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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers an opening address at the launch of four-year Civil Service Reform Strategic Action Plan.
PHOTO: AUNG SHINE OO

Gov't launches Reform Plan for Civil Service

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi launched the four-year Civil Service Reform Strategic Action Plan yesterday at an event in Nay Pyi Taw.

The Plan sets out a vision for change over 2017-2020. It is a blue print for extensive reforms which will ensure that the civil service is more ethical, better reflects the diversity of the coun-

try, and is effectively able to help address the complex challenges of peace, national reconciliation, corruption, and development that confront Myanmar.

The Union Government was committed to building the capacity of Myanmar's civil servants, and equipping them with the skills and expertise in a few years, said State Coun-

sellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at the launch of the Civil Service Reform (CSR) Strategic Action Plan for Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

"We must tackle in just a few years the issues that other countries have addressed gradually over many decades," she said in her opening speech at the launch of the Civil Service

Reform Strategic Action Plan. She also encouraged all ministers and government bodies to place priority on developing the skills and capabilities of the staff.

The Strategic Action Plan also notes the importance of 'merit-based and performance-driven culture and systems'.

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သဒ္ဓါထက်သန် မြန်မာအားမာန် ကမ္ဘောဇဘဏ်

2nd Pyithu Hluttaw 5th regular session holds its 28th day meeting

Kyaw Thu Htet
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

U Kyaw Myo, Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications replied to the question raised by U Maung Myint of Mingin constituency as to whether there have been any plans to build up “National Database Center and Network Lines covering nationwide, “As regards Project on building e-Government Integrated Data Center; analysis of possibilities needed for implementation of the project was launched starting from June 2017.

At our request, the permission to use the land needed for the project was granted in Zabethiri Township.

The project will be implemented commencing in 2018, and it is expected to last for 3 years or so. So as to collect news and information in accord with the changing time by linking with national data center, fiber channels and microwave channels have been built up across the nation.

Arrangements will be made to use these channels by linking with Myanmar Condo SAT 1, co-hired together with



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

Intelsat Company.”

Afterward, Deputy Minister replied to the question raised by U Win Htut of Pyapon constituency, “In the tenure when the incumbent government took office, no permission was issued to any person to produce motor vehicles as produced by previous industrial zones.

Out of remaining vehicles produced by previous industrial zones having licenses to produce motor vehicles in the reign of the former regime only 274 units qualified for testing were managed to be checked in accord with the



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

prescribed policies.

They all were found to have been installed with imported old spare parts and locally

made parts combined.”

He added, “Presently kinds of producing motor vehicles through the old system were no longer granted. Instead, production of brand new cars to be produced local private companies and joint-venture companies have been permitted with the approval of Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC), through SKD system. Instructions had been issued not to change parts produced by local industrial zones into the types of foreign made cars, and as of 1st September 2016, production stopped.”

In addition, U Set Aung,

Deputy Governor of Myanmar Central Bank and U Kyaw Myo replied to the questions concerning permission of granting retail banking services to 13 representative offices of foreign banks, matters on wastage of finance in building dams and embankments presented by U Myint Lwin of Pazundaung constituency, U Tun Tun Naing of Kani constituency, U Nay Myo Htet of Kyauktada constituency and U Min Kyi of Thandwe constituency.

Following the discussion of the report of Pyithu Hluttaw Farmers and Workers Affairs Committee by U Sein Win of Maubin constituency, Daw Khin Than Nu of Mindon constituency, U Lon Jone San Mai of Sombrabon constituency, Daw Aye Mya Mya Myo of Kyauktan constituency, U Khin Maung Thein of Sagaing constituency and Daw Cho Cho Win of Mawlaik constituency, it was approved by the Hluttaw.

In today's meeting, reading out of the annual report of Pyithu Hluttaw Justice and Legal Affairs Committee and inviting to enlist the names of the representatives to discuss in the meeting were performed. ■

Deputy minister describes joint Myanmar-Chinese oil and gas exploration project at Amyotha Hluttaw

Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Tun Naing described joint oil and gas exploration and production projects between Myanmar Oil & Gas Enterprise (MOGE) and North Petro Chem Corporation Ltd of China to yesterday's meeting of the Amyotha Hluttaw.

The deputy minister said North Petro Chem Corporation Ltd signed a PSC with MOGE for PSC-F Block (Ngahlaingtwin

area) on 16 June 2010 and started exploration on 9 September in Salin Township, Magway Region.

The test well is not as yet commercially viable, the deputy minister said, and the company is negotiating with another interested company for further exploration. If negotiations succeed NPCC will explore viability of natural gas extraction at Ngahlaing well no. 1. If oil and natural gas is discovered, according to

the production sharing contract, Myanmar will receive 80 per cent of the yield including royalties, the deputy minister said.

The deputy minister also said the government will take steps to seize lands and provide compensation if necessary in order to exploit oil and gas resources according to Myanmar's Farm Land Law. —Aung Ye Thwin, Aye Aye Thant (MNA) ■

Programmes to benefit people based on research results

During the first Ethical Review Board meeting of Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement's Research and Development Center held yesterday morning at the ministry meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye discussed on programmes to benefit people to be based on research result. The meeting was attended by officials of the

Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and research paper writers.

In his speech at the meeting, Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye said the ministry had opened the ministry's Research and Development Center to conduct research works and is proud and happy to have this first meeting of the Ethical Review Board. In order to effectively implement the policies set by the ministry, research

areas need to be identified and researches conducted so that programmes to benefit people can be effectively performed. The ministry can draw up required laws and programmes through solid results and findings of researches and provide effective services. He also invited Ethical Review Board members to provide suggestions and discussions for the ministry to conduct its work effectively. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Cambodian Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation is welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport. PHOTO: MNA

Cambodian delegation arrives Nay Pyi Taw

A delegation led by Mr. Prak-Sokhon, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, arrived by air in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday at about 8:00 pm.

The delegation was welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs, U Kyaw Zeya, Cambodian Ambassador to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Sok Chea and officials.

The Cambodian Foreign Affairs Minister will meet with President U Htin Kyaw and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi today. — Myanmar News Agency ■

National Interests

Parties are not essential. What is essential is that they be free from partisan biases that harm the national interest.

When it is in the national interest for them to do so, all parties should be ready to abandon partisan concerns and unite and cooperate with each other.

(Excerpt from Bogyoke Aung San's Speech delivered at the 1st Congress of AFPFL)



Yangon New City Project makes few adjustments

By Ko Moe

THE Yangon New City Project will be carried out with collaboration from the World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), International Finance Corporation (IFC) and foreign loans, said Yangon Region Minister for Electricity, Industry, Road and Communication Daw Nilar Kyaw at the 2nd Yangon Region Hluttaw meeting held on 10 July.

The new city will be built in the area of Twantay, Kyimyindine and Seikkyi Kanaungto in the eastern part of Yangon. The city is estimated to take up 30,000 acres of land.

Daw Nilar Kyaw said the current plan is to accommodate an additional one to two million people within Yangon's borders. The government has estimated that Yangon will develop into a mega city in the next 10 years. The Yangon New City Project was submitted to the Region Hluttaw as a solution to Yangon's ever growing population.

Yangon's population density was 310 people per sq.km in 1973, 387 people per sq.km in 1983 and was 716 people per



A motorcyclist drives past the area which includes in the area for Yangon New City Project.

PHOTO: ZAW GYI (PANITA)

sq.km in 2014. The population of Yangon is estimated to reach ten million people in the next ten years.

The new city is planned to have its own generation of electricity with its own grid and will be built with a Public Private

Partnership (PPP) system. Water supply will also be carried out with a PPP system.

Daw Nilar Kyaw said the new city project will provide solutions for the squatter issue Yangon is currently facing as well as unemployment, clean water

distribution, electrification, road congestions and the expensive prices of real estate.

A group called the New Yangon Development Corporation will be formed to assist in the realization of the new city project and the Yangon Region Govern-

ment will handle full management of the project.

Yangon Region Hluttaw's Chairperson for Finance, Planning and Commerce Committee Daw Sandar Min said the Hluttaw meeting that investing companies have changed hands for this massive scale project. "A minister came and explained that Hluttaw representatives who wish to discuss this issue with their respective ministries have until noon on 11 July to ask questions. This is not enough time for us. I want to discuss this at the 5th Regional Hluttaw," said Daw Sandar Min.

The Yangon South West Development Public Company, Business Capital City Ltd and Shwe Popa International Construction Company formed a consortium as developers for the new city project during the previous government's administration.

In the current government's administration, the contract with the previous consortium developers was abolished to give private businesses a chance and to develop underdeveloped regions at the same pace. ■

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Ships are mooring along the Yangon River in Yangon. PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAR

Customs seizures at Myanmar ports of entry worth Ks 3.7 billion in June

MYANMAR customs confiscated unauthorized goods worth Ks3.7 billion last month, according to the official figures released by the Customs Department last week.

In June alone, the Customs Department seized the illegal goods with an estimated value of Ks3.69 million at all customs checkpoints in-

cluding Yangon International Airport, Yangon port, jetties, Yepu checkpoint and other significant points in regions and states, recording more than 800 cases.

Seized illicit goods included protected timber, alcoholic beverages, cosmetics, unregistered motor cars and other restricted commodities. The

Customs Department seized illegal goods amounting to Ks1.4 billion in April. The figures increased to Ks3 billion in May.

Currently, there are about 1,700 customs agents in Myanmar and nearly 600 of them are assigned to border areas, ports, coastal areas and inland customs checkpoints.—Shwe Khine ■

To hoist half-mast the flag of Myanmar and to wail siren on 70th Martyrs' Day

The President's office has issued an instruction to the government departments and institutions which in turn to convey the instruction down to the lower levels of government organizations. The instruction stated that the flag of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to hoist half-mast throughout the whole country, Myanmar Radio and Television to transmit the sound of wailing siren at 10:37 am, the time Bogyoke Aung San and his colleagues were assassinated and all the vehicles in the roads to stop for a moment and honk the horns.—Myanmar News Agency

New wildlife sanctuary to emerge in forest reserve

TWO existing land parcels – a 47,353 Mon State forest preserve, and 100,000 of land in Kayin State in the custody of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation–will merge

to create a massive new forest reserve along the border of the two regions according to a report in Myawady Daily on Sunday.

A preliminary plan for Saytaung Wildlife Sanctuary is

being reviewed by a joint committee comprised of forestry officials from the two states.

The intention is to protect the forest for the sake of eco-tourism and wildlife con-

servation and study.

The land deal is being prepared according to Section 8 of the Protection of Wildlife and Conservation of Natural Areas Law.—GNLM ■

Union Education Minister attends student assessment workshop

Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi urged Myanmar's educators to encourage students to reason and use critical thinking at a teacher workshop at Htaukkyant Administrative Training School in Mingaladon in Yangon, accord-

ing to a ministry press release.

Dr. Myo Thein Gyi also emphasized the importance of creating cooperative work habits for better unity among students.

The education workshop focused on student as-

essment methods so that teachers can quickly identify struggling students and address their needs before they fall behind.

"We must enhance the effectiveness of school libraries through support and encour-

agement," the Union Minister added. "Cooperation between parents and teachers is also a requirement for regular school attendance, encouraging students do their homework regularly and overcoming academic challenges.—Education ■

Union Chief Justice, judges of Union Supreme Court handles plenary tribunal

Union Chief Justice U Htun Htun Oo and judges of the Union Supreme Court sat at the plenary tribunal at the Union Supreme Court in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, giving verdicts on five special criminal appeal cases and hearing other five special appeal cases.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Yangon construction sites under Mosquito control

THE PUBLIC Health Department under the Health and Sports Ministry will implement a new plan to control mosquito breeding at Yangon construction sites this month, according to a report of the Myawady Daily on Sunday.

The department's Assistant Director Dr Aye Mon Mon Kyaw said that ward and township administrators and healthcare providers will inspect construction sites and offer guidance on dengue control to workers and entrepreneurs.

Construction sites have been identified as the major breeding grounds for mosquitoes due to damp conditions and exposed soil during the rainy season. More than 3,000 people have been infected with dengue virus in the first five months of this year.—GNLM ■



Labourers carrying sacks of onions on their shoulders. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

Price manipulation increases onion price

Onion prices hit a 10-year high in early July, according to a report of City News yesterday.

Usually, local onion prices remain steady during June and July. This year, however, onion prices ranged from

Ks900 to Ks1,250 per viss (3.6 pounds), said an onion businessman.

An average of 180,000 viss of onions (a viss equals 3.6 pounds) reached Yangon market in 3-7 July.

Despite relatively high local onion prices they are still affordable enough and preferred by Myanmar shoppers enough so that imported onions do not threaten their market share.—GNLM ■

Sino-Myanmar border trade declines at Muse, total border trade slightly up overall

THE VALUE of Sino-Myanmar border trade in the past three months was estimated to be over US\$1.47 billion, an increased of \$64 million over the same period last year, according to the Commerce Ministry.

Sino-Myanmar border trade is flowing in and out of these checkpoints; Muse, Lweje, Kanpikete, Chinshwehaw and Kengtung.

Border trade is slightly up, despite fewer exports at two of

Myanmar's busiest land ports of entry, Muse checkpoint where exports are \$30 million lower than the same three months last year, and Kengtung.

The gap is being closed by higher trade values between Myanmar and Thailand at Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Hteekhee, Maese and Mawtaung land ports of entry. Myanmar-Thai trade hit over \$297 million between 1 April and 30 June, a small increase over

the same period last year. Total Border trade value from 1 April to 30 June was \$1.79 billion, an increase of \$56 million.

Myanmar export agricultural products, forest products, animal products, minerals, fisheries products, manufactured goods and other products. Main Myanmar imports include capital goods, raw industrial goods and consumer products.—Ko Khant ■

Manufacturing sector attracts more FDI so far this FY

MYANMAR'S manufacturing sector absorbed US\$637 million in foreign direct investment flowing into the country between 1 April and 30 June, according to statistics released by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

Total FDI during that period was an estimated \$1.96 billion. Agriculture, livestock and fisheries, manufacturing, transport

and communication, real estate and commercial real estate were the main investment sectors.

Since its establishment in 1994, the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC), has recorded total investment of \$72 billion. Oil and gas investment during MIC's existence has drawn \$22 billion, energy has attracted \$20 billion and manufacturing investments are estimated to

be \$8.3 billion, according to the statistics of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

Last financial year Myanmar received \$6.8 billion in FDI, exceeding by \$800 million financial forecasts.

DICA officials predict foreign investment will decline this fiscal year with a projected \$6 billion.—Htet Myat ■

Ks9.4 billion in Border trade by Individual Trade Card holders this FY

Border trade by Individual Trading Card (ITC) between 1 April and 23 June was estimated to be Ks9.4 billion, including exports of Ks519 million and imports of Ks8.9 billion, according to Commerce Ministry statistics.

Myawady and Kanpikete land ports of entry recorded the largest trade value by ITC holders.

Individual Trading Cards authorize holders to import goods worth up to Ks15 million per day and are intended to formalize border trade, control foreign currency exchange and monitor foreign trade balances.

ITC holders traded goods worth Ks249 million in Tamu, Ks6.7 million in Muse, Ks7.3 billion in Myawady, Ks444 million in Tachilek, Ks54 million in Lweje, Ks2.4 million in Chinshwehaw, Ks677 million in Kan Pike Tee, Ks140 million in Kawthoung, Ks157 million in Reed, Ks387 million in Maw Taung and Ks27 million in Keng Tung, according to the official figures of the Commerce Ministry.

The ministry's Trade Department issued 44 ITC during this period, bring the total number of cards issued to 1,308.—Ko Khant ■

More than 70 foreign companies express interest in furniture and branding exhibition

A furniture and branding exhibition will take place from 18 to 20 August featuring 70 businesses from Singapore, China and Thailand at the Gandamar Grand

Ballroom in Yangon. The Myanmar International Furniture and Branding Trade Show (MIFB) is being organized by API99 Resources Pte Ltd.—GNLM ■

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သတင်းစာများကို ဤဆိုင်များတွင်ဝယ်ယူဖတ်ရှုနိုင်ပါပြီ

- Market Place by City Mart (6.5 Mile)
- 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 SUPERCENTER City Mart Supermarket



Thura U Shwe Mann holds talks with Mrs Karen MacArthur, ambassador of Canada to Myanmar. **PHOTO: MNA**

Thura U Shwe Mann receives Canadian ambassador

Chairman of Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received H.E. Mrs Karen MacArthur, Ambassador of Canada to Myanmar at Hluttaw Building Hall (I-11) in

Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially exchanged views on legal affairs, bilateral relations and socio-economic development in Myanmar.—Myanmar News Agency ■

NPE becomes champion of Union Minister's monsoon football cup

News and Periodicals Enterprise won the trophy of Union Minister for Information's monsoon football cup yesterday after defeating the Information and Public Relations Department 2-1.

The final match was held at the Wunna Theikdi Sports ground and among the spectators were Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint, officials, staff and families of Union Minister's office, Myanmar

Radio and Television (MRTV), IPRD, Printing and Publishing Department (PPD) and NPE.

After the match, Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint and Permanent Secretary U Myo Myint Maung presented the cup and cash prize to NPE team. Second and third prizes were given to IPRD team and MRTV team by Director Generals U Myint Htway and U Maung Pe respectively.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint presents the trophy to the News and Periodicals Enterprise team. **PHOTO: MNA**

Bogyoke Aung San museums, Old Secretariat open to public on 70th Martyrs' Day

In commemoration of 70th Martyrs' Day, Bogyoke Aung San Museum (Yangon), Bogyoke Aung San Museum (Natmauk) and Old Secretariat building will be opened to public free.

Bogyoke Aung San Museum (Yangon) and (Natmauk) will be

opened on 19 July from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on 20, 21, 22 and 23 July from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. while the Ministers Office (former secretariat office) will be opened on 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23 July from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Solar panels delivered to villagers in Maungtaw

By Myint Maung Soe & Aung Kyaw Oo

RAKHINE State government distributed solar panels to villagers in Maungtaw yesterday.

Maungtaw Township management committee presented the solar panels to the villagers at the Trane village primary school in northern Maungtaw Township yesterday morning.

The event was attended by Maungtaw Township chief administrator, township police head, officials from township land record department and township planning department and local people. Security is very important for this area and for the local



Authorities hand over the solar panel to villagers at Trane Village in Maungtaw Township. **PHOTO: THAKKA**

people, Tatmadaw and border police are increasing the momentum and to provide security to the people at night, solar panels are provided under the arrangement of Rakhine State government said an official.

Ethnic people are living in the village of 84 households and will be expanded by another 50 households. Nearly 90 sets of solar panels, lamp and fluorescent tube were delivered to the villagers. ■

Eight suspected illegal immigrants detained in Kawthoung

Kyaw Soe (Kawthoung)

Police detained eight suspected illegal immigrants in Kawthoung on 8th July, according to local authorities yesterday.

During their patrol, the police found the eight suspects sleeping at a closed betel quid shop in Kawthoung.

The eight suspects are

identified as Arzi Zular, 40, Farifo Islam, 24, Shaw Bee Arlam, 18, Anrar Sawde, 15, Mohamat Eskram, 14, Arju Mohaa, 17 and Wisamut, 13 and one Thailand, Mee Zar Nurae, 21. Two of them can speak Myanmar language.

Upon interrogation, it is found that they are from Kyauktaw in Rakhine State and went to Thailand illegally

via Yangon and Kayin State in April, 2017.

They had also been arrested in Thailand by Thai police. As they have no official documents to live in Thailand, they entered illegally to Kawthoung via Yanaung in Thailand by boat.

Action will be taken against them under the law. ■

Food reaches flood victims in Sagaing

While the weather bureau has warned the people in low-lying areas near the Chindwin River, a philanthropic organization delivered meals to flood victims who lost their homes destroyed by erosion of the Chindwin River recently.

Meteorology and Hydrology Department has advised the people yesterday who are living near the river and low-lying areas to take precaution measures as the water level in the river is rising.

Meals for lunch and dinner have been distributed by KBZ's Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation to about 150 victims are sheltering at the Thathana Waiponla Monastery in Hmanpin Village, Homalin Township, Sagaing Region, from 8th to 10th July.

The philanthropic organization also delivered lunch and dinner boxes to 960 flood victims in three wards in Khamti on 7th July. According to the 10.30 hr



Volunteers deliver food to flood victims at Thathana Waiponla Monastery in Hmanpin Village, Homalin Township. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

observation yesterday, the water levels have exceeded by about 4 feet at Khamti, about 2 feet each at Homalin and Phaungpyin, about 5 ½ feet at Mawlaik, about 3 ½ feet each Kalewa and Minkin and about 1 foot at Monywa of the Chindwin River above their respective danger levels. The water level is expected to rise about 1 ½

feet at Khamti today, about 2 ½ feet at Homalin, about feet at Phaungpyin, about 1 ½ feet each at Mawlaik and Kalewa, about 1 foot at Minkin during the next three days and about one foot at Monywa during the next four days and may remain above their respective danger levels.—MHD and Thura Lwin (Eco) ■

Announcement on road closure, prohibition in designated areas on Martyrs' Day

SOME Yangon roads will close on 18-19 July a security measure during the 70th Martyrs' Day (Martyrs' Day) commemoration.

The holiday will be memorialized by high level officials and relatives of the late national independence leader Bogyoke Aung San and other fallen leaders.

Road closures will include Shwegondine Road between the junction U Wizara Road and Link Street and Arzani Road from Shwegondine Road up to the eastern archway of the Shwed-

agon Pagoda and the Oak-hlaykha street and Kyaukse Dhammayon Street will close from 6 p.m. on 18 July until 6 p.m. 19 July.

Invited guests will enter the Martyr's Mausoleum venue through Gate 2 at the northern archway of Shwedagon and depart from Gate 3 on Shwegondine Road.

The mausoleum will open to the public on Martyrs' Day from noon to 5 pm. Visitors to the Martyr's Mausoleum, Bogyoke Museum and the old Secretariat

are strictly prohibited from taking together with them various kinds of garlands, flower bundles, flower baskets, handbags, cameras, cell phones, vinyl, bottles, boxes, wooden, iron or plastic flagpoles, or any object that is harmful to the security.

Visitors to the Martyr's Mausoleum, Bogyoke Museum and the old Secretariat are requested to fully cooperate with the security guards at the check points to the places and to follow the rules.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Announcement

Visitors to the Martyrs' Mausoleum, Bogyoke Museum and the old Secretariat are prohibited from bringing the following items.

- ✘ Garlands or bouquets of flowers
- ✘ Cameras
- ✘ Handphones
- ✘ Vinyls signs
- ✘ Drinking bottles
- ✘ Flags
- ✘ Plastic or metal poles
- ✘ Handbags



70th Martyrs' Day Working Committee
on Security and Rules Enforcement

North Korea admits being hit by months-long surge in gasoline prices

PYONGYANG — North Korean officials on Monday for the first time admitted a months-long surge in gasoline prices in the capital city in the wake of international sanctions.

The prices shot up to one and a half times higher than before starting around April and they remained high, the director of the country's major think tank said in an interview with Kyodo News in Pyongyang.

But Kim Chol, who heads the Economic Institute of the

Academy of Social Sciences, said, "The situation is not that the prices are rising continuously or in a state of confusion."

He said that as part of measures to conserve fuel, North Korea has encouraged its people to use public transportation and bicycles.

Kim Jong Guk, an official from the academy, who also attended the interview, said, "(Oil) imports have largely been restricted" as North Korea finds it difficult to transfer money to

China or other countries due to financial sanctions, in addition to a decline in the supply.

Reliable data on North Korea are hard to obtain, but the average retail price of gasoline last year is believed have been around \$1 per liter.

The official in charge of the academy's external affairs said China has reduced the amount of its oil supply to North Korea, but did not disclose from around when or to what extent.

Despite the spike, there is

no visible sign of less car traffic on the streets in Pyongyang and numerous taxis now operating in the country's most developed city have not increased their fares.

North Korea, which carried out an unprecedented test-firing of an intercontinental ballistic missile last week, has been subject to multiple international sanctions. It is banned by the United Nations from testing any nuclear or ballistic missile technology.

The United States has urged China to use its huge economic and political influence in curbing North Korea's nuclear ambitions. China, meanwhile, has said it has strictly implemented the UN sanctions and is against imposing unilateral punitive measures. It has instead called on the United States and other key players in the region to create a necessary environment for the resumption of negotiations on the North Korean nuclear issue.—Kyodo News ■

Japan, US, India hold annual maritime exercises in Indian Ocean

CHENNAI — Japan, the United States and India began on Monday their annual maritime exercises in the Indian Ocean in an apparent show of force against China's growing assertiveness at sea.

The Malabar exercises involving Japan's Maritime Self-Defence Force and the US and Indian navies are taking place in the Bay of Bengal and will last until 17 July.

The exercises began in 1992

as bilateral naval drills between India and the United States, with the MSDF joining in 2015 as a regular participant.

About 20 vessels including the US aircraft carrier Nimitz, the Japanese helicopter carrier

Izumo and India's aircraft carrier Vikramaditya are participating in the trilateral exercises in the Indian Ocean, a key route connecting India and the Middle East to Japan.

In recent years, India has

been increasingly wary of Beijing's steps to financially support port facilities in Indian Ocean littoral states as part of its initiative to build closer economic links along the ancient Silk Road trade routes.—Kyodo News ■

Blast in Pakistan kills police chief, two others

ISLAMABAD — A senior policeman and his two bodyguards were killed and 10 others injured by a bomb attack in the town of Chaman in Pakistan's restive Baluchistan province on Monday, the authorities said.

Provincial government spokesman Anwar-ul-haq said in the provincial capital Quetta that the attack targeted the motorcade of Chaman Police chief Sajid Mohmand. "Initial reports

indicate the explosion was caused by an improvised explosive device planted on a motorcycle," he said.

However, media reports said the explosion was caused by a suicide bomber who exploded himself near Mohmand's vehicle. Five policemen were among the injured. The Pakistani Taliban, formally known as Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan, claimed responsibility for the attack, with the group's spokesman saying it was carried out by

a suicide bomber belonging to the Taliban Special Group. "Many people were killed in the attack. Our attacks will continue until the enforcement of Islamic shariah (law) in Pakistan," the spokesman said. A separatist campaign has been raging for years in Baluchistan. The separatists accuse the Punjab-led Pakistani establishment of plundering the province's natural resources including oil and gas.—Kyodo News ■



Police and security personnel stand next to a damaged police vehicle after a blast in Chaman, Pakistan on 10 July, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

It is high time the international community puts an end to its accusations against Myanmar

By Dr Tha Sein

Most recently, Mr. Filippo Grandi, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees has visited Myanmar where he met with State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye, Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe, and Union Minister of Border Affairs Lt. Gen Ye Aung.

In meeting with the State Counsellor, he said that he was very happy to hear the State Counsellor saying "Refugees are welcome back from Thailand and we agreed that returns must be voluntary and sustainable. Refugees should not come back to a

situation of dependency but of self-reliance." He also reached out to Rakhine and Muslim communities north of Maungtau and listened to their safety and livelihood concerns. He highlighted that the recommendations of the Advisory Commission of Rakhine State provided an important roadmap for the way forward.

National Security Adviser U Thaug Tun in his meeting with the Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina and high-ranking officials recently touched upon further strengthening bilateral cooperation in the fight against terrorism. The high-ranking officials assured that they would not allow any individuals or groups to use their territory for subversive acts against

any neighbors, and that they would not accept separatist movements.

The present government is committed to resolving the simmering communal tensions in the Rakhine State, which has made headlines around the world. Regarding this, the State Counsellor stated that the problems in the Rakhine state have nothing to do with ethnic cleansing. It is a matter of people on different sides of the divide, and that the Union Government was trying its best to bridge the gap. To this ends, the Myanmar Government has formed the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State headed by former UN Secretary-General Dr Kofi Annan to look into the problems and to come up with practical long-term solutions. As the world is be-

coming increasingly interdependent, we must find ways to support each other and help each to thrive.

And it is high time the international community reoriented its strategic viewpoint on Myanmar and put a definite end to its accusations against the latter.

Now that foreign journalists led by an official from the Ministry of Information have been allowed to visit the restive region, they would find it easier to have access to local people they want to interview. Given that there had been numerous cases of gruesome killings of local officials and people who had cooperated with the government, we need to be vigilant, exercise restraint and stand together in times of hardship. ■

Golden Bamboo that not only greens the environment but also support the economic growth of the country

By Hein Htet Zaw (MMAL)

THERE are numerous species of bamboo in the world and Myanmar has 22 genera and 120 species of bamboo naturally growing. Mostly, the bamboos are naturally growing at the elevation between 300 ft. and 2600 ft. They usually grow in the areas having temperature round about 100 degree Fahrenheit and rainfall 31 to 254 inches. The bamboos declined to grow in water-covered areas such as wet lands, swamps and marshes and salinated soil. Bamboos emit oxygen 35% more than other plants do. It is learnt that Myanmar stands third in the world in the respect of amount of bamboo growing areas. Bamboos naturally grow widespread in Myanmar and they are essential for man in producing utility materials.

Due to over extraction and wild fire bamboo jungles are now diminishing and on the way to depletion. Nowadays, bamboo lovers, forest conservationists, climatologists and those who want to prevent natural disasters are doing preventive measures for bamboo depletion by organizing activities such as growing bamboo in manageable scale, encouraging to grow bamboo in commercial scale and giving

bamboos free of charge to growers.

Bamboos are used in producing commodities, furniture and also in construction works. Besides, bamboo charcoal and bamboo ash are also used in agriculture and medicine for human health. Liquid distilled from bamboo (is locally called "bamboo god potion") has been known to have medicinal value. Growing bamboo throughout the country, delivering educating programme regarding bamboo and free distribution of bamboos has been conducted by Bamboo Growing Association in cooperation with Wai Lu Kyaw Foundation.

"The foundation is going to the incident site and helping the victims in the wake of natural hazards, such as flood, storm and fire with the necessary materials. On the other hand we have to protect the deterioration of the environment by planting the trees. Excessive extraction of wood leads to depletion of forest and makes the hills and mountains barren of trees. Consequently climate change and landslides occur frequently in many places, especially in hilly regions and in rainy season" said U Soe Thein, patron of Wai Lu Kyaw Foundation.

"The only tree that can rapidly afforest an area is



Bamboo plantation. PHOTO: WIN KYAW OO, ZAW BI

bamboo. Bamboo can be planted in place of trees other than the trees that produce wood of good quality. Bamboo is commonly used by the grass root people in building the houses. Bamboo can also be transformed into the varieties of high-quality finished products by using high technology"

he added.

He continued, "Thailand has attained a good income from bamboo-based production of cosmetics and commodities. They have the strong market and high technology. They are finding the technology from internet and are producing on trial the fluid

distilled from bamboo which is so potent that metaphorically coined as "potion given by god". Moreover, the distilled fluid from bamboo is used in producing bio-pesticide, cosmetics such as soap (fluid and solid), shampoo and mosquito repellent spray."

"We want planting bamboo as much as possible. Only then the climate change can be remedied within a short time. Now we are conducting the training course to the bamboo enthusiasts regarding the commercial value of bamboo. Now it has been experimenting to produce bamboo distilled liquid, bamboo vinegar and bamboo sour sauce by the process of liquefying the vapour emitted from burning the bamboo for charcoal. It needs small investment for raw materials such as bamboos and installing the device for producing the distilled fluid from bamboo. If two long mature bamboos with more than 5 years of age are cut into some segments and distilled, 5 liters of distilled fluid will be produced. It will cost you about Ks. 100,000. A liter of bamboo distilled water can fetch Ks.10,000. Bamboo charcoal and ash will also be obtained as by products" said U Win Kyaw Oo, the president of the Bamboo Growing Association.

SEE PAGE 9

Gov't launches Reform Plan to Promote More Ethical and Inclusive Civil Service

FROM PAGE-1

Promotions must be determined through objective and transparent criteria.

The State Counsellor also called for avoiding even the perception of favouritism or nepotism, adding that promotion must be determined through objective and transparent criteria.

“There should be no place for discrimination in any form,” said Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

“It is also important that the civil service reflect the diversity of our country. No boy or girl at high school today should feel excluded from a future civil service career on the grounds of their birthplace, ethnicity, religion, wealth or gender. The civil service must develop recruitment systems that can attract and retain the brightest and best, whatever their background,” she said.

In her speech, the State Counsellor also highlighted the corruption as one of the challenges that the government must overcome on the path to civil service reform.

“Corruption has a corrosive effect on trust and on good governance, and on the reputation of the civil service and its staff. Moreover, corruption places the interests of the few above the interests of the many, and thus undermines the central principle of democracy: government on behalf of the people,” she said.

The Strategic Action Plan sets out a number of initiatives in this regard: strengthening the Civil Service Code of Conduct; improving training on ethics and anti-corruption; making grievance and whistle blowing mechanisms more effective; enforcing asset disclosure requirements for senior positions; and introducing new technology into administrative processes to minimize opportunities for bribes.

“Tackling corruption will contribute to a wider objective of the Strategic Action Plan: the development of greater trust between civil servants and the communities that they serve,” said the State Counsellor.

“Civil service reform is always a complex undertaking-but especially so in a country such as ours, where we seek to change not only the existing structures and processes, but also to reform a deep-seated institutional culture, while at the same time preparing for the opportunities and challenges of a federal future,” she added.

Democracy places upon civil servants new and demanding responsibilities. No longer are civil servants simply expected to enact orders from above. Under a democratic government, civil servants are expected to take initiative, to develop and submit policy options, to propose solutions to difficult problems.

In my time in the Hluttaw, and now in the Executive, I have been privileged to get to know dedicated civil servants from all ranks and backgrounds, from cleaners and gardeners to those who have reached the highest rungs of their profession. So, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the civil servants who, today, are working across our nation, often in challenging circumstance, not for recognition or personal gain or glory, but simply to be of service to the public.

No Immediate solutions for low salaries

“We are acutely aware that many civil servants’ salaries remain low, particularly in comparison to counterparts in other sectors. On this issue, I will be frank: there are no immediate solutions. The raising of salaries must be an incremental process, carried out responsibly and sustainably, in accordance with the resources available under the national budget,” said the State Counsellor. While salary increases may not take place with the immediacy that our civil servant may wish for, there are other ways in which the government can and will support them.

As a beginning, we will be upgrading existing housing facilities and also constructing new homes for retired civil servants that they may live in security and dignity after long years of service

to the nation, said Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

The development of the Plan has been led by the Union Civil Service Board (UCSB) with support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and is the result of extensive consultations held over the past year.

Dr. Win Thein, Chairman of the Union Civil Service Board said, “More than one thousand people from Union Government, Parliament, States and Regions, civil society and development partners, helped develop this Plan, ensuring that it reflects what really matters for civil service reforms in Myanmar.”

“With this plan, Myanmar has the opportunity to make its civil service more inclusive and representative. A more inclusive civil service which is ethical, meritocratic and builds on the rich diversity of the country will allow civil servants to deliver better services and development outcomes for all people in Myanmar” said UNDP Country Director Peter Batchelor.

The Civil Service Reform Strategic Action Plan will involve changes to civil service management across all government institutions, and its implementation will be led by the UCSB, and co-chaired by the General Administration Department and Anti-Corruption Commission. It includes a strong focus on an-

ti-corruption and encouraging ethical practices in the civil service. Proposed measures include setting codes of conduct to change civil service values and mindsets, more training, and better ways for civil servants and ordinary people to report corruption.

The Plan was launched at the start of a three-day Knowledge Forum on Public Service Motivation, held in Nay Pyi Taw and attended by 400 people. The Forum was co-organized by UCSB and UNDP.

Following the opening ceremony, the event continued with the attendance of Vice President U Myint Swe.

Also present at the ceremony were Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Win Myint, Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw Mahn Win Khaing Than, Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of Myanmar U Myo Nyunt, Chairman of the Union Election Commission U Hla Thein, Union ministers, Union Attorney-General, Union Auditor-General, Chairman of the Union Civil Service Board, Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Commission, Chairman of the Myanmar Human Rights Commission, chief ministers, deputy ministers, MPs, diplomats and personnel from UN agencies and INGOs. ■

(Full Speech of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is available at www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com)

Golden Bamboo that not only greens the environment.....

FROM PAGE 8

“Besides, the distilled liquid 1 liter is used as pesticide after mixing with 400 to 600 liters of water. It is also used as plant tonic and root tonic and it has deterring effect to pests and insects harmful to the plants. As an instance it is used as sprays on the onion field in Chin State. It helps the onions grow bigger and sweeter.

Then, it is known that it has properties to wipe out the dandruff and fleas of the head scalp and make the hairs soft when it

is used after mixing proportionately with shampoo. It is also used in mosquito spray without any harm to children. It can also kill the fleas of the animals.” added the president.

The usefulness of bamboo is very extensive. Nowadays, it is found that supermarkets are offering the attractive price in buying the bamboo charcoal.

One of the properties of bamboo charcoal is being able to absorb the foul smell and to produce an air-freshener effect, and it can also prevent from radiation of radioactive miner-

als. Besides, it can mitigate the unnecessary content of minerals in the body if the water is passed through it in the small scale water purifying machine. According to the president if the fish is grilled with bamboo charcoal, the grilled fish can cure the cancer.

Among the bamboo lovers, bamboos are figuratively called as “green coloured gold”.

Now, the forests are being depleted and fast-growing bamboos are the most suitable for quick reforestation.

Therefore, bamboo is the



A man makes a basket with bamboo at a village at Made island outside Kyaukpyu, on 17 May 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

most profitable for growers if it is grown and used in commercial sense. Now it is the time for bamboo lovers and those who want to grow bamboos to get

united and enhance the use of bamboos for the better socio-economic condition of the people. ■ (Translated by U Khin Maung Win)

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

Australian PM wants UK free trade deal as soon as possible after Brexit

LONDON — Australia wants a free trade deal with Britain as soon as possible after the country has left the European Union, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said on Monday.

At a joint news conference in London with British Prime Minister Theresa May, Turnbull was asked how long it would take to secure a trade deal after Brexit.

“As soon as possible, if we move quickly,” he said. “Australians are fleet of foot, we don’t muck around ... we will move as quickly as the UK is able to move.”

May also told the news conference that she wanted “the broadest possible consensus” for Brexit to make sure the deal she negotiates with the EU is the right one for Britain. —Reuters ■



Britain’s Prime Minister Theresa May meets Australia’s Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull at Downing Street, in London, Britain on 10 July, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

WORLD BRIEFS

Kremlin: Possible NATO membership for Ukraine won’t boost stability

MOSCOW — The Kremlin said on Monday that Ukraine’s potential membership of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) would not boost stability and security in Europe.

Ukraine and NATO will begin discussions on a roadmap to get Ukraine into NATO, with Kiev pledging to make the necessary reforms by 2020, President Petro Poroshenko said earlier on Monday.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov also commented on a statement from NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg who said Russia had to withdraw thousands of its troops from Ukraine. Peskov said Russia did not have any troops in Ukraine. —Reuters ■

UK PM May’s deputy says confident can get EU repeal bill through parliament

LONDON— The British government is confident it can get legislation to begin the process of transferring European Union law into British law through parliament, Prime Minister Theresa May’s deputy said on Monday.

The Repeal Bill, which

the government says will help achieve a smooth transition as Britain leaves the EU, will transpose EU law and also repeal the 1972 European Communities Act which formalises Britain’s EU membership.

“I’m confident that we can get this legislation through

parliament,” First Secretary of State Damian Green, who is effectively May’s deputy, told Sky News, adding that he expected lots of debate along the way.

Green said although the bill, which is due to be presented to parliament this week, was complex from a legislative point

of view, it was a simple concept.

May’s Conservatives lost their parliamentary majority at an election last month, and were forced to secure a deal with Northern Ireland’s Democratic Unionist Party to support her on key votes in parliament. —Reuters ■

Britain’s parliament temporarily evacuated after fire alarm

LONDON — Britain’s parliament was temporarily evacuated on Monday after a fire alarm but people have begun re-entering the building, a Reuters reporter said.

The London Fire Brigade said it had not been called out after the fire alarm sounded. —Reuters ■

Police question six in Israel-Germany submarine deal

JERUSALEM — Israeli police said they had questioned six people on Monday on suspicion of corruption in a \$2 billion naval defence deal with Germany.

The 2016 deal has been under public scrutiny since it emerged that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s personal lawyer also represented the local agent of the German conglomerate ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems set to build the vessels.

The six people, who were questioned under caution on suspicion of bribery, fraud and tax offences, include public of-

ficials and private citizens, police spokeswoman Luba Simri said. No further details were immediately available.

German authorities are also looking into the submarine deal.

In June, German magazine Der Spiegel reported Germany’s national security council had approved the sale of the three nuclear-capable submarines to Israel and that authorities inserted a clause into the contract giving it the right to void it if corruption allegations were proven.

The Justice Ministry said

in February that Netanyahu himself was not a suspect in the investigation into the 2016 contract for ThyssenKrupp to build three submarines and a 2015 agreement with the company to purchase four patrol vessels for Israel’s navy.

Israeli Channel 10 reported last year that ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems’ Israeli intermediary had retained Netanyahu’s personal lawyer, David Shimron, to act on his behalf.

Shimron has denied any wrongdoing and has said he never discussed the deal with

the prime minister so as to avoid any conflict of interest. Netanyahu has given his full backing to his lawyer, who is a distant relative.

Netanyahu is under investigation in two other criminal cases and he denies any wrongdoing in both.

One case involves gifts from businessmen and the other focuses on discussions Netanyahu held with a newspaper publisher on more favourable media coverage in return for curbs on competition from a rival newspaper. —Reuters ■

Syrian government satisfied with US-Russian ceasefire deal — official

BEIRUT — Silence from the Syrian government over a US-Russian brokered ceasefire deal for southwest Syria was a “sign of satisfaction”, a government official told Reuters on Sunday.

“We welcome any step that would cease the fire and pave the way for peaceful solutions,” the official said.

The ceasefire was holding hours after it took effect, a monitor and two rebel officials said. —Reuters ■

Iraq's Abadi to declare Mosul victory, few pockets of resistance

MOSUL — Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi was poised to declare victory over Islamic State in Mosul on Monday as only a few dozen militants put up resistance in the city where their leader declared a caliphate three years ago.

Gunfire and explosions could be heard as the US-led coalition pounded the remaining few Islamic State positions.

"They won't declare victory until the area is fully secured," said Iraqi army officer Firas Abdel Qassim. The militants were still controlling a small patch, he said.

While defeat in Iraq's second largest city will deal a heavy blow to Islamic State, the group controls several cities and towns south and west of Mosul.

Islamic State is also under heavy pressure in its operational headquarters in the Syrian city of Raqqa and its self-proclaimed caliphate that once straddled the two countries is crumbling. But the militants are expected to keep plotting



Iraqi people celebrate the liberation of the embattled city of Mosul, in Mosul, Iraq on 9 July, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

attacks on the West and revert to the type of insurgency waged by al Qaeda that helped destabilized Iraq following the US-led invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein in 2003.

The stench of corpses along Mosul's streets was a

reminder of the nearly nine months of grueling urban warfare required to dislodge Islamic State, which imposed a reign of terror in the city of 1.5 million.

Seven bodies lay in an alley near a riverbank the militants reached on

Sunday while attempting to escape. Much of Mosul has been destroyed in the fighting, with rows of houses flattened by air strikes and centuries-old stone houses gutted by explosions.

Thousands of people have been killed. The

United Nations says 920,000 civilians have fled their homes since the military campaign began in October. Close to 700,000 people are still displaced.

"It's a relief to know that the military campaign in Mosul is ending. The

fighting may be over, but the humanitarian crisis is not," said UN Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq Lise Grande.

"Many of the people who have fled have lost everything. They need shelter, food, health care, water, sanitation and emergency kits. The levels of trauma we are seeing are some of the highest anywhere. What people have experienced is nearly unimaginable." Victory in Mosul will mark a vast improvement for Iraqi forces, who collapsed as Islamic State swept through northern Iraq in 2014.

Iraqi soldiers were relaxed. Some were swimming in the Tigris river. Another wiped the sweat off his face with an Islamic State flag. Once celebrations end, Iraqi leaders will face the formidable task of managing sectarian tensions in Mosul and elsewhere that enabled Islamic State to initially win support and threaten to create new security challenges.—Reuters ■

Four Saudis sentenced to death in Yemen for 2014 beheadings

DUBAI — A court in Sanaa has sentenced to death four Saudis convicted of belonging to al Qaeda and beheading 14 Yemeni soldiers in a 2014 attack, according to media run by the Houthis, the northern rebel group in control of Yemen's capital.

The 2014 attack was one of many carried out by Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) on state security targets in the period preceding Yemen's descent into full blown war involving Saudi Arabia.

The conflict has killed around 10,000 peo-

ple and displaced another 3 million.

"The criminal court in charge of terrorism cases in Sanaa on Sunday sentenced four Saudi nationals to death for belonging to al Qaeda and killing and beheading 14 soldiers of the 135th Brigade," al-Masirah television reported.

The Houthis seized control of Sanaa in September 2014, forcing the then government into exile. In March the following year, a Saudi-led coalition launched a campaign to try to restore the ousted government of President Abd-Rabbu

Mansour Hadi, carrying out thousands of air raids.

But despite more than two years of heavy fighting, the Houthis, close to Saudi Arabia's arch-enemy Iran, have maintained control over the most populated provinces including the capital Sanaa.

The court ordered for the men to be executed in public and in the presence of the families of those killed, the channel reported. AQAP was formed by the merger of the Saudi and Yemeni wings of Al Qaeda in 2009.—Reuters ■



Notice: Public Forum

Shwe Taung Cement is expanding its existing cement plant located near Pyi Nyaung Village, Thazi Township in the Mandalay region of Myanmar (the Project). To assess potential environmental and social impacts associated with the Project and define mitigation measures where necessary, the company has commissioned an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) with a draft report available for review. The International Finance Corporation is considering financing the Project and has disclosed an Environmental and Social Review Summary (ESRS) document for the Project.

To disseminate information about the Project and exchange views with interested and affected parties in finalization of the ESIA Report, the company is convening a public forum, details as follows:

Date: Tuesday July 18, 2017

Time: 2 – 6 pm

Location: Novotel Yangon Max Hotel, 459 Pyay Road, Yangon

Should you intend participating in the forum, please register with STC by Friday, 14 July 2017; contact details below. In addition, should you require access to the draft ESIA report or ESRS, or require any other information associated with the Project, also contact STC.

Contact details: Shwe Taung Cement
Name: Mr. Thet Lwin Aung,
Phone: +95 (0) 1 8603345
Email: ir@shwetaungcement.com

Russia's cutting-edge multipurpose helicopters to be showcased at MAKS-2017 air show

ULAN-UDE—The Russian Helicopter company will showcase two versions of the Mi-8AMT helicopter, which is manufactured by Ulan-Ude Aviation Plant, at the MAKS-2017 International Air Show. The first version will be multi-purpose, capable of carrying out medical evacuation and transportation of cargo and personnel, and the second version will be a VIP version, the company's CEO Andrey Boginsky told reporters on Friday.

"Equipment from all the company's manufacturers will be presented [at the show]. We've got two versions of the helicopter produced by Ulan-Ude Aviation Plant: the multi-purpose Mi-8AMT (which can perform medical evacuation and transportation of cargo and personnel) and a VIP [version]," he said.



Mi-8AMT helicopter. PHOTO: TASS

Boginsky assured that the rotorcraft will attract attention at the MAKS-2017, adding that the helicopters may be delivered to potential buyers right after the air show. The first Mi-8AMT multi-role helicopter was produced at Ulan-Ude

Aviation Plant in 2014 for Progress Arsenyev Aviation Company.

Ulan-Ude Aviation Plant is one of Russian Helicopters' production facilities which has manufactured over 8,000 aircraft since 1939. Today the plant

focuses on the production of the Mi-8AMT (Mi-171E), Mi-171 and Mi-8AMTSh (Mi-171Sh) helicopters. The MAKS-2017 International Air Show will run from July 18 to July 23 in the town of Zhukovsky, in the Moscow Region.—Tass ■

France to close 17 nuclear reactors by 2025: minister

PARIS—France planned to close up to 17 nuclear reactors by 2025 as part of its energy transition, to trim nuclear power to 50 per cent of the country's electricity generation, ecology minister Nicolas Hulot said on Monday.

"From the moment it has been confirmed to reduce nuclear energy of electricity production to 50 per cent, everyone can understand that in order to achieve this objective, we will close some reactors, and not only one reactor," Hulot told RTL radio.

"It could be up to 17 reactors; we'll have to see," he added.

France operates 58 reactors and has been a leading international proponent of nuclear energy.

However, closing nuclear plants has been a controversial issue in

the country as France is the most nuclear-energy relying country in the world, with more than three quarters of its power coming from nuclear.

Last Thursday, Hulot raised the curtain on the government's "Climate Plan" in order "to make France leader of green economy". With it, the environmentalist activist aims to reach carbon neutrality by 2050.

Furthermore, he pledged "the end of the sale of petrol or diesel vehicles between now and 2040". The French government, instead, will offer financial incentives to scrap their polluting vehicles including diesel car dating before 1997 or petrol from before 2001, for clean units, the minister added.—Reuters ■

Britain should give more rights to "gig economy" workers, review to say — BBC

LONDON—A British government-commissioned report is to recommend that those working in the so-called "gig economy" for firms like taxi app Uber, receive rights such as sick pay and holiday entitlement, the BBC reported on Monday.

Last year, Prime Minister Theresa May set up a review into modern employment practices after

an outcry over the increasing use of zero-hour contracts and the rising number of self-employed people working for apps such as Uber and food courier Deliveroo.

Firms say the burgeoning "gig economy", in which people can work simultaneously for different companies without fixed contracts, gives greater flexibility to both them and

their staff but such practices have been criticised as exploitative by unions.

In Britain, the self-employed have no entitlement to employment rights beyond basic health and safety and anti-discrimination laws. Regular workers receive entitlements such as annual leave, rest breaks and the minimum wage.

The review, due to be published on Tuesday,

will recommend that ministers create a new type of worker called a "dependent contractor", the BBC said, granting greater entitlements.

The review will also call for firms to be obliged to show that a person working for them is able to earn at least 1.2 times the national living wage, which stands at 7.50 pounds (\$9.65) an hour for

the over-25s, by calculating the average number of tasks worked.

Britain's business ministry declined to comment on the report's findings when contacted by Reuters on Monday.

May is due to speak at the launch event on Tuesday where she will outline plans to pursue domestic reform despite her diminished authority.

She is relaunching her leadership after a botched snap election which saw her lose her parliamentary majority.

Since taking office last year, May has tried to attract support from working class voters, who tend to back the opposition Labour Party, but she failed to win over enough support in June's national vote.—Reuters ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV MAERSK ATLANTIC VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MAERSK ATLANTIC VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T./M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV DONE AN QUEEN VOY. NO (02-20171)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DONE AN QUEEN VOY. NO (02-20171) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT-4 AIPT 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 GLOBAL MARS SHIPPING

Phone No: 2301982

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV MCC HA LONG VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCC HA LONG VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.7.2017 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 MCC TRANSPORT(S'PORE)
PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

Merkel challenger says anti-G20 protestors acted like terrorists

INGOLSTADT (Germany) — The Social Democrat (SPD) challenger to Chancellor Angela Merkel in Germany's national election in September said on Monday the anti-capitalist militants who protested against the G20 summit in Hamburg at the weekend had acted like terrorists.

About 20,000 police struggled to contain several hundred demonstrators who torched cars, looted shops and hurled Molotov cocktails and stones during the 7-8 July summit. Tens of thousands more people demonstrated peacefully.

SPD leader Martin Schulz said the "marauding gangs" could not claim to have any

political legitimacy for their actions, adding: "It had the characteristics of terrorism."

"Such small-minded skirmishes are the business of people who took a whole city hostage for their dimwittedness in an almost terrorist manner," said Schulz, whose party is trailing Merkel's conservatives in the opinion polls. During the protests in Hamburg 476 officers were injured and police said on Sunday they had arrested 186 people and taken 225 into custody.

Germans have expressed anger about the violence in Hamburg and Merkel has promised compensation to those who had property damaged.—Reuters ■

Foreign hackers probe European critical infrastructure networks — sources

LONDON — Cyber attackers are regularly trying to attack data networks connected to critical national infrastructure systems around Europe, according to current and former European government sources with knowledge of the issue.

The sources acknowledged that European infrastructure data networks face regular attacks similar to those which the Washington Post newspaper said on Sunday had been launched by Russian government hackers against business systems of US nuclear power and other companies involved in energy production.

One former senior British security official said it was an "article of faith" that Russian government hackers were seeking to penetrate UK critical infrastructure though the official said he could not cite public case studies.

A European security source acknowledged that UK authorities were aware of the latest reports about infrastructure hacking attempts and that British authorities were in regular contact with other governments over the attacks.

UK authorities declined to comment on the extent of any such attempted or successful attacks in Britain or elsewhere in Europe or to discuss what possible security measures governments and infrastructure operators might be taking.

The Washington Post said recent attempted Russian hacking attacks on infrastructure related systems in the United States appeared to be an effort to "assess" such networks. But there was no evidence that hackers had actually penetrated or disrupted key systems controlling operations at nuclear plants. — Reuters ■

Putin's confidence in Trump won't be affected by cyber security unit situation — Kremlin

MOSCOW — The situation around the issue on setting up a Russian-US cyber security unit won't affect Russian President Vladimir Putin's confidence in his US counterpart Donald Trump, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

The Russian presidential spokesman commented after Trump wrote in a tweet: "The fact that President Putin and I discussed a Cyber Security unit doesn't mean I think it can happen." The fact that President Putin and I discussed a Cyber Security unit doesn't mean I think it can happen. It can't-but a ceasefire can, & did!

"No one promised anything to one another, and there was no such a goal. The positive outcome is that the readiness to work in this direction was stated (at Putin's meeting with



Russian President Putin and US President Donald Trump.- PHOTO: TASS

Trump in Hamburg on 7 July)," Peskov said.

"Why should this (Trump's tweet) affect (the Russian president's) confidence (in him)? It cannot affect it," Peskov stressed.

The Kremlin spokesman noted that the possibility to discuss this unit was indeed mentioned at

the meeting. "Will it be set up or not — time will show," he said.

Putin assured Trump at the meeting that "any claims that official Russian agencies had been allegedly involved in cyber attacks during the US election campaign are pure speculation and do

not correspond to reality." "In this context, it was said that the best form of fight against cyber terrorism is cooperation," Peskov said.

Peskov noted that Trump and Putin did not agree directly to set up a certain body "but to work on creating such a group."—Tass ■

Fire in London's Camden Market brought under control

LONDON — More than 70 firefighters have brought a fire under control at London's Camden market after a blaze broke out at a building at the popular tourist attraction overnight, firefighters said.

The cause of the fire was unknown and there were no immediate reports of any injuries or casual-

ties. The fire damaged the first, second and third floors and the roof of the building in north London which contained a number of businesses, London Fire Brigade (LFB) said on Monday morning.

"Crews worked hard to get the fire under control and to stop it from spreading to neighbour-

ing buildings," said Station Manager David Reid. LFB said 10 fire engines had been sent to tackle the blaze.

The incident comes a month after a blaze in the 24-storey Grenfell Tower apartment block killed at least 80 people, putting fire safety in the capital in the spotlight.

Camden Market, which is home to more than 1,000 shops, stalls, bars and cafes, suffered a fire in 2008 when storage areas and shops in the locality were set ablaze and adjoining houses were damaged. A major part of the market had to close for several months.— Reuters ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV HAN DE VOY. NO (1731)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HAN DE VOY. NO (1731) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT-2 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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AGENT FOR: M/S HANSSY SHIPPING PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV MAERSK WASAW VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MAERSK WASAW VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Golden Apricot Film Festival Opens in Yerevan

YEREVAN, Armenia — The 14th Golden Apricot Yerevan International Film Festival (GAIFF), one of the biggest cultural events in Armenia, kicked off here on Sunday.

According to the organizers, this year, the annual film festival, founded in 2004, received 1,100 film submissions from 96 countries. However, only 47 films will be competing in three main cat-

egories: International Feature Competition (12 films), International Documentary Competition (16 films) and Armenian Panorama National Competition (19 films).

Since 2005, Golden Apricot has been taking place annually under the auspices of the European Cultural Parliament. It has also received continual support from the Armenian Foreign Min-

istry as well as the Ministry of Culture.

This year members of the jury for different categories include film director Hugh Hudson from the United Kingdom, director Tom Fassaert from the Netherlands, Jens Geiger from Germany and others. The international film festival will last for a week with the closing ceremony scheduled for 16 July.—Xinhua ■

“Spider-Man: Homecoming” rules North American box office in opening weekend

LOS ANGELES — Sony’s “Spider-Man: Homecoming” easily nabbed the top spot at the North American box office with an estimated 117 million US dollars in its opening weekend.

The American superhero film is based on the Marvel Comics character Spider-Man and co-produced by Columbia Pictures and Marvel Studios. The film is the second reboot of the Spider-Man film franchise and the sixteenth film of the Marvel Cinematic Universe. “Spider-Man” franchise have brought in over 4 billion US dollars in global box office for Sony Pictures since 2002.

The well-reviewed film is the talk of the social media landscape topping comScore’s “Most Talked About Movies” charts for the past three weeks. “Spider-Man: Homecoming” currently has a 93 per cent on Rotten Tomatoes and an A CinemaScore.

Starring Tom Holland



Spider-Man co-creator Stan Lee.

PHOTO: REUTERS

as the new Spider-Man, the film was directed by Jon Watts and costed 175 million US dollars to produce.

“Despicable Me 3,” the animated sequel from Universal Pictures and Illumination Entertainment, moved to the second place at the North American box office with an estimated 34 million US dollars in its second weekend.

The third installment in the “Despicable Me” franchise continues its great run with an estimated weekend box office

of 139 million US dollars in 60 territories, which raises the international total to 298.4 million US dollars. Combined with the US and Canada total of 149.2 million US dollars, the worldwide total is 447.6 million US dollars, according to studio figures collected by comScore.

Sony’s “Baby Driver” was in third place. Edgar Wright’s new film brought in an estimated 12.75 million US dollars in weekend sales and 56.9 million US dollars in total after just 12 days in North American theaters.

Warner Bros.’ “Wonder Woman” landed in the fourth place with an estimated 10.1 million US dollars in its sixth weekend, bringing its global total to 745.8 million US dollars through Sunday.

Paramount’s “Transformers: The Last Knight” finished fifth with an estimated 6.3 million US dollars in its third weekend.—Xinhua ■



Actress Diana Penty. PHOTO: PTI

Diana Penty excited to share her first look from ‘Parmanu’

MUMBAI — Actress Diana Penty released her first look from her upcoming film “Parmanu”, which also stars actor John Abraham.

The 31-year-old actress took to Twitter to share the still from the movie, in which she can be seen dressed sharply in the Indian Army uniform.

“Excited to share my first look in #Parmanu! @kriarj @KytaProductions @ZeeStudios_@johnabrahament,” wrote

Diana, alongside the picture.

The film is based on Pokhran-II, the series of five nuclear bomb test explosions conducted in the Rajasthan town in 1998.

The movie has been produced by KriArj Entertainment, Zee Studios, Kyta Productions in association with Abraham’s JA Entertainment. “Parmanu” is scheduled to release on December 8 this year. The film also stars Boman Irani.—PTI ■

Thirty years on, U2 still find relevance in ‘The Joshua Tree’

LONDON — Irish rock group U2 kicked off the European leg of “The Joshua Tree” tour on Saturday by returning to the album that tackled their love-hate relationship with America and propelled them to superstardom when it was released 30 years ago.

The band, led by 57-year-old singer Bono, is playing the entire record to 2.4 million fans on their 2017 tour, including hits “With or Without You” and “I Still Haven’t Found What I’m Looking For”.

But they started the London show with early songs “Sunday Bloody Sunday”, “New Year’s Day”, “Bad”, and the Martin Luther King Jr-inspired “Pride (In the Name of Love)”, which Bono dedicated to the “Rainbow people of London” who took part in the annual Pride LGBT march in the city earlier on Saturday.

“The Joshua Tree” was played in sequence against a backdrop of video of US landscapes such as Death Valley, and Americans standing in front of the Stars and the Stripes, shot

by Dutch photographer Anton Corbijn who created the imagery on the original record.

The group’s best-selling album was released in 1987 when Ronald Reagan was US President and his ideological soul mate Margaret Thatcher was in power in Britain.

The tracks “Bullet the Blue Sky” and “Mothers of the Disappeared” were inspired by trips Bono made to Nicaragua and El Salvador, where he saw the impact of US foreign policy, while “Red Hill Mining Town” was

about the impact of the socially divisive miners’ strike in Britain in the 1980s. Lead guitarist The Edge said in an interview with Rolling Stone in January that politically “things have kind of come full circle”.

“It just felt like, ‘Wow, these songs have a new meaning and a new resonance today that they didn’t have three years ago, four years ago,’” he told the magazine.

Bono largely let the music speak for itself on Saturday, although a character called

“Trump” was called a liar by the “good guy cowboy” in a Western movie-style clip. “The Joshua Tree”, which sold more than 25 million copies, marked the pinnacle of the band tackling social and political issues through rock music.

Their next album, “Rattle and Hum”, did not match its success critically or commercially, and the band reinvented themselves in the 1990s by incorporating electronic and alternative rock into their sound.—Reuters ■

Cambodian temple site gets UNESCO world heritage status

PHNOM PENH — The UN cultural organization added an ancient temple site in Cambodia to its world heritage list, the government said on Sunday, bringing the number of heritage sites in the Southeast Asian country to three.

Sambor Prei Kuk, or "temple in the richness of the forest" in the Khmer language, located 206 km (128 miles) north of the capital Phnom Penh, is home to numerous temples, ten of which are octagonal.

"Some of these elements, including lintels, pediments and colonnades, are true masterpieces," UNESCO said on

its website.

UNESCO said the area had been identified as Ishanapura, the capital of the ancient Chenla Empire, a Khmer civilization that flourished in the late 6th and 7th centuries and preceded the Khmer Empire.

Its remains cover an area of 25 square kilometres. The site has become increasingly popular with foreign tourists.

"The decision of the UNESCO's World Heritage Committee is another massive pride for the nation," the Ministry of Culture of Fine Arts said in a statement on Sunday.

Tourist arrivals in



Sambor Prei Kuk temple, an archaeological site of Ancient Ishanapura, is seen in Kampong Thom province, Cambodia on 20 May, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Cambodia rose 5 per cent to five million last year. About 5.5 million tourists

are expected to visit the country this year. Two other sites in

Cambodia already have heritage status, including the popular Angkor Wat

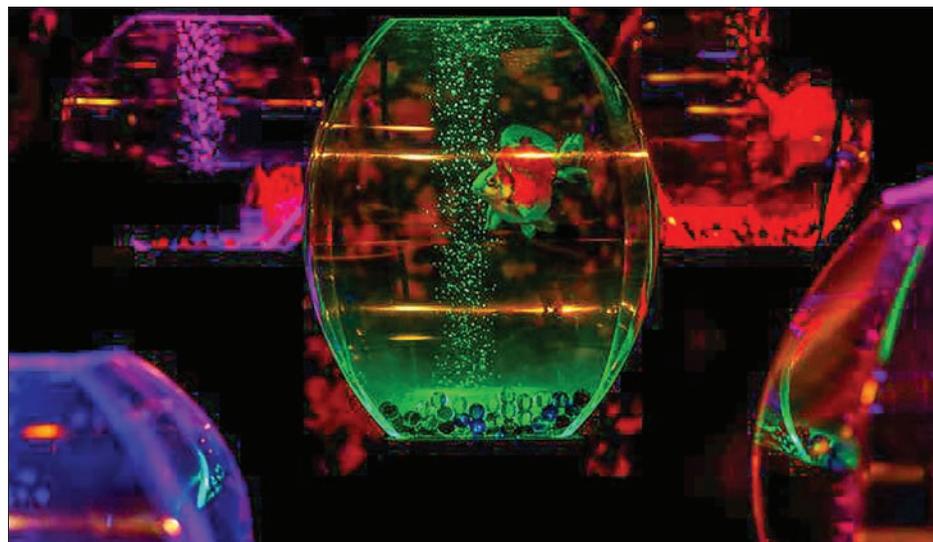
in Siem Reap province where parts of the "Lara Croft: Tomb Raider" film were shot.

Angkor Wat and Preah Vihear, an 11th century temple on the border between Thailand and Cambodia, were listed as World Heritage Sites in 2004 and 2008, respectively.

Sambor Prei Kuk was added to the list on Saturday along with other sites in China and India.

Tibetan rights groups criticized UNESCO's decision to extend world heritage status to an extensive plateau area in a heavily Tibetan area, saying it reinforces Chinese control of the region.—Reuters ■

Thousands of goldfish bring Tokyo art exhibit to life



Installations using goldfish in illuminated tanks are displayed at the Art Aquarium exhibition in Tokyo, Japan on 6 July, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

TOKYO — A Japanese artist has used thousands of fish in illuminated tanks to create a sprawling psychedelic visual art installation, drawing tens of thousands of viewers in Tokyo.

Hidetomo Kimura's traveling 'Art Aquarium' exhibition puts on display around 5,000 goldfish and 3,000 other maritime creatures, such as seahorses, in 130 LED-lit tanks of various shapes, colours and sizes.

The LED displays provide a colourful variety of moving images, such as one

of sakura blossoms falling serenely from the sky, to the accompaniment of music.

"I wanted to create an artistic installation which is alive by using real fish, rather than materials or pictures," Kimura said on the sidelines of the exhibition. Kimura creates similar installations several times a year to show all over Japan.

This year's 'Art Aquarium', which marks a decade since Kimura's first such display, is also set to show in the western city of Kyoto

in the fall. This year's exhibition features hundreds of varieties of goldfish, including several cross-bred species. The fish swim in bubbling fishbowls made of magnifying glass, draped with lace or shaped like Japanese lanterns, among others.

One of the new works this year, in which Black Moor goldfish swirl about as their shadows are projected onto a white LED screen, creates an illusion of a Japanese ink-and-wash painting.—Reuters ■

mitv Myanmar International

Programme Schedule

	10:48	Am		A Way of Life: Aikido	
	(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm) - Monday 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	Pm		News	
	07:26	Pm		A Day Out With Sarah (EP-7)	
	07:54	Pm		Parents' Day	
	08:03	Pm		News	
	08:26	Pm		Taste Of Myanmar (Noodle With Fermented Soya Bean)	
	08:43	Pm		Dances of Myanmar "Muun Traditional Dance"	
	08:48	Pm		Temple Stalls	
	08:55	Pm		Now in Yangon	
	(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)				
	(11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am) - Monday 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

(11-7-2017, Tuesday)

<p>6:00 Am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw <p>7:00 Am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Breakfast News <p>7:35 Am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Documentary <p>8:35 Am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Documentary <p>9:10 Am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Law Affairs <p>9:35 Am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ MRTV Youth's Programme <p>10:30 Am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Documentary (Mandalay Palace) <p>10:50 Am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Documentary <p>12:30 Am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ TV Drama Series <p>1:00 Pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Radio Drama <p>1:50 Pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Yes or No Talk Show <p>2:15 Pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ TV Drama Series 	<p>3:00 Pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Peace Musical Festival (Taunggyi) (Part-2) <p>5:20 Pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Catch Asia News <p>5:35 Pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Money Talk Myanmar <p>6:20 Pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Football Magazine <p>6:35 Pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Kyae Pwint Myae Yin Khone Than <p>6:45 Pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Analysis for Myanmar Movie <p>7:15 Pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ TV Deama Series <p>8:00 Pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ News/ International News/ Weather Report <p>8:35 Pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Documentary <p>9:15 Pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ TV Drama Series <p>◆ Documentary</p>
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Myanmar U-22 to play exhibition match with Malaysia

Shine Htet Zaw

IN preparation for SEA Games, Myanmar U-22 national football team will leave Yangon today to play a friendly match with Malaysia on 13 July in Kuala Lumpur.

Myanmar falls in Group (A) together with host Malaysia and this match is intended to gain experiences for both teams before the SEA Games starts.

Myanmar is going to choose the final players for SEA Games

according to the match result.

Myanmar team will be headed by Coach Gerd Friedrich for the match.

Myanmar will pick up the key players including Aung Thu, Si Thu Aung, Bhone Thitsar Min and Maung Maung Lwin for the match.

After Myanmar arrives back home, they will fight for U-23 Group (F) qualifier going to be started from 19 to 23 July in Thuwanna Stadium in Yangon. ■



Myanmar's star player Si Thu Aung. PHOTO: SOE NYUNT

Futsal Grouping for 29th SEA Games

MEN and women's futsal fixture were drawn for 29th SEA Games hosted by Malaysia this week. The futsal competitions are going to take place at Panasonic Stadium in Shah Alam of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. In men's futsal competition, Myanmar has to play round robin with Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam and Indonesia. In women's futsal competition, Myanmar has to compete with Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam and Indonesia through round robin system.

The two teams which score higher marks will play in the final match and the third and fourth will fight for the third place. Futsal is played between two teams of five players, each of which comprises five players including a goalkeeper and each team may have nine substitutes with unlimited substitutions. The match will be played in the roofed hall.

Futsal has been a Southeast Asian Games sport since 2007.—Kyaw Zin Lin ■

Lukaku bids farewell to Everton ahead of Man Utd move

LONDON — Striker Romelu Lukaku has posted a farewell message to Everton and its fans as he moves closer to completing a switch to Premier League giants Manchester United.

The Belgium international scored 53 league goals in 110 appearances for Everton since 2014 and was close to winning the league's Golden Boot award

last season with 25 goals, four behind Tottenham Hotspur striker Harry Kane.

"I want to say a big thank you to all the people involved at Everton. I want to thank the fans for your support throughout the 4 years we've spend together," Lukaku said on Instagram.

"You guys helped me through all my games and I can

proudly say it was an honour to play in front of you. To the staff at the stadium and training ground thank you for making me feel home from the first day I walked in.

"To my teammates it was great to play with you guys... Working with you guys has been a pleasure and I'll take your advice throughout the rest of my

career. Thank you Everton Football Club."

United confirmed that they had agreed a fee for the 24-year-old on Saturday with British media reporting it to be around 75 million pounds (96.65 million).

Lukaku will also reunite with United manager Jose Mourinho, under whom he played at Chelsea.—Reuters ■

Top players can deal with problems better, says coach Lendl

LONDON — Eight-time grand slam champion Ivan Lendl says it is the ability to deal with distractions and overcome obstacles such as a lack of playing time that sets the top players in the world apart from the rest.

Lendl, who coaches world number one Andy Murray, said that the Briton, Roger Federer, Rafa Nadal and Novak Djokovic have been able to stay at the top of men's tennis due to their mental strength.

"The top guys are top guys because they do things a little bit better than the other guys," Lendl told British media.

"Whether it's problem solving, whether it's lack of matches for a while, dealing with distractions off the court – these guys are used to it ...

"Yes, they can get upset, or

the others can upset them, but if they play 100 times they are going to win more than half.

"They are better in stroke production, movement, physically. You put all that into a package and the package is slightly better than the guys below." Lendl also said Murray, who is on the mend from a hip injury and just scraped past Italian Fabio Fognini in the third round at Wimbledon, had the character to dig deep when things were not going according to plan.

"That's how people win tournaments – they fight. It doesn't come easy. You don't always play your best and you have to get through that and fighting is part of it," Lendl said.

"When you play, sometimes you feel tired and you have to push through that pain barrier



Great Britain's Andy Murray with coach Ivan Lendl during a practice session in London, Britain on 9 July, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

as well. Rhythm was very difficult last week, especially with the first two guys...

"But Andy is hitting it better and cleaner every practice now and getting his timing and rhythm back. He's in the second

week so he is in with a chance." Murray faces Benoit Paire in the fourth round later on Monday, with Federer playing Grigor Dimitrov, Nadal up against Gilles Muller and Djokovic taking on Adrian Mannarino.—Reuters ■

Chelsea sign defender Rudiger from Roma

LONDON — Chelsea have signed German centre back Antonio Rudiger from Italian side AS Roma on a five-year contract, the Premier League champions said on Sunday.

Rudiger has spent the last two seasons in Serie A, arriving at Roma on loan from VfB Stuttgart in 2015 before making a permanent switch at the end of the campaign. "It's a great feeling because not every player has the opportunity to join a huge club like this," Rudiger, who will wear the number two shirt, said in a statement. "I am looking forward to meeting up with my new team mates and I'm very proud to officially become a Chelsea player." The 24-year-old Germany international has won 17 caps since his debut in 2014.—Reuters ■