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Tuesday, 22 August 2017



A nurse gives polio vaccine to a child in Maungtaw, Rakhine State, on 21 August, 2017. PHOTO: AUNG KYAW SEIN

2nd anti-polio campaign kicks off in Maungtaw

By A One Soe and Myo Thu Hein

HEALTH officials commenced a five-day polio vaccination campaign in Maungtaw, yesterday, for children five years old and younger in Maungtaw District, Rakhine State.

Nine vaccination tasks

forces in Maungtaw and eight in Buthidaung are leading the second campaign in the field to vaccinate children aged from 3 months to two years old against polio from 21 to 25 August.

One of the groups is led by Dr. Kyaw Maung Maung Thein of Maungtaw People's Hospital, whose team vaccinated children

in Nga Khu Ya, Kyein Chaung, Alan Than Kyaw, Pa Nyaung Pin Gyi, Zay Kone and Maung To Lar villages in Maungtaw. Children in Yar Thit Kay, Myo Oo, and Ka Nyin Tan towns and Myo Thu Gyi, Shwe Sar, Thiho Kyun and Nyaung Chaung villages were also vaccinated.

U Thein Swe Myint of the

Alan Than Kyaw Station Hospital said the second campaign was required because polio, a debilitating virus that cause death or crippling defects in children and which has been all but eradicated in much of the world, was recently discovered in Maungtaw.

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Pyithu Hluttaw

2nd Pyithu Hluttaw 5th regular session 47th day meeting

Kyaw Thu Htet and
Hmwe Kyu Zin
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

At the second Pyithu Hluttaw 5th regular session 47th day meeting held yesterday morning Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw responded to a question by U Myint Wei of Gwa constituency on transferring the construction of Gwa Chaung Bridge from Rural Development Department to Ministry of Construction. As the bridge is about 1,500 ft long and located near Gwa Bay the Deputy Minister said Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation wouldn't object to Ministry of Construction taking over the construction work with its technical expertise, experienced engineers and machineries.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw then answered to a question raised by U Sein Aung of Paletwa constituency on plan to provide solar panels to households without access to power supply in Paletwa Town.

The Deputy Minister said out of 18,531 households without electricity in Paletwa, 19 villages with 1,022 households had proposed for solar power lighting under the part payment by the people scheme and will



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

be provided with solar power lighting in FY 2017-2018. In the coming fiscal years the remaining households will also be considered in accordance with the National Electrification Plan (NEP) policy and the household will need to share costs for the electrification under the NEP.

Next, questions by U Sai Ngaung Hsaing Hein of Maukmai constituency, U Zaw Min Thein of Laymyethna constituency, U Min Thein of Ngazun constituency and U Kyaw Tin of Saw constituency on upgrading gravel surfaced road in Khosaling, Nathe and Ywathit villages in Maukmai Township to tarred road, finding ways for people

to participate in rural development work, cases of renting lands from local farmers to be in accord with enacted laws, construction of Min Chin dam in Saw Township with government budget were answered by Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw.

Afterward, a motion tabled by Daw Mi Kun Chan from Paung Constituency on abolishing rural area electrification committees nationwide and to hand over the task of electrification to the Ministry of Electricity and Energy was discussed by U Win Win of Minbu constituency, U Tun Tun of Pwintbyu

constituency, Daw Cho Cho of Ottwin constituency, Dr. U Than Aung Soe of Minhla constituency, Dr. Daw Kyi Moh Moh Lwin of Singaing constituency, U Aung Htoo Myint of Aunglan constituency, U Soe Aung Ning of Kyonpyaw constituency, Dr. U Khin Maung Thin of Ayadaw constituency, Dr. U Aye Min of Kayan constituency, U Myint Tun of Taze constituency, U Win Myint Aung of Tabayin constituency, U Zaw Min Thein of Laymyethna constituency, U Myint Thein of Wetlet constituency, U Sai Thant Zin of Hsipaw constituency, U Sai Oo Kham of Hsenwi constituency, Dr. U Lin Lin Kyaw of Myittha constitu-

ency, U Myo Zaw Oo of Lewe constituency, Dr. U Win Aung of KhinU constituency and U Bo Gyi of Chauk constituency.

In their discussion, MPs pointed out malpractices of the rural area electrification committees, urging the authorities to take actions those who practiced the malpractices.

Discussing on the motion, Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Tun Naing advised the MPs to consider the consequences of abolishing the committees.

So far 8,942 rural electrification committees have been formed, he said. Instead of abolishing, these committees should be reformed to conduct their work systematically, said the Deputy Minister.

The Deputy Minister also said the ministry is considering to establish a sub-department led by a chief engineer to manage power generation and supply to rural areas as the task is enormous, he said.

He also suggested to reform the current rural area electrification committees after rewriting the rules for the committees in attempts to resolve the current challenges being faced by the committees.

Hluttaw decided to put the motion on record. ■

Amyotha Hluttaw

Amyotha Hluttaw discusses river dredging, business loans and security

Thura Zaw, Mi Mi Phyo
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

The Amyotha Hluttaw addressed strategies to mitigate erosion along the Yangon River during its meeting yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

U Kyaw Myo, Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications said that the Myanma Port Authority was preparing to dredge part of the river, particularly along the Seikkyi-Khanaungtto side.

He explained that the authority would use steel sheet piles along an area 700 feet in length.

He also said that ships are avoiding shallow depths by using a route along Thayettaw Village and Pinlewa Thaukhon Vil-

lage in Kawhmu Township in the western part of the Yangon River.

"Myanma Port Authority is making arrangements to choose companies for dredging silting in the lower reach of the river under the international tender bidding system," said the Deputy Minister.

The body also discussed measures being taken to make loans available to Myanmar business owners.

Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Set Aung said the Myanmar Economic Bank is providing collateralized loans with terms between 3 and 12 months to construction contractors. He said that tender project loans, however, were still unavailable.

"Tender Project Loan can-

not be granted for the time being, by the Myanmar Economic Bank and Government-joint-ventured Banks without getting any collateral for tender winners to work conveniently. It will be considered to be able to be implemented later. Instead, for now it can be obtained from other banks who have been giving other kinds of banking services," he added.

The body also discussed the security situation in Maungtau, Buthidaung and Yathadaung townships of Rakhine State.

Kachin State representative U J Yaw Wu said "the eradication of terrorism from the region should be the priority of the government, with cooperation from the Tatmadaw, local nationals and representatives from various regions." ■

New care centre for children with autism to open in Mawlamyine in early 2018

A SPECIAL care centre for children with autism is due to open in Mawlamyine, the capital of Mon State, in early 2018, according to the Myanmar Autism Association.

"There are approximately about 30 children suffering from autism in the town," said U Kyaw Swa Aung, one of the centre organisers. "The move aims to improve the lives of those children by providing specialised care through this centre. Children under the age of ten years will be allowed to stay at the centre."

The new centre will cost Ks240 million in funds contributed by local residents. The three-storey facility will in-

clude trained autism and child development experts. U Thike Tun, the father of an autistic child, said he welcomes the establishment of the training centre and believes it can help autistic children improve their lives.

According to an international study, one in 68 children worldwide has an autism spectrum disorder, and 67 million people live with autism globally.

Autism, a neurodevelopment disorder often becomes evident during childhood and include impaired communication and restricted and repetitive behavior. —Myat Mon Htwe (Myanma Alinn) ■

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Notification 19/2017

14th Waning of Wagaung, 1379 ME
(21 August, 2017)

Defence Services Personnel representative from Pyithu Hluttaw substituted

According to a request made in accordance with Section 33 of the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law to substitute a representative of the Armed forces who is a parliamentarian, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted the following Pyithu Hluttaw representative shown on the left column under Notification 26/2016 of the commission dated 14-11-2016 with those shown on the right column.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Representative to be substituted has been nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the second multi-party General Election held on 8 November 2015.

(1) Air 1773	BC 18162
Brig-Gen U Kyaw	Brig-Gen Zaw Win

By order,

(Tin Tun)

Secretary

Union Election Commission

Two men appeal against death sentences over British murders in Thailand

TWO men from Myanmar convicted of killing two British backpackers on a Thai holiday island in 2014 submitted their final appeal on Monday against the death sentence.

The murder of tourists Hannah Witheridge, 23, and David Miller, 24, sent shockwaves around Thailand and the world, because of the nature of their deaths and the fact the killings took place on an island popular with tourists.

Some migrant rights groups accused Thai police of bungling the investigation and failing to properly seal off the crime scene. Police have defended the probe and the families of both victims

have spoken out in defence of the police investigation.

Witheridge was raped and murdered and Miller was beaten and killed. Their bodies were found on a beach on the southern island of Koh Tao in the Gulf of Thailand.

Myanmar migrant workers Zaw Lin and Win Zaw Htun lost an appeal in March to have their sentence overturned after they were convicted by a court on Koh Samui island in December 2015.

"The deadline is today so we have to submit it. This is the final chance to appeal," Nakhon Chomphuchat, head of the pair's defence team, told Reuters.— Reuters ■



Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen Aung Soe delivered an opening speech at the workshop on Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Consequence Analysis in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

Consequence analysis workshop on money laundering and terrorist financing

A two-day workshop on money laundering and terrorist financing organized by the Money Laundering/Terrorist Financing (ML/TF) National Risk Assessment Committee and International Monetary Fund (IMF) ends today at the Hilton Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Deputy Minister for Home

Affairs Maj-Gen Aung Soe delivered an opening speech and IMF Resident Representative Ms. Yasuhisa Ojima discussed current activities of the working group. Workshop participants included Central Bank of Myanmar Deputy Governor U Soe Thein, Deputy Director General Daw May Toe Win, Union At-

torney General Office Deputy Director General U Kyaw Kyaw Naing and law enforcement officials.

The ML/TF National Risk Assessment Committee was formed under the guidance of Anti-Money Laundering Central Board and with technical support from IMF.—MNA ■

2nd anti-polio campaign kicks off in Maungtaw

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In addition to vaccination, the teams are also disseminating information about how to avoid infection and to identify polio symptoms.

A first Oral Polio Vaccination (OPV) campaign carried out in July 2017, in Maungtaw, Rakhine State, yesterday to boost immunity of local under five children against the crippling disease.

The move to vaccinate more than 10,000 children under five year old against polio comes af-



ter the five times door-to-door OPV vaccination in Maungtaw in 2016 following the finding of disease in 2015.

The vaccination activities began at more than 400 loca-

tions in the township simultaneously as part of the state-level campaign covering 17 townships. Myanmar is expected to declare a polio free country in 2019. ■



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French tourists pass Myanmar from Tamu to Myawady, under the supervision of a local tour company and the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

Six French tourists pass Myanmar during their cross-border road trip

A recent trip by six French nationals from Tamu to Myawady, under the supervision of a local tour company and the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, is an example of tourists' interest in scenic vacations in Myanmar by car,

bicycle or motorcycle.

The Ministry said the group drove into Myanmar on 3 August in two vehicles and visited Kalay, Monywa, Mandalay, Nyaungshwe, In-lae, Bagan, Pyay, Yangon and Kyauktiyo before departing on

15 August.

The same group had previously explored Austria, India, Nepal and India.

Following their foray into Myanmar, they will travel through Thailand, Laos and China.—GNLM ■

Prehistoric flowers perfectly preserved in amber

Seven perfectly-preserved flowers found entombed in Burmese amber are old enough to have been bumped out of a tree by a wandering Tyrannosaurus rex, according to the Daily Mail.

The Daily Mail quoted researchers saying that intact specimens, thought to have come from a rainforest tree, represent a new species of petal-less flower that dates back 100 million years.

It is the largest collection from this age to be analyzed yet for a single study, and despite many years existing in fossilized form, the experts say look like they were 'just picked.'

'The amber preserved the floral parts so well that they look like they were just picked from the garden,' said George Poinar Jr, professor emeritus in Oregon State University's College of Science.

'Dinosaurs may have knocked the branches that dropped the flowers into resin deposits on the bark of an araucaria tree, which is thought to have produced the resin that fossilized into the amber.'

'Araucaria trees are related to kauri pines found today in New Zealand and Australia, and



It is the largest collection from this age to be analyzed yet for a single study, and the experts say the flowers look 'just picked.' **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

kauri pines produce a special resin that resists weathering.'

The tiny flowers discovered in Myanmar measure from 3.4 to 5 millimeters wide, according to the researchers.

All have five 'firm' sepals that spread out in all directions.

Based on these features, they've named the species *Tropidogyne pentaptera*, using the Greek word for five (penta) and wing (pteron). The researchers compare the new flowers to another species recently discovered in amber – but, they've spotted a few notable distinctions. 'The new

species has spreading, veiny sepals, a nectar disc, and a ribbed inferior ovary like *T. pikei*,' Poinar said. 'But it's different in that its bicarpellate, with two elongated and slender styles, and the ribs of its inferior ovary don't have darkly pigmented terminal glands like *T. pikei*.' Both *T. pentaptera* and *T. pikei* have been classified within the family Cunoniaceae, a type of woody plant still in existence today. The flowers examined in the new study likely came from an ancient rainforest tree, according to the researcher.—GNLM and the Daily Mail ■

Authorities intend to increase lumber poaching interdiction efforts

Law enforcement authorities want to improve their illegal lumber interdiction efforts by increasing patrols, traffic stops and intelligence collection, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

Forest conservation teams have been seizing about 5,000 tons of illegal timbers in Bago Yoma forest reserve annually.

'Currently, we are protecting illegal timber extraction, using three different ways: monitoring and controlling at the timber extraction sites; seizing the timber on the way of transportation; and collecting intelligence of places where illegal timber are being kept,' said U Zaw Win Myint, the director of Bago Region Forestry Department.—GNLM ■

Inmates from Bago Prison moved to Kyaukzagaw Prison

UNDER a new detainment system, inmates from Bago Prison in Leikpyakan Ward, Bago Region under the Correctional Department, the Ministry of Home Affairs, were moved to Kyaukzagaw Prison in the same region on Sunday morning. Prisoners awaiting trial have been moved to the new facility, while pretrial detainees will remain at Bago Prison.—Zaw Shin (Kanbawzathadi) ■

Aid for H1N1 arrives from India

India has donated enough seasonal influenza A H1N1 vaccination medicine to treat 8,800, along with 10,000 test kits, 50,000 Tamiflu tablets and 192,000 N95 facemasks to Myanmar, according to a Myanmar News Agency report yesterday.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Fish are caught to be bred at a farm in Yangon. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Domestic rohu fish prices undermining exports

PRICES of rohu fish, a kind of carp that is extensively farmed in Southeast Asia, have increased since July due to scarcity and due to breeders' decision to harvest them at a younger age due to that scarcity, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

Prices are currently about Ks6,000 for a 1.6 kilogram rohu

fish, said U Hla Tun, a fish broker from Baho Sanpya fish market.

"We cannot find rohu fish sized for export in the market," said U Win Kyaing of Myanmar Fisheries Federation. "Therefore, the exporters have to pay higher prices for big size fish at the fish brokerages."

Myanmar is one of the

largest exporters of rohu fish in the world.

But local rohu breeders have begun to forgo the export market, which demands each fish to weigh about 4 kilograms before harvest, because prices have increased so substantially. Currently, rohu fish found in the market only weigh .64 kilograms on average. —GNLM ■

SECM's approval required for new share trading

Registered public companies authorized by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) must be approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Myanmar (SECM) to trade new shares, according to a report in yesterday's edition of City News. Only 55 public compa-

nies in Myanmar are permitted by SECM to trade shares, said U Htay Chun, a member of SECM.

The recent clarifications on Myanmar securities requirements comes after reports of pyramid schemes and illegal share sales left prospective investors empty-handed. —GNLM ■

Myittha Township starts commercial growing of lucrative sterculia urens

Farmers from Myittha Township, Mandalay Region are growing 500 acres Sterculia urens, a gum tree used for laxatives and a food additive, on a commercial scale. Farmers say Sterculia urens is cost-effective, requires little fertilizer or special treatments and is profitable within four years.

One Sterculia urens tree

produced 10 ticals of Sterculia gum, worth Ks4,000 to Ks5,000. A viss (3.6 pounds) of Sterculia gum was worth Ks50,000 to Ks60,000. More than Ks4 million was earned from 100 plants.

Kingtha's growers are among the most prolific farmers of Sterculia urens, which is brought to market in Mandalay.

—U Tin Hlaing (Meiktila) ■

Local fishermen and sellers of Pomfret earn a handsome profit from high foreign demand

Myanmar's fisheries industry has benefited from its pomfret catch, which usually is largest during July and August, and which are exported to China,

Singapore, India and Saudi Arabia.

A viss of pomfret weighing above 400 grams is worth about Ks40,000.

Total fisheries exports as of 11 August were estimated at US\$190 million, according to the Commerce Ministry. —Aung Win (Pyapon) ■

Myanmar avocado to be exported experimentally to China

Myanmar avocados will be exported to Yunnan province, China under a new arrangement reported by Myanma Alin daily newspaper, yesterday.

The Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producers and Exporters Association (MFVP) and other industry groups intend to increase Myanmar's avocado exports. The MFVP has offered to hold technical capacity building courses for avocado producers. Currently, Myanmar exports watermelons, muskmelons, mangos and plums to Yunnan province. In order to win China's approval, Myanmar's avocados must



Fresh green avocado in the basket. PHOTO: REUTERS

meet Chinese health and quality standards and subject harvests to inspection, said U Min Min, a fruit merchant. More than 30 avocado varieties are grown in Shan and Chin states. Only

traditional cultivation methods are used for avocado farming. Myanmar avocado officials are also hoping to export to the United States, Europe, Japan and Canada. —Zar Lin Thu ■

Available @

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

သတင်းစာများကို ဤဆိုင်များတွင်ဝယ်ယူဖတ်ရှုနိုင်ပါပြီ

- Market Place by City Mart (6.5 Mile)
- Market Place by City Mart (Damasidi Road)
- City Mart (Aung San Stadium)
- City Mart (47th street)
- City Mart (Yankin)
- City Mart (China Town)
- City Mart (Myay Ni Gone)
- City Mart (FMI)

- City Mart (Junction Square)
- City Mart (Junction Maw Tin)
- City Mart (Sule Square)
- City Mart (Star City - Thanlyin)
- City Mart (Waizayandar)
- City Mart (Hledan)
- City Mart (Myanmar Plaza)
- Ocean North Point (9 mile)
- Ocean Shwegonedine

US, South Korea begin computer-simulated drills amid North Korea tension

SEOUL — South Korean and US forces began computer-simulated military exercises on Monday amid tension over North Korea's weapons programs, while a report it has earned millions of dollars in exports is likely to raise doubt about the impact of sanctions.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in said the joint drills, called Ulchi Freedom Guardian, were purely defensive and did not aim to increase tension on the peninsula.

"There is no intent at all to heighten military tension on the Korean peninsula as these drills are held annually and are of a defensive nature," Moon told cabinet ministers.

"North Korea should not exaggerate our efforts to keep

peace nor should they engage in provocations that would worsen the situation, using (the exercise) as an excuse," he said.

The joint US-South Korean drills last until 13 August and involve computer simulations designed to prepare for war with a nuclear-capable North Korea.

The United States also describes them as "defensive in nature", a term North Korean state media has dismissed as a "deceptive mask".

"It's to prepare if something big were to occur and we needed to protect ROK," said Michelle Thomas, a US military spokeswoman, referring to South Korea by its official name, the Republic of Korea.

North Korea views such exercises as preparations for



A US Air Force U-2 Dragon Lady takes part in a drill at Osan Air Base in Pyeongtaek, South Korea on 21 August, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

invasion and has fired missiles and taken other actions to show its anger over military drills in the past.

North and South Korea are technically still at war after the 1950-53 Korean War ended with a truce, not a peace treaty.

North Korea's rapid progress in developing nuclear weapons and missiles capable of reaching the US mainland has

fueled a surge in regional tension and UN-led sanctions appear to have failed to bite deeply enough to change its behaviour.

China, North Korea's main ally and trading partner, has urged the United States and South Korea to scrap the exercises. Russia has also asked for the drills to stop but the United States has not backed down.

Speaking in Beijing, Chinese

Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said North and South Korea and the United States all needed to make more effort to ease tension.

"We think that South Korea and the United States holding joint drills is not beneficial to easing current tensions or efforts by all sides to promote talks," she told a daily news briefing.

— Reuters ■

US warship collision exposes Singapore-Malaysia sea dispute

KUALA LUMPUR — A collision between a US warship and an oil tanker near the Straits of Malacca on Monday has shone a light on a territorial dispute that has simmered between neighbours Singapore and Malaysia for nearly 40 years.

The guided-missile destroyer USS John S McCain collided with merchant vessel Alnic MC to the east of Singapore, while heading to the city-state for a routine port call.

Ten US sailors are missing and five were injured in the collision, which resulted in significant damage to the hull of the US vessel and the flooding of some of its compartments.

Singapore and Malaysia both said the incident took place in their territorial waters, as the warship and oil tanker collided near the rocky outcrop of Pedra Branca, an area that has long been contested by both countries.

Both countries said they were leading the search and

rescue operation for the missing sailors.

Singapore was once part of Malaysia but they separated acrimoniously in 1965, clouding diplomatic and economic dealings for years.

The International Court of Justice ruled in 2008 that Pedra Branca, which means "white rock" in Portuguese, belonged to Singapore and a nearby feature called Middle Rocks belonged to Malaysia.

Malaysia sought a review of the ruling this year, reopening the dispute. The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) said it was notified just before dawn of the collision in "Singapore territorial waters" in the Singapore Strait, and Singapore was leading the search and rescue operations.

Malaysia insisted that the incident happened in its waters, just miles off its southern state of Johor.

Malaysia's navy chief, Admi-

ral Ahmad Kamarulzaman Ahmad Badaruddin, told Reuters the KD Handalan was the first to respond to the distress call from the US ship.

"KD Handalan was just three miles from the USS McCain when it first received the distress call," he said.

Malaysia's Maritime Enforcement Agency Director General Zulkifli Abu Bakar told reporters Malaysia disputed Singapore's assertion that the accident happened in its waters.

He said the Malaysian search and rescue operation was independent of Singapore's and Malaysia had not communicated with its neighbour about the incident.

"What is important is, we do not want to have another collision between assets on the ground," Zulkifli said. "For the time being, we shouldn't be arguing about whose waters it is, the most important thing is to focus on search and rescue." — Reuters ■

Abu Sayyaf attacks civilians in S Philippines, kills Nine: military

MANILA — Nine people were killed and nine others wounded on Monday when 20 fully armed Islamist Abu Sayyaf extremists raided a remote village in Maluso town in Basilan province in the southern Philippines, the military and police confirmed Monday afternoon.

Chief Superintendent Reuben Theodore Sindac, the police director of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, said armed men entered Tubigan village around 5:30 am and started shooting villagers and burning houses.

Military spokesman Army Capt Jo-Ann Petinglay said in a statement that "heavy firefight" ensued between the bandits and local militia men "who were initially surprised of the attack."

Petinglay said the militia men "scampered to get their guns and fight the attackers."

"Heavy firefight ensued forcing the armed group to extricate from the area after almost two hours (of fighting)," Petinglay said, adding that army soldiers and policemen were immediately sent to the village to help the militia men fight the attackers.

Petinglay said the armed men burned the village's multipurpose hall and five other houses.

Army Col Juvymax Uy, the commander of the Joint Task Force Basilan, said "the Abu Sayyaf must have been hit hard by our operations over the weekend," prompting them to launch an attack against the civilians.

On Saturday, Uy said that the military overran an Abu Sayyaf camp and an improvised explosive device "factory" in Mangalut village in Akbar town in Basilan. —Xinhua ■

Loa Seine

All Day Dining & Buffet

GRAND OPENING 1 SEPTEMBER 2017



An all-day dining and international buffet-style restaurant specializing in “five stations” (Oakwood fire oven, Teppanyaki, deep-fat frying station, and Korean and Myanmar culinary corners), with all dishes served up using premium ingredients.

Breakfast Buffet : \$19 ** per adult
Dinner Buffet : \$29 ** per adult
À La Carte Menu : Starting from \$5

Service Hours : 6:00 am ~ 10:00 pm
Breakfast Buffet : 6:00 am ~ 10:00am
Lunch : 10:30 am ~ 2:30 pm
Dinner Buffet : 6:00 pm ~ 10:00 pm

Location : Hotel Building, B1F
For Reservation;
Hotel Tel : 01-9351000 (Ext : 1525)
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GRAND OPENING FEAST

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People's Participation in Changing for Success!

Khin Maung Oo

TODAY, every individual aspires to see Myanmar develop as a nation, with great changes in every corner. Especially, people are really longing for it in the present second five-year tenure. It should be remembered that the incumbent civilian government took office in 2015. As regards the sustainable development of a country, its government with the full authoritative power to manage social, educational, financial, economic and all other affairs has to implement it effectively and efficiently for the sake of the country and its people.

In implementing the develop-

ment of a country, the government alone cannot make its country gain long-lasting progress and reach the state of keeping abreast with other countries without the people's whole-hearted participation. How and why shall we participate? First of all, we must get rid of the idea that we can think about the country's affairs only when we are individually prosperous. While working for our survival and personal benefits, a thought must be kept in our minds that we are responsible for contributing our labor, intellect and skills in building up our nation into a developed country. So our younger generations can eternally enjoy the fruits of our efforts. We

can vividly see the national development of every developed country coincide with the rise in per capita income and living standard.

In developed countries, people can be found to devote themselves in their works, apart from their rest hours. Many workaholics can be seen in their societies. Most of the people leave for their jobs at the crack of dawn. They usefully spend their rest hours and holidays, having a good time respectively. Not all these countries had emerged all of a sudden.

In our country we also elected our government, out of our great desire to change and develop. Yet, even though we have had our hoped-for

government, in fact, we did not move together with the government. At a time when the government is exerting its effort to achieve all-round development, our people are still wasting their time and rest hours rubbing their phones, sitting at cafes, restaurants and KTVs with some spending most of their time on 2-or-3-digit-chai-gambling. Now is the time we should change our mindsets. The government is hoping for our participation in our country's democracy transition by adopting the slogan, "Together with the people." Had we actually aspired to change and develop our nation, let us join hands with our government! ■

Reducing Use of Plastic Products

Kyaw Win (Labour)

PLASTIC, though a remarkable invention, is however proving to be a source of environmental degradation. International drive to reduce use of plastic products, especially the non-degradable type, is gaining ground around the world.

In Myanmar the drive to reduce plastic products is gaining ground as well with the concerted efforts of the Government and private environmental preservation agencies. Below are some of the writer's views to reduce use of plastic products and at the same time enhance local employ-

Across the country, plastic bags used by sellers for 'packing' products bought by customers end up in the back lanes, drains or public waste disposal containers. They add to environmental degradation even if finally disposed in waste dumping places.

ment.

Across the country, plastic bags used by sellers for 'packing' products bought by customers end up in the back lanes, drains or public waste disposal containers. They add to environmental degradation even if finally disposed in waste dumping places. To reduce the use of plastic bags perhaps paper bags could be used instead. Nowadays there are many 'Journals' being printed on good quality paper. Perhaps the back date journals could be used to make paper bags of sizes suitable for many small 'dry' products such as medicines, cosmetic articles, and even fried or baked food which should not be packed in plastic bags while hot out of the pan. Making paper bags could be a source of income for 'home based' workers if there is a market for such bags. The State/Regional Municipal authorities could 'require' the use of paper bags by shops selling products which could be delivered in such paper bags instead of plastic bags.

As we all know plastic bags are being used especially by poultry, meat and fish sellers in the township or open market places for 'packing' such products for the customer. In the 'old days' such products were packed in "In-Phets" (large leaves of the "In" trees). It would reduce much the use of plastic bags. However it might need 'urging' the sellers to do so by the Municipal authorities.

Most housewives or household helps who do the daily marketing for the kitchen usually use plastic 'baskets' for the purpose. Of course

such baskets are durable and easy to wash and clean, however when time comes to dispose old baskets, it poses a problem. If only the housewives or household helps would use baskets made of cane or bamboo it would not only be biodegradable but also promote the basket making rural industries which would provide employment for many.

For shopping in the modern Shopping Centres, it would reduce the use of plastic bags if the shopper used the modern biodegradable and attractive fabric shopping bags now available in any modern Shopping Centre. The shopper should tell the girl at the cash counter to place the articles directly into the shopping bag instead of first placing them in plastic bags unless it is entirely necessary to do so as in the case of damp groceries.

As for use of plastic products in the home, for storage of water it would be better to use the stainless steel receptacles now available instead of plastic receptacles which as mentioned above, are not 'environment friendly'. It is also advisable to buy hot soupy food for taking home in stainless steel receptacles or tiffin carriers of the buyers instead of using plastic bags provided by the seller. It would be more hygienic and pose no plastic bag disposal problem as well.

Now a days our indigenous lacquer ware Industry is producing lacquer ware which are not only beautiful pieces of art but are also of better quality and durability than

As for use of plastic products in the home, for storage of water it would be better to use the stainless steel receptacles now available instead of plastic receptacles which as mentioned above, are not 'environment friendly'.

in the past. We should encourage use of lacquer ware products in our homes instead of plastic products for the same utility purpose. After all a handsome lacquer ware article would be in good taste and be more "presentable" than a plastic or metal article serving the same purpose. It would also promote our indigenous lacquer ware industry and provide employment for many.

In short we should do everything possible to reduce the use of plastic products in our home and in our daily lives. With regard to the use of plastic products, particularly the non-degradable type, the motto should be "Environment over Expediency". ■

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets with Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese

SENIOR General Min Aung Hlaing, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services met with a delegation led by Cardinal Charles Bo, the Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Myanmar at the Bayintnaung Guest House in Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

During the meeting, the Archbishop urged the various participants in recent cease-fire negotiations to continue to try to find a way to bridge their differences and peacefully resolve their conflicts.

The Archbishop and the Senior General discussed various strategies to improve Myanmar's political transition. — Myanmar News Agency ■



C-in-C of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing pose for a documentary photo with a delegation led by Cardinal Charles Bo, the Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Myanmar. PHOTO: MNA

H.E. U Sein Oo presented Credentials to the King of Malaysia

U Sein Oo, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Malaysia, presented his Credentials to His Majesty Sultan Muhammad V, the Yang Di-Pertuan Agong XV of Malaysia on 17 August 2017, in Kuala Lumpur.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Notification 20/2017

14th Waning of Wagaung, 1379 ME
21 August 2017

Seven Defence Services Personnel representatives from Amyotha Hluttaw substituted

According to a request made in accordance with Section 33 of the Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law to substitute seven Defence Services Personnel Representatives who are parliamentarians, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted the following seven Amyotha Hluttaw representatives shown on the left column under the Notification 2/2016 of the commission dated 18-1-2016, the Notification 27/2016 of the commission dated 14-11-2016 and the Notification 9/2017 of the commission dated 16-5-2017 with those shown on the right column.

The Defence Services Personnel Representative of Amyotha Hluttaw to be substituted has been nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the Second Multi-party General Election held on 8 November 2015.

(1) BC 41808 Major Soe Yarza Thike	BC 18637 Colonel Aung Lwin
(2) BC 39694 Major Htet Ko Ko Aung	BC 21123 Colonel Kyaw Kyaw
(3) BC 35188 Major Naing Win Latt	BC 20595 Colonel Naing Oo
(4) BC 29486 Lieutenant Colonel Zarni Aung	BC 21658 Colonel Myo Min Aung
(5) BC 26148 Lieutenant Colonel Kyaw San Oo	BC 17517 Colonel Htein Lin
(6) BC 38392 Major Hein Min Soe	BC 20682 Colonel Tin Aung Tun
(7) BC 21868 Brig-Gen Zaw Zaw Naing	BC 19729 Colonel Soe Moe Aung
	By order, (Tin Tun) Secretary Union Election Commission

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Head of service organisations confirmed and appointed

1. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the following persons as heads of service organisations shown against each on the expiry of one-year probationary period.

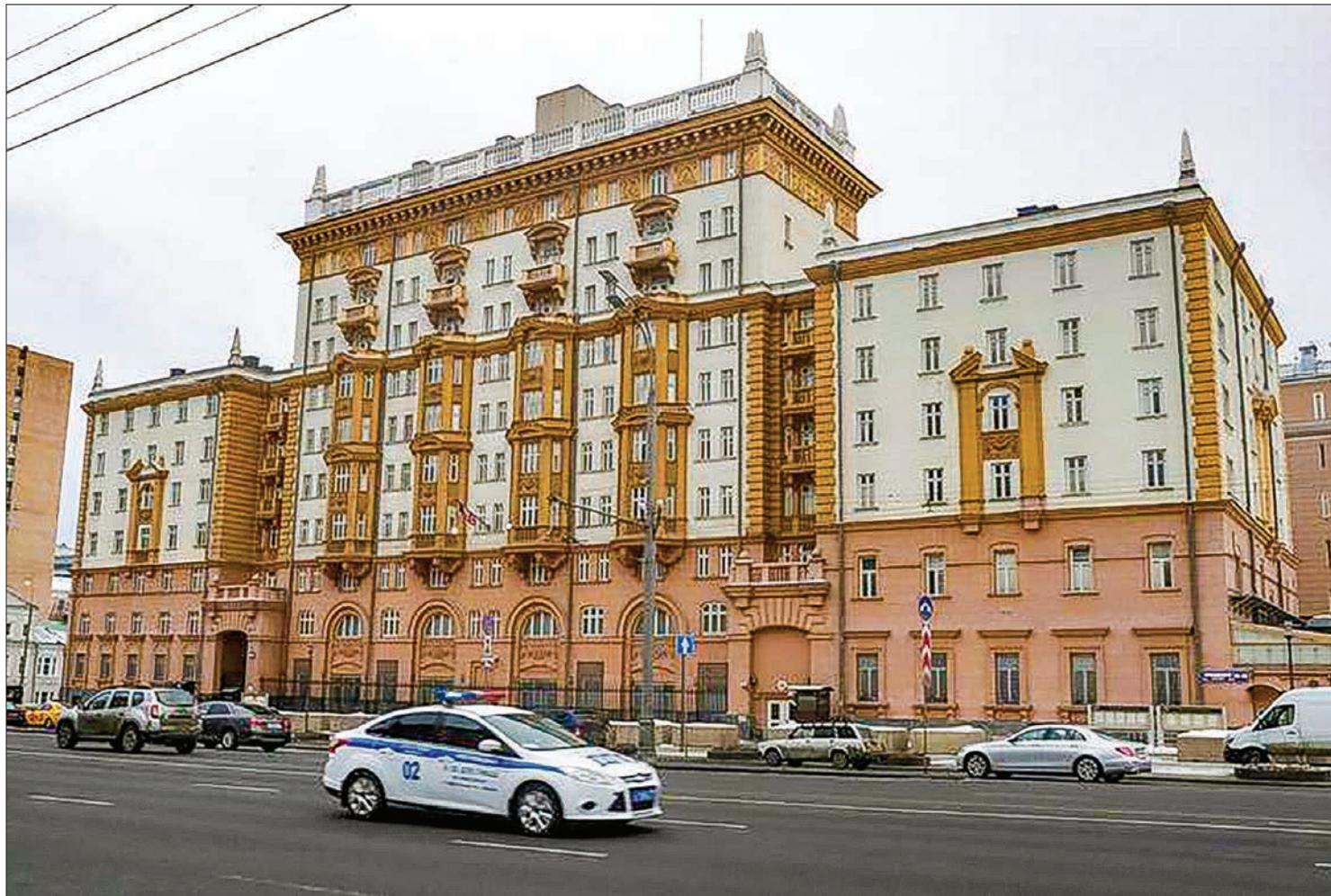
Name	Appointment
(1) U Aye Kyaw	Director-General Electricity transmission and System Control Department Ministry of Electricity and Energy
(2) U Tin Maung Oo	Managing Director Electric Power Supply Enterprise Ministry of Electricity and Energy

2. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed the following persons as heads of service organisations shown against each on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(1) U Aung Myint	Deputy Director-General Department of Historical Research and National Library Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture
(2) Dr Daw San San Aye	Deputy Director-General Social Welfare Department Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

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

WORLD
BRIEFS

A general view of the US embassy in Moscow, Russia on 30 December, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

US scales back Russian visa operations after Putin cuts embassy staff

MOSCOW — The United States began to sharply scale back its visa services in Russia on Monday, drawing an angry reaction from Moscow, three weeks after President Vladimir Putin ordered Washington to more than halve its embassy and consular staff.

The move, which will hit business travellers, tourists and students, was the latest in a series of bilateral measures that have driven relations to a new post-Cold War low, thwarting hopes on both sides that they might improve after President Donald Trump took office in January.

The US embassy said it was suspending all non-immigrant visa operations across Russia on Wednesday and that when they resumed, on 1 September, they would be offered “on a greatly reduced scale.”

Beginning Monday, it would be cancelling an unspecified number of appointments and asking applicants to reschedule, it said in a statement.

“Capacity for interviews in the future will be greatly reduced because we have had to

greatly reduce our staffing levels to comply with the Russian government’s requirement,” the embassy told applicants on its website.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said the US demarche looked like an attempt to provoke ill-feeling among ordinary Russians against the authorities.

“The American authors of these decisions have come up with another attempt to stir up discontent among Russian citizens about the actions of the Russian authorities,” Lavrov told reporters. “It’s a well known logic ... and this is the logic of those who organise colour revolutions.”

The phrase ‘colour revolutions’ refers to uprisings that have unseated pro-Moscow leaders in various countries of the former Soviet Union, an area that Russia regards as its sphere of influence, and which it accuses Washington of inciting.

Lavrov said the US visa move had a “political overtone” and that Moscow would consider how best to respond.

The US step means Russian citizens wanting to visit the United

States for business, tourism or educational reasons will no longer be able to apply via US consulates outside Moscow and will have to travel to the Russian capital instead.

That will pose a serious logistical challenge for many Russians, whose country, the world’s largest by territory, stretches across 11 time zones.

The United States has consulates in St Petersburg, Vladivostok and Yekaterinburg, where a Reuters reporter saw a man unsuccessfully pleading with staff to accept his visa documents a day early. On hearing a refusal, the man, who declined to identify himself, erupted in anger.

The chain of tit-for-tat US and Russian measures began last December when outgoing US President Barack Obama expelled 35 Russian diplomats over allegations Moscow had meddled in the US presidential election, which it denied. Putin refrained from retaliating at the time but last month, after Congress overwhelmingly approved new sanctions against Russia, he ordered Washington to cut its diplomatic and technical staff in Russia by

755 people, or about 60 per cent, by 1 September. Trump, who took office pledging better ties with Moscow, had promised to weigh a response. The US embassy in Russia said Moscow’s decision to slash its staff called into question Russia’s sincerity about pursuing better relations.

US Congressional committees and a special counsel are investigating the conclusions of US intelligence agencies that Russia used hacking and other methods to help Trump beat Hillary Clinton in last November’s election.

They are also looking into possible collusion between his campaign and Russian officials. Moscow has repeatedly denied meddling in the election and Trump denies any campaign collusion.

Russia said earlier this month that the United States issued around 150,000 visas to Russian citizens last year.

The US embassy signalled its new scaled-back visa regime could be in place for some time. “We will operate at reduced capacity for as long as our staffing levels are reduced,” it said. — Reuters

Britain confident of moving onto second phase of Brexit talks

LONDON — Britain is confident its Brexit talks with the European Union are making sufficient progress to move to a second phase in the negotiations to discuss its future partnership by October, a spokeswoman for Prime Minister Theresa May said on Monday.

She also told reporters the government was considering a “number of precedents” in its proposals on how to resolve any future disputes after Britain leaves the jurisdiction of the European Court of Justice in March 2019.—Reuters ■

Norway’s wealth fund takes 48 pct stake in New York property

OSLO — Norway’s \$975-billion sovereign wealth fund, the world’s largest, has bought a 48-percent stake in a New York City property, it said on Monday.

Norges Bank Real Estate Management paid \$223 million for the stake in the 93-year ownership interest of 375 Hudson Street from Trinity Church Wall Street, valuing the property at \$865 million.

The deal was done in a joint venture with Trinity Church Wall Street and Hines, the Norwegian fund added.—Reuters ■

Fire breaks out at wind power plant in southwestern Japan

SAGA, Japan — A fire broke out at a wind power station in the southwestern Japan prefecture of Saga on Monday where a wind turbine began blazing smoke, a local fire department said.

The department received an emergency call reporting the fire at the Kushizaki power plant in Karatsu at around 3 pm.

Local police and firefighters are responding the situation, but the wind turbine is still burning, according to the fire department.—Kyodo News ■

Lebanese president signs public sector pay rise and tax hike laws

BEIRUT — Lebanese President Michel Aoun signed off on public sector wage increases and related tax hikes on Monday, a move that has triggered business concern but could help politicians shore up support ahead of parliamentary elections next year.

Aoun held off ratifying the two laws since parliament approved them last month amid objections from the business community about the economic impact of more taxes on Lebanon's fragile economy.

Finance Minister Ali Hassan Khalil, a proponent of the laws, told Reuters the move would "reflect positively on social stability". He said it would cost an estimated 1.38 trillion Lebanese pounds (\$920 million), while the tax increases would bring in revenue of 1.65 trillion pounds (\$1.1 billion).

But Nassib Ghobril, chief economist at Lebanon's Byblos Bank, said it was difficult to gauge how much it would cost because "we don't know how many employees there are in the public sector".

"It's difficult to put a real,

credible figure on the cost of the public sector salary scale," he said.

The public sector pay scale law has been under discussion for years.

Ghobril said the public sector needed "fundamental and in-depth reforms" before salary increases. Without that, the new legislation amounted to a major "redistribution of income ... to a bloated, inefficient and largely unproductive sector".

The tax law raises value-added tax (VAT) by one percentage point to 11 per cent and hikes corporation tax to 17 per cent from 15 per cent.

While increased public sector pay will prove popular among state workers, the proposed tax increases triggered several protests earlier this year. Some public sector workers had also demonstrated in recent days calling on Aoun to sign the laws.

Many economists say Lebanon should focus more on fighting tax evasion rather than raising new taxes to finance public sector pay increases.

Ghobril said that after years

of deliberation, politicians probably passed the laws now "because we're coming close to parliamentary elections".

Lebanon is expected to hold long-delayed elections in May 2018, after the cabinet approved a new vote law that prevented a major political crisis. Lawmakers have extended their own mandate twice since being elected in 2009 for what was meant to be a four-year term.

The new legislation will take effect once it is published in the government's official gazette. Aoun had chaired a meeting of public and private sector figures last week to discuss the points of contention in both laws.

Aoun's election last year ended a 29-month presidential vacuum in a country that had been crippled by political gridlock for years.

Sunni leader Saad al-Hariri became premier in a power-sharing deal that saw Aoun, a staunch Hezbollah ally, elected president. Saudi-allied Hariri then formed a unity cabinet that includes nearly all of Lebanon's main parties. — Reuters ■

Hezbollah uses drones against IS in Syria- Hezbollah-run media

BEIRUT — Lebanon's Hezbollah used drones to strike Islamic State in Syria close to the border with Lebanon, a military media unit it runs said on Monday, their first public declaration that they had used such a weapon.

Hezbollah deployed the drones to hit Islamic State positions, bunkers and fortifications in the Western Qalamoun area near the border with Lebanon, achieving direct hits, the military media unit said.

An official in the military alliance fighting in support of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad told Reuters it was the first time Hezbollah had declared its

use of the weapons.

Early on Saturday Hezbollah and the Syrian army began an operation against an Islamic State enclave straddling the border with Lebanon in Syria's Western Qalamoun. The Lebanese army began a separate but simultaneous operation against the same jihadist pocket from inside Lebanon.

Any joint operation between the Lebanese army on the one hand and the Syrian army on the other would be politically sensitive in Lebanon and could jeopardise the US military aid the country receives.

— Reuters ■

40 civilians killed in US-led airstrikes in Syria's Raqqa

DAMASCUS — At least 40 civilians were killed and dozens injured in airstrikes by the US-led coalition on neighborhoods in Raqqa city in Syria, local sources said on Monday.

The airstrikes targeted residential buildings in northern Raqqa, while the clashes continued between the Syri-

an Democratic Forces and IS militants on the outskirts of the city.

The Syrian opposition announced earlier reaching an agreement with a Russian military delegation to ceasefire between opposition fighters and regime forces in western Qalamoun. — Xinhua ■

Iraqi forces must rescue many abducted Yazidis from Tal Afar —Yazidi MP

ERBIL — As Iraqi forces pressed their offensive to retake Tal Afar on Monday, a Yazidi politician urged them to quickly rescue the many Yazidi men, women and children still believed to be held captive in the city by Islamic State militants.

Vian Dakhil, a member of the Iraqi parliament, said the fate of children who had been kidnapped, sold or had their identities changed was of particular concern.

Dakhil won international prominence in 2014, when she

stood up in parliament and begged for help for the religious minority that had come under militant attack in Sinjar.

The Yazidi area in northern Iraq had previously been home to about 400,000. In a matter of days, more than 3,000 Yazidis

were killed and about 6,800 kidnapped, either sold into slavery or conscripted to fight for Islamic State.

More than 3,000 women and children are still believed to be held captive by Islamic State, according to community leaders.

"We ask the leaders of the military and security forces to take precautions regarding the large number of kidnapped Yazidis still present in Tal Afar and its surrounding villages," Dakhil said in a statement.

She urged the advancing Iraqi force to rescue the enslaved Yazidis "as soon as possible".

Dakhil asked for rescued Yazidis to be separated from other fleeing civilians and not be sent to refugee camps.

Tal Afar is one of the few remaining Islamic State strongholds in northern Iraq.

Between 10,000 and 40,000 people are thought to remain in Tal Afar and its surrounding villages, with more than 30,000 having fled since April, according to UN estimates.

Important for its position along the supply route between Mosul and Syria, it has produced some of Islamic State's most senior commanders and was cut off from the rest of IS-held territory in June.

About 2,000 battle-hardened militants remain in Tal Afar, according to US and Iraqi military commanders.

Iraqi security forces launched their offensive to retake Tal Afar on Sunday. Announcing the start of the operation, Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi told jihadists to "surrender or die".

Several surrounding villages and roads had already been retaken by the second day of the offensive, with a view to trapping the remaining militants in the city itself.

A Federal Police spokesman said a network of tunnels had also been seized.

"We are cutting off the arms of the octopus to make it weaker and vulnerable," Colonel Kareem al-Lami of the Iraqi army's 9th Division, said. — Reuters ■



Iraqi army fire against Islamic State militants on the outskirts of Tal Afar, Iraq on 20 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Passenger ground effect vehicle seating 100 to be created in Russia in 2020-2022

MOSCOW — Sea-based multirole ground effect vehicle Chaika (Seagull) will be created in Russia in 2020-2022, the executive director of the research and industrial association Radar MMS, Ivan Antsev said. "Designer documentation is being drafted for this project at the moment. Work is in progress on its model and the details of control, piloting, navigation and radio-electronic systems. Scale models have

been tested. We are determined to make Chaika fly in the near future. It is realistic to expect it will materialize in 2020-2022," he said.

"Chaika is a ground effect vehicle (sometimes referred to as flying yacht) having a displacement of 54 tonnes capable of carrying 100 passengers. Inside it will look like a plane and have a crew of two," Antsev said. Chaika will be about 35 meters long and carry a payload of nine

tonnes. It will be used for carrying passengers, in emergencies, for ecological monitoring and cargo transportation.

"In principle I can say that the government is interested in GEV vehicles. We are working in this direction... The GEVs are a fundamentally new and promising type of transport. It can approach unequipped coast, fly over rough seas and carry large payloads," Antsev said.—Tass ■



A model of sea-based multipurpose ground effect vehicle. PHOTO: TASS

Vehicle ramming kills one in Marseille, no terrorist motive seen

MARSEILLE, France — At least one person was killed and another injured in Marseille on Monday when a van crashed into two bus shelters in different parts of the French city, police said, in an incident not being treated as terrorism at this stage.

Police advised the public to avoid the Old Port area where the driver, a 35-year-old man, was arrested.

A source close to the investigation told Reuters the suspect was known to police for minor crimes and had psychological issues. France's counter-terrorism prosecutor said it had not taken up the case at this stage.

"The arrest was made in a surprisingly calm fashion, no gunshots were exchanged," David Reverdy, of the Alliance police union in Marseille, told BFM TV. The driver first hit a bus shelter around 8:15 am (0615 GMT) in the poorer northern part of the city, before ramming into a second one an hour later, several kilometres (miles) to the south. "The distance travelled



French police conduct their investigation in the French port city of Marseille after one person was killed and another injured after a vehicle crashed into two bus shelters, in Marseille, France on 21 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

by the driver suggests a certain determination," Reverdy said.

"But we can ask ourselves: why these places? If one wanted to cause carnage, other places in Marseille, at another time of day, would have been more logical," he said. The incident comes as Spanish police hunt for a 22-year-old suspect they believe was behind the wheel of a van that ploughed through

crowds in Barcelona on Thursday, killing 13.

France has been under a state of emergency since Islamist militants killed 130 people in and around Paris in November 2015. Another 86 people were killed in an attack in Nice in July last year, when a Tunisian man drove a truck along the seafront boulevard, mowing down Bastille Day revellers. —Reuters ■

74-yr-old man rescued 1 week after losing contact in Japanese Alps

TOYAMA, Japan — A 74-year-old man was rescued in the Northern Japan Alps on Sunday, a week after he fell there and lost contact, police said.

Kiyoyuki Tsutsui from Hiroshima said he had eaten pieces of chocolate and drunk water from mountain runoffs while

keeping himself warm with his raincoat, according to the police. He was found debilitated but his condition is not life-threatening.

Tsutsui slipped on a trail at an altitude of about 1,000 meters in Kurobe, Toyama Prefecture, at around 4 pm on 13 August and then fell about 10 metres down a

slope. He entered the mountain range from Niigata Prefecture on 10 August, planning to descend four days later.

A relative had reported him missing to the police on Friday before they began searching for him on Sunday morning. —Kyodo News ■

Merkel hits out at predecessor in Russia row ahead election

BERLIN — German Chancellor Angela Merkel criticised her predecessor, Gerhard Schroeder, on Monday for taking a new job at Russian oil producer Rosneft and said she did not intend to take any posts in industry once she leaves politics.

The nomination of Social Democrat Schroeder to the board of Rosneft, subject to Western sanctions over Moscow's role in the Ukraine crisis, has caused an outcry in Germany, especially in a climate of fear about any potential Russian interference in the 24 September vote.

"I do not think what Mr Schroeder is doing is okay," Merkel, a conservative, told Bild newspaper in an interview broadcast live online.

"I don't intend to take any posts in industry once I am no longer chancellor, but I am first fully concentrated on the election and the fact that I would like to be chancellor again," added Merkel, 63.

Combative Schroeder, 73, who makes no bones about his friendship with Russian President Vladimir Putin, has defended his decision to join Rosneft and accused his foes of political manoeuvring to help get Merkel re-elected.

Last week, he said his planned new job at Rosneft would not damage the Social Democratic Party (SPD).

The SPD are trailing Merkel's conservatives in most polls by around 15 percentage points though many commentators expect them to again join a right-left "grand coalition".

Schroeder is already a divisive figure in the SPD due to his labour market reforms and some members have distanced themselves from their former leader.

Russia owns 50 per cent plus one share of Rosneft and some conservatives and Greens have also criticised Schroeder for his "shameless" behaviour.

Schroeder is already chairman of the shareholders' committee of Nord Stream AG, a Gazprom-led consortium established for the construction of a pipeline carrying Russian natural gas across the Baltic.

It is not the first time Schroeder has been attacked for his ties to Russia. Just weeks after Russia annexed Crimea in 2014, he drew criticism for giving Putin a bear hug at the Russian leader's birthday party in St Petersburg. Schroeder, whose father died in World War Two fighting the Red Army, is also still ridiculed for saying back in 2005 that he agreed with a description of Putin as a "flawless democrat". —Reuters ■

Ten missing, five injured in US destroyer's collision with oil tanker

WASHINGTON — The US Navy destroyer John S. McCain collided with an oil tanker east of Singapore and the Strait of Malacca early Monday local time, leaving 10 crew members missing and five others injured, the Navy said.

The destroyer belongs to the 7th Fleet based in Yokosuka near Tokyo. Another guided-missile destroyer from the fleet, the Fitzgerald, collided with a container ship near the Japanese coast in June, killing seven sailors aboard the warship.

The collision damaged the rear section on the port side of the John S McCain but the ship was able to sail under its own power and arrived at Changi Naval Base in Singapore, the Navy said.

It also said search and rescue efforts are under way in coordination with local authorities.

Of the five injured, four were taken to a hospital in Singapore by a helicopter for non-life threatening injuries and the fifth sailor

does not require further medical attention, the Navy said. The John S McCain collided with the tanker Alnic MC east of the Strait of Malacca, and the collision was reported at 5:24 am, Singapore time, according to the Navy. The accident, which occurred within Singaporean waters, has left the tanker damaged but without injuries to its crew, the Maritime Port Authority of Singapore said. The destroyer was travelling to Singapore for a routine port visit at the time.

Singapore and Malaysian authorities have both dispatched ships to assist the US Navy in the search and rescue efforts, while the Navy has mobilized an Osprey transport aircraft and Seahawk helicopters.

“Thoughts & prayers are w/ our @USNavy sailors aboard the #USS-JohnSMcCain where search & rescue efforts are underway,” US President Donald Trump tweeted late Sunday night.

The John S McCain is the same Arleigh Burke-



The US Navy guided-missile destroyer USS John S McCain is seen after a collision, in Singapore waters on 21 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

class destroyer as the Fitzgerald and is 154 meters long. On 10 August, it took part in the Navy's third “freedom of navigation operation” in the South China Sea since Trump became president, Reuters news agency reported earlier. The destroyer sailed within 12 nautical miles, or 22 kilo-

metres, of Mischief Reef in the Spratly Islands, among a string of islets, reefs and shoals, the report said.

China has territorial rows with its neighbors over the area.

The Alnic MC is a Liberian-flagged, 183-metre oil and chemical tanker that was due to make a port call

at Singapore on Monday after leaving a port in South Korea on 3 July, according to ship-related information site MarineTraffic.

The US Navy said last week it will remove the commander and two other senior officers of the Fitzgerald over the fatal collision with the Philip-

pine-flagged container ship off Japan's Izu Peninsula on 17 June.

The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore said there is no report of oil pollution, and that traffic in the Singapore Strait is unaffected, adding that it is investigating the incident.—Kyodo News

Vietnamese sailor rescued from Philippine militants' camp after nine months

MANILA — Philippine troops raided an Islamist militants' camp on a remote southern island and rescued a Vietnamese sailor held captive for nine months, a navy spokeswoman said on Monday.

More than 20 people,

including 14 foreigners, are being held by pro-Islamic State militants Abu Sayyaf on two islands in the south, some of them for as long as three years. Do Trung Huige, 33, was left behind when troops attacked an Abu Sayyaf camp on Mataja

island on Saturday, Jesca May Viduya, spokeswoman for the Western Mindanao naval forces, said.

“There was no fire-fight because his captors abandoned him as troops approached,” she said, adding the sailor was ab-

ducted with five others in November by militants who attacked a cargo ship.

Two Vietnamese sailors are still being held, two were beheaded and another was rescued. On nearby Jolo island, two Vietnamese sailors were among 19

captives still being held in a separate abduction.

The Abu Sayyaf group is notorious for bombings, beheadings, extortion and kidnap-for-ransom in the south of the mainly Roman Catholic country. One of its leaders, Isnilon Hapi-

lon, has been blamed for planning the occupation of a mainly Muslim city in the south. More than 700 people have been killed and 400,000 displaced in the three-month battle to retake Marawi City which has yet to end.—Reuters

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV SENTOSA STAR VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SENTOSA STAR VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.8.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S BLPL SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RATNA VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RATNA VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.8.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV HAN HUI VOY. NO (1720-)

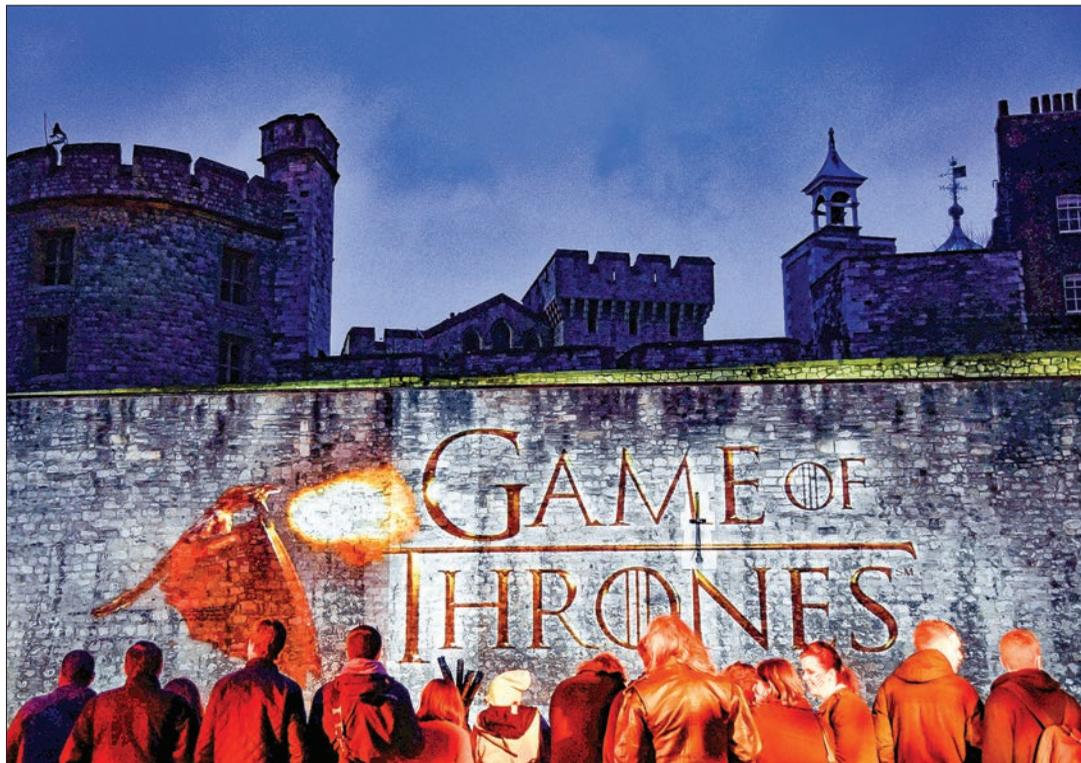
Consignees of cargo carried on MV HAN HUI VOY. NO (1720-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.8.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.P.T-2 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S HANSSY SHIPPING PTE
LTD

Phone No: 2301928



Fans wait for guests to arrive at the world premiere of the television fantasy drama "Game of Thrones" series 5, at The Tower of London, England on 18 March 2015. Photo: REUTERS

'GOT' final season won't begin shooting until October

LOS ANGELES — "Game of Thrones" final and eighth season will go on floors in October.

The HBO fantasy drama actor Nikolaj Coster-Waldau first broke the news in an interview with Collider.

The fans seem to be quite

excited for the season seven last episode but they they all might have to wait for the final end of the show as October is a later start date than usual for the series, reported Entertainment Weekly.

"Game of Thrones" typically starts filming in

mid-summer and shoots until the end of the year.

However, the current season was an exception as it started production in September last year which went on till February, 2017.

The season eight will consist of six episodes.—PTI ■

"Wolf Warrior 2" tops Chinese box office for 4th week

BEIJING — Chinese action film "Wolf Warrior 2" continued to dominate the Chinese film market in the week ending on 20 August, grossing 559 million yuan (84 million US dollars), China Film News reported on Monday.

The film, which tells the story of a former Chinese Special Forces operative's adventures rescuing compatriots and local friends in a war-torn region of Africa occupied by insurgents and mercenaries, has made 5.1 billion yuan since hitting Chinese screens on 27 July.

Hong Kong action movie "Paradox" came in second with 276 million yuan in sales in Chinese theaters in its debut week.

"Twenty-two", a domestic documentary telling the stories of "comfort women" survivors, landed in third place earning 123 million yuan.

The film was named after the number of comfort women alive at the time of its filming in 2014. It is estimated at least 200,000 Chinese women were forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese invaders during World War II.

Domestic suspense movie "Guilty of Mind" came in fourth, generating 90 million yuan.

Rounding out the top five was Chinese action movie "The Adventures" featuring Jean Reno and Andy Lau, which grossed 77 million yuan.—Xinhua ■

Unfortunate Partition: 1947 has been banned in Pak: Gurinder

LONDON — Gurinder Chadha's "Partition: 1947" has been banned in Pakistan and the filmmaker has called it "unfortunate".

The 57-year-old director took to Twitter to express her disappointment.

"It is unfortunate my film has been banned in Pakistan. It will always be the land of my ancestors. #Partition1947 @humasqureshi @RelianceEnt,"

Chadha wrote.

The film's story centres on Partition of India and Pakistan in 1947 and the impact on human lives in its aftermath.

It was released as "Viceroys House" around the world.

The film, starring Huma Qureshi, Hugh Bonneville, Gillian Anderson, Manish Dayal and Om Puri, released in India last Friday.—PTI ■

Comedy legend Jerry Lewis dies at 91

WASHINGTON — Veteran American entertainer Jerry Lewis, whose goofy brand of physical comedy endeared him to millions in a career spanning six decades, died aged 91, his agent said.

One of the most popular comic actors of the 1950s and '60s, Lewis perfected the role of the quirky clown in slapstick comedies like "The Nutty Professor" but also won acclaim as a writer, actor and philanthropist.

"Very sadly Jerry Lewis has passed," his agent Jeff Wijtas told AFP. Variety reported that the comic legend died in Las Vegas early today morning.

Honoured with accolades at home and abroad, including a nomination for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1977, Lewis became known as much for his tireless efforts to promote awareness of Muscular Dystrophy as for his unique brand of physical comedy.

Over the course of 45 years, he raised some 2.45 billion dollars for combatting the disease with an annual television event.

Born Joseph Levitch in Newark, New Jersey to two New York City entertainers, Lewis first took centre stage at the tender age of five, when he performed "Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?" He began playing at resorts outside New York City that catered to Jewish patrons, known by touring entertainers as the Borscht Circuit.

By age 15, he had assembled his own routine of comedic lip-synching and made the rounds of New York talent agents, although only a burlesque house in Buffalo was interested. At the age of 20, however, everything changed for Lewis, when he embarked on arguably one of the most successful entertainment partnerships of all time with smooth crooner Dean Martin.



Veteran American entertainer Jerry Lewis. Photo: PTI

The two fed off each other in now-classic comedy gags, including pratfalls, slapstick and lots of seltzer water. They signed a long-term contract with Paramount Pictures, and starred in 1949's "My Friend Irma," where Lewis delivered a performance described as "the funniest thing in the picture."

Other notable films in Lewis'

repertoire include "It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World" (1959), "The Geisha Boy" (1958) and "Funnybones" (1984).

His box office grosses, spanning nearly 50 years, total 800 million dollars — an impressive figure since movie tickets cost no more than 50 cents during the height of his popularity.

After 17 films together, the

Lewis-Martin partnership split in 1956, but Lewis continued his career in comedy and Hollywood. He won acclaim for his dramatic role in the 1983 Martin Scorsese film "The King of Comedy," co-starring with Robert De Niro that showed his acting versatility.

In recent decades, Lewis had been plagued by health problems, and was declared clinically dead in 1982 after a heart attack. Ten years later he was diagnosed with prostate cancer and in 1997 found out he had diabetes. A diagnosis of spinal meningitis in 2000 further caused his health to deteriorate. But he was determined not to let ill health keep him from working as long as possible, including on a Broadway musical adaptation of "The Nutty Professor" as recently as 2011. "I have to finish what I've started," he told the Los Angeles Times in a 2010 interview. "I want to do it before I leave."—PTI ■

Prince Akishino, daughter Princess Mako visit southern Hungary farm

BUGAC (Hungary) — Japan's Prince Akishino and his daughter Princess Mako on Sunday visited a farm raising rare pigs in Bugac, southern Hungary, during their private trip to conduct livestock research in the prince's field of interest.

The two took a horse-drawn buggy tour of the farm in a national park in Bugac, southeast of Budapest. After seeing a shepherding exhibition, they observed a Mangalitsa pig, a hairy Hungarian breed designated as a national treasure.

Prince Akishino, the second son of Emperor Akihito, who has made research on livestock his lifework, looked closely at the pig and asked questions on its features and raising methods.

As Hungary boasts rare pig and cow species, he has long been interested in visiting the country.

On Saturday, the prince and daughter visited a folk museum in the capital that showcases traditional clothes, household items and agricultural equipment.

The princess, who



Japanese Prince Akishino and his daughter Princess Mako take a coach ride at a farm in Bugac, Hungary on 20 August, 2017. Their trip comes prior to her engagement announcement in September. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

has been engaged in museum studies research, showed her interest in pottery used for keeping wine.

As Princess Mako, the eldest granddaughter of the emperor, is set to announce her engagement with her long time

boyfriend Kei Komuro on 3 September, the visit to Hungary could be her last overseas trip with her father while she is

still single.

The two are expected to return home together on Wednesday. —Kyodo News ■

Catching' a U-2 fresh back from America's air wars

AL DHAFRA AIR BASE — It may not sound possible to "catch" an American spy plane while driving a Dodge Charger. But that's precisely what we did on a sweltering August afternoon at Al Dhafra Air Base in the United Arab Emirates.

In a US Air Force safety maneuver that hardly felt like one, our car raced onto the military runway just as a U-2 spy plane approached for a landing.

The plane itself was designed in the 1950s to grip the lightest parts of the atmosphere some 70,000 feet above the Earth, so, in the words of one of the U-2 pilots, "it really doesn't want to stop

flying." Enter the Dodge Charger, which along with another so-called "chase car" helped guide the spy plane down to the runway, speeding at about 90 miles per hour — an operation perfected over the many years of the famed U-2 Dragon Lady's operations.

The Air Force allowed Reuters to accompany it on a ride. The U-2 pilots have limited visibility due to the design of plane and their full-body, astronaut-like pressurized suits.

A chase car driver provides critical information in the final moments of flight to the cockpit, like the U-2's distance from the runway. That helps the pilot stall the engine at just the right

moment. The process is called "catching" a U-2, the Air Force said.

It was just one small part of an often invisible, daily choreography of Air Force operations around the world that guide everything from the air war against Islamic State to intelligence collection on North Korea's missile programs.

Al Dhafra, a sprawling UAE-hosted military base outside Abu Dhabi, is home to everything from American spy planes like the U-2 to advanced F-22 fighter jets and "tanker" aircraft that refuel US warplanes in mid-air. It is a critical hub for the US Air Force in the Middle East.

The pilot from the U-2 that landed on this runway in the Emirates was appropriately cautious about discussing his mission.

Asked where he flew, he quipped: "You can go pretty far in nine hours."

The U-2 was secretly developed during the Cold War to help the United States peer behind the Iron Curtain at Soviet military capabilities and made its first flight in August, 1955.

The U-2's ability to gather enormous amounts of intelligence from its stratospheric perch above the Earth is a matter of record.

U-2 photographs of a Soviet nuclear missile buildup in Cuba set off the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962. The U-2 flights themselves also carry risk. The intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance building at al Dhafra is named in tribute to Major Duane "Muff" Dively, a U-2 pilot who died when his jet experienced a mechanical failure on its approach to the desert base in 2005.

The U-2 models are more sophisticated than ones used in 1960, when a spy plane piloted by Gary Powers was shot down over the Soviet Union. But they still box in the pilot and require brute strength to operate flight controls.

"It's like a wrestling match in there," said another U-2 pilot. The Air Force website acknowledges that all those factors give the U-2 "a widely accepted title as the most difficult aircraft in the world to fly." — Reuters ■



A U-2 "Dragon Lady" aircraft takes off from Osan Air Base, South Korea in this US Air Force handout photo on 21 October, 2009. **PHOTO: REUTERS**



Myanmar International

Programme Schedule

(22-8-2017 07:00am ~ 23-8-2017 07:00am) MST

07:03	Am	News
07:26	Am	The Crocodiles of Meinmahla Island
07:52	Am	Welcome to Saga Prefecture
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	A Journey for Healthy Future (The 36th Geumsan Insam Festival) Day 2
08:46	Am	Gardener: King Orange Plantation
09:03	Am	News
09:25	Am	The Strokes of Myanmar
09:51	Am	Today Myanmar: World Elephant Day
10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	Impressionist Myanmar Master Artist - U Lun Gywe
10:43	Am	The Beauty In The North Of Myanmar

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

Prime Time

07:03	Pm	News
07:26	Pm	A Day Out With Sarah (EP-5)
07:52	Pm	Soft Drinks without Vendor
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	Taste Of Myanmar (Rice Salad with Vegetables)
08:45	Pm	Aye Aye Soe: Myanma Pioneer Female Bodybuilder

(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am) - Monday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(03:00 Am ~ 07:00 Am) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)

(For Detailed Schedule - www.myanmaritv.com/schedule)

Myanmar defeated by Malaysia at SEA Games

KyawZin Lin

Myanmar have grown in strength as the 29th SEA Games in Malaysia has progressed, with the opening 2-0 win over Singapore followed by a 3-1 triumph over Laos and an impressive 6-0 win over Brunei but lost unluckily to host Malaysia 3-1 at the Shah Alam Stadium yesterday.

The opening minutes were even as the teams sized each other up but Malaysia slowly began to control the game as the minutes ticked away.

However, it was Myanmar who had the first glimpse at goal in the 18th minute when Myan-

mar's Si Thu Aung found an unguarded Aung Thu who already has four goals to his name in the tournament but the striker's touch abandoned him on this occasion as he headed wide.

Malaysia kept pressing and Myanmar's resistance finally broke in the 33rd minute and Malaysia's Thanabalan scored an opening goal for his team at 33 minute.

Malaysia forced back to Myanmar's defense line two minutes later as another cross from the right by Kumaahran was nodded home by the surging Safawi.

Myanmar responded early in the second half with having many



A crowd in Mahabaddoola Park in Yangon watches the Myanmar football match on a large outdoor screen. **PHOTO:GNLM/PHOE KHWAR**

close calls and threatening over the Malaysia's defensive line but did not get enough the target.

As of Myanmar's defensive line errors, Malaysia's Thana-

balan nod home in the 82nd minute for Malaysia.

Among the Malaysia's defensive mix-up, Myanmar's star Than Paing gratefully scored on

a consolation for Myanmar in the 86th minute but it was Malaysia who had sent an ominous warning as the tournament prepares for the knock-out stage. ■

Liverpool must rotate to compete on two fronts — Klopp



Liverpool manager Juergen Klopp. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

LONDON — Liverpool must rotate their squad this season if they are to sustain their challenge in both the Premier League and the Champions League, manager Juergen Klopp has said.

Klopp made five changes to the starting lineup for Saturday's 1-0 victory over Crystal Palace, a game sandwiched in between two legs of their Champions League playoff against Hoffenheim.

The German is taking nothing for granted despite Liverpool's 2-1 lead over the Bundesliga side ahead of their return leg at Anfield.

"We all have pressure and it's a quick start always," Klopp told reporters. "You need to be there immediately, deliver and all that stuff."

"The difference this year

is that it's really hard, we all know a draw today, two points instead of four or six, it doesn't feel good but you can sort it.

"You can't do this in a Champions League qualifier. This intensity is really hard, for both teams not just us, yes that's very special and that's why we made the changes today." Substitutes Dejan Lovren, Emre Can and Mohamed Salah are all expected to return to the starting lineup against Hoffenheim on Wednesday. Klopp said he will keep shuffling his pack during the European competition as long as the replacements continue to impress. "It's all about the boys. If they play in a game like this today, if they perform like this then yes, we will change, 100 per cent," he added.—Reuters ■

Conte salutes his Chelsea fighters after battling display

LONDON — For all the talk of crisis at Stamford Bridge following last week's meltdown against Burnley, Chelsea manager Antonio Conte was left saluting his side on Sunday after they edged Tottenham Hotspur 2-1 in a match they could just as easily have lost.

"I think I must be pleased," said Conte, whose nine-man side were beaten 3-2 by Burnley in their opening match of the new Premier League season.

"I want to thank my players because they showed me great desire and heart and I saw today the fighters."

The Italian was particularly pleased because the champions were without the suspended Cesc

Fabregas and Gary Cahill, giving Tiemoue Bakayoko his debut and trusting Andreas Christensen at the heart of their defence.

But it was a couple of old hands in David Luiz and Marcos Alonso who stood out.

The Brazilian was pushed forward into midfield and had a hand in both goals. Chelsea made the breakthrough against the run of play on 23 minutes when Alonso thumped home a superb free kick from 20 metres after Dele Alli had fouled Luiz.

But Luiz also stood strong when Spurs threatened to overrun Chelsea with the quickfire passing that served them so well last season. "David played very well, it was an amazing perfor-

mance from him," said Conte.

"He played with great experience and personality, a point of reference for other players. But it is easy to forget we had four new players from last season and we played like we wanted to show we were champions." Conte again said the club were working towards strengthening the squad in the transfer window, with at least three arrivals expected.

"For us it is very important to be focused on ourself. We know a lot of teams have improved since last season," he said.

"The club is trying to do its best in the transfer market but today I must be satisfied with my players because they gave me everything."—Reuters ■

Former England manager McClaren takes up Tel Aviv coaching role

TEL AVIV — Former England manager Steve McClaren has agreed to join Israel's Maccabi Tel Aviv as a coaching consultant to new manager Jordi Cruyff, the Israeli Premier League club said on Monday.

McClaren coached England for 16 months from 2006 before being sacked following the team's failure to qualify for the 2008 European Championships. He also previously managed

Middlesbrough, Nottingham Forest and Newcastle United.

"I have huge respect for such a well known club both in Israel and in Europe and I intend to help Jordi and the players achieve success for the fans this season," McClaren told Tel Aviv's website (www.maccabi-tlv.co.il).

The 56-year-old previously worked with Cruyff at Manchester United where McClaren was

assistant manager under Alex Ferguson from 1999-2001 while Cruyff played for the Premier League club.

McClaren also coached Dutch side FC Twente in two separate spells from 2008-10, leading them to the Dutch league title in 2010, and from 2012-13, where he resigned after a year due to poor performances that led to widespread criticism from fans.—Reuters ■