

PARLIAMENT
Pyithu Hluttaw discusses Rakhine's state of affairs
PAGE-2

PARLIAMENT
Fisheries and roads discussed at Amyotha Hluttaw
PAGE-2

NATIONAL
Two Himalayan black bears freed
PAGE-6



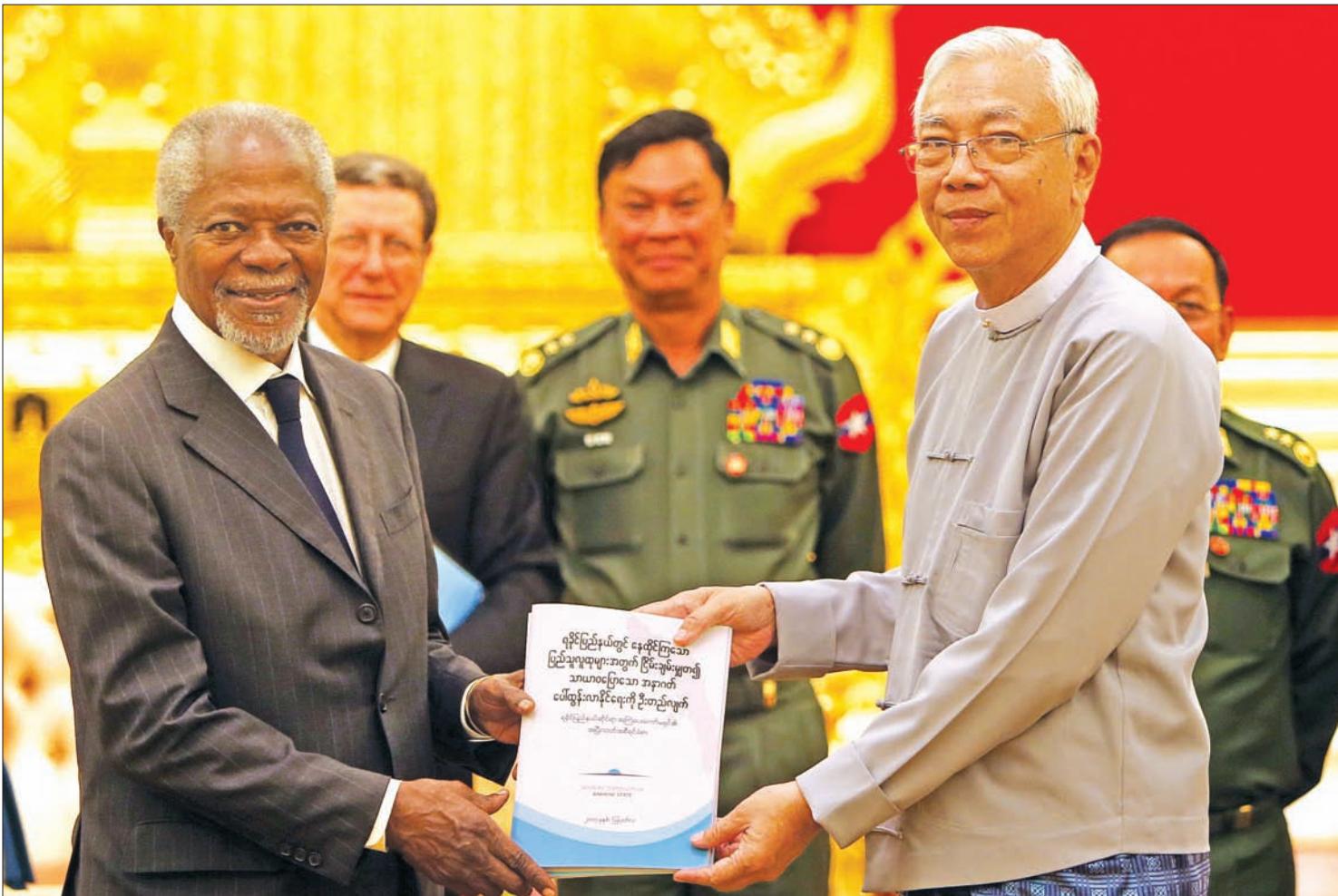
NATIONAL
Village administrator killed in Maungtaw
PAGE-6

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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President U Htin Kyaw accepts the final report of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State presented by Mr Kofi Annan. PHOTO: AUNG SHINE OO

President receives Rakhine Advisory Commission

President U Htin Kyaw received members of the Rakhine Advisory Commission led by its chairman, Dr. Kofi Annan, and accepted the commission's final report on Rakhine State at the Hall of the Presidential Palace

in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The president said yesterday that it was his belief that the advice contained in the final report will be supportive to the peace, stability and development works in Rakhine State,

which has experienced renewed conflict, disruption and violence over the past year.

President U Htin Kyaw also expressed his hope that international and regional communities would understand the challeng-

es and current situation being faced by the government, requesting help for the country as it makes efforts to boost the trust between Myanmar and international communities.

SEE PAGE-6

India's policy change on pea imports impacts Myanmar

Min Thit
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

SEVERE restrictions announced recently by India limiting the amount of pea products from Myanmar has quickly and adversely affected the local pulses market, officials said yesterday.

On Monday, India capped imports of mung beans and green mung beans (pigeon peas) at only 300,000 tons, after the prices of the pulses plummeted due to record production. This was in addition to an earlier decision to import only 200,000 tons of toor whole (pesingone) — Myanmar's major export — on 5 August, causing an immediate, negative impact on Myanmar's pulses market.

The restriction will help support prices of the lentils in India, the world's biggest importer of the pulses, but will put pressure on producers in Myanmar, which relies heavily on exports to India.

According to the Myanmar Pulses, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchant Association, there were 100,000 tons of toor whole and 300,000 tons of mung beans left in the hands of local merchants due to the Indian government's decision to restrict Myanmar's three major pea exports.

SEE PAGE-3

KBZ BANK
STRENGTH OF MYANMAR

သဒ္ဓါထက်သန် မြန်မာအားမာန် ကမ္ဘောဇဘဏ်

Pyithu Hluttaw discusses Rakhine's state of affairs

Kyaw Thu Htet
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

The 2nd Pyithu Hluttaw 5th Regular Meeting 49th Day was held yesterday and many discussions on Rakhine State were made.

Daw Khin Saw Wai of Yathedaung Constituency passed a motion to strengthen administration and security processes in Maungtau, Buthidaung and Yathedaung in Rakhine State. She said the various activities of radical extremist groups in Rakhine are threatening the national security, rule of law and livelihoods of local residents.

U Maung Myint of Mingin Constituency said "Bangladesh has a population of 163 million people and an area that covers over 50,000 square miles whereas Myanmar has a population of 53 million people and an area that covers over 260,000 square miles so it's no surprise that Bengalis emigrate into My-



U Hla Htun Kyaw of Maungtau Constituency. **PHOTO: MNA**

anmar. The reason they don't enter neighboring India is because India has built a complete border wall and has deployed 300 border security regiments to guard it with permission to shoot to kill anyone crossing the border illegally. Myanmar has not completed its border walls yet nor does it have adequate border security so it's no surprise that many Bengalis flood into Myanmar."

"Myanmar's Interfaith Marriage Law was passed in

the first Pyithu Hluttaw but we need to establish by-laws and put things into practice. The Government should act in accord with the 1982 Citizenship Law and properly inspect Bengalis and administer Rakhine State with the Tatmadaw," he said.

U Hla Htun Kyaw of Maungtau Constituency said that the total population of Maungtau Township is about 529,661 people and ethnic people only make up 6 per cent of the population making it a geopolitical loss.

Daw Mar Mar Khine of Thaton Constituency said that in her view the government has been dutifully fulfilling its role in peacefully administering Rakhine State. She concluded that there is no need to urge someone or an organisation that is doing its job. Nine other Hluttaw representatives discussed the motion and the discussion and decision of the Pyithu Hluttaw will be made in the next session on 24 August. ■



Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Win Myint meets Vice Chairman of International Affairs Committee of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. **PHOTO: MNA**

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint receives Mr Yuan Guiren

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint received Vice Chairman of International Affairs Committee of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Mr Yuan Guiren and party at the Hall of Pyithu Hluttaw building, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday 2pm.

During the meeting, the matters relating to Myanmar-

China cooperation and relations and promoting bilateral interest were discussed exchanging the views.

Present at the meeting were Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U T Khun Myat, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw's International Relations Committee U Zaw Thein and officials.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Fisheries and roads discussed at Amyotha Hluttaw

Thura Zaw
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

The Amyotha Hluttaw discussed the development of Myanmar's fisheries industry and a new road project in Kayah State during yesterday's regular meeting in Nay Pyi Taw.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw said that the Fisheries Department is inspecting fishing boats to regulate their activities. The department has also worked with the French Development Agency (AFD) to mandate foreign fishing vessels to use GPS devices for monitoring and conservation purposes.

Amyotha Hluttaw member Daw Ma Ma Lay of Shan State



Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw. **PHOTO: MNA**

said that fisheries industry development in Myanmar requires more expertise.

"Without the development of a fisheries university, the industry will not develop," she said. "We need better breeding techniques for freshwater and

saltwater fish, feed production and conservation strategies."

Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw said that a Ks764 million fund is required for a 3.7-mile Minelone-Myaungkhwa road and Ks663 million is required for a 3.16-mile Myaungkhwa-Seelin road and a quarter-mile Minelone-Seelin road in 2018 and 2019. The funds will be provided by Union and State budget, he said.

Colonel Aung Lwin, Colonel Kyaw Kyaw, Colonel Naing Oo, Colonel Myo Min Aung, Colonel Htein Lin, Colonel Tin Aung Tun and Colonel Soe Moe Aung took oaths of office in the presence of Mahn Win Khaing Than, Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw. ■



Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw Mahn Win Khaing Than holds talks with Ms. Johanna Kao, Senior Advisor of IRI in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker meets separately with International Republican Institute and Chinese official

Mahn Win Khaing Than, Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw received Ms. Johanna Kao, Senior Advisor of International Republican Institute (IRI) and, separately, H.E Mr. Yuan Guiren, Vice-Chairman of international affair committee of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference yesterday separately at the special guest room of Amyotha Hluttaw in Nay Pyi Taw.

The meeting with Ms. Kao, Senior Advisor of IRI, addressed the peace process in

Myanmar, the IRI's activities and its contribution to Myanmar's transition to democracy. The meeting with H.E Mr. Yuan Guiren, Vice Chairman of Political Counselling Conference and International Affairs Committee of People's Republic of China, dealt with Sino-Myanmar relations, their respective legislative processes and other matters. U Aye Tha Aung, Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw was also present at the meetings.—Myanmar News Agency ■

More parts of Y-8 plane crash discovered

More wreckage from a Y-8 Tatmadaw military transport plane that crashed on 7 June and killed 122 people surfaced yesterday. Myanmar's navy and local fishing boats continue to find pieces of the Y-8 plane crash.—MNA ■





Committee on Implementation of Peace, Stability and Development of Rakhine State and Advisory Commission on Rakhine State being held a meeting in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Rakhine State Peace, Stability and Development Central Committee meets Advisory Commission

Central Committee for the Implementation of Peace, Stability and Development in Rakhine State and the Advisory Commission on Rakhine held talks over the final report of the commission in Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday.

At the meeting, the two sides exchanged views on the

matters included in the final report.

Vice-chairmen and members of the Central Committee for the Implementation of Peace, Stability and Development in Rakhine State and the Advisory Commission led by Mr Kofi Annan attended the meeting. —Myanmar News Agency ■

India donates medicine and medical equipments for Seasonal Influenza

Since seasonal influenza A(H1N1) pdm 09 virus infection has been occurring throughout the world including Myanmar in this year, Ministry of Health and Sports made a greatest effort in prevention and control activities for that infection. For supporting these activities, neighboring governments and organizations are donating many medicines and

medical equipments.

As of 21st August 2017, the Government of India has donated (8,800) doses for Influenza vaccine, (10,000) Influenza test kits, (50,000) Tamiflu capsules, (1,000) Tamiflu powder bottles, N95 masks of 192,000 in quantity for Seasonal Influenza A(H1N1) pdm 09 in prevention and control.

The donated medicines and

medical equipment will be used effectively in prevention, investigation and treatment of Seasonal Influenza A(H1N1) pdm 09 cases.

The Government of India will continuously support necessary medicines and medical equipments through Embassy of India in Myanmar collaboration with Ministry of Health and Sports.

—Myanmar News Agency ■

India's policy change on ...

FROM PAGE-1

"The purchase of regularly exported beans has been stopped, whereas there was no certainty as to whether peas already exported are to be unloaded or not from onboard in India Port", said U Min Ko Oo, secretary of the MPBSA.

Bean growers in Myanmar grew various kinds of peas for their winter season crop as usual. Two months before harvesting of the toor whole crop, and as mung beans and green mung beans were being planted, India's unexpected restrictions on pulses imports was announced, officials said.

The Ministry of Commerce and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation are trying to find solutions to grow other crops as a substitution, according to the MPBSA.

The recent policy decision caught Myanmar merchants, producers and commerce officials by surprise.

"The MPBSA submitted the matter on the designated pea import policy of the Indian government. It was asked whether it was officially made or not by

the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Regarding all the situations, we presented the matter to the President's office. We were not officially informed. During the official visit of H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi, the Indian Prime Minister, to Myanmar, we will submit the matter to him", said U Khin Maung Lwin, assistant secretary of the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar has been exporting peas to India for nearly 30 years, while India exported medicines, sugar and agricultural machinery.

"During the prime minister's visit, the authorities concerned will urge the PM to purchase Myanmar's pulses for one year more. It wholly depends upon the PM's decision whether our urge will be fruitful or not", said U Min Ko Oo, secretary of the association.

Out of Myanmar's total exports of various kinds of pulses to India in 2016 amounting to 1 million metric tons, exports of three kinds of peas from Myanmar reached 900,000 metric tons worth Ks1.4 billion in export earnings.

Canada is first in the global

pea export market, followed by Australia and Myanmar. Myanmar exports its pulses to India, China, Japan, European countries and ASEAN countries, it is learnt.

"Myanmar accepted India's exports. Now that they did not accept our exports, there was imbalance in trade between the two countries. It will be tantamount to violation of the trade ethic between the partner countries to have stopped without advance notification, Myanmar export peas being imported by them for nearly 30 years."

According to the MPBSA, due to the unexpected restriction of Myanmar pea exports, unnecessary price changes may occur. But purchase and sale of pulses are normally operating in Mandalay, officials said. U Soe Win Myint, a merchant from the Soe Win Myint Brokerage Center in Mandalay, said news that monetary fraud is occurring in Mandalay are "only rumours".

Myanmar pulses exports have occupied India's pea market for over three decades. Pulse merchants said lessons should be learned from the latest unexpected trade policy changes and suggested a broadening of the market. ■

State Counsellor holds first video conference with Magway Region Chief Minister



Dr Aung Moe Nyo, the Chief Minister of Magway Region Government is seen at the video conference with State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. **PHOTO: ZAY YATU (MAGWAY)**

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Dr Aung Moe Nyo, the Chief Minister of Magway Region Government, held the first-ever video conference yesterday, during which important updates in the region were discussed, according to the Office of the Magway Region Cabinet.

"Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the State Counsellor, held video conferencing for the first time, that is, the interview through video online.

Today she held meetings with Sagaing Region, Magway Region and Mandalay Region Cabinets, who presented necessities to the State Counsellor, with the latter giving necessary instructions as to what is to be done.

There were five matters presented as to the Magway Region," Dr Aung Moe Nyo told reporters.

The five issues included the discovery of an oil field 20 miles long and 3 miles wide that abuts the Mann Oil Land/ Mann Yaynammyay and Htauk Shar Pin Yaynammyay; failure to implement projects on confiscated lands; matters on returning confiscated land to its original owners; spending Ks3.27 billion recovered from funds for shallow hand-dug oil wells, matters on opening mini-lubricant pumps as some people have been imprisoned for selling petrol in bottles; and matters on research for finding mineral resources of great promise in the border area between Kanpetlet, Chin State and Sedoktara in Magway.

Video conferencing is a part of the e-government process of the Government. —Zay Yatu (Magway) ■

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Huge residential construction project runs out of money

CONSTRUCTION of an apartment complex supported by private and government funds in Ayeyarwun and Yadana housing estates in Dagon Seikkan Township, Yangon Region has been suspended due to a funding shortfall, according to a report in Myawady Daily, yesterday.

The 220-acre, 18-storey project is comprised of over two dozen buildings and has been under construction since 10 April, 2013.

The complex includes about 16,696 affordable units.

The apartments have been less popular with consumers than expected due to their location on Yangon's outskirts and their Ks 100,000 per square foot price.

During the development's planning stage, developers said they would provide only affordable housing at the site, but the project changed and recent-



Ayeyarwun and Yadana housing projects is under construction at Dagon Seikkan, Yangon. PHOTO: GNLM

ly the developers had intended to include only 30 per cent low-cost apartments.

They had planned to finish construction within three years and to sell the apartments un-

der 10 to 30-year mortgages with down payments 30 per cent of the apartment price.— 200 ■

Investment fair to promote states and regions investments

May Thet Hnin

The Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) will hold an investment fair in cooperation with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in Hpa-an town, Kayin State on 24 and 25 November.

"The investment fair will be launched with an aim to promote foreign direct investments in states and regions for proportional development and to strengthen linkages between local businessmen and

foreign investors, said U Aung Naing Oo, the director-general of DICA. "We will also explain investment opportunities in those regions to the local and foreign businessmen."

Currently, 60 per cent of FDI is in Yangon and 30 per cent of FDIs in Mandalay. The remaining 10 per cent is spread throughout other states and regions.

At the event, the officials from DICA will explain the strengths of the new Myanmar Investment Law while the officials from Kayin State will

explain available local opportunities for investment.

Additionally, government officials business people will conduct panel discussions. The fair will also offer business matching between local entrepreneurs and foreign investors, said U Thant Sin Lwin, the deputy director-general of DICA. DICA will also invite diplomats from various embassies to participate.

Similar investment fairs have been planned to launch in Mandalay, Monywa and Taunggyi.

DICA has been meeting both local and international investors to explain the latest developments like enactment of the new Myanmar Investment Law and the new opportunities available for investments.

According to the new Myanmar Investment Law, investors who invest in undeveloped regions may enjoy the tax exemption.

Myanmar Investment Commission branch offices are granting permissions to investments below Ks 6 billion or US\$ 5 million. ■

Farmers protest urban housing development

Nine farmers submitted a petition to government ministries alleging they have sustained losses due to a state-run urban development housing project in Yangon Region.

This project, which was initiated in August, includes about 183 acres of land currently being used for agriculture.

Farmers say they have

worked the proposed development site for two decades.

The complainants and other farmers have been offered compensation for their losses, but some of the farmers say the amounts were inadequate.

Providing more affordable urban housing has been a priority for the government.

As the economy grows,

more people are flocking to Myanmar's largest cities for opportunities. Land is most scarce and expensive in Yangon, Myanmar's most populous city.

Myanmar's housing challenges are exacerbated by poor cadastral records and land tenure issues.

Myanmar's land-use laws, which assign different land

parcels to different ministerial jurisdictions and uses, also complicate housing plans.

The farmers say they have cultivated crops on the proposed building sites for years, making the land productive and protecting it against squatters, so they are owed prosper compensation, they said.—Su Hnin Lae ■



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

Indian import quotas plunges Myanmar's pulses industry into chaos

May Thet Hnin

BAYINTNAUNG commodity depot has ceased operations due to India's import quota on pulses, prompting pulses prices to plummet and Myanmar's Ministry of Commerce to call for a trade meeting between the two nations.

In early August, India announced a 200,000-ton import quota on pigeon peas and 300,000-ton quota on mung bean and green grams.

Myanmar and India will discuss India's import quota during a trade meeting on 25 August in Nay Pyi Taw, said U Sai Ba Nyan, the vice chairman of Myanmar Pulses, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association.

Myanmar exports around 1.5 million tons of pulses to the foreign countries a year. India

is one of Myanmar's largest pulses export markets.

The depots were closed in order to stabilize the pulses market, said U Sai Ba Nyan. But many sellers are still concerned that they may not have an outlet for their commodities.

Pulses prices dropped by as much as half their value after the suspension of depot. Pigeon peas prices plunged from Ks28,000 to Ks14,200 per basket. Mung bean prices dropped from Ks27,500 to Ks14,500 a basket. Green grams fell from Ks35,000 to Ks28,000 per basket.

U Sai Ba Nyan said he suspects Indian pulses middlemen based in Singapore are attempting to manipulate the pulses market by blocking Myanmar commodities. The Indian government has recently embarked on a plan to increase domestic production of pulses

for its massive population and protectionist quotas are intended to incentivize local Indian growers.

In Myanmar, surplus pulses are being stockpiled. Meanwhile, farmers in Ayeyawady, Bago and Yangon regions are looking ahead to the October pigeon pea harvest with concern.

"We have nothing to blame for this situation, except our sole reliance on India's market," said U Zaw Khin, a pulse growers from Shwebo District, Sagaing Region. "New pulses markets should have been explored. Besides, the government and brokers cannot distribute sufficient supply of pedigree pulses which meet international criteria.

Therefore, we farmers would like to request the government officials to discuss this problem too." ■

Myanmar seeks more trade with ASEAN and Hong Kong

IN a bid to enhance trade, a plan is underway to set up ASEAN-Hong Kong free trade area, according to yesterday's news of Myawady Daily.

ASEAN free trade agreements already exist with China, South Korea, India and Australia.

U Moe Kyaw Aye, the director-general of the Customs Department, said the Myanmar intends to reduce tariffs to increase trade with ASEAN

member countries.

Myanmar's trade with ASEAN countries was US\$2.6 billion in the first three months of this fiscal year, including \$892 million in exports and \$1.6 billion in imports, according to Ministry of Commerce statistics released last week.

Myanmar's trade with ASEAN was \$9.6 billion in FY2016-2017, \$10.4 billion in FY2015-16, \$12.6 billion in FY2014-2015 FY, \$11 billion

in FY2013-2014, \$8.4 billion in FY2012-2013 and \$8.69 billion in FY2011-2012.

Myanmar's trade with Hong Kong in the first quarter of this fiscal year was \$20 million. Bilateral trade values were \$239 million in FY2016-2017, \$316 million in FY2015-16, \$343 million in FY2014-2015, \$502 million in FY2013-2014, \$27 million in FY2012-2013 and \$51 million in FY2011-2012. — GNLM ■

Value-added bamboo products gearing up for export market next year

MYANMAR Bamboo Growers Association wants to export products by 2018, according to a story in Myawady Daily. The association is exploring new uses of bamboo including soap, vinegar, shampoo and other consumer goods.

Laboratory experiments are also required for bamboo products.

Currently, the association is sending bamboo products to China and Singapore for potential designation as organic products. —GNLM ■

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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

"Sunday Special" အချုပ်ပိုင် (၈) မျက်နှာ ပါဝင်သည်

နေပြည်တော်
ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ရုံးအမှတ်(၇) နေပြည်တော်၊ သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း (ရုံးချုပ်)၊ စီမံခန့်ခွဲရေးဌာန၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၇၄၁၂၁၀၈

နေပြည်တော်
နေပြည်တော်သတင်းစာတိုက် (တပ်ကုန်း)၊ ဝေယျာသိရိမြို့နယ်၊ ခရေပင်လမ်းဆွဲ၊ နေပြည်တော်၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၇၃၆၁၄၈၊ ၀၈၇၃၆၁၂၉

ရန်ကင်း
The Global New Light of Myanmar သတင်းစာတိုက်၊ အမှတ် ၁၅၅၊ ငါးထပ်ကြီးဘုရားလမ်း၊ ဗဟန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၁၀၆၀၅၅၃၂၊ ၀၉၉၇၄၄၄၂၄၁၁၄

မန္တလေး
လမ်း (၂၀ x ၂၀) ကြား၊ (၁၂ x ၈၃) လမ်းကြား၊ မုလဲခေတ္တ ရောင်ရမ်းမန္တလေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၂၃၂၇၂၉၂၊ ၀၂၃၂၉၅၀

တောင်ကြီး
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မကွေး
နတ်မောက်လမ်း၊ တပ်မ (၈၈) တပ်နယ်ရေးအနီး၊ မကွေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၃၂၃၇၁၂

တချင်းတုံ
မြို့သစ် (၃-၁) အမှတ် (၁) လမ်းသွယ်၊ မြို့ပတ်လမ်း၊ တချင်းတုံမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၀၄၂၂၇၉၂

ကလေး
အောင်ဇေယျာရပ်ကွက်၊ မြို့နယ်အားကစားကွင်းအနီး၊ ကလေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၃၂၂၁၃၃

မြင်းကြီးများ
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Roundtable on counter-terrorism between Myanmar and Indonesia in progress in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

A Roundtable on Counter-Terrorism between Myanmar and Indonesia was held

A Roundtable on Counter-Terrorism between Myanmar and Indonesia was held at the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday at 9:00 am.

The Roundtable was chaired by U Thaug Tun, National Security Advisor to the Union Government.

At the roundtable, the two sides discussed the growing

menace of terrorism and violent extremism in the region and ways and means to fight against the challenge through increased cooperation at the bilateral, regional, and international levels.

The group photo session took place after concluding the Roundtable at 12:00 pm.

It was attended by Maj-Gen. Than Htut, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs, senior officials

from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor, Ministry of Labor, Immigration and Population as well as H.E. Dr. Ito Sumardi, Ambassador of Indonesia, high level representatives from National Counter-Terrorism of Indonesia and the Indonesia Embassy of Yangon.—MNA ■

President receives Rakhine Advisory Commission

FROM PAGE-1

During the meeting, the two sides exchanged views on matters relating to the implementation of the advice given in the interim report previously submitted by advisory commission on Rakhine State in accordance with the state policy and existing laws aspiring for the long-term national interest, projects in progress of socio-economic developments and foreign

investments development for Rakhine State, promoting the education sector, systematic acceptance of humanitarian aid, implementation of peace and stability, drugs problems and media freedom. Present at the meeting were Union Ministers Lt-Gen. Kyaw Swe, Lt-Gen. Ye Aung, U Kyaw Tint Swe, U Thein Swe and Dr Win Myat Aye, Permanent Secretary U Kyaw Zaya and officials.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Correction

Please read " The advisory commission has already submitted a 15-page interim report to the government with recommendations that the Myanmar government could undertake immediately, including points related to...." and "The nine-member Advisory Commission, a national initiative to resolve protracted issues in the region, is chaired by former Secretary-General of the United Nations, Chairman and Founder of the Kofi Annan Foundation and noble laureate, Mr. Kofi Annan and is composed of three international and six national persons of eminence who are highly experienced, respected and neutral individuals," in the last part of the story "Kofi Annan arrives to issue final report on Rakhine," on Page 3 of the GNLM's 23-8-2017 issue.—Ed ■

Two Himalayan black bears freed

Two endangered Himalayan Black Bears (also known as Asian Black Bears), were released into the Nam Izuu area in the Htamantee Wildlife Reserve in Sagaing District yesterday.

The two bears were found near the India-Myanmar border and sent to the Forestry Department in Kani District on 10 August. From there, they were sent to Htamantee Wildlife Reserve by boat on 15 August and released on 19 August in an expedition led by forest ranger U Myo Khaing.

The two bears are both thought to be around a year old. They are both female with a height (on all fours) of 1 feet 4 inches, a length of 2 feet, 8 inches and a girth of 1 feet, 8 inches each.

There are two types of bears in the Htamantee Wildlife Reserve; the Malayan Sun Bear and the Asian Black Bear. The Sun Bear has short, sleek, black fur and a U-shaped patch of light fur on its chest, whereas the Asian Black Bear has thicker black fur and a V-shaped patch of fur on its chest.—Nyi Thu ■



Two endangered Himalayan Black Bears (also known as Asian Black Bears), were released into the Nam Izuu area. **PHOTO: NYI THU**

Village administrator killed in Maungtau

A provisional village administrator of Zula village in Maungtau Township, Rakhine State was stabbed at his home by a group of as many as two dozen men, Tuesday night.

Harku Raman, the administrator, called the local police on his mobile phone Tuesday night to tell them that a group

of 25 men had descended upon his home and were threatening him.

Police officers dispatched to Harku Raman's home and found his body in the house. His throat had been cut. Police are searching for anyone involved in the murder.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Death toll from H1N1 reaches 33

With three more deaths from H1N1, the nationwide death toll reached 33 yesterday said Ministry of Health and Sports.

The ministry confirmed 33 were confirmed to have contracted the virus and are receiving treatment at hospitals.

More than 300 patients have contracted the virus since 21st July when the first infection of the virus announced. Of that total, more than 210 have already been discharged from the hospital.

The Ministry of Health

and Sports held a meeting focusing on giving treatment to patients at hospitals for infectious diseases, providing sufficient medical professionals to hospitals, using Tamiflu, vaccinating health staff and preventive measures against the virus which was also found in Myanmar during the 2009-2010 outbreak.

The ministry has sent rapid respond teams to areas of the infected patients to control the spread of the virus.—GNLM ■

North Korea presses rocket programme, but amid signs of drama easing

SEOUL — North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has ordered the production of more solid-fuel rocket engines, state media said on Wednesday, as he pursues nuclear and missile programmes amid a standoff with Washington, but there were signs of tension easing.

The report carried by the KCNA news agency lacked the traditionally robust threats against the United States after weeks of heightened acrimony, and US President Donald Trump expressed optimism about a possible improvement in relations.

"I respect the fact that he is starting to respect us," Trump said of Kim at a raucous campaign rally in Phoenix, Arizona.

"And maybe — probably not, but maybe — something positive can come about," he said.

The KCNA report, about a visit by Kim to a chemical institute, came not long after US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson appeared to make a peace overture, welcoming what he called recent restraint shown by the reclusive North.

Kim was briefed about the process of manufacturing intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) warhead tips and solid-fuel rocket engines during his tour of the Chem-



North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un smiles during a visit to the Chemical Material Institute of the Academy of Defence Science in this undated photo released by North Korea's Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) in Pyongyang on 23 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

ical Material Institute of the Academy of Defence Science, KCNA said.

"He instructed the institute to produce more solid-fuel rocket engines and rocket warhead tips by further expanding engine production process and the production capacity of rocket warhead tips and engine jets by carbon/carbon compound material,"

KCNA said.

North Korea has conducted two nuclear tests and dozens of missile tests since the beginning of last year, significantly raising tension on the heavily militarised Korean peninsula and in defiance of UN Security Council resolutions. Two ICBM tests in July resulted in a new round of tougher global sanctions.

The last missile test on 28 July put the US mainland in range, prompting heated exchanges that raised fears of a new conflict on the peninsula.

Tillerson, however, noted what he called the restraint the North had shown and said on Tuesday he hoped a path could be opening for dialogue. —Reuters ■

At least 42 injured in rail accident in northern India

NEW DELHI — A passenger express train derailed after hitting a truck in northern India on Wednesday, injuring 42 people, some critically, in the country's fifth major rail accident in the past year.

Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu said in a tweet that he took "moral responsibility" for the spate of accidents. India has the world's fourth biggest rail network, but it is grappling with chronic under-investment and over-crowding.

On Saturday, 23 people were killed and 123 injured in another derailment near the Hindu holy city of Haridwar that led to the suspension of three senior railways officials and three others being forced to take leave. "I am extremely pained by the unfortunate accidents, injuries to passengers and loss of precious lives," Prabhu said in his tweet.

The latest accident occurred in Uttar Pradesh state as the Kaifiyat Express from Azamgarh to the capital Delhi collided with a truck carrying construction material, causing 11 coaches to derail, Northern Railways spokesperson Neeraj Sharma said.

Last month, junior railways minister Rajen Gohain told parliament that 1,011 people had died in 586 rail accidents in last five years, nearly 53 per cent due to derailments. —Reuters ■

Robot makers slow to address danger risk — researchers

SINGAPORE — Researchers who warned half a dozen robot manufacturers in January about nearly 50 vulnerabilities in their home, business and industrial robots, say only a few of the problems have been addressed.

The researchers, Cesar Cerrudo and Lucas Apa of cybersecurity firm IOActive, said the vulnerabilities would allow hackers to spy on users, disable safety features and make robots lurch and move violently, putting users and bystanders in danger.

While they say there are no signs that hackers have

exploited the vulnerabilities, they say the fact that the robots were hacked so easily and the manufacturers' lack of response raise questions about allowing robots in homes, offices and factories.

"Our research shows proof that even non-military robots could be weaponized to cause harm," Apa said in an interview.

"These robots don't use bullets or explosives, but microphones, cameras, arms and legs. The difference is that they will be soon around us and we need to secure them now before it's too late."

His comments come in the wake of a letter signed by more than 100 leading robotic experts urging the United Nations to ban the development of killer military robots, or autonomous weapons.

Apa, a senior security consultant, said that of the six manufacturers contacted, only one, Rethink Robotics, said some of the problems had been fixed.

He said he had not been able to confirm that as his team does not have access to that particular robot.

A spokesman for Rethink Robotics, which makes the

Baxter and Sawyer assembly-line robots, said all but two issues — in the education and research versions of its robots — had been fixed.

Apa said a review of updates from the other five manufacturers — Universal Robots of Denmark, SoftBank Robotics and Asratec Corp of Japan, Ubtech of China, and Robotis Inc of South Korea — led him to believe none of the issues he had raised had been fixed.

Asratec said that software released for its robots so far was limited to "hobby use sample programs", and it believed

IOActive was pointing to security vulnerabilities in those. Software it planned to release for commercial use would be different, it said.

Robotis declined to comment. The three other manufacturers did not immediately respond to emailed requests for comment.

The slow reaction by the robot industry was not surprising, said Joshua Ziering, founder of Kittyhawk.io, a commercial drone software company. "A new technology bursts on to the market and people fail to secure it," he said. —Reuters ■

ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint 2025

Maw Lin

BLUE-PRINT 2025 of the ASEAN Economic Community was laid down in 2015, with a view to upgrading the unity of the ASEAN region in politics, economy and culture.

The main principle of the ASEAN Economic Community is to create South East Asia as a unique market with the capacity of keeping abreast with the global countries and to create as a productive community in the region.

A unique productive community means a community in which skilled workers including commodities and services can flow freely in the 10 ASEAN

countries. Here, free flow among the countries includes investments, finance and currency.

The success of the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint 2015 proves a simple fact that many companies regard ASEAN as a unique market. The success of the ASEAN Economic Community will be proven here again in detail.

According to the figures in 2014, ASEAN was the 7th largest economic power in the world.

GDP (Gross Domestic Product) of the whole ASEAN region amounted to US \$ 2.6 trillion, being the 3rd largest economy in Asia. Its GDP outnumbered

that of India.

During the period, 2007 and 2014, volume of global trade development reached US \$ one trillion. 24% out of the global trade development came from inter-trade among the ASEAN member countries.

During this period, the ratio of ASEAN's foreign direct investment across the world increased by 5% to 11%. The ASEAN community with a population of 622 million is the 3rd largest global market.

Yet, among the 10 ASEAN nations many matters ranging from infrastructure at the base, technology in the middle and development in the

end differ in level, having to overcome many challenges to transform into a unique market.

To be able to do so, a common policy framework must be implemented in accord with definite rules and regulations.

Economic benefits will be obtained for the country only if Myanmar entrepreneurs have mastery of the said rules, regulations and disciplines.

We therefore express our heartfelt welcome to the holding of the workshop on ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint 2025. ■

Translated by Khin Maung Oo

Be aware of the FDI Assassination

Saw Naing (Applied Commerce)

DURING the time of political transformation, when the time could not see the pronounced economic take-off and when the time was replete with a lot of requirements in infrastructure, it is not uncanny that the foreign investors are wavering and hesitant to invest in Myanmar. The elected civilian government is working devotedly for the development of politics, economics and social affairs so as to be able to obtain the peace in country while the people are yearning for the regular economic development as quickly as possible.

About five months have passed for the 2017-2018 financial year. People want to see the better job opportunities, the increase in per capita income and the flourishing of small, medium and large enterprises in the second fiscal year of the incumbent government. To be able to gain those developments and successes foreign direct investment is inevitably needed. FDI can bring in the technology, source of market, methods of market finding and management employed by them together with the financial capital. The more FDIs are coming in, the better will the foundation for the faster economic take-off and sustainable economic growth be fostered. Therefore, the departments under the new government are luring the investors at their utmost capability and by all available means.

After one year period under new government, Myanmar Foreign Direct Investment Law could have been amended. Guiding rules and regulations for Regions and States were also prescribed. It is known that company laws are also going to be amended to be in line with the prevailing condition. The existing condition in the respect

of labour wages, taxes, customs duty, transporting expense, infrastructure, domestic market, international markets, linkage and involvement in trade agreements, stability of exchange rate and political situation of the country are reviewed and amended where necessary by the ministries and departments concerned, for the FDI of Myanmar to be more attractive to the foreign investors. In this context, types of business of FDI should be taken into consideration. For instance, the general expense is the most important for the investors in production business while the stability of macro-economy and political situation is the most important for the investor in service business. Besides, the laws, rules and regulations enacted can be easily amended when necessary. The Myanmar Investment Commission and related government departments are now striving to fill the requirements in all fronts to attract the FDI.

Due to the above endeavours of the government more FDIs are now working in Myanmar, some more are poised

FDI can bring in the technology, source of market, methods of market finding and management employed by them together with the financial capital. The more FDIs are coming in, the better will the foundation for the faster economic take-off and sustainable economic growth be fostered.

to come in and some are still watching and pondering to invest in Myanmar. However, the information that dictate negative effect on the potential investors should be viewed with great care as it can jeopardize the FDI development in Myanmar. After the economic sanction had been lifted by EU and America the foreign investors beckoned more interest to invest in Myanmar and the international investors had expressed their positive view on Myanmar economy and encouraged investments in Myanmar. In the same time there were also voices of negative view expressing that current situation in Myanmar was not favourable for FDI and some exaggerated and negative versions on some weaknesses of economic situation in Myanmar had been voiced more frequently. It is not good for the country to have such negative views rampant across the other countries as it can shed bad effect on the volume of FDI flow into the country.

Whether the report with negative views was written deliberately to curb the FDI development or else it was written with constructive critical intent was not important. However, what was important was the departments or organizations concerned should know those weaknesses earlier than the international investors and take necessary measures to eliminate the constraints to the smooth flow-in of FDI. The departments concerned must be well prepared to prevent the bad news, no matter whether it is rumour or exaggerations or true facts, from spreading among both local and international investors. It is not as effective and easy as expected in trying to erase the negative news by overwhelming with true story. The image of country that is striving to attract foreign investors becomes blemished once the negative informa-

tion no matter whether it is true or false has spread oversea. Since Myanmar is still in nascent stage in transforming the country into democratic State introducing the market economic system, there might be some accomplishments but a lot of requirements and shortages still remain. However, if the bad aspect only is pointed out and keep silent on the achievements, the foreign investors who are going to invest in Myanmar and unfamiliar with the country's situation might change their decision to invest in Myanmar.

Problems concerning with land affairs, disputes between employers and employees on wages, salary and overtime wages, in many times were not addressed well and then followed the worker's demonstrations that often turned into violent crowd which usually made wanton destruction of whatever things in their way. You can imagine the scenario when those undesirable incidents in Myanmar were spread to foreign countries and described in international news media. It was a negative impact on the FDI of Myanmar. Foreign investors, after hearing the news of unruly incidents will surely be dithering to invest in Myanmar. CMP textile factory owned by Chinese national that produced Swedish popular brand clothes can be cited as an example of such an undesirable event. As the problem could not be solved properly at the very beginning, it had grown to uncontrollable state and it became a media event. News and photos of those incidents were covered in international news and media. Those events were vividly found curtailing the FDI from entering Myanmar. Therefore, it is very important to properly settle the problems in an early stage before it goes flare up.

SEE PAGE 9

A man in connection with violent attackers arrested in Maungtaw

A man in connection with violent attacks arrested in Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State on 22 August 3pm. As the information received, security force arrested Yawshi Armout (a) Angel Yawshi

with one mobile phone at the Yaynauk Ngarthar (north) village, Maungtaw Township. While checking the mobile phone, the connections with violent attackers were found. Moreover, security force ar-

rested a suspect who involved in a murder, Phawyarzu Islam (a) Phawyarzu Lar at the Ywar Thikay village, Maungtaw Township at 6pm on 22 August. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Two illegal immigrants arrested in Buthidaung, Rakhine State

SECURITY forces arrested two suspected illegal immigrants in Goutpi village, Buthidaung

Township, Rakhine State on Monday. Taung Bazar Police are investigating the two sus-

pects immigration status of the two suspect.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Sagaing Tourists to increased 29 per cent this year

Tourism in Sagaing Region increased by 29 per cent in FY2017-2018 compared to the same period last year, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

The number of the tourists has increased after the regional government designated Sagaing, Monywa,

Shwebo, Katha, Kalay and Hkanti as cultural sites for tourists.

“Last year, around 70,000 tourists visited to the Mingu region,” said U Aung Thu Oo, the deputy director of Hotels and Tourism in Sagaing Region. “But this year, over 50,000 tourists visited.”

Sagaing attractions include Sagaing Hill, Minguan Temple and silver handicrafts shops. Authorities are also making arrangements for building more cultural sites so that tourists can observe the lifestyle of the local indigenous races. —GNLM ■

Curriculum Vitae of His Excellency Mr. Nguyen Phu Trong, General Secretary of the Central Committee of Communist Party of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

His Excellency Mr. Nguyen Phu Trong was born in 14th April 1944 in Dong Hoi Commune, Dong Anh District, Ha Noi, Viet Nam. He took Bachelor of Arts and PhD in Politics.

He joined the Viet Nam Communist Party in 1967 as an official at Communists Review. From 1983 to 1989, he served as Vice Director and Director of Party-building Department consecutively. From 1989 to 1996, he served as member, Deputy-Editor-in-Chief and Editor-in-Chief of Communist Review. From 1996 to 1998, he was appointed as Deputy Secretary of Hanoi Party Committee. Then, he became a member of Political Bureau, in charge of Party's work on ideology, culture, science and education from 1998 to 2000. Later, he served as Executive Member of Standing Committee of Political Bureau until 2001.

From 2000 to 2006, he was appointed as Secretary of Ha-



Mr. Nguyen Phu Trong.

noi Party Committee for XIIth, XIIIth and XIVth tenures. From 1998 to 2006, he also served as Vice President, President of Central Council on Theoretical Studies and in charge of Party's theoretical work. From 2006 to 2011, he was elected as President of National Assembly for XIth and XIIth tenures.

He has been serving as General Secretary of the Central Committee of Communist Party of Viet Nam for XIth and XIIth tenures since 2011. ■

Be aware of the FDI Assassination

FROM PAGE 8

Another thing to consider was the news that were written in the international news papers in the pretext of giving information for new potential investors about investing in Myanmar with hidden intent to undermine the FDI in Myanmar. Such news was found in a blog one month ago. In another blog it was written to disappoint people who were interested in investing in Myanmar with the title “Don't invest in Myanmar, here's Why”. Likewise the article under the title “ Don't invest in Myanmar – says 25-year-old mogul” was expressed in the website of a company which called itself “Asia Media Company” There were many people sharing that news.

In that article it was written that investing in Myanmar was

making a mistake and gave three supporting facts to that notion.

1. Myanmar Investment Law could not fully represent the true ground situation; Corruption was rampant;
2. No property ownership was given to foreigners; condominium law that dictates allowance of 40% ownership of foreigners was enacted in 2016, but it is still difficult to translate it into practice.
3. The preliminary expense was very high to invest in Myanmar. It took more time and effort to invest in Myanmar than to invest in Cambodia and Mongolia. It encouraged investing in other countries that were in the same category with Myanmar in the respect of rate of development but better in bureaucratic mechanism.

Moreover, it pointed out that according to the World Bank report Myanmar ranked 170 out of 190 countries in Ease of Doing Business Index. Myanmar was said in that article ranking at the bottom of the Asian countries. Now we have to look into the low in-flow of FDI whether it was due to the negative news about Myanmar or due to the bureaucratic snafu. We have to figure out the causes for the low in-flow of FDI.

It is a devious act to highlight the negative news leaving the positive developments in the shadow. Such attitude is meant for hindering the flow of foreign investments into Myanmar. In other words it is a typical FDI assassination. Assassination means making clandestine effort to cease the development or survival of

something. FDI is the most crucial one in the development of a country. So, all the departments need to take concerted effort to boost the FDI flow and to make the Myanmar Investment Law and the laws related to FDI laws harmonious and interconnected.

The news about the good effort of the departments concerned for FDI development and connected positive news should be spread to the investors of the other parts of the world through foreign-based Myanmar diplomats, economic ambassadors, local and foreign news media which wish the well-being of Myanmar and local and foreign tour companies.

It is necessary for Myanmar to develop the supportive institutions that enable to guarantee stable electricity, land

affairs, production and trade to attract more the FDI to enter Myanmar.

Domestic conditions should also be reviewed. What hinders the FDI flow? Departments also have to change their way of thinking and performing according to the suggestions of local professionals, intelligentsia and researchers if their suggestions reflect the true situation of the country. Then try to send the good news to international investors. Furthermore, if the intense endeavour to promote the FDI marketing capitalizing the developed domestic conditions during the transition period can be made, it can attract more the FDI and also can deter the plots that will undermine the FDI flow into the country.—Translated by *Khin Maung Win*

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

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



Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov. PHOTO: TASS

WORLD BRIEFS

Russia seriously worried by Japan looking at US missile defence –RIA

MOSCOW – Russia is seriously concerned that Japan may deploy the US Aegis Ashore missile-defence system on its soil to counter North Korea's missile threats, RIA news agency cited Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov as saying on Wednesday.

Ryabkov also said that sanctions should not be imposed on North Korea indefinitely, and that they would yield no result without dialogue, the agency reported. – Reuters ■

No injuries after fire alert at London's Bank station – transport authority

LONDON — There were no injuries after a fire alert at London's Bank station, travel authority Transport for London said on Wednesday, adding that all lines at the station were running normally apart from the Docklands Light Railway.

Earlier London firefighters said they were investigating a fire alert at an underground rail station in the heart of the city's financial district, which had led to the closure of a key commuter transport link. – Reuters ■

US visa suspension move tramples on idea of freedom — senior Russian diplomat

TOKYO — By putting on hold the issuance of non-immigrational visas to Russian citizens, the United States compromised its fundamental idea — the idea of freedom, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said in an interview with Japan's NHK TV on Wednesday.

"The United States, which has been professing the value of freedom to the whole world,

demonstrated that they can easily sacrifice their main value to political ambitions. However, we remain calm on this matter," he said.

Ryabkov added that Moscow still hoped for improvements in its relations with Washington.

On Monday, the US Embassy in Russia said it will suspend all nonimmigrant visa opera-

tions throughout the country as of 23 August.

The procedure will resume in Moscow on 1 September, while the Consulates General in St Petersburg, Yekaterinburg and Vladivostok will not issue visas.

On 28 July, Moscow offered Washington to cap the number of diplomatic and technical staff working in the US Embassy to

Moscow and the Consulates General in St Petersburg, Yekaterinburg and Vladivostok to the exact number of Russian diplomats and technical staff members working in the US before 1 September.

That means that the total number of the staff at US diplomatic and consular establishments will be reduced to 455 people. — Tass ■

Venezuela-US relations at lowest point ever — Maduro

CARACAS/BOGOTA — Relations between Caracas and Washington are at their lowest point ever, Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro said on Tuesday in a speech at the presidential palace for international media that was televised to the nation.

"Unfortunately we are in the worst moment of the relationship with the government of the United States," said Maduro.

He said that he and US President Donald Trump should be respectful of each other and that relations between Venezuela and the United States should be normalized and a

dialog established. "You and I should talk," said Maduro. "Only by speaking can we understand each other."

Earlier this month during an impromptu session with reporters in Washington, Trump said, "The people are suffering and they are dying. We have many options for Venezuela including a possible military option if necessary."

Maduro is struggling to weather a political crisis that has shaken his government, led to months of violent protests and his being accused of trying to establish a dictatorship through a new structure for the govern-

ment that has been opposed nationally and internationally.

Venezuela is also racked by a severe economic crisis that has led to chronic shortages of food and medicine.

During his address on Tuesday, Maduro spoke at length about actions the United States has taken in the region and elsewhere, specifically mentioning the war in Iraq.

Maduro, like his predecessor Hugo Chavez, has frequently railed against Washington, blaming it for Venezuela's problems, including crushing inflation and the collapse of the local currency.

In recent weeks, the government has cracked down on the opposition including one of Maduro's most outspoken critics in his government, Venezuela's top prosecutor Luisa Ortega.

Ortega fled to Colombia last week with her legislator husband after saying she feared for her life. She is now going to Brazil, according to Colombian authorities.

During his speech, Maduro said Venezuela would seek an international arrest warrant for Ortega, and he accused her of having worked with the United States for a long time. —Reuters ■

Netanyahu to Putin: Iran's growing Syria role threatens Israel

SOCHI, (Russia) — Iran's growing role in Syria poses a threat to Israel, the Middle East and the world, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday.

"Mr President, with joint efforts we are defeating Islamic State, and this is a very important thing. But the bad thing is, that where the defeated Islamic State group vanishes, Iran is stepping in," Netanyahu told Putin during talks at Russia's Black Sea resort of Sochi. — Reuters ■

Suicide attack in Afghanistan's Helmand kills seven people, dozens wounded

LASHKAR GAH, (Afghanistan) — At least seven people were killed and 42 wounded when a suicide attacker detonated a car bomb near a police headquarters in Afghanistan's Helmand province on Wednesday, officials said.

The explosion struck a crowd of policemen and soldiers who had gathered to collect their pay in Helmand's capital city, Lashkar Gah, provincial police chief Abdul Ghafar Safai said.

Two local women, two

soldiers, and a child died in the blast and their bodies were taken to the hospital, along with more than 40 wounded, a doctor at the hospital told Reuters. He said the toll could rise.

Militants had previously attacked security forces gathered to collect their pay at a bank in Lashkar Gah in June.

That prompted officials to move a bank branch into the city's police headquarters to improve security.

—Reuters ■



Afghan National Army (ANA) soldiers inspect damaged army vehicles after a suicide attack in Lashkar Gah, Helmand province, Afghanistan on 23 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

US asks if Iran military sites to be checked under nuclear deal

UNITED NATIONS — The United States wants to know if the United Nations atomic watchdog plans to inspect Iranian military sites to verify Tehran's compliance with a 2015 nuclear deal, the US ambassador to the United Nations, Nikki Haley, said on Tuesday.

Haley will meet with International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) officials in Vienna on Wednesday for what she described as a fact-finding mission, which is part of President Donald Trump's review of the deal Iran made with world powers to curb its nuclear program in return for the lifting of most sanctions.

"If you look ... at past Iranian behaviour, what you've seen is there have been covert actions at military sites, at universities, things like that," Haley, a member of Trump's cabinet, told Reuters in an interview.

"There were already issues in those locations, so are they including that in what they look at to make sure that those issues no longer remain?" she said. "They have the authority to look at military sites now. They have the authority to look at any suspicious sites now, it's just are they doing it?"

She said she was traveling to Vienna to ask ques-

tions, not to push the IAEA to do anything.

A spokesman for the IAEA said it had no immediate comment and that there were no public statements planned on the meeting.

Iran's top authorities have flatly rejected giving international inspectors access to their military sites, and Iranian officials have told Reuters that any such move would trigger harsh consequences.

"Why would they say that if they had nothing to hide? Why wouldn't they let the IAEA go there?" Haley said.

Iran's atomic chief was quoted by state media as

saying on Tuesday that Iran could resume production of highly enriched uranium within five days if the nuclear deal was revoked.

In April, Trump ordered a review of whether a suspension of sanctions on Iran related to the nuclear deal — negotiated under President Barack Obama — was in the US national security interest. He has called it "the worst deal ever negotiated."

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani warned last week that Iran could abandon the nuclear agreement "within hours" if the United States imposes any more new sanctions.

Most UN and Western

sanctions were lifted 18 months ago under the nuclear deal. Iran is still subject to a UN arms embargo and other restrictions, which are not technically part of the deal.

The IAEA polices restrictions the deal placed on Iran's nuclear activities and reports quarterly.

Haley said some of the questions she had were: "Are you looking at everything? Are you looking at those places where there has been covert activity in the past? Are you able to get access to these areas? Or are you being delayed? Are you being shut out from those things?"

Under US law, the

State Department must notify Congress every 90 days of Iran's compliance with the nuclear deal. The next deadline is October, and Trump has said he thinks by then the United States will declare Iran to be non-compliant.

"We don't know if he's going to certify or decertify the deal," said Haley, adding that she would report back to Trump and the national security team.

The US review of its policy toward Iran is also looking at Tehran's behavior in the Middle East, which Washington has said undermines US interests in Syria, Iraq, Yemen and Lebanon.—Reuters ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV ANAN BHUM VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ANAN BHUM VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.8.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV CONTSHIP HUB VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CONTSHIP HUB VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.8.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV SINAR BATAM VOY. NO (020)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BATAM VOY. NO (020) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.8.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Cambodia orders US-funded group to halt operations, remove staff

PHNOM PENH — Cambodia ordered a US-funded nonprofit organization to stop its activities and remove all foreign staff from the country on Wednesday, the latest sign of growing anti-American sentiment ahead of a general election next year. In a statement, the foreign ministry accused the National Dem-

ocratic Institute (NDI) of operating in Cambodia without registering, and said its foreign staff had seven days to leave.

Authorities were "geared up to take the same measures" against other foreign NGOs which fail to comply with the law, the ministry added.

According to its web-

site, the NDI works with political parties, governments and civic groups to "establish and strengthen democratic institutions."

The US Embassy in Phnom Penh and the NDI did not reply to Reuters' requests for comment.

Prime Minister Hun Sen, who has ruled Cambodia for more than three dec-

ades, on Tuesday ordered the English-language The Cambodia Daily newspaper to pay taxes accrued over the past decade or face closure. The paper was founded by an American. He also lashed out at the United States and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and accused them of funding groups attempt-

ing to overthrow his government.

Hun Sen's anti-Western sentiment comes amid what rights groups and the United Nations say is an increasingly tense situation ahead of elections in 2018.

The opposition has accused Hun Sen and his ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP) of a crackdown

on its critics and last week a UN human rights envoy warned Cambodia it "appeared to be approaching a precipice".

ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights said on Wednesday that the NDI had not been given adequate opportunity to respond to the accusations against it.—Reuters ■

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Glaxo Group Limited of 980 Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex, TW8 9GS, England is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademarks:

REQUIP

(Reg. No. IV/6225/1997)
(Reg. No. IV/6589/2017)

used in respect of – Class 5: "Pharmaceutical and medicinal preparations and substances"

HORLICKS

(Reg. No. IV/4887/1999)
(Reg. No. IV/6590/2017)

used in respect of – Class 32: "Non-alcoholic drinks; fruit drinks and juices; syrups and other preparations for making beverages"

HORLICKS

(Reg. No. IV/953/2012)
(Reg. No. IV/6591/2017)

used in respect of – Class 5: "Dietetic substances adapted for medical use; food for infants and invalids"

Class 29: "Milk and milk products; malted milk for food; soya and whey based protein products; dried and cooked fruit and vegetable based products; jellies, jams, compotes, and food preparations prepared from milk"

Class 30: "Cocoa, preparations made from cereals, including oats, wheat and malted barley; preparations for making food and drinks; cereals, noodles, breads, pastry, biscuits, cakes, snack bars, confectionery, ices, sauces, seasonings"

Class 32: "Non-alcoholic drinks and juices; syrups and other preparations for making beverages"

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use or any other infringement whatsoever of these trademarks will be dealt with according to law.

Thein Aung B.Sc.,R.L.,D.B.L Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND
PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm
Tel:376318 G.P.O Box:666
Yangon. 24th August 2017

S Korea's Moon orders "thorough preparations" to counter North

SEOUL — South Korean President Moon Jae-in on Wednesday ordered the nation's military and government officials to make "thorough preparations" to counter any possible North Korean provocations.

Moon made the remarks during a visit to a wartime command headquarters for Ulchi-Freedom Guardian, an annual joint exercise with the United States, his spokesman Park Soo-hyun said during a press briefing.

"Through the exercise, the central government and local governments should closely cooperate to provide support in ensuring South Korea-US combined forces can focus just on (military) operations," Moon was quoted as saying.

During his visit, Moon was briefed on the current military situation on the

Korean Peninsula and he thanked the troops for their efforts to maintain defense preparedness, Park said.

This year's 10-day joint military exercise with the United States began on Monday. On the same day, South Korea also launched a four-day defence exercise involving 480,000 officials from 4,000 cities, counties and regional districts to prepare for contingencies and protect the public.

Meanwhile, an annual nationwide air-raid drill was held on Wednesday in South Korea, aimed at training people to take shelter during a possible air raid by North Korea.

When the sirens rang at 2 pm for the 20-minute drill, pedestrians were asked to find the nearest underground shelter or passage at basement level.

Tension on the Korean Peninsula remains high after North Korea warned the United States that it could face "merciless revenge" for ignoring Pyongyang's warnings not to go ahead with the annual joint military exercise with South Korea.

North Korea was responding to the start Monday of the computer-simulation command post exercise, which involves tens of thousands of US and South Korean troops and comes after the North successfully tested two intercontinental ballistic missiles last month.

While the United States and South Korea claim the joint exercise is entirely defensive, Pyongyang views it as a rehearsal for an invasion of the North.

South Korea and the United States technically



South Korean President Moon Jae-in. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

remain still at war with North Korea, as the 1950-1953 Korean War ended with an armistice rather than a permanent peace treaty.—Kyodo News ■

TRADEMARK CAUTION

GlaxoSmithKline Intellectual Property Limited of 980 Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex, TW8 9GS, England is the Owner and Sole Proprietor of the following trademark:

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used in respect of – Class 5: "Pharmaceutical and medicinal preparations and substances"

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use or any other infringement whatsoever of this trademark will be dealt with according to law.

Htain Lin Oo LL.B Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND
PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm
Tel:376318 G.P.O Box:666
Yangon. 24th August 2017

Malaysia, Singapore to hold high-speed rail briefing next month

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia and Singapore will conduct a second briefing next month in London for companies interested in bidding for contracts to construct a high-speed rail line between Singapore and Kuala Lumpur.

Malaysia's MyHSR Corp and the Land Transport Authority of Singapore said in a joint statement on Wednesday the briefing will be held on 26 September for companies interested in participating in the tender to be called by year-end.

The winning bidders will be responsible for designing, building, financing and maintaining all rolling stock and rail assets like tracks and power, signaling and telecommunications systems.

The two government agencies conducted the first industry briefing in July in Singapore, attended by over 400 participants from 165 foreign and local companies.

They included a consortium of 10 Japanese companies, including East Japan Railway Co and the

Japan Bank for International Cooperation.

Japan is in a tight race with China in the bidding war for what will be Southeast Asia's biggest infrastructure project. Others in the race are South Korean and European companies.

"Since the first industry briefing in July, both LTA and MyHSR Corp have been working closely to further develop the tender parameters and technical specifications. We are excited to share new information with the market so that interested

parties can be better prepared," LTA Chief Executive Ngien Hoon Ping said in the statement.

The rail line will run about 360 kilometres along the west coast of the Malay Peninsula, from Kuala Lumpur to Singapore, with six transit stations in between.

The rail journey from end to end will take about 90 minutes, compared to four to five hours now by road.

The rail line is slated to be operational by 2026.—Kyodo News ■



Electromagnetic gun Stupor. PHOTO: TASS

Russian Defence Ministry develops electromagnetic gun to counter drones

KUBINKA/Moscow region — The Russian Defence Ministry's Main Robotics Research and Test Centre has developed an electromagnetic gun to counter unmanned aerial vehicles, named Stupor, a TASS correspondent reported, adding that a model of the gun was presented at the Army-2017 International Military-Technical Forum

being held in the Moscow region.

A press release says that the Stupor gun is designed to counter unmanned aerial vehicles, including copters, under direct visibility.

According to a centre spokesman, the gun emits separate electromagnetic pulses to suppress channels used to operate

a drone. As a result, the drone loses contact with its operator, while its uncontrolled flight ends in a crash. The spokesman added that the Stupor gun had a range of two kilometres, covering a 20 degree sector.

Support documentation explains that the device is capable of suppressing navigation and transmission channels

used by unmanned aerial vehicles, as well as their photo and video cameras within the electro-optical range of frequencies.

The gun can be charged from the grid, as well as from a car battery. A warning on the device says that it should not be pointed towards people, manned aircraft, transport vehicles and animals.—Tass ■

US Navy to relieve commander of 7th Fleet after collisions: report

WASHINGTON — The US Navy plans to relieve the commander of the fleet involved in two fatal collisions between destroyers and civilian vessels in Asian waters, The Wall Street Journal reported on Tuesday. Vice Adm Joseph Aucoin, the three-star commander of the 7th Fleet based in Yokosuka near Tokyo, will be relieved of command on Wednesday in connection with the two collisions and two other incidents involving the fleet's vessels, the newspaper said, citing two US officials familiar with the matter. Aucoin became fleet commander in September 2015. The guided-missile destroyer John S McCain collided with an oil tanker east of Singapore early Monday, leaving 10 US sailors missing. The Navy later found bodies inside the damaged destroyer and another was recovered by Malaysia's navy.—Kyodo News ■



Invitation to Bid (ITB) for T-shirt with Silk Screen Printing Reference No.: LITB-2017-9133887

UNICEF is inviting Sealed Bids for **460,500 T-Shirts with Silk Screen Printing** to support to Ministry of Health and Sport (MOHS) for Japanese Encephalitis Campaign in Myanmar.

Interested companies who have valid business registration and a minimum of two years' experience with reputable clients are invited to collect IITB document at UNICEF Office, 23-A, Inya Myaing Road, Yangon. Companies are requested to bring the copy of business registration certificate when they collect the ITB at the UNICEF office. Last date for collection of ITB is **31 August 2017**.

The deadline for submission of bid to UNICEF is **10:00 am, 4 September 2017**.

For any clarification, please contact Ms. Ei Cho Nyunt, Supply Officer, Supply & Logistics Section, UNICEF Myanmar. Tel: +95 1 2305960-69 (Ext. 1563). E-mail enyunt@unicef.org.



MYANMAR INDIA BUSINESS CHAMBER

INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH DICA & M.O.C. & NETWORKING WITH OVERSEAS CHAMBER

VENUE : Park Royal Hotel, Yangon
Time : 4 pm onwards followed by dinner.
Date : 25th August 2017

For Registration :
Email : mibcyangon@gmail.com
Tel : 09-422275403 Whatsapp / Viber

All members are invited.
Non members can also join-in by registering before / at the event.

TRADEMARK CAUTION NOTICE

Saint-Gobain Construction Products UK Limited, a company organized under the laws of the United Kingdom carrying on business and having its principal office at Saint-Gobain House, Binley Business Park, Coventry, CV3, 2TT, United Kingdom is the sole proprietors of the following mark:

GLASROC

Reg .No. 4/6334/2017

Used in respect of: - Non-metallic building materials; building boards; wall boards; ceiling tiles, ceiling panels; non-metallic wall claddings, wall linings and wall tiles. (Int'l Class 19)

Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said trademark or other infringements whatsoever will be dealt with according to law.

Ong Minn U (Advocate)
May Phyo Kin (H.G.P)
For.Saint-Gobain Construction Products UK Ltd.
MyanmarGlobalLaw Firm
Ph:0943151814
Dated: 24.8.2017

White House says some members of infrastructure advisory council resign

WASHINGTON — Some members of a White House infrastructure advisory council have resigned, the White House said on Tuesday, days after President Donald Trump's response to violence at a rally by white nationalists in Virginia prompted business leaders and cultural figures to quit other panels in protest. Trump last week disbanded two business advisory councils after several

chief executives resigned in protest over his remarks blaming the violence on anti-racism activists as well as white nationalists. In a statement on Tuesday, the White House did not give a reason for the resignations from the National Infrastructure Advisory Council and said the panel met on Tuesday with the majority of its members. It did not specify how many members quit.—Reuters ■

TRADEMARK CAUTION

SEKISUI KAGAKU KOGYO KABUSHIKI KAISHA (doing business as SEKISUI CHEMICAL CO., LTD), a company incorporated in Japan and having its registered office at 4-4, Nishitemma 2-chome, Kita-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 530-8565, JAPAN (the "Registrant") is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark:



Reg. No.4/8425/2017 (Dated 4.8.2017)

In respect of "Pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary preparations; oiled paper for medical purposes; cachets for pharmaceutical purposes; gauze for dressings; empty capsules for pharmaceuticals; ear bandages; eyepatches for medical purposes; menstruation bandages; menstruation tampons; sanitary napkins; sanitary panties; absorbent cotton; adhesive plasters; bandages for dressings; collodion for pharmaceutical purposes; bracelets for medical purposes; Sanitary masks; Wrapping wafers for dose of medicine; Liquid dressings; Breast-nursing pads; Dental materials; Diapers; Diaper covers; Fly catching paper; Mothproofing paper; Lactal flour for babies; Dietary supplements for humans; Dietetic beverages adapted for medical purposes; Dietetic food adapted for medical purposes; Beverages for babies; Food for babies; Dietary supplements for animals; Semen for artificial insemination; incontinence diapers; mothproofing paper; cotton swabs for medical use; Pharmaceutical preparations and substances; diagnostic reagents; diagnostic preparations; diagnostic preparations and reagents for medical, clinical or veterinary purposes; reagents for medical use; medicines for human purposes; chemical preparations and reagents for medical or veterinary purposes" included in **International Class 05**; and

"pacifiers for babies; ice bag pillows for medical purposes; triangular bandages; supportive bandages; surgical catguts; feeding cups for medical purposes; dropping pipettes for medical purposes; teats; medical ice bags; medical ice bag holders; baby bottles; nursing bottles; finger guards for medical purposes; contraceptives, non-chemical; artificial tympanic membranes; prosthetics or fillings materials, not for dental use; ear plugs for sleeping; ear plugs for soundproofing; esthetic massage apparatus for commercial use; medical apparatus and instruments; Diagnostic apparatus and instruments; Blood coagulation analyzers; blood testing apparatus; walking aids for medical purposes; crutches; electric massage apparatus for household purposes; gloves for medical purposes; urinals for medical purposes; bed pans; ear picks" included in **International Class 10**.

Notice is hereby given that the Registrant claims the colors in respect of and as represented in the abovementioned trademark.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Mark shall be dealt with according to law.

Daw Khin Myo Myo Aye, H.G.P
For SEKISUI KAGAKU KOGYO KABUSHIKI KAISHA (doing business as SEKISUI CHEMICAL CO., LTD),
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,
Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),
Corner of Mahabandoola Road and Thein Phyu Road,
Botahtaung Township, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Dated 24 August 2017 kmma@kcyangon.com

George and Amal Clooney give \$1 million to combat US hate groups

LOS ANGELES — Actor George Clooney and his humanitarian lawyer wife, Amal Clooney, have donated \$1 million to the Southern Poverty Law Centre, a US non-profit that monitors extremists and domestic hate groups, in response to protests in Charlottesville, Virginia earlier this month.

An 12 August rally in the town organized by neo-Nazis and other white supremacists led to counter-protests and the death of a woman when a car plowed into the crowd. The street battles triggered a political crisis for President Donald Trump, who praised “very fine people” on

both sides of the fight.

“What happened in Charlottesville, and what is happening in communities across our country, demands our collective engagement to stand up to hate,” the Clooneys said in a joint statement.

The donation comes from the Clooney Foundation for Justice, which the couple established in 2016 to promote justice in classrooms and courtrooms around the world. Southern Poverty Law Center President Richard Cohen thanked the Clooneys for “standing with us at this critical moment in our country’s fight against hate.” —Reuters ■



Actor George Clooney and wife, Amal Clooney, were in Lake Como last week, spotted as they took a boat ride. Pictured: The couple arrive at the 72nd Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, California on 11 January, 2015. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Morgan Freeman to get Screen Actors lifetime award

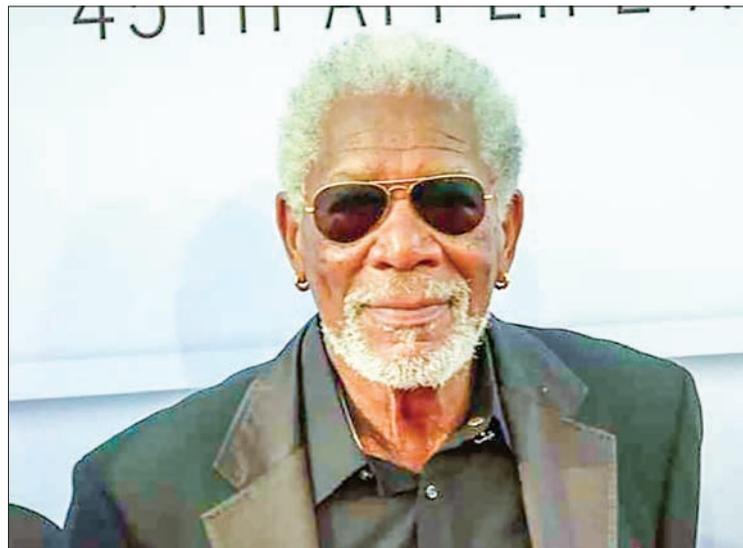


PHOTO: REUTERS

LOS ANGELES — Morgan Freeman, the versatile actor known for playing gods, presidents and pimps, will be honoured with the 2017 lifetime achievement award by the Screen Actors Guild (SAG) at its annual ceremony in January.

Freeman, 80, whose prolific career spans 50 years and more than 100 movies, will join the likes of past recipients Lily Tomlin, Debbie Reynolds and Dick Van Dyke when he gets the honor at a Los Angeles ceremony on 21 January. SAG announced the award on Tuesday.

“Some actors spend their entire careers waiting for the perfect role. Morgan showed us

that true perfection is what a performer brings to the part,” SAG-AFTRA president Gabrielle Carteris said in a statement.

“He is innovative, fearless and completely unbound by expectations,” she added.

The award is given annually to the actor who fosters the finest ideals of the acting profession.

Freeman’s calm demeanor and authoritative voice has seen him cast as God, or the voice of God, in movies including “Bruce Almighty,” and he played the role of president in “Invictus” and “Deep Impact.” In 2005 he won an Oscar for playing a former boxer in “Million Dollar Baby.” —Reuters ■

Currency gag wins best joke prize at Edinburgh Fringe

EDINBURGH — A comedian who quipped about Britain’s new pound coin at the Edinburgh arts festival has won Best Joke of the Fringe 2017, television channel Dave said on Tuesday

Ken Cheng won the coveted prize with his pun “I’m not a fan of the new pound coin, but then again, I hate all change” from his show “Ken Cheng: Chinese Comedian”. Edinburgh hosts the world’s largest arts festival

and can become a career-defining showcase for talent at the comedy performances of the Fringe. The joke was voted on by 2,000 participants who were not told the identity of the comedian behind it.—Reuters ■

Mark Wahlberg named world’s highest-paid actor in 2017

LOS ANGELES — Mark Wahlberg soared to the top of the world’s highest paid actors on an annual Forbes magazine list that highlighted a huge disparity between male and female Hollywood stars.

Wahlberg, 46, earned an estimated \$68 million (52.96 million pounds) in 2017 thanks to his pay days for movies “Daddy’s Home 2” and “Transformers: The Last Knight”, according to the Forbes ranking released on Tuesday.

The rapper-turned-actor knocked 2016 leader Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson into second place, with estimated 2017 earnings of \$65 million.

Forbes estimates earnings, before taxes and management fees, from movies, TV and commercial endorsements.

The Forbes list again highlighted Hollywood’s gender pay gap. Last week, the magazine named “La La Land” Oscar winner Emma Stone as the world’s highest paid actress with an estimated 2017 take of \$26 million.

Forbes said the 10 highest-paid leading men earned a



Actor Mark Wahlberg poses as he arrives at the European premiere of “Deepwater Horizon” at Leicester Square in London, Britain on 26 September, 2016. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

combined \$488.5 million before tax in its June 2016–June 2017 scoring period, nearly three times more than the \$172.5 million earned by the top 10 scoring women.

Forbes attributed the disparity to the prevalence of superhero and action blockbusters that earn big at the box office for Hollywood studios but tend to have fewer leading roles for women.

“Pirates of the Caribbean” star Johnny Depp, who for years has been among the top

five paid actors, did not make the top 20 this year, Forbes said. Depp is currently embroiled in a bitter lawsuit with his former business managers who have detailed what they describe as his lavish spending habits. Last December, before the May 2017 release of “Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales,” Forbes named Depp the most overpaid actor for a second straight year as films such as “Alice Through the Looking Glass” and “Mortdecai” did not fare well.—Reuters ■



A hairless Sphynx cat at Cat-puchino, Yangon's first cat cafe. PHOTO: MARK ANGELES

Cat-puchino

Mark Angeles

Pearl Kyi Win doesn't hesitate when asked which is her favorite cat.

She immediately points out a 13-kilo mass of fur named Jordan, who's asleep in a quiet corner.

Her quick response to the query is a bit surprising, because she owns 40 cats of varying sizes, shapes, colours and breeds.

But Pearl Kyi Win is definitely not an old cat lady. The attractive, 30 year old former nurse is the owner of Catpuchino, a cat cafe that opened three months ago in Sanchaung that has quickly gained a following.

"On weekends, we're usually fully booked for all three

sessions," Pearl Kyi Win said as she stroked the fur of a small, dramatically striped Bengal cat named Ginger. "On weekdays it is not quite as busy."

Catpuchino, Yangon's first cat cafe, charges Ks5,000 per customer for a two-hour session of cuddling, playing, or just observing dozens of cats, most of them pure-bred. There is a Maine Coon, a Chinchilla, a Bengal, a hairless Sphynx, a Scottish Fold and a Khao Manee, a rare breed of pure white cats favoured by Thai royalty.

Located one floor above Freedom Cafe, a small coffee shop on Pan Hlaing Street in Sanchaung, Catpuchino came about because of Pearl Kyi Win's



Mann Soe Soe Sann attracts the attention of one of the felines at Cat-puchino in Sanchaung. PHOTO: MARK ANGELES

lifelong love of animals.

"My first cat was given to me by my father when I was five years old, and I'd ask for another cat on every birthday until I had about 20 cats," Pearl Kyi Win said.

On this day, there were 23 cats available for interacting (or napping) with the 20 customers who had signed up for the two-hour late-afternoon session.

Among them was Mann Soe Soe Sann, 20, a fifth-year medical student at University of Medicine 2 in Yangon, who said she has always preferred cats over dogs as pets.

"Dogs are great, but there is something about cats that's more relaxing," Mann Soe Soe Sann said as she tried to coax a

curious cat into her lap.

In order for her customers to enjoy their time with the felines, Pearl Kyi Win said that the lounge area as well as the cats have to be in top condition.

In between the three daily sessions, the cats are groomed and fed and the cafe is cleaned.

The cat cafe is closed on Mondays, during which the cats are allowed to rest after being given showers by staff members.

Catpuchino is indeed very clean, with no telltale odours, which is no easy accomplishment considering the large number of cats, according to the owner.

"There's one guy whose sole responsibility is to keep the litter room clean so that there is no

smell," Pearl Kyi Win said as she pointed to a door with a small entrance cut into the bottom for feline ingress and egress.

Pearl Kyi Win said the biggest challenge in her cat cafe has been training and keeping employees.

"Some of them don't realise just how much work it takes," she said.

Downstairs at Freedom Cafe, a coffee shop that specialises in healthy beverages such as protein shakes, proprietor April Kyi Win, Pearl's sister, said the family always owned dogs and cats, but favoured felines.

"Dogs are fine, but they can be so clumsy," Pearl Kyi Win said. ■

Golden Eden Sleep solution opened

Golden Eden Sleep solution show room was opened recently near Yuzana Plaza, offering bed sheets, blankets and pillows.

To mark the opening ceremony, the show room sold the

items at 15 per cent discount to guests.

The wholesale and retail sales of the Singapore-made sleep solution items will be made at the showroom.—GNLM ■



The opening ceremony of Golden Eden Sleep solution was attended by some celebrities. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Myanmar delegation to attend congress of International Judo Federation

A delegation from Myanmar Judo Federation left for Budapest, Hungary, yesterday to attend a congress of the International Judo Federation which is scheduled to be held from 25 to 26 August.

The three-member delegation is led by U Tun Tun, Chairman of the Myanmar Judo Federation and comprises U Oo Khaing and U Zaw Tun Naing, executive committee members of the Myanmar Judo Federation.

At the congress, five continental judo federation OCEANIA Judo Federation, Pan America Judo Federation, Europe Judo Federation, Asia Judo Federation and Africa Judo Federation representing 191 member



The delegation of Myanmar Judo Federation is seen before depart for Budapest, Hungary to attend the International Judo Federation. PHOTO: MNA

countries will discuss several issues related with IJF including preparations for 2020-Kyodo

Olympic, financial, auditing and legal issues of the federations.—Saw Thein Win ■

Myanmar wins silver and bronze at 29th SEA Games

KyawZin Lin

Myanmar won silver and bronze medals yesterday at the 29th SEA Games in men's billiards and snooker event, in men's snooker double event and in women's karatedo sparring event, respectively.

Myanmar's karatedo athlete May Thu Cho beat Timor Leste at the Conventional Center Hall (1) in Kuala Lumpur and was awarded the bronze medal. In the final of the men's snooker doubles event held at KICC Conventional Center Hall (4) in Kuala Lumpur; Aung Htay

and Minn Si Thu Htun were defeated by the team from Thailand and were awarded the silver medal. Aung Phyo and Ko Htet from the snooker doubles event won the bronze medal along with Malaysia's Moh Keen Hoo. The billiards and snooker competition consists of three disciplines — pool, snooker and English billiards. The Karatedo event consists of three elements — kihon (basics), kata (forms) and kumite (sparring).

Myanmar has already attained four gold medal, five silver medal and eight bronze medals in 29th SEA Games. ■



Myanmar Karatedo athlete May Thu Cho (right) fights against the athlete from Timor Leste at the 29th SEA GAMES. PHOTO: PUBLIC SPORTS AND EDUCATIVE DEPARTMENT

Defender Walker-Peters signs new deal at Tottenham

LONDON—Tottenham Hotspur defender Kyle Walker-Peters has signed a new contract to keep him at the Premier League club until 2020, the north London team said on Wednesday.

The 20-year-old joined Tottenham's academy in 2013 and made his senior debut in the league-opening 2-0 win at

Newcastle United, where he was named Man of the Match.

"It's great to sign a new contract and commit my future to the club," Walker-Peters told Tottenham's official Twitter account. The defender was part of the England under-20s team that won the World Cup in June. —Reuters ■



England U18's Kyle Walker Peters. PHOTO: REUTERS

Myanmar men's football team waiting semi-final competitor at SEA Games

Kyaw Zin Lin

With Myanmar securing a semi-final spot after a 2-0 win over Singapore, a 3-1 triumph over Laos, an impressive 6-0 win over Brunei and a 3-1 loss to host Malaysia, Myanmar now waits to find out its opponent

from Group B. In Group B, Vietnam and previous champion Thailand have played 4 matches, each earning 10 points, followed by Indonesia with 8 points after 4 matches.

Thailand and Vietnam will play their decisive match to secure their semifinal spots at

the Selayang Municipal Council Stadium while Indonesia and Cambodia team will play at the Shah Alam Stadium today. Men's football semifinal matches will play on Saturday at Selayang Municipal Council Stadium and the Shah Alam Stadium in Kuala Lumpur. ■

Soccer: Honda off to flying start in Mexico with goal in Pachuca debut

PACHUCA, Mexico — Japan midfielder Keisuke Honda made an immediate impression in Pachuca colours as he came off the bench to score a goal on his Liga MX debut in a 4-1 win over Veracruz on Tuesday.

Honda came on 12 minutes after the break, welcomed by cheers from the Estadio Hidalgo home crowd, and needed just 15 minutes to strike in his first appearance for the Mexican side.

The Japanese collected a pass in Veracruz's half on a breakout, pushing the ball forward with his first touch and then slamming a left-footer

past the sprawling goalkeeper from outside the box.

The 31-year-old injured his right calf and missed Pachuca's first five games after joining when his three-and-a-half year deal with AC Milan expired in June.

"Not bad for a first step," said Honda, who scored Pachuca's fourth goal of the match.

"Finally being able to join my teammates, I was psyched when I was called on to play. We won, and I have no words to express how I feel. I have to work a bit more on raising my game."

Takehiro Yonemichi, a

company employee living in Saitama Prefecture, traveled to see Honda's Mexican debut.

"This has been the greatest summer vacation," Yonemichi said. "The instant the Mexican fans chanted Honda's name, my heart soared."

Angelo Sagal opened the scoring for Pachuca in the 13th minute. Victor Guzman scored in each half for a brace to make it 3-0 before Pachuca coach Diego Alonso gave Honda the nod to replace Sagal.

The visitors could only respond with one goal through Cristian Pellerano in the 78th. —Kyodo News ■