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# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IV, No. 185, 14<sup>th</sup> Waning of Thadingyut 1379 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Thursday, 19 October 2017



National Security Advisor delivers a statement at the United Nations Security Council.

## Security Advisor returns from UN General Assembly

**NATIONAL** Security Advisor to the Union Government U Thaung Tun arrived back in Yangon on 17 October after attending the 72<sup>nd</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York City.

U Thaung Tun attended the meetings of the United Nations Security Council held on 28 September and 13 October, respectively. He outlined the position of the Myanmar government on recent events in northern Rakhine State and the initiatives and efforts taken by the government to address the issue.

On separate occasions, he met with Foreign Ministers and senior representatives from other countries including Bangladesh, Britain, China, Indonesia,  
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**in**  
Picture

## Roads in Maungtaw to be upgraded

Eight roads in Maungtaw District, Rakhine State will be upgraded to concrete within a three-year period as part of a district development plan, according to Maungtaw District authorities. **PHOTO: THANT ZIN WIN (NEWS ON PAGE-3)**

# Return illegal arms, devices, vehicles to police: MOHA

AS Myanmar has enforced an arms holding rule, all arms including air guns and home-made guns need a license to be used. Permits for using arms are granted only after scruti-

nising applicants by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Similarly, communication machines are permitted to be used only after a license for use is granted by the Myanmar Telecommunications.

While the Myanmar Police Force has been taking measures against using unlicensed vehicles, arms and accessories and illegal communication devices, authorities seized two pistols,

ammunition, three communication devices and accessories from three passengers at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport on 15 October.

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**BEST BANK IN MYANMAR**

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# Agreement signed by securities commissions of Myanmar and Thailand

With the aim of developing Myanmar investment, the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Securities Exchange Commission of Myanmar (SECM) and the Securities Exchange Commission of Thailand (SECT) was accomplished on Monday night at Sule Shangri-La Hotel in Yangon.

The memorandum was signed by the chair of the SECM, Deputy Minister of Planning and Finance, U Maung Maung Win and Secretary General of SECT Mr. Rapee Sucharitakul.

Officials and members of the SECM and SECT, Myanmar Insurance, Myanmar Investment and Commercial Bank, Myanmar Economic Bank, Thailand's Stock Exchange, Association of Thai Securities Companies, Association of investment Management Companies and Thai listed Companies Association attended the ceremony.

The memorandum aims



Deputy Minister U Maung Maung Win signing with SECT Secretary General Mr. Rapee Sucharitakul at the MoU signing ceremony between SECM and SECT in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

to support the development of Myanmar's investment and trade by sharing the experience of SECT and also targets

the launch of training courses for Myanmar's human resources development, to strengthen the capability and supervision of

SECM, and to grow investment and trade markets between Myanmar and Thailand and ASEAN. —Myanmar News Agency ■

## 22 more telecommunication towers being built in Maungtau

The construction of MPT telecommunication towers will start this month in Ngakhuya, Khontaing and Pandawpyin villages of Maungtau district and the project will finish within 50 days, resulting in 80 per cent coverage of the network area, according to U Saw San Htwe, a supervisor of Myanmar Telecommunication Enterprise. Ground inspections for acquiring land for construc-

tion of towers are being carried out and construction will start soon. The telecommunication system will also be upgraded for better network connections.

"In northern Maungtau, only a small number of towers are present. In some places, communication is accessed through the satellite, however connections through the satellite are limited. After tower construction in Nga-

khuya and Khondaing is finished, the connections in those areas will become better. Previously, microlinks were constructed for emergencies and, as the area is mountainous, we have replaced microlinks gradually to get a better result", said U Saw San Htwe.

Among all the towers in the Maungtau area, only two can transmit both MPT and Telenor. The others are transmitting only

MPT. Huawei was given permission to construct the present towers under the supervision of Myanmar Telecommunication Enterprise.

Currently 34 GSM towers are present in Maungtau area and 22 more GSM towers will be constructed at the end of October for better communication, it is learnt from MTE. —Thant Zin Win, Naing Lin Kyi ■

## Large caches of guns, ammunition discovered

After three suspects including U Phyo Ko Ko Tint San were arrested at Nay Pyi Taw Airport on Sunday for possession of illegal weapons and drugs, Myanmar Police searched properties owned by his father including the ACE Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw and discovered

large caches of weapons, ammunition, communication devices, drones and bullet-proof vests. U Phyo Ko Ko Tint San and two of his office staff, Zaw Win Hteik and Ye Min Swe, all employees of the ACE company, were arrested on 15 October at Nay Pyi Taw air-

port after two pistols and narcotic drugs were found in their luggage. After a search of the ACE Hotel and offices of the ACE Group of Companies owned by U Phyo Ko Ko Tint San's father, former sports and tourism minister U Tint San, more weapons and ammunition

were discovered and seized. At ACE offices in Thakayta Township, two pistols, ammunition, a short-barrelled gun which fires metal balls, and walkie-talkies were found. The search of the ACE hotel in Dekkhina Township in Nay Pyi Taw revealed four pistols, one

M-21gun, four M-16 guns (shaped and modified), 19 walkie-talkies, seven drones and various types of ammunition. Over 20 guns were seized from U Phyo Ko Ko Tint San and 12 suspects related to this case are also under arrest and investigation.—MNA ■

## Return illegal arms, devices, ...

### FROM PAGE-1

The passengers were on their way from Nay Pyi Taw to Yangon on MNA airlines.

In connection with the case, their dwellings in Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon were searched and more illegal weapons were dis-

covered, including 13 pistols and six rifles. Also discovered were 34 communication devices, ammunition, accessories and one unlicensed vehicle.

The three men have been detained and charged. The Ministry of Home Affairs is working to

expose and arrest the remaining persons connected with the case.

Regarding the possession of illegal arms, Section 19 of the 1878 Arms Act says the penalty for illegal possession of weapons is three to seven years imprisonment with hard labour.

Similarly, the penalty for possession of arms under Section 19 of the 1,951 Arms Act is three to

seven years imprisonment.

The penalty for possession or use of illegal or unlicensed communication devices under Section 67 of the 2013 Communications Law is at least one year's imprisonment, a fine or both.

The penalty for possession or using of illegal or unlicensed vehicles under Section 8 of the 2012 Export and Import Law

is three year's imprisonment, a fine or both. Those who possess illegal or unlicensed arms, ammunition, communication devices and vehicles are urged to return them to the nearest police stations voluntarily as soon as possible. Action will be taken against those who possess these items if discovered by police. —Ministry of Home Affairs ■

## 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China held

THE 19th National Congress of the Communist party of China began yesterday morning at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

Chinese president Xi Jinping delivered a three-hour long opening speech to the 2,280 congress delegates in attendance.

Former presidents Jiang Zemin and Hu Jintao also attended the congress, which will continue for a week. In this year's congress, women delegates and ethnic people are in attendance in greater numbers than previous years, officials said. In his opening speech, President Xi spoke of matters relating to the historical performance of the party, the performances in changing the fundamental policies, the condition of tasks on socio-economic development, conditions to strengthen the Tatmadaw for national defence, conditions to move on using the "one country two systems" policy and further works for government sector development. Over 1,800 journalists, including local and foreign media from 134 countries, are covering the event. The Chinese Communist Party Congress is held every five years. The 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China was held on 14 November, 2012.—Tun Tun Naing ■

# 10<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Science, Technology and Innovation Exhibition held

THE opening ceremony for the 10th ASEAN Science, Technology and Innovation Week, the ASEAN Science and Technology Exhibition and seminars were held yesterday morning at Myanmar International Convention Center, MICC-2 in Nay Pyi Taw.

The event, which aims to develop the science, technology and innovation sectors in Myanmar, was opened by Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi, deputy minister U Win Maw Tun and Laos' Deputy Minister for Science and Technology H.E. Mr. Houmphanh Intharath.

In his opening speech, Dr Myo Thein Gyi said it was important to promote cooperation among youths who are interested in innovation. Dr Myo Thein Gyi believes that today's youths will solve the difficulties in innovation that they face now and also in the future through cooperation.



Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi visits the booth at the 10th ASEAN Science, Technology and Innovation Week. PHOTO: MNA

The union minister viewed the technology displays in the convention centre which were invented by the students of com-

puter universities, government technological universities and other universities under the Ministry of Education. Also viewed

were social applied science displays from Viet Nam, Laos, Indonesia, Malaysia, India, the EU and the US.

The events of ASEAN Science and Technology Week have been held every three years since 1986 to cooperate and develop business, long-term stability, active performances, competitions and innovation among ASEAN countries. At the meeting of ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology, which was held in Cambodia, it was agreed to change the name of the event from ASEAN Science and Technology Week to ASEAN Science, Technology and Innovation Week – ASEAN STI Week.

The 10th ASEAN Science, Technology and Innovation Week was hosted by Myanmar. The 17th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology, 73rd Meeting of ASEAN Committee on Science and related meetings will also be held through 20th October. —Thura Zaw (Myanmar News Agency) ■

## Parts of missing Myanmar Air Force Fighter Jet found

Parts of a Myanmar Air Force G-4 fighter jet which went missing during a training mission on 5 September were discovered 12 miles south of Gwa town, which is 5 miles north of the plane's last known location, officials said yesterday.

The jet went missing during a training mission along the Pathein-Hinthada-Gwa-Pathein route on the morning of 5 September, losing radio contact with Pathein Airport at 350 degrees north-west of Pathein, 36 miles in distance, at 9:18 am.

Tatmadaw forces and aircraft and helicopters from Tat-

madaw (Air Force) have conducted search and rescue operations for the missing plane since the morning of its disappearance. Since that time, parts of the plane have been recovered by the Tatmadaw, including part of the head of the jet, a wheel, two wings, a parachute, parts of machines and a PT 2-brand bottle. Most of the parts were discovered 12 miles south of Gwa Town, 5 miles north of the plane's last known location.

Searches for the pilot and the remaining parts of the jet are being conducted, as is finding a cause of the crash, it was learnt. —MNA ■



Map shows the site where the crashed fighter jet is found. PHOTO: HO/MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY

## Roads in Maungtaw to be upgraded

EIGHT roads in Maungtaw District, Rakhine State will be upgraded to concrete within a three-year period as part of a development plan, according to Maungtaw District authorities.

“Heavy rain and busy traffic to transport aid to conflict areas are blamed for damages on the roads,” said U Zaw Min, Maungtaw District Superintending Engineer (Civil).

The total distance of the eight roads to be upgraded is about 156 miles, which are currently under maintenance this year.

The work would be launched in the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year.

The road linking Buthidaung and Maungtaw can withstand 16 tons of load currently, and upon completion of the upgrading from the tarred road to concrete road, it will be able to withstand about 26 tons of load, he said.

Similarly, Kanyintan-Agnumaw Road can withstand 10 tons of load.

Road work is currently being done on to repair rain damage on the Maungtaw-Kyeinchaung-Aungthabyay-Ban-

doola Road and Taungpyo-Kyeinchaung Road, both of which can withstand eight tons of load. The work is expected to be completed soon, according to Maungtaw District authorities.

“All road works on both roads are expected to be complete within two days,” said U Zaw Min.

Maungtaw District Road Department, Rural Area Development Department, Bridge Construction Special Group-3, 4 and 17 would carry out upgrading the roads in the next fiscal year.

Upgrading road infrastructure includes in the needs voiced by local people at the meeting with Mr. Jeffrey Feltman, Under Secretary-General for Political Affairs of the United Nations on Wednesday at their villages.

Meanwhile, the Union Government formed a committee for the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine to speed up rehabilitation and resettlement there.—Naing Lin Kyi, Thant Zin Win ■

## Security Advisor returns from UN General Assembly

FROM PAGE-1

Permanent Representatives from Permanent Missions in New York, the UN Under Secretary General, the UNDP Administrator, the CEO and the Vice President of the World Bank, the President of

ICRC, the Secretary General of IFRC, President of International Crisis Group in New York and Washington.

In addition, the National Security Advisor attended the working lunch on the situation in Rakhine hosted by the Foreign Secretary of the United King-

dom. He also discussed the issue of Rakhine at meetings organised by the United States Institute of Peace and the Centre for Strategic and International Studies in Washington D.C and the Council on Foreign Relations in New York.—Myanmar News Agency ■

GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com  
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.comPrinted and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

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Cruise ships in the Myeik Archipelago. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

## Inbound tours popular among locals

May Thet Hnin

THE number of inbound tour visitors have increased year on year, said Dr Myo Gyi, the vice chairman of Domestic Pilgrimages and Tour Operators Association.

“The number of holidaymakers has risen. More tour destinations are created across the country”, he added.

The number of visitors doubled from that of three years ago. There were 7.1 million domestic travellers in the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Most of them are day trippers as well as 4-day 3-night tour visitors.

“A person spends Ks 100,000 in a minimum for a

route and the local visitors purchase souvenirs and make donations.

They play a vital role in inbound tours and so they must not be neglected and be given special attention”, he continued.

Previously, only Taunggyi, Inle, Bagan, Kyaiktiyo hosted large numbers of local visitors. More recently, the Myeik Archipelago, Ava, Sri Ksetra (Thayakhittaya), and the Phoe Kyar Elephant Camp have attracted the attention of local travellers.

Apart from January, May and June, each region and state is crowded with local pilgrims and visitors during pub-

lic holidays. “Chin State and Kawthoung are designated as new tourism places in the coming open season. Kachin trips, which were suspended, will be opened again, said a pilgrimage operator.

Trips linked with the Domestic Pilgrimages and Tour Operators Association looks to be safer and sounder with the services of their skillful and friendly tour guides, said U Myo Gyi.

“Our pilgrimage has started to practice garbage collection during our trips in order to raise awareness of environmental conservation and to keep the environment clean”, he added. ■

## Another village designated as Ayeyawady dolphin conservation and tourism locale

THE Ayeyawady dolphin conservation and Community Based Tourism (CBT) scheme extended this month to Intaung village in Sagaing Region, according to Tuesday’s report of Myawady Daily.

This scheme is jointly conducted by the Wildlife and Bird Conservation Society (Myanmar) and the Forest Department. The Ayeyawady Dolphin Conservation plan and CBT are being carried out in the villages of Sinkyun, Ayekyun, Seinpankon, and Myaysun in Mandalay Region. Intaung village was recently regarded as a place of Ayeyawady dolphin conservation and CBT and one more village in Sagaing Region will be designated next year.

In an attempt to conserve Ayeyawady dolphins, CBT was created, featuring dolphin tours, traditional culture, cuisine, bull-ock cart drives, etc.

According to a February dolphin survey, 69 dolphins were discovered in the waters from Mandalay to Bhamo. —GNLM ■

## Event to raise epilepsy awareness held on Tuesday in Nyaunglebin

AN event to disseminate the Myanmar Epilepsy Project conducted by the Ministry of Health and Sports in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO) was held at the public hospital of Nyaunglebin town in Bago Region on Tuesday.

Present at the meeting were Dr San Oo, project manager of the Myanmar Epilepsy Project, the deputy township administrator and officials and

staff from the township health department.

Dr San Oo from the Department of Neurology said epilepsy is a neurological disorder that can cause sudden unconsciousness because of a surge of electrical activity in the brain.

More health educative talks will be conducted with an aim at raising the awareness of epilepsy to the public, as they have little understand-

ing of the disease, which is curable.

“Eighty per cent of epilepsy cases can be controlled or cured.

Those with a lack of knowledge about the disease regard epilepsy as an incurable disease, but we will endeavour to correct misunderstandings about the disease” Dr San Oo said.

“The unique point of this

project is that we will probably discover people who suffer from epilepsy, and free medical treatment will be provided to them”.

This nationwide project was initiated in 2013 and already covers 10 townships. Nyaunglebin Township will be the 11th township for this project, and the very first township for the epilepsy project in the Bago Region. — Thet Lwin (IPRD) ■

## Pilot projects to grow more than 10,000 acres of edible oil crops next year

MORE than 10,000 acres of edible oil crops are planned to develop in Mandalay, Magway and Sagaing regions next year, according to a report of Myawady Daily last Sunday.

As pilot projects, 30 acres of edible oil crop in Aunglan and Myingyan townships and 20 acres in Yamethin Township have been cultivated. Yamethin

Township is planned to grow up to 100 acres, said U Aung Kyaw Kyaw, the secretary 1 of Myanmar Rice Millers Association.

Pilot projects are being carried out to develop 5,000 acres of edible oil crops each in above three regions and to cooperate between farmers and businessmen under contract farming system, he continued.

Eleven kinds of Sinpadata peanut and Suntani peanut (local varieties) are planned to grow in the project acres. In the contract farming system, the businessmen have agreed to give six baskets of pedigree seeds per acre and nine baskets will be returned when the peanuts are harvested.

The growers are interested

in this as this can surely make earnings. The products from pilot projects will be used as seeds for 5,000 acre projects, said U Aung Kyaw Kyaw.

A grower can take out loan of Ks350,000 including cultivation cost and input, with an interest rate of 1.5 per cent. The businessmen will purchase a basket at Ks15,000. —GNLM ■

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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish “Letter to the Editor” that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

## Vehicle import policy changes increase slip price

May Thet Hnin

THE price of a slip for a car is on the rise following an announcement of a change in vehicle import policy.

The Supervisory Committee for Motor Vehicle Imports released an official announcement on 16 October that model year 2014 would be the oldest cars allowed for vehicle import in 2018. Also, only vehicles with left-hand drive are allowed to be imported under the new policy.

The announcement hiked up the slip price from Ks11 to Ks14 million.

“Cars with right-hand drive are highly demanded in the market. Importers do not think deeply and bring high numbers of vehicles into the country, which makes the slip price gradually increase. There has been a demand only from those dealers who want to resell

the cars. Auto brokers currently stockpile the vehicles”, said car dealer Ko Ayaykyo.

Dr Soe Tun, the managing director of Farmer Auto Company, said the import businesses might come to stop as 95 per cent of imported cars in Myanmar’s automobile market are used cars from Japan.

The new vehicle import policy affects cars imported with a slip as a return of deregistration of old vehicles, cars imported under consignment system, individually imported cars, black-licensed cars, vehicles for religious use, mini-buses, passenger buses, vehicles donated from abroad, fire trucks, ambulances, hearses, state-owned vehicles, machinery which cannot be driven on public road such as excavators, bulldozers, and asphalt finishers.

“I am satisfied with new vehicle import policy, as My-

anmar is right-driving country and therefore, vehicles with left-hand drive ensures road safety. As the import model year limit is 2014, the latest-model vehicles will be seen on Myanmar’s roads”, said Ko Ayaykyo.

The vehicle import policy changes will not affect 1350 CC cars, but the price of trucks is likely to rise. The vehicle prices are expected to rise by between Ks2 and Ks3 million.

“Currently, the price is high in the auto market and so is demand”, said Dr Soe Tun. The policy changes might have a negative impact on right-hand importers on a manageable scale and import enterprises.

“Nevertheless, brand new showrooms benefit from the policy changes. Vehicles such as Suzuki and Nissan, which are locally installed and manufactured, get an advantage”, said Ko Ayaykyo. ■

## Paddy price increases Ks100,000 over last year

WITH rice exports to foreign countries increasing, the paddy price this year is up by Ks100,000 compared to that of last year, according to Tuesday’s report of Myawady Daily.

Normally, a basket of paddy weighs 46 pounds, but now, due to the higher grain moisture content, more pounds have been added to the basket. A basket weighing 52-55 pounds now fetches Ks500,000 to Ks520,000. Last year’s paddy price was about Ks400,000 in the similar period.

Annually, rice is harvested in bulk at the end of October and into November. At that time, the price usually tends to decline. But the paddy price this year is reasonable in spite of the fact that the production of paddy

decreased. Paddies cannot be harvested because of rain, U Thein Aung, the chairperson of Independent Farmers Association told Myawady Daily.

More than 1.7 million tons of rice have been exported so far this year. Sixty per cent of Myanmar’s rice exports go to China.

Myanmar’s rice has penetrated 44 foreign markets of countries in Africa, Asia and Europe, including Spain, Germany, Japan, Malaysia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore and Bangladesh. Myanmar already signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bangladesh to export 300,000 tons of rice to Bangladesh under the government-to-government (G-to-G) system.—GNLM



Myanmar pulses are kept on display for sale in a shop at a market. PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT

## Mung bean and pigeon peas traded at bargain price in Yangon market

WITH the pulses price declining, pigeon pea (red grams) was recently traded at lower price than set price in Yangon market, according to Tuesday’s report of Myanma Alin. The prices of pigeon peas were decreasing from Ks399,000 to Ks378,500 per ton between 9 and 11 October.

Following the suspension on pea import by India, domestic pulses price plummeted. To control the price, Myanmar Puls-

es, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association and the State contribute Ks50 billion each and shortly thereafter, floor price was officially released. The floor prices are Ks500,000 for a ton of mung bean and Ks400,000 for a ton of pigeon pea. Nevertheless, the peas were traded at lower market price in Yangon market. On 10 October, 25 containers loaded with pigeon peas were traded at bargain price and

30 containers filled with mung beans were also traded at lower price. Similarly, 10 containers of mung bean were traded at Ks495,000 and 25 containers loaded with red grams were traded at Ks380,000 on 13 October.

Selling at a floor price can earn more than market price. Currently, there are also sales with set price and so, trading with bargain price is likely to decrease.—GNLM ■



### THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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- City Mart (China Town)
- City Mart (Myay Ni Gone)
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- City Mart (Junction Square)
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### THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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## Justice Centre launched in Toungoo

A justice centre launched in Toungoo yesterday in partnership with the MyJustice Programme, funded by the European Union (EU) and International Bridges to Justice (IBJ),

The office was opened with an address by Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo.

Speaking on the occasion, he expressed his delight for establishment of justice centres in regions and states by non-governmental organizations, saying that such centres would benefit the country and people by helping them to get access to the justice.

The State has also established the rule of law department and coordination bodies for the justice in regions and states for the rule of law in the country, he said. The Office of the Union Attorney-General helped the poor



Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo delivers the speech at the justice centre in Taungoo. **PHOTO: MNA**

who faced death penalty in 696 cases by hiring pleaders for them spending K7 million in 2016-2017 FY. The enactment of the new Legal Aid Law in 2016 guarantees legal services to all those in need, said U Tun Tun Oo.

In his conclusion remarks,

the Union Attorney-General also called on governmental departments and organizations concerned to cooperate with the Justice Centres in providing legal services to communities in regions and states.— Myanmar News Agency ■

## 1.4 million Yaba pills seized in Maungtaw

A local police seized more than 1.4 million Yaba pills in two cases in Maungtaw, Rakhine State. The forces intercepted a car on 17th October on suspicion of drug trafficking in a Ward-5 in Maungtaw and discovered about 450,000 pills of Yaba hidden in the car.

Nyi Nyi, 22, who was driving the car, has been charged for drug trafficking. The local anti-drug squad stopped and search a car driven by Min Aung Naing, 30, and discovered 955,500 Yaba pills hidden in four bags in the car. The police also detained two other men who were on board. They have been charged for drug trafficking.—Maungtaw District Information and Public Relations Department ■



Nyi Nyi together with drugs and vehicle seen. **PHOTO: MAUNGTAW IPRD**

# High-level UN meeting strengthens civil registration and vital statistics systems in Asia-Pacific

BANGKOK (ESCAP News) — Policymakers and experts are gathered at a United Nations led meeting in Bangkok this week to strengthen civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems in Asia and the Pacific, and improve the health, education, and human rights protections for people in region.

Approximately 135 million children under the age of 5 in Asia-Pacific have not had their birth registered. Without proper legal identity and recognition from the state, these children can face numerous challenges in accessing health care and education, and are more vulnerable, including to statelessness and human trafficking.

Many countries in the re-

gion rely on less timely and often costly sources of data, including household surveys and censuses even for critical vital statistics including infant mortality and cause of death as well as basic population counts. Although there is strong commitment from countries to close these gaps, there is still significant work to be done in order to achieve well-functioning, universal and accessible national CRVS systems.

“Following the declaration of the CRVS Decade 2015-2024, the Asia-Pacific region has made tremendous strides toward getting ‘every-one in the picture’ but to complete the picture, stronger data collection efforts are required which will ensure legal

identities for all and improved governance,” said United Nations Under Secretary General and Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Dr Shamshad Akhtar.

The third meeting of the Regional Steering Group for CRVS in Asia-Pacific, convened by ESCAP from 18 to 20 October, will provide guidance and comprehensive support to member countries on a wide range of issues from proper collection, production, dissemination and use of evidence through coordination among relevant stakeholders. The meeting will decide on how to support countries to accelerate the progress towards achiev-

ing the goals of the Asia Pacific CRVS Decade. This includes determining the modalities of the midterm review of the Decade.

Participants will focus on the link between CRVS, national development and the Sustainable Development Goals, review the region’s current development situation, including strategies and mechanisms driving improvements, as well as the best approaches for utilizing regional and global supports.

“If we want to ensure no one is left behind, we need to make everyone visible through birth registration. Together we can give every child a birthday,” said Ms. Rosy Akbar, Minister of Health and Medical Services, Fiji and Chair of the Regional

Steering Group for CRVS in Asia-Pacific.

Twenty-two countries are members of the Regional Steering Group including: Armenia, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, the Cook Islands, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Turkey, United States of America, Uzbekistan, and Vanuatu.

Representatives from the group’s development partners also include: UNHCR, Plan International, World Vision, UNICEF, Bloomberg Data for Health Initiative, World Bank, Brisbane Accord Group, and WHO.—ESCAP ■

## Myanmar Daily Weather Report

(Issued at 7:00 pm on Wednesday 18th October, 2017)

**BAY INFERENCE:** According to the observations at (18:30)hrs MST today, the low pressure area over the West Central Bay of Bengal still persists. It is forecast to further intensify into a depression during next (24)hrs. Weather is cloudy over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL AFTERNOON OF THE 19th OCTOBER, 2017:** Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kachin and (Northern & Eastern)Shan States, scattered in Southern Shan State, fairly widespread in Sagaing and Mandalay Regions and widespread in Naypyitaw, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Ayeyarwady and Taninthayi Regions, Chin, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Regions, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (30-35) m.p.h. Wave height will be about (6-10)feet in off and along Myanmar Coast.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Likelihood of increase of rain in Yangon and Ayeyarwady Regions and Rakhine State.

**FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 19th OCTOBER, 2017:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 19th OCTOBER, 2017:** Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

**FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 19th OCTOBER, 2017:** One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

# Xi unveils plan to make China "great modern socialist country" by mid-21<sup>st</sup> century

BEIJING — Xi Jinping on Wednesday unveiled a two-stage plan of the Communist Party of China (CPC) to make China a "great modern socialist country" by mid-21<sup>st</sup> century.

It was announced in a report Xi delivered to the 19<sup>th</sup> CPC National Congress at the Great Hall of the People in central Beijing.

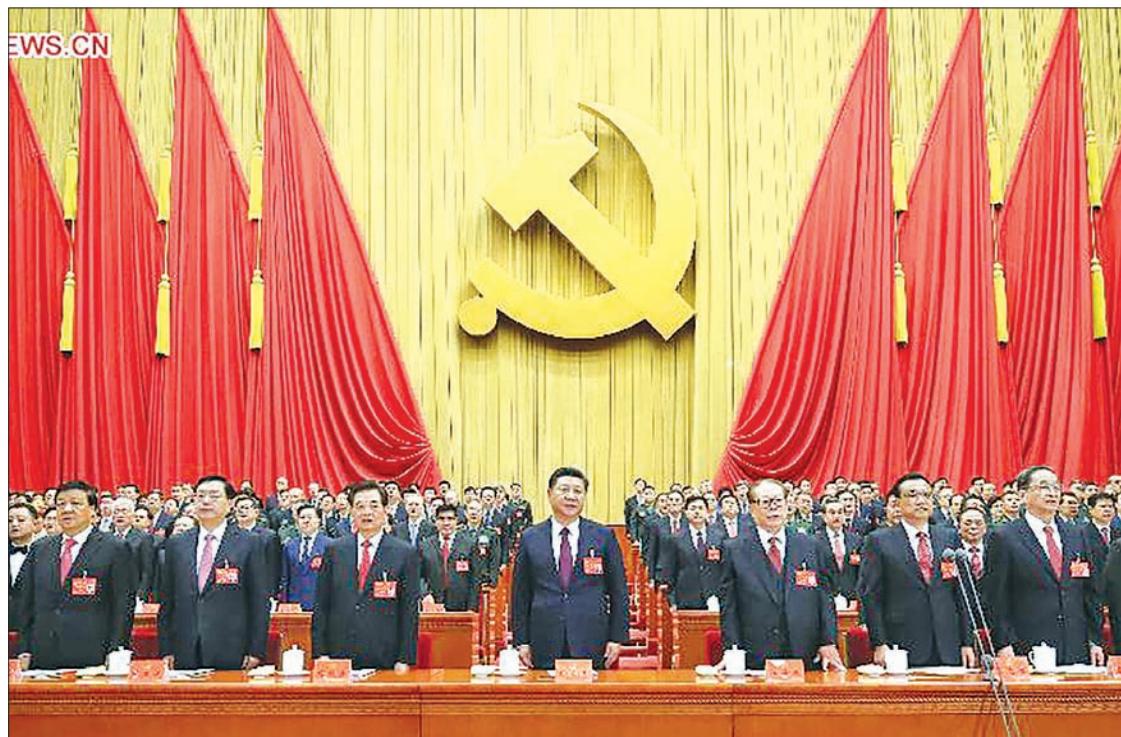
This is the first time that the CPC has set forth a post-2020 strategic plan to make China a "great" country. The Party is expected to complete the building of a moderately prosperous society in all respects by 2020.

According to the new plan, the CPC will basically realize socialist modernization in the first stage from 2020 to 2035, before developing China into a "great modern socialist country" that is "prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, harmonious and beautiful" after another 15 years.

This means the CPC now aims to basically achieve socialist modernization of the country around 15 years ahead of its previous schedule set by the Party's three strategic goals, which were laid out after the adoption of the reform and opening up policy in late 1970s.

The two-stage development plan is the CPC's "strategic vision for developing socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era," Xi said.

According to the plan, the following goals will have been met by 2035:



Xi Jinping (C, front), Li Keqiang (3<sup>rd</sup> R, front), Zhang Dejiang (3<sup>rd</sup> L, front), Yu Zhengsheng (2<sup>nd</sup> R, front), Liu Yunshan (2<sup>nd</sup> L, front), Wang Qishan (1<sup>st</sup> R, front), Zhang Gaoli (1<sup>st</sup> L, front), Jiang Zemin (4<sup>th</sup> R, front) and Hu Jintao (4<sup>th</sup> L, front) attend the opening session of the 19<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China on 18 October, 2017. PHOTO: XINHUA

— China's economic and technological strength has increased significantly. China has become a global leader in innovation.

— The rights of the people to participate and to develop as equals are adequately protected. The rule of law for the country, the government, and society is basically in place. Institutions in all fields are further improved; the modernization of China's system and capacity for governance is basically achieved.

— Social etiquette and civility are significantly enhanced. China's cultural soft power has

grown much stronger; Chinese culture has greater appeal.

— People are leading more comfortable lives, and the size of the middle-income group has grown considerably. Disparities in urban-rural development, in development between regions, and in living standards are significantly reduced; equitable access to basic public services is basically ensured; and solid progress has been made toward prosperity for everyone.

— A modern social governance system has basically taken shape, and society is full of vitality, harmonious, and orderly.

— There is a fundamental improvement in the environment; the goal of building a Beautiful China is basically attained.

By the middle of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the following goals will have been met:

— New heights are reached in every dimension of material, political, cultural and ethical, social, and ecological advancement.

— Modernization of China's system and capacity for governance is achieved.

— China has become a global leader in terms of composite national strength and

international influence.

— Common prosperity for everyone is basically achieved.

— The Chinese people enjoy happier, safer, and healthier lives.

"The Chinese nation will become a proud and active member of the community of nations," said Xi.

The two-stage plan is an important component of the "Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era," a long-term guide to action that the Party must adhere to and develop.

The Thought builds on and further enriches Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory, the Theory of Three Represents, and the Scientific Outlook on Development. It represents the latest achievement in adapting Marxism to the Chinese context, Xi said.

The five-yearly CPC congress is China's most significant political meeting.

This is a meeting of great importance taking place during the decisive stage in building a moderately prosperous society in all respects and at a critical moment as socialism with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era, Xi said.

The congress will deliberate and adopt an amendment to the CPC Constitution. It will also elect the Party's 19th Central Committee and Central Commission for Discipline Inspection.—Xinhua ■

## Indonesia anticipates return of militants from liberated Philippine city of Marawi

JAKARTA — Indonesia said on Wednesday that it would intensify coordination with the Philippines over possible return of militants taking part in the siege of Marawi following liberation of the southern Philippines city from terrorists' control.

Lauding the defeat of terrorists in Marawi, spokesman of the Foreign Affairs Ministry Arrmanatha Nasir said Indonesia would continue monitoring the situation, particularly the anticipating wave of Indonesian militants' return to the country.

"Indonesia positively welcome the latest results (defeat of terrorists) in Marawi. This is what Indonesia and the Philippines have been attempting for. It is resulted from the trilateral cooperation between Indonesia, the Philippines and Malaysia," Nasir said.

The three Southeast Asian nations have conducted joint patrol to address security threat in southern Philippines waters, mostly from piracy of Philippine terrorist groups.

Nasir confirmed death of

Indonesian militants during the battle in Marawi that erupted since May, saying that it had also been verified by the Philippines authorities.

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte announced liberation of Marawi from terrorists earlier this week after the military killed terrorist groups' leaders Isnilon Hapilon and Omarkhayam Maute.

The five-month siege over Marawi has claimed 1,000 lives and displaced 400,000 others, reports said.—Xinhua ■

## Viet Nam arrests dissident for attempt to overthrow government

HANOI — Vietnamese police have arrested a dissident accused of attempting to overthrow the government, the communist state's official website said on Wednesday, bringing to at least 17 the number of dissidents arrested this year.

Tran Thi Xuan, 41, was arrested in the northern province of Ha Tinh on Tuesday. The website did not give details of the alleged crime. Reuters was

unable to contact her and it was not clear whether she had a lawyer.

Despite sweeping economic reforms and growing openness to social change, the Communist Party tolerates little criticism.

The crackdown on dissent follows changes in the ruling party hierarchy early last year which gave greater influence to the security establishment.—Reuters ■

## Let our epoch-making genuine efforts be known to the world

Khin Maung Oo

THE Committee for the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine State has been established as of 17 October 2017. The Committee will carry out the effective provision of humanitarian aid, coordinate the resettlement and rehabilitation efforts, perform regional development and work towards durable peace. As the tasks would be carried out using cash assistance funded not only by the State but also by local and foreign donors, The Committee must arrange for its financial accounts to be audited not only by the Union Auditor-General but also by an international audit firm.

The Committee, “UEHRD” will be

chaired by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the State Counsellor. This initiative is being launched to implement the things that need to be done in Rakhine State after the coordinated terrorist attacks by ARSA on the 25th of August this year. With regard to criticisms and allegations levelled against our country by certain countries and international organizations. We fully understand that some organizations have an obligation to sing to the tune of their donors. We would only say that our citizens know best about the actual situations on the ground, and no one else or any other people can desire peace and development more than us.

In fact, to work towards a region free from conflicts is one of the long term goals and to work for the development

of the Rakhine State is something that needs to be started on an urgent basis. Terrorist attacks and inhumane killings complicated situations and hampered the government’s movements. Whatever it is, what should be done will be performed in accord with the current situations. In the end, concerted efforts that produce progressive results are the best responses to criticisms and allegations. So we must re-double our efforts to make sure that we can produce results in a timely way in the most effective manner.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi herself said in her Report to the People on 12 October 2017, “For each program there are many tasks. Within our country, entrepreneurs, NGOs, CSO’s and the people, all of them have stated their wish to

participate and help as much as possible.”

Presently, demonstrations are being held all over the country to show that the majority of the people stand with the Government and the State Counsellor and they denounced the extremist terrorists in foreign countries as well. Moreover, multi-faiths prayers for peace were held in the whole country, at which thousands of people were present, to show that there were religious conflicts and hatred in the nation. We would like the global community to be well convinced of our actual desires and Myanmar’s true characteristics by seeing that we want internal peace, stability and development and we want to live peaceful lives with justice and rule of law. ■

## How Blockchain can Revolutionize Access to Finance

Lotte Schou-Zibell

Technical Advisor (Finance), Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department at Asian Development Bank

If you have not yet heard of blockchain, you will soon. Blockchain is expected to further speed the pace of change in a financial sector already probing new frontiers. This emerging digital technology promises to also further expand financial inclusion to some of the remotest corners of the planet.

Whether it is revolutionizing remittances in the Philippines, empowering smallholder farmers in Myanmar, or providing food safety to chicken farmers in China, blockchain’s dizzying array of possibilities reflects the transformational nature of the change it promises.

So, what is blockchain? Most simply, the technology is essentially an incorruptible digital ledger of transactions—not just financial transactions, but any transaction of value in a system.

Once a transaction is verified, it becomes part of a permanent record that can be shared and updated in near real-time across a group of participants. Each transaction is grouped with other transactions to create a block of information for the ledger. Each block is added sequentially with a time stamp and a link to a previous block, thus creating the chain.

It is a distributed database, meaning that the storage devices for the database are not all connected to a common or centralized processor. As such it is unlikely to be controlled by any single entity or to have a single point of failure. Blockchain is effectively an immutable historical record of all transactions that ever occurred.

Imagine it as a way to cut out the

middleman in financial transactions. In other words, to reintroduce peer-to-peer transactions at scale.

By now, most of us are used to sharing information through a decentralized online platform: the Internet. Yet, when it comes to transferring value—money—we are accustomed to old-fashioned financial establishments such as banks.

Even online payment methods, such as PayPal, generally require integration with a bank account or credit card.

### Endless Applications

Blockchain potentially changes all of that. It does so by removing the problem of “double-spending” inherent to modern transactions, which require the continued inclusion of a middleman—a bank or insurance company—to ensure their integrity.

It is creating new ways for people to make transactions. It is being used to record transactions, verify identity and establish contracts.

The potential implications are huge. Worldwide, the financial services market is the largest sector or industry by market capitalization. Replacing even a fraction of this with a blockchain system would not only hugely disrupt the financial services industry, but also massively increase efficiencies. In the Philippines, blockchain remittance services, such as Coins and Rebit, allow workers to send money home more affordably. In Georgia, blockchain is being used to register land titles in a transparent, nonfraudulent way.

In Papua New Guinea, the central bank is exploring blockchain and cryptocurrencies to leapfrog previously insurmountable technological hurdles to widen and deepen the financial services available to its people. Such dramatic advances are not hard to envision—after all, most people are well aware of similar leaps forward that were made possible after cell

phones emerged. Other relevant applications include identity and know-your-customer compliance, trade finance, supply chain, and insurance. For example, one hindrance to banks’ broader extension of loans to small businesses, particularly in developing countries, is onerous KYC costs that easily outstrip the modest revenues that such a small enterprise might bring.

This is where blockchain’s incorruptible digital ledger comes into play. Essentially, it promises to reduce the costs to banks of KYC procedures for smaller businesses that in the past would have exceeded promised revenues and constrained lending.

Great change requires great responsibility. Disruptive technological innovations pose serious regulatory challenges.

### Regulatory Sandboxes

With great change, however, comes great responsibility. Such disruptive technological innovations pose serious regulatory challenges.

While the focus needs to be on establishing a dynamic and enabling market, regulators must nonetheless strive to strike the right balance between regulatory oversight and innovation, as well as ensure consumer protection.

It is crucial that regulators build and retain trust in the system. They can do this by applying test-and-learn regulatory sandbox approaches, which have proven useful for the fintech industry in various jurisdictions. This sandbox allows a regulator to “endorse” a promising entity so

it can test—on a limited scale—a new but perhaps uncertain or unclassified product and then assess the benefits and risks. A wave of central banks across the region has already or will soon launch regulatory sandboxes.

Clearly, blockchain and digital ledger technologies have wide-reaching implications across sectors and industries and around the world. Yet, its promise is perhaps biggest in less-developed regions.

As Vitalik Buterin, inventor of Ethereum, has said: “Blockchain solves the problem of manipulation. People in the West say they trust Google, Facebook, and their banks. But people in many other countries do not trust organizations and corporations that much. Blockchain’s opportunities can help overcome that obstacle.”

Finance sector development differs across developing countries in Asia and the Pacific. This requires calibrated and proportionate approaches that consider country context. Nonetheless, interest is high and innovation is ripe for tailoring digital financial services to expand financial access to more of the one billion unbanked people in the region. ■

Lotte Schou-Zibell

Technical Advisor (Finance), Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department at Asian Development Bank

Lotte Schou-Zibell provides technical leadership on financial sector issues, including developing and maintaining sector policies, strategies, operational plans and directional papers. She previously worked as director for International Economic Policy at the Swedish Ministry of Finance, as financial supervision and regulation expert at the Swedish Financial Supervisory Authority and the Swedish Central Bank, and as a consultant to the International Monetary Fund.

## Senior General pays homage to deceased reverend Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sila Vamsa, presiding Sayadaw of Dhamma Rakkhinta



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife donate offertories to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kaytu Marla at Dhamma Rakkhita Wuntho monastery in Myikyina. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

SENIOR General Min Aung Hlaing, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, accompanied by C-in-C (Air Force) General Khin Aung Myint, high-ranking officials from the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army) and Commander of Northern Command, visited Dhamma Rakkhita Wuntho monastery in Myikyina, to pay homage to the holy corpse of the presiding Sayadaw, Bhaddanta Sila Vamsa, Abidhaja Agga Maha

Saddhamma Jotika Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Daja title holder who passed away on June 18.

After paying homage to the Holy Corpse of the Sayadaw, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife donated yellow robes, followed paying a visit to give homage to Bhaddanta Kaytu Marla, Residing Sayadaw of Dhamma Rakkhita Wuntho Monastery.

Then, C-in-C of Defence Services and wife donated

contributions and provisions to the Sayadaw for successful celebration of the Funeral Ceremony, thence moved to Shwemoetaung, where funeral ceremony will be held, with situations on funeral ceremony and construction of Shin Pin Myatswar Pagoda explained by the Commander of North Command. Afterward, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and party paid sacred homage to the Buddha Image. —Myanmar News Agency ■

## Sagaing Region wants two caves and forest area in Khamti to be designated as natural areas

SAGAING Region government will submit two caves and some forest area in Khamti Township, Sagaing Region to the parliament in order to be set as natural areas, according to yesterday's report of Myawady Daily.

If forest areas including Htamiipan and Htamiisam caves are set as natural areas, a limited gems and jewellery site will be

included. Negotiation still needs to be made with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation.

Natural and wildlife habitats are found around those two caves. A natural area designation is needed in order to conserve the wildlife in line with the Protection of Wildlife and Conservation of Natural Areas

Law. Also, a new eco-tourism destination could result if the designation is approved.

The caves are about 70 miles away from Khamti town. That Coral cave is 10 feet wide at the entrance and 100 feet long and about 50 meters high. In addition, many bats can be observed dwelling upside down in the caves.—GNLM ■

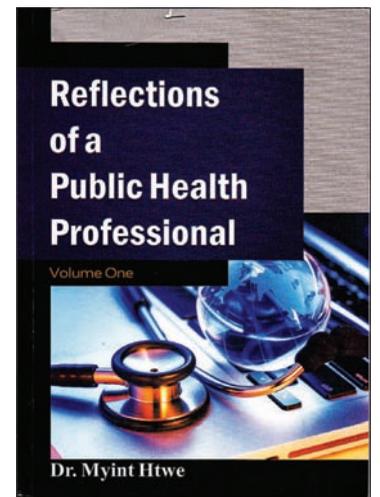
## Reflections of a Public Health Professional, Volume One, by Dr Myint Htwe comes out

AUTHOR Dr Myint Htwe has published collection of medical articles for the book "Reflections of a Public Health Professional, Volume One."

The book is a collection of his writings on public health and research done during the author's 18 years as a member of the health staff under the Ministry of Health from 1976 to 1994 and 16 years of service with the World Health Organization (1994 to 2010) — 34 years in total.

The book is being distributed by the Myanmar Book Centre.

The book is divided into three parts — A, B and C. Part A consists of 21 articles, most of which concern public health. The author presents health problems and how health and development are related. Part B has 10 articles dealing with research on public health. Research is a task that needs to be conducted constantly, so that development can be achieved. In such a time when our country



is moving toward a developed and peaceful democratic nation, health plays an important role for producing our country's future leaders-to-be, hence the need to do research in every sector, including health. On the whole, it will be of great use for scholars, students and policy-makers.

The book proves to be a worthwhile effort of the author, as the readers can acquire a myriad of knowledge in one sitting.—GNLM ■

## Rubbish management in Yangon to be upgraded

THE heavily urbanised Yangon region is producing thousands of tons of rubbish daily, prompting the Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) to upgrade waste management in line with international technology, according to a report yesterday in Myawady's Daily.

In addition to the increasing urban population in Yangon, the number of industrial plants and factories has also increased.

"Such kind of urbanisation daily results in tons of waste production. We have a plan to tackle this problem using international advanced technology", said U Saw Win Maung, the deputy head of the Pollution Control and Cleansing Department under YCDC.

In a bid to utilise systematic sanitation for waste produced from industrial zones, a secure and sanitary landfill will be operated with well-engineered facilities. Incineration plants will also be set up.

At present, industrial zone teams are assigned to monitor the factories to ensure they practice systematic waste disposal and obey the rules. If they fail to adhere to rules and regulations, they will receive a warning, and then fines.

There are 29 industrial zones in the Yangon Region, and some factories do not properly dispose of their waste, resulting in pollution, according to the YCDC. Yangon daily produces 2,500 to 2,700 tons of rubbish.—GNLM ■

## Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

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

## British spy chief says Islamist militants can execute deadly attack plans in just days

LONDON — Britain faces the most acute threat ever from Islamist militants seeking to inflict mass attacks, often with spontaneous plots that take just days to bring to execution, the head of the MI5 domestic intelligence agency said on Tuesday.

After four militant attacks this year that killed 36 people in Britain — the deadliest spate since the London “7/7” bombings of July 2005, MI5 chief Andrew Parker said the threat was at the highest tempo he had seen in 34 years of espionage.

“The threat is more diverse than I have ever known: plots developed here in the UK, but plots directed from overseas as well, plots online, complex scheming and also crude stabbings, lengthy planning but also spontaneous attacks,” said Parker.

“Attacks can sometimes accelerate from inception, through planning, to action in just a handful of days,” he said in a speech in central London.

The director general of MI5 rarely gives public speeches. The last was in 2015.

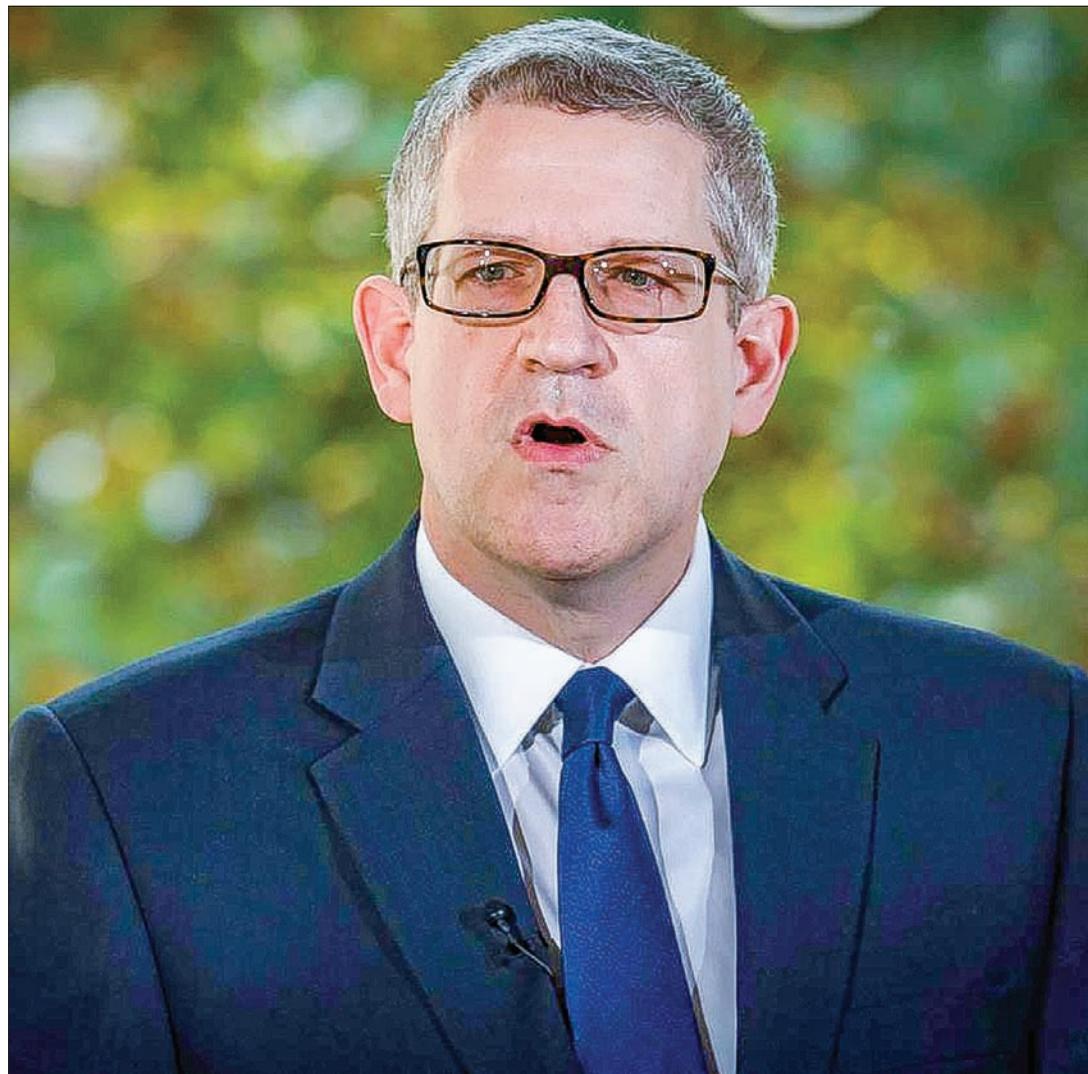
Islamic State militants in Syria and Iraq have been in retreat for two years: They lost their de facto capital in Syria, Raqqa, on Tuesday and have been forced back into an ever-diminishing foothold along the Euphrates river valley.

But as their territory, wealth and swagger decline, the militants have intensified online propaganda which has helped radicalise and inspire extremists to attack civilians in the name of Islam across Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

Parker said there had not yet been a large influx of British militants returning home from Syria and Iraq.

Britain has foiled 20 plots in the past four years, with seven Islamist attacks prevented in the past seven months, Parker said. He said there were 500 live operations involving 3,000 people involved in militant activity.

MI5, established in 1909 to counter German espionage ahead of World War One, is



Director General of MI5 Andrew Parker delivers a speech in central London, on the security threat facing Britain on 17 October, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

tasked with protecting British national security and so takes the lead, along with the police, in countering militant attacks.

But after a suicide bomber killed 22 people at a pop concert by US singer Ariana Grande in Manchester, MI5 began a review of how it handled intelligence on the bomber, Salman Abedi, who was known to the intelligence agencies.

Abedi was not among the 3,000 people currently under active investigation by MI5, although he was one of around 20,000 people known to have some connection to extremism.

“When an attack happens, we are determined, using the harsh light of hindsight, to squeeze out every last drop of learning,” Parker said. “We are constantly evolving to stay ahead.”

MI5, which employs around 4,000 people, says it does not have the resources to monitor every suspicious person. It works alongside the Secret Intelligence Service, or

MI6, which operates abroad, and GCHQ, Britain’s eavesdropping agency.

Britain has repeatedly demanded that Silicon Valley companies do more to suppress extremist content and allow access to online communication.

After British militants rammed a van into pedestrians on London Bridge and went on the rampage through packed bars, stabbing revelers in June, Prime Minister Theresa May said Britain must be tougher on stamping out Islamist militancy and proposed regulating cyberspace.

Parker said militants’ abuse of the internet could slow down the rapid pace of the hunt for attackers.

“This pace together with the way in which extremists can exploit safe spaces online can make threats harder to detect and give us a smaller window to intervene.”

Britain’s interior minister, Amber Rudd, said earlier this

month that WhatsApp’s end-to-end encryption communication services allowed paedophiles and organised crime groups to operate beyond the reach of the law.

But Parker refrained from naming any companies directly and called for a nuanced partnership to tackle militants and serious crimes such as child abuse.

“I am not somehow King Canute trying to hold back the tide of developing technology and wouldn’t wish to be heard that way,” he said. “Technology is not the enemy, indeed it holds many opportunities for us.”

When asked directly whether Google, Facebook and Amazon were doing enough to prevent communications among militants, he said: “There is a reasonable expectation, I think, from all of us but also from the public at large that these companies would do what they can to help us deal with these worst excesses.” —Reuters ■

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Russian, Israeli leaders discuss Iran nuclear programme, Syria, Iraq

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin had a telephone conversation with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to discuss the Iran nuclear programme, the Kremlin said on Wednesday.

In a phone call, held on the initiative of the Israeli side, the two leaders also discussed the situation in Syria and the referendum in Iraq’s Kurdistan, the Kremlin said in a statement. —Reuters ■

### UK PM May says preparing for all Brexit scenarios

LONDON — Prime Minister Theresa May said on Wednesday Britain was working to win the best possible deal for when it leaves the European Union but that government had to plan for every eventuality, including exiting without a deal.

Asked in parliament whether the government was contemplating a no-deal Brexit which critics say could plunge Britain into economic uncertainty, May said: “It would be irresponsible of government not to prepare for all possible scenarios.

That’s exactly what we are doing.” —Reuters ■

### Turkey’s visa crisis with the United States is unnecessary — Turkish minister

ANKARA — Turkey’s on-going visa crisis with the United States is unnecessary, Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said on Wednesday, adding that two allies need to solve the issue with mutual understanding.

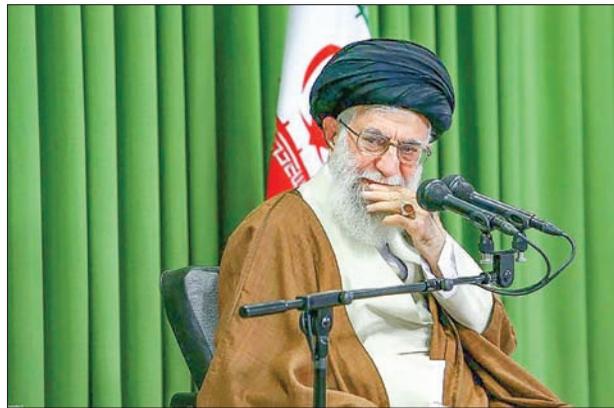
Speaking at a joint news conference with his Portuguese counterpart, Cavusoglu said it was not right to punish people unrelated to the tension. —Reuters ■

# Khamenei says Iran will “shred” nuclear deal if US quits it

ANKARA — Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said on Wednesday Tehran would stick to its 2015 nuclear accord with world powers as long as the other signatories respected it, but would “shred” the deal if Washington pulled out, state TV reported.

Khamenei spoke five days after US President Donald Trump adopted a harsh new approach to Iran by refusing to certify its compliance with the deal, reached under Trump’s predecessor Barack Obama, and saying he might ultimately terminate it. “I don’t want to waste my time on answering the rants and whoppers of the brute (US) president,” Khamenei said in a speech to students in Tehran quoted by state television.

“Trump’s stupidity should not distract us from



Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei attends a meeting with students in Tehran, Iran, on 19 October 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

America’s deceitfulness...If the US tears up the deal, we will shred it.”

Trump’s move put Washington at odds with other parties to the accord — Britain, France, Germany, Russia, China and the European Union — who say Washington cannot unilaterally cancel a multilateral accord enshrined by a UN resolution.

Khamenei, who has the final say on Iran’s state matters, welcomed their support but said it was not sufficient. “European states stressed their backing for the deal and condemned Trump ... We welcomed this, but it is not enough to ask Trump not to rip up the agreement. Europe needs to stand against practical measures (taken

by America.”

Under the deal, Iran agreed to curb its disputed uranium enrichment programme in return for relief from international sanctions that crippled its economy, and UN nuclear inspectors have repeatedly certified Tehran’s compliance with the terms.

Trump accuses Iran of supporting terrorism and says the 2015 deal does not do enough to block its path to acquire nuclear weapons. Iran says it does not seek nuclear arms and in turn blames the growth of militant groups such as Islamic State on the policies of the United States and its regional allies. In decertifying the nuclear deal last week, Trump gave the US Congress 60 days to decide whether to reimpose economic sanctions on Tehran that were lifted under the pact.— Reuters ■

# Pakistani Taliban suicide bomber rams police truck, kills seven

QUETTA, (Pakistan) — A Pakistani Taliban suicide bomber rammed a car into a police truck in the southwestern city of Quetta on Wednesday, killing at least seven people, police said. The attack killed five police officials and two passers-by on the outskirts of the city of Quetta, police chief Abdur Razzaq Cheema said. He said 22 people were wounded, eight of them critically.

Sarfraz Bugti, the home minister of Baluchistan province, of which Quetta is capital, told Reuters: “It was a suicide blast.” Quetta is about 100 km (60 miles) east of the border with Afghanistan.

Bugti said the truck carrying the police officials was on its way to the city to drop them at their posts when the suicide bomber rammed into

the vehicle. Television pictures showed the burnt wreckage of the vehicles.

The Pakistani Taliban, an umbrella organisation of various militant groups within Pakistan, and loosely allied to the Afghan Taliban, issued a statement claiming responsibility. Baluchistan province has long been the scene of an insurgency by separatists fighting against the state to demand more of a share of the gas- and mineral-rich region’s resources. They also accuse the central government of discrimination. The Taliban, Sunni Islam militants and sectarian groups linked to al Qaeda and the Islamic State group also operate in the strategically important region, which borders Iran as well as Afghanistan.— Reuters ■



Security officials inspect a wreckage of a vehicle after a blast in Quetta, Pakistan on 18 October, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

# Head of Syrian army brigade besieged in Deir al-Zor dies — media unit

BEIRUT — A Syrian army general who led a brigade besieged for three years by Islamic State in Deir al-Zor city has died, pro-Syrian government media outlets said on Wednesday.

Major General Issam

Zahreddine, head of the 104 Brigade of the Syrian Republican Guard, was killed by a mine in the city, a military media unit allied to Hezbollah said. Syrian radio station Sham FM and Lebanese pro-Syrian

government TV stations al-Manar and al-mayadeen also reported his death. Lebanon’s Hezbollah has provided military support to the Syrian government during Syria’s more than six-year-long war. Syrian

forces, backed by Russian military and Iran-backed militias, lifted the siege in early September. Islamic State has lost ground rapidly in Syria’s eastern province of Deir al-Zor in recent weeks.—Reuters ■



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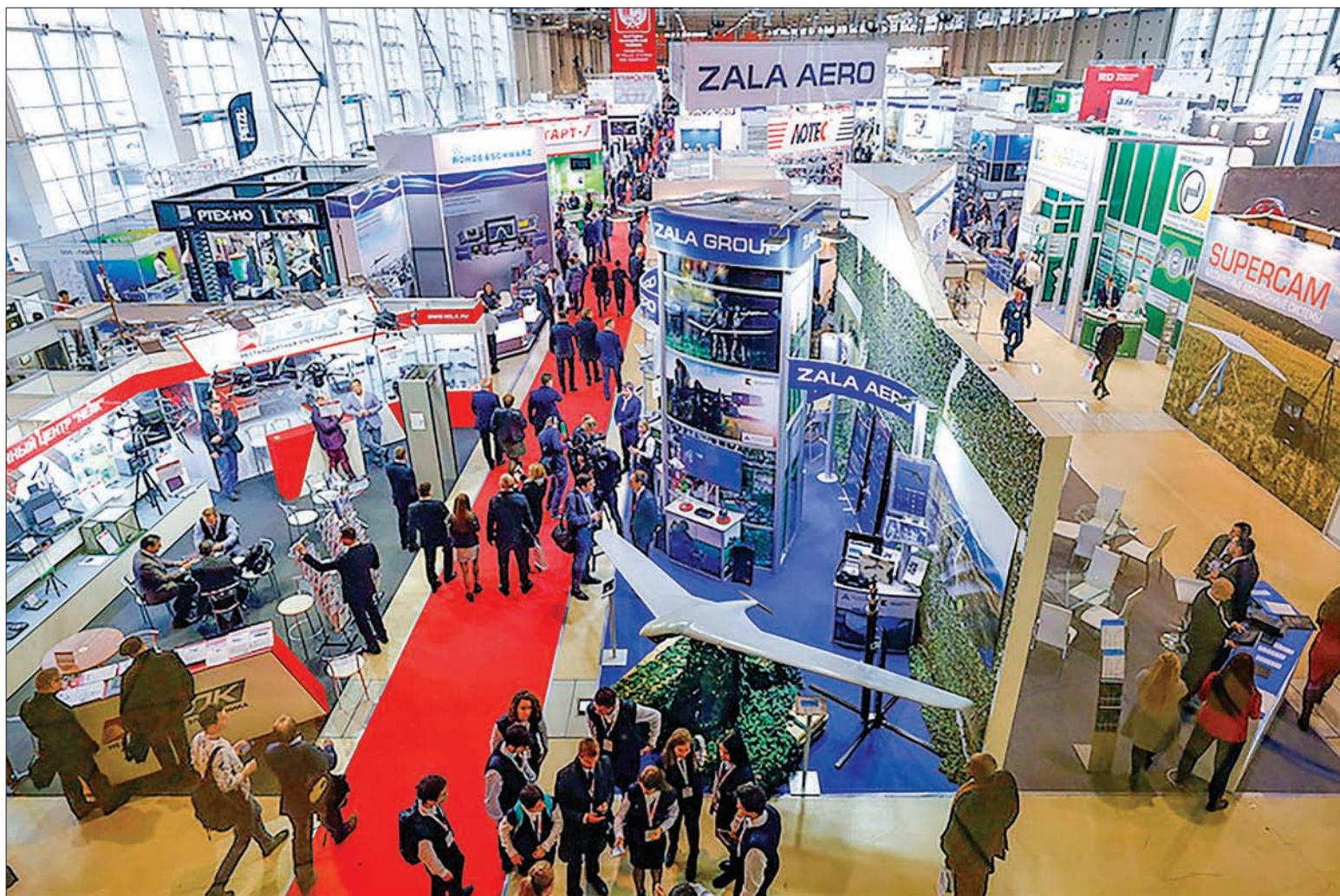
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The electroshock shields have already undergone medical tests. PHOTO: TASS

## Russian Guard, police may get electroshock shields for special operations

MOSCOW — The police and the Russian Guard may get universal electroshock shields by late 2018 for use in special operations, a representative of the company that has developed these devices told TASS at the Interpolite exhibition in Moscow on Tuesday. The electroshock shields have already undergone medical trials,

company representative Yekaterina Stolyarevskaya said. “The handle [of the shield] incorporates electronics that helps transmit an electrode and a general electric shock to the shield’s surface. This has been done to ensure that it cannot be wrested away by an aggressive suspect and an attacker can be stopped, if necessary,” she said,

stressing that the shield would be used for special operations. “This item is not for operational work at some rallies but for special operations. But these decisions will be made not by us but directly by the heads [of the relevant agencies],” Stolyarevskaya said. According to her, the shield may start arriving for law-enforcement agencies

by late 2018.

“First and foremost, operative bodies, riot police and units of the Russian Guard have shown interest in it. There are also structures in the Interior Ministry, which could use these items,” she noted. “Now we are waiting for state trials and later on, if everything goes well, the deliveries will be made. We

hope that they [the shields] will already be in service with the relevant agencies by late 2018,” Stolyarevskaya said. The 21st international exhibition Interpolite-2017 has opened on the territory of pavilion No 75 at the All-Russian Exhibition Center in Moscow on Tuesday. The exhibition will last through 20 October.—Tass ■

## Bosnia’s Serb region declares neutrality in bid to block NATO membership

BANJALUKA, (Bosnia) — Bosnia’s Serb Republic on Wednesday declared itself militarily neutral in a move its president said was the first step towards a referendum on joining NATO, which is unpopular among Serbs after its 1995 and 1999 bombing campaigns in Bosnia and Kosovo. The Serb Republic is one of two autonomous regions created in Bosnia after its war in the 1990s during the break-up of the former Yugoslavia. It is tied with the Bosniak-Croat Federation via a weak central government, which is in charge of military issues.

Bosnia’s inter-ethnic presidency, its central government in Sarajevo and the Federation dominated by Muslim Bosniaks and Croats have long said joining NATO and the European Union are strategic priorities. But the Bosnian Serbs lean towards closer ties with Russia, aligning their policy with that of wartime patron and ally Serbia where NATO is hugely unpopular after its 1999 bombing campaign to drive Serbian forces out of Kosovo and after 1995 NATO air strikes against rebel Serbs in Bosnia.—Reuters ■

### THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE ( INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER )

( 17 / 2017 )

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(3)	DMP/L-073(17-18)	Gear Oil(PGGO-140EP)(GL-5)(300)Drums	Ks
(4)	DMP/L-074(17-18)	4 1/2" & 5 1/2" Casing Swab Cup Guiberson (2) Items	Ks
(5)	DMP/L-075(17-18)	Magna Dewax PT-2066 Parafin Solvent (8400) Ltr & Wild Cat 441(4200)Ltr	Ks
(6)	DMP/L-076(17-18)	4 3/4" Insert Bit for Seismic Shot Hole (120) Nos	Ks
(7)	DMP/L-077(17-18)	Spares for F 1600 Rig Pump Ex ZJ 70 L Drilling Rigs (23) Items	Ks

Tender Closing Date & Time- 20-11-2017, 16:30 pm

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 19 October 2017 at the Finance Department , Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

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## Spain asks Catalan leader to ‘act sensibly’ as direct rule deadline approaches

MADRID — Spain appealed to Catalan leader Carles Puigdemont to “act sensibly” on Wednesday, just 24 hours before a government deadline for the region to renounce a bid for independence.

“I ask Puigdemont to act sensibly, in a balanced way, to put the interests of all citizens first,” Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy said in parliament.

Madrid has threatened Catalonia, which accounts for a fifth of Spain’s

economy, with direct rule if Puigdemont does not retract by Thursday an ambiguous declaration of independence he made last week.

The row has rattled financial markets and sent companies scurrying to shift their legal bases in a flight to safer ground.

Seven hundred companies left Catalonia between 2 October- the day after a referendum on independence which

Madrid branded illegal — and 16 October, according to Spain’s companies registry and .

Thursday’s deadline is Puigdemont’s last chance to abandon an independence declaration which he made and then immediately suspended on 10 October. Madrid has ridiculed the ambiguity of the proclamation, which remained unclear after a previous deadline expired on Monday. —Reuters ■

# Japan ruling coalition seen winning around two-thirds majority — Kyodo News

TOKYO—Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's coalition is on track for a roughly two-thirds majority in Sunday's general election, a survey by Kyodo news agency showed, as its conservative rival led by Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike appeared to lose momentum.

Japanese go to the polls on Sunday to elect representatives for the country's 465-member lower house, the more powerful of Japan's two-chamber parliament.

The Kyodo poll, conducted by telephone between 15 and 17 October, showed Abe's Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) poised to win about 280 seats in the 465-member lower house. Combined with its junior coalition partner Komeito, it is likely to retain about two-thirds of the seats, Kyodo said. The ruling bloc held a two-thirds "super majority" before the chamber was dissolved for



Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who is also leader of the Liberal Democratic Party, attends an election campaign rally in Tokyo, Japan on 18 October, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

the snap election.

About two-fifth of voters polled were still undecided, suggesting they could still sway the results, it said. The Party of Hope, which Tokyo Governor Koike launched last month as a "reformist, conservative" alternative to the LDP, has lost momentum since

the previous survey, Kyodo said. The Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan (CDPJ), formed this month by liberal members of the Democratic Party, is set to beat out the Party of Hope to become the leading opposition party, at least doubling its representation, Kyodo added.

A Reuters corporate survey published on Wednesday showed Japanese companies overwhelmingly want Abe's coalition to stay in power but also want it to lose seats, suggesting they want political stability but don't want to hand him a landslide victory. — Reuters ■

# Philippines arrests militant widow for trying to recruit fighters

MANILA — Philippine law enforcement agents have arrested a woman who tried to spread radical ideas and recruit hundreds of foreigners to reinforce pro-Islamic State rebels occupying a southern city, the justice minister said on Wednesday.

Karen Aizha Hamidon, the widow of a former leader of a small extremist group in Mindanao, was arrested by special agents at her home in a Manila suburb a week ago and has been charged with inciting to rebellion, Vitaliano Aguirre told a news conference.

Hamidon is accused of using social media and messaging apps to call on foreigners to join the siege by an alliance of Islamic State loyalists in Marawi City, a battle that has lasted nearly five months. The military says the conflict, the biggest security crisis in years in the Philippines, is now in its final stages and has killed more than 1,000 people, mostly rebels.

"This is a welcome development in the fight against terrorism," Aguirre said.

Agents found she had made 296 posts in chatrooms on Telegram and WhatsApp "calling on Muslims in the Philippines, India and Singa-

pore to come to Marawi to establish a province of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria", he said.

There were also about 250 names, mostly foreigners, in her phonebook who were suspected of being Islamic State sympathisers.

Dressed in a black burqa, Hamidon was paraded before the media but was not allowed to speak. Her laptop, mobile phones and electronic gadgets were being looked at by experts for forensic investigation.

Hamidon, a Muslim convert, was married to Mohammad Jaafar Maguid, alias Tokboy, the former leader of radical group Ansar Al-Khilafa. He was killed in a gunfight with police in January.

Aguirre said she was also linked to Singaporean and Australian extremists, both of whom are in detention in their countries.

But counter-terrorism expert Sidney Jones cast doubts about whether Hamidon had been effective. Jones said her presence in chatrooms of Islamic State supporters was not welcomed, her credibility had been questioned and some participants blamed her for the arrests of radicals.

"Everyone hates her and thinks she's a spy," Jones said.—Reuters ■

# Hong Kong stocks inch up, gains by developers offset resource firms' losses

HONG KONG — Hong Kong stocks inched up on Wednesday, with listings in the city of some China-based companies advancing on the first day of the key Communist Party Congress in Beijing.

President Xi Jinping opened the congress on Wednesday with a pledge

to build a "modern socialist country" for a "new era".

Investors are keen for clear direction on economic and financial market reform over the next five years, but history suggests these events can be light on detail. The Hang Seng index added 0.1 per cent, to 28,711.76 points.

The China Enterprises Index, an index tracking major domestic firms listed in Hong Kong, gained 0.5 per cent, to 11,621.95 points.

Sectors performance was mixed, with gains in developers offset by weakness in resources firms. Property and construction firms rose 1 per cent, led

by top developer Sunac with a 6.9 per cent jump, even after Xi said China will maintain the principle that houses are for people to live in, not for speculation. Material firms dropped 1.6 per cent, tracking mainland peers, amid continued weakness in commodities market.—Reuters ■

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## ‘Padmavati’ experience extremely exhausting: Deepika

MUMBAI — Actor Deepika Padukone said she feels extremely fortunate to have teamed up with Sanjay Leela Bhansali for the upcoming “Padmavati”, shooting for which has been an “exhausting” experience.

The 31-year-old actor has previously worked with Bhansali in “Goliyon Ki Rasleela: Ram Leela” and “Bajirao Mastani”.

Deepika said playing Queen Padmavati has been one of the most memorable roles of her career. “I feel extremely fortunate to have worked repeatedly

with someone like Sanjay Leela Bhansali. Over five years and three consecutive films, back to back, in extremely challenging, empowering and powerful roles that he is known to give women.

“Padmavati’ has been an extremely exhausting experience... We shot non-stop for almost seven-eight months. I feel certain characters don’t leave your system,” she said. The period-drama features Shahid Kapoor as Maharawal Ratan Singh, Rajput ruler and husband of Padmavati, played by Deepika. Ranveer Singh, will be seen as

Alauddin Khilji, the Delhi sultan, who falls in love with Padmavati.

Deepika was speaking at the launch of veteran actor Hema Malini’s biography “Hema Malini: Beyond the Dream Girl”. Hema recalled shooting for Gulzar’s “Meera” on a minuscule budget, in which she played the titular Rajputi princess who is devoted to Lord Krishna.

Deepika added the budgets have surely increased today but a filmmaker would still need more money to justify his vision completely. “Padmavati” releases on 1 December. —PTI ■



Actor Deepika Padukone. PHOTO: PTI

## George Saunders’ ‘Lincoln in the Bardo’ wins 2017 Man Booker prize

LONDON — American author George Saunders has won the 2017 Man Booker Prize, a high-profile literary award, for his first novel, “Lincoln in the Bardo,”— a fictional account of US President Abraham Lincoln burying his young son.

In his acceptance speech, Saunders, 58, noted that “we live in a strange time,” adding he saw the key question of the era being whether society responded to events with “exclusion and negative projection and violence,” or “with love.”

Saunders was the second consecutive American writer to win the prize, after the rules were changed in 2014 to allow authors of any book written in English and published in the UK to compete.

His novel, set in 1862, a year into the American Civil war, is a blend of historical accounts and



George Saunders, author of ‘Lincoln in the Bardo’, poses for photographers after winning the Man Booker Prize for Fiction 2017 in London, Britain on 17 October, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

imaginative fiction, which sees Lincoln’s son Willie, who died in the White House at age 11, in “Bardo” — a Tibetan form of purgatory.

The judging panel, led by author and member of Britain’s House of Lords Lola Young, praised the “deeply moving” book, saying it was

“utterly original”.

Saunders was presented with his award by the Duchess of Cornwall.

Last year, American Paul Beatty became the first American to win the award, for his novel “The Sellout,” a biting satire on race relations in the United States.

Other previous winners have included this year’s Nobel Prize-winning novelist Kazuo Ishiguro, Salman Rushdie, Iris Murdoch and Canadian writer Margaret Atwood.

The award was previously open only to writers from Britain, Ireland, Zimbabwe or countries in the British Commonwealth.

The winner receives a 50,000 pound (\$65,000) cash prize. —Reuters ■

## Chris Brown collaborates with R Kelly

LONDON — Singer Chris Brown has collaborated with R Kelly for his upcoming record.

The 28-year-old singer and Kelly, 50, have teamed up for the track “Juice Booty”, which also features Jhene Aiko, reported Contactmusic.

Brown revealed the full tracklist for his upcoming eighth studio LP.

The record, his first since 2015s Royalty, is expected to be released this Halloween.

The R&B superstar shared with fans that the LP has an epic 45-song running order and features several collaborations.

Brown and Kelly have worked together in the past and earlier this year they teamed up with Tyga on the track “Trippin’”. —PTI ■



Riz Ahmed to play Hamlet in a contemporary movie adaptation of William Shakespeare’s Hamlet. PHOTO: PTI

## Riz Ahmed in talks to play ‘Hamlet’ in Netflix show

LOS ANGELES — “The Night Of” star Riz Ahmed is in talks to play one of Shakespeare’s greatest characters in a contemporary movie adaptation of “Hamlet”.

The British Pakistani actor, who became the man of Asian descent to win an Emmy award recently, is teaming up with Mike Lesslie for the Netflix project.

Lesslie, who penned another Shakespearean adaptation with 2015’s “Macbeth”, featuring Michael Fassbender in the titular role, will write the adaptation which is set in modern-day London, facing economic and political uncertainty, reported Deadline Known for his roles in “The Rogue One: A Star Wars Story”, “Nightcrawler” and

“Four Lions”, Ahmed is one of the rising stars in Hollywood.

The talented artiste is also one half of the rap duo Swet Shop Boys. Ahmed, who will be next seen in “The Sister Brother” opposite Joaquin Phoenix and “Nightcrawler” co-star Jake Gyllenhaal, uses his stardom to often highlight issues related to race and identity.—PTI ■

# 'Vanishing village' looks to Japan's LDP for survival

NANMOKU (Japan) — Chikara Imai, 73, is quick to dismiss the new parties in Sunday's national election in Japan, saying old ties with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Liberal Democratic Party is what the country's most elderly village needs for survival.

Nanmoku, 107 km (67 miles) northwest of Tokyo, is at the forefront of Japan's battle against an ageing and shrinking population. Its population has halved over the past 20 years to 1,963, and with a median age of 70.6, Nanmoku is now Japan's oldest municipality.

Nanmoku and places like it across Japan are a key support base for the LDP, which has been in power for most of the past six decades.

"Rural Japan is no Tokyo. Those people may say something ideal in Tokyo, something like 'Let's change Japan'. But here, it won't strike home," Imai said.

Sunday's lower house



Numbers of population and households are displayed at the entrance of village office in Nanmoku Village, northwest of Tokyo, Japan on 12 October, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

election pits Abe's LDP-led coalition against two brand new parties: the Party of Hope headed by popular Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike; and the centre-left Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan, which emerged from a breakup of the traditional opposition Democratic Party.

But Koike's "reform-

ist, conservative" challenge doesn't resonate much in Nanmoku. Most municipalities are shrinking in Japan, so far the only important developed country with a declining population. They look to Tokyo for a lifeline.

"For back country dwellers, strong ties with the central government come in handy when we

need to ask for help in such times as a natural disaster. This village has no option but to support them," the 73-year-old Imai said.

Gunma prefecture, where Nanmoku is located, has long been an LDP stronghold and has produced four prime ministers, including Keizo Obuchi, premier from 1998-2000.—Reuters ■

# London art auction raises 2 million pounds for survivors of deadly Grenfell Tower blaze

LONDON — An auction of 31 artworks donated by some of Britain's most successful contemporary artists has raised close to 2 million pounds for survivors

of the Grenfell Tower fire that killed about 80 people in June.

Home to a close-knit, multi-ethnic community, the 24-storey social hous-

ing block was reduced to a charred ruin by the inferno that engulfed it in the middle of the night.

Many survivors have yet to be rehoused and are still living in hotels.

The charity auction, held at auctioneer Sotheby's late on Monday, included works by A-list artists including Wolfgang Tillmans, Antony Gormley, Tracey Emin, Sarah Lucas, Mark Wallinger and Rachel Whiteread.

The idea came from film producer and art collector Hamish McAlpine and art consultant Katie Heller, who said the emotional impact of the Grenfell tragedy was such that almost all the artists they approached agreed to donate works immediately.

"Grenfell touched

their souls," McAlpine told Reuters at Sotheby's before the auction. "It's a very emotive subject for people in London."

The proceeds, which totalled more than 1.925 million pounds, will be divided equally among 158 surviving families. They will receive the funds before Christmas.

Every single one of the lots on offer sold, making the auction a "White Glove" sale in auctioneers' parlance, Sotheby's said. The amount raised was double the pre-auction estimate. The most expensive lot was "Freischwimmer 193", a very large green print by the London-based German artist Wolfgang Tillmans, which sold for 392,750 pounds.—Reuters ■



An employee poses with 'Small Charge' by Antony Gormley at Sotheby's in London, Britain on 12 October, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

## ASLEEP IN JESUS CAPTAIN TIN MAUNG CHO (BOYSIE) 61 Years

Captain Tin Maung Cho (Boysie) Residing at No. 8, Yodaya Lane, Mayangone Township. Son of U Khin Maung Cho + Daw Mya Mya Win, Younger brother of Daw Cho Cho Win, U Tin Aung Cho, U Kyaw Win Elder brother of Daw Kaythi Cho Passed away Peacefully on Tuesday at (1:00)am Christian Funeral Services will be held at (3:00)pm and will be cremate at (4:00)pm on Thursday 19.10. 2017.

Bereaved Family

## ASLEEP IN JESUS CAPTAIN TIN MAUNG CHO (BOYSIE) 61 Years

CAPTAIN TIN MAUNG CHO (BOYSIE) Residing at No.(8), Yodaya Lane, Mayangone Township. Son of U Khin Maung Cho + Daw Mya Mya Win (Jean Cho), Uncle of Tin New Ni, Tin Hnin Yu, Tin Lyn Win, Beidar Cho, Cho Minn Thant, Cho Khin Khin Kyaw Win, Binya Kyaw Win, Cho Zin Zin Kyaw Win and A.J. passed away peacefully on Tuesday 17.10.2017 at (1:00 pm). Christian Funeral Services will be held at (3:00 pm) and will be cremated at (4:00 pm) on Thursday 19.10. 2017.

Bereaved Family

# Bearing up well — Pregnant UK royal Kate dances with Paddington

LONDON — Kate, Britain's Duchess of Cambridge, danced with Paddington Bear on Monday, delighting children on her return to royal duties after suffering acute morning sickness.

Kate, wife of Queen Elizabeth's grandson Prince William, last week made her first public appearance since it was announced in September she was expecting the couple's

third child but suffering from hyperemesis gravidarum.

On Monday, she joined her husband and his brother Prince Harry at London's Paddington station where they met children from charities they support who were heading off on a special trip in the sister train to the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express for a ride through the English countryside.—Reuters ■

## MRTV Programme Schedule (19-10-2017, Thursday)

6:00 Am	◆ Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw	3:30 Pm	◆ Teleplay
7:00 Am	◆ Breakfast News	4:35 Pm	◆ Documentary
7:35 Am	◆ Documentary	4:50 Pm	◆ NHK Programme "Observing Newts" (The Mechanism of Organ Formation)
8:35 Am	◆ Damahpuza Song	5:05 Pm	◆ Melody for Unity
9:10 Am	◆ Their Region Their Life	5:30 Pm	◆ Socio Economic Scenes
9:30 Am	◆ Beautiful ASEAN	6:20 Pm	◆ Football Magazin
9:40 Am	◆ Documentary (ASEAN)	6:35 Pm	◆ Current Affairs
10:30 Am	◆ MRTV Worker's Program	7:15 Pm	◆ TV Drama Series
11:30 Am	◆ Real Story Real Movie	8:00 Pm	◆ News/ International News/ Weather Report
12:30 Pm	◆ TV Drama Series	8:35 Pm	◆ Light of Hope
1:00 Pm	◆ Myanmar Movie (Part-1)	◆ TV Drama Series	◆ Talk on Old Film
2:20 Pm	◆ TV Drama Series		

## Myanmar U-19 defeated 0-2 by Japanese team in friendly

Kyaw Zin Lin

In preparation for the 2018 AFC U-19 Championship, Myanmar U-19 national football team played a friendly against Japan's well-known Gamba Osaka football club in Japan yesterday.

Myanmar lost the match by a score of 0-2.

Myanmar used a different lineup from the friendly match against Hanan University FC that was played recently in Japan. Myanmar played very well against Gamba Osaka throughout the first half, showing good stability in controlling the football. Neither team could convert opportunities into goals in the first half, as all the players did not allow much penetration and played good defence.

Myanmar made several substitutions in the second half in an attempt to change tactics. The match remained a scoreless tie until the late minutes of the sec-



Myanmar star player Myat Kaung Khant poised to shoot the ball in yesterday's match. **PHOTO:**

ond half, when some Myanmar players lost their stamina and allowed two consecutive goals. The game ended with 0-2 result.

"My boys can play with a draw result by having so many goal opportunities in the first

half. I made some substitutions in the other half, so as want to be giving playing chances to almost all the players. Our team's playing style of this match made me overwhelmed. The team's getting much better", said My-

anmar U-19 team current Head Coach U Chit Naing.

Myanmar will play their last friendly in Japan with Hanan University Club on Friday, according to Myanmar Football Federation. ■

## Sport & Edu FC stay perfect in KBZ Bank Women League

Kyaw Zin Lin

In the twelfth match of 2016-2017 KBZ Bank's Women League, Sports & Education FC played against Zwegapin FC at Padonmar Stadium yesterday afternoon.

Sport & Education FC notched a dominating win over Zwegapin FC yesterday by a score of 9-0.

The Sports & Education team put pressure on their opponents starting right after the kick-off. Sport & Edu's star player Yi Yi Oo scored the opening goal at the 2-minute mark.

Shwe Moe Aye scored three goals for Sport & Edu at 26 minutes, 30 minutes and 36 minutes. Zin Mar Htun scored for Sports & Edu at 37 minutes.

In the second half, Nann May Thazin scored at the 47-minute mark, while Yi Yi Oo scored at 55 minutes and 74 minutes. Saw Su Htwe scored at the 90-minute mark.

The win by Sport & Edu FC keeps the team in third position in the score chart. ■

## Liverpool must extend goalscoring form, says Salah

LONDON — Liverpool must replicate their Champions League finishing to revive their Premier League campaign, winger Mohamed Salah has said.

Salah and striker Roberto Firmino grabbed a brace each as Liverpool pounded Maribor 7-0 on Tuesday night to record their biggest away European win.

The victory has given Liverpool, who managed one win in their last five league games, the

confidence to be more clinical in front of goal, said Salah.

"I think it's an important result for us so we have to keep looking forward and we have to win the next games," the Egypt international told BT Sport.

"In the last three or four games we missed many chances... and we had bad luck.

"I think that everyone has confidence that the good result is coming, so now we are in a

good position and I'm sure in the next games it will be the same."

The 25-year-old has now scored eight goals in 13 appearances for Liverpool but was more occupied with team performance than personal record.

"The team did good and we had a good result so that's the most important thing," Salah added.

"I'm very happy for that —

seven goals or eight goals (scored since he joined Liverpool) doesn't change anything, but the most important thing for us is to concentrate on improving the results in the Premier League.

"We didn't win for two, three games, so we need to carry on and keep looking forward and win the next games."

Eighth placed Liverpool travel to third placed Tottenham Hotspur on Sunday.—Reuters ■

## Madrid draw a huge step forward for Pochettino's Spurs

MADRID — Tottenham Hotspur's 1-1 Champions League draw at Real Madrid on Tuesday was the moment they proved they can compete at the highest level, according to manager Mauricio Pochettino who hopes it could be the making of his young, exciting side. Spurs goalkeeper Hugo Lloris took the plaudits for keeping out Real's glut of chances in either half while Madrid stopper Keylor Navas was also in inspired form in a highly entertaining game at the Santiago Bernabeu.

Borussia Dortmund's surprise 1-1 draw at Group H min-



Tottenham's Hugo Lloris gestures to fans after the match. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

nows APOEL Nicosia means Spurs and Real are six points clear of the Germans and within touching distance of sealing their place in the last 16. That marks a huge contrast for Pochettino's side from their early exit from the competition last season. "This was an opportunity to show we can compete and this game is fundamental to us on a mental level," Pochettino told a news conference.

"We are a team that is still under construction. Last year we took seven points from six group games now we have seven

from three. Last year was very sad as we couldn't continue in a competition that really excited us but we've made a huge step forward. We are developing this club's potential for the future, which is enormous. "The result is the least important thing, the objective was to be able to compete against Real Madrid and that we managed to do that makes me more than happy." Pochettino hugged all 11 of his players after the final whistle, which Spurs' 4,000 visiting supporters greeted with an ecstatic roar as if they had won the game.—Reuters ■