the price per square foot of the houses across the country, reduce the income tax, pass by-laws of condominium law and formulate real estate service law submitted by Myanmar Real Estate Services Association on 8th September as soon as possible”, he added.

Although the stamp duty rate was reduced by 1 per cent on 4th June, there is no official announcement to reduce the income tax which is still being reviewed, said an official from the Internal Revenue Department.

The Union Minister for National Planning and Finance stressed at a discussion concerning real estate tax during previous month that the ministry will reduce the tax rate for the real estate market to raise its head again.

The real estate market was seen to significantly rise between 2007 and early 2014, said real estate agents. ■

Increasing number of edible bird nest producers in southern Myanmar

THE number of producers of edible bird nests has increased in southern Myanmar in towns such as Myeik, Kawthoung, and Bokpyin, according to a report in yesterday YCDC newspaper.

China is the main buyer of edible bird nests produced by swiftlets. A viss of bird-nests fetches US\$2,000 in the market. The edible bird nests

are utilised in making China traditional medicine for high nutritional value and exquisite flavor. It is also believed that it has medicinal benefits for pregnant women. In addition to its use for its medicinal purposes, Chinese restaurants also offer bird’s nests soup at a premium price.

Previously, bird nest hunt-

ers had to collect the nests at islands in the Myeik archipelagoes in Taninthayi Region.

Now bird nest producers create suitable birdhouses where swiftlets are induced into making nests at houses in Myeik, Kawthoung, and Bokpyin townships. There are nearly 150 of these houses and many breeders are thriving, it is learnt.—YCDC ■

Myanmar and Viet Nam Companies to build livestock feed production plant

The Fisheries and Feed Development Public Company will team up with Viet Nam Company to construct a feed production plant for poultry, pig and cattle next year, according to a statement issued yesterday by the Yangon City Development Committee.

The feed production plant is slated to be built at Shwepyitha Industrial Zone in Yangon Region. Other production plants

are planned for construction in Mandalay Region in 2019 and Ayeyawady Region in 2022, according to an official from the Fisheries and Feed Development Public Company.

The total capital amount has not been publicly disclosed. Dutch feed production methods and machines will be used at the plants.

The plant will eventually

produce feed for poultry, pig, cattle, fish, prawns and crabs, according to a company official.

The factory aims to systematize livestock feeding method and increase investment amount in Myanmar’s livestock sector. Experts from Viet Nam are currently sharing their knowledge and methods concerning feed production to Myanmar breeders.—YCDC ■

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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
သတင်းစာများကို ဤဆိုင်များတွင်ဝယ်ယူဖတ်ရှုနိုင်ပါပြီ

- Market Place by City Mart (6.5 Mile)
- City Mart (Junction Square)
- Market Place by City Mart (Damasidi Road)
- City Mart (Junction Maw Tin)
- City Mart (Aung San Stadium)
- City Mart (Sule Square)
- City Mart (47th street)
- City Mart (Star City - Thanlyin)
- City Mart (Yankin)
- City Mart (Waizayandar)
- City Mart (China Town)
- City Mart (Hledan)
- City Mart (Myay Ni Gone)
- City Mart (Myanmar Plaza)
- City Mart (FMI)
- Ocean North Point (9 mile)
- Ocean Shwegonedine

Towards peace, stability and progress of Rakhine State

The activities of peace, stability, rule of law and development in Rakhine State

By Maung Maung Myint Swe

Rakhine State located in the western part of Myanmar, surrounded by Bay of Bangle and Rakhine mountain ranges, is a naturally beautiful State in Myanmar.

Working at pace

Within one year, the incumbent government has been accelerating its activities for stability, peace and local development in Rakhine State, a door in the west of Myanmar.

Central Committee for the implementation of stability, peace and development in Rakhine State

With a view to be able to implement peace, stability and development in Rakhine State led by the State level authorities, Central Committee for the Implementation of Peace, Stability and Development in Rakhine State chaired by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was formed on May 30, 2016. Working committees at different levels were also formed and assigned.

In the Central Committee, Union Minister for Border Affairs and Rakhine State Chief Minister as vice chairmen, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs as secretary and 27 members were organized to undertake the stability, peace and development in Rakhine State.

The four working committee

To realize the assigned works given by the Central Committee, four working committees were formed on May 30, 2016, in compliance with the announcement 24/2016 of President's office. The committees are Security, Peace, Stability and the Rule of Law Working Committee led by Union Minister for Home Affairs, Resettlement and Socio-economic Development Working Committee led by Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and population, Cooperation with UN Agencies and International Organizations Working Committee led by Union Minister for State Counsellor's Office.

Effectiveness and Benefits

The central committee and working committees formed to implement the works for peace, stability and development held regular coordination meeting led by State Counsellor, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and have been undertaking the works effectively for peace, stability and development of Rakhine State producing the results that were beneficial to people of Rakhine.

The Central committee often vis-



The State Counsellor attends the work coordination meeting 2/2017 of the Central Committee for the Implementation of Peace and Development in Rakhine State at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw in April. PHOTO: MNA

ited Rakhine State for its implementation works and provided humanitarian assistances. The greater efforts for the development that could help locals attain peace and stability were exerted by the respective ministries.

Enjoyment for local people

It was enjoying for local people when the government has been striving to boost human resource development and socio economic development of the local people by road and bridges construction, upgrading education, building for health care, activities for securing agricultural and drinking water, supplying more electricity and construction works in support of peace.

Ethnic youth development training schools in border area

For the human resource development, ethnic youth development training schools were opened in Sittway, Maungdaw, Minpyar in Rakhine which made ethnic youth knowledgeable and technically improved and consequently supporting to the local development.

Vocational training schools for women and technical training schools for youth

Vocational Training Schools for women were opened in Maungdaw, Minpyar and An townships as well as Technical Training Schools for youth were also opened in Kyaukphyu and Ponnagyun townships.

Keeping pace for the local development works

While the government had been pushing central committee and working committees formed to undertake Rakhine

State's stability, peace and development to put more of their exertion for successful implementation of the tasks, there occurred terrorist attacks on 9, October, 2016 in Maungdaw district. The Tamattaw and Myanmar Police force had cooperated to restore local stability, peace, rule of law and then local development works could be continued without any hindrance.

State Counsellor Office Information Committee

After carrying out the operation for peace and stability in the region in accordance with the law, the State Counsellor's Office Information Committee was formed in 16 November, 2016 and has been releasing the true information about it. In Maungdaw incident of terrorist attack, the committee could release the timely information for later events.

Coordination team for security, rule of law and local development in Maungdaw

The coordination team for security, rule of law and local development in Maungdaw chaired by Rakhine Chief Minister was formed to take responsibility for coordinating the security-related tasks in Maungdaw district. The effort to realize the need for peace, rule of law and regional development in Maungdaw district was consummated.

The advisory commission on Rakhine State

On account of the Maungdaw incident, the advisory commission on Rakhine State comprising the representatives from two communities and experts led by Mr Kofi Annan, former Secretary-General of United Nations was formed and the commission made fact-finding and observation

tours three times in Rakhine State. The commission had released information of its finding to public.

Serious consideration for the interests of Rakhine State

The advisory commission on Rakhine State chaired by Mr Kofi Annan had reviewed the problem of the Rakhine State taking seriously the desire of Myanmar citizen especially people of Rakhine State and the interests of the Rakhine State into consideration and could give the advice to Myanmar government to execute the necessary actions in accordance with international standard.

Section-144 released

As the stability and peace restored gradually in Maungdaw district, the curfew order imposed on 9 October 2016 under the section-144, to ban gathering of five or more people in public places from 7 pm to 6 am due to the incident of terrorist attack has been eased from 9pm to 5 am starting from 9 February, 2017.

Equal rights regardless of race and religion

Along with the improved stability in place, the responsible authorities were undertaking the arrangement for the convenient transporting the goods and passengers in cooperation with motor car associations in Maungdaw district. The motor car owners and drivers were properly informed that there were no more check points or inspection gates that hindered or delayed the transportation, except for the security reason. Moreover, people were apprised of the fact that there would be no more discriminated ban on travelling regarding race and religion.

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Cars service to Market

For the area of difficult accessibility in Maungdaw district, car services to market on the specified day of the week were arranged in five areas; Kyaing Chaung, Ngakhuya, Khamaung seik, Tamaantha and Taungpyolatwae in order that local people could get to the market conveniently and do necessary shopping. The transportation services are also aimed at supporting the daily life of the local people.

Cooperation with United Nations and International Non Government Organisation

There has been cooperating with the United Nations and International Non Government Organizations for the development of Rakhine State and providing helps and humanitarian assistances to the people of Maungdaw district. The assistance programs were being allowed as it could support the regional development.

Rakhine Investigation commission

To disclose transparently the truth of Maungdaw incident in Rakhine State and to restore stability, peace and development, Chairman of Rakhine Investigation Commission, led by the Vice President U Myint Swe made an investigation survey in areas where terrorist violence had occurred and recorded the views and comments of the local people who had witnessed the real situation during the incident. The commission could have collected the true facts and figures of the incident.

Getting Information on ground

Foreign and local media were allowed to visit the area of incident in Maungdaw district and collect the true stories related by witnesses of the area and they could have published their findings and views for both people of Myanmar and those of foreign countries.

Erasing wrong information

Wrong information issued intentionally to jeopardize the local stability could have been erased reducing the concerns of local and international communities to some extent.

Hampering the development works

Some foreign media agencies and organisations have still been doing the campaign that hampered the works for development of peace and stability of Rakhine State. The government has been solving the chaos and problems in Maungdaw District to the best of their capacity and the area has been currently peaceful and stable even though it has not reached back to normal.

Livelihood being in good condition

Maungdaw district close to the Bangladesh border has border trade and gates. Maungdaw having fair weather and natural resources, the livelihood in that area is in good condition.

Good fertile land

With a fertile land for the agriculture,



Students learn their lessons at a basic education school in Rakhine State. PHOTO: MNA

it is potential area for paddy production. It can produce agricultural products as the stability becomes improved.

Hand-tractors, threshing machines, harvesters granted

It was easy for the farmers as they were supported by 36 harvesters, hand tractors and threshing machines to be used for agricultural works in Maungdaw township.

Connecting with other States and Regions

For the transportation, the government has been constructing Sittway-Ponnakyun-Yathetaung-Buthitaung-Maungdaw-Alethanyaw-Angumaw road. And when it is finished people can travel not only within Rakhine State but also to other States and Regions.

Improve in travelling and commodity flows

The transportation would be improved due to the upgrading roads in Maungdaw district. As the road linking between Buthitaung and Maungdaw and Panzinchaung Bridge was opened simultaneously on 25 March, 2017, the travelling and commodity flows would be improved.

Education sector

In the education sector, there are 183 schools in Maungdaw township, 219 school in Buthitaung and 190 schools in Yathetang opened regularly. All the local students have been studying peacefully. Under the incumbent government's one year period from 2016-2017, 62 new primary schools will be built and 29 primary schools (affiliated) had already been opened and 295 schools were upgraded.

In 2016-2017 financial year, more than 140 schools in Rakhine State were reno-

vated and constructed using the union budget Kyat 5700 million. It also has a plan to support school facilities. These are the effort of the government for State's education.

Health Sector

In the health sector, the hospital, clinics and rural health care centers can provide regular health services. In Rakhine State including Maungdaw district the government has been implementing all inclusive health care service program for everyone of any place to be able to reach health care services.

More than 3.3 million

In order to carry out the health care services covering the 3.3 million people of Rakhine State, a 500-bed hospital, five 100-bed hospitals, 52 50-bed hospitals, 121 rural health care centres and 558 sub-rural health care centers were built to render wider coverage of all inclusive health care services.

Trade volume increased 0.271 percent

During one year term of the incumbent government, trade volume has increased 0.271 percent in 2016-2017 FY compared to that of 2015-2016 FY as Myanmar can trade with Bangladesh through Maungdaw Trade Centre. Kanyinchaung trade zone and modern market in Kanyinchaung region in Maungdaw district are being constructed to support the promotion of trade and economic development in the area.

Spiritual commitment to love the country

With the stability and peace restored in Rakhine State, the development will be effectuated with greater momentum.

Effort is being made to instill in the people the spirit that all those living on this land must harbor love for the country regardless of religion, colour and race.

Remove hatred

With vision to the stable, peaceful and developed country, spirit of co-existence and cooperation should be kept in mind rather than harbouring the hatred.

Western door

As Rakhine state is the western door of Myanmar and has the border with Bangladesh, the maintenance and new construction of border fences need to be firm and secured in order to protect the sovereign territory from intrusion, invasion and trespassing.

Modern security and surveillance instruments

The effort to sustain stability and peace in the Rakhine State with the help of modern security and surveillance instruments is being undertaken.

Keep on working for the remaining tasks

Within one year period, the government has prioritized the stability, peace and development works in Rakhine State. The respective ministries have been working on the implementation in their responsible sectors for the development of the least developed area in the Rakhine State. Some implementation works have already been done while some are still under way.

National Registration work

With the restoration of stability and peace in Rakhine State, the government is working systematically in carrying out national registration works which require trusts of persons involved, local people, all citizens of Myanmar and international communities as well. Although national registration works seem complicated, the efforts are being made with immaculate performance to gain trust.

Immense and deep-rooted

As the conflict between the two communities has occurred in Rakhine state for a long time and thus deeply entrenched. As the problem is profound and very sensitive, the government has been handling the case with great patience and care.

Mutual trust

The incumbent government is now endeavoring to their utmost capacity for the development of the Rakhine State with special emphasis on getting aids and cooperation from international organisations, improving morale of the people, both mental and social security, job opportunities and fostering mutual trust.

Good Will

Within one year period of the incumbent government, improvement can be clearly witnessed from the result of its efforts in good will for the stability, peace and development in Rakhine State. ■



A fish farm in Maungdaw, Rakhine State. Aquatic agriculture products are one of the livelihoods of Maungdaw. PHOTO: MNA

Refresher courses for teachers urgently needed

Khin Maung Oo

A teacher is a person whose job is teaching, especially in a school. To do so, he must have a particular knowledge on a subject to teach or share with others. Generally speaking, people love and pay respects to teachers because it is the custom in Myanmar to regard teachers in the same category as the Buddha, Dhamma, Sangha and Parents. Teachers have the duty and the opportunity to nurture and train young students into outstanding citizens. In outward appearance, a teacher leads a peaceful and greed-free life. Throughout our life, we have had many teachers and we paid great respects to them. As far as we know, they chose the teaching career because they loved teaching. And, they need not worry about their survival under stable commodity prices. Inflation was a word they seldom heard in those days. They managed to live in peace satisfied

with a meager amount of salary, which would be equivalent to the cost of a bottle of purified drinking water these days. In accordance with the saying, "A teacher must be a life-long learner;" they could attend refresher courses conducted by the then Education Departments and spend most of their leisure hours undertaking extramural studies to share their knowledge to students.

In later years when graduates had been produced as if done from a factory, certified graduates amounted to millions, outnumbering the amount the government could employ. Most of them—especially ambitious boys were interested only in companies which could offer good remuneration, hence many female job-hunters tried to enter the academic circle. Thus, teaching became a female-dominated profession. Unlike those in olden days, the days are gone when a teacher could live solely on their

salary. Today's teachers cannot spend their leisure hours with their families. Before they notice it, they become part-time nocturnal workers, giving door-to-door tuition. Among them, some self-motivated young teachers are trying their best to become elite teachers and to be endowed with excellent skills and qualifications.

At such a time when we are marching towards a modern and developed federal democratic union, we need enough qualified teachers to teach our students whose numbers will increase as our population increases. Our world is rapidly developing, so we must motivate our teachers to be competent in the subjects they are teaching. If we want our society or our nation to develop and prosper like other developing ones, we must raise the educational standard of our country. As it had been done in olden days, the Education Department should arrange to conduct refresher courses to teaching staff at all different levels. Our authorities

should not neglect our teachers or accept incompetence. Our teachers should be qualified and competent in their respective subjects.

Now, the Ministry of Education is striving for the country to keep up with international standards. We all know that it will take time to do so. But, it should not be delayed, because "procrastination is the thief of time," as the saying goes. Well-wishing countries from the outside world are now willing to help us, presently. At this time, Myanmar citizens who are graduates of Oxbridge or other world-famous universities should take part in various activities to upgrade our teachers' abilities, together with Myanmar scholars and authorities from educational fields. Failing that, our teachers and students will still be very far away from learning cutting-edge technologies or innovative ways of thinking as they need to exert themselves with determination to catch up with the rest of the world. ■

Ancient City, Bagan ... Going to enter the list of "World Cultural Heritage"

Mhan Thit Nyein

BAGAN is known to be a place able to create reminiscence of the grandeur of a royal city of 11th to 13th century having many cultural heritages, arts and crafts and historic events of Bagan era. However, apart from the researchers of archaeology and history, little has been known about the fact that descendants of Pyu were the first to have established the Bagan. It had been learnt Bagan (in Myanmar ဝံ-ပုဂံ) descended stage by stage from Pyu Gama (ပျူဂမာ) to Pu Ga Ma- Pu Gan (ပုဂါမာ - ပုဂံ) to Pu Gan (ပုဂံ). In ancient stone inscriptions in Bagan, Myanmar version of Bagan was written as ဝံ (Pu Kan) and the usage ဝံ (Pu Gan) was rarely seen. ဝံ (Pu Kan) was also widely used in stone inscriptions of Pinya and Inn Wa period. မြန်မာစာ (Mon Language) and ပါလီစာ (Pali Language) were also seen in the (Order of Kyansitha King) stone inscriptions in Mon language erected at Shwe Sandaw Pagoda of Pyay by King Kyansitha.

Bagan (ဝံ)

Bagan is the name of a city and it embraces two different names, Upper Bagan and Lower Bagan depending on the locations. Upper Bagan is situated at Tagaung of Thunar Pranta Region and Lower Bagan is situated at Ari Madana of Tanpa Dipa Region where occur seven extant remains of Bagan palace.



After Sri Kestra had been ruined Pyu from Sri Kestra had migrated to Taung Nyo, then to Pantaung Thet Tha and proceeded to Mindon and finally reached Yon Hlut Kyun region where King Thamon Darit founded a royal city by bringing 19 villages altogether into the formation of city. The name of the 19 villages were Nyaung U, Naga Soe, Naga Kyit, Magyi Kyi, Satel, Kyauk Saga, Oun Mya, Nyaung Wun, Anurada, Taung Khwin, Ywamone, Kyin Lo, Kokko, Taung Pa, Myay Khe Twin, Thayetya, Singu, Yon Hlut and Ywa Site. King Thamon Darit had established Ari Madana Palace at Yone Hlut Kyun area.

Large amount of interesting religious edifices

It is quite interesting for Bagan-Nyaung U area and its environ having a cluster of large number of ancient edifices. Bagan attained a rapid development after Buddhism had flourished and the royal families and the people were constructing stupas, temples, caves, tunnels and monasteries of different sizes and shapes around Bagan and Nyaung U between AD 11th and 13th century. Then amazing number of religious edifices came into existence around Bagan and Nyaung U. According to an ancient verse the number of religious edifices of Bagan amounts to 4446, however, in 800 MY ie. 500 years ago under King Monhyin Mintra there appeared another verse expressing the

amount of religious edifices of Bagan Era to be 4474, a few larger amount than that of the former verse. The Archaeological Department of Myanmar (Department of Stone Inscriptions in colonial period) had made a survey of counting the number of religious edifices in Bagan-Nyaung U area some 60 years ago and recorded the number as 2171 edifices. However in 1968 another counting survey was made to discover that Bagan area has 2217 and related religious structures. It is estimated that there were about 5000 religious structures in Bagan-Nyaung U area in its affluent time. Therefore, the Bagan area was selected for submission to be registered in World Cultural Heritage.

World Cultural Heritage

Eight cultural heritages of Myanmar, Padalin Cave, Inle Lake, 3 cities of Pyu, Bagan, Myauk U, 3 ancient cities of Upper Myanmar (Inwa, Amarapura, Sagaing, Mingun, Mandalay), 2 Mon cities (Bago, Hanthawaddy) were chosen for preliminary nomination to submit to World Cultural Heritage Center on 4th October 1996. Out of those preliminarily selected heritages, 3 ancient Pyu cities (Hanlin, Beikthano, Sri Kestra) were finally chosen to submit to UNESCO. Myanmar local professionals in combination with foreign experts had deliberated and endeavoured for the successful implementation of the task.

SEE PAGE 9

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Order 12/2017

1379 ME, Full Moon Day of Nayon,
9 June 2017

Appointment of Mon State Minister

In accordance with the provisions stated in article 262 (f) and article 264 (c) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and section 19 (c) and section 82 (c) of the Union Government Law and Section 8 (g) and Section 56 (a) of Region or State Government Law, U Min Kyaw Lwin has been appointed Mon State Development Affairs and Construction Minister.

Sd/ Htin Kyaw
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Russian Federation National Day was held



UNION MINISTER for Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe and wife Daw May Yin Tun were welcomed by Russian Ambassador to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Nikolay Listopadov at

a ceremony to mark the Russian Federation National Day which was held in Sule Shangri-La Hotel in Yangon at 6:30 pm on 9 June.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Transocean's drill-ship 'dhirubhai deepwater KG2'. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Block A-6 – (Pyi Thit-1) Drilling Project: Spud-in Ceremony

BLOCK A-6 Joint Venture (the "JV"), consisting of MPRL E&P, Woodside Energy, and Total E&P, hosted a "Ceremonial Spud-in" ceremony on Thursday to recognize the commencement of drilling operations of the Pyi Thit-1 Well, the first appraisal well in Block A-6.

Transocean's drill-ship Dhirubhai Deepwater KG2 is drilling Pyi Thit-1 in water depths of 2,005 m (6,578 ft). The well will reach a total depth of 4,700 m (15,420 ft). Pyi Thit-1 will target Pliocene (5 million years old) sub-marine channels and may be tested to check for its potential to flow gas.

Block A-6 covers 9,830 km² of the offshore Rakhine Basin in

the Bay of Bengal of Myanmar, in water depths between 50 to 2,500 m. MPRL E&P signed the Block A-6 Production Sharing Contract (PSC) with MOGE on January 2007. MPRL E&P made a pioneering gas discovery in Pyi Thar-1 Well in March 2012, proving the existence of all elements of a petroleum system. Following this successful Pyi Thar-1 well and in order to focus exploration efforts in the ultra deep water region of the block, Woodside and Total farmed-in to become joint venture partners in 2013 and 2015 respectively. MPRL E&P remains the operator of the PSC.

A second gas discovery was achieved when Shwe Yee Htun-

1, the second exploration well in the block, was drilled in late 2015 targeting a prospect over 5 km from the surface and in water depths of 2,034 m (6,673 ft). This outcome has enabled the block to move into the appraisal phase. Shwe Yee Htun-1 also holds the record for an offshore well drilled in the deepest water depth in Myanmar.

MPRL E&P continues to lead the offshore exploration sector by moving closer towards unlocking the gas potential of Block A-6 in the form of a clean and long-term sustainable energy supply that Myanmar may leverage to drive progress in the nation.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Ancient City, Bagan ...

FROM PAGE 8

In order to be listed in World Cultural Heritage, Nomination Dossier (draft) which had been worked out in accordance with the suggestion and assessment of World Heritage Center was sent to World Heritage Center on 28 September 2012. Complete Nomination Dossier was sent through the office of the permanent representative of UNESCO at the time before 6pm French Standard Time on 1st February 2013.

The task for being registered in the list of World Cultural Heritage had been started in April 2012 and the nominated 3 Pyu cities were assessed to meet the norms and decided by the committee members of World Heritage Committee to be registered in World Cultural Heritage with the meeting decision (no. 38 COM 8.B.28) at 38th World Cultural Heritage Congress held at Doha between 15th and 25th of June 2014.

Now, local and interna-

tional experts are striving for Bagan area to get registered in the list of World Cultural Heritage like the case of 3 Pyu Cities which has been registered in World Cultural Heritage by the exacting effort of Myanmar and foreign professionals.

Dignity and value of being a World Heritage is intangible, but profound and delicate. Sustaining those dignity and value of being classified as World Heritage can be accomplished only by the concerted effort of intellectuals, technicians and well wishers and consequently

leaving the heritages for the posterity, technically known as "Heritage of Humanity".

Endeavour for Nomination

Although other countries had to take 3 to 10 years working time from the start to the stage of submitting "Nomination Dossier," Myanmar professional team has been striving to reach the stage of submitting "Nomination Dossier" within a much shorter time. While working for Bagan area to be listed in World Cultural Heritage, the earthquake of 2016 had ruined some of the religious

edifices of Bagan. The local and foreign professionals are repairing the damaged ones to restore their original form, shape, and craftsmanship. The stupas, temples, monasteries and other religious edifices will be found manifesting again their original shape, form and value.

This article is presented in honour of Bagan Area which will gain the stage of submitting "Nomination dossier" and eventually be listed in World Cultural Heritage sooner or later.

Translated by
Khin Maung Win ■



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than presents cash assistance to Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Sein Win for the families of victims of the plane crash. **PHOTO: MNA**

Cash assistance provided for victims of plane crash

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker, the Union Minister for Home Affairs and the Union Minister for Border Affairs donated cash to families of the victims of the military transport plane crash which took place on 7 June at the Ministry of Defence on 9 June.

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than handed over Ks 50 lakh to Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Sein Win at

the Defence Ministry at 3:30 pm yesterday.

Meanwhile, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe presented Ks 100 lakh to the Ministry of Defence and Lt-Gen Sein Win accepted the cash donation.

Lt-Gen Sein Win also received Ks 200 lakh given by the Minister for Border Affairs.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Man arrested in connection with village head murder in Maungtaw

POLICE arrested a suspect yesterday connected with the June-4 murder case of a head of the 100 households of Ywarthitkay village, Maungtaw Township in Rakhine State.

Acting on a tip-off, local

security forces made an effort to search a man named Abdurahein who was supposed to be one of the suspects of the murder case and arrested him in the village.—Myanmar News

Agency ■

Messages of condolence sent from heads of states and ambassadors from around the world

HEADS of states and the ambassadors from around the world sent messages of condolence to President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Htin Kyaw, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing expressing their heartfelt condolences on the military transport air plane

(Y-8) crash near Dawei on 7 June in Myanmar.

Messages of condolences were sent by Brunei, Thailand, Viet Nam, China, India, United States, Britain, Belarus, Canada, Czech, France, EU, Israel, the Netherlands, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, Serbia, Turkey and Zambia concerning the air plane crash.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Condolences on military air plane crash victims

The political parties inclusive of National League for Democracy, Union Solidarity and Development Party and National Unity Party, Myanmar Writers' Association, media organizations have

released announcements regarding the recent military transport aircraft crash, expressing their heartfelt condolences to the families of the passengers and crew.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Minister Dr Pe Myint returns from 14th Asia Media Summit

Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint returned by air to Yangon yesterday morning after attending the 14th Asia Media Summit from 6 to 8 June in Qingdao, the People's Republic of China and he was welcomed at the airport by officials from the Ministry of Information and Chinese embassy in Myanmar.

Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Information U Myint Kyaw and MRTV Broadcasting Director U Zay Yar returned together with the Union Minister.— Myanmar News Agency ■



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint arrives Yangon after attending the 14th Asia Media Summit held in Qingdao, China. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye works for socio-economic development in self-administered zones

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye and Shan State Minister Dr. Aung Than Maung travelled to Pindaya in Northern Shan State yesterday as part of his trip to meet with locals of self-administered zones to boost socio-economic development.

The Union Minister first met with the Chairman of Danu Self-Administered Zone Leading Committee, its departmental staff and local residents. He said the government is working on fulfilling the needs of the people and they are aiming for social security and equal rights for all the people. He said development efforts are aiming for a society that can withstand all



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye meets with local residents of Danu Self-Administered Zone. **PHOTO: MNA**

sorts of dangers. The attendants reported their needs and were responded by the Union Minister and officials.

Afterwards, the Union Min-

ister and his entourage visited Danu Home for the Aged and met with its elderly residents and provided cash assistance. Myanmar News Agency ■

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Fisherman throwing fishing net in the Bago River in Bago, 50 miles north-east of Yangon. Photo: Aye Min Soe

20 local fishermen to be chosen to learn new fishing techniques in Japan

U Win Kyaing, general secretary of the Myanmar Fisheries Federation (MFF), said there are about 50 fishermen wishing to go Japan for a three-year programme to learn new fish-catching technology, according to a report on Friday

in Myawady Daily.

The Japanese Fishing Cooperative Association will offer modern fishing techniques and related knowledge free of charge to help Myanmar fishermen improve their fish-catching skills.

Under the new scheme, the 50 applicants will take an examination conducted by the Japanese Fishing Cooperative Association, out of which 20 will be chosen. The selected candidates will take the course lasting three years in Japan.

The MFF will offer a Japanese language course to those fishermen before their study abroad.

According to the MFF, the majority of applicants are from Yangon and Taninthayi regions as well as Mon and Rakhine states.—200

Nine bridges that connect villages to be constructed in Mon State

The Mon State rural development department will construct nine bridges to connect the villages of Kyaikhto, Bilin and Yay in Mon State, according to a report in Myanmar Alinn Daily yesterday. Mon State rural development department assistant director U Win Naing invited tenders in May to build the nine bridges.

"We are trying to start to

build the bridges as soon as possible. The project is expected to be completed within a year. Upon completion of the project, the concrete bridges will be very useful for the students and the local people", U Win Naing said.

The estimated cost of the project is Ks5,610 lakh, which will be incurred by the Mon State government fund.

"The state department submitted a proposal to build 30 bridges in 10 townships in Mon State, but, only nine bridges were granted permission to build. If we receive the supplementary budgets and priority budgets, we will construct the other bridges", said U Win Naing, the assistant director from Mon State rural development department.—MMAL

Migrant miners in Tanai expelled

MORE than 400 unauthorised migrant amber and gold miners were deported from Tanai Township, Kachin State by the Myanmar government on Tuesday, according to a report yesterday in Myanmar Alinn.

The miners worked in mining operations in Htanpalar, Aunglut, Tonepani, Chaungsone, Nanphyu, Jaraungbar, Zeephyugone, Nyaungbingone and Nantkun, all communities near Myitkyina, the capital of Kachin State, which is known for its large number of unauthorised extractive industries.—Nan Yi/MMAL

Nearly 600 patients suffer from DHF in Rakhine

A mosquito-borne dengue haemorrhagic fever outbreak in Rakhine State since mid-April is blamed for 10 deaths and at least 600 infections, according to Rakhine State Health Department figures reported yesterday in the City News.

Dengue outbreaks were clustered in Pauktaw, Kyauktaw, Minbya and Taungup townships. Two infected people died in Ponnagyun, three in Kyauktaw, three in MraukU, one in Pauktaw and one in An.

Children younger than 10

were most affected by the outbreak although many of those stricken are adults. Health officials said that dengue fever cases, which become more prevalent during Southeast Asia's rainy season, increased throughout Myanmar this year.—YCDC



A chimpanzee named Samantha waits for her daily feeding at the Liberia Chimpanzee Rescue Project headquarters in Charlesville, Liberia, on 19 November 2015. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Chimps are not people, cannot be freed from custody: New York court

NEW YORK — Chimpanzees do not deserve the same rights as people, a New York state appeals court unanimously concluded on Thursday, as it refused to order the release of two of the animals to a primate sanctuary.

The 5-0 decision by the Appellate Division in Manhattan is the latest defeat for the Non-human Rights Project and its lawyer Steven Wise in a long debate over whether caged chimpanzees are actually legal “persons” entitled like humans to bodily liberty.

Citing experts like British primatologist Jane Goodall, the Nonhuman Rights Project said chimpanzees and humans share many behavioral, cognitive and social capabilities.

It said this entitled chimpanzees to many of the same rights, and sought “habeas corpus” relief to win freedom for Tommy and Kiko, each held by

a private owner in upstate New York.

But the shared capabilities “do not translate to a chimpanzee’s capacity or ability, like humans, to bear legal duties, or to be held legally accountable for their actions,” Justice Troy Webber wrote for the appeals court.

“While petitioner’s avowed mission is certainly laudable, the according of any fundamental legal rights to animals, including entitlement to habeas relief, is an issue better suited to the legislative process,” Webber wrote.

The Nonhuman Rights Project is reviewing the decision, which upheld rulings by state Supreme Court Justice Barbara Jaffe in Manhattan.

“This is not going to change without a struggle,” Wise said in a statement. “We remain confident that Tommy’s and Kiko’s fundamental right to bodily liberty will be recognized.”

Wise previously failed to win the release of the chimpanzees Hercules and Leo from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. They later moved to Louisiana after the school stopped using them for research.

Tommy’s and Kiko’s cause drew support from Harvard Law School Professor Laurence Tribe in a friend-of-the-court brief.

Tribe suggested that non-human animals could face legal duties, citing a “long history, mainly from the medieval and early modern periods, of animals being tried for offenses such as attacking human beings and eating crops.”

Webber, however, said none of the cited cases were recent or from New York, and chimpanzees’ inability to defend themselves or take sufficient responsibility explains why those that kill or seriously injure humans are not prosecuted.—Reuters ■

Up to 10,000 moved as fires rage near South Africa’s oyster capital

KNYSNA, (South Africa) — Up to 10,000 people in the South African coastal resort of Knysna have been evacuated as wildfires fanned by strong winds ripped through the town, razing homes and other properties, officials said on Thursday.

Eight people have been killed, three of them in the Knysna area, as the worst storm to hit Cape Town in three decades made landfall late on Tuesday before hurtling eastwards along what is known as South Africa’s “Garden Route”.

“Humanitarian support is being co-ordinated for an estimated 8,000 to 10,000 residents of the greater Knysna area, after devastating fires last night,” said James-Brent Styan, spokesman for the Western

Cape local government ministry.

The bush wildfires, driven by winds in excess of 50 km (30 miles) an hour, destroyed property in 20 suburbs as buses were sent to evacuate trapped residents of the tourist town, renowned for its oysters and rugged coastal scenery.

According to the South African Weather Service, 37 millimeters of rain fell at Cape Town airport. Other areas recorded as much as 131 mm of rain.

Thousands of people in shantytowns, who have had to cope with the region’s worst drought in a century, have been hardest hit, as floods and heavy rain washed away homes built of planks and zinc sheets.—Reuters ■



Fires burn at Buffelsvermaak farm near Knysna, South Africa, on 7 June 2017. Strong winds fanned fires which destroyed houses and prompted the evacuation of thousands of residents. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Germany’s top Social Democrat loses ground Vs Merkel in latest poll

BERLIN — The approval rating of Martin Schulz, Germany’s top Social Democrat, slumped to its lowest level in a poll conducted by Infratest dimap since the former European Parliament president was named as the party’s chancellor candidate in January.

Schulz’s rating dropped six percentage points to 36 percent over the past month, the poll showed.

Schulz and the centre-left Social Democrats (SPD) had hoped to unseat Chancellor Angela Merkel, who is seeking a fourth term in 24 September national elections, but the party has lost momentum after initial gains seen after Schulz took over the party’s leadership in January.

Merkel’s approval rating rose one percentage point to 64

per cent in the latest poll, her best showing since August 2015, shortly before she opened the doors to over a million refugees mostly from the Middle East, the pollsters said.

In a direct election, 53 per cent of Germans said they would vote for Merkel, up four percent from last month, while support for Schulz dropped seven percent to 29 per cent, according to

the poll of 1,503 eligible voters taken 7 and 8 June.

The centre-left SPD, junior party in Merkel’s current right-left coalition, had hoped to form a government on its own with smaller parties.

The poll showed Merkel’s conservative Christian Democrats winning 38 per cent of the vote, a gain of one percent from early May, while the Social Dem-

ocrats dropped three percentage points to 24 per cent.

The pro-business Free Democrats gained two percentage points to 10 per cent, while the pro-environment Greens dropped one percentage point to 7 per cent, the Left party gained one point to eight per cent and the anti-immigrant Alternative for Germany (AfD) dropped one point to 9 per cent.—Reuters ■

Zika affects 5 per cent of babies with confirmed infections: CDC

CHICAGO — The first report on how the Zika virus affected US territories showed that 5 per cent of women with confirmed infections had babies with birth defects, US health officials said on Thursday.

The report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is the first to include official numbers from the territory of Puerto Rico, which on Monday declared that its Zika epidemic had ended, based on data showing the number of new cases has fallen.

The CDC on Thursday reiterated its recommendation that pregnant women not travel to Puerto Rico, noting that Zika remains a risk for pregnant women there and anywhere else the mosquito-borne virus is active.

“Zika virus poses a serious threat to pregnant women,” said CDC Acting Director Dr Anne Schuchat.

“Women in the US territories and elsewhere who have continued exposure to mosquitoes carrying Zika are at risk of infection.



Aedes aegypti mosquitoes are seen inside Oxitec laboratory in Campinas, Brazil in 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

We must remain vigilant and committed to preventing new Zika infections.”

The report reviewed 2,549 cases of women with possible Zika infection who completed their pregnancies, of which 1,508 had confirmed infections. Besides Puerto Rico, the cases came from American Samoa, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Marshall Is-

lands, and the US Virgin Islands from 1 January, 2016, through 25 April, 2017.

Of these confirmed cases, more than 120 pregnancies, or about 5 per cent, resulted in Zika-associated birth defects, the CDC said in its Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report.

Among the women infected during their first trimester of pregnancy, 8

per cent had babies with Zika-associated birth defects. That compared with 15 per cent in a prior study of birth defects among women from US states and the District of Columbia, most of whom became infected during travel to Zika-affected countries.

The CDC said because the newer report is much larger, the findings are not statistically different.

About 5 per cent of women infected during their second trimester and about 4 per cent infected in their third trimester had babies with Zika-related birth defects, showing the virus remains dangerous throughout a woman’s pregnancy.

The report represents the largest number of completed pregnancies with lab-confirmed Zika virus infections to date.

The CDC had stopped reporting Zika pregnancy outcomes for US territories last fall because not all were using the same case definitions. Puerto Rico has its own Zika pregnancy registry. In its 2 June report, Puerto Rico’s health department listed 38 cases of birth defects among more than 3,700 Zika-affected pregnancies.

Peggy Honein, who leads the CDC’s Zika pregnancy and birth defects task force, said the CDC in late June will resume regular reporting of the number of completed pregnancies and birth defects from US territories.

Honein said in a con-

ference call with reporters that each jurisdiction may keep its own website using its own case definitions, but as of 22 June, all US territories will be using the same standard as the CDC case definition for US states and the District of Columbia in the CDC registry.

Schuchat said on the call the CDC is paying for the pregnancy registry using emergency funds allocated for Zika last year. She declined to speculate about future funding. The Trump administration has proposed a 17 per cent cut in CDC’s budget for fiscal 2018, its smallest in 20 years.

As mosquito season ramps up in the continental United States, scientists predict local transmission is likely to occur only in the two areas where it was active last year — Miami and Brownsville, Texas. That is because Aedes aegypti mosquitoes are present in those two locations year-round, Kristian Andersen of the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California, reported in the journal Nature.—Reuters ■

In major breakthrough, tiny Utah firm regenerates skin, hair in pigs

NEW YORK — A small US biotech has successfully regenerated skin and stimulated hair growth in pigs with burns and abrasions, paving the way for a scientific breakthrough that could lead to the regeneration of fully functional human skin.

Salt Lake City-based PolarityTE Inc’s patented approach to tissue engineering is designed to use a patient’s own healthy tissue to re-grow human skin for the treatment of burns and wounds.

Despite recent advances in reconstructive surgery, plastic surgeons cannot give burn victims what they require the most — their skin.

Current approaches to treat serious burns are

“severely limited” in their effectiveness and in some cases, are rather expensive, PolarityTE’s founder and CEO Denver Lough said in an interview.

Epistel, a skin graft widely used in burn units that is sold by Cambridge, Massachusetts-based Vericel Corp, does not result in fully thick and functional skin — which is PolarityTE’s objective.

PolarityTE conducted its pre-clinical study on wounded pigs at an animal facility in Utah.

The use of therapy resulted in scar-less healing, growth of hair follicles, complete wound coverage and the progressive regeneration of all skin layers, the company said.

As pig skin is more complex and robust than human skin, successful swine data is typically seen as a precursor to effectiveness in human trials.

PolarityTE expects to begin a human trial later this year and the cell therapy could hit the market 12 to 18 months thereafter, said Lough, who served as senior plastic surgery resident at Johns Hopkins Hospital before creating PolarityTE last year.

“If clinically successful, the PolarityTE platform could deliver the first scientific breakthrough in wound healing and reconstructive surgery in nearly half a century,” Lough said.

The technology also

has the potential to develop fully-functional tissues, including bone, muscle, cartilage and the liver, PolarityTE said.

The company said it would “be opportunistic with financing,” to fund upcoming trials but declined to provide details.

PolarityTE is backed by pharma industry veteran Phil Frost, currently the chief executive of OPKO Health Inc, and a small number of other industry executives.

Shares of the company rose as much as 16.5 per cent to \$20.98 on the Nasdaq, but pared most gains to trade up 1.6 per cent in the mid-day session on Thursday.—Reuters ■

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV HUNSA BHUM VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HUNSA BHUM VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.6.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T./A.I.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.

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Aerosmith's Steven Tyler performs at the Royal Arena in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 5 June 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

American band Aerosmith ready to rock Download Festival

LONDON — American rockers Aerosmith said they would put aside security concerns following the Manchester bombing to headline the Download Festival in England on Sunday, insisting the show must go on.

The Grammy award-winning Boston band said they had considered pulling out of the festival in Leicestershire after the suicide bombing at the end of an Ariana Grande concert in

northern England last month which killed 22 people.

"You know our first reaction is we shouldn't play and put our fans in danger but I don't think our fans want that either," guitarist Joe Perry told Reuters.

"They don't want to live like that. I don't want to live like that. We don't want to live like that. So it's take all the precautions you can. And that's the world you know."

The band, formed in 1970 and famed for songs such as "Walk This Way" and "Back in the Saddle", are currently in the middle of a European Tour, despite receiving pressure to avoid the continent after a number of attacks in Europe. "A lot of people were worried about us coming over here, our friends and family and we said: 'listen, we're going to do what we have to do,'" Perry added.—Reuters ■

Gal Gadot thanks fans for showering love on 'Wonder Woman'

LOS ANGELES — Gal Gadot is on cloud nine as her film "Wonder Woman" has become the number-one movie in the world and the actress could not thank her fans enough for making it possible.

The Patty Jenkins-directed movie had a USD 103 million opening in the US and has since made USD 12 million more, bringing its domestic total to USD 115 million. Overseas, the movie has made USD 125 million for a global gross of USD 240 million, report-

ed People magazine. Gadot posted a thank you video on Facebook which has garnered 1.4 million views so far. "You made this movie what it is. Your love and support for this character and myself are not to be taken for granted.

'Wonder Woman' is the number-one movie in the whole world.

This is all you. So a big thank you. I'm sending you guys all the good energy and love back," she said in the video. Jenkins also tweeted, "I want to send out the deepest and sincere THANK

YOU to all of you who made this so. YOU have helped us make change. Amazing!!!"

Gadot as Wonder Woman first appeared briefly in "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice".

The new standalone film, which critics and fans feel was much needed in the male-dominated superhero genre, is an origin story and traces Wonder Woman's journey from a sheltered Amazonian princess to the true warrior that she eventually becomes.—PTI ■

Ice Cube slams police brutality in new single

LOS ANGELES — Rapper-actor Ice Cube has criticised police brutality in his new single titled "Good Cop Bad Cop".

The 47-year-old musician, who is coming up with his new album 'Death Certificate: 25 An-

niversary Edition', has rapped about the abuse of power by the policing authorities and the campaign 'Black Lives Matter' in the song, reported Billboard.

"Black Lives Matter, it's not chit chatter/ Cause all they wanna

do is scatter brain matter/ A mind is a terrible thing to waste/ A nine is terrible in your face," Ice Cube rapped.

The 25th edition of the 'Death Certificate' is out this month.—PTI ■

Phil Collins postpones London concerts after gashing head

LONDON — British pop singer Phil Collins has canceled two London concerts due to take place this week after gashing his head in a fall at his hotel, his concert promoter said.

Collins, 66, slipped while going to the toilet on Wednesday night and hit his head on a chair, according to the promoter, Live Nation.

It said a "severe gash" close to his eye had been stitched, and that he was recovering well but would be kept in hospital under observation for 24 hours.

"Phil sends his sincere apologies and thanks to fans. He has had a fantastic week at his first

shows in 10 years, cannot thank people enough for their warm reaction and is excited to return," the statement said.

Two concerts at London's Royal Albert Hall, announced last October and due to take place on Thursday and Friday, have been rescheduled for 26 and 27 November. Collins' European tour will resume with a concert in Cologne, Germany, on Sunday, the organisers said.

Collins became the drummer for the rock band Genesis in the 1970s before starting a solo career that peaked in the 1980s with hits such as "In the Air Tonight". —Reuters ■



Entertainer Phil Collins performs during the opening ceremony of the 2016 US Open tennis tournament, on 29 August 2016; New York, USA. PHOTO: REUTERS

Kher happy with 'The Accidental Prime Minister' first look response

MUMBAI — Actor Anupam Kher is "overwhelmed" with the response he has received for the first look of his upcoming film, "The Accidental Prime Minister." Kher, 62, will play former prime minister Manmohan Singh in the film adaptation of Sanjaya Baru's book of the same name. The actor

tweeted, "Thank you all for your love, warmth & support for the #FirstLook of #TheAccidentalPrimeMinister. Your response has been overwhelming."

The film is being directed by Vijay Ratnakar Gutte and produced by Ashoke Pandit and Sunil Bohra. It is slated to release next year.—PTI ■



PHOTO: PTI

For some Californians, it's bring your dog to work day every day

LOS ANGELES — Many California tech companies are encouraging employees to bring their dogs to the office, saying their presence can boost productivity, relieve stress and improve the work environment.

In Los Angeles' seaside tech hub, an area that encompasses parts of Santa Monica and Venice Beach and is dubbed "Silicon Beach," the majority of companies are dog-friendly.

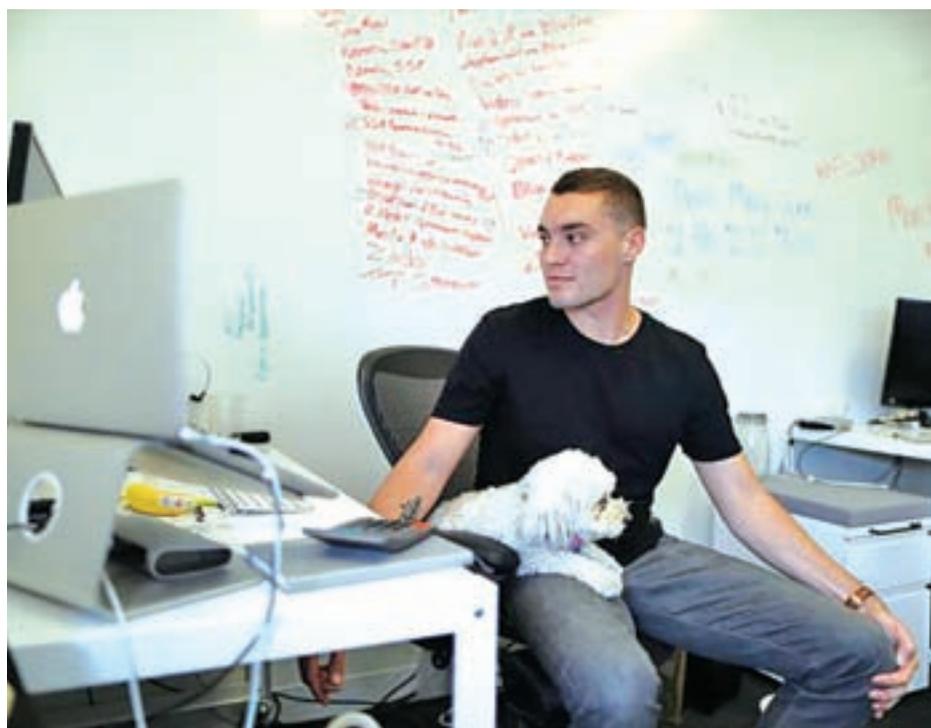
At GumGum, a Santa Monica internet tech firm specializing in artificial intelligence, for instance, dogs are most welcome because of the calming effect they have on employees, said the company's chief executive, Ophir Tanz.

Indy, Tanz's American Eskimo dog, usually greets employees when they arrive at the office and dog treats and snacks are always up for grabs.

"I think this could be a high stress, very high-paced environment," Tanz, 35, said. "It just kind of takes the edge off."

But it doesn't take the edge off for all employees.

"I have what could be described as a fragile relationship with dogs," said Nicole Hirschman,



Kyle Fresques, 27, sits at his desk with his dog at the GumGum office in Santa Monica, California, US, on 1 June 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

a senior director of marketing at GumGum.

"I'm not always sure how to interact with them, especially dogs that are hyper," Hirschman said, adding that her company has accommodated that fear by providing sections of the office that are more isolated from dogs.

GumGum's pet policy is open only to dogs but could be expanded to include cats and other animals in the future, Tanz said, acknowledging that some companies trying to grant dogs access to their offices may face restrictions.

"We spend more time probably negotiating the dog component of our lease with the landlord than anything else," Tanz said.

"But I do think that it is a practice that will become more popular."

Tradesy, an online fashion marketplace where women can resell their clothes and accessories, also pushes for the presence of dogs in the workplace, adorned by a large portrait of a French Bulldog.

Dogs of various breeds sit in on meetings, curl up on couches,

nuzzle under desks, sit on desks and get belly rubs. Some owners have their dogs on their laps while they are seated at their desk.

Tradesy Chief Executive Officer Tracy DiNunzio said such integration of dogs is a win for employees and their employers.

"Our employees like being able to bring their dogs to work and it benefits our business," said DiNunzio, 38. "Our employees work longer hours because they've got their furry friends here."—Reuters ■

ANA promotes efforts to recruit quality crew

TOKYO — All Nippon Airways Co. is promoting efforts to secure new cabin crew, including foreign nationals, to deal with a staff shortage stemming from increased flight services.

The Japanese airline has also taken steps to enhance the quality of its hospitality service ahead of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics.

"By combining our accumulated knowhow and all sorts of ideas, we aim to be the No. 1 customer service provider in the global airline industry," said Hitomi Yamamoto, head of ANA's Inflight Services Centre.

The move has come as the air travel market in Japan is booming amid rising demand among businesses and a boost in tourists from overseas.

The overall number of flight arrivals at airports across Japan surged 20 per cent in four years from fiscal 2011, coming in at 1.19 million in fiscal 2015, according to a survey by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.

In the mid-1990s following the collapse of the bubble economy, ANA and its archrival Japan Airlines Co. both stopped hiring flight attendants on a full-time basis and recruited only contract

workers to curtail personnel expenses.

As competition with low-cost carriers intensified, however, ANA announced in 2013 that it would halt its contract recruitment and employ full-time flight attendants for the following fiscal year, a move later followed by JAL.

For the latest fiscal year from April, ANA took on 774 full-time cabin attendants, more than twice JAL's 370, bringing the total to 7,718. The figure compares with 5,670 in fiscal 2013 when ANA hired 327.

ANA created Airline School in 2013 and has its active crew and ground staff members teach there. The airline school also holds a short-term course at 27 universities in 13 prefectures across Japan.

Risa Seike, 24, who took the course in western Japan and joined ANA in 2015, said, "It was good to study there because I was able to hear from active crew members about their inflight experiences and I was also encouraged by my classmates."

For fiscal 2017, the carrier employed 120 people from among those who finished the school programme, in contrast with 30 in fiscal 2015. —Kyodo News ■



Programme Schedule

(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm)- Friday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(03:00 Pm ~ 07:00 Pm)-Today Repeat(07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)

			Prime Time			
07:03	Am	News	07:03	Pm	New	
07:26	Am	Great Shwedagon-The Exhibition Hall Of The Great Chronicle Of Buddha	07:25	Pm	Travelogue: "Anyar Myay" or Upcountry (Part-I)	
07:54	Am	Dengue Fever	07:49	Pm	Today Myanmar: Union Peace Conference - 21st Century Panglong (Second Session)	
08:03	Am	News	08:03	Pm	New	
08:26	Am	Taung Byone Nat Festival (Ep-1)	08:25	Pm	Myanmar National Poet And Literary Icon; Prolific Writer of Poems & Prose - Min Thu Wun (Ep-2) Student Life & Early Literary Career	
08:54	Am	Traditional Snacks				
09:03	Am	News	08:50	Pm	Myanmar Masterclass: Artist Maung Aye	
09:26	Am	Shwe Maw Daw: The Glory Of Bago City				
09:54	Am	Made in Myanmar "Mixxo"				
10:03	Am	News				
10:25	Am	NexGen: Next Generation (DJ Tyrah T)				
10:35	Am	Caves of Myanmar				

(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm)-Today Repeat (09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am)-Friday 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)



Programme Schedule
(10-6-2017, Saturday)

6:00 Am ◆ Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw	5:05 Pm ◆ Documentary (ASEAN)
7:00 Am ◆ Breakfast News	5:45 Pm ◆ NHK Programme "Treasures from the Earth" (Synthesizing Diamonds)
7:35 Am ◆ Weekly Sport Info	6:20 Pm ◆ Go For Gold
8:35 Am ◆ Pan Pyo Khin (Part- 16)	6:35 Pm ◆ Tasty Trip
9:10 Am ◆ Documentary	7:15 Pm ◆ TV Drama Series
10:40 Am ◆ Poem For Children	8:00 Pm ◆ News/ International News/ Weather Report
11:00 Am ◆ Health and Vegetables (Part-7)	8:35 Pm ◆ Road to SEA Game
12:30 Pm ◆ TV Drama Series	9:15 Pm ◆ Myanmar Movie (Part- 1)
2:15 Pm ◆ TV Drama Series	10:25 Pm ◆ Musican's Talk
4:35 Pm ◆ Documentary	

Myanmar national football team lose to Niigata 0-1

MYANMAR national football team lost to Singapore club Niigata with 0-1 in yesterday's match at Jurong East Stadium.

Myanmar used main players including David Htan, Zaw Min Htun, Aung Thu and Kyaw Kyaw Ko during the match and Niigata also deployed their key players as well.

Although Myanmar players gave force to the opponents along the first half, they could not grasp their chances to score

goals. In the second half, Niigata managed to hold possession of the ball more than Myanmar and attackers of Niigata threatened the Myanmar goalkeeper Kyaw Zin Htet frequently.

Niigata scored the ice-breaker at 71 min with a direct penalty kick and managed to control the result till the end of the game.

Myanmar got one draw and one loss during its stay in Singapore.—Phoe Thaw Zin ■



PHOTO: MFF

Minute's silence was held before Myanmar-Niigata match

A minute's silence was observed in yesterday's test match between Myanmar and Albirex Niigata at Jurong Stadium as a mark of respect to those who lost their lives when a Myanmar military aircraft crashed earlier this week.

Following Wednesday's tragedy, the Myanmar Football Federation has requested that

the 108 people who died in the accident be remembered by a moment of reflection before the match. Both the Myanmar Football Federation and the Asian Football Confederation have expressed their deepest condolences and heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of those affected by the incident.—Kyaw Zin Lin ■



Myanmar and Niigata Football players stay silent before the game started. PHOTO: MFF



Trinidad & Tobago midfielder Kevan George (19) defends against United States midfielder Christian Pulisic (10) in the first half at Dick's Sporting Goods Park in Commerce City, CO, USA, on 8 June 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Pulisic double give US win over Trinidad and Tobago

COMMERCE CITY (CO) — Two second-half goals from Christian Pulisic gave the United States a 2-0 win over Trinidad and Tobago on Thursday and boosted their chances of earning an automatic berth for the 2018 World Cup finals.

The win put the United States on seven points from five games in the CONCACAF Hexagonal and continues their good run under new coach Bruce Arena. CONCACAF represents football in North and Central America and the Caribbean. Group leaders Mexico, who host the United States on Sunday, beat Honduras 3-0 to record

their fourth consecutive victory and cement top spot on 13 points. Oswaldo Alanis put the Mexicans ahead after 35 minutes before Hirving Lozano Raul Jimenez added second-half goals.

Costa Rica are in second place on eight points after drawing 0-0 with Panama, who trail the United States by a point.

In Colorado, the United States struggled to get going in the first half and almost fell behind when the visitors' Kenwyne Jones smacked a header off the bar, but they got the breakthrough after 52 minutes when Pulisic slid in to stab home a low cross from DeAndre Yedlin.

Pulisic doubled his tally 10 minutes later when he ran on to a perfectly weighted pass from Jozy Altidore and slotted past goalkeeper Jan-Michael Williams. It was Pulisic's fourth goal in his last four games for the national side.

"It took us a little while to get going but once we'd worn them down our quality showed," Pulisic said in a televised interview.

The top three teams from CONCACAF qualifying earn an automatic spot at the 2018 finals in Russia, while the fourth-placed team go into a play-off against a side from the Asian confederation.—Reuters ■

Not so fast young man, Bolt cautions De Grasse

KINGSTON, (Jamaica) — Usain Bolt has cautioned Canadian young gun Andre De Grasse to temper his expectations of dethroning him at the world championships in London in August.

The 30-year-old Jamaican will run his final race on home soil at the Racers Grand Prix this weekend before hanging up his spikes after the London meet.

De Grasse, who chased Bolt home for silver in the 200 metres and bronze in the 100m at the Rio Olympics last year, is widely tipped to be one of the athletes bidding to fill the void left by the

sprint king's retirement. "Over the years I've always tried to be diplomatic about how I answered a lot questions, but what bothers me the most when athletes are coming up through the ranks and they get to a certain level, they always want to beat me, I don't know why?" Bolt told reporters in Kingston on Thursday. De Grasse, 22, said this week he intends to beat Bolt before the world record holder in both 100 and 200m brings down the curtain on his glittering career. Bolt, who will only run the shorter sprint in the British capital, has not been

beaten in an individual sprint at a major championship for a decade.

He has won the sprint double at the last three Olympics and three of the last four world championships, the one exception being when he false started in the 100m at Daegu in 2011. "I always tell my younger athletes at Racers track club, listen, 'when you're climbing a ladder, you have to take your time and work your way up to the top', so all I have to say to De Grasse is take your time and climb his way to the top," Bolt said. "That's all I have to say about that."—Reuters ■