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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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State Counsellor meets Canadian Prime Minister

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who is visiting Viet Nam to attend a Special Meeting of leaders of ASEAN member countries and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), met with Mr. Justin Trudeau, the Prime Minister of Canada, at the Furama Resort in Da Nang yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, they shared opinions on solutions for the Rakhine State issues and also discussed social welfare, relief and resettlement of Rakhine State, national verification processes, health, education and developmental processes in the region. They also shared their view on the Union Enterprise For Humanitarian Assistance Resettlement and Development in Rakhine (UEHRD) in Myanmar.

National Security Advisor U Thaug Tun, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin, Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam U Kyaw Soe Win, Director-General of the Protocol Department U Thant Zin, Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs Ms. Chrystia Freeland and other officials from Myanmar and Canada attended the meeting.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi previously met with Mr. Justin Trudeau on 8 June in Ottawa, Canada and discussed bilateral cooperation.—Myanmar News Agency ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi greets Mr. Justin Trudeau, the Prime Minister of Canada, at the Furama Resort in Da Nang, Viet Nam yesterday. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw talks CBM loans, labour rights

PYIDAUNGSU Hluttaw debated reducing of loans from the Central Bank of Myanmar and rights of migrant labourers yesterday at their meeting in Nay Pyi Taw.

Afterward, U Maung Maung Win, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance put forward the motion named “Bill on the Revised Budget Estimate of the Union for FY 2017-2018” for the approval of the Hluttaw. The Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw announced the approval of the bill as amended, after receiving the decision of the Hluttaw.

In addition, the Deputy Minister clarified, “The deficit of the Union Government’s budget allotment was being refilled by selling out governmental treasury certificates and bonds. As known by all, the Central Bank of Myanmar is making arrangements to slowly reduce borrowing loans by selling out governmental treasury certificates and bonds in auctions. At the end of the financial year in March, the Central Bank of Myanmar has refilled the deficit of Ks553.534 billion more than the originally approved Ks1.23 trillion. Unless the loans from the Central Bank of Myanmar were not subtracted, amounts of net loans from CBM would be only Ks 1213.3 billion. If not so, it was found that amounts of net loans from CBM will not exceed the original approved amount—K 1236 billion in any way.” **SEE PAGE-2**

Rice harvest in Buthidaung, Maungtaw recorded for owners

By Honey Win

ACCORDING to the Agricultural Mechanisation Department (AMD), ripe monsoon rice in Buthidaung and Maungtaw region is being harvested by

AMD to prevent waste, with the harvested rice systematically handed over to rice receiving and storing committees.

The AMD is using a total of 32 harvesters, 14 owned by the AMD and 18 owned by the state

government, to harvest rice in Maungtaw region. The effort began on 26 October, and all ripe monsoon rice in Maungtaw region will be harvested within a 3-month period, it is learnt.

“Rice in Buthidaung and

Maungtaw region is now ripe. We are using our harvesters to harvest it in order to prevent it from being wasted. After the rice is harvested, records are made of the amount harvested from each farmland based on own-

ership, and then systematically handed over to rice receiving and storing committees together with the record”, said AMD Director General U Soe Hlaing on 5 November.

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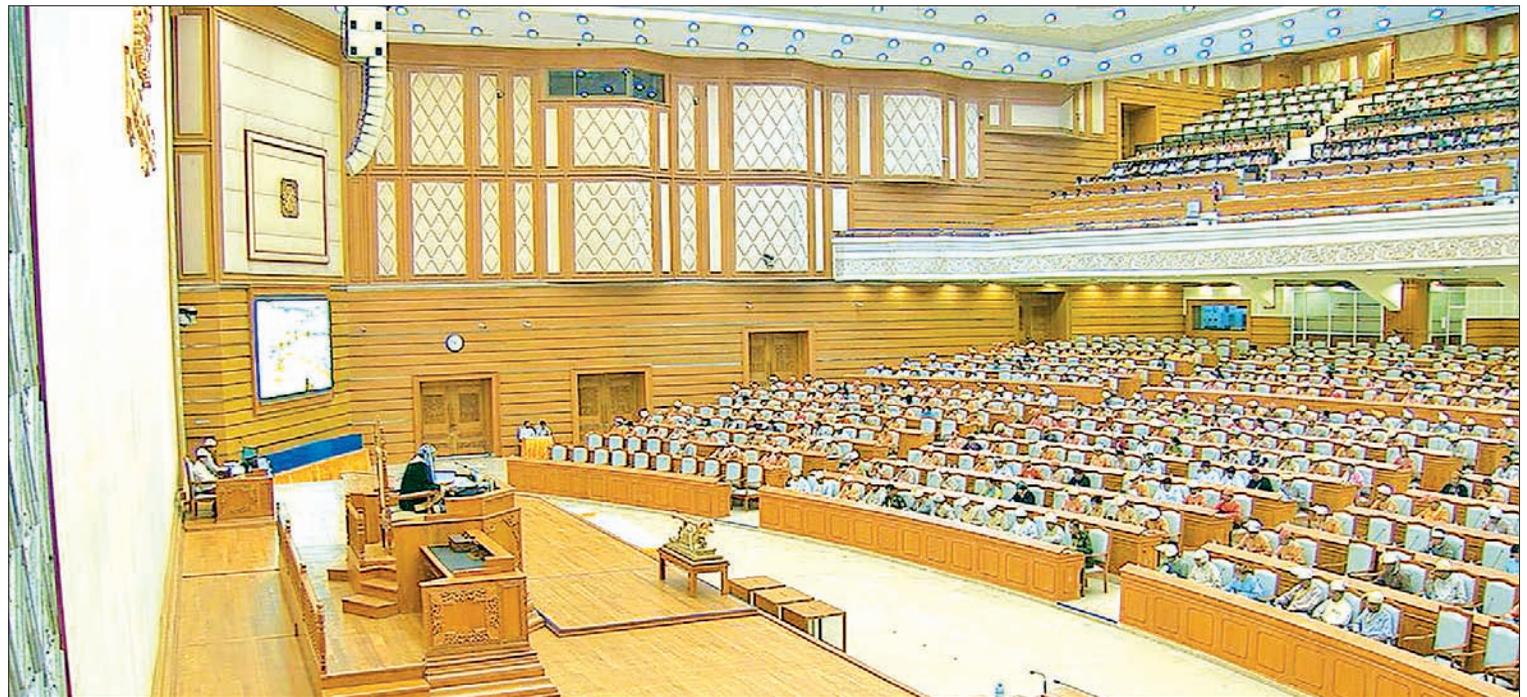
Pyidaungsu Hluttaw discuss loan from CBM, labours' rights

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He added, "Though the loans from MCB exceeded the original target, foreign loans for FY 2016-2017 were K 1262 billion, and actual net loans from inland were K 3558 billion. So, it will not exceed the maximum amounts permitted to borrow-K 5000 billion according to the Budget Law. Union Government had intended to reduce the amount of loans from CBM year by year, being relieved of burden of government's loan to some extent. By borrowing loans from CBM, net fulfillment did not exceed the original target amount and amount of total loans was found that it did not exceed the maximum amounts permitted to borrow from home and abroad. Moreover, constructive results were achieved based upon the national macro-economy, FY 2016-2017."

Concerning the motion, U Soe Thein, Deputy Government of Myanmar Central Bank announced that interested parliamentarians to be enrolled for discussion, followed by discussions in support by parliamentarians concerning signing in the ASEAN agreement on protection and upgradation on human rights of migrant workers sent by the President.

U Hwei Tin of constituency 11 of Chin State discussed, "The biggest challenge on economy in 21st century is the great gap between richness and poverty. In the world, the rich became richer and the poor became poorer. According to the UNDP's 2014 human development report, Myanmar stood no/150 out of 187 nations. The country still in the list of 48 leased developed countries. As long as there is still the problem of



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is convened in Nay Pyi Taw on 10 November 2017. PHOTO: MNA

unemployment, the affairs of migrant workers will still exist in future as well. The ASEAN agreement on protection and upgradation on human rights of migrant workers includes 8 chapters. As per the ILO figures 2015, 40 percent of the global economy is agriculture. Most

of migrant workers work on agricultural jobs. Most of unconventional workers are living in poverty. So, unsystematic labor rights are acknowledged and implemented. According to ILO Statement 2015, 12.3 million of men, women and children were working in forced labor. Look-

ing into ASEAN nations, Thailand is the country in which migrant workers are living, followed by Malaysia. In such a time when the transparent democratic government took office, rights of migrant workers must be brought about specifically."

Then, Dr Khin Sithu of Loi-kaw constituency discussed, "Myanmar government is carrying out to bring about labor rights of migrant workers as a national priority cause. Migrant workers are now facing difficulties and challenges. More than 10 percent of Myanmar population has been working in Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, China, Bangladesh, South Korea and Japan. Most are in Thailand, Mekong region. According to IOM report, it reached 1.4 million. According to the Ministry of Labor, Thailand 76 percent of migrant workers are Myanmar laborers. Out of them, only 39 percent had officially registered. In preparing step by step mi-

grant workers to be officially registered some were cheated by licensed agencies and some were subjected to fake agencies. The worst thing is human trafficking and sexual slavery."

Afterward, U Thein Swe, Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population put forward the motion, "The agreement needs to be signed. If so, the ASEAN agreement on protection and upgradation on human rights of migrant workers will emerge as a standard for ASEAN nations. And, migrant workers can have rights and protection in accordance with rules and regulations of member countries when they migrate within the region, hence the approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw."

Concerning that motion the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw announced the approval of Hluttaw, after taking the decision of Hluttaw. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Government had intended to reduce the amount of loans from CBM year by year, being relieved of burden of government's loan to some extent. By borrowing loans from CBM, net fulfillment did not exceed the original target amount and amount of total loans was found that it did not exceed the maximum amounts permitted to borrow from home and abroad.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint receives Resident Representative of HSF

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint received delegation led by Resident Representative of Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) Mr. Achim Munz yesterday afternoon at the receiving hall of the Hluttaw building in Nay Pyi Taw.

Discussions made during the meeting were the transforming process to Myanmar's

Democracy and local peace, experiences of Federal Democracy, procedures for the development of Hluttaw and aids and support for Hluttaw from Hanns Seidel Foundation.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U T Khun Myat and officials from the Hluttaw also attended the meeting. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Speaker U Win Myint holds talk with Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF). PHOTO: MNA

State Counsellor meets ASEAN, APEC leaders in Viet Nam

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended an informal meeting titled Partnering for New Dynamism for a Comprehensively Connected and Integrated Asia-Pacific held by leaders of ASEAN countries and leaders of member countries of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) at the Furuma Resort in Da Nang, Viet Nam yesterday.

The informal meeting was attended by heads of states and heads of governments, ministers, high-level officials specialising in economics from ASEAN and APEC member countries, ministers and other officials.

Matters relating to connectivity, unity and cooperation between APEC and ASEAN were discussed in the meeting.

Last night, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended a dinner hosted by Viet Nam President Tran Dai Quang and his wife Nguyen Thi Hien for heads of states and other high level officials.

APEC was established 28 years ago with the aim of developing the region's economic sector. Globalisation, changing



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attends the informal meeting titled Partnering for New Dynamism for a Comprehensively Connected and Integrated Asia-Pacific in Danang, Viet Nam on 10 November 2017. PHOTO: MNA

of the world and development of the Asia-Pacific region creates opportunities for APEC, and also creates challenges. APEC is working to cooperate with other countries in the economic sector to implement pledges made, to build close relations between people and the business community, to promote the long term existence of the Asia-Pacific re-

gion into the 21st century and understand the view of an all-inclusive development strategy.

The idea to form APEC was first mentioned by former Australian Prime Minister Mr. Bob Hawke in a speech in Seoul, Korea in 1989. Ten months after this speech, 12 Asia-Pacific countries met in Australia and decided to form APEC. The founding

countries were Australia, Brunei, Canada, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and the United States. In 1991, Hong Kong, Taipei China and the People's Republic of China became members. In 1993, Mexico and Papua New Guinea joined, and in 1994, Chile became a member. After Peru, Russia

and Viet Nam joined, there were a total of 21 member countries. From 1989 to 1992, APEC conducted ministerial meetings. In 1993, former US President Bill Clinton conduct a regular practical summit of leaders of APEC economies with the strategic aim of supporting regional cooperation. —Myanmar News Agency

70th Independence Day to have five objectives

THE Union Government will celebrate 70th Independence Day in a politically meaningful way, with five objectives that include peace, unity and a democratically compatible constitution.

Vice President U Myint Swe, in his capacity as chairman of the 70th Independence Day committee, made the remarks at the second coordination meeting.

The five national objectives are: to safeguard and protect the non-disintegration of the Union and the non-disintegration of the National Solidarity and Perpetuation of Sovereignty by all ethnic people; to work hard for emergence of a constitution which meets the democratic norms and can guarantee a democratic federal union; to make more efforts for implementation of the peace process; to reach the goal of "eternal peace" through political dialogue through cooperation among all national races of the Union with the Union



Vice President U Myint Swe addresses the second coordination meeting of the 70th Independence Day committee in Nay Pyi Taw on 10 November 2017. PHOTO: MNA

Government and to work hard for promoting the private sector, which is the driving force for the country's economy, and to be able to boost the socio-economic situation of the people, said Vice President U Myint Swe.

The first coordination meeting was held on 13 October, at which 12 decisions were set, which are currently being carried out. Nine sub-committees

were also formed.

The celebration of the 70th Independence Day will be held in accord with the five objectives. All are invited to suggest and discuss year-by-year improvement and systematic conduct of the sub-committee-assigned duties.

As per annually-held formalities, there will be morning and evening events attended by State Leaders, Government

Leaders, diplomats, local and international non-governmental organisations, and invited guests. There was a need to avoid weaknesses and shortcomings by sub-committee coordination based on past years' experiences and sub-committee heads to monitor and oversee sector-wide works, said the Vice President.

Chairmen and officials of the

sub-committee for holding the State flag hoisting and saluting ceremony, the sub-committee for holding and preparing invitations to the State flag saluting ceremony, the sub-committee for holding the reception and dinner, the sub-committee for the fireworks display, the sub-committee for security, the sub-committee for information, the sub-committee for the President's message on Independence Day, the sub-committee for health and the sub-committee for holding sports activities reported on the status of their respective works.

Present at the meeting were Dr. PeMyint, Union Minister for Information, Dr. Myo-Aung, Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council, Maj-Gen Myint Maw, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, Deputy Ministers, Permanent Secretaries, Directors-General, high ranking Tatmadaw officers and officials. —Myanmar News Agency

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Transport authority revokes licence of bus company due to complaints

By Ko Moe

THE Yangon Region Transport Authorities (YRTA) has revoked the bus operator license of Khit Thit Nyeinchanyay Public Co. due to poor service.

"We have decided to revoke its license as we received a lot of public complaints about its services since the establishment of the YBS system, and found it was unable to provide better service to the public. The management of bus lines operating by the aforesaid bus operator has been handed over to other companies", said Dr. Maung Aung, secretary of the YRTA.

This decision came after the YRTA's meeting on 8 November. The bus line increased the number of new buses and extended bus services without the permission of the YRTA.

There were six bus lines operating under the arrangement of Khit Thit Nyeinchanyay Public Co, including bus lines Nos. 1, 9, 16, 22, 33 and 41.

Under the new arrangement, Golden Yangon City Co. (JYCT) will manage the operations of bus line Nos. 1, 9 and 16, while the No. 33 bus line will be under the management of Tran Link Co. Bus line Nos. 22 and 41



YBS buses seen in downtown Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

will be under the operation of Power Eleven Co.

Ko Ta Yoke Lay, an executive director of Power Eleven Co, said: "Transportation is a kind of service business. We are always trying to offer better services to commuters to meet with success in the YBS system."

The YRTA reviews the operation of YBS every three months to check the quality of

bus service being offered to the public.

To reduce the city's traffic congestion and ensure the systematic operation of bus lines, the Yangon Bus Service (YBS) started operations on 16 January after transport authorities abolished the Ma Hta Tha, the control committee for private bus lines, which managed more than 300 bus lines for many

years.

At the beginning, the YBS started operations around the city with 60 bus lines. Currently, the number of bus lines has increased to 90, according to the YRTA.

Yangon hosts a population of more than six million. Of that total, over two million people have to rely on YBS buses on a daily basis. ■

Kyaiktiyo cable car service to begin in January

AFTER months of trials and preparation, cable car service will begin operation in January at Kyaiktiyo Pagoda, the famous pilgrimage site in Mon State, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

Test runs of cable cars was started in October, and in January the cars will run from Yathedaung to the pagoda. It will become the first cable car service in Myanmar.

The cable car system was constructed with the aim of easier access to the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda, which is located on the top of a 1,100-metre high mountain.

The cable car journey will take only 10 minutes, running around 3,000 feet from Yathedaung to the Kyaiktiyo Pagoda compound. The cable car service will run 43 cars and a reserved car, each car with the capacity of up to 8 passengers.

The project was jointly developed by Myanmar's Yadanar Shwe Sin Kyi and Sky International Co. from South Korea. The Myanmar Investment Commission said there was 80 per cent investment by Korea and a 20 per cent stake by Myanmar. They will rent 13.5 acres with the Build, Operate, Transfer (BOT) system for 50 years from the Mon State resources, environment and

forestry ministry.

The service is expected to attract many more foreign visitors. The company plans to charge Ks2,000 for local travellers and US\$5 for foreigners.

Technicians from France and South Korea are implementing the project and have ordered cable cars from France. Moreover, the KBZ will provide life insurance for passengers.—GNLM ■

British tourists tour Myanmar on motorbikes

UNIQUE natural scenery, ecologically fascinating destinations and archeological sites in Myanmar have resulted in culture-based tourism, where tourists can observe the sights, traditions and cultures of the country's ethnic people.

With such attractive sites,

more and more tourists are visiting Myanmar, using varying modes of transportation.

Tourists are visiting Myanmar over air, sea and land. Tourists also visit Myanmar through border gates by vehicles, including motorbikes and bicycles.

A British tour group com-

prised of nine motorcyclists recently visited Myanmar through the Myawady border gate on 24 October on their own motorbikes. They visited Myanmar with the arrangement of Expeditions Myanmar Travel & Tours Co. and under the supervision of the Ministry of Ho-

tels and Tourism. The tourists went on Myawady-Kyaikto-Yangon- Gwa- Ngapali- Bagan-Mandalay-Nyaungshwe-Nay-PyiTaw-Taungoo- Kyaikhtyoe-Kyaikto trips. The tourists then proceeded to Mae Sot Town, Thailand via the Myawady border gate on 7 November.—MNA

Bilateral border trade with India decreased by \$21 mn this FY

MYANMAR-India border trade reached more than US\$39 million in the past seven months of this fiscal year, a decrease of over \$21 million matched against the same period of last year, according to the Commerce Ministry.

As of 3 November, India imported over \$8 million worth of commodities from Myanmar, including beans and pulses, aquaculture products, vegetables, human hair, etc. The second

largest neighbour also exported a wide range of commodities worth over \$30 million to Myanmar. Its exports included medicines, food, clothes, consumer goods, electronic appliances and others.

Trade between the two countries is conducted through the Tamu and Reed border points of entry as well as through shipping.

Bilateral trade through the Tamu border gate showed

a decline in both exports and imports, while the import value from the Reed border trade station decreased by \$166,000. However, the total value of Reed border gate showed a slight increase of \$1.15 million.

Myanmar's border trade with neighbouring countries continued to decline in value. Between April and October, border trade was valued at over \$4.3 billion, a decrease of \$185 million.—Shwe Khine

Revenue hits Ks2.6 trillion so far

MYANMAR earned revenue income of about Ks2.6 trillion over the past seven months of this fiscal year, according to a report of the Myawady Daily's Friday edition.

U Min Htut, director-general of the Internal Revenue Department, said revenue authorities are putting forth continuous efforts to meet its target

of collecting Ks6,000 billion from all types of taxes.

The authorities hope to get more revenue from incomes this FY, he added.

The department collected about Ks2.6 trillion in revenue from taxpayers so far. The government's tax revenues for the first six months of FY2017-2018 reached its target, he contin-

ued.

The Internal Revenue Department is collecting income taxes, commercial taxes, special goods taxes, stamp duty and state lottery taxes in states and regions through its over 300 township departments. The department received a total of Ks5.37 trillion in revenue last financial year.—GNLM

KBZ Opens 500th Bank Branch

THE 500th branch of KBZ Bank was officially opened yesterday and will begin providing state-of-the-art banking services for customers. Branch number 500 is located at the corner of Anawrahta Road and Shwe Dagon Pagoda Road, Pabedan Township, Yangon.

"KBZ Bank Ltd. was established in Taunggyi in 1994, and its very first branch was purchased from the former owner in 1997. It was the only bank in Taunggyi at the time. Now, we are the first Myanmar bank reach the 500 mark thanks to the effort of qualified local staff and international experts. Our aim is to support and strengthen the banking sector, which is critical for the development of the country. Not only have we achieved these goals, we strive to act as a responsible business and have been the highest corporate tax payer for six consecutive years," explained by Daw Nang Lang Kham, Deputy CEO (2) of KBZ



Bank Ltd.

In addition to the 500-branch network, KBZ Bank now has more than 1,000 ATMs and over 20,000 staff nationwide. It is also the first private bank to have expanded internationally, with representative offices in Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia. Deputy CEO (3) Daw Nang Kham Nounng also added, "We aim to expand our bank network by around one hundred branches a year, with a target of reaching 1,000 branches across Myanmar by 2023".

KBZ Bank utilises cutting edge technologies from Oracle, Microsoft and VMware to deliver its national and international banking services. The

bank also employs international credit and debit card services - Visa, Mastercard, UnionPay and MPU - together with 24-hour auto-banking at ATMs and currency exchanges. At the forefront of modern digital transformation, the bank offers digital payment functions such as mobile & internet banking, as well as support for e-commerce. For fast and secure connectivity, branches use advanced satellite communications technology provided by KBZ Gateway.

KBZ Bank's remarkable progress, both locally and internationally, has been assisted by the direction and support of the Central Bank of Myanmar. Thura Lwin (Eco)

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့တိုင်း "Sunday Special" အချုပ်ပိုင် (၈) မျက်နှာပါဝင်သော The Global New Light of Myanmar နေ့စဉ်ထုတ် သတင်းစာကို အောက်ပါမြို့များတွင် ဖတ်ရှုနိုင်ပါပြီ

"Sunday Special" အချုပ်ပိုင် (၈) မျက်နှာပါဝင်သည်

နေပြည်တော်
ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ရုံးအမှတ်(၇) နေပြည်တော်၊ သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း (ရုံးချုပ်)၊ ဝိမရော့ဌာန၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၇၄၁၂၁၀၈

နေပြည်တော်
နေပြည်တော်သတင်းစာတိုက် (တပ်ကုန်း)၊ ဝေယျာသီရိမြို့နယ်၊ ခရိုင်လမ်းဆုံ၊ နေပြည်တော်၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၇၃၆၁၄၈၊ ၀၆၇၃၆၁၂၉

ရန်ကင်း
The Global New Light of Myanmar သတင်းစာတိုက်၊ အမှတ် ၁၅၀၊ ငါးထပ်ကြီးဘုရားလမ်း၊ ဗဟန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၁၀၈၀၅၉၂၊ ၀၉၉၇၄၄၂၄၁၀၄

မန္တလေး
လမ်း (၂၀ x ၂၀) ကြား၊ (၈၂ x ၈၃) လမ်းကြား၊ ပုလဲခွေရောင်ရမ်း၊ မန္တလေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၂၃၂၇၂၉၊ ၀၂၃၂၇၅၀

တောင်ကြီး
ရုံးကြီးလမ်း၊ သစ်တောရပ်ကွက်၊ တောင်ကြီးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၀၂၁၁၁၆၄၊ ၀၉၅၂၁၄၄၅၇

မကွေး
နတ်မောက်လမ်း၊ တပ်မ (၈၈) တပ်နယ်ရေးအနီး၊ မကွေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၃၂၃၇၁၂

တချင်းတုံ
မြို့ပေါ် (၃-၈) အမှတ် (၁) လမ်းဆုံ၊ မြို့ပေါ်လမ်း၊ ကချင်းတုံမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၄၂၂၄၉၂

ကလေး
အောင်ဇေယျာရပ်ကွက်၊ မြို့နယ်အားကစားကွင်းအနီး၊ ကလေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၃၂၂၁၃၃

မြင်းကြီးများ
အမှတ် (၄၁)၊ ရေခဲရပ်ကွက်၊ အောင်ဆန်းလမ်း၊ မြင်းကြီးများမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၄၂၂၄၆၂

စစ်တွေ
ရမ္မာဝတီလမ်းနှင့် တက္ကသိုလ်ရိပ်သာလမ်း၊ မိဆက်ကြီးအနီး၊ မန်းကျည်းမြိုင်ရပ်ကွက်၊ စစ်တွေမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၄၃၂၃၀၆၈

လားရှိုး
ဟူးမွန်ကျေးရွာထိပ်၊ ဟူးမွန်ဆည်ဘယ်ဘက်ခြမ်း၊ (၁၂) ရပ်ကွက်၊ မန်ဆူဘုရားရှေ့၊ အဝေရာလမ်း၊ လားရှိုးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၂၂၄၀၆၇

ခြောက်
မေတ္တာလမ်း၊ ရှမ်းချောင်းရမ်း၊ ကလွင်ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု၊ ခြောက်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၅၉၄၂၁၀၃

မော်လမြိုင်
ကြာအင်းကျေးရွာ၊ မော်လမြိုင်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၅၇၂၇၂၅၊ ၀၅၇၂၇၅၂၆

ပုံရွာ
နန္ဒဝန်ရပ်ကွက်၊ ဆက်သွယ်ရေးတာဝါတိုင်အနီး၊ ပုံရွာမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၁၂၆၅၃၅၊ ၀၇၁၂၆၅၃၃

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Rice harvest in Buthidaung, Maungtaw recorded for owners

FROM PAGE-1

The AMD is using harvesters in the region where the harvesting of rice was made more difficult due to terrorist incidents, it is learnt. In order to do this, AMD personnel from Mandalay Region and Sagaing Region were brought in to support local AMD personnel. Seven front line stations were setup in Maungtaw Township, Kyeinchaung, Chanpyin, Four Mile, Mawrawadi, Inndin, Khamaung-sate and Taungpyo.

“Maungtaw Township is facing a shortage of farmhands, and in order to prevent ripe rice from being wasted we are working with 42 personnel from Nay Pyi Taw”, said the head of the Mawrawadi front line station.

The harvested rice was systematically recorded with the quantity, owner's name, plot number, and moisture level (13 per cent), then bagged and stored in a designated storage area, said Rakhine State AMD head U Tin Maung Kyi.

There is more than 70,000 acres of monsoon rice in Maungtaw Township this year, and in the coming planting season, assistance will be provided to prepare the land while the De-

partment of Agriculture will prioritise efforts to increase the yield, it is learnt.

Machinery will be used in the months of November and December to harvest. If required, preparations will be made to continue the harvest into January. Depending upon the size of the plots, these machines can complete 5 to 10 acres a day, said Rakhine State AMD head.

The Maungtaw region is an area where rice is planted extensively, and every year AMD



A worker harvests rice with the harvester in Maungtaw. PHOTO: MNA

has conducted training on using and maintaining the machinery, it is learnt.

“Our department is conducting training on driving and maintaining the farm machin-

eries every year. The course provided includes maintaining and repairing tillers, tractors, pumps and engines”, said U Tin Maung Kyi.

The offspring of the farmers

were given priority to attend a four-month machinery course at the Meiktila Central Agriculture School, and a number of local farmers' relatives were learnt to be attending. ■



Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu receives Mr. Martin Bille Herman

RAKHINE State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu received H.E Mr. Martin Bille Herman Deputy Minister for Development Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark and party at the minister's hall yesterday evening.

During the meeting, they discussed matters regarding development works in Rakhine State, the cooperation between State Government and State Hluttaw, trust building condition

among the organizations of two communities in Rakhine State, to promote the humanitarian aids from Denmark, short-term and long-term works for resettlements and development processes, to have sovereignty and the two communities to live in accord with the existing laws and the performances which lead to the long-term stability, peace and development state. — Tin Tun (IPRD) ■



Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu holds talks with Mr. Martin Bille Herman Deputy Minister for Development Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark and party. PHOTO: IPRD

State Counsellor delivers statement at ASEAN-APEC Leaders Informal Dialogue in Da Nang

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended the ASEAN-APEC Leaders' Informal Dialogue in Da Nang, Viet Nam on 10 November 2017 and delivered a statement.

Salient points of the statement delivered by the State Counsellor are as follows: -

Informal Dialogue will set a good foundation for future collaboration between ASEAN and APEC in addressing common challenges openly and in promoting greater cooperation between the two regional organisations in an open and candid manner.

It will also reinforce partnership to ensure complementarities between ASEAN and APEC through multi-layered cooperation arrangements in the Asia-Pacific region.

ASEAN and APEC put special emphasis on the promotion of greater cooperation and synergies in order to foster complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the APEC Bogor Goals set for 2020.

We welcome the theme of the Informal Dialogue, "Partnering for New Dynamism for a Comprehensively Connected and Integrated Asia-Pacific".

We need to create a new dynamism for our cooperation and enhanced connectivity to effectively address the emerging challenges effectively and to harness opportunities in the midst of present day political uncertainties and changing global economic trends.

As we strive for better, more effective connectivity, we welcome Belt and Road initiative launched by President Xi Jinping of China, as it will serve as a large global platform for strengthening connectivity among participant countries around the world.

We have been striving to build an ASEAN Community, which is deeply



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers a statement at the ASEAN-APEC Leaders Informal Dialogue in Da Nang, Viet Nam on 10 November. PHOTO: MNA

integrated and a highly cohesive economy that can support sustained high growth and resilience even in the face of global economic volatilities

Since the members of APEC have proven, over the last 27 years, to be the world's most dynamic economies, we wish to learn from the APEC's experiences in promoting sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth and use those lessons, to accelerate our regional economic integration and sustained progress.

We are also keen to learn from the APEC on trade and investment liberalisation, business facilitation and economic and technical cooperation, to facilitate economic growth in our region.

The ASEAN Community has been inspired to become a people-oriented and people-centred and socially responsible community.

To this end, we should work together to increase resilience and inclusiveness through, inter alia, the promotion of education, decent employment especially for women and youth, healthy lifestyle,

gender mainstreaming, and adaptation to climate change.

We could also share our experiences and good practices in promoting micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), standards and conformity,



The economies in the Asia-Pacific region are faced with emerging non-traditional security challenges, including terrorism and extremism, transnational crimes, trafficking in persons, global climate change and natural calamities.

competitiveness, innovation and the strengthening of public-private partnership as well as the role of women and young entrepreneurs.

We believe that ASEAN and APEC can work together in pursuing the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The economies in

the Asia-Pacific region are faced with emerging non-traditional security challenges, including terrorism and extremism, transnational crimes, trafficking in persons, global climate change and natural calamities. We believe that there still exists room for cooperation in addressing those emerging challenges and trans-boundary threats through various mechanisms.

Special emphasis might also be given to the strengthening of human resources and institutions, promoting innovation, improving the business environment, empowering women entrepreneurship, conserving natural resources, reducing pollution, combating illegal trade of wildlife and endangered species, and strengthening our ability to respond to natural disasters.

We firmly believe that ASEAN and APEC can foster a meaningful partnership and effective cooperation that will transform the Asia-Pacific into a more integrated, connected, and people-centred region.—Myanmar News Agency ■

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Confirmation of Appointment of Head of Service Organization

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of U Aung Kyaw Than, Director-General, Currency Management Department of the Central Bank of Myanmar upon expiry of the one-year probationary period from the date he assumes charge of his duties.—Myanmar News Agency

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement receives Swedish diplomat

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Dr. Win Myat Aye received Minister Counsellor of the Embassy of Sweden to Myanmar Mr. Johan Hallenborg at the May Kalar Hall of the Ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

During the meeting, they discussed current activities of respective committees formed by the government of Myanmar with a view to handle issues in Rakhine, recommendations suggested by Advisory Commission on Rakhine State, speeding the Human-

itarian aids and support by UEHRD, starting youth policy plan implemented by youth volunteers from Myanmar across Rakhine State, negotiating processes of bilateral agreement between Myanmar and Bangladesh to repatriate Bangali, promulgated existing law for the resettlement, building the better social system according to the disaster management law and current implementing processes of social and economic development in the Rakhine State performed by Myanmar business associations.—MNA ■



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye holds talks with Minister Counsellor of the Embassy of Sweden to Myanmar Mr. Johan Hallenborg in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

Correction

Please read "... 37 people including 21 men and 16 women, were recorded with the use of biometric system instead of ... 77 people including 44 men and 33 women ..." in the story "National Verification Cards issued in Maungtau" on page 6 of November 10 issue of the Global New Light of Myanmar.—Myanmar News Agency

Learn to Love Our Ancient Cultural Heritage!

By Khin Maung Oo

MYANMAR abounds with cultural, natural and civil heritages. It is dead sure if we claim that those are results created and conserved by our ancestors. Myanmar's natural landscapes and environments give us a great chance for us to enjoy in every ways.

Seeds spread about the soil make plants appear nearly all of a sudden and they have grown up before us. In most of the places across the country, people can acclimatize to life because everywhere is not too cold or too hot, without needing very thick sweaters and air-conditioners.

Nature gives us enormous amounts of natural resources—forests, petroleum, natural gas, gems and jewellery such as

jade, ruby and other precious stones, and many kinds of minerals. Because of inland mountain-ranges, fertile land, rivers, creeks, lakes and the long coast which we can communicate with overseas countries, we are so far enjoying beauty and fruits given by natural heritages. And, pagodas, stupas, royal palaces, religious edifices such as monasteries and other monuments are ubiquitous in the country. Moreover, we possess and conserve traditions and customs of loveliness for generations. Accordingly, our country, Myanmar is a place of great value and admiration for us. Nowadays, it becomes incumbent upon us as to how we will conserve these cultural heritages and develop these, as the unavoidable heirs.

During the past 4-5 decades, these

cultural heritages were sorrowfully found to have been less cared, valued and conserved by our people. Provided that they would assert that it was completely wrong, most of their ways of conservation were not based upon rightful techniques.

Due to the earthquake which struck on 24th August 2016, an upper part of the pagoda, "Cula Mani" was severely damaged. It was an obvious example we can see. We lacked the knowledge of conservation. Situations of forests, gems, minerals and religious edifices were in dilapidated condition, as we did not understand for many years that these were worth conserving.

To our great sorrow and regret, we no longer had the jubilee hall in which bodies of Bogoyoke Aung San and the fallen mar-

tyrs were placed for people to pay tribute. We did not even manage to conserve the residence where our greatly respected Thakin Kodaw Hmaing lived.

Whatever it is, there are still left a lot of historical and cultural heritages in the country, the Shwedagon Pagoda, Bagan cultural heritage region, Mrauk-U cultural heritage region, Inlay Lake, Kyaukhtiyoe Pagoda, Kuthodaw, Shwe Kyaung Monastery, Bargayar monastery, Mandalay palace and moat, U Pein Bridge, Yangon University, Inya Lake, Secretariat Office, to name but a few. These need to be regarded as our heritages we cannot consume forever.

Last but not least, we would deeply like to urge our people learn to love these cultural heritages. ■

Development of livestock husbandry sector in Myanmar

Dr Than Aung Soe
Pyithu Hluttaw Representative of
Minhla Constituency, Bago Region

NATIONAL economy can rapidly develop in the short term by animal husbandry. Local consumption and market demand can be calculated in comparison with kinds of animal to be bred. If meat chickens are bred, it can reach the stage of putting on market after 45 days. How rapidly it is! In Myanmar nearly every individual eat chicken meat. Apart from

local consumption, it is difficult to fetch foreign exchange from chicken meat production. We cannot compete in unit-cost. Live chicken price at chicken farms costs K 2500-3000 per viss.

Imported chicken meat flesh with feathers uprooted and heads and legs removed costs only K 1600. Likewise, eggs' prices differ from local ones, hence a great numbers of flows of chicken meat and eggs into Myanmar in various kinds of ways. Due to illicit ways of entering the country, there are spreads of contagious and infectious diseases and instability of prices for local entrepreneurs of chicken farming.

Promising market for chicken meat

Amounts of pork consumers in the country are less than those of fowl meat, abstaining from eating in the religious and hygienic point of views. If systematically bred, it will take only 6 or 7 months to put on the market. Pork taken from swine bred by conventional methods is plenty of fat, and it takes much time to breed such kinds. Contrariwise, systematically bred pigs have low fat, and it tastes delicious. It is very popular with consumers from home and abroad. The over-populated neighboring country has a vast amount of pork consumers, being a potential market of great prospect.

During the present year, it is expected that the country needs 74 tons of meats—pork, chicken meat and beef. Cow farming will take 2 years at least. There are two kinds of cattle—beef cattle and dairy cattle. The program of feeding

school children with milk is being implemented under School Milk Programme. Yet, breeding of dairy cattle has not remarkably developed in the nation. It is of great importance to get unadulterated milk. Families buy imported milk powder and milk to feed their offspring because of uncertainty concerning contamination of infectious diseases. So the country lost much foreign exchange on dairy production. Now, the country had purchased dairy machines. There is only one thing of breeding dairy cattle left to be done. Though not being exported

as dairy production, it can save foreign exchange as it can reduce the inflow of condensed milk and milk powder.

Plentiful of Sustainance

The moment we hear the word "beef cattle" it cause us a kind of feeling. Beef consumers are very lower in amounts in Myanmar. People in the nation are reluctant to eat beef, being kind to cows

as they are used as beasts of burden in farming. But in these days beef cattle are bred just for consumption. In religious point of view, beef cattle breeding can be regarded as an uncharitable way of living. To get rid of such thoughts organization must be made. It gives nutritious flesh. Breeding such kinds can reduce killing of beasts of burden. According to unconfirmed sources, several hundred thousand of cattle are being smuggled out of the country into other countries through illegal routes.



PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

SEE PAGE-9

Development of livestock husbandry sector in Myanmar

FROM PAGE-8

Due to the red tape system of transport, these smugglings do not result in for farmers here in the country, instead giving much benefit for smugglers. So, in the time of the incumbent government, to be exact, on 9 October 2017, the Ministry of Commerce issued a notification of permitting transport of live cattle. Though permitted to freely transport, cattle are to be sold out at black-market prices, provided that there are not any internal free markets. So, the State needs to open the Live Market for sale of cattle. Thus, it can fetch taxes for the nation. If all the cattle are sold out in undisciplined ways, the country will be in for, because it will make the country short of cattle. So, restrictions should be issued, for example un-castrated cattle are not to be exported with a view not to harm the increasing amounts of cattle. The global consumption of beef is very great, as against the habit of eating beef in Myanmar. If systematically implemented, 0.3 million heads of cattle can be exported for neighboring markets.

Sheep and goat farming is a cost effective business. This type of farming can be done if there is enough vacant land with some trees and plants for the animals to feed. There is a good market both local and foreign for sheep and goat. They can be exported to Malaysia, Indonesia and etc.

Fish and prawn had already attained a good market share in European Union. Good price can be obtained only when our export meet the requirements of the EU market. If we drive only the increase in production without considering the market requirement, that business will face the fate of Matpe. The import countries are not only inspecting the imported items (fish and prawns) at their ports but also come to the factories where the products are packed and check whether it meets the international standard or not. They check if the factories have waste water treatment and Hazard Analytical Critical Control Point (HAC-CP). They buy products only from the factories that have met the designated requirements.

Zone for animal farm

It is an interesting question why the animal husbandry has not developed yet though there are a lot of opportunities. The answer is simple, there is no adequate land for farming (except a few animal farming zones). Animal farming without necessary support cannot flourish. Depending on the

type of animal system of farming is different. If the animals are put together in a farming zone, it will be difficult to handle when a contagious disease break out. In this case animals in the farming zone will get infectious. Only when the proper management in locating animal farm area and agricultural area can be carried out, the biosecurity can be ensured. The excretions from animal farm zone can be easily brought at the least transport charges to the agricultural zone to be used as natural fertilizer. Now the land for animal farming has become less and less due to the lack of sustainable measures and land management blunders.

Quality breeds, technology and capital play an important role in promoting the livestock farming sector. We should take into account the fact that which species is favorable to Myanmar's climate and can be resistant to diseases in the country. We should also be professional in a genetic farming.

To avoid drug residue in meat, farming with the closed system has become popular today. But, the cost for building infrastructure for the closed system is very high in compare with the traditional method.

Hence, foreign direct investment plays an important role in getting capital, technology and new breeds in the livestock farming sector. Modern farming system comes along with FDI needs huge investment in the beginning stage but can reduce the cost in the long run. It is questionable whether local farmers can compete with the foreign investors in the livestock sector. Local traditional farmers have felt anxiety that they can not compete with the modern farming with foreign investment.

In this case, we should not give priority only to producing cheap food produced by modern farming with foreign investment in order to prevent collapse of current livestock farming.

The answer lies on assisting local farmers to work with foreign direct investment. When FDI enters, the local farmers can also get the opportunities to penetrate the foreign market. Besides, apart from farming, they can get technology for food processing and value added products.

Rapid development of livestock farming sector will be a quick win for supplying safe food to the people at reasonable price, for helping local farmers to get higher income and assisting the country in earning foreign income. ■

Translated by Khin Aye Win

Your strength is also ours

By Min Ye Kyaw Khaung

AN international charitable organisation has found that far more Myanmar people give money to charity every month than any other country on earth. Our people's philanthropy was thus recently revealed to the world, but we have always known this.

It is with great joy and humility that KBZ's Brighter Future Myanmar-BFM celebrates its successes in improving our country.

We shall overcome all challenges and obstacles with the strength of our nationals by holding fast to loving kindness, compassion and sympathy.

The kindness and compassion of KBZ has resulted in an improved quality of life for countless people. In the hilly areas of Myanmar, there is limited ability for drilling tube wells, building irrigation or even for digging canals. Our brethren indigenous people in the hilly areas were living without water supply facilities until BFM recently built facilities.

The scarcity of water in Bawsai, where the Danu, Taungyoe, PaO and Bamar are living, has caused hardships. "We don't need gold, we need water" was a popular slogan in the region. It was in April, 2000, that I got the chance to meet the chairman of KBZ Bank on our trip to Tachilek to attend a ceremony to open a bank branch.

"Together with the people, I want to play a major role in assisting the development process of Myanmar, and in fulfilling the needs of the country's economic sector", said U Aung Ko Win, the chairman of KBZ Bank.

The philanthropic foundation tackled the water crisis in hilly regions and the chairman's dream came true. Meanwhile, KBZ Bank's achievements that have earned it international recognition has in turn brought great pride to the country.

The "Best Bank in Myanmar Award" has been given to KBZ for the fourth successive year. The bank has won numerous other international awards for its commitment to growth, development, and excellence in the improvement of Myanmar's economy, which in turn also significantly contributes to the ASEAN community.

For this, KBZ chairman U Aung Ko Win was awarded the Legacy Award, conferred by the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ABAC) on the 50th anniversary of ASEAN.

Contribution to Rakhine rebirth

BFM led by Daw Nang Lang Kham funded Ks3 billion to an effort led by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi for implementing projects in all sectors for the development of Rakhine State.

The effort showed their strength and unity with the government and the people by helping with the rehabilitation and resettlement efforts in Rakhine State.

The donation came about one week after State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi announced the establishment of the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development (UEHRD), inviting NGOs, CSOs, partner nations, UN agencies and INGOs to work together with the Union Government for implementing the three main tasks of humanitarian assistance, resettlement and development in Rakhine State.

For the rehabilitation and resettlement in Rakhine State, the foundation has also previously contributed cash to the rehabilitation and resettlement tasks, bringing the BFM's total contributions to Rakhine State to more than K6.5 billion.

BFM has donated more than Ks135 billion since its establishment in 2008.

Our people are true strength of our country. ■

Shake Hands



This earth has been scorched
By the flames of war_~
for how long?
Why not bury the hatchets and hatred?

Can you hear the pangs
of our brotherhood hearts?
Can you feel
the blood stains on our hands?

Shall we sign the Treaty of Peace,
And put an end to the life-rending War?
Shall we shake hands
For the sake of our peace loving hearts?

Dr Zaw Tun

Seventh State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee holds meeting

THE meeting of the 47-member leading committee of the 7th State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee was held yesterday at Wizaya Mingala Dhamathabin Hall in Thiri Mingalar Kaba Aye Hill in Yangon.

The meeting was led by Chairman Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Abhidhaja Maharattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Bhamo Sayadaw Dr. Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa and member sayadaws of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, while Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko, personnel of Department of Religious Affairs and Department for the Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana, religious affairs heads of states and regions attended and paid homage.

Chairman Sayadaw of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Dr. Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa chaired the meeting and State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Joint Secretary Sayadaw



Bhamo Sayadaw Dr. Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa delivers an Ovadakatha at the meeting of the 47-member leading committee of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee. **PHOTO: MNA**

Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Gunika Bhivamsa was master of ceremony.

Master of ceremony Sayadaw first reported on the meeting being successful as a quorum was reached and announced the start of the meeting.

State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Chairman Sayadaw then delivered an opening speech (Tharaniya Ovadakahta), saying disunity among sangha will cause disunity of the people and in turn

cause suffering to the people. If sangha is in unity, people will also be united and happy. However, unity alone without practicing the four "Thamappahtan practices", would not bring about "Sukha - happiness, comfort or ease". If the united sangha practices the four Thamappahtan practices, it is called "Tapaw Sukha".

Various levels of the sangha organisation held meetings and conducted courses to stay in continuous contact with each

level. The result is that higher levels know the difficulties and problems faced by the lower levels, while the lower levels are informed of the work processes and policies of the higher levels. All the while, sangha of various levels were in contact with each other. This is to be continued, said the Chairman Sayadaw.

If Buddhism practiced by the majority is lacking (not up to standards or divergent from the Buddha's teaching) the country of Myanmar will lose peace, stability and there can be no development. It is the duty of the sangha to be unified and practice the four Thamappahtan practices as taught by Buddha. Sangha have the duty to support the people with dhamma for the people in Myanmar to overcome the disunity and crisis that occurs once in a while with understanding and compassion for one another so that all can live peacefully together as fellow humans, said the Chairman Sayadaw.

Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko spoke of the importance

of various level of sangha holding regular meetings and the sangha organisation to be organised firmly in order to conduct Sasana matter efficiently and effectively. The collective discussion, leadership, management, decision-making in accordance with the dhamma will ensure the spreading and long term existence of the Sasana, said the Union Minister.

Afterwards, a brief report of works conducted by Seventh State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee (second sub group) during its sixth duty period was read on behalf of the sub group by Joint Secretary Sayadaw Maha Ganda Wasaka Pandita Dhaamasara.

Member Sayadaws then read by section the report of works conducted by Seventh State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee (second sub group) during its sixth duty period after which vinaya, sasana and educational matters were read and then discussed by assigned sub group Sayadaws. The meeting was concluded in the afternoon. —Myanmar News Agency ■

19 arrested for involvement in August 25 terrorist attack

A combined force including security personnel conducted surprised checks in Habi village-tract, Habi west village, Habi middle village and Habi east village starting from 7 November and interrogated 38 suspicious persons. Nineteen including Mohammed Jawi were exposed to be involved in August 25 terrorist attack and a case had been opened according to anti-terrorist law. The remaining 19 were still undergoing investigation.

Due to ARSA extremist terrorists attacks in Rakhine State from August 25 to November 10, two government

employees, five ethnic Rakhine nationals, seven ethnic Mro national, seven ethnic Daingnet nationals, 52 Hindus were killed and 2 Tatmadaw and 11 police personnel lost their lives. Furthermore two ethnic Rakhine nationals, five ethnic Mro national, five ethnic Daingnet nationals, two Hindus, five Tatmadaw and 10 police personnel were injured.

Two ethnic Rakhine nationals, three Mro ethnic nationals, 176 Hindus and a Tatmadaw personnel were missing after the ARSA extremist terrorist attacks it is learnt.—(Myanmar News Agency) ■

Status of actions taken related to Maungtaw region terrorist attack

Sr.	Subject	25-8-2017 to 10-11-2017
1	Arrested suspect	98
2	Released after discovery of non-involvement	2
3	Die in custody from illness	2
4	Sentenced	-
5	Facing trial in court	67
6	Under police investigation	27
7	Granted bail	-

Killed, wounded and abducted/missing due to ARSA extremist terrorist attack in Rakhine State

Sr.	Group	Killed	Wounded	Abducted/ Missing	
1.	First incident (10-9-2016 to 24-8-2017)	79	12	37	
	(a) Government employee	-	-	-	
	(b) Administrative staff	19	-	3	
	(c) Ethnic nationals	(1) Rakhine	3	-	8
		(2) Mro	7	-	2
		(3) Daingnet	-	-	-
		(4) Bama and others	-	-	-
	(d) Innocent civilians	(1) Hindu	-	-	-
		(2) Muslim villager	33	-	24
		(e) Security personnel	17	12	-
	(1) Tatmadaw	(1) Tatmadaw	7	5	-
		(2) Police Force	10	7	-
	2.	Second incident (25-8-2017 to date)	86	29	182
(a) Government employee		2	-	-	
(b) Administrative staff		-	-	-	
(c) Ethnic nationals		(1) Rakhine	5	2	2
		(2) Mro	7	5	3
		(3) Daingnet	7	5	-
		(4) Bama and others	-	-	-
(d) Innocent civilians		(1) Hindu	52	2	176
		(2) Muslim villager	-	-	-
		(e) Security personnel	13	15	1
(1) Tatmadaw		(1) Tatmadaw	2	5	1
		(2) Police Force	11	10	-
Total		165	41	219	

Venezuela government and opposition to resume dialogue effort

CARACAS — Venezuela's government and opposition will resume efforts to hold dialogue, the third attempt in a year by the administration of President Nicolas Maduro and his adversaries to break up a bitter political stalemate.

Previous dialogue efforts have ended in recriminations between the two sides and no concrete progress amid a dire economic crisis that has led to increased malnutrition and preventable diseases.

Opposition leaders said that even though Maduro has previously used the talks to stall for time instead of implementing serious reform, a new round would still be needed to help ensure free and fair presidential elections, which are currently scheduled for 2018.

"We have developed relations in Latin America so that in the company of friendly countries and governments, we can facilitate the conditions for a presidential election," Julio Borges, president of the opposition-led National Assembly, told



Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro speaks during a meeting with ministers in Caracas, Venezuela, on 6 November 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

a news conference.

The opposition in September walked away from dialogue with the ruling Socialist Party, insisting the government had not met demands including the release of imprisoned opposition activists and mechanisms to allow foreign humanitarian assistance.

Legislator Luis Florido, spokesman for the opposition in the dialogue process, said the opposition would seek a new elec-

tions council and would push for presidential elections.

He added that Paraguay, Mexico and Chile would accompany the process.

Information Minister Jorge Rodriguez said via Twitter, "the dialogue continues on Nov 15 in the Dominican Republic."

The two sides in September held "exploratory meetings" with the backing of Dominican President Danilo Medina. —Reuters ■

Catalan parliament speaker freed on bail pending independence investigation

MADRID — A Spanish judge on Thursday freed on bail the Catalan parliament's speaker and four lawmakers while authorities continue to investigate their leading roles in Catalonia's banned independence drive.

The Supreme Court had summoned them to answer charges of rebellion after they enabled an 27 October declaration of independence that prompted the Spanish government to dissolve the Catalan parliament and sack the regional administration.

Speaker Carme Forcadell will be held in custody until she pays the 150,000-euro bail, according to the written ruling. The four lawmakers must pay bail of 25,000 euros, while a fifth was released without bail.

Judge Pablo Llarena wrote in Thursday's ruling: "All the accused ... have expressed that either they renounce future political activity or, those that remain active, will do it renouncing any ac-

tions outside the constitutional framework."

The judge's decision to reject prosecutors' requests to jail them gives the separatists, whose leader Carles Puigdemont went into self-imposed exile in Belgium last week, some breathing space as courts have been steadily tightening the legal noose.

Eight former members of the Catalan government and the leaders of the two main pro-independence grassroots groups remain in custody awaiting trial on charges of rebellion and sedition.

On Thursday, the High Court rejected an appeal presented by their lawyers for their release, a court spokeswoman said.

The High Court has also issued an arrest warrant on rebellion charges for ex-President Puigdemont and four other former members of his cabinet who are with him in Brussels.—Reuters ■

More Americans think wealthy, not middle class, will benefit from tax reform

WASHINGTON — Americans are more likely to believe the wealthy will benefit most from the tax reform currently being pushed in the US Congress by Republicans who insist their goal is to help the middle class, according to a Reuters/Ipsos opinion poll released on Thursday.

The poll found 32 per cent of Americans think the wealthy will benefit most, compared to 14 per cent who think all Americans will benefit and 14 per cent who think large US corporations will benefit most.

Congress is working to try to enact the most sweeping overhaul of the tax code since the 1980s that would lower taxes for millions of individual tax payers and slash the rate paid by corporations. The proposal would also eliminate most individual tax deductions, a move that could result in some taxpayers seeing an increase in their total bill to the government while others see a decrease.

Despite an insistence by Republicans that their goal is



(L-R) Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, Sen. Orrin Hatch, Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin and Director of the National Economic Council Gary Cohn introduce the Republican tax reform plan at the US Capitol in Washington, US, on 9 November 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

help the middle class, only 8 per cent of Americans think that demographic will benefit the most, the poll, which was conducted 3-8 November, found.

Republicans and Democrats are divided on who they think tax reform would help the

most. Among Republicans, 26 per cent think all Americans will benefit, followed by 16 per cent who think the wealthy will benefit most, the poll found.

But among Democrats, 46 per cent think that wealthy will benefit most, with only 7 per cent

thinking all Americans will benefit and 17 per cent who think corporations will benefit.

And while those polled did not think that the middle class will benefit most, an overwhelming majority thought that they should.

The poll found 79 per cent think it's more important to cut taxes for the middle class than for corporations, and 76 per cent think it's more important to cut taxes for the poor than for corporations.

However, 76 per cent said it was more important to cut taxes for corporations than it was to cut taxes for the wealthy.

When it comes to specific changes, the poll found that 46 per cent of Americans oppose limiting the mortgage interest deduction, compared to 35 per cent who support the change.

The strongest opposition came to the Republican proposal to eliminate deductions for medical expenses, with 54 per cent saying they are against the change and 32 per cent saying they support it.

The Reuters/Ipsos poll was conducted in early November online in English throughout the United States. It gathered responses from 1,608 adults and has a credibility interval, a measure of accuracy, of 3 percentage points.—Reuters ■

Trump brings tough trade message in vision for Asia

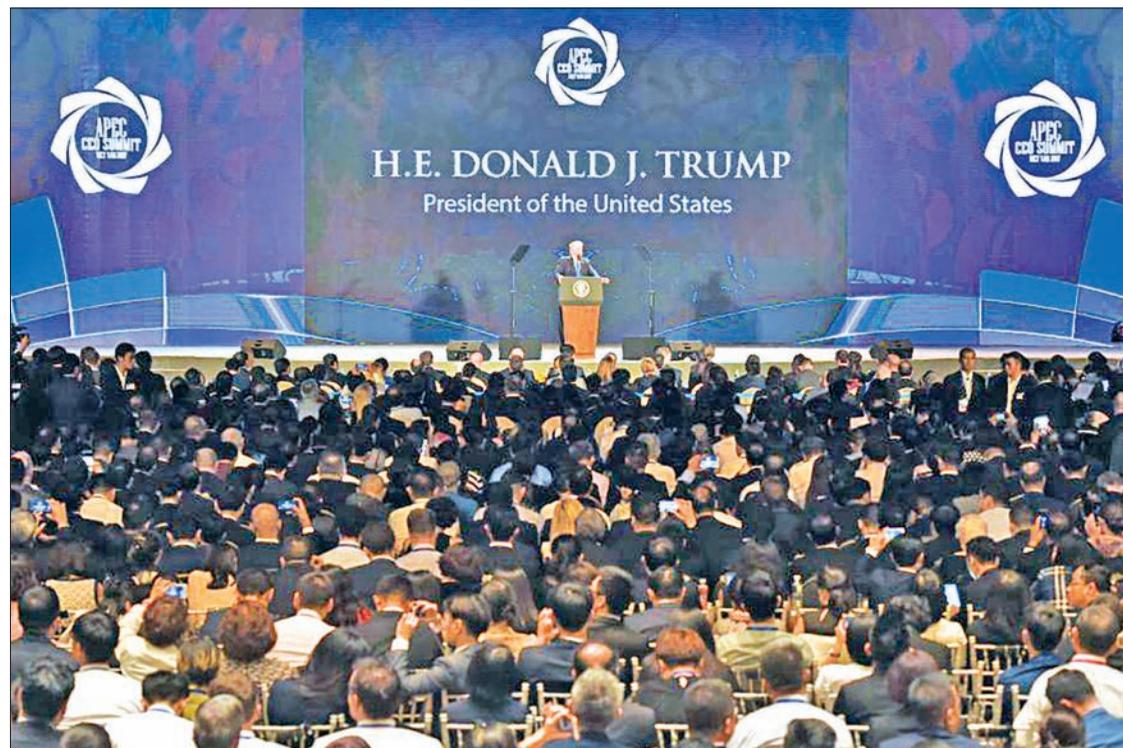
DANANG (Viet Nam) — US President Donald Trump set out a strong message on trade at a meeting of Asia-Pacific countries in Viet Nam on Friday, saying the United States could no longer tolerate chronic trade abuses and would insist on fair and equal policies.

Trump said the United States was ready to make a bilateral deal with any country in the Indo-Pacific region, but only on the basis of “mutual respect and mutual benefit”.

“When the United States enters into a trading relationship with other countries or other peoples, we will from now on expect that our partners will faithfully follow the rules,” he said in the seaside resort of Danang.

“We expect that markets will be open to an equal degree on both sides and that private investment, not government planners, will direct investment,” he said in a speech ahead of a summit of Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) leaders.

Trump arrived in Viet Nam



US President Donald Trump speaks on the final day of the APEC CEO Summit, part of the broader Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) leaders' summit, in Danang, Viet Nam, on 10 November 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

from China on the fourth leg of a 12-day trip to Asia. Redressing the balance of trade between Asia and the United States is at the centre of Trump's “America

First” policy he says will protect US workers.

The difference between Trump's and China's approaches was made more stark by com-

ments in a later speech from Chinese President Xi Jinping, who said globalisation was an irreversible trend and voiced support for multilateral trade

deals. While China has by far the biggest trade surplus with the United States, Viet Nam is also on the list of those surpluses the Trump administration seeks to reduce.

APEC, which has long championed free trade, has itself been convulsed by the changes under Trump.

Since Trump abandoned the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade deal early in his presidency, the remaining 11 members have struggled to build momentum to keep it alive.

Leaders of TPP countries are due to meet on Friday after talks among ministers ended in confusion on Thursday with Japan's economy minister saying that they “agree in principle” and his Canadian counterpart saying that was not true.

Trump broke early with the “Pivot to Asia” of the Obama administration, worrying some traditional allies that he would allow China to extend its increasing dominance. —Reuters ■



European Union Foreign Affairs Chief Federica Mogherini gives her remarks after attending a meeting of the parties to the Iran nuclear deal during the 72nd United Nations General Assembly at UN headquarters in New York, US, on 20 September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

EU to preserve Iran nuclear deal — Mogherini

SAMARKAND, (Uzbekistan) — The European Union will make sure that the Iran nuclear deal “will continue to be fully implemented by all, in all its parts”, the European Union's foreign policy chief said on Friday.

Speaking at a conference in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, the EU's Federica Mogherini said the agreement was “a major achievement of European and international multilateral diplomacy that is delivering”. US President Donald Trump on 13 October dealt a

blow to the pact by refusing to certify that Tehran was complying with the accord even though international inspectors said it was. But US lawmakers signalled this week they planned to ensure the United States complied with the agreement under which Iran agreed to curb its nuclear programme in return for relief from economic sanctions.

Congress has until mid-December to decide whether to reimpose sanctions lifted under the deal.—Reuters ■

Three US aircraft carriers to enter waters off Korean Peninsula to stage joint drills: South Korean military

SEOUL — Three US aircraft carriers will enter waters off the Korean Peninsula one by one over the weekend to conduct joint maritime exercises with the South Korean Navy, Yonhap news agency reported on Friday citing Seoul's military.

An unnamed official with the South Korean military was quoted as saying three US aircraft carriers will stage joint drills with the South Korean military from Saturday to Tuesday in the Korea theater of operations (KTO) off the country's east

coast. Yonhap said the three aircraft carriers will enter the KTO one by one as the strike groups sail with a certain distance from each other. The KTO is a theater for military operations near the Korean Peninsula, which is designated by the commander of combined forces of South Korea and the United States. The US 7th Fleet which is part of the US Pacific Fleet, said on its website Thursday that the USS Ronald Reagan, USS Nimitz and USS Theodore Roosevelt will commence a three-carrier

exercise in international waters in the Western Pacific for four days from Saturday. The strike groups planned to conduct air defence drills, sea surveillance, replenishments at sea, defensive air combat training, close-in coordinated maneuvers and other training, according to the Pacific Fleet. From the South Korean side, two Aegis-equipped destroyers, one destroyer and four frigates will be mobilized for the joint exercises with the US carriers, according to Yonhap. —Xinhua ■

Father of Texas church shooter speaks to media with grief, hurt

HOUSTON — For the first time since Texas church shooting happened, the gunman's father spoke to the public on Thursday, saying his family was grieving and hurting. In an interview with ABC, Michael Kelley said, “we are grieving, our family is grieving.” “I don't want our lives, our grandchildren's lives, destroyed by this media circus.”

Devin Kelley killed 26

people and wounded another 20 in a South Texas church in Sutherland Springs Sunday morning.

Kevin Kelley received a bad-conduct discharge from the US Air Force for assaulting his wife and child, and was sentenced to 12 months' confinement after a 2012 court-martial.

He served in Logistics Readiness at the Holloman Air

Force Base in the southwestern US state of New Mexico from 2010 until his discharge, US Air Force spokesperson Ann Stefanek told media earlier. Stefanek later confirmed the Air Force didn't report the shooter's domestic violence conviction to the FBI, leaving the door open for him to buy weapons and make the mass killing.—Xinhua ■

Scientists decry Arctic oil expansion in letter to US senators

NEW YORK — A group of 37 US-based scientists whose research focuses on Arctic wildlife asked two US senators in a letter on Thursday not to open the National Arctic Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas exploration, according to a copy seen by Reuters.

The scientists, including several retired former officials from the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, the US Geological Survey and the US Fish & Wildlife Service, said in a letter to Senator Lisa Murkowski of Alaska and Senator Maria Cantwell of Washington that drilling for oil and gas in the refuge would be “incompatible with the purposes for which the refuge was established,” protecting fish and wildlife populations and the environments in which they live.

Murkowski, a Republican, introduced legislation on Wednesday that would create an oil and gas ex-



The sun sets behind an oil drilling rig in Prudhoe Bay, Alaska in 2011. PHOTO: REUTERS

ploration programme on the refuge’s coastal plain, letting prospectors build any roads and other infrastructure they deemed necessary inside the refuge to carry out their operations. Half of the available drilling royalties would go to the

state of Alaska and half to the federal government. The programme’s administrator would be required to hold at least two lease sales within 10 years after the bill became law.

The scientists said drilling on the coastal

plain would be particularly harmful because it contains a “unique compression” of habitats supporting animals like polar bears, grizzly bears, wolverines, representing “the greatest wildlife diversity of any protected area above the

Arctic Circle.”

In a Reuters interview, Cantwell praised the scientists for spelling out why drilling would be so harmful to the refuge and she would work to oppose the legislation. “To try to legislate mandated drill-

ing in a wildlife refuge is just not where America is,” she said. Murkowski’s spokeswoman declined to comment and referred a comment request to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

The conflict over whether to allow drilling inside the refuge has deep roots. The US Geological Survey estimates the area on the Prudhoe Bay in Northern Alaska has up to 12 billion barrels of recoverable crude, and Republicans, who now control Congress and the White House, have long wanted to open a portion of the refuge called the 1002 area.

Murkowski, who chairs the Senate Energy Committee, called the 1002 portion a “non wilderness area” because the government put it aside decades ago for petroleum exploration. Last month, Democrats tried and failed to pass legislation blocking drilling there.—Reuters ■

Philippines, Australia navies kick off maritime security exercises

MANILA — Philippine and Australian navies began a 22-day joint maritime exercises in the waters off western Mindanao Island in southern Philippines, the Philippine armed forces said on Friday.

“The engagement involves a series of meeting procedures, planning and coordination for the conduct of the combined

patrols in the western Mindanao. This is likewise in support to the anti-terrorism and piracy campaign of the government,” said Rear Admiral Rene Medina, commander of Philippines Naval Forces Western Mindanao. Two Royal Australian Navy Vessels — Her Majesty Australian Ship (HMAS) Larraka and HMAS Maitland —

anchored in Zamboanga City pier. Medina said four Philippine Navy vessels will also be used in the exercises that run from 10 November to 1 December.

Aside from enhancing maritime cooperation, Medina said the joint activities are designed to secure the vast maritime domain of the Sulu Sea, where the exercises will

be conducted. “This will prove that the Philippine Navy does not work alone in protecting and maintaining the peace, order and stability in its area of responsibility,” he said, adding that the Philippine Navy and the Royal Australian Navy have “a strong relationship when it comes to maritime patrol and security.”—Xinhua ■

Japan sees 60 per cent chance of La Niña pattern emerging by end of winter

TOKYO — Japan’s weather bureau said on Friday that some characteristics of a La Niña weather pattern are continuing and that it sees a 60 per cent chance of La Niña weather conditions emerging by the end of winter. The Japan Meteorological Agency said last month that there were

growing signs of a La Niña pattern emerging as sea water temperatures being monitored near the equator in the Pacific Ocean were now cooler than their benchmark levels.

At that time, it predicted a 50 per cent chance a La Niña would emerge by winter.—Reuters ■

Vatican urges dialogue, consultation over nuclear threats

VATICAN CITY — The Vatican on Friday urged world leaders to shun any unilateral action and seek dialogue to respond to the threat of nuclear weapons.

The appeal came at the start of a two-day conference on nuclear disarmament that has brought together more than 10 Nobel prize winners, United Nations and

NATO officials, discussing perspectives for a world free of nuclear weapons.

“Growing inter-dependence means that any response to the threat of nuclear weapons should be collective and consultative, based on mutual trust,” Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin said.

As tensions between

the United States and North Korea have increased in recent months, Pope Francis and the Vatican have warned that a nuclear conflict would destroy a good part of humanity. US President Donald Trump, who has said North Korea “will be met with fire and fury like the world has never seen” if it threatened the Unit-

ed States, is visiting South Korea as part of a current trip to Asia.

“This trust can be built only through dialogue that is truly directed to the common good and not to the protection of veiled or particular interests,” said Parolin, who ranks second only to the pope in the Vatican hierarchy.—Reuters ■

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV. HAN XIN VOY. NO ()

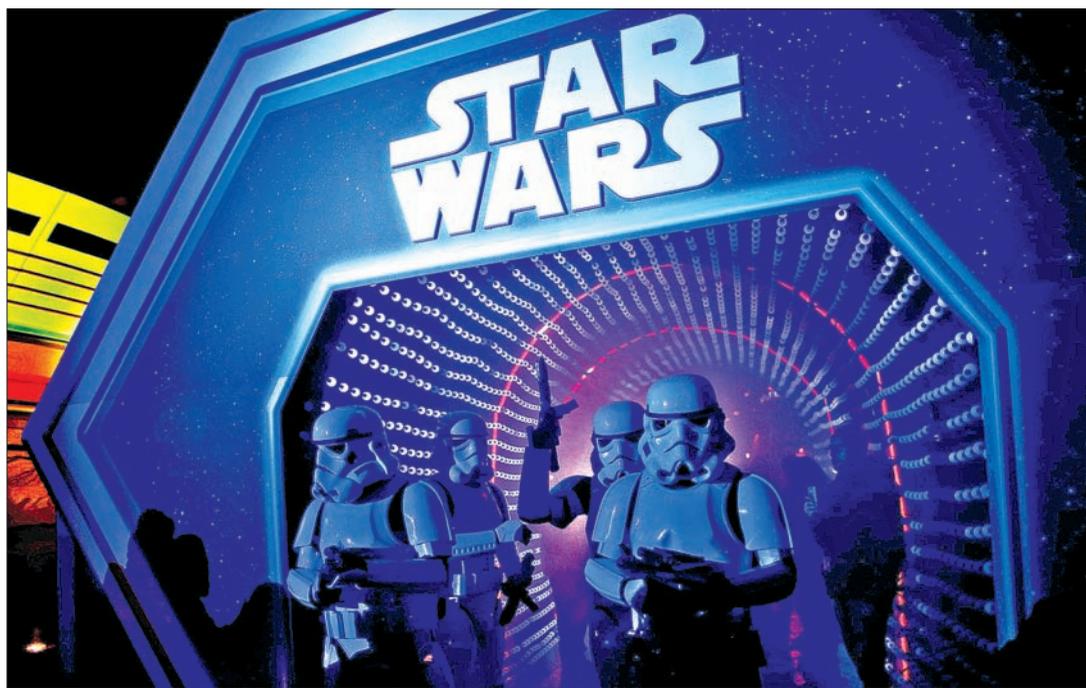
Consignees of cargo carried on MV. HAN XIN VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.11.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AIPT-3 where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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Characters of Star Wars take part in an event held for the release of the film "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" in Disneyland Paris in Marne-la-Vallee, France on 17 December, 2015. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

'Last Jedi' director Rian Johnson to oversee new 'Star Wars' trilogy

LOS ANGELES — The galaxy far, far away is expanding further on screen with a new trilogy of "Star Wars" films outside of the ongoing Skywalker saga, Walt Disney Co said Thursday, to be overseen by Rian Johnson, the director of the franchise's upcoming film "The Last Jedi."

Johnson, 43, will write and direct the first of a new "Star Wars" trilogy that will bring new characters and worlds not yet explored on screen, Disney said.

"He's a creative force, and watching him craft 'The Last Jedi' from start to finish was one of the great joys of my career. Rian will do amazing

things with the blank canvas of this new trilogy," Kathleen Kennedy, president of Lucasfilm, said in a statement.

Disney said no release dates have been set for the new trilogy. In addition to the new film trilogy, Disney's CEO Bob Iger said during the company's quarterly earnings call on Thursday that a "Star Wars" live-action TV series was also being developed for the company's upcoming streaming service. Johnson was brought on to write and direct the second film in Disney's rebooted trilogy of the Skywalker stories, which George Lucas first brought to screen in 1977.

"The Last Jedi," which

follows on from 2015's hit film "The Force Awakens" and is expected to focus on Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill), will be in theaters on 15 December.

The final installment in the current trilogy, "Star Wars: Episode IX," will be written and directed by J.J. Abrams and scheduled for release in December 2019.

Disney is also making three standalone "Star Wars" films outside of the Skywalker saga, including last year's "Rogue One" and next year's "Solo: A Star Wars Story," following the origins of the charming roguish smuggler Han Solo, made famous by Harrison Ford in the film franchise.—Reuters ■

Dance star Akram Khan prepares for swansong tour

LONDON — One of Britain's most celebrated dancer-choreographers, Akram Khan, is tackling the rise of xenophobia in his latest work, which he says will be his last as a leading performer.

The production, "Xenos", is Khan's tribute to the Indian soldiers of the British Empire who fought in World War I. It focuses on the story of a shell-shocked Indian soldier, but also tackles contemporary political issues.

"Xenos means a foreigner or alien or stranger in Greek, i.e. xenophobia, and it just seems apt and relevant to my reflection of the world today and how xenophobia is grow-

ing," he told Reuters.

Khan, 43, will dance a segment from "Xenos" at the opening night of the Darbar Festival, an annual festival of classical Indian music, on Thursday in London.

Following its full premiere next year in Athens, Xenos will tour Australia, North America, and Europe, with a staging at Sadler's Wells theater in London in 2018.

Born in London to Bangladeshi parents, Khan was awarded an MBE in 2005 for services to dance. His style is a hybrid of Indian classical, traditional Indian kathak and contemporary dance.

Khan says he is going to

step down from dancing in full-length productions as a lead, but will still dance smaller roles. Besides wanting a respite from physical demands of dancing, he wants to focus on other areas.

"I want to focus more on choreography. I'm working a lot on film. I'm fascinated by film and that medium and what movement, how you can tell stories through the camera," he says.

"There just came a time where I felt: 'OK, enough is enough'. You know, I'll keep training but not to the severity or the intensity that I do to prepare myself for a full-length solo." —Reuters ■

Offer to play Sahir Ludhianvi comes and goes: Irrfan Khan

MUMBAI — Irrfan Khan's name has often cropped up to play eminent poet-lyricist Sahir Ludhianvi in a biopic.

The actor says he wants to essay the role but the film keeps slipping away from him.

While Irrfan was first rumoured to play the role in a film backed by Sanjay Leela Bhansali, reports say Shah Rukh Khan and Abhishek Bachchan have also been approached for the same project.

"I really want to essay Sahir's character. The offer comes to me but goes away again and again. If I don't get the role, it's okay. I will carry him in my other films in some way or the other," Irrfan said in a media interaction here.

The actor, 50, says he grew up reading Ludhianvi and his works have a huge contribution in his life.

"He is a part of me. He has given me a lot and is an extremely important person to me.

"His sensibility, his passion, his sense of love and society is deep. I was moved with his



Irrfan Khan. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

work," he said.

Irrfan said Ludhianvi's understanding of love was entirely different from others.

"I've been fascinated with him since childhood. Everyone was writing romantic songs, 'I'll die for you, build Taj Mahal for you' but he talked about something else entirely, which was equally romantic," he said.

While there is no clarity on the project as yet, Irrfan is awaiting the release of his next "Qarib Qarib Single".

Also featuring Parvathy, the Tanuja Chandra-directed film release tomorrow.—PTI ■



Actor Jamie Bell. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Jamie Bell likes to play 'funny sidekick' in movies

LONDON — Actor Jamie Bell said that he prefers to play "funny sidekick" in films.

The 31-year-old actor said that he usually does not watch his own movies but had to watch his latest film as he was playing a real life character in it, reported Femalefirst.

"I rarely see any of my work but I had a duty to watch 'Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool', a responsibility. I was playing

someone's real life. And it's very challenging watching yourself. I don't know what it's like for other actors," the actor said.

"All the time I'm watching it, I'm like 'I should really stick to playing the funny sidekick guy!' That's my preferred role!" he added.

"Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool" also features Annette Bening who plays the role of Gloria Grahame.—PTI ■

'That's art?' Baby turns heads in Manhattan auction house window

NEW YORK — A sculpture of a baby sleeping in an unusual New York City exhibit has Park Avenue window-shoppers alerting auction house staff that a child has been “forgotten in the display.”

Sculpted after artist Duane Hanson's son, the lifelike artwork, titled “Baby in a Carriage, 1983,” is valued at about \$80,000 to \$120,000, according to director of American art at Heritage Auctions in Manhattan. “It's the greatest. If you could watch our footage of this baby in the window, it would crack you up because truly all day, people, women, children, mothers, grandfathers, cops will stop and look at it and wonder truly for a second, or more

than a second, is that really a baby?” Director of American art at Heritage Auctions, Aviva Lehmann, told Reuters, adding that this “is exactly what Hanson wanted you to think.” The polyvinyl piece of a sleeping toddler wearing a light-lue sweatshirt and matching sweatpants, is topped off with a head of blonde human hair, furthering its authenticity.

“That's art?” a stunned Rachel Leeds said with a laugh. “I thought that was a real baby.”

The baby's shirt carries the bible verse, “He that is without sin among you, let him first cast the first stone,” from the Gospel of John 8:7. —Reuters ■

Shanghai Museum to hold China's largest fresco exhibition

TAIYUAN — Chinese restorers have selected 89 original fresco paintings, some centuries old, for what will be the largest fresco exhibition to be held in China.

The exhibition will run for three months at the Shanghai Museum starting from 30 November and will be open to the public free of charge.

The fresco paintings dating back to the Northern Dynasties (386-581) and Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368) were all recently restored by the Shanxi Museum.

Among the paintings is China's oldest Zodiac chart, the largest fresco painting depicting hunting, a Yuan Dynasty religious painting and the largest Taoist temple fresco.

The original works will be on display for the public for the first time, Chen Fenxia from Shanxi Museum told Xinhua on Thursday.

They were all either cut from temple walls or unearthed from ancient tombs in north China's Shanxi Province.

The largest piece selected for the show is the hunting fresco dating back more than 1,500 years. It is 13.2 meters tall and 3.5 meters wide and was unearthed from the Jiuyuan-gang Tomb in Xinzhou.

The piece was a part of a 200 square meter colored mural found in the tomb, which depicts scenes of hunting animals such as tigers, bears, goats and deer during the

Northern Dynasties.

Zhang Qing, a relic restorer at Yongle Palace, a Yuan Dynasty Taoist temple in Ruicheng County, said to restore fresco paintings they must cut the paintings along with peeling walls piece by piece and join them again after reinforcing each section and treating it for erosion.

She said the paintings are like picture books, with 286 supernatural beings, each wearing different costumes and adornments.

Restoring damaged murals is the best way to prevent them from being destroyed. After restoration they must be stored in temperature- and humidity-controlled rooms, said Chen.—Xinhua ■

Museum with classic cars travels visitors through time in Athens

ATHENS — Strolling in the Motor Museum in Athens is like travelling in time. Its collection of 110 car models covers a history that begins at the late 1800s until the end of the 20th century.

The oldest exhibit is a 1895 Hunnia horse drawn carriage with water pump which was used as a firetruck, while among the most recent ones in the collection is a 1980 Ferrari 308 GTSi.

At a short distance from the National Archaeological Museum in the center of Athens, the “Capitol” complex, which houses the museum, has a collection of cars which emerged over time as milestones in the history of automotive industry, the general director of the Museum, Marina Filipoussi told Xinhua in a recent interview.

Visitors can admire unique exhibits of famous brands from the past that no longer exist such as Avion Voisin, Adler, Delage and Dino, models of famous brands such as Bentley, Bugatti, Astron Martin, Bristol, Ferrari, Maserati and other historical models of highly popular manufacturers.

“The idea behind the museum belongs to Theodoros Charagionis, founder of the museum. Everything started



Classic cars are exhibited at the Motor Museum in Athens, capital of Greece, on 9 November, 2017. The Motor Museum collects 110 car models covering a history from the late 1800s to the end of the 20th century. PHOTO: XINHUA

from his love for automotive industry and car races,” Filipoussi said.

He acquired among others a Maserati Mistral, a Rolls Royce Wraith, a couple of Jaguar of E-type, a couple of Austin Healey 3000 and three Dino cars of which one was a Ferrari, so since the early 1990s he had a collection of 25 cars. Dedicated to technology and four wheels evolution, the museum opened its doors in

March 2011 in an area of 4,000 square meters in the last three floors of the building.

Each exhibit has a different story to tell. “Among the popular cars of the collection is the pink colored Imperial Crown Convertible Chrysler which belonged to the front man of the rock group ‘Led Zeppelin’, the legend Robert Plant,” Filipoussi noted.

It was built in 1959 and only 555 units of this model

were produced at a price tag of 5,774 U.S. dollars which was considerably high for the period.

“The Bugatti models are also very important, since they were very unique and custom made. Also, Ettore Bugatti, the former owner, would sell his models only if he liked the buyer,” she explained.

Acquiring through auctions abroad or in Greece, all the models belong to

the museum.

Every exhibit is priceless, as Filipoussi highlighted. “You can say that they are like paintings. Their price depends on how much anyone is willing to pay in order to acquire it. But, in the last years many wealthy markets have emerged, willing to pay a lot of money in auctions to have them,” she said.

The significant size of the collection allows its continuous renewal, not only by way of thematic exhibitions, but also by replacing the museum pieces, she added.

“For the 70th anniversary of Ferrari, the museum hosts an exhibition of 14 Ferrari cars, also we celebrate the 60 years of FIAT 500 and the 50 years of NSU,” Filipoussi marked.

In a special place in the museum, visitors can also find the permanent exhibition “MADE BY HELLAS” for cars manufactured, assembled or designed in Greece.

As a private funded organization, the museum cannot be supported only by the tickets, Filipoussi said. “We lease the areas of the museum for company and social events. Since 2011, we have had over 30,000 visits through special events, not including school and individual visitors,” she stressed. —Xinhua ■

Chelsea's Hazard dreams of playing under Zidane

LONDON — Chelsea playmaker Eden Hazard says it “would be a dream” to play under French great and current Real Madrid manager Zinedine Zidane in the future.

Hazard has been instrumental to Chelsea's success since joining the club in 2012, winning two Premier League titles, a League Cup and the Europa League, and has scored three goals and provided four assists in 13 appearances this season.

Media reports have repeatedly linked the Belgian with the Spanish champions and the 26-year-old did not rule out a future move to Real Madrid.

“Everyone knows the respect I have for Zidane as a player, but also as a manager. He was my idol,” Hazard told Belgian TV channel RTL. “I do not know what will happen in the future. However, for sure, to play under Zidane would be a dream.



Chelsea's Eden Hazard.
PHOTO: REUTERS

“I am enjoying life at Chelsea. I still have a lot of things to achieve with them. I am focused on playing for Chelsea.”

Hazard said that he would also enjoy a reunion with former Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho, who is currently at league rivals Manchester United.

“Of course (I would enjoy working with Mourinho again).

I like facing him also as an opponent. If we were to work together in the future it would be with pleasure,” Hazard said.

Hazard has been called up for Belgium's friendlies against Mexico and Japan and will reunite with Chelsea, who are fourth in the league, ahead of their trip to West Bromwich Albion on 18 November. —Reuters ■

Nadal confident of being fully fit at ATP Finals

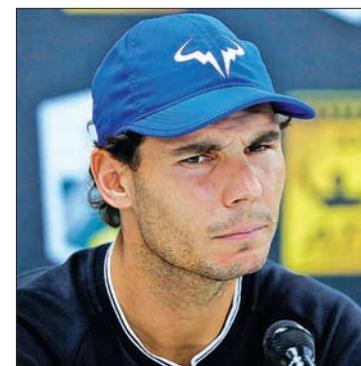
LONDON — WORLD number one Rafa Nadal is confident he will be “100 per cent fit” at the ATP Finals event in London as he continues to recover from a knee injury.

The Spaniard pulled out of the Paris Masters before his quarter-final match against American John Isner after experiencing discomfort in his right knee during his third-round win over Pablo Cuevas.

“Hopefully the knee is good,” Nadal told Sky Sports. “I've done everything I've needed to do in order to get ready for London... Let's see if I am able to be 100 per cent to compete.

“If nothing happens, then I will play. I visited my doctors after the Paris Masters - it was a tough day for me having to pull out of Paris.

“I know I'm confident be-



Spain's Rafael Nadal.
PHOTO: REUTERS

cause I'm having a great season with one event to go. I am here to try my best.”

Reigning French and US Open winner Nadal begins the quest for his first ATP Finals title against Belgian David Goffin on Monday and will also compete with Bulgarian Grigor Dimitrov and Austrian Dominic Thiem in his group. —Reuters ■

World Cup fever strikes as Peru and NZ face off for finals spot

WELLINGTON — World Cup finals fever enveloped New Zealand's capital on Friday as hundreds of noisy Peru fans greeted their team at the airport ahead of their intercontinental playoff with the All Whites on Saturday.

The South Americans had been training in Auckland all week and delayed their arrival in Wellington until Friday, with kickoff for the first leg of the tie at Wellington Regional Stadium at 4:15 pm (0315 GMT) on Saturday.

Greeted by chants of “Pe-ru! Pe-ru!”, their welcome in Wellington mirrored that of when they touched down in New Zealand's largest city earlier this week with national-strip clad fans dancing, banging drums and blowing whistles as the team ran the gauntlet to a waiting bus.

A small presence of police officers was needed to clear a path for the team and their management staff, who are under immense pressure to take the side to their first World Cup fi-



Street vendors sell Peru's national soccer T-shirts in front of National stadium in Lima, Peru, on 9 November 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

nals since 1982.

“We would like to tell the 30 million expectant Peruvians back home and the thousands who have welcomed us at the airports or who have come to watch the match, we are ready,” manager Ricardo Gareca told reporters through a translator on Friday.

“We will bring all their expectations to fruition.”

Peru's fans, however, were not the only ones to invade Wellington, with New Zealand's most passionate supporters making lightning visits home from as far afield as Britain. New Zealand Football estimated that more than 40 per cent of tickets for the expected 38,000 sellout had been purchased by fans from outside of the greater Wellington region. —Reuters ■

Croatia closer to 2018 World Cup after defeating Greece

ZAGREB — The Croatian national football team made a big step toward the 2018 FIFA World Cup in Russia, beating Greece 4-1 in the first leg of the European playoffs played on Thursday night in front of over 30,000 fans at the Maksimir stadium in Zagreb.

The strong Greek defense, that had been singled out as the main quality of the visiting team before the match, fell apart after just 30 minutes of play. Croatian pressure was too hard for the Greeks to sustain and forced them into mistakes. In the 13th minute, Greek goalkeeper Orestis Karnezis made a mistake receiving the ball and fouled Nikola Kalinic in the penalty area. Croatian captain Luka Modric scored his first goal in this qualifying campaign as his shot from the penalty spot found the net, sending the Greek keeper the wrong way.

Croatia need just six more

minutes to score for the second time. Ivan Strinic broke on the left and returned the ball into the middle where Inter Milan striker Nikola Kalinic was faster than Greek defenders and put the ball into the net with a clever heel shot.

In the 30th minute, Greek captain Papastathopoulos beat Croatian defenders in the air and his header was out of reach for home goalkeeper Daniel Subasic.

But the Greek celebration didn't last for long. Just three minutes later, Croatia again reached a two goal advantage. This time, the deadly cross came from the right side off the foot of Sime Vrsaljko. Ivan Perisic met the ball on the far post and easily put the header into the net from close range. The Inter Milan forward scored his first goal in over a year for the national team, and he could hardly have chosen a better time for it. —Xinhua ■