

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IV, No. 139, 13th Waxing of Tawthalin 1379 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Sunday, 3 September 2017



A police officer guards near a house which was burnt down in Maungtaw, northern Rakhine State, on 30 August 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Islamic villagers' cooperation urged in search for terrorists

ISLAMIC villagers in northern Maungtaw have been urged over loudspeakers to cooperate when security forces search for Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) extremist terrorists, and not to pose a threat or brandish weapons when the security forces enter their villages.

Villagers from Pantawpyin

Village (West) underwent a search by security forces on Friday without incident, and pledged that they will cooperate with the forces in search of the extremist terrorists.

After the search and enquiry work, the security forces provided aid to the villagers.

There have been instances

of active cooperation from villagers in the hunt for terrorists.

In Maungni Village, which has a population of about 7,000 Islamics, villagers caught two ARSA extremist terrorists and handed over them to security forces on Thursday.

"Our villagers are on alert around the clock to arrest ter-

rorists in our village. We all don't want terrorism," said Adu Rawman, of Maungni Village.

"We have lived on friendly terms with the ethnic Rakhine people, and are keeping in touch with them even though deadly conflict has happened," said Adu Rawman.

SEE PAGE-3

SUNDAY SPECIAL



Today's issue contains an 8-Page special pull-out supplement.

NATIONAL

Voices of the media on reporting trip to Maungtaw

PAGE-3



NATIONAL

Donations for displaced people by Rakhine State government

PAGE-2



LOCAL BUSINESS

More than a million tons of rice expected to export via Yangon Port

PAGE-5

NATIONAL

Islamic villagers mark Eid-al-Adha in Maungtaw

PAGE-9

First Myanmar Phone Money

Want to transfer money ?

Want to Top up other phones?

Want to shop at Gamone Pwint ?

Want to pay salary to your employees ?

Want to transfer withdrawal anytime ?

Myanmar MOBILE MONEY anywhere anytime anyone

Be Proud using mobile money service on MPT, MECTel Sim Cards

STARMART Nine Mile Showroom- (9)Mile, Pyay Road, Yangon Township: Ph- 09 30860180, 01 9669713, 01 9669714 www.starmartninemileshowroom.com
Office- No(51), Boyarmyunt Street, Dagon township, Yangon, Ph: 09-31001520, 0931001521, 09-31001530, 09-31001531 Call Center- 1211, 1212 Hot Line: 3636, 3939 Website- www.myanmarmobilemoneyeasypay.com

Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker on study tour in Czech Republic



Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung departs from Yangon International Airport yesterday for Czech Republic. **PHOTO: MNA**

On the invitation of the embassy of the Czech Republic, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung departed from Yangon International Airport yesterday evening for a study tour of Czech Republic.

U Aye Tha Aung and party were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Maung Tun, Deputy Speaker U Lin Naing Myint, officials from the Amyotha Hluttaw office and family members.

Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Thein Swe, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Myo Aung and two members of an

assistance association for political prisoners accompanied the Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker.

During the study tour, there will be meetings with the Deputy Minister of the Czech Republic's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Deputy Vice Chairman of the Czech Parliament and Foreign Relation Committee members. The Deputy Speaker will also study the Parliament, the Ministry of Justice, and prisons. He is scheduled to meet with a former political prisoners group and a Burma Centre group in Prague.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Donations for displaced people by Rakhine State government

Authorities from the Rakhine State government, including Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, went on 1 September to Alotawpyae Monastery in Magy-inmyaing ward and paid homage to the Head Sayadaw, explained the security situation, providing food, and spoke of future works in Maungdaw, Buthidaung and Yethadaung townships in Rakhine State.

The Alotawpyaw Sayadaw said elders, children and women should be removed to a safe

place from Maungdaw region, where the terrorist attacks have occurred. The Rakhine State Chief Minister said negotiation will be carried out with responsible personnel to allow for evacuation. The chief minister then met with people being housed in the monastery who fled from terrorist attacks and gave words of encouragement.

In the evening, the authorities paid homage to the Sayadaws in Pyinnyar Parmi Monastery school and presented

Ks500,000 to people to purchase food in Ponnagyun Town.

Afterwards, authorities presented Ks1 million to displaced people in the Dukkan Chaung Monastery, followed by a donation of Ks500,000 and words of encouragement to displaced people in the Township Sasana Beikmen in Kyauktaw.

The authorities will continue to provide aid for a week to displaced people who arrived at Sittway, Kyauktaw and Ponnagyun.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Authorities from Rakhine State government evacuate elders, children and women to a safe place from Maungdaw region, where the terrorist attacks have occurred. **PHOTO: MAUNG SEIN LWIN**

This year's death toll from H1N1 up to 36

The number of people who have died since 21 July from the H1N1 virus, also known as Seasonal Influenza A (H1N1) pdm09, is up to 36, the Ministry of Health and Sports said in a statement released yesterday.

The ministry said the rate of the occurrences of the H1N1 virus began to decline on 7 August. Of the 1,029 patients hospitalised, 369 were diagnosed with H1N1, with 36 fatalities.

During the 10-day period from 2 p.m. 23 August to 2 p.m. yesterday, 181 patients suspected of being infected with H1N1 underwent lab testing. As a result of the tests, 52 were diagnosed with H1N1. Of this group there were three fatalities. Of the 36 fatalities, 12 were from Ayeyawady Region, eight from Yangon Region, six from Bago

Region and 10 from other states and regions.

At the present moment, there are 25 in-patients receiving treatment in other states and regions, but the numbers of patients hospitalised are significantly decreasing on a daily basis, the ministry said. Cumulative incidences of influenza-like symptoms are also declining in schools, work places, hotels and crowded areas. Although the Ministry of Health and Sports made the determination that H1N1 preventive flu shots should be required, the vaccination was given to health personnel who were in regular contact with infected patients. This is the usual practice in most countries of the world where H1N1 occurs, said the statement.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Myanmar can become middle-income country by 2030: Prabir De

Myanmar can become a middle-income country by 2030 and triple its per capita income, says Indian economist Prabir De.

In a book "Myanmar's Integration with the World" co-authored with Ajitava Raychaudhuri, that was released during the first India-Myanmar dialogue, De says Myanmar can become one of the fastest growing economies and grow at 7-8 per cent per annum.

"With Myanmar enjoying preferential quotas due to its Least Developed Country status and with the sanctions gone, the country has the chance to attract a booming foreign direct investment," De said in his chapter in the book. The book was launched by Indian Ambassador Vikram Misri and Parami Energy CEO

Ken Tun. De listed the disadvantages faced by Myanmar as it seeks foreign direct investments - small population size, missing institutions, narrow trade basket, inadequate trade capacity, lack of skilled human resources and insufficient infrastructure.

"But Myanmar's biggest plus is its strategic location - between China, India and ASEAN, three top markets where Myanmar's exports could go up substantially. With labour costs still low and these vast markets available, foreign investors have good reasons to move into Myanmar to set up manufacturing units or service facilities," De said.

De said that the processes of global integration represent both challenges and opportunities for Myanmar, insofar as its growth

depends on external economic environment. "The policies of multilateral institutions and regional groupings will have a huge bearing on Myanmar," he said.

De stressed on several phases of reforms for Myanmar to take advantage of its locational advantages and its LDC status that guarantees its products preferential access to several top markets like the US and European Union.

"Myanmar will also grow faster if it puts in place the right kind of laws to take maximum advantage of regional cooperation," De said.

He said the new FDI policy in 2010 attracted a huge inflow of overseas capital, with FDI going up from \$1 billion in 2010 to \$4 billion in 2015.—Mizzima ■

Voices of the media on reporting trip to Maungtaw



Daw Ei Ei Tin (Fuji TV)

"In last year's terrorist attacks, the terrorists were armed only with sticks and swords. This time, they have hand-made landmines, car mines and other arms, so we were worried. Officials provided security so that we can visit the places we want to. Everyone was surprised that we can go. We went there after convincing ourselves that security must had been established, as we were allowed to go while the events were unfolding. We were able to visit many sites where incidents occurred.

We visited ethnic villages about three to four miles from Maungtaw. In Maungtaw town, the market is closed. Outside the market we saw only a few ethnic national shops. The town and the market is deserted, but security was everywhere.

On our return from Maungtaw, we visited Buthidaung Hospital, where we interviewed a woman who was shot and wounded by terrorists. She is a Hindu and a nurse had to translate for us. Her Hindu family was returning to Maungtaw when there was a terrorist attack and they ran into a district court building that was still under construction. Terrorists then came and attacked them with swords and guns. She was hit in the chest and fell down. A child and another woman who were with her hid in a big tub and escaped.

We thank the authorities for arranging this visit and once we are back in our office, we will report what we found to the world."

Interviewer – Tin Maung Lwin, Min Htat Aung, Photo – Maung Hmwe

LOCAL and international media who visited northern Rakhine State from 29 August to 1 September — only days after the first of a series of attacks on police stations, villages and security forces by the terrorist group Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) — said their experiences while gathering news and information revealed that the violence was organised and ongoing, that the terrorists were better armed and trained compared to the similar attacks last year, and that innocent civilians continue to fear for their lives.

The journalists, who returned to Yangon from Sittway on Friday evening, were interviewed by Myanmar News Agency reporters and asked for their first-hand accounts.



Ko Moe Myint (Irrawaddy)

"It is very good that the government arranged for this visit by local and international media as soon as the events happened. There is a time constraint on gathering news, but this is probably because of the security situation.

When we went to a camp where Hindus were staying, there was a language barrier. Due to the time needed for translation, we needed double the normal time to complete our interviews.

It is good that we were able to visit the sites where incidents occurred. But we also need to meet with victims of terrorism who were hospitalised in order to learn the first-hand accounts of the attacks.

There was no plan to do this and it was conducted only after we heard of a woman hospitalised in Buthidaung Hospital after surviving an attack that killed six Hindus. The authorities arranged for the hospital visit after our request and it was a very interesting interview with a victim. It would have been great if we could stay in Buthidaung, but apart from this the arrangements were very convenient."



Daw Sint Sint Aung (Nippon TV)

"It is very convenient for being able to visit Maungtaw. While we were at Maungtaw District General Administrative Office on 31 August, there was an attempt to burn down a place nearby and we saw fires burning while security personnel cleared the area. We also heard gunshots. When we visited that place, we didn't see anyone, but the way things were lying around indicated that people were coming and going as the situation permitted, and all had not run away.

While we were in Buthidaung, on the way to Maungtaw, we learnt of five ethnic nationals killed at Three-Mile Village. When we met the police, they confirmed the incident. We saw the building under construction where the Hindus were killed. We visited ethnic Rakhine camps and also met with Hindus. The ethnic Rakhine say they rely on the Tatmadaw, and there shouldn't be any terrorists. When we met with ethnic Mro nationals, they said they don't have any security because their numbers are so small, so they had to run away if there were any incidents. They prefer to live near where there are ethnic Rakhines."



Ko Nay Htat Zaw Win (Asahi Shimbun)

"When we left Buthidaung and reached the Maungtaw District General Administrative Office on 31 August, there was an arson attack intended to burn down a place west of the office. It was on fire for only about 15 minutes. We were able to visit that place and took photos. We were also provided with full security. We also visited a place where five people were killed by terrorists on the morning of 31 August. We were able to interview the local villagers there. Security was well provided. We visited temporary camps for ethnic Rakhine who fled from the arson attacks. We interviewed them and took photographs. We also visited camps where Hindus and ethnic Mro are staying. They all looked terrified. They want to return to their own places, but they are afraid to do so."

This is the fourth visit by local and international journalists to northern Rakhine State since late last year. The media representatives visited northern Rakhine State for the first time from 19-22 December; a second time from 28 March to 1 April and a third time from July 12-16.



Ko Zayya Maw (Mizzima)

"We were able to collect news in Maungtaw only. Neighbouring areas were not safe, so we were unable to collect news very much. Some areas are still not safe, so we were afraid to go to such places and the authorities also didn't ask us to go. We first saw a camp where ethnic Rakhine were staying. There were more than 600, and all were terrified.

The two communities don't trust one another, so they didn't want to stay where they were. They wanted to move into town. When we visited a camp where there are Hindus, we also found them to be afraid. We visited a Bengali camp in Thakkepyin Village near Sittway. They said they don't want these terrorist activities and were concerned that what happened in Maungtaw would happen in Sittway. They also wanted to stay in peace. We wanted to gather news as soon as the incidents happened, but we were unable to do so due to the security situation. Authorities arranged the visit within three days of the incidents occurring, so even though we are not fully satisfied with the visit, we are able to report what we had seen and were able to get first-hand interviews, so we were quite satisfied."

Islamic villagers'

FROM PAGE-1

Thursday's arrest of the ARSA terrorist came one day after seven other ARSA extremist terrorists were arrested by Islam villagers in northern Maungtaw.

Meanwhile, authorities have urged the people in Rakhine State not to spread rumours with the intention of causing further conflict. Rumours have caused hindrances to the security and

administrative efforts jointly carried out by the security forces and the people, said the statement.

Amid ongoing terrorist threats by ARSA extremist terrorists, the security forces have evacuated villagers, provided security to the local people and given aid to them, said the statement. The villagers took part in Eid al-Adha prayer yesterday Eid al-Adha is one of the major holidays in Islam.— Myanmar News Agency ■

"In last year's terrorist attacks, the terrorist were armed only with sticks and swords.

This time, they have hand-made landmines, car mines and other arms, so we were worried."

GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

ACTING CHIEF EDITORAye Min Soe,
ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**EXPATRIATE CONSULTANT EDITOR**Mark Angeles,
markangeles@gmail.com**SENIOR EDITORIAL CONSULTANT**

Kyaw Myaing

SENIOR TRANSLATORSKhin Maung Oo,
editor2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Khin Maung Win (Chief Proof Reader),
Zaw Min, zawmin.gnlm@gmail.com**INTERNATIONAL NEWS EDITOR**Ye Htut Tin,
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**LOCAL NEWS EDITORS**Tun Tun Naing (Editor),
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor),
nwenwe9131@gmail.com**TRANSLATORS**Khaing Thanda Lwin,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Hay Mar Tin Win,
translator@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Ei Myat Mon
Zaw Htet Oo
Kyaw Zin Lin
Sandar Soe
Kyaw Zin Tun**REPORTERS**May Thet Hnin,
mayreporter.mmm@gmail.com
Tun Aung Kyaw,
reporter2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com**PHOTOGRAPHER**

Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar

COMPUTER TEAMTun Zaw (Chief of Computer Team),
Thein Ngwe, Zaw Zaw Aung,
Ye Naing Soe, Nyi Zaw Moe,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,
Sanda Hnin, Zu Zin Hnin**EDITORIAL SECTION**(+95) (01)8604529,
Fax — (+95) (01) 8604305**CIRCULATION & DISTRIBUTION**San Lwin, (+95) (01) 8604532,
Hotline - 09 974424114**ADVERTISING & MARKETING**(+95) (01) 8604530,
Hotline - 09 974424848
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.comPrinted and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.gnlmdaily@gmail.com
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
www.facebook.com/
globalnewlightofmyanmar**Write for us**We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with your name and title.

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

Convocation Hall of Yangon University on Chancellor's Road. **PHOTO: NYI ZAW MOE**

University upgrades in Yangon Region depend on funds

Ko Moe

DEPENDING upon the availability of funds, universities in Yangon Region will be upgraded to achieve set standards, said Yangon Region minister for social affairs U Naing Ngan Lin.

At the fifth regular meeting of Yangon Region Hluttaw

held 31 August, U Kyaw Kyaw Tun of Hline Township constituency 1 asked about plans to repair and renovate universities in Yangon Region to attain a set standard. Yangon Region minister for social affairs U Naing Nga Lin said a committee was formed with Ministry of Education to make the universities in Yangon attain the

set standard.

U Kyaw Kyaw Tun said he asked this question because when he visited some halls in Yangon University, he found damaged roofs and theatres damaged by water.

U Naing Ngan Lin also added that the Yangon University Upgrading Committee is conducting site visits to

repair and renovate universities in Yangon and, depending upon funds available, repair and renovation works will be conducted.

In the Yangon Region Hluttaw meeting held 31 August, other questions by region hluttaw representatives were answered by relevant ministers. ■

Corn exports decline at border trade camps

THE export of corn via Myanmar-China border trade camps declined by 892 tons in the third week of August compared to the last week of August, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

The total volume of corn exported to China via the Muse, Lweje and Chin Shwe Haw trade camps between 12

and 18 August was 7,320 tons worth US\$1.6 million.

Myanmar-grown corn is mainly exported to China. The corn volume of exported trade via border camps between 12 and 18 August was 6,800 tons in Muse, 445.5 tons in Lweje and 82.5 tons in Chin Shwe Haw.

Sino-Myanmar border trade from 1 April to 18 Au-

gust in the current financial year amounted to \$2.2 billion, a decrease of \$133 million compared to the same period last year. The bilateral trade gates are at Muse, Lweje, Chin Shwe Haw, Kanpikete and Keng Tung. Myanmar exported over 8,212 tons of corn to China last week: 7,220 tons via Muse; 521 tons via Lweje and 471.5 tons

via Chinshwehaw.

The price of corn is still increasing. The prevailing price is Ks298,990 per ton at Muse depots this week, up from Ks297,787 per ton last week. China is purchasing the corn at a price of 1,600 yuan per ton. This week, the corn market is cooling because of torrential rain in China.—Zwe ■

Chinese firm exploring garment industry investment

NannYar Co Ltd., a China-based company is exploring a new investment in Myanmar's garment industry.

Although the Chinese

company attempted to enter Myanmar in 2003, it was unsuccessful.

Company executives have recently expressed in-

terest in Bago Region and have envisioned facilities that would employ an estimated 12,000 local people.—Tin Soe (Bago) ■

Handmade bamboos on sale in Mandalay

BUSINESS for traditional hand-woven bamboo fans manufactured in Yay Kyi village, Patheingyi township in Mandalay Region are starting to pick up their high season in October and November.

Many fan crafts people in Mandalay learned the trade from their families and use locally sourced bamboo.

A handmade bamboo fan costs Ks16.—Tein Taman ■

Forestry products exports lower this FY

PRIVATE forestry sector goods exported US\$83 million this fiscal year, about \$9 million less than last year, according to the Commerce Ministry's

latest trade report.

Last year the ministry recorded total private forestry exports of \$92million.

Government-owned for-

estry products exports, however, increased this financial year to \$3.1 million, compared to \$802,000 last year.—Khine Khant ■

More than a million tons of rice expected to export via Yangon Port this FY

ABOUT 400,000 tons of rice were exported so far and this financial year is expected to see about a million tons of rice export, said U Ni Aung, the Managing Director of Myanmar Port Terminals during Transport Minister's visit.

Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung for Transport and Communications left from Nanthida terminal by vessel on 27 August with the officials from the ministry to inspect docking of oversea ship, cargo handling processes of Sule and other terminals, improvement of Twantay canal waterway and maintenance work at the bank of Twantay canal.

The cargo processing has become more easier as Yangon Port is now capable of accommodating vessels of 190 meter length overall. Previously, only ships with LOA 167 meter were docked at Yangon Port terminals, explained U Ni Aung, the Managing Director of Myanmar Port Terminals to the Union Minister U Thant Sin Maung.

Afterwards, the officials from the Directorate of Water Resources and River Development explained to Union Minister the history of Twantay Canal and current protection measures of collapsing riverbank.

Starting from current FY, Twantay Canal Development



A worker carries a sack of rice on his shoulder from the ship in Yangon. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

Project is being implemented with US\$61.3 million loan of the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) from South Korea and with gov-

ernment expenditure of \$7.94 million in a bid to improve the waterway and protect the area from a collapsing riverbank and flood. Additionally, this project

aims to secure the waterway, speed up the freight flow, have a smooth transportation and enhance livelihood of local people.—GNLM ■

Slip price remains on the rise in Yangon automobile market

PRICES of slip (import permit) returned for retirement of old vehicles remain on the rise, which decrease import of cars with slip.

Slip price reached the highest of over Ks12 million in the past months. Despite the decrease in import of cars with slip, slip price is turning upward trend due to lack of slip in the

market.

About 3,000 buses 1995 model were claimed to be retired at the Road Transport Administration Department (RTAD) and slips for cars with black licence plate were given back to the owners. However, slip price is still rising since less slips are found in the automobile market, said Ko Myint

Kyaw, a car dealer.

Sales of second-hand cars are top in the list of Yangon automobile industry. Yangon licensed cars are selling and car brokers are reaping profit of Ks1 to 1.5 million from trading. Honda Fit, Nissan cars with licences from other states and regions are being sold at under Ks20 million. —Ko Htet ■

Nearly 390 tons of betel nuts exported to India within a week

BETWEEN 12 and 18 August, 384 tons of betel nuts with estimated value of US\$0.33 million tons were exported to India through India-Myanmar border gates – Tamu and Reed, according to a recent release of the Commerce Ministry.

Previous week's betel nut export surpassed that week as more than 430 tons of betel nuts were exported in the previous

week.

In addition to betel nuts, India-Myanmar checkpoints saw reexport of gasoline and export of spices, footwear, apparels and cigarette.

Bilateral trade with India amounted to \$27.2 million as of 25 August this FY which decreased \$14 million less than similar period of last FY. —GNLM ■

NatRay

WELLNESS

PREMIUM FITNESS EQUIPMENT SUPPLIER

NatRay

WELLNESS

OUR SERVICES

- ▶ SUPPLY PREMIUM FITNESS EQUIPMENT / SPORTS FLOORING
- ▶ SERVICE MAINTENANCE OF FITNESS EQUIPMENT
- ▶ 2D / 3D GYM PLAN VISUALIZATION
- ▶ OPERATION LEASE OF FITNESS EQUIPMENT
- ▶ FITNESS TRAINING PROGRAMMES
- ▶ GYM MANAGEMENT
- ▶ SPORTS NUTRITION & SUPPLEMENTS

SHOWROOMS

A4-002, Shwe Ga Bar Housing,
Mindhama rd, Mayangone Tsp, Yangon.
Tel : 01 6565 11, 01 6565 22, 09 2501 46 087

32nd st, 77th x 78th st, Mandalay.
Tel : 09 445 7221 66, 09 971 8211 17

US, S Korea agree to revise missile treaty in face of N Korean threats

SEOUL — US President Donald Trump agreed with South Korean President Moon Jae-in to revise a joint treaty capping the development of the South's ballistic missiles, Moon's office said on Saturday, amid a standoff over North Korea's missile and nuclear tests.

Trump also gave "conceptual" approval to the purchase by the South of billions of dollars of US military hardware, the White House said.

The South wants to raise the missile cap to boost its defences against the reclusive North, which is pursuing missile and nuclear weapons programmes in defiance of international warnings and UN sanctions.

"The two leaders agreed

to the principle of revising the missile guideline to a level desired by South Korea, sharing the view that it was necessary to strengthen South Korea's defence capabilities in response to North Korea's provocations and threats," South Korea's presidential Blue House said.

Impoverished North Korea and the rich, democratic South are technically still at war because their 1950-53 conflict ended in a truce, not a peace treaty. The North regularly threatens to destroy the South and its main ally, the United States.

North Korea sharply raised regional tension this week with the launch of its Hwasong-12 intermediate-range ballistic missile that flew over Japan and

landed in the Pacific.

That followed the test launch of two long-range ballistic missiles in July in a sharply lofted trajectory that demonstrated a potential range of 10,000 km (6,000 miles) or more that would put many parts of the US mainland within striking distance.

North Korea has been working to develop a nuclear-tipped missile capable of hitting the United States and has recently threatened to land missiles near the US Pacific territory of Guam.

South Korea's development of its ballistic missiles is limited to range of 800 km (500 miles) and payload weight of 500 kg (1,100 pounds) under a bilateral treaty revised in 2012.

South Korea has said it wants to revise the agreement to increase the cap on the payload.

The two countries agreed to the cap as part of a commitment to a voluntary international arms-control pact known as the Missile Technology Control Regime, aimed at limiting the proliferation of missiles and nuclear weapons.

The two leaders pledged to continue to apply strong diplomatic and economic pressure on North Korea and to make all necessary preparations to defend against the growing threat by the North, the White House said.

The White House did not mention the voluntary bilateral agreement but said the two leaders agreed to strengthen their

defence cooperation and South Korea's defence capabilities.

Trump "provided his conceptual approval of planned purchases by South Korea of billions of dollars in American military equipment", the White House said.

Trump, who has warned that the US military is "locked and loaded" in case of further North Korean provocation, reacted angrily to the latest missile test, declaring on Twitter that "talking is not the answer" to resolving the crisis.

North Korea defends its weapons programmes as necessary to counter perceived US aggression, such as recent air manoeuvres with South Korean and Japanese jets.—Reuters ■

Thai activists seek pet registration law to reduce stray dogs, cats

BANGKOK — Thai animal welfare groups are brainstorming ideas to press for new legislation to require registration of pets, in hopes of reducing the high number of stray dogs and cats around the country in the long term.

To curb the huge stray population that shows no sign of declining, Piyawan Tangsakul-sathaporn, the founder of "A CALL for Animal Rights Thailand," said the groups have been studying the pros and cons of a draft law that will require pet owners to get their animals registered.

"Over 90 per cent of stray dogs and cats in Thailand are resulted from the irresponsibility of the pet owners, who abandon their pets on the streets or in a temple when the owners no longer adore them or are no longer willing to shoulder the heavy cost of caring for the animals," Piyawan told Kyodo News.

The Thai capital alone has over 140,000 stray dogs and almost 100,000 stray cats as of 2016, according to statistics from the Bureau of Disease Control and Veterinary Services. Across the country, there are thought to be more than 700,000 stray dogs and 470,000 stray cats.



Chollada Mekratri, founder of animal welfare group "Siang Jahk Rao (The Voice) Foundation," holds up a disabled dog named Chan Chao which was rescued by her foundation, during an event to celebrate the fifth anniversary of its launch in Bangkok on 19 August, 2017. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

Neutering and sheltering the strays have so far failed to put their populations under control because the current efforts do not fix the root cause of the problem, Piyawan said.

The draft law envisions an autonomous animal welfare police force, as exists in some Western countries, being eventually set up in Thailand to directly deal with animal cruelty cases, after many animal welfare groups received complaints that police officers lacked knowledge about the animal law and often mishandled reported cases.

The "animal cops" could be funded by a pet tax, Piyawan said. But she added that such a tax is unlikely to be introduced any time soon as it could be a double-edged sword, causing low-income earners to dump their pets.

Breeders and pet shops would also have to get certified by animal control authorities as they are also the problem creators.

"Pet registration is a sustainable solution to systemize the abundant cats and dogs in Thailand," the activist said.—Kyodo News ■

Honda to pay \$605 million to settle Takata air bag lawsuit

NEW YORK — Honda Motor Co said on Friday it has agreed to pay \$605 million to settle a lawsuit filed by US vehicle owners seeking compensation for economic losses related to recalls of Takata Corp air bags.

With the settlement by Honda, the Japanese automaker which had sold the most vehicles carrying Takata air bags, six automakers from Japan and Germany will pay a total of more than \$1.2 billion in compensation following the class action lawsuit.

The settlement will cover expenses including taxi fares incurred while the owners' cars are under repair as well as an outreach programme to ensure air bags are replaced, according to Honda and a document regarding the lawsuit.

In the lawsuit, Toyota Motor Corp, Mazda Motor Corp, Subaru Corp and BMW AG reached a settlement in May for payments totaling \$553 million. In August, Nissan Motor Co also reached a settlement with vehicle owners to pay at least \$97 million.

Ford Motor Co has yet to settle the lawsuit and plaintiffs will continue seeking a settlement, according to US media.

Honda has started its own program to call on vehicle owners to replace air bags.

A Honda official said the payment is unlikely to have a major impact on the company's earnings as it has already factored in some of the expenses resulting from the settlement.

Takata air bags have proved liable to explosions in which metal fragments have been known to spray at drivers and passengers. The defective inflators could have led to 13 deaths in the United States, where a total of 42 million vehicles across 19 automakers are subject to recall.

Takata has filed for bankruptcy protection as part of a restructuring scheme to restore its business that has been badly battered by the global recall of its defective air bag systems.—Kyodo News ■

DPRK accuses Japan of using alleged "threat" from Pyongyang to legally justify overseas aggression

PYONGYANG — The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on Saturday accused Japan of using alleged "threat" from the DPRK's nuclear and missile programmes to legally justify overseas aggression through a revision of its constitution.

"It is the invariable ambition of Japanese reactionaries to realize the old dream of 'Greater East Asia co-prosperity Sphere' by abusing the situation in Asia-Pacific that has been rendered tense," said the ruling Workers' Party of Korea's daily.

The official daily Rodong Sinmun said Japanese authorities have been granting Self-Defence Force greater right to launch overseas military operations in preparation for its future actions of aggression against foreign countries. "By stepping up the moves for turning the country fascist and

militarist such as enactment of law on protection of specific secrets and law on punishment of organized crimes, Japan is going to revise the constitution to legally justify overseas aggression," it said. The newspaper also pointed out that Japan's moves to revise its constitution has met with strong denunciation at home and abroad and consequently its ruling party has lost several local elections recently.

"It (the Japanese government) is now finding the way out in rendering the hostility towards DPRK extreme and instilling militarist idea into society," it added. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party have been eyeing making Japan's first-ever postwar amendment to the pacifist charter, a move that has proved politically, publicly and internationally decisive. —Xinhua ■

9th China Flower Expo kicks off in Yinchuan



A peacock-shaped flower decoration is displayed at the Yunnan Pavilion during the 9th China Flower Expo in Yinchuan, capital of northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region on 1 September, 2017. The expo kicked off in Yinchuan on Friday. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

Japan, US to set up working-level talks on trade, infrastructure

TOKYO — The Japanese and US governments will set up at least eight working-level groups this month in such areas as trade and infrastructure under the bilateral dialogue launched in response to President Donald Trump's campaign vow to reduce the US trade deficit with Japan, sources close to the matter said on Saturday.

The working groups will be created under the economic talks between Japanese Deputy Prime Minister Taro Aso and US Vice President Mike Pence.

The second round of talks is scheduled for 17 October in Washington. Partly due to delays in personnel appointments

by Trump, no talks have been held since the first in April in Tokyo.

Additionally, an informal meeting between Aso and Pence planned for Tuesday was canceled so Aso can remain in Japan to deal with escalating tension with North Korea.

The working groups will cover topics in line with the three agreed policy pillars in the talks — common strategy on trade and investment rules, cooperation in economic and structural policies, and sectoral cooperation.

As for economic and structural policies, one working group will discuss corporate tax evasion and macroeconomic issues. The

governments also plan to create at least five groups to cover infrastructure, cyber security, energy and other issues under the sectoral cooperation pillar. The sources say the US side is asking to set up even more groups.

Two groups are expected to study rules pertaining to investment and to trade in areas including agriculture and automobiles. The Japanese side hopes to rack up progress in the working groups on investment rules and the energy sector so as to avoid pressure to reduce the US trade deficit by constricting Japanese exports and market access. —Kyodo News ■

Vietnamese man arrested after escaping during questioning on street

MAEBASHI, (Japan) — Police arrested on Friday a 31-year-old Vietnamese man for allegedly obstructing police duties after escaping from an officer attempting to handcuff him the previous day in eastern Japan.

Nguyen Van Hai was taken into custody after showing up at a convenience store in Kumagaya, Saitama Prefecture having contacted a female Vietnamese acquaintance in her 20s by mobile phone saying he wished to turn himself in, the police said on Saturday.

The man had been on the run since being stopped and questioned by a police officer around 11:15 am on Thursday in a residential area in the town of Oizumi in neighbouring Gunma Prefecture after being seen driving a dented car, they said.

He had bitten the officer in the arm and fled after having one of his hands handcuffed, according to the police.

He still had a handcuff on his hand when arrested on Friday, the police said. — Kyodo News ■

Climber rescued in Japan Alps 8 days after setting off on solo trek

TOYAMA, (Japan) — A 76-year-old climber was rescued Friday eight days after setting off alone to climb the Northern Japan Alps, police said.

Hiroshi Muramatsu was found by rescue workers near

Mt Shishidake in Toyama Prefecture on the Sea of Japan coast. Although weak, he remains conscious, the police said.

A helicopter spotted Muramatsu around 2:40 pm on a slope at an altitude of about 1,740 me-

tres. The location was off any hiking trail.

According to the police, Muramatsu started climbing alone on 24 August at Murodo, a popular highland tourism spot surrounded by the Tateyama mountain

range. But he apparently never made it to the mountain hut where he planned to spend the first night.

Muramatsu had planned to traverse the Alps southward and descend to Shin-Hodaka hot

spring in neighbouring Gifu Prefecture by last Sunday or Monday. When his family in Saitama Prefecture reported to local police he was missing, the Toyama prefectural police began searching for the climber. — Kyodo News ■

Women's capacities and the new developing democratic nation

Maw Linn

WOMEN'S rights are being widely dealt with in our world today with seriousness and care. Undeniably, there are many people who have doubts as to whether such a priority needs to be paid to this matter. It was widely believed that Hilary Clinton's defeat in competing for nomination as the presidential candidate of the Democratic Party against Barack Obama was because she was a woman. In her 2008 concession speech acknowledging defeat, she disclosed that she had managed to hit the glass-ceiling hard enough for 18 cracks to have

remained on the glass, as though referring to scoring 18 million votes in her favor, though she did not win in the election. It means that there are still a lot to be done regarding women's rights, even in such a country as the United States of America.

Now in our country, Myanmar as well, concerted efforts are being made to develop and practice respect for women's rights in the nation. According to the 2010 election results, there was only 4 percent of women's inclusion in the two Hluttaws. Yet, in the 2015 general election, women's inclusion in two Hluttaws rose up to 13.7 percent. On a nationwide scale,

there were 87 female ward and village administrators out of 16785 in all, across the nation.

The documentary film named, "Kha-Yaung-Lan-Ah-Lun"—which means "Beyond the Hard and Adventurous Journey." This documentary film about 5 female ward/village administrators demonstrated their abilities and capabilities.

There is a fundamental reason why women rights should be developed with seriousness in the country. This is highlighted by the fact that out of the total population of 51.486 million, the population of women reached 26.662 million. Therefore, if we neglect

the thoughts and feelings women who constitute half of the total population, it would be tantamount to turning our backs to democracy. As we work for national development, failure to create job opportunities for women means losing the labor and capacities of half of the national population.

Therefore, we should solemnly believe and exert our efforts to upgrade the capacities of women. By doing this we are in fact revitalizing our country as it marches forward to become a new developed democratic country. ■

(Translated by Khin Maung Oo)

Protein risk for millions from rising CO2 emissions - study

EIGHTEEN countries may lose more than 5 per cent of their dietary protein by 2050 as a result of crops losing their nutritional value.

About 150 million people risk a significant loss of protein if carbon dioxide emissions continue to rise, leaving children in the worst-affected countries more vulnerable to death and disease, according to new research.

Today, 76 per cent of the world's population gets most of its protein from plants, but higher CO2 emissions will reduce the amount of protein - as well as iron and zinc - in a range of staple crops, said researchers at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

Eighteen countries, including India, may lose more than 5 per cent of their dietary protein by 2050 as a result of crops such as rice, wheat and barley losing their nutritional value.



A farmer plants saplings in a rice field. PHOTO: REUTERS

Lack of protein contributes to children being underweight and short, and leaves them more open to disease and death.

"Thought must be given to reducing vulnerability ... through supporting more diverse and nutritious diets, enriching the nutritional content of staple crops, and breeding crops less sensitive to these CO2 effects," said senior research scientist Samuel Myers.

"And, of course, we need to dramatically reduce global CO2 emissions as quickly as possible," added Myers, who is co-author of the paper, which was published on Wednesday in Environmental Health Perspectives, a

monthly peer-reviewed journal.

The effects of CO2 on protein levels are less pronounced in maize, sorghum and beans, the authors said.

High CO2 levels in the atmosphere are also likely to cut the amount of iron in plants, Harvard researchers said in a companion study published in GeoHealth scientific journal.

Those most vulnerable to a loss of iron in their staple crops include 354 million children under five and more than 1 billion women of childbearing age, mainly in South Asia and north Africa, the researchers said.

They live in countries already experiencing high rates of anaemia

and whose crops are expected to lose more than 3.8 per cent of dietary iron as a result of the CO2 effect.

Lack of iron affects people's ability to work, and leads to higher death rates during pregnancy and childbirth, and increased health risks for children.

"Because these changes will be gradual and largely imperceptible, it will require ongoing monitoring of the nutrient content of their crops ... to evaluate when and how to most effectively intervene if necessary," the researchers said. ■

Thomson Reuters Foundation.

Thought must be given to reducing vulnerability ... through supporting more diverse and nutritious diets, enriching the nutritional content of staple crops, and breeding crops less sensitive to these CO2 effects.

Samuel Myers, senior research scientist, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Voices from villagers attacked by ARSA extremist terrorists



Maung San Win.



Ko Nyi Nyi Aung.



U Shwe .



Ko Maung Myint



Daw Ma Nyunt Sein.



U Maung Than Tan.

Due to the attacks of ARSA extremist terrorists starting from August 25, road transportations were disconnected and it caused local people in national ethnic villages suffer from health problems and food shortage. Hence, responsible personnel from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and the Cabinet of Rakhine State went to the villages easily inaccessible in which local nationals were residing, giving words of encouragement, drugs and provisions.

Here are statements of local people to whom aids were provided.

Maung San Win (Mingyi Village)

We are now in short of rice, oil and provisions. We had to get away with our meals with which we had in hand. We all

are living in the monastery collectively. Altogether there are 60 households with a total population of 300 or so in the village. As the numbers of police forces were small, we have to combine with policemen from Wet Kye-in Village. Bengali villages are situated nearby. Border guard police forces and villagers are taking the responsibility of village's security. Nobody fled from our village.

Ko Nyi Nyi Aung (Tamanthar village)

Nearby are Bengali villages. For defending the village, we are taking the responsibility in combination with police forces. Our children's health is now in poor condition. Now we are being accommodated in the monastery together with those from nearby villages.

U Shwe (Headmaster of State High School)

Terrorist attacks unexpectedly happened in the school season, so schools were closed. Bengali villages are surrounding us. They themselves burnt their houses and ran away. There are a total of 60 or so, including teachers and health personnel. We are getting away with what we have had for our meal. As time passed, we are in the danger of facing health risk. The most important thing is the security matters. At the time of the event, terrorists amounting to 500 surrounded the village. But they yielded to the defence of bravery from the security forces. They came nearby the monastery to plant land mines. So no one dared to go out. Just a few days ago, Tatmadaw arrived and

so we were relieved. Terrorists were accompanied by outsiders and those from nearby villages.

Ko Maung Myint (Tarein village)

Under the current situation, I want security forces to be stationed here permanently, because there are women and children in our village. If an event happened, men can easily escape, but we are always concerned with women and children. As for health, we had to rely on the drugs we have had. If and when the Tatmadaw is nearby, we will be relieved of our security. We are afraid that the troops will be transferred.

Daw Ma Nyunt Sein (Yan Aung Myin village)

In our village, Rakhine and Mro races mostly reside. We are now finding it difficult to feed

us. And, there are feeble ones in our village. Though we have a security force, we dare not go out. In the daytime, we hide ourselves at home, but at night we assembled at the monastery for sleeping. We have had a female health assistant who gave medical assistance with the drugs we had.

U Maung Than Tan (Kyauk Pandu village)

Terrorists came to the police outpost nearby our village to commit an arson attack, so we had to assemble in a same place. We have nowhere to escape.

As long as they still live nearby, we dare not live here. In case further problems occur, we can no longer live here. We had to live on what we had, by sharing.—News Team ■

Low-cost apartments sold by drawing lots

A ceremony for selling low-cost apartments was held at the Department of Urban and Housing Development on Bo Gyoke Road, Botahtaung Township yesterday.

"Low-cost housings were built to be able to purchase by low-income people, but the housings were built according to safety standards," said U Maung Maung Lwin, the Deputy General Director of the Department of Urban and Housing Development, Ministry of Construction.

"We want to inform the public that, while it is low-cost housing, all the construction projects were built, including drawing of the designs, to standards, with third-party inspections checking closely. We are only carrying out low-cost public housing for the public, without adding any land costs

to the flat's prices," he added.

Though it is called low-cost housing, children's playgrounds, parks, schools, markets and City Mart shops are standard, including a good water system, electricity and a cleaning system.

"Housing developments including security will be made in cooperation with the housing committee, collecting Ks60,000 a year per flat," said U Min Aung Aye general manager of housing maintenance service.

To ease the water struggles, a 120,000 gallons-water storage tank was built at Yuzana low-cost housing's phase 1 and 2 constructions that are currently being sold, according to the sub-department of the Urban and Housing Development.

The Yuzana low-cost hous-

ing project has 56 apartments at 468 square feet and 522 square feet, priced from Ks9.8 million to Ks12 million.

"After drawing lots, the income statements of winners will be checked, then the Ks12 million winners will make down payments and the long payments will be a maximum of 15 years depending on their incomes" said an official of Construction and Housing Development Bank.

At yesterday's selling ceremony, 95 apartments in Yuzana's phase 1 and 2 were sold, along with 63 apartments at Kanaung Housing project and 122 apartments at the Shew Lin Pan Housing project.

The rest of the apartments of Yuzana low-cost housing project's phase 1 and 2 will be sold to 206 applicants tomorrow.—Thi Thi Min ■



Islamic villagers are seen on their way to mosques to take part in the Eid Al-Adha in Maungtaw. PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY

Islamic villagers mark Eid-al-Adha in Maungtaw

Islamic villagers took part in Eid-al-Adha prayer at 16 mosques in Maungtaw yesterday.

They prayed at the mosques starting from 8 am yesterday marking the Eid al-Adha, the Islamic festival of sacrifice, which is celebrated at the end of the annual pilgrimage of Mecca.

The festival is celebrated by Muslims all around the world. Eid al-adha is the second of the two Eids' celebrated annually, Eid ul-fitr being the other.

This year the date for Eid al-adha has been confirmed on September 1-2.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Russia's President Vladimir Putin . PHOTO: TASS

Putin not to participate in 72nd session of UN GA

MOSCOW — Russia's President Vladimir Putin does not plan this year participating in the session of the UN General Assembly due in September, the president's press secretary Dmitry Peskov told TASS on Saturday.

"No, this is not in the president's plans," he said.

The press secretary chose not to comment on the initiative of the US President Donald Trump to have on the session's eve a summit of the world leaders. According to Reuters, the US leader suggests discussing at that meeting a reform of the United Nations Organization. —Tass ■

WORLD BRIEFS

Trump asks Congress for \$7.85 bln for initial Hurricane Harvey relief

WASHINGTON — US President Donald Trump has asked Congress for an initial \$7.85 billion for recovery efforts for Hurricane Harvey, which caused widespread flooding in Houston and other parts of Texas, the White House budget director said on Friday.

In a letter to US House Speaker Paul Ryan, White House budget director Mick Mulvaney also said that failure to raise the debt ceiling, which is expected to be reached by the end of September, may prevent further requests for disaster relief funds.

—Reuters ■

Britain lifts electronic device ban on flights from Cairo — ministry

CAIRO — British authorities have lifted a ban on carry-on electronic devices on planes arriving from Cairo airport, Egypt's Ministry of Civil Aviation said on Friday.

The United States and Britain in March imposed restrictions banning electronic devices from being carried on planes coming from certain airports in Muslim-majority countries in the Middle East and North Africa.

Authorities lifted the ban "after confirming that security procedures on Egypt's flights meet the requirements of the British Transportation Security Administration," the ministry said in a statement. —Reuters ■

Iraq's August oil exports averaged 3.216 mln bpd — oil ministry

BAGHDAD — Iraq's oil exports slipped to 3.216 million barrels per day in August from 3.230 million bpd in July as no shipments were made from the northern Kirkuk field, the oil ministry said on Saturday.

All the volumes shipped in August came from the southern fields, it said in a statement. Kirkuk is the only field supervised by the government in the north. —Reuters ■

'Send Merkel home', says right-wing rival in constituency battle

GREIFSWALD, Germany — Vowing to "shove her off the throne", Leif-Erik Holm of the hard-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) is mounting a robust challenge to Chancellor Angela Merkel in her constituency as she seeks re-election on 24 September.

Merkel, 63, has held the northeastern district bordering the Baltic Sea since she entered parliament in 1990, though she grew up in Templin — due south and in the next state. Holm, 47, a self-styled "local boy", says he wants to "send Merkel home".

"Merkel was very popular here, that's true. But times have changed," he told Reuters, saying her decision in 2015 to leave German borders open to more than a million migrants would cost her. "People are asking 'what is she doing?'"

Merkel won the constituency with 56 per cent of the vote at the last national election, in 2013. Now, the AfD is emboldened in the district after beating her conservatives into third place in the wider northeastern region of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern last year.

"Merkel has failed in a lot of people's eyes and they are looking for an alternative," said Holm, a former presenter at a local radio station.

Merkel's conservatives enjoy a handsome lead over ri-



German Chancellor Angela Merkel gives a speech during an election rally in Ludwigshafen, Germany on 30 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

vals nationally and Germany's mixed electoral system means that even in the unlikely scenario Holm does beat her, she will still win a parliamentary seat from a list of candidates who top up those elected directly from constituencies.

But second place is a real possibility for Holm, said Jan Mueller at Rostock University: "He cuts a moderate profile."

AfD co-chair Frauke Petry says the constituency is "a

prestige target" for the party.

Marking it as her turf, Merkel spent a full day touring the district on Thursday, promising no repeat of the 2015 refugee influx and taking every opportunity to pose for 'selfie' photos with voters and their children.

As she made her way through a crowd of some 200 people for a rally in the picturesque town of Greifswald, a plane flew overhead trailing

a banner reading: "Vote AfD". When she spoke, a handful of protestors tried to drown her out with whistles.

"I don't think Germany's future will be built with whistles — that isn't going to work," said Merkel, appealing to the crowd to vote her in for another four years.

"I need your support!" she said to loud applause.

Salim Jarrah, 42, who came to Germany from Lebanon 21 years ago and runs a restaurant in the town, said Merkel was doing a good job of running the country.

"Who could do better?" Jarrah, now a German citizen, told Reuters after presenting Merkel with flowers. "She's likeable."

In Roevershagen, some 50 miles (80 km) to the west, Merkel was met with a more hostile reception when she arrived for a walkabout at a shopping centre.

"Merkel must go!" shouted one protestor. "Go home, traitor!" said another.

Hartmut Jahnholz, an AfD supporter from nearby Rostock, said she had not fulfilled her oath to protect the German people.

"Just the opposite," he said in Roevershagen. "She opened the borders, that's all she's done." —Reuters ■

Syrian army gains in Islamic State's last central Syria bastion

BEIRUT — The Syrian army and its allies were fighting on Saturday in Islamic State's last pocket in central Syria after taking the heavily defended village of Uqairabat on Friday, a war monitor reported.

The enclave lies close to the main road running between the cities of Homs and Aleppo near the town of al-Salamiya, and has been the site of intense fighting for months. Evicting jihadists from the area is viewed as nec-

essary to improve security on the road.

The Syrian army, aided by Russian airstrikes and Iran-backed Shi'ite militias including Lebanon's Hezbollah, has advanced deep into eastern Syria this year against Islamic State.

It is pushing to relieve its besieged enclave in the city of Deir al-Zor, one of the cities on the Euphrates to which Islamic State has fallen back after losses in both Syria and Iraq, but has left

the pocket in central Syria in its rear. Late on Friday, a military media unit run by Hezbollah said the army had captured Uqairabat, which it described as Islamic State's stronghold in that region.

The war monitor, the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, said the army and its allies had also taken other villages in the area, aided by Russian helicopters, and reported that intense fighting continued.

— Reuters ■



Children run along a damaged street as they celebrate the first day of the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha at a rebel-held area in Deraa, Syria on 1 September, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Seven Kenyan schoolgirls die in dormitory blaze — government

NAIROBI — Seven Kenyan teenage schoolgirls died and 10 more were hospitalised after a fire engulfed their boarding school dormitory in Nairobi early on Saturday morning, a government official said.

The cause of the fire was not known, and the government ordered Moi Girls School closed for two weeks while it investigated, education minister Fred Matiangi told reporters when he visited the school.

"A fire broke out at the school at 2:00am in the morning in one of the dormitories," said Matiangi. He said the school, which has nearly 1,200 students, is "one of our top schools in the country and... (one) that we are very proud of."

Fires have in the past claimed the lives of dozens of



Investigators stand inside a cordon line following a fire that burnt down one dormitory of Moi Girls school in Nairobi, Kenya on 2 September, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Kenyan boarding school students. In 2001, 58 schoolboys were killed in a dormitory fire at Kyan-guli Secondary School outside Nairobi. In 2012, eight students were killed at a school in Homa Bay County in western Kenya.

Lax safety standards and poor emergency procedures have been blamed for some past fires at schools and for other tragedies such as the collapse of a residential building in Nairobi in May that killed nearly 50 people.

The Kenyan police did not immediately respond to a Reuters request for comment on Saturday morning.

A shaken 16-year-old schoolgirl, Daniella Maina, told Reuters: "We were sleeping and a girl woke us up and said that our hostel was burning. We were helped to safety by some teachers." — Reuters ■

Australian military probes "rumours" of possible war crimes in Afghanistan

MELBOURNE — Australia's military watchdog has issued a public plea for information regarding rumours of possible war crimes committed by Australian troops in Afghanistan.

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation reported in July on an alleged cover-up of the killing of an Afghan boy as well as hundreds of pages of leaked defence force documents relating to the secretive operations of the country's special forces.

On Friday, the Inspec-

tor-General of the Australian Defence Force released a statement saying it was conducting an inquiry "into rumours of possible breaches of the Laws of Armed Conflict" by Australian troops in Afghanistan between 2005 and 2016.

"The inquiry would like anyone who has information regarding possible breaches of the Laws of Armed Conflict by Australian forces in Afghanistan, or rumours of them, to contact the inquiry," the statement read.

Australia is not a member of NATO but is a staunch US ally and has had troops in Afghanistan since 2002.

As recently as May, Australia recommitted to the 16-year-long, seemingly intractable war against the Taliban and other Islamist militants by sending an additional 30 troops to Afghanistan to join the NATO-led training and assistance mission.

That brought Australia's total Afghan deployment to 300 troops.— Reuters ■

Suicide bombers attack power station north of Baghdad, killing seven — police

TIKRIT (Iraq) — Suicide bombers attacked a state-run power station north of Baghdad early on Saturday, killing seven people and forcing the facility to shut down, police and army sources said.

At least three gunmen wearing explosive vests attacked the power station around 0300 local time, near the northern city of Sammara, about 100 km (60 miles) north of Baghdad. They used grenades to enter the facility.

"I was in my night shift and suddenly heard shooting and

blasts. A few minutes later I saw one attacker wearing a military uniform and throwing grenades through the windows," said Raied Khalid, a worker who was injured by shrapnel.

Security sources said the three gunmen briefly took control of the station, but police managed to regain control after three hours. Four policemen and three workers were killed in the attack, in which 13 were wounded, police and medical sources from a nearby hospital said.— Reuters ■

Trump to visit victims of unprecedented floods in Texas and Louisiana

HOUSTON — US President Donald Trump travels to Houston and Lake Charles, Louisiana on Saturday to meet victims of catastrophic storm Harvey, one of the worst natural disasters in US history that is presenting a test of his administration.

While Trump visits, attention will also be focused on Minute Maid Park, where baseball's Houston Astros play their first home games since Harvey devastated the fourth-most populous US city. The Saturday doubleheader with the New York Mets is expected to be wrought with emotion and punctuated with moments to honour the dozens who died as a result of Harvey.

The storm, one of the costliest to hit the United States, has displaced more than 1 million people, with 50 feared dead from flooding that paralyzed Houston, swelled river levels to record highs and knocked out the drinking water supply in Beaumont, Texas, a city of 120,000 people.

Hurricane Harvey came ashore last Friday as the strongest storm to hit Texas in more than 50 years. Much of the damage took place in the Houston metropolitan area, which has an economy about the same size as Argentina's.

Seventy per cent of Harris County, which encompasses Houston, at one point was covered with 18 inches (45 cm) or more of water, county officials said.

Trump first visited the Gulf region on Tuesday, but stayed clear of the disaster zone, saying he did not want to hamper rescue efforts. Instead, he met with



US first lady Melania Trump and Vice President Mike Pence stand by US President Donald Trump as he holds up FEMA map of damage assessment in Texas caused by Hurricane Harvey at the White House in Washington, US on 1 September, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

state and local leaders, and first responders.

He was criticized, however, for not meeting with victims of the worst storm to hit Texas in 50 years, and for largely focusing on the logistics of the government response rather than the suffering of residents.

The White House said Trump will first travel to Houston to meet with flood survivors and volunteers who assisted in relief efforts and then move on to Lake Charles, another area hammered by the storm.

The Trump administration in a letter to Congress asked for a \$7.85 billion appropriation for response and initial recovery efforts. White House homeland security adviser Tom Bossert has

said aid funding requests would come in stages as more became known about the impact of the storm. Texas Governor Greg Abbott has said that his state may need more than \$125 billion.

The storm, which lingered around the Gulf of Mexico Coast for days, dumped record amounts of rain and left devastation across more than 300 miles (480 km) of the state's coast.

As water receded, many returned to survey the damage and left hundreds of thousands wondering how they can recover.

In Orange, Texas, about 125 miles (200 kms) east of Houston, Sam Dougharty, 36, returned on Friday where waist-high water remained in his backyard and barn.

His family's house smelled like raw sewage and was still flooded to the ankles. A calf and a heifer from their herd of 15 were dead. The chickens were sagging on the top two roosts of their coop.

"We never had water here. This is family land. My aunt's owned it for 40 years and never had water here," he said.

Harvey came on the 12th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, which killed about 1,800 around New Orleans. Then-US President George W Bush's administration was roundly criticized for its botched early response to the storm. Some of the tens of thousands of people forced into shelters by Harvey will attend the Astros game where Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner

will throw out the first pitch and a moment of silence in planned for those who perished.

Sports have helped other cities rebound from catastrophe, such as when the New York Mets played the first baseball game in their damaged city 10 days after the attacks of 11 September, 2001, or when the New Orleans Saints returned to the Superdome in 2006 for football a year after Hurricane Katrina.

In the Harris County area of Clear Creek, the nearly 50 inches (127 cm) of rain that fell there equated to a once in a 40,000 year event, Jeff Lindner, meteorologist with the Harris County Flood Control District, said.

Some 440,000 Texans have already applied for federal financial disaster assistance, and some \$79 million has been approved so far, Abbott said.

The storm shut about a fourth of US refinery capacity, much of which is clustered along the Gulf Coast, and caused gasoline prices to spike to a two-year high ahead of the long Labor Day holiday weekend.

The national average for a gallon of regular gasoline has risen more than 17.5 cents since the storm struck, hitting \$2.59 as of Saturday morning, motorists group AAA said. Meanwhile a new storm, Irma, had strengthened on Friday into a Category 3 hurricane on the five-step Saffir-Simpson scale. It remained hundreds of miles from land but was forecast to possibly hit Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and Haiti by the middle of next week.—Reuters ■

Nebenzya: Russia-US relations down to unaffordable low level

NEW YORK — The relations between Russia and the US are at "unaffordable low level," Russia's Ambassador to UN Vasily Nebenzya told reporters.

"This, of course, does not add anything positive not only to our relations, but also to the international situation, as those relations are a factor our partners mind," he said. "They are calling on us in person and indirectly to fix, at last, the relations. This

would be to the benefit not only for us but for the world."

While speaking about relations with the US delegation at the UN and the Security Council, the ambassador said they are very businesslike, like always, and would remain such in future.

"Moreover, now the Security Council, luckily, and maybe not in the present context, is among the few platforms where we do cooperate with the US," he con-

tinued. "And we are doing so not to demonstrate something positive between us, but since this cooperation at the UN is extremely important for the world."

"I was asked whether the worse relations with the US could affect the cooperation at the UN, and I replied that we are above point-scoring and do not want the bilateral relations to affect settlement of security problems," the diplomat said.—Tass ■

Current euro level not a threat for European firms: Moscovici

CERNOBBIO, (Italy) — The current level of the euro is not threatening the performance of European companies, Pierre Moscovici, Europe's Economic Commissioner said on Saturday.

Speaking on the sidelines of the Ambrosetti business conference in northern Italy, Moscovici said the strength of the euro also depended on mon-

etary policy, adding he trusted the "leadership and vision" of European Central Bank President Mario Draghi.

"One must stay calm...the current level of the euro clearly does not prevent our companies winning market shares, being strong, performing and competitive, and exporting," he said.—Reuters ■

Singapore's next president set to be Malay

SINGAPORE — An election featuring a controversial racial provision will be held later this month to choose a successor to Singapore President Tony Tan, who stepped down on Thursday after completing his six-year term.

The election will be the first to be reserved for Malay candidates only, in line with constitutional changes passed last year. Under the changes, if Singapore has not had a president from a particular race for five consecutive terms, an election will be reserved for that race.

The government has said that the move is necessary to ensure that the minority races also have a chance to be elected as president.

The tiny but wealthy Southeast Asian city-state, where the politically and economically dominant Chinese account for three-quarters of the population, has not had a Malay president for 47 years since its first president, Yusof Ishak, died in office in 1970.

As Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said in November last year, "If we do not make deliberate arrangements to ensure a multi-racial outcome, the presidency could well become a single-race office because minorities do find it harder to win in a national election."

"You have seen the surveys. They show that at least a significant minority of Singaporeans consider race as a factor when they vote, and will not vote for



Halimah Jacob (front L), former speaker of parliament, arrives at Singapore's Elections Department on 30 August, 2017 to submit her application to run for president. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

somebody of a different race to be president...And that puts the minority candidates at a disadvantage in an election," Lee said.

The move to hold a reserve election has attracted controversy, with some critics accusing the government of trying to avert a repeat of the 2011 election when Tan, a former deputy prime minister, who was seen as the government-backed candidate, won by a narrow margin and only garnered 35 percent of the votes cast in a four-cornered fight.

Although still largely symbolic and ceremonial, the president's role as head of state had been expanded in the past to include the power to veto or disagree with the government in the use of the country's

reserves and appoint and remove key office holders in the public service.

After the presidential system was changed in 1991 from one which was chosen by Parliament to one that is directly elected by the people, there have been three Chinese presidents and an Indian president. No Malay candidate had even run for the post.

A major hurdle has been the high qualifying criteria to run for the presidency.

In terms of experience, the candidate should have served for at least three years in a very high ranking public sector post such as a Cabinet minister, chief justice or speaker of parliament, or as a chief executive of a private company with a minimum

shareholder equity of S\$500 million (about \$370 million) for at least three years.

Halimah Jacob, who recently resigned as the speaker of Parliament and a legislator from Lee's ruling party to run for the presidency, is widely seen as the only one who has the experience required to qualify for nomination.

According to local media reports, the other two contenders in this election are marine services firm chairman Farid Khan, 61, and property company chief executive Mohamed Salleh Marican, 67.

The two might have a tough time meeting the qualifying criteria, as it is not clear whether their companies meet the shareholder equity requirement introduced in November

last year. If she wins, Halimah, a 63-year-old lawyer by training who dons the Islamic headscarf, will be Singapore's first-ever woman president, besides becoming its first Malay president in nearly 50 years.

But some have also questioned whether the candidates who have applied to run for the presidency so far can really be regarded as Malay.

Halimah's father, who died when she was 8 years old, was Indian though she has insisted that she was brought up as a Malay by her mother and has been accepted by the Malay community.

Khan is ethnically Pakistani while Salleh Marican, whose father is Indian, has been said to be less fluent in the Malay language.

The candidates will be informed if they qualify to run for the presidency before the 13 September nomination day. If there is only one eligible candidate, he or she will be declared as the new president on that day without the need for any election.

The timing for introducing the racial provision has also been challenged.

The government is counting the five six-year terms that have passed without a Malay president from the presidency of the late Wee Kim Wee, which began in 1985 before the change to an elected system took effect in 1991. Although Wee was appointed by parliament, he exercised the expanded powers of the presidency introduced in 1991. Detractors contend it would be more appropriate to start counting from the term of Wee's successor, the late Ong Teng Cheong, who was the first president to actually be elected into office in 1993, in which case only 24 years have passed.

Former presidential candidate Tan Cheng Bock, who narrowly lost to Tan in the last presidential election in 2011, recently tried to launch a legal challenge to have the hiatus-triggered model declared unconstitutional. His case has been dismissed by the Court of Appeal.

Singapore's largest opposition party, the Workers' Party, also plans to raise the issue of the timing of the election in a Parliament session on 11 September. —Kyodo News ■

Scientists make spider web strong enough to hold a human

SYDNEY — European scientists have made spiders produce webs strong enough to hold a human, the Sydney Morning Herald reported Thursday.

According to a research led by Nicola Pugno at Italy's University of Trento, the new web combines spider silk with grapheme and carbon nanotubes. The composite material is five times

stronger than spider silk.

It is sound simple to make the composite as the spider can produce the strong silk by itself after drinking water containing the nanotubes.

"It is among the best spun polymer fibers in terms of tensile strength, ultimate strain, and especially toughness, even when compared to synthetic fibers such as Kevlar,"

said Pugno.

Kevlar is a trademark for a para-aramid synthetic fiber produced by Dupont company. Famous for its tensile force, Kevlar fiber is reported five times stronger than steel.

So far, the composite material is produced on a small proof-of-concept scale. Though it still needs further testing and refinement for mass utility, the

research team composed of Italian and British scientists see bright future in the new material. "Furthermore, this process of the natural integration of reinforcements in biological structural materials could also be applied to other animals and plants, leading to a new class of 'bionicomposites' for innovative applications," Pugno said.—Xinhua ■

DURDA PUJA AT DURGA BARI (2017)

THE SARA DIYA DURGA PUJA (Sundhi Mai Daw Puzaw Pwe) will be celebrated from Tuesday the 26th September 2017 to Saturday the 30th September at the Hindu Temple Sri Sri Durga Bari No. 307, Bo Aung Kyaw Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon.

All are cordially invited to attend the Durga puja Celebration with family and friends.

Durga Puja Celebration Committee 2017.

“La La Land”’s Chazelle partners with Netflix for Paris TV musical

LOS ANGELES — Damien Chazelle, the Oscar-winning director of hit movie “La La Land,” has another musical in the works, this time a multilingual television series set in Paris.

Streaming company Netflix (NFLX.O) said on Friday it was teaming up with Chazelle on “The Eddy,” an eight-part series that will be shot in France with dialogue in French, English and Arabic.

It described “The Eddy” as a musical drama set in contemporary multicultural Paris revolving around a club, its owner, the house band, and the chaotic city that surrounds them.

“I’ve always dreamed of shooting in Paris,” Chazelle, 32, whose father is French, said in a statement.

The project marks the latest coup for Netflix, which has upended the television industry in the past five years by investing in bold original content that has attracted big names and won multiple awards.

Netflix chief content officer Ted Sarandos told Hollywood trade paper Variety last month that the company plans to spend \$7 billion on television and film content next year.

“La La Land,” a romantic musical set in modern-day Los

Angeles about the dreams and challenges of a struggling young actress and a jazz musician, wowed audiences worldwide and won six Oscars in February, including for directing, music and for Emma Stone’s lead actress role.

No casting was announced for “The Eddy,” which will be executive produced by Chazelle, who will also direct two episodes. The music will be written by Glen Ballard, a six-time Grammy winner who worked on the Michael Jackson album “Bad” and Alanis Morissette’s “Jagged Little Pill,” Netflix said.

Chazelle’s next project is



Damien Chazelle. PHOTO: REUTERS

a feature film about the life of US astronaut Neil Armstrong, who was the first man to walk on the moon in 1969. Called “First

Man,” the Universal Pictures release is expected to arrive in movie theaters in October 2018. —Reuters ■

Boy and his horse seek kindness in Venice movie ‘Lean on Pete’

VENICE — A lonely teenager takes to the road with an aging race horse he has saved from slaughter, in a movie that premiered in Venice on Friday that, according to its star, is about a simple but rare human quality: kindness.

Charlie Plummer plays

Charley in “Lean on Pete”, a 15-year-old whose mother left when he was young and whose father’s drinking and womanizing leads to a heap of trouble.

Taking the horse he has befriended during a summer job at a local racetrack, Charley, penniless and homeless, sets

off through the desert hoping to find a place to call home with a relative he hasn’t seen in years.

Plummer, an 18-year-old taking the biggest film role of his career, told Reuters at the Venice Film Festival the movie challenges the viewer to feel more compassion for people who are facing difficulties in life, including the homeless.

“We need more kindness and compassion in the world and we need to be able to realize that everybody is struggling and understand that we are more similar than we are different and feel that,” he said.

Directed by British filmmaker Andrew Haigh, “Lean on Pete” is based on the novel by Willy Vlautin.

Haigh, who won plaudits for the 2011 gay romance “Weekend” said “Lean on Pete” is something of a pre-coming-of-age story “It’s almost like Charley hasn’t got time to even begin to understand really who he is because he is always moving and fighting and trying to get some kind of home,” Haigh said.

“It was almost like that the coming of age story will be the next chapter in that story, oddly. That’s what kind of really appealed to me about it.”

The movie is one of 21 US and international movies competing for the Golden Lion that will be awarded on 9 September. —Reuters ■



Director Andrew Haigh (C) poses with actors Chloe Sevigny (R) and Charlie Plummer during a photocall for the movie Lean on Pete at the 74th Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy on 1 September, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Ethan Hawke prayed God wouldn’t call him to become a priest



Actor Ethan Hawke poses during a red carpet event for the movie “First reformed” at the 74th Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy on 31 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

VENICE — Ethan Hawke’s great-grandmother had wanted him to become a priest, but the American actor prayed that he would never get the calling, he said at the Venice film festival on Thursday.

Hawke finally got his taste of priesthood when he was cast as a minister in Paul Schrader’s spiritual drama “First Reformed”, one of 21 movies competing for the Golden Lion that will be awarded on 9 September.

“I’ve been surrounded by religion my whole life and it’s a very important dialogue, in my head anyway, so I was very grateful for the opportunity to play this character,” Hawke told journalists before the film’s premier.

Hawke plays Toller, an ex-military chaplain struggling to come to terms with the loss of his son, who he had encouraged

to enlist.

Toller now looks after a small but largely empty tourist church. He is further challenged in his faith when a pregnant parishioner, Mary, played by Amanda Seyfried, and her radical activist husband ask for counseling.

The idea that life is a balance between “hope and despair” is a theme throughout the movie, although the film does not answer which wins, Hawke said.

“It’s asking questions and how it bounces off you is what’s most relevant,” he said.

“The movie definitely walks that razor’s edge between utter despair and completely believing in love. The two are at war throughout the film and they are so at the end to me.”

The movie is Schrader’s first feature about spiritual life, but it also touches on the topic of climate change. When Mary’s husband, tortured by the idea of bringing a child into a world that is on the edge of self-destruction, commits suicide, Toller begins to ask himself and others whether the church should take a greater responsibility in eco-activism.

For Schrader, who wrote the script for classics such as “Taxi Driver” and directed 18 feature films, including “American Gigolo”, the fight for the climate might already be lost. —Reuters ■



At the Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon, Asia Green Development Bank (AGD Bank) officials offered 9,000 candle lights celebrating 7th Anniversary of Asia Green Development Bank (AGD Bank) on 25 August.—GNLM

Money-losing N Korea-Russia ferry service halts operation

VLADIVOSTOK (Russia) — Operation of the first regular ferry service between North Korea and Russia has been halted after increased UN sanctions in response to Pyongyang's ballistic missile tests kept passenger and freight demand low, its operator said on Saturday.

The Russian operator, InvestStroiTrest, told Kyodo News that authorities denied the boat, named the Mangyongbong, entry to a port in Vladivostok, Russia, in August as the

shipping firm could not pay the 1 million ruble (\$17,000) docking fee. The shipping firm said the ferry service, which started in mid-May, is a business and does not serve any political purpose, though Japan expressed concern about the possibility of revenue earned from the ferry operation being funneled to Pyongyang's nuclear and missile development programme.

In early August, the UN Security Council banned North Korea from exporting

coal, iron, lead and seafood to curb the country's export revenue after two intercontinental ballistic missile tests were undertaken in July in defiance of past resolutions banning nuclear and missile activities. The resolution also forbids UN member countries from increasing the number of labourers accepted from North Korea. About 40 North Korean crew members on the ship were giving some 40 per cent of their salaries to the government.—Kyodo News ■

Bees on the roof are all the buzz in Slovenia's capital

LJUBLJANA — When you visit the main congress centre in Slovenia's capital you may get more than the usual conference: how about a jar of honey?

Since 2011, the centre — Cankarjev Dom — has been hosting bees on its roof, producing about 120 kg (265 lb) of honey per year which are used for gifts to business partners. It started at the Apimondia world congress of beekeepers in 2003, held at Cankarjev Dom. "There was a beehive set in the nearby park and ... a memory of my teenage years came back when I helped my uncle who had bees," said Franc Petrovic, head of maintenance of mechanical equipment at the centre. Petrovic,

who last week won an international agriculture fair award for the quality of his honey, started a movement that is spreading fast. It is estimated that bees are now to be found at about 150 locations in 300,000-population Ljubljana, mostly in gardens, on roofs and terraces. Gorazd Trusnovec keeps bees on 15 locations in the capital, among them the roof of the building of the state radio channel, Radio Slovenia, where there is a wonderful view on the Ljubljana castle on one side and the Alps on the other.

"Ljubljana has a huge potential (for beekeeping) because it is very green and located in the middle of forests," Trusnovec said. Petrovic, meanwhile,



Beekeeper Franc Petrovic checks a beehive on the roof of the cultural center Cankarjev Dom in Ljubljana, Slovenia on 30 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

says recent tests showed that urban honey is very healthy. For one thing, it has no traces of pesticides since there are no large fields in the vicinity.

Bee populations across European Union have been in decline for years mostly due to an extensive use of pesticides in agriculture. Slovenia, an Alpine

state of 2 million people, has about 10,000 beekeepers and thus a higher concentration of them than in any other European Union country, according to the

national statistics office. The country has proposed to the United Nations that it declared on 20 May as World Bee Day to commemorate the birth date of the one of the Europe's first beekeepers, a Slovene Anton Jansa, born in 1734. The initiative gained support of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) last month. Beekeeper Trusnovec hopes the declaration will raise global awareness that there is no life without bees because they are needed for pollination. He said roofs are excellent for beekeeping because "bees are wild animals with defence mechanisms so they need to be kept at some distance from people". —Reuters ■

mitv Myanmar International Programme Schedule

(3-9-2017 07:00am ~4-9-2017 07:00am) MST

07:03	Am	News
07:27	Am	The Hills of Phowintaung and Shwebataung
07:45	Am	Sagaing: Gold Leaf
07:53	Am	Inspiration
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	Discovering Tribes: Taikhamti (or) Khamti Shan (Their Life and Customs) (Part-1)
08:50	Am	The Bamboo Hat
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	Sayit-wyne Girls
09:49	Am	Director: Kyi Phyu Shin
10:03	Am	News

10:25	Am	A Snake Catcher
10:36	Am	The Footprints Inheritance
10:51	Am	Egg Shell
(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm) - Saturday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)		
(03:00 Pm ~ 07:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)		
Prime Time		
07:03	Pm	News
07:25	Pm	A Visit to San-Taw-Shin Kyike-Hti-Yo Pagoda
07:42	Pm	Colourful Threads
07:51	Pm	Today Myanmar
08:30	Pm	Live: Peace Music Festival (Nay Pyi Taw)
(11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am) - Saturday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)		
(03:00 Am ~ 07:00 Am) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)		
(For Detailed Schedule – www.myanmaritv.com/schedule)		

Sculptors build 55feet sandcastle in Germany to claim world record

DUISBURG (Germany) — Using almost 4,000 metric tonnes of sand, 19 sculptors have built a 55ft tower featuring a number of famous landmarks to claim the world record for tallest sandcastle. The team spent more than three weeks in the western German city of Duisburg working on the 16.68 metre (54.72 feet) artwork, which included a sandy replica of the Great Sphinx of Giza, Venice's Rialto Bridge and the graveside of

Elvis Presley. A Guinness World Record official was on hand on Friday to approve the new mark for the German sculpture, which eclipsed the previous tallest sandcastle, a 14.84 metre world peace monument built in India in February. The team of international sculptors failed with a world record attempt last year and decided to use a different sand, mainly very fine quartz which is less than one millimetre in grain size.—Reuters ■



Traditional boat races take place during Phaungtaw Oo Pagoda festival in Meiktila Township. **PHOTO: CHAN THAR (MEIKHTILA)**

Traditional longboat races held in Meiktila

TRADITIONAL longboat races began on Friday in Meiktila featuring 17 teams, part of the Phaungtaw Oo Pagoda Festival, an event held annually to wish for good weather and bountiful

crops. The boat races will conclude on 5 September, the Full Moon Day of Tawthalin.

The six senior and 11 junior longboat teams competing this year are fewer than the seven senior and 14 junior teams from

last year, but the event is still attracting large crowds, according to a local resident from Nan Taw Gone ward.

In addition to the traditional longboat races, there are also performances, shows and shops

featured in Meiktila's annual festival.

Meiktila's Phaungtaw Oo Pagoda Festival is organised by 14 wards and 379 villages in Meikhtila Township. —Chan Thar (Meikhtila) ■

Dutch striker Van Persie ruled out of World Cup qualifier

AMSTERDAM — Netherlands striker Robin van Persie has been ruled out of the World Cup qualifier against Bulgaria in Amsterdam on Monday due to a knee injury, the Dutch football federation said on Friday. Van Persie came on as a substitute in the second half of the 4-0 thrashing by leaders France in Paris in the Group A qualifier on Thursday.

It was the 34-year-old's first game for his country in almost two years. The Dutch must also do without defensive midfielder Kevin Strootman on Monday after he was sent off against France. No replacements will be called up. The Netherlands, World Cup runners-up in 2010 and third in 2014, must beat Bulgaria to stand any chance of keeping alive their slim hopes of qualifying for the 2018 finals. —Reuters ■

I'd play on a parking lot, says Sharapova

NEW YORK — Maria Sharapova has shrugged off Caroline Wozniacki's criticism of US Open organizers for giving the Russian centre court billing in her return to grand slam tennis after a doping ban. Defeated by Ekaterina Makarova on an outside court in the second round, former world number one Wozniacki lashed organisers for scheduling Sharapova at Arthur Ashe Stadium in her opening matches.

Sharapova, who returned from a 15-month ban in April, was handed a wildcard for the year's final grand slam and made her third consecutive appearance in the main stadium on Friday, beating American teenager Sofia Kenin 7-5, 6-2 to reach the fourth round.

"With regards to scheduling, as you know, I don't make the schedule," Sharapova told reporters.

"I'm a pretty big competitor. If you put me out in the parking lot of Queens in New York City, I'm happy to play there.



Maria Sharapova of Russia hits to Sofia Kenin of the USA in Ashe Stadium at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Centre in New York, NY, USA on 1 September, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

"That's not what matters to me. All that matters to me is I'm in the fourth round. Yeah, I'm not sure where she is."

The 2006 US Open champion has been warmly embraced at Flushing Meadows, playing to standing ovations and raucous

cheers from sellout crowds. She will play Latvian 16th seed Anastasija Sevastova for a place in the quarter-finals.—Reuters ■

Rooney charged with drink-driving offence

MANCHESTER, (England) — Former England captain Wayne Rooney has been charged with a drink-driving offence, Cheshire police said in a statement on Friday.

Rooney, 31, has been released on bail and is due to appear at Stockport Magistrates' Court on 18 September.

The Everton forward has been charged with driving while over the prescribed alcohol limit. "The man was arrested shortly after 2.00 am today, on 1 Friday September, after officers stopped a black VW Beetle on Altrincham Road, Wilmslow," Cheshire police said.

Rooney announced last month he was retiring from national team duty, ending a 14-year stint in which he became the country's top scorer with 53 goals.—Reuters ■

SUNDAY SPECIAL

The Global New Light of Myanmar

NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

3 SEPTEMBER 2017
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Questions will bring peace and understanding



Zar Chi Nyein

"I'm disappointed, I'm so disappointed"

The Professor is walking to and from in front of the class, holding term-papers we submitted two days ago in one hand. his face is red with anger.

All of us dare not move an inch, wishing just to be banished into a thin air.

This is new subject for us, but the Professor apparently had a high expectation from the class as we all are out-standing students with an impressive study records, selected to attend this intensive course which is equivalent to post-graduate degree in world high rank-

ing universities.

The first two weeks was quite challenging for us added language barrier. We are seen as intelligent in our country but for the moment we are simply rats in front of a cat, dare not move, some even hold their breath just in case the professor might be offended if they breath normally. This is the way Myanmar students would behave exactly in front of someone they respect.

Of course we were embarrassed, we were humiliated but we simply accepted it as normal. Teachers have the rights to be angry but students are not.

That experience was four years ago while I was studying post grad level de-

gree. That was a nightmare I had, and remembered very often.

That experience always reminded me of how small we were in front of someone we admired. But why?

Why we all were silent as if we com-

mitted some kind of crimes or did bad things? We didn't meet our teacher's expectation, not even one of us met his criteria. Was it because we were too stupid or his teaching style had a problem?

we tried to study more, spent mid-night oil frequently, and as a consequence we did well in next exam.

What a relief for all of us, the professor was more or less satisfied.

He is very typical professor, one of the best scholars in his subjects, speaks only when conversation is necessary, focused on his subject all the time. His greatness has built a wall between us.

That is how our culture brought us up. Hierarchy, respect and extreme politeness disciplined us not to challenge teachers and elders back.

In a way, we neglect debate culture, we teach our children not to fight, not to argue, not to show disagreement with others. Is it really helpful?

SEE SUPPLEMENT-H

PEACE AND UNDERSTANDING



A.W Khin Myat Phone
Grade 9 (A),
BEHS-4 (Botahtaung)

IF there is a word called, 'day', there is also a word called, 'night'. They are just like a couple even though they are opposite in many ways. At day time, we have the friendly orange sun, the blue sky, the pink clouds and many chores to do. But at night, we have the black wallpaper with the moon, thousands of glistening stars and sweet dreams. As I am a night owl, I love the night time.

Nights after nights as the world turns round and round. And the time goes by. When the sun has gone down after his duty, Mr. Moon takes up his nightshift. Then, the temperature in Yangon starts to cool down and becomes mild. In my opinion, my favourite part of the day is definitely at night. Not because being a night owl but because it is the time we all rest and have delicious dinner with our beloved families. To be honest, the night is my companion!

SEE SUPPLEMENT-H

PHOTO: NYIZAW MOE



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

Basic English Grammar for Basic Students

Lesson 17: Sentence Structure (Part 2)

Hello dear students,

We have learnt 3 different patterns of sentence structures, last week.

We will continue to learn more other patterns of sentence structures this week.

Another three different patterns are as follows : ..

- (4) S + V + C (Subject + Verb + Complement)
- (5) S + V + Prep + O (Subject + Verb + Preposition + Object) and
- (6) S + V + IO + DO (Subject + Verb + Indirect Object + Direct Object) .

Let's study the 4th pattern : (4) S + V + C

Example (1) The girl is pretty .
(2) He can be clever.
(3) She was old .

So these sentences are formed with Subject (The girl, He, She) + Verb (is , can be , was) + Complement (pretty , clever , old)

Here in this pattern , most of the Complements are Adjectives . We can also find patterns with Adverbs as Complements .

Example (4) He runs quickly .
(5) She sang sweetly.

Here in these sentences , the Complements are Adverbs .

Exercise 17.1

- I. Make 5 sentences of S+V+C.
- II. Say which words are Subjects, Verbs and Complements in the following sentences .
 - (a) She can make cakes very well .
 - (b) He is strong .
 - (c) She is bright.
 - (d) Maung Maung will return soon.
 - (e) Mi Mi is sitting silently.

Say which Complements are Adjectives and which are Adverbs .

- III. Fill in the following blank spaces with suitable words.
 - (a) Daphne can speak
 - (b) Linda is
 - (c) is graceful.
 - (d) We can go
 - (e) He will come

Let's see the next pattern (5) S + V + Prep + O

Example (1) She looks at her friend.
(2) You must take care of this boy .
(3) Mon Mon can clean up the house .

Here , the structure is Subjects (She, You , Mon Mon) + Verbs (looks , take care, can clean) + Prepositions (at, of, up) + Objects (her friend , this boy, the house)

Now , here comes the Exercises .

Exercise 17.2

IV. Make 5 example sentences of S+V+Prep+O Pattern .

V. Say which are Subjects , Verbs, Prepositions and Objects in the following sentences .

- (a) The goal-keeper will kick out the ball.
- (b) You can take away these plates .
- (c) Mya Mya picks up her books .
- (d) Maung Maung is finishing up his dinner.
- (e) Ko Ko lit up the room .

VI. Fill in the following blank spaces with suitable words.

- (a) He can jump the fence.
- (b) You can keep writing.
- (c) Nyi Nyi switch The air-con.
- (d) looks others.
- (e) The child up

Now let's see the last pattern : the S+V+IO+DO Pattern .

Examples : (1) The boy gives his friend a present .
(2) The teacher gave Mg Mg the First Prize.
(3) Ma Ma shares her sister the apples.

Here in these examples the structure is Subject (The boy, The teacher, Ma Ma) + Verbs (gives, gave, shares) + Indirect Objects (his friend, Mg Mg , her sister) + Direct Objects (a present, the First Prize, the apples)

Here comes the Exercises now .

Exercise 17.3

VII. Write down 5 example sentences of S+V+IO+DO Pattern.

VIII. Say which are Subjects, Verbs, Indirect Objects, and Direct Objects from the following sentences.

- (a) Hla Hla hands her mother a rose.
- (b) Nyi Nyi gave me a present.
- (c) Ko Ko share his brother the pocket-money
- (d) U Ba will not give his grandson a penny.
- (e) You can show him your book.

IX. Fill in the following blank spaces with suitable words.

- (a) I will not him my findings.
- (b) You can show her
- (c) He willhis son a new car .

- (d) Mr. Hill will give A new house.
- (e) can show the new results.

Hope that you can do the exercises very well class !
So , in today's lesson , we have studied another three new patterns of sentence structures .

That's all for today Class . Bye for now ! See you next week.

Your English Teacher (GNLM)

Email : dr.nunuwintin.rose.dawn@gmail.com

Here comes the answers to your last week's exercise 16.

- I. Five examples of Phrases are : in the wood, on the table, over the mountain, out of the classroom, under the chair
- II. Five examples of Clauses are : which is stolen, whom I miss, who loves me, when the sun rises, while I am walking
- III. Five examples of sentences are :
 - (1) I saw some sea-shells on the sea-shore .
 - (2) When I get up, the sun is rising .
 - (3) She is the sister whom I love.
 - (4) Lily tries to pick the flowers.
 - (5) She cries.
- IV. To complete the sentences
 - (a) is driving ,(b) Children, (c) a song , (d) beautifully,(e) dog, (f) breakfast, (g) tomorrow, (h) You, (i) (a) pretty , (j) English
- V. Five examples sentences of S+V Pattern.
 - (1) The frog jumps.
 - (2) Children are singing.
 - (3) She will come.
 - (4) They are playing.
 - (5) Hla Hla can draw .

VI. To fill in the blanks
(a) He, (b) studying, (c) worked, (d) coming, (e) sighs, (f) eaten, (g)crying, (h) working , (i) reading, (j) swim

VII. Five example sentences of S +V+ O Pattern

- (a) She can make a cake.
- (b) He rings the bell.
- (c) Mother will cook dinner.
- (d) You can see your mistakes.
- (e) He is reading a story.

VIII. To fill in the blanks .

- (a) Song, (b) likes, (c) game,(d) lunch, (e) book, (f) homework, (f) seeing , (i) meals, (j) ball .

Hope that you have done your Exercises well !
Bye Bye Class ! See you next week .

Do you believe Monarch butterflies migrates over 3000 miles?

By Khin Maung Phone Ko



The Monarch Butterflies closed up.

Yes! Monarch butterflies migrate from Canada to Mexico in the north America three thousand miles. This is a wonder of the nature in the north America. But to shorter distance the same migration of butterflies in Australia, and New Zealand. But we

are now the story of the former butterflies flies over 3000 miles.

How they fly in the direction to south and route marking are wonderfully given them the wisdom and technology by the creator God of the universe.

The Monarch butterflies

create an awe-inspiring scene along the way in Canada and United States in California, and in Mexico. The distance of the epic journey is about 3000 miles. How can it happen for small weakling's insect to do it? Nothing is impossible with God of creation, He can do it. Let us find out how God not only create living things and beings and provides them to survive in the world.

The scientists made a lot of study on this Monarch butterflies in the past and now. This is their story. The monarch butterflies (or monarchs). They begin life as eggs on the milkweed plant., and eggs hatch as larvae that eat their egg shells and subsequently, milkweed plants on which they are placed. The

insects must begin journey each fall ahead of cold weather. This cold will kill them if they are late to fly south summer.

How this insects mass migration of millions, know where to fly? It is find out that they take directional cues from the sun. And, the routes, the trees are marked by the chemical (or DTM* chemical that God has given to animals and plants. When they get direction to fly from the sun, also they get energy to fly from the same sun.

A closed look on monarch's size and wings can reveal this secret. Their wing span are large about 4 to 5 centimetres and golden colour with solar black dots at the boundary of wings (See picture mb1,2,&3). The wing has

compartments look like a computer chip on the teller card, we human use. When they spread wing and bath in the sun they are charged with energy like solar cells are charged for lighting.

These are the facility for this week insect Monarch butterflies to make awe-inspiring scene of mass migration over a three-thousand-mile journey for their survival.

Bible Verses:

But he (Jesus Christ) said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast more gladly about my weakness, so that Christ's power may rest on me. (2 Corinthians 2:9 NIV)



The monarch butterflies.

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

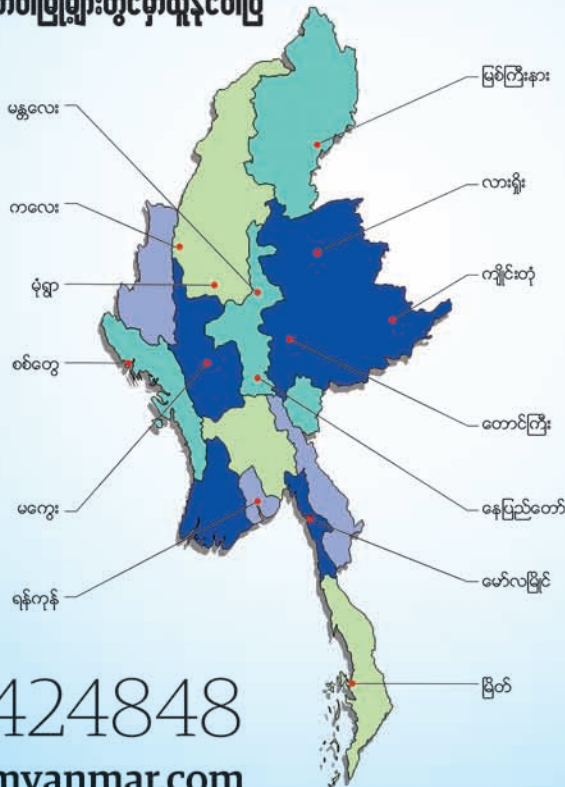
"Sunday
Special"

အချုပ်ပို (၈) မျက်နှာ
ပါဝင်သည်

တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့တိုင်း "Sunday Special" အချုပ်ပို (၈) မျက်နှာပါဝင်သော

The Global New Light of Myanmar နေ့စဉ်ထုတ် သတင်းစာကို

အောက်ပါမြို့များတွင်ဖုန်းနံပါတ်ဖြင့်



နေပြည်တော်

မြန်မာ့အသံ၊ ရန်ကုန်၊
ရုံးအမှတ် (၇) နေပြည်တော်၊
သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း (ရုံးချုပ်)၊
စီမံရေးရာဌာန၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၇ ၄၁၂၁၁၈

နေပြည်တော်

နေပြည်တော်သတင်းစာတိုက် (တပ်ကုန်း)
ဇေယျာသီရိမြို့နယ်၊ ခရိုင်လမ်းခွဲ၊
နေပြည်တော်၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၆၇ ၃၆၁၄၈၊ ၀၆၇ ၃၆၁၂၉

ရန်ကုန်

The Global New Light of
Myanmar သတင်းစာတိုက်၊
အမှတ် ၁၅၀၊ ငါးထပ်ကြီးဘုရားလမ်း၊
ဗဟန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၁ ၈၆၀၄၅၃၂၊ ၀၉၅၇၄၄၂၄၁၄၄

မန္တလေး

လမ်း (၂၀ x ၂၁) ကြား၊ (၈၂ x ၈၃)
လမ်းကြား၊ ပုလဲဇွေရောင်ရပ်၊ မန္တလေးမြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၂၃၂၇၂၉၊ ၀၂၃၂၅၅၀

တောင်ကြီး

ရုံးကြီးလမ်း၊ သစ်တောရပ်ကွက်၊
တောင်ကြီးမြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၈၁၂၁၂၁၆၄၊ ၀၉၅၂၁၄၃၅၇

မကွေး

နတ်မောက်လမ်း၊ တပ်မ (၈၈) တပ်နယ်ချေး
အနီး၊ မကွေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၃၂၃၇၁၂

ကျိုင်းတုံ

မြို့သစ် (၃-၈)၊ အမှတ် (၁) လမ်းသွယ်၊
မြို့ပတ်လမ်း၊ ကျိုင်းတုံမြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၈၄၂၂၄၉၂

ကလေး

အောင်ဇေယျာရပ်ကွက်၊
မြို့နယ်အားကစားကွင်းအနီး၊ ကလေးမြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၇၃၂၂၁၃၃

မြစ်ကြီးနား

အမှတ် (၄၁)၊ ဧရာရပ်ကွက်၊
အောင်ဆန်းလမ်း၊ မြစ်ကြီးနားမြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၇၄၂၂၄၆၂

စစ်တွေ

ရမ္မာဝတီလမ်းနှင့် တက္ကသိုလ်ရိပ်သာလမ်း၊
မီးစက်ကြီးအနီး၊ မန်းကျည်းမြိုင်ရပ်ကွက်၊
စစ်တွေမြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၄၃၂၃၀၆၈

လားရှိုး

ဟူးမွန်ကျေးရွာထိပ်၊
ဟူးမွန်ဆည်ဘယ်ဘက်ခြမ်း၊
(၁၂) ရပ်ကွက်၊ မန်ဆူဘုရားရှေ့၊
အဝေရာလမ်းမ၊ လားရှိုးမြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၈၂၄၀၆၇

ဗြိတ်

မေတ္တာလမ်း၊ ရှမ်းချောင်းရပ်၊
ကလွင်ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု၊ ဗြိတ်မြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၅၉၄၂၀၈၃

မော်လမြိုင်

ကြာအင်းကျေးရွာ၊ မော်လမြိုင်မြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၅၇၂၇၂၅၊ ၀၅၇၂၇၂၆

မုံရွာ

နန္ဒဝန်ရပ်ကွက်၊ ဆက်သွယ်ရေး
တာဝါတိုင်အနီး၊ မုံရွာမြို့၊
ဖုန်း - ၀၇၁၂၆၅၃၅၊ ၀၇၁၂၆၅၃၃

Hotline - 09974424848
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Pakhan Monastery and Therekhan (Sandal Wood) Images

Maung Thar
(Archaeological Research)

Myanmar used to remember the Pakhan Ko Gyi Kyaw (nat/ spritual being) and Tharekhan Images when we are talking about Pakhangyi. Pakhangyi is a historically well-known village situated in Yezagyo of Magway Region at the map co-ordinate of N latitude 21.32 and E longitude 95.52. Pakhangyi is located at the altitude of 250ft. above sea level, 3 miles in the west of confluence of Ayeyawady and Chindwin, 10 miles away from Yezagyo, 17 miles from Pakokku and 6 miles from Shinmadaung . Pakhangyi is an area of ancient cultural heritage having ancient pagodas and buildings, Buddha Images and remain of high ramparts.

Pakhangyi

In Zabudipa Treatise the boundry of Pakhangyi was demarcated by Ayeyawady in the east, back to back with Ngakyaw Myay in the south, Waibula mountain range in the west, Maya Monyin village in the north. There is also a small village called Pakhan Nge, a mile away in the west from Pakhangyi and it is a port village of Chindwin river. That Pakhan Nge is used to be mistaken with the other Pakhan Nge of the Salay area.

The Pakhangyi having moats and city walls

had been the largest town on the west bank of Chindwin, contemporary with and as flourishing as Bagan. Moreover, it had been the second-most developed region in Konbaung period after Yadanabon city.

The name of Pakhangyi has been derived successively from Pukhangyi, Kuthangyi and the oldest Kukhangyi. It also used to be called Myaungtu after the canal (in Myanmar- Tumyaung) through which the Chindwin river water drained into Pakhangyi. In the Kavilekhana Orthography Treatise, Seintakyawthu U Awe wrote that the present Pakhangyi was called Kukhan Town or Layyarpayu Town (400 Soldiers-Recruiting Town) during the period of King Anawrahta as it was duty-bound by King's order to recruit 400 soldiers for the nation's army in the advent of war with other country. Pakhangyi also used to be the significant administrative domain of the country. Between 1829 and 1855 Pakhangyi stood second after Depayin in the respect of order of military importance.

In the time of

Myanmar Kings, there was no permanent Army. Only in the event of war the army was mobilized with the soldiers sent from the different parts of the country with number of soldiers on quota system depending on the areal size and population of the respective town. There were towns and cities with different quotas, some with duty to collect 100,000 soldiers, some 10,000 soldiers, some 1000 soldiers and some 100 soldiers. Scholar in historical research, Dr Toe Hla considered the Gawun Stone Inscription established in 430 AD was probably the earliest stone inscription describing about Pakhangyi. He stated his opinion regarding Pakhangyi that if Bagan was thought to evolve successively from Pyu Gan and Pyu Gama, there might be a question whether Pakhan came down from Pyukhan. Pyu race was known to live in Pakhan area in their last phase before they were mingled up with pre-existing Myanmar and considered to have vanished from a separate entity in that area.

Sithu King demarcated the boundry of Pakhangyi jurisdiction area with Ayeyawady river on the east and south, Yama Chaung in the north and Yoma mountain range in the west. There were 299 villages of various sizes under the jurisdiction of Pakhangyi according to the manuscript of Sithushin Pagoda written by

King Naymyo Yehtin Nawahta.

According to the brief history of Pakhangyi there were 5 times Pakhangyi had been established with 1st founding in 508 BC by King Danu Thiha. King Sithu and Kyawswa established 2nd Pakhangyi in 738 AD followed by 3rd Pakhangyi founded by Tasishin Thihathu in 1305 AD. 4th Pakhangyi was built by King Swasawke in 1380 AD and last Pakhangyi was founded by King Maha Dhama Yarzardipati in 1738 AD.

King Danu Thiha established the first Pakhangyi in the name of Maha Nagara City on the west bank of Chindwin river but in the east of Taungmagyi (Main Mountain) containing 50 satellite towns in 36 Buddhist calendar year. Prince Sithu and Kyawswa, son of Bagan King Theinkho built new Pakhangyi together with other two establishments, Kuphyu pagoda and Kuni pagoda in the place of old Pakhangyi.

King Sithu and Kyawswa had dug a canal from Nanwin Gaing to drain Chindwin river water into the moat of Pakhangyi. In the event of implementing the Nanwin Gaing Project, Kyawswa was always found drunk failing to carry out his duty many times and he was slain by his elder brother King Sithu. Kyawswa after being slain was said to have been reincarnated as a nat (spirit) which



Two of six Therekhan (Sandal Wood) Images found in Pakhangyi.

became popular as Pakhan Kogyikyaw Nat among the Nat Worshippers till the present time.

King of Pinya, Tasishin Thihathu established the third Pakhangyi city granting Letme (dark hand) Minister supervising power on all the works of building the city in Myanmar Year 667 (1305 AD).

Fourth Pakhangyi was set up by King Inwa, Swasawke who had his minister Saw Myi supervise the establishing works and granted him the title of Feudal Lord of the City of Pakhangyi. The last king of Nyaung Yang Dynasty, King Maha Dhama Yarzardipati repaired the rampart of the Pakhangyi Fort. The city wall of the old Pakhangyi City had been known to be the largest among the old city walls.

Pakhangyi had been administered by Lord of City or Lord of Region in the successive eras starting from Bagan to Pinya, Inwa, Nyaung Yang till Konbaung dynasty and it used to be one of the 16 fort-cities of Thunapranta Taing (Thunapranta Region).

2 Pakhan Monasteries

According to the list of Archaeology and National Museum Department, there are 322 ancient buildings in Pakhangyi Region and among them Pakhan Monastery built with the teak logs is the most prominent one.

Lavish handiworks of Yadanabon period can be seen in Pakhan Monastery and 254 teak logs were used as the supporting posts in building the monastery. Circumference of the teak logs ranged from 6ft. 4in. to 7ft. 2in. Diameter of the top end of the teak posts used in building is 30 inches and the length of the highest post was 90ft.

Pakhan monastery was a donation of Paddy Officer U Pho Toke to his mentor monk U Guna to use as his residence. It was learnt that it was built in 1230 MY (1868AD) and took about two years to

finish it completely. The teak logs were extracted from the King's Reserve forest with the approval of the King Mindon. The logs were drifted down along the Chindwin river to Pakhangyi and the expense for carrying the logs and for the carpentry works amounted to ks. 54762.

U PhoToke lived at the monastery of U Guna in his childhood and he became an owner of freight boat. In the conflict between Bagan Prince and Mindon Prince, U Pho Toke presented his boat and goods as war provisions to Prince Mindon. Hence U Pho Toke was offered the post of Paddy Officer when Prince Mindon ascended the throne.

Paddy Officer, U Pho Toke had chosen the Pakhangyi's old west moat Naga Twin place to build the monastery using the 24 log-posts on the length side and 12 log-posts on the breadth side. Hence there were 23 rooming spaces on the length side and 11 rooming spaces on the breadth side. There was 7 tiered roof over the part where the altar is placed, of the monastery. In the part opposite to the altar was 3 storied. Exquisite carpentry workmanship could be seen in the wood work of this monastery. The walls and ceiling of the monastery were finely decorated with floral and glass mosaic carving design.

There was another wooden monastery at Pakhan Nge (smaller Pakhan) built by Lord of Pakhan, U Yan Way who even the King Mindon paid due regard. U Yan Way used 332 big teak posts with each post having about 10 ft. in circumference in building the monastery. Intricate and exquisite carpentry workmanship of Konbaung period could be seen in that monastery. U Yan Way constructed that grand monastery primarily for his royal residence. However, some people jealous of him sent slanderous information that U Yan Way was scheming to set up the parallel monarch to the King Mindon.



The pagoda with cave is seen at Pakhangyi.

Therefore U Yan Way had donated the building to the monks to be used as monastery with the intention to wipe out the suspicion of King Mindon. The Pakhan Nge Monastery has been deteriorating due to the scourge of weather, natural disasters, human activities and weakness in maintenance works.

Tharekhan Images (Sandalwood Images)

King Alaung Sithu (Sithu-1)(1113-1197) of Bagan Dynasty built Sithushin Pagoda where to place the Images made of sandal wood. According to the history of Pakhan written by King Naymyo Yehtin Nawahta, King Sithu had built a cave where the Tharekham Images will be enshrined, in 480 MY. The Tharekhan images were enshrined in the cave in 481 MY. King Sithu granted the title "Bumayazar" to the head of Maha Gama village who had contributed his great effort in accomplishing the building of cave.

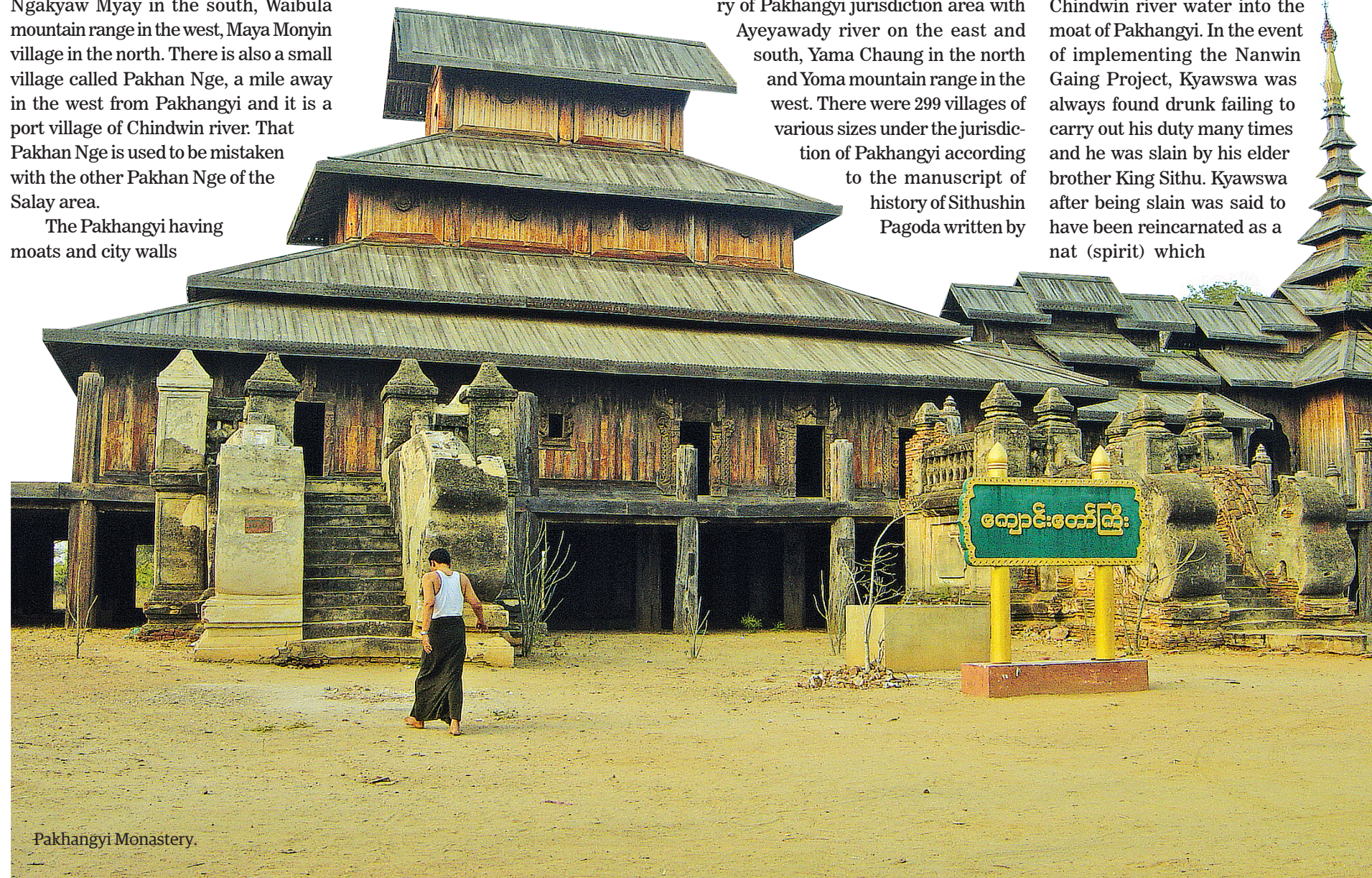
There were 6 Tharekhan Images, one in Anyar Thihataw and the other 5 in Pakhangyi. All Tharekhan Images had elephant plinth and were assumed to be sculptured in AD12th Century. The images were also known as elephant-based images. The seniority of Tharekhan Images were determined by the number of elephants present in the image. The most senior was the Sithushin Tharekhan

Image that had the 15 elephant-plinths, the 2nd Shwetantit Image had 14 elephants, the 3rd Shinmadaung Image had 13 elephants, the 4th Sinkyo Image had 12 elephants, the 5th Anyar Thihataw Image had 11 elephants and the 6th Myatpaung Myitza Image had 10 elephants. Besides, according to Dr Tint Lwin in addition to Tharekhan Images there was a stone Image with 4 elephant s as plinth was found in Ywathagyi Monastery of Pakhangyi.

Among the Tharekhan Images, Sithushin and Myatpaung Myitza Images were found in Sithushin Pagoda which was situated at east moat Nyaung Sin of Pakhangyi. The remaining 4 images were found at Shwetantit village of Pakokku, Shinmataung Monastery of Pakhangyi, Sinkyo village and Anyar Thihataw. When Myanmar Kings brought the Tharekhan Images to the Royal City the Image of Shwetantit with 14 elephants was left in place.

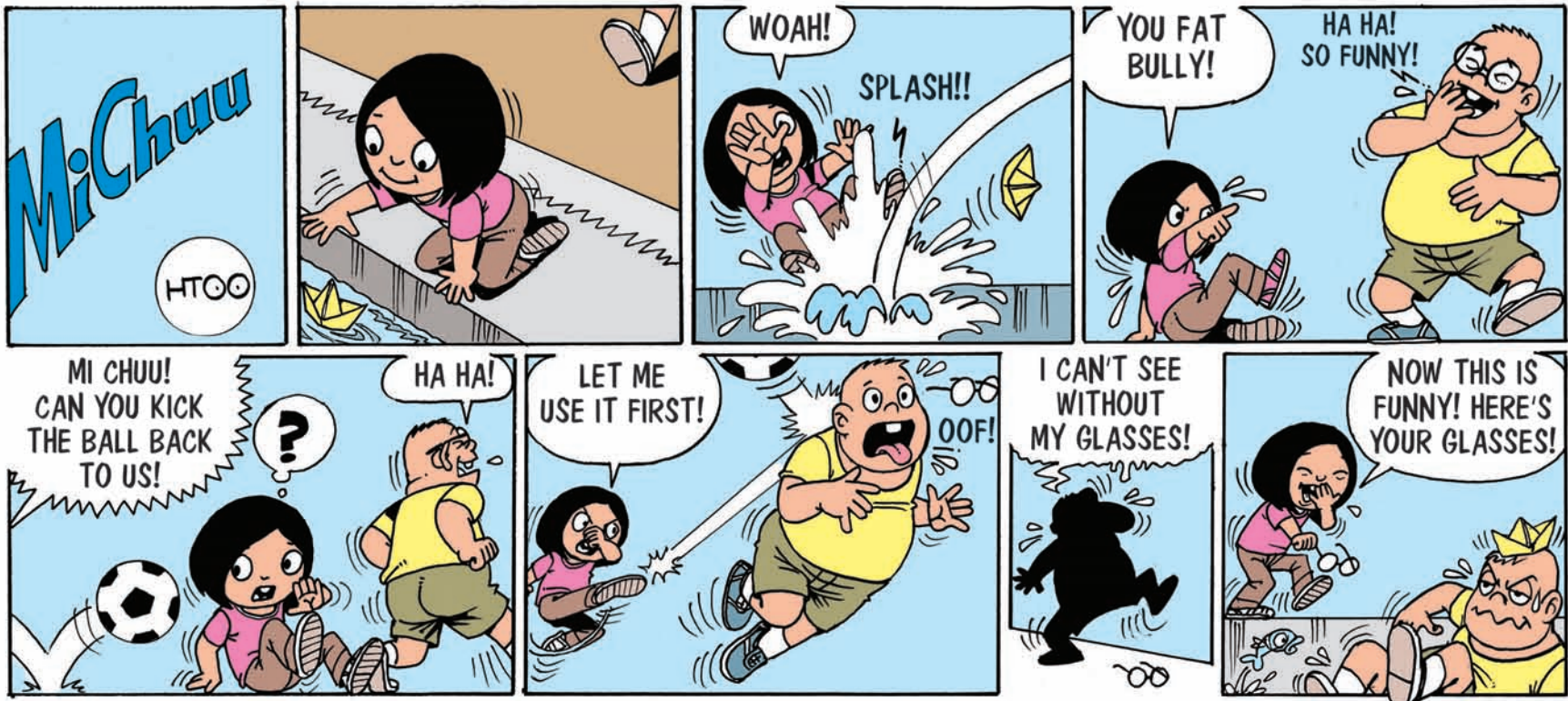
Pakhangyi, an ancient locality of Konbaung period is a place where a large number of cultural heritage can be found. The ancient buildings, extant remains of old city walls, mural paintings and Buddha Images are the historical evidences of more than 100 years old cultural heritage. Therefore we should take value of the national heritage and conserve them.

(Translated by Khin Maung Win)



Pakhangyi Monastery.

SUNDAY COMICS



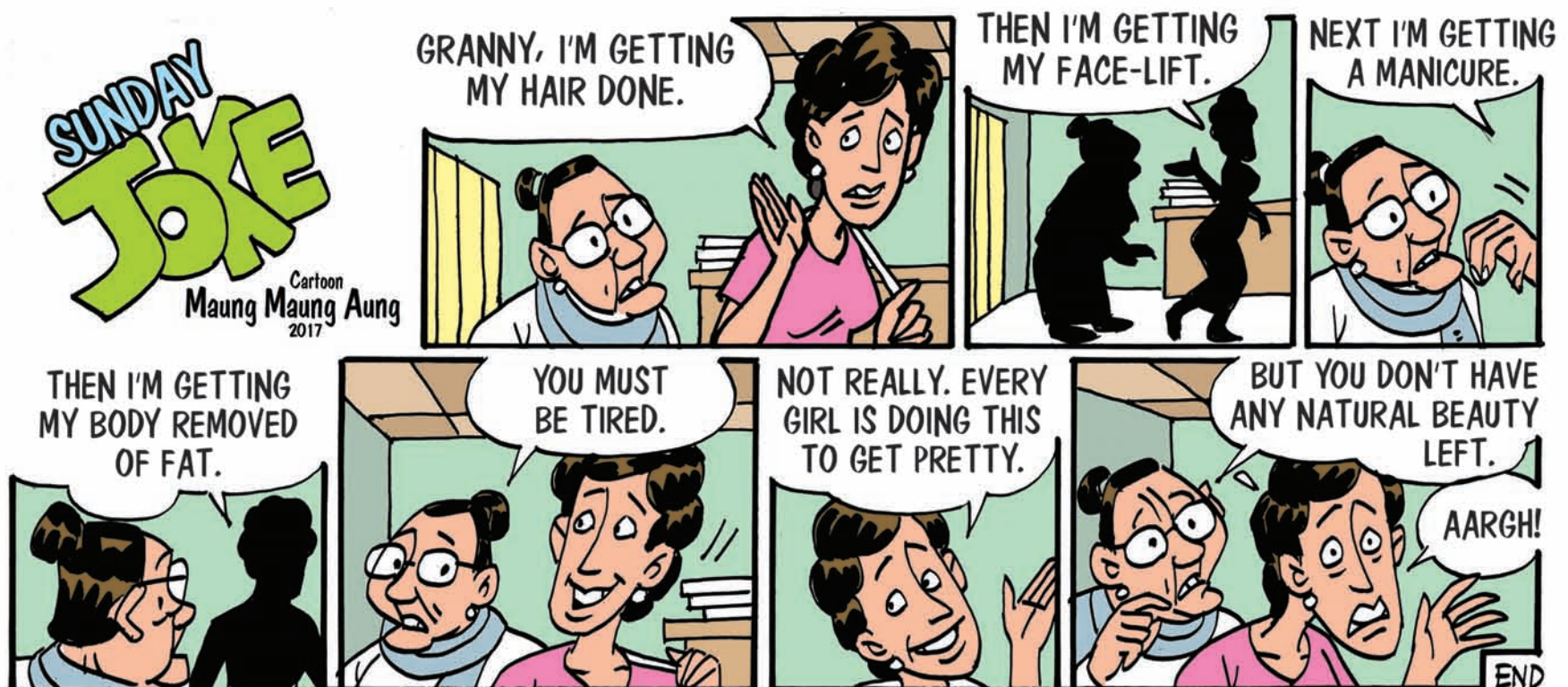
PEOPLE WILL BE PEOPLE

Cartoon
Maung Shwe Win



SUNDAY JOKE

Cartoon
Maung Maung Aung
2017



Interviews with IDPs in Rakhine State

By Min Htet Aung & Tin Maung Lwin

Due to the attacks by the terrorist group ARSA (Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army) on 25 August, numerous villagers fled their homes and arrived in Sittway on 28 August. The IDPs are currently residing in Dhamma Rama Monastery and Wida Monastery in Sittway. The following are a series of interviews with some of the IDPs to get a firsthand experience of their situation.



Ethnic Mro people who fled violence in their village pass time at a temporary internally displaced persons (IDP) camp in Maungtaw, Rakhine State, on 31 August 2017. **PHOTO: RETUERS/SOE ZEYA TUN**

U San Maung Thein (Former village administrator from Wayhtarli village)

“We didn’t really mind whether we were rich or poor but we all had to leave the village because our lives were in danger. Similar attacks happened back in 2012 and 2016 but this time it’s scarier since they are armed and killing people. We heard the sound of explosions and gunshots everyday near our village. About 20 of us fled from our village.”

“We spent one night 4 miles from our village and two nights in Buthidaung before we reached Sittway. There



are many more fleeing their villages. We want to return to our homes as soon as possible and we request full security for that.”

U Aung Htay (Member of Backdoor Region Protection Group)

“We started accepting people who fled to Sittway starting from 28 August. The Maungtaw-Buthidaung road was blockaded when the attacks happened so many of them were afraid to come here but when they removed the blockade yesterday they arrived here in large groups. Some of them were not villagers but civil servants and visitors from other areas who were trapped when the blockade was set up.”

“The people taking refuge here are local villagers who don’t feel their homes are safe anymore and are taking temporary shelter in Sittway. There are some who fled here once during the October 2016 attacks. For the villagers



these attacks have been happening multiple times and they are stressed because they had to leave behind their cattle and crops. The children can’t attend schools either.”

“Some pregnant women had their babies here in the temporary shelters and that makes us sad. We try to provide food and water to keep their spirits alive.

We are providing them with security in Dhamma Rama Monastery and Wida Monastery here in Sittway.”

“We received news that more people have fled their villages and are coming here. There is not enough space for all of them here. We have to appeal to the officials to provide them with food and health-care. We have also contacted humanitarian agencies here.”

“I want to request the government, military and security personnel to deal with these problems quickly and prevent similar incidents from happening again. There are about 300 people and 20 children taking refuge in the temporary shelters in the monasteries here in Sittway.”



Maung Thar Aung (Wounded villager from Tharyargone village)

“The terrorists invaded our village in large numbers. I was hit by an arrow in my foot while defending my village. The terrorists ran away when the villagers grouped together and pressed back. The terrorists numbered by the hundreds and they included

some children so I think they were from nearby villages. I’m not satisfied with being bullied like this and I don’t want to leave my hometown. There are also many people who couldn’t leave their villages because there weren’t enough cars and boats.”

Daw Aye Aye Nyunt from Mawadi Village, Maungtaw

“Since those attacks on 24 August I haven’t been able to sleep or eat properly. I didn’t want to leave my hometown but there was no choice. I feel safe here (in Sittway). I and fifty others left in the afternoon on 28 August and we arrived in Sittway on 29 August around 4 in the morning. We were brought here on a fishing boat.”

“Although the terrorists were dressed in black and hid

their faces I don’t think they were from a foreign country. I grew up with the various people in the region, so I can tell. There have been many deaths and casualties in our neighboring villages too.”

“There were not enough cars for everyone to escape and every family had to leave one man behind. Not everyone here can get proper meals. The situation is very bad. I want our region to be peaceful again.”



THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

NEWSPAPERS AND JOURNAL
PRINTING SERVICE

Print with us

Our international standard Mitsubishi high-speed offset printing machine is available now for your printing needs under the management of Japanese & Korean experts.



The Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon.



Hotline

09974424848

Questions will bring peace and understanding

FROM SUPPLEMENT-A

We should encourage our children how to think critically, use own reasoning and make argument if necessary. If we are able to present our disagreement politely and reasonably, we can convince others to accept it vice versa we should accept the different ideas and opinion on a reasonable ground.

Then we can settle our disagreement peacefully. If we forbid children from speaking out, challenging back to elders, they will follow but grew up bitterly by swallowing their pain, embarrassment quietly. There is also a danger of blustering of their anger and bitterness which may make things difficult or harm relationship.

Our country has broken the world record for having the longest civil war. Why we have been fighting over decades? Can't we just talk and settle our

disagreement peacefully? When we started seeing each others as enemies, we built a wall between us. We refused to listen to each other. Lack of communication leads to more suspect and fear. Then we fought as if we were losing.

To break a rock wall, all you have to do is make a crack. The crack of "fear", the crack of "mistrust" was making the wall of unity of our country breaking into pieces.

Speaking out is important, but more importantly is to speak out logically and in a reasonable way. To present our different ideas with strong reasons and supporting evidence, then we can negotiate and settle without fighting. On the other hand, listening to each other is far more important than ever. While one is trying to speak out, shutting his/her mouth, or refusing to listen to is not an answer as well.

More important thing is to have a level play ground for all. Of course you listen to us but sitting on a ivory throne in a golden palace would not make any progress. While we are talking about the price of watercress and you know only the price of ruby would not create a mutual understanding between us.

I've been listening to many scholars' talk about peace process or democratic transition and I remembered my unforgettable embarrassed moment at school. My humble suggestions to all problem is very simple, please talk and listen to each other, make questions and willing to answer.

This is also practising our basic human rights "freedom of expression". To learn swimming, one must get down into water; to speak better, one must speak how to speak better by speaking.

In front of the Yangon Curtain

FROM SUPPLEMENT-A

Whenever the black curtain comes down, it is time for me to watch the beauty of nightlife in Yangon. As Yangon has the most precious pagoda called 'Shwedagon', it is glowing at night in the dark. The shining gold of the Shwedagon pagoda lights up the whole city. Among hundreds of cars and buildings, we can see the tall towers glowing beautifully in colourful LED lights under the dark sky.

Not only humans like us but also animals which are birds, mice; our house friends, squirrels and our pets know if it is the night time. At about 5 or 6 p.m in the evening, we all can see groups of birds flying back to their homes. When I see them, I ask myself, "What if I had wings?" It sounds mad. However, my mind answers back, "I would fly to the places where I would love to be. From Yangon to Osaka, from Osaka to Seoul, from Seoul to London, from London to L.A then back to Yangon." Yes, a brilliant answer, though.

There are many nights with Mr. Moon as well as the nights without him. Mr. Moon has got thousands of friends around him, the sparkling little stars. Under the black sky with tiny stars of Yangon, the

city's nightlife does not finish until midnight. As soon as the black curtain comes down, you may be surprised by the number of lights on in your street. Night-time is no longer just for sleep. Some people love walking out and eating out at night. I understand their desires and feelings. No tough traffic jams and no burning heat to avoid. As there are 24 hours bars, clubs, pubs and cafés in my hometown, they become good supporters for the ones who want to have fun under the dark sky. When I glance up to the sky at night, I hear the tiny stars whispering to me. They say, "Do you want to know what your future is?" I nod, of course. But they always reply, "Your future is what you do." And twinkle at me.

I cannot describe what kind of feeling it is when I look up to the dark sky and it is looking down to me. Those stars are my chat mates for every night. I am one of a kind who is curious and once I begged my mom to allow me to go out at night and see the whole city's play in front of the black curtain of Yangon. The silent streets became the stage, the buildings became the settings, the number of house lights became the stage lights, the city dwellers became the

performers, the night hawkers' sounds became the stage music, the Yangon City became the night theatre and Mr. Moon together with his friends became the audiences for the play.

Late in the evening before night, the views of beautiful Yangon nightlife can be seen from the Sakura tower near the heart of the city, Sule pagoda. Around the Kandawgyi Lake, we can find lights making it looks more glorious than ever. If we go into the park, we will be watched by the tiny birds behind from the trees and bushes. Do not get panic! If I had a helicopter, I would go and see the night play in front of Yangon's black curtain.

Among all the other cities of Myanmar, Yangon has the most stunning night view and excellent nightlife. I dare to bet about that. Every night before bed, I grab a book and read it. That feeling always gets me. All in all, due to all those reasons above, the night becomes both the best time of the day for me and the favorite part of my daily life. The night changes and the new tomorrow is waiting wide ahead for us. Our future is what we do. As long as we are alive in this planet, we all have to face with many nights.