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# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Friday, 22 September 2017



Vice President U Henry Van Thio addresses the 72nd United Nations General Assembly at U.N. headquarters in New York, U.S., on 20 September 2017. **REUTERS**

## Chinese media arrives in Sittway

A media group from China arrived in Sittway last night to gather information on the 25 August extremist terrorist attacks by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) that occurred in Maung-taw Township, Rakhine State.

The Chinese media group included six journalists from the People's Daily, China Radio International and Phoenix TV (Hong Kong). They were accompanied by officials from Ministry of Information. They will gather information in the Maungtaw area from 22 to 23 September.

Local and foreign media, including independent journalists, have been allowed to visit northern Rakhine State five previous times, the first time on 19 to 22 December, 2016 and the fifth time on 6 to 8 September, 2017. The visit of the Chinese media group is the third visit allowed since the 25 August ARSA terrorist attack.

The visit of Chinese media began some days after Myanmar protestors at home and abroad held peaceful demonstrations against the proliferation of false news on the situation in Rakhine State, where dozens of border police outposts were attacked on 25 August. **SEE PAGE-9**

## VP U Henry Van Thio: Government 'deeply concerned' about Rakhine

Vice President U Henry Van Thio told the U.N. General Assembly yesterday that the situation in western Rakhine state is improving, but remains a serious concern for the government.

"Let me be clear, the gov-

ernment of Myanmar is deeply concerned about the present situation in Rakhine," U Henry Van Thio said. "There is no denying that this is a problem of significant magnitude."

He also said the govern-

ment is concerned by reports that the number of Muslims crossing into Bangladesh continues unabated.

"We would need to find out the reason for this exodus," U Henry Van Thio told world lead-

ers at their annual gathering in New York City. He claimed that "the great majority of the Muslim population" has remained in their villages and said there have been no armed clashes reported since 5 September. **SEE PAGE-3**



## BEST DOMESTIC BANK FOR MYANMAR

Awarded by ASIAN MONEY 2017

## Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker and party attend 38<sup>th</sup> AIPA General Assembly

AT the invitation of the Speaker of the House of Representative of the Philippines and ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) President H.E. Pantaleon D. Alvarez, a hluttaw representative group led by Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U T Khun Myat arrived at Ninoy Aquino International Airport, Manila, Philippines on 14 September evening to attend the 38th AIPA General Assembly. They were welcomed by Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Philippines Hon. Raneo E. Abu, Myanmar ambassador to the Philippines U Win Naing and officials.

The 38th AIPA General Assembly was held in the Philippines from September 14 to 20 under the theme "AIPA and ASEAN Partnering for Inclusive Change."

The assembly was attended by heads of AIPA member parliaments and representatives from

Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Representatives from observer members Australia, Belarus, Canada, China, European Parliament, Japan, South Korea, India and Russia Federation also attended.

On the first day of the assembly on 15 September, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U T Khun Myat and party attended the AIPA Executive Committee Meeting and Women Parliamentarians of AIPA, or WAIPA.

On the second day, the Myanmar hluttaw representative group met with AIPA President and Speaker of the House of Representative of the Philippines, attended the opening ceremony of the general assembly and also attended the first general assembly, where the head of the Myanmar hluttaw representative group Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker delivered a speech.



On 17 September, the third day, the Myanmar delegation attended three committee meetings and a discussion with observer countries.

On the fourth day, 18 September, the Myanmar delegation participated in the study tour of Tagaytay City and attended the joint communiqué committee meeting in the evening.

On the fifth day of the assembly on 19 September, a second general assembly was held and Myanmar hluttaw representative attended to confirm

the reports by committee that were read. In the evening, the Myanmar delegation attended an event where Philippines President H.E. Rodrigo R. Duterte received the head of AIPA member parliaments and attended the closing ceremony of the 38th AIPA General Assembly.

Representative groups attending the assembly were hosted with dinners by Senate President of the Philippines H.E. Aquilino Pimental III and Speaker of the House of Representative of the Philippines H.E.

Pantaleon D. Alvarez on 16 and 19 September respectively.

Twenty-one resolutions on ASEAN region economic, social and women affair sectors were confirmed in the 38th AIPA General Assembly. The 39th AIPA General Assembly will be held in the Republic of Singapore in September 2018.

The Myanmar hluttaw representative group led by Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U T Khun Myat returned from Manila to Yangon yesterday evening. — Myanmar News

## Agriculture, Livestock, Aquaculture & Fisheries expo to begin

THE three-day Expo for Agriculture, Livestock, Aquaculture & Fisheries organised by Minhvi Exhibition and Advertisement Services (VEAS) is slated to be held from 24 to 29 September, according to a report of Myawady Daily yesterday.

This is the 4th international show for the agriculture and livestock expo, with 60 companies from about 15 countries including the USA, Germany, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia and South Korea taking part this year. Additionally, a panel of local and foreign experts and employers from the livestock and fisheries industries will be part of the expo. Last year's expo in Myanmar was held on 16 October 2016 with the participation of 60 companies, organisations and institutes from 17 countries, according to the VEAS. —GNLM ■

## Fourth annual Union level multi-stakeholder review

THE Fourth Annual Union Level Multi-Stakeholder Review was held at MICC-2 Banquet Hall yesterday morning.

Dr Aung Thu, Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation said, "Our country's public-orientated economic policy is targeted at all-inclusive sustainable development. Public-orientated economic policy is the kind of the project which reflects the national economic policy.

The public themselves chose and implemented infrastructures on social affairs basically needed in project villages, supervising through sub-projects to operate the project. It is the kind of project which guarantees equal rights and opportunities regardless of sexual orientation in implementing the projects.

With strengthening the traditions of deciding through collective negotiations, socio-economic lives of rural populace have increasingly developed for the acquisition of rural roads and bridges, drinking and farming



Dr Aung Thu and Ms. Ellen Goldstein visit the fourth annual union level multi-stakeholder review at MICC-2 Banquet Hall. PHOTO: MNA

water, electricity and infrastructures on education and health."

Union Minister added, "So as to prevent waste, bribery and corruption in implementing the projects, projects are internationally standardised ones which are systematically operated through technical examination by the Rural Department and the World Bank, checking accounts from Union Attorney General Office and assessing by rural population. Infrastructures are being built with weather-proof

designs to use in the long run and to be compatible with natural environment. Now, a total of 14,538 high-quality sub-projects have been implemented in 8,565 villages. Accordingly, rural people amounting to 5.2 million are enjoying the fruits of the project. Job opportunities have been created for 264 local experts and 2,050 graduates from the region. Four spheres of the projects in three townships had been completed, with others in remaining 60 townships under

implementation."

Afterward, Ms. Ellen Goldstein, Country Director of the World Bank, addressed a speech, with first prize winners of village tract presented with prizes by Union Minister, Deputy Minister U Hla Kyaw, Ms. Ellen Goldstein, U Yan Lin, chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Agriculture, Livestock Breeding and Rural Social Lives Development Committee, U Kyaw Myint, chairman of Peasants and Workers Affairs Committee, U Ba Myo Thein, Amyotha Hluttaw Peasant Affairs Committee Chairman and U Aye Maung Sein, Nay Pyi Taw Council Member.

In addition, fourth annual project implementations were explained by director U Hla Khaing, with responsible officials replying to the questions raised by those present.

Clarification of media continued to be convened at 2 pm with the fourth annual union level multi-stakeholder review to be held till September 22, it was learnt. — Myanmar News Agency ■

# Union Minister for Information meets staff from departments under MoI

Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint met with staff from departments and enterprise under the ministry yesterday at the meeting hall of the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw.

Present at the ceremony were Union Minister Dr Pe Myint, permanent secretary U Myo Myint Maung, and departmental heads and staff from the Information and Public Relations Department (IPRD), the Printing and Publishing Department and the News and Periodicals Enterprise.

At the ceremony, Union Minister made an opening address.

The presentations presented by those present at the ceremony included matters on extension of the set up of IPRD offices in districts and townships, detailed data collection on films, the supplying of books issued by Sarpay Beikman, the budget shortage for development in sports sector, the acquisition of daily allowances plus lodging fees for staff from other areas to come to Nay Pyi Taw on duty, appointment of daily



Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint delivers an opening speech at the meeting with staff from departments and enterprise under the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw on 21 September. **PHOTO: MNA**

wagers as permanent staff after 5 years service, prioritisation of veteran staff in promotion and making state-owned newspapers available in less-developed areas including Buthidaung and Maungtau in Rakhine State.

In his closing address, the Union Minister said, "Authori-

ties need to keep helpful traditions of replying to the acceptable suggestions submitted for the department and presentation of difficulties faced in the job from the staff.

As for the staff, it is urgently needed for making concerted efforts for the survival of the

departments and enterprise, making changes in accord with the cutting-edge technology of the changing times and trying hard to be well-satisfied with your skills and qualities and to be well recognised by the public." — Myanmar News Agency ■

## Vice President: Government 'deeply concerned' about Rakhine

### FROM PAGE-1

Since the deadly attacks on dozens of police posts and civilians by ARSA extremist terrorists on 25 August, hundreds of thousands of Muslims fled to Bangladesh and thousands of ethnic minorities went to camps, army installations and monasteries for shelter in Sittway, Maungtau and Buthidaung.

"At present, humanitarian assistance is our first priority," the vice president said.

U Henry Van Thio also acknowledged that longstanding prejudices have contributed to tensions.

"Deep levels of distrust, developed over the decades, have to be slowly chiseled away", he told the UN General Assembly yesterday.

In the military response to terrorist attacks last month by ARSA extremist terrorists, about 400 people have been killed, according to the Union government.

Security forces have been instructed to strictly adhere to the Code of Conduct in carrying out security operations, to exercise all due restraint, and to take full measures to avoid collateral damage and the harming of innocent civilians.

He said human rights violations would be dealt with "in accordance with strict norms of justice." U Henry Van Thio began his speech before the UN General Assembly yesterday by offering words of sympathy to Mexico, the United States, and Puerto Rico, all of which have been struck recently by natural disasters.

"The intensity and frequency of such natural disasters are evidence of climate change. Climate change is now becoming a reality posing a serious threat to our planet. The impacts of climate change are global in scope and unprecedented in scale. Myanmar is one of those countries that is highly vulnerable to the negative effects of climate change. As a country frequently affected by storms, floods and droughts, Myanmar welcomes the Paris Agreement on Climate Change", U Henry Van Thio said. —GNLM ■

## One Stop Service for Myanmar workers in Thailand

THE Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population issued a statement yesterday in regards to the issuing of Certificate of Identity (CI) cards to Myanmar workers in Thailand.

According to the statement, Myanmar workers working in Thailand holding temporary residence cards or work permits (TR-38), also known as "pink cards", have been issued with a Certificate of Identity (CI) in CI stations since 3 March. Thailand opened One Stop Services to process applications, issue visas and work permits at the stations since 1 September.

CI Stations were opened in Chiang Mai, Nakhon Sawan and Songkhla towns on 15 September, where Thailand also opened One Stop Services in those stations.

The Ministry's statement said that in addition to the six CI stations in Samut Sakhon (Mahachai) 1 and 2, Samut Prakan, Mae Sai, Mae Sot and Ranong, three more stations were opened in Chaing Mai, Nakhon Sawan and Songkhla.



Workers from Myanmar sort shrimp at a wholesale market in Mahachai, in Samut Sakhon province, Thailand, in July 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Workers applying for a CI will have to apply at a counter operated by Counter Services Co., Ltd in the nearest CI stations with a TR-38 or temporary Myanmar passport or document issued by the Thailand labour department indicating the specific CI station in which they want their CI issued, said the statement.

Counter Services Co., Ltd will assess the applicants TR-38 or temporary Myanmar passport or document issued by the Thailand labour department. A fee of 300 bahts need to be paid.

Counter Services Co., Ltd will issue a receipt that includes the CI station issuing the CI, the appointed date to conduct the process, a token number

and a contact phone number in both Thai and English. The information will also be sent to the worker's mobile phone by SMS.

Workers are required to conduct the process on the appointed date without fail and responsible officials will issue the CI and foreign worker identification card. Once these are issued, relevant Thai departments will conduct a One Stop Service of medical examination, issue visa and work permit at the CI Station it is learnt.

A total fee of 2,650 baht to 3,100 baht that includes a visa fee of 600 baht (only up to 31 March 2018), a document fee of 100 baht, a work permit fee of 550 baht for half a year or 1,000 baht for a full year, a medical examination and health insurance fee of 1,600 baht needs to be paid to relevant departments in Thailand. Those who are currently holding a CI need to prepare proof of citizenship and apply for an ordinary passport before the CI expires, it is learnt.—Myanmar News Agency ■

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

# Four new public companies permitted to sell shares

The Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) has granted four new public companies, in addition to the existing public ones which have registered in accord with the Myanmar Companies Act, permission to legally sell shares to the public, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

There are over 200 public companies in Myanmar now. Among them, only 55 public companies have registered in accordance with the Myanmar

Companies Act.

The four new public companies granted permission to publicly trade shares are: the Taninthayi Region Development public company; the Dawei Region Development public company; the Rakhine Economic Leader public company and Myeik Future Development public company. The recent additions bring the total number of companies allowed to sell shares to 59.

"When the public companies decide to sell their

shares, they have to submit documented evidence to us. All public companies do not have the right to sell their shares to the public. Therefore, we scrutinise the proposals of the public companies and grant them permission to sell shares to the public," said U Hsan Myint, deputy director-general of DICA. The shares can be sold to the public only when the public companies can produce documented evidence in accordance with the Myanmar Companies Act.—GNLM ■



Jade stones of varying sizes seen on the illegal vehicle in northern Shan State. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

## Jade confiscated at Yaypu check point

Authorities inspecting a vehicle in northern Shan State on Wednesday seized 1,200 kilos of jade worth Ks64 million.

A combined team comprised of officers and Customs Department staff found the il-

legal vehicle near Pan Kham Shan village at milepost 195 and commenced an inspection that resulted in the discovery of jade of varying sizes.

One the same day, the combined team of officers and

staff members found five cases of illegal goods worth Ks74 million at the Yaypu checkpoint. The team also found six cases of illegal goods worth Ks17.3 million at the Mayan Chaung checkpoint.—001 ■

## Job Net Banking and Finance Career Conference 2017 to be held on Sunday

THE Job Net Banking and Finance Career Conference 2017 will be held at the Sedona Hotel in Yangon on Sunday to provide awareness of the financial principles and practices to those in the financial sector, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

"This conference is believed to be very effective for both local employees and employers alike. By attending the conference, the youth employees will know how to prepare for being offered a job. The businessmen will also discuss interesting topics relating to the financial sector," said U

Soe Tun, the general secretary of the Myanmar Accountants' Association (MAA).

These days, foreign direct investments (FDIs) are entering the country. Therefore, the banking system is rapidly developing in the country, creating job opportunities in the banking and finance sector of Myanmar.

"Banking and finance business is one of the most important sectors in Myanmar. Therefore, JobNet.com.mm will hold the Job Net Banking and Finance Career Conference 2017, which can support the country's economy in a

way, said Mr. Matt De Luca, Managing Director of JobNet.com.mm.

At the conference, financial experts from the Myanmar Accountants' Association, the Myanmar Institute of Finance and the auditing firm Win Thin & Associates will participate at the conference. There will be a Q&A session at the end of the conference, organisers said. In addition to the discussions, UMG, Myanmar Institute of Banking, Myanmar Oriental Bank, Deloitte, Yoma Bank and J Sat will interview for job openings at the conference.—GNLM ■

## Special rehabilitation arrangements for people with disabilities

A special rehabilitation unit for the disabled will be formed to enable patients to undergo physiotherapy in accord with international standards, said a spokesperson from Asia Royal Hospital during an interview with Myawady Daily yesterday.

The unit will conduct detailed examinations and investigations and provide tailor-made therapy which suits the patient best for a faster recovery, officials said.

This special rehabilitation unit will provide treatment to the patients who have suffered sudden strokes, chronic strokes and weakened nerves. Physicians and physiotherapists from England will come and provide clinical lectures to local doctors and staff.

The unit will have modern facilities and apparatus such as hydraulic beds, specially designed stairs, walking aids, rehabilitation exercising bicycles, and specialised walking sticks. This unit will also provide rehabilitation treatment through the use of ultrasound, infrared and short-wave techniques.—GNLM ■

## Books from National library to be available online

Authorities are making arrangements for the people to be able to read the books from the National Library (Nay Pyi Taw) on the website, according to a report in the City News Daily yesterday.

The National Library (Nay Pyi Taw) under the Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs is one of the biggest libraries in Myanmar. It's collection includes 172,556 books, 435,580 periodicals, 12,323 palmleaf manuscripts, 345 hand-written letters, and 25,468 rare books, said an official from the National Library.

The National Library is located near the Yazathingyan roundabout on a 23.83-acre plot of land. The number of visitors to the National Librais low, in part because there are few public buses in Nay Pyi Taw. The National Library's location is far from residential areas.—GNLM ■



A sales man anticipates customers as gold price rises at a shop in Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH

## Domestic gold price unstable, gold market declines

By May Thet Hnin

THE domestic gold market is unstable, with the gold price fluctuating in the global market, said U Kyaw Win, the secretary of Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association.

“The main reason for the increasing price in the domestic gold market is the high global price, plus the high dollar exchange rate”, U Kyaw Win said. “After North Korea fired a missile over Japan last month, the New York gold price soared. The

gold price is unstable this year, but it is still on the rise”.

The gold price reached its highest peak so far on 8 September, when the global gold price was US\$1,348 per ounce, while pure domestic gold reached its all-time highest price of over Ks950,000 per tical (0.578 ounce). But shortly thereafter, the price slipped a bit, at US\$1,297 per ounce for global gold and Ks943,500 per tical of pure local gold. Since April, the gold price has been on an upward trend. The price reached above

Ks900,000 per tical in July and remained on the rise.

Apart from mid-May and early July, the gold price this FY maintained a high price in the domestic market, causing a cooling of the retail market.

“Transactions in the gold and jewellery shops is currently declining. The buyers and sellers are observing the market due to price fluctuation”, said U Kyaw Win.

The gap between the global gold price and the domestic price is Ks5,000- 10,000. ■

## Inle longyi weavers use dye made from recycled waste

By May Thet Hnin

WEAVERS in Inle are making textile dye used for high-quality men's and women's fashion from discarded materials, officials from the local textile industry said. “Inle weavers are utilising a remarkable recycling process of dye derived from effluents disposed from the weaving of Zinme Longyi and Bangkok Longyi (netherwear) to produce an ash grey colour”, said U Myint Thein Tun of the Khit San Yin Lotus, Silk and Cotton Weaving enterprise.

The dye containing effluents are boiled at high temperatures, resulting in a unique ash grey colour. When used to dye textiles, it produces a beautiful hue, weavers said.

“Previously, we disposed of dyeing effluence in Inle Lake without making any treatment. We came to know this is harmful to environment in late 2000. Experts noticed Inle Lake was being threatened with extinction due to pesticides used in tomato cultivation in floating gardens and textile dye waste. We were thus unhappy whenever we disposed waste. Finally, we came up with an idea to experimentally boil them at a high degree and this results in a liquid that can be used for dyeing. When we recycled, it surprisingly resulted in a beautiful colour”, said U Myint Tun. The novel idea resulted not only in an attractive new colour, but also reduced 80 per cent of the environmental hazards to Inle Lake due to dye waste.

The colour produced from the recycling process has become much favoured by domestic and foreign buyers, merchants said.

“They appreciate this colour when we explained the recycling process. People are eager to purchase this colour as they know it in the by-product of recycling process that results in mitigating water pollution of Inle Lake”, he added. But some looming enterprises nearby do not show interest in it, although we share it, he continued.

Fashion designs using the ash grey colour produced from the recycling process were featured in the beauty pageants “Miss Green Myanmar” and “Miss Green Yangon University” held in Yangon University in late 2016. ■

## Suspension on pulses imports could harm glass noodles enterprises

The recent suspension on pulses imports by the Commerce Ministry might have a negative impact on glass noodle (vermicelli made from beans) enterprises, according to a report on Wednesday by City News.

The suspension was meant to increase consumption of locally produced pulses including pigeon peas. Domestic vermicelli production mostly uses green peas. The halting of pea

imports means pigeon peas will be used in domestic vermicelli production.

Prices of locally produced chickpeas are high, so those peas are targeted for the export market. Vermicelli production enterprises use imported green peas, which are cheaper than local ones. The use of higher priced locally produced green peas can thus harm commercial businesses, merchants said.—GNLM ■

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# Statement by H.E. U Henry Van Thio, Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at the General Debate of the 72<sup>nd</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly

(New York, 20 September 2017)

**Mr President,**

I would like to extend our congratulations to you on your election as President of the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly. We are confident that under your able leadership, this year's session will be fruitful.

**Mr. President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Before I go into the substance of my statement, I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest sympathy to the government and people of Mexico for the loss of life and property caused by the deadly earthquake which hit Mexico City.

I also wish to convey our profound sympathy to the government and people of the United States who experienced horrendous consequences of hurricane in a short span of two weeks. Our sympathies also go to the people of Puerto Rico who are still reeling from the effects of hurricane Maria.

The intensity and frequency of such hurricanes and cyclones are evidence of climate change. Climate change is now becoming a reality posing a serious threat to our planet. The impacts of climate change are global in scope and unprecedented in scale. Myanmar is one of those countries highly vulnerable to the negative effects of climate change. As a country frequently affected by storms, floods and droughts, Myanmar welcomes the Paris Agreement on Climate Change of April 2016. I am pleased to inform this august Assembly that

yesterday Myanmar deposited with Secretary-General the instruments of ratification on the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol.

**Mr. President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

We welcome this year's theme "Focusing on people — striving for peace and a decent life for all on a sustainable planet". Peace and stability is something that we are striving to achieve in Myanmar after nearly seven decades of civil strife and conflict.

Last year from this podium, our State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi set out the government's vision to end decades of internal armed conflict in Myanmar and to find lasting and meaningful solutions to the complex situation in Rakhine State.

Today, one year on, I stand before you to apprise you of the progress we have made and the remaining challenges. Given that the situation in Rakhine State has understandably been the focus of the world's attention in recent weeks, let me start by addressing this issue.

**Mr. President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Yesterday, the State Counsellor briefed the Diplomatic Corps on the government's efforts regarding national reconciliation and peace. She highlighted the achievements in the past 18 months and challenges that remain. In touching upon the situation in Rakhine, she said that Myanmar shares the concern of the international community regarding displacement and suffering of all communities affected by the latest round of terrorist attacks. She also stressed that "We condemn all human rights violations and unlawful violence. We are committed to the restoration of peace, stability and rule of law throughout the State. The security forces have been instructed to adhere strictly to the Code of Conduct in carrying out security operations, to exer-



Vice President U Henry Van Thio addresses the 72nd United Nations General Assembly at U.N. headquarters in New York, U.S., on 20 September 2017. **REUTERS**

Those who have had to abandon their hearth and home are many - not just Muslim and Rakhine, but also small minority groups such as Daingnet, Mro, Thet, Mramagyi and Hindus.

cise all due restraint, and to take full measures to avoid collateral damage and the harming of innocent civilians. Human rights violations and all other acts that impair stability and harmony and undermine the rule of law will be addressed in accordance with strict norms of justice. We feel deeply for suffering of all the people who have been caught up in the conflict."

**Mr. President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The situation in Rakhine has been one of the top prior-

ities of the government since it assumed office. The government has been endeavoring to restore peace and stability and to promote harmony among all communities.

The Central Committee on Implementation of Peace, Stability and Development of Rakhine State, chaired by the State Counsellor herself, was established on 30 May 2016 to address the specific needs of the State.

Additionally in Aug 2016, she set up a commission headed by Dr. Kofi Annan to advise the government on sustainable solutions to the complex situation

in Rakhine.

We have been striving to ensure that the Rakhine State is duly developed while ensuring peace, stability and societal cohesion. This is no easy task. Deep mistrust developed over decades has to be slowly chiseled away.

On 25 August 2017, the Kofi Annan Commission released its final report. Our government immediately welcomed it.

We had hoped that today's occasion would be an opportunity for us to communicate to the world the progress that we have made towards implementing the Commission's recommendations.

It is therefore with deep regret that instead, I must primarily address you on the current state of affairs in Rakhine State, following the recent attacks by the terrorist group known as ARSA last month.

**Mr President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

As you are aware, within hours of the release of the Advisory Commission's report, a series of coordinated attacks were carried out on 30 police outposts in Northern Rakhine. The ARSA claimed responsibility for the attacks.

These attacks ignited fresh violence in the region, resulting in insignificant loss of life, widespread suffering and mass displacement of all communities.

Those who have had to abandon their hearth and home are many - not just Muslim and Rakhine, but also small minority groups such as Daingnet, Mro, Thet, Mramagyi and Hindus. Most of the world has been oblivious of their existence and plight.

The government of Myanmar is deeply concerned about the present situation in Rakhine. Our deepest sympathy goes to the families of all innocent civilians and members of the police and security forces who have lost their lives. There is no denying that this is a problem of significant magnitude.

I am happy to inform you that the situation has improved.

The government has been endeavoring to restore peace and stability and to promote harmony among all communities.



Vice President U Henry Van Thio addresses the 72nd United Nations General Assembly at UN headquarter in New York, US, on 20 September 2017. **MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

No armed clashes have been reported since 5 September.

Accordingly, we are concerned by reports that the numbers of Muslims crossing into Bangladesh remain unabated.

We would need to find out the reason for this exodus. What is little known is that the great majority of the Muslim population decided to remain in their villages. We share the need to ensure that vital humanitarian assistance is provided to all those in need.

Moreover, we acknowledge that the duty to respond to the challenges in Rakhine State is first and foremost the duty of our national government. The situation in Rakhine is complex. The challenges we face are significant. We have accordingly adopted an integrated national strategy to address this problem.

I am pleased to announce the launch of a committee chaired by the Union Minister of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement to implement the recommendations of the Advisory Commission. To ensure transparency and accountability, the Committee is mandated to publicly issue a progress report every four months. In addition to the Committee, we intend to establish an Advisory Board comprised of eminent persons from both Myanmar and abroad.

At present, humanitarian assistance is our first priority.

We are committed to ensuring that aid is received by all those in need, without discrimination. We have already dedicated significant national funds and resources to humanitarian relief operations.

I am also pleased to inform you that a new government-led mechanism, established in co-operation with the Red Cross Movement, has also started its humanitarian assistance activities.

On behalf of the government of Myanmar, I would like to express my gratitude to all those countries who have offered to contribute towards this assistance programme. In particular, we are grateful for the generous offers of support that we have recently received from many of our friends across the world.

At the same time, we are working hard to enhance relations with Bangladesh. The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and the National Security Advisor visited Bangladesh in January and July of this year. We were hoping for a visit from the Home Minister of Bangladesh but it had to be postponed as the Minister could not come in August. We will welcome him at any time that he is able to come and hope to take forward our cooperation on border security matters.

There has been a call for the repatriation of displaced people who have recently fled

We would need to find out the reason for this exodus. What is little known is that the great majority of the Muslim population decided to remain in their villages.

from northern Rakhine to Bangladesh. The State Counsellor in her speech yesterday stated that Myanmar was prepared to start the verification process at anytime. Our two neighbors have had the experience of such a process in 1993 through the establishment of a joint working group for implementation of repatriation process. We can develop a process based on the experience of 1993.

**Mr. President  
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Myanmar stands together with the rest of the world in condemning terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. Terrorism constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security. Our position is clear. We cannot condone terrorism.

At the same time, the government is working to ensure that acts of terrorism will not distract us from pursuing the long term strategy that is necessary to address the complex challenges in Rakhine State today.

The recommendations of

the Rakhine Advisory Commission provide us with a clear roadmap. Our implementation Committee began its work last week and in due course we will be inviting observers to witness some of our programmes.

**Mr President,  
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The recent events in Rakhine State are a painful reminder that we face difficult challenges ahead on the long journey towards peace, prosperity and democracy.

However, please allow me to reiterate this: our commitment to peace remains as strong and as unwavering today as it was one year ago when our State Counsellor, DawAung San SuuKy, first addressed you from this podium.

As part of this commitment, we have made the national reconciliation and peace process our top priority. Our vision here is clear: to achieve a democratic, federal Union, based on the principles of freedom, justice, equal rights and self-determination.

With regard to the peace

process in the country, I am pleased to inform you that in May this year, we successfully held the second session of our Union Peace Conference. For the first time, we were able to discuss and define key principles that will form the basis of a federal, democratic Union. The Union Accord, consisting of thirty-seven principles covering the political, economic, social and environmental sectors was signed by representatives of the government, the parliament, the military, ethnic armed organizations and political parties.

Although we have made real progress, we know that the road ahead is long and convoluted. Our democratic transition is fragile. At this important juncture in our nation's history, we only ask that the international community continues to support our efforts to achieve peace, prosperity and democracy.

**Mr. President,  
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Before I conclude this statement, let me reaffirm Myanmar's faith and confidence in the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

I would also like to emphasize Myanmar's firm commitment to a world in which peace and harmony prevails.

I thank you, Mr. President.

## Only if we join feeling responsible and duty-bound can success be achieved

Khin Maung Oo

IN building up a democratic nation, we can succeed provided that every citizen will join in co-operation, feeling we all are responsible and duty-bound. Discipline is of great importance in a genuine democracy. Being a period of nascent democracy, it is not an easy task for every individual to have a sense of responsibility. Many still can be addicted to past habits so that they are not above taking opportunities when they can take advantage of the situation and when no one is around to see them doing bad things. Such an addiction can easily develop in us, but we will find it difficult to get rid of it, out of our bad habits.

Once in the past there were two alter egos. One was too strict with character and morality, while the other tried to behave like him in everything, being an alter ego. One day they got into a public-owned bus

and no ticket seller came to them. Thus, they got off the bus carelessly when the bus reached the bus-stand, their destination. As soon as the bus started to proceed, the first one ran after the bus to pay the fare, realizing that they had not paid the bus fare. The second one said that he need not rush to pay such a small amount of money. So the former asserted that one could not achieve success in life without paying attention to small details which were important.

It was a true story. Later in life, the first one became a rich and famous man while the second one lived an ordinary existence for the rest of his life. In building up a democratic nation, we all have to make an effort to narrow the gap the rich and the poor and between the states and regions. All our citizens need to realize that rights come with responsibilities such as obeying the laws of the land and having

high regard for the rule of law. They should understand that no one is above the law and that every citizen is equal before the law. As the nation develops, individual living standard will improve.

At such a time when we are building up our country into a democratic country, everyone is required to energetically join in the task of national development, abiding by rules, laws, ethics and disciplines. In a democracy we can differ from each other. We can even engage in lengthy discussions as to how best to develop our country. This is all part of the democratic process. As we march on towards a just and prosperous federal democratic union, those who are faint hearted and lag behind will not reach the desired goal. So, all Myanmar citizens should have courage, determination and singleness of purpose in the face of all types of challenges and threats.

Yangon can be taken as an example in

launching a campaign for the nation or the people. For example, things like throwing away rubbish, spitting after chewing betel quid, vending on roads and jaywalking. Though changes can be achieved to some extent during 18 months, it is not yet a satisfactory result. After an 8 month-period when the “pay as you go” method was adopted, it was soon found out that there were many passengers who knowingly rode buses without paying.

As there are responsible and dutiful people desirous of national development, we have the opposite group, which is the most part of the populace. If we sit without saying anything about those who are not above taking opportunities and advantages when the going was good, we will never reach our desired destination. We will reach our destination only if we can change the mindsets and behaviour of such kinds of citizens. ■

## Reforms in Myanmar pave the way for health care investment

Oxford Business Group

HIGHER state spending and moves to liberalise investment laws should further boost foreign investment in Myanmar's health care sector, as the country pushes to implement its first development plan for the industry.

Arguably the biggest external boost to health care in Myanmar in recent months came with the announcement in June that the World Bank would be extending its Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for another two years.

A primary objective of the \$1.2bn financing package – whose broad goals also touch on a range of sectors besides health care – will be to invest in social services to improve health and nutrition and reduce poverty.

### More private sector engagement seen from Japan

Among the foreign companies that have recently shown an interest in Myanmar's health industry is Japan's Mitsubishi, which announced in March it would form a hospital management joint venture with domestic firms Yee Shin Holdings and Capital Diamond Star Group (CDSG). The Tokyo-based company will hold 30% equity in the project while the latter two will share the remaining 70%.

The joint venture represents Mitsubishi's first foray into hospital management, and the partnership is also planning to build a 300-bed hospital in Yangon in the Capital City complex being developed by Capital Development, a subsidiary of CDSG.

### Streamlining investment processes for foreign players

Looking to build on such private sec-



A nurse checks a patient at a rural clinic near Nay Pyi Taw. **FILE PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE**

tor engagement, the government is rolling out reforms to streamline processes for local and foreign companies to invest in the country's growing health care sector.

One important step in this regard was the government's decision to give regional agencies the authority to directly approve foreign investments, rather than having them go through the national Myanmar Investment Commission.

As part of the Myanmar Investment Law (MIL) ratified in October last year, regional and state investment commissions will be established and authorised to approve investments of up to MMK6bn (\$4.4m) in most segments of the economy, including health care.

An announcement made by the Ministry of Commerce on June 12 could also enhance the sector's appeal to investors, with the ministry revealing that companies will be able to import and trade hospital

equipment, among other industrial goods.

This change should help level the playing field for health equipment suppliers, as foreign-owned companies can now trade without any more barriers than local firms have. However, like local firms, foreign-owned companies must still obtain trade permits from the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration, meet mandatory quality standards, and comply with existing laws, rules and procedures.

### Public health spending rises almost 27% this fiscal year

Amid these regulatory changes, state financing for the sector continues to rise. The budget for the current fiscal year allocated MMK1.08trn (\$790m) to the sector, up from MMK850bn (\$624m) in FY 2016/17 – itself a 12.2% increase on the previous year.

As highlighted in Myanmar's first development blueprint for the sector – the National Health Plan (NHP) 2017-21 – the country's health spending is still relatively low by global and regional standards, representing just over 5% of its total budget this year and roughly 1% of GDP.

Nonetheless, some stakeholders suggest that rising spending and growing demand for private health care services will further boost the sector's appeal to investors in the coming years.

“Over the next decade, we can expect health care spending to reach 4-5% of GDP,” Dr Gershu Paul, CEO of Pun Hlaing Siloam Hospital (PHSH), told OBG. “In 10 years the total spending on health care will be in the region of \$145 per capita per annum. Multiply that by a population of 55m people and you come to understand the tremendous investment potential of the sector.”

### Sector development plan targets universal coverage

Such investment will be critical to achieving the goals of the NHP, which aims to “extend access to a Basic Essential Package of Health Services (EPHS) to the entire population by 2020”.

To deliver Basic EPHS, townships with the greatest needs will be identified using public and private sector data collated into a Health Input Scoring Index. This should allow funds, such as those allocated by the World Bank in June, to be channelled to areas with the biggest development needs. Published in December last year, the plan underscores the importance of “inclusive planning at the local level”, an aim supported by recent moves under the MIL to decentralise the approval process for smaller investments. ■

# Appointment of Ambassador agreed

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the proposed appointment of Mrs. Eva HAGER as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Austria to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Mrs. Eva HAGER was born on 7 March 1957. She received PhD (Dr Phil.) in Arabic and Islamic Studies and Political Science from the University of Vienna, Austria in 1985. She joined the Austrian Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs in 1986 and served in various capacities at the Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs, at Austrian Embassies in Syria, Algeria, Tunisia, Mexico and Austrian Consulate General in Strasbourg. From April 2005 to August 2009, she served as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Austria to Cyprus. In December 2013, she was appointed as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Austria to the United Mexican States. She speaks English, French, Spanish and Arabic.—Myanmar News Agency

## MYANMAR GAZETTE

# Heads of Service Organizations confirmed

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

Name	Appointment
(1) U Kyaw Moe Tun	Director-General International Organizations and Economic Department Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(2) U Kham Aung	Managing Director Myanmar Post Office Ministry of Transport and Communications
(3) U Hla Maung Thein	Director-General Environmental Conservation Department Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation
(4) Daw Khin Mar Yi	Managing Director No.2 Heavy Industries Ministry of Industry
(5) U Kyaw Soe	Director-General Civil Service Selection and Training Department Union Civil Service Board



Officials of Ministry of Planning and Finance clarifies loans for agro-livestock, SME and construction at the Ministry of Planning and Finance in Nay Pyi Taw on 21 September 2017. PHOTO: MNA

# Loans for agro-livestock, SMEs and construction

Loans for the agro-livestock, SME and construction sectors was announced yesterday at the Ministry of Planning and Finance in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

U Maung Maung Win, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance said the distribution of loans has been ongoing and will continue.

“The State has targeted to disburse agricultural loans of Ks1,700 billion in FY 2016-2017, by Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank (MADB), in the agro-livestock sector. Out of this, Ks1,630 billion had already been disbursed. In the present financial year, MADB had given out Ks1313 billion out of the targeted amount — Ks1980 billion up to 15 September. Moreover, plans for disbursing mid-term loans to farmers are under arrangement. Myanmar Economic Bank had already disbursed K 30 billion to SMEs at the interest rate of 8.5 percentage through the Small and Medium Industrial Development Bank (SMIDB) in the FY 2015-2016

and FY 2016-2017, under the JICA Loan Programme. Mid-term loans ranging from 3 to 5 years amounting to Ks57 billion were disbursed in a two-step loan through six private banks, after taking long-term loans with low interest rates from JICA. At the second step, the matter of disbursing Ks180 billion was under discussion with JICA.”

Deputy Minister added that loans are being targeted for use in the building of housing.

“The MEB is disbursing loans for estates and construction for the acquisition of public ownership of dwelling abodes. The MEB has lent Ks142 billion to construction entrepreneurs. The State has given Ks100 billion as financial support to the construction sector through the Ministry of Construction as the sub-circulation fund. And the MEB disbursed Ks30 billion at an interest rate of 8.25 through the Construction and Housing Development Bank. Another Ks30 billion will be disbursed. Arrangements are

being made for the acquisition of long-term loans with low interest rates from JICA for the development of the construction sector. The MEB is making arrangements to disburse Ks200 billion for the agro-livestock sector, Ks250 billion for SMEs, Ks50 billion for the construction sector, and Ks200 billion for the MEB loan sector according to respective years, Ks700 billion altogether.”

Afterward, U Kyaw Ngwe, permanent secretary of Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Breeding and Irrigation, U Ko Ko Lwin, permanent secretary of the Ministry of Construction, U Win Zaw, CEO of Construction and Housing Development Bank, Daw Tin Tin Yi, general manager of MEB and U Min Thu, managing director of Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank clarified the policies to abide by in acquiring the loans according to the respective sectors and replied to the questions raised by the news media.—Myanmar News Agency ■



The media group from China arrive at Sittway Airport in Rakhine State on 21 September 2017. PHOTO: MNA

# Chinese media arrives in Sittway, Rakhine State

## FROM PAGE-1

The protestors also said they opposed campaigners, lobbyists and the media for turning what they see as a migration issue into a refugee and religious crisis.

The protestors in London

on 15 September sent a letter to Foreign Secretary Mr. Johnson, pointing out that the Foreign Secretary’s opinion does not represent a fair view of the Rakhine issue and diminishes the Arakanese people who have suffered equally in the same en-

vironment.

The government has recently said that it has been working on the issue as a top priority and have formed a dedicated committee to implement Dr Kofi Annan’s recommendations.—Myanmar News Agency ■

# Japan vice-minister pledges support for Union government on Rakhine issue, donates US\$1 million

THE Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye separately received Japan Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs H.E. Mr. Iwao Horii and representatives from Christian Aid Myanmar yesterday afternoon in Maykhal Hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting with the Japanese Parliamentary vice-minister, H.E. Mr. Iwao Horii said there is no change in Japan's policy of assisting Myanmar from all sides, with the understanding that Myanmar is resolving Rakhine issue with much difficulties. Japan strongly condemns the attacks on security posts, concerned of the news of about 400,000 displaced persons and would like to openly discuss these matters, Mr. Iwao Horii said.

The Union Minister said the incumbent democratic government has only been in power for 18 months, and establishment of democracy, rule of law and a socio-economic base were given priority. Work on national reconciliation is also being conducted consistently. The Union Minister discussed priority being given to states where development is lagging behind, the status of work



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye holds talks with Japan Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Iwao Horii in Nay Pyi Taw on 21 September, 2017. **PHOTO: MNA**

on Rakhine State development by forming a Central Committee for the Implementation of Peace and Development in Rakhine State and four work committees, the status of forming an Advisory Commission on Rakhine State, attacks on police posts in October 2016 after this committee was formed, accusations made on conducting area clearance operations in response to the attacks, and other issue in western Myanmar.

According to the population records, 44 per cent of the total

population in the conflict area fled to Bangladesh while 56 per cent remain in the villages, said the Union Minister.

"More than 400,000 of refugees who were said to have fled does not make up four-four per cent of the total population of 700,000," said Dr Win Myat Aye. The repatriation would be carried out in accordance with the 1993 Bangladesh-Myanmar agreement, he added.

The Japan Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs said the international view

in New York at the United Nations meeting on the events in Rakhine State was learnt to be very strong. With Japan being a friendly country to Myanmar, Japan will stand with its friend in resolving the difficulties faced by Myanmar.

Japan plans to provide emergency assistance of US\$1 million and also intend to help in the repatriation and resettlement of people who fled to the other country. Japan will also help Myanmar government's implementation of suggestions on Rakhine State

and would like to know assistance required to conduct the priority works.

Plans already in existence to set up industrial zones need to be implemented. Socio-economic development in Rakhine State can be achieved by establishing garment factories with good roads, communications and electrical power supply. In the current difficult situation, a correct international stance is important.

Rakhine State is a region where disasters can occur and it needs to withstand the disasters and needs financial and technical assistance for redevelopment.

In the meeting with Christian Aid Myanmar, the Union Minister said three groups were formed to collect information to conduct a basic social survey in order to provide moral and social assistance to ethnic nationals who were displaced by terrorists attacks in Rakhine State and moral assistance were being provided, international donations and donations provided by well-wishers were being used effectively and systematically and discussed openly on cooperating it is learnt. — Myanmar News Agency ■

## Aid from Indonesia arrives

HUMANITARIAN aid from Indonesia arrived Yangon International Airport yesterday and the aid will be sent to northern Rakhine soon, according to the Relief and Resettlement Department.

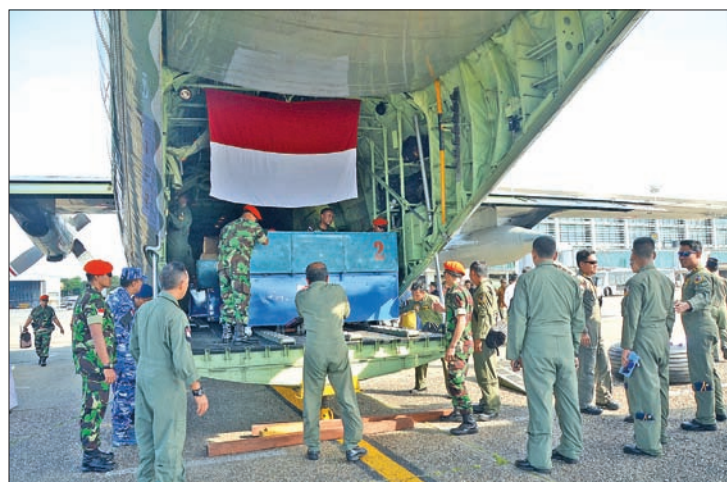
The two cargo planes carrying the aid worth more than US\$280,000 landed the airport yesterday afternoon.

Indonesia Ambassador Dr Ito Sumardi handed over the aid

to U Ko Ko Naing, Director-General of the Relief and Resettlement Department at the airport.

More aid from Indonesia are arranged to be shipped to Myanmar, according to the Indonesian embassy in Yangon.

The aid including food, medicines and tents would be delivered to the people in conflict areas in northern Rakhine in timely manner, said U Ko Ko Naing.—Zaw Gyi ■



Aid from Indonesia are unloading from the cargo plane. **PHOTO: ZAW GYI**

## Proposal for designation of Mrauk U as World Cultural Heritage Zone

News Min Htet Aung, Tin Maung Lwin

U Tun Ohn, the permanent secretary of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, said that a draft proposal asking for designation of Mrauk U as a world cultural heritage zone will be submitted in September 2018, in meeting with members of the implementation committee over suggestions on Rakhine State and responsible officials from Maungdaw district.

To initiate the preparation for designating the Mrauk U region as a world cultural heritage zone, the Rakhine State Government will spend Ks38.5 million.

"There are three kinds of heritage — cultural heritage, natural heritage and mixture heritage — culture and nature. Mixture heritage is the kind such as Inlay Lake. Mrauk is cultural heritage. So arrangements are being made to have the Mrauk U region en-



An ancient temple in Mrauk U. **PHOTO WIN MIN SOE (DISTRICT IPRD)**

listed as a world cultural heritage site. On completion of the preparation tasks, the proposal (draft) will be compiled and submitted to UNESCO in September 2018. After that, a board consisting of 21 countries in UNESCO will make a survey in Mrauk U in 2019 to decide the designation as a cultural heritage zone by voting", U Tun Ohn said,

If Mrauk U is designated as a

world cultural heritage site, data collection will be carried out for conservation of other areas in Rakhine State, it was learnt. If it can be implemented, building up an airport in Rakhine State and upgrading the tourism industry in the area will be carried out in consultation with respective ministries and, other economic enterprises and industries related to the region will develop. ■

## Senior General meets locals in N-Rakhine, receives Japanese delegation in Nay Pyi Taw

DEFENCE Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and party met and encouraged displaced ethnic nationals in Aungmyaybawdi Sasana Yeiktha in Maungtau Township yesterday.

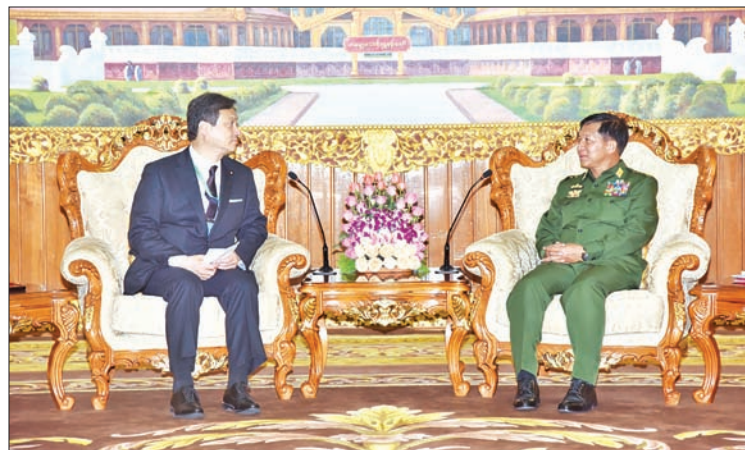
The Senior General also met with displaced villagers and teachers from Ngayechaung, Innidin, Pyatha and Taungpyo Letwe villages and volunteers in Alodawpye Monastery who shared their experiences about the terrorist acts that began on 25 August, discussed security requirements due to higher population of nearby Bengali villages, the clearing of remaining terrorists in the area, the difficulty of

livelihood, road communication, travel and construction of a firm and secure border fence.

After the meeting, the Senior General and wife cordially greeted the local populace and provided food and goods.

The Senior General and party then met separately with displaced Hindus staying in Basic Education High School Maungtau and displaced Bengali staying in Myoma Kanyintan primary school who had fled from the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) extremist terrorist attacks.

Afterwards, the Senior General and party inspected border gate 1 and then went on to meet



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing holds talks with Japan Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Iwao Horii. **PHOTO: MNA**



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets with local people in Sittway, Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MNA**

displaced villagers from nearby villages who were staying in No. 2 sub school in the 4 mile area. The Senior General and wife encouraged the villagers and provided aid.

In the afternoon, the Senior General and party met with security personnel and public servants serving in Rakhine State at U Ottama Hall, Sittway and later gave a speech at a donation ceremony for ethnic nationals who were displaced by the ARSA terrorist attacks and for construction of a border fence.

Donations included

Ks1,267.6 million for two miles of border fence by the Ayeyawaddy Foundation, Ks200 million by protection of race and religion Buddha Dhamma Parahita Foundation (central), Ks300 million by Kun Kho Ya Foundation, Ks100 million by Shwe Than Lwin Sky Net company and Ks2.5 million by Vice President U Myint Swe, wife Daw Khin Thet Htay and family. Yesterday's third donation of cash and goods totalled Ks2,277.8 million in cash, 750 bags of peas, 100 bags of rice, 100 Viss of cooking oil and goods worth Ks2.5 million.

The Senior General and par-

ty then went to Sittway Airport and met with State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu and members of the state government. Matters relating to regional security, resettling displaced ethnic nationals, resettlement of villages destroyed by fire, improving road transport and fencing the border were discussed.

Later in the day, Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Japan Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs H.E. Mr. Iwao Horii in Bayintnaung Guest House, Nay Pyi Taw.—Myanmar News Agency ■

## Displaced villagers begin to return home

By Min Htet Aung & Tin Maung Lwin

Some local nationals taking shelter at rescue camps for displaced people due to the recent terrorist attacks are starting to return to their villages as the region regains peace and stability.

There were 6,421 displaced people taking shelter at rescue camps in Maungtau on September 13, a number that has dropped to 4,736 on Wednesday. According to statistics of the Maungtau district general administration department, 1,685 were found to have gone back to their villages.

“As the region started to become peaceful and stable, some local nationals from neighbouring villages taking shelter at conventional rescue

camps are returning to their places daily.

We are supporting subsidies to the remaining ones as normal”, said U Ye Htut, Deputy Commissioner of Maungtau District General Administration Department.

Local nationals and Hindus displaced due to the 25 August terrorist attacks by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA), which has been described by the government as a terrorist group, have been accommodated at 15 camps in Maungtau—Sasana Bimman, Alotawpyae, Maungtau SHS I, Myoma Monastery, 3 mile-philanthropic camp, 4 mile, Mingyi Monastery, Train Monastery, Tamanthar, Thupanaka, Aung Zan Monastery, Kha Maung Seik (Na Kha Kha), Aung Thabyay, Taungpyo (SHS) and Long Dong. ■

## Implementation Committee on recommendations on Rakhine State holds second meeting

THE second meeting of Implementation Committee on recommendations of Advisory Commission on Rakhine State was held yesterday at Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and attended by secretary, joint secretary and members of the committee.

At the meeting, Dr Win Myat Aye, Chairman of Implementation Committee and Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement said the respective ministry had to list the priority tasks within two weeks as discussed in the first meeting.

He also stressed the needs to implement the projects in time as the report covering four months has to be released on 12th January that in the end date of four months 12 September, to immediately carry out the works that leads to the benefit of the people and peace and stability of

the country, in spite of the difficulties, to organize the people to take part as much as possible, to clarify your performances transparently, to take great care for the terrorism not to take place again, to exchange the information among the committee members and to coordinate between the ministries.

When permanent secretary of Ministry for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement as well as joint secretary for implementation committee was presenting the true situation of Maungtau area discovered by committee members, he stressed the requirement for security, to establish the industries to create the job opportunities for the local people, to set up the villages for the ethnic people, to support the necessary agricultural implementations and to issue of National Visa Card (NVC).

Deputy Minister for Bor-

der Affairs as well as secretary for implementation committee discussed the matter of urgent implementations according to finding of ground surveys, the priority implementation procedures for short term and long term are needed to sort out, to cooperate in security affair and resettlement programs.

Then, members of the committee discussed the implementation works of respective ministry according to ground surveys, priority of implementation works and necessary cooperation.

The Implementation Committee has to carry out the works for the benefit of the people and long term works for the development of the area in line with the need of ground situation in implementing the suggestion of final report of Advisory Commission and the report of Maungtau investigation committee.—Myanmar News Agency ■



France's far-right National Front (FN) leader Marine Le Pen (L) and vice-president Florian Philippot attend a FN political debate in Paris, France, on 15 November, 2016. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

## France's National Front number two quits; far-right opposition in turmoil

PARIS — The right-hand man of French National Front chief Marine Le Pen quit the party on Thursday, a split that opens the way for policy changes in the far-right party and shows the depth of internal feuding after Le Pen's presidential election defeat.

The departure of Florian Philippot, for years Le Pen's closest aide and a key architect of efforts to detox-

ify the party's image while campaigning against the euro, had looked increasingly inevitable as the party bickered over who was to blame for a damaging electoral cycle. His exit is expected to allow Le Pen to refocus on core policies around immigration and French national identity, while perhaps softening her anti-euro tone, which many say contributed to

Le Pen's resounding defeat in the presidential election run-off. While Philippot's departure is likely to increase turmoil in the party at first and others have already said they would follow him out the door, the FN has survived similar crises in the past and analysts expect it to do the same this time. Philippot is seen as too divisive within the far-right to

create a party that would be a serious threat. Le Pen, who has shown a sometimes ruthless determination to hold on to power in the National Front, having already pushed out her father Jean-Marie, the founder of the party, withdrew Philippot's responsibilities within the movement late on Wednesday, leaving him with little choice about his future. —Reuters ■

### MARRIAGE ANNOUNCEMENT

MAUNG THIHA HMU KYAW

at 6801, 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Woodside, Queens, 11377NY, USA

Son of U Kyaw Soe Lwin and Daw Nilar Sein,

AND

THONE THONE SHWE YEE WIN

at 103, Tabin Shwe Htee Road, Kyauk Taga Township, Bago Region

Daughter of U Kyi Win and Daw Khin Lay Nwe

Are Please to Announce Their Marriage on

Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2017, at Yangon Western

District Court in the Presence of district Court's Judge.

**Maung Thiha Hmu Kyaw And Thone Thone Shwe Yee Win**

### CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RAJIN VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RAJIN VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

### CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV EVER ALLY VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EVER ALLY VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

## Mexico searches for earthquake survivors against increasing odds

MEXICO CITY — Rescuers laboured against long odds into the dawn on Thursday to save a 12-year-old schoolgirl and untold other survivors who may be trapped beneath crumpled buildings in central Mexico following the country's deadliest earthquake in 32 years.

More than 50 survivors have been plucked from several disaster sites since Tuesday afternoon's 7.1-magnitude quake, leading to impassioned choruses of "Yes we can!" from the first responders, volunteers and spectators gathered around the ruins.

At least 237 others have died and 1,900 were injured.

As the odds of survival lengthened with each passing hour, officials vowed to continue with search-and-rescue efforts such as the one at a collapsed school in southern Mexico City where Navy-led rescuers could



Rescue workers search through the rubble for students at Enrique Rebsamen school after an earthquake in Mexico City, Mexico, on 20 September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

communicate with the 12-year-old girl but were still unable to dig her free.

Eleven other children were rescued from the Enrique Rebsamen School, where the students are aged roughly six to 15 but 21 students and four adults there were killed.

Rescuers previously had seen a hand protruding from the debris and the girl wiggled her fingers when

asked if she was still alive, according to broadcaster Televisa, whose cameras and reporters had special access to the scene to provide nonstop live coverage.

But some 15 hours into the effort, Admiral Jose Luis Vergara said rescuers still could not pinpoint her location.

"There's a girl alive in there, we're pretty sure of that, but we still don't know

how to get to her," Vergara told Televisa.

"The hours that have passed complicate the chances of finding alive or in good health the person who might be trapped," he said.

As Vergara spoke, a human chain of hard-hatted rescuers removed a large chunk of concrete from the floodlit scene. —Reuters ■

## St. Louis approves police body cameras ahead of more protests

ST. LOUIS — St. Louis officials decided on Wednesday to supply police officers with body cameras for a year following nearly a week of protests touched off by the acquittal of a former police officer for the shooting death of a black man. The city's Board of Estimate and

Apportionment voted 3-0 to hire Axon Enterprise Inc, a police body camera company, to supply its 1,200 officers with free software, hardware and training for a year.

The equipment would cost \$1.2 million (£0.88 million) if officials in the city of 315,000 people decided

to keep it beyond the trial year. Axon officials declined to comment.

The panel, made up of President of the Board of Aldermen Lewis Reed, Mayor Lyda Krewson and City Comptroller Darlene Green, also voted to ask other companies for estimates on supplying perma-

nent body cameras. "We needed this to heal and we need this for people to feel more confident in our police department," Reed said during the meeting that, at times, dissolved into a shouting match with residents demanding the board approve the measure. —Reuters ■

## 3,000 Thai fishermen, seafood vendors protest against EU over IUU crackdowns

BANGKOK — About 3,000 fishermen and seafood vendors on Thursday staged a protest against the European Union (EU) for continually pressing Thailand over illegal fishing activity, urging the Thai government to stop doing favours to the Europeans. The peaceful protest was organized by the Thai Fishery Association and held at the Mae Klong fish market in Samut Songkhram province, about 80 km southwest of Bangkok. It was against the EU, which has apparently exerted pressure on the Thai government over the illegal and unregulated fishing, better known as IUU, in Thai and international waters in the last two years. The protesters are mostly fishermen,

trawler crewmembers, seafood vendors, workers at Samut Songkhram fish market and businesspersons related to fishing industry. Thai Fishery Association president Mongkol Sukcharoenkhana charged that the sustained EU pressure had brought enormous trouble to Thailand's fishing industry as a whole despite the fact that most fish and seafoods produced by this country had been traded for domestic consumption rather than exported to EU member states.

Bilateral trade between Thailand and the EU amounted to some 43 billion US dollars yearly, including the exports of Thai fresh and frozen seafood products to EU member states.—Xinhua ■

## Hurricane Maria lashes Dominican Republic after direct hit on Puerto Rico

SAN JUAN, (Puerto Rico) — Hurricane Maria thrashed parts of the Dominican Republic with heavy rain and high winds as it passed near its east and north coasts on Thursday after making a direct hit on Puerto Rico that caused severe flooding and cut power to the entire island.

Maria has killed at least 10 people as it raged through the Caribbean, the second major hurricane to do so this month, and the US National Hurricane Center (NHC) said it was headed toward the Turks and Caicos Islands and the southeastern Bahamas, bringing dangerous storm surges and torrential rain.

It ripped roofs off almost all structures on the island country of Dominica, where seven people were confirmed dead. The toll is expected to climb when



Damaged electrical installations are seen after the area was hit by Hurricane Maria en Guayama, Puerto Rico, on 20 September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

searches resume at daybreak. Maria was ranked a Category 4 storm, near the top end of the five-step Saffir-Simpson scale, with sustained winds of up to 155 miles per hour (250 km per hour), when it hit Puerto Rico on Wednesday as

the strongest storm to hit the US territory in nearly 90 years. It ripped apart homes, snapped power lines and turned roadways into torrents laden with debris as it cut a diagonal swath across the island.

The entire island of 3.4

million people was under a flash flood warning early on Thursday as the storm was forecast to dump 20 to 30 inches (50 to 76 cm) of rain on much of Puerto Rico through Friday, according to the NHC.—Reuters ■

## TPP negotiators working to revise accord after US pullout

TOKYO — The chief negotiators of the 11 remaining countries of the Trans-Pacific Partnership worked Thursday to narrow down proposed freezes to parts of the original accord following the US withdrawal from the free trade deal.

The 11 countries are seeking to reach a new

agreement by November to implement the pact but member countries have made dozens of proposals for freezes to the current deal, in particular clauses introduced at US requests.

Japan is seeking to make minimal changes to the current agreement,

in hope the United States may eventually return to the TPP, Japanese sources said.

At the two-day talks in Tokyo through Friday, three working groups on legal, intellectual property and other issues are assessing various requests for freezes, such as over

a clause to preserve copyrights and trademarks.

"I hope in this meeting...we can take a big step forward towards the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit" in Viet Nam in November, Japanese chief negotiator Kazuyoshi Umemoto

said at the outset of the meeting, which was open to the media.

"I would like to once again emphasize the crucial importance of establishing...a free, multilateral trade system based upon high-standard rules in the Asia-Pacific, which really fits the 21<sup>st</sup> century,"

Umemoto said.

"It is also important to continue to pursue the possibility of the United States coming back to this framework and for that purpose it's very important to implement the TPP as early as possible," he added.—Kyodo News ■

### Partner Invitation

Ayearwon-Yadanar Highrise Housing Project, located at Dagon Seikkan Township Ward No (61 & 67), between Yadanar Road and Ayearwon Road is constructed and developed by the Department of Urban and Housing Development. The partners and investors who want cooperate for the project are invited.

Project Detail and partnership scheme can be discussed during the office hour at the site office.



Department of Urban and Housing Development  
Ministry of Construction  
Phone no. 09.5026129 , 09.448547593

## Japanese pop singer Amuro to quit showbiz in September next year

TOKYO — Japanese pop singer Namie Amuro, who has a strong fan base in Asia, said Wednesday she will quit show business in September next year.

"I, Namie Amuro, would like to take this opportunity to inform all of my fans of my decision to retire as of September 16, 2018," the 40-year-old singer of megahits such as "Can You Celebrate?" said on her website.

The surprise announcement by Amuro, who became a fashion phenomenon in the 1990s, came after she marked the 25th anniversary of her music career on Saturday and performed a commemorative concert on the weekend in her home prefecture of Okinawa.

"I could not have gone 25 years without your support, for which I am eternally grateful," she wrote on her birthday, vowing to make this year one "filled with wonderful memories for me and the fans together."

"I plan to make the last year

of my music career meaningful by focusing my full attention on creating a final album and performing at concerts," she added.

Amuro made her professional debut in 1992 as part of a group called "Super Monkey's," after which she became a solo singer in 1995.

Her performances as both a singer and dancer captivated fans in Japan and elsewhere in Asia and she eventually emerged as one of the major stars in Japan, churning out a string of hits including "Chase the Chance," "Body Feels Exit," "Don't wanna cry," and "Sweet 19 Blues."

Some of her biggest hits in the 1990s were composed by Tetsuya Komuro. "Can You Celebrate?" sold more than 2 million copies, while her first album "Sweet 19 Blues," was a huge hit, selling 3 million copies.

She also won music awards including the prestigious Japan Record Award for two years in a row and marked several mile-



Photo taken 20 September, 2017, shows albums of Japanese pop singer Namie Amuro, who said the same day she will retire from show business in September 2018. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

stones as a singer, performing overseas including in South Korea and Taiwan.

A native of Okinawa Prefecture, Amuro sang "Never End"

at a welcome reception for leaders of the Group of Eight nations at their summit in Okinawa in 2000. Clad in a miniskirt, thick-soled boots and brown dyed hair,

Amuro also became a fashion icon, creating a phenomenon known as "Amuraa," with many young girls and women copying her fashion, hairstyle and makeup.

Her popularity also paved the way for other artists from Okinawa including all-girl pop group Speed.

She married in 1997 at the peak of her career to Masaharu Maruyama, known as Sam from Japanese pop group TRF. She made a comeback the next year and performed on NHK's year-end music show.

The couple, who have a son, divorced in 2002.

Amuro went through a turbulent time when her mother was murdered in 1999.

In recent years, she expanded her fan base from people in her generation to those in their teens. Demonstrating her continued popularity, her 2008 album "Best Fiction" was a huge hit. —Kyodo News ■

## Emma Stone honed dance skills to play tennis great Billie Jean King

LOS ANGELES — Emma Stone admits she's never been a sports player, so when she was asked to play former world tennis No. 1 Billie Jean King in the movie "Battle of the Sexes," the Oscar-winning actress approached it from a different direction - dancing.

King, by contrast, who pioneered the fight for equal pay in tennis more than 40 years ago, pictured herself in Stone's position as she worked with the actress to portray her character.

"I tried to put myself in Emma's shoes. That's really taking a risk portraying someone who is still alive. I'm like, 'God, that's a little pressure,'" King said.

Stone, 28, and the 73-year-

old tennis legend became good friends while making the movie that tells the story behind King's 1973 exhibition match against former men's champion Bobby Riggs (Steve Carell) to fight sexism in the sport and society at large. It opens in US movie theatres on Friday. Stone, who won an Oscar in February for song and dance musical "La La Land," had never played tennis so her early sessions with King focussed on footwork and choreography.

"I danced, so footwork was good. (And) I had been on stage before and when Billie Jean went out onto the tennis court it felt like her stage, so she really keyed in on that," Stone said.

Later came weeks of practise on serves and cross-court backhands, but for Stone, even the simplest things were tough.

"We went to the US Open ... and I was sitting next to Billie Jean, and Sloane Stephens was catching balls and tucking them in her skirt and bouncing them with the racquet.

"It's just little in-between stuff but that took me months to learn!" Stone said.

Professional players were hired to reproduce the shots in the match against Riggs, which was watched by more than 50 million on television.

For her part, King worked for weeks with screenwriter Simon

Beaufoy recalling her experience in the early 1970s, when she not only established the break-away Women's Tennis Association and took on Riggs but also was wrestling with her own sexual identity. She came out as gay in 1981.

More than 40 years after beating Riggs, women are still fighting for equal pay and rights on and off the tennis court, not that it comes as any surprise to King.

"If you read history, you realise how slow progress is and that it's each generation's job to try and move the ball forward.

"We've come further, but we've a lot further to go," King said.—Reuters ■

## I wish I had just embraced the curls: Nicole Kidman

LONDON — Hollywood star Nicole Kidman says she regrets experimenting too much with her naturally curly hair.

The 50-year-old actor feels straightening harmed her hair, reported Elle magazine.

"I do think I shouldn't have straightened my hair as much, let it stay curly more. I wish I had just embraced the curl," Kidman says.

One hair moment the actor regrets is in 1989 movie "BMX Bandits" as Kidman feels she looked "ridiculous" in the style.

"When I did 'BMX Bandits', they put pipe cleaners in my hair because they thought it would be like a big fashion (moment).

I wish they hadn't done that to me. It was ridiculous. It did not look good." she says. —PTI ■

## Deepika is the fierce queen in 'Padmavati' first look

MUMBAI — Deepika Padukone and team "Padmavati" rang in Navratri by unveiling the first look poster of Rani Padmini from Sanjay Leela Bhansali's much awaited magnum opus.

Dressed in a traditional royal attire in the poster, Deepika, per-

sonifies the courage and power the queen of Chittor was known for.

"On the occasion of first day of Devi puja, here is the first look of Padmavati," Deepika wrote along with the poster.

Shahid, who plays Raja

Ratan Singh in the film, also shared the poster.

"The queen of Chittor, the symbol of bravery and beauty, Rani Padmavati," he wrote.

The movie is scheduled to release on December 1 and features Ranveer Singh as Alauddin

Khilji. Sharing the poster Ranveer wrote, "Malika-e-Chittor, Padmavati." The logo of the film was launched yesterday.

The period drama movie is jointly produced by Bhansali Productions and Viacom 18 Motion Pictures.—PTI ■

# Art meets democracy at Anyeint contest in honour of Myanmar Democracy Festival

Zaw Gyi

WITH final contest of eight performing troupes and presentation ceremony of the Anyeint contest at the National Theatre in Yangon, Myanmar Democracy Festival came to an end yesterday. Organized by the Ministry of Information, the traditional performance with dances and comedies is designed for developing democratic practices in the

country. "Artistes are allowed to make constructive criticisms on the weaknesses of the current government through their performance such as songs or comedies," said U Moe Di, a judge of the contest.

"We are satisfied with this kind of festival. Comedians can turn a big issue of the country to a light one with the use of artistic performance," said U Zin Waing, a judge of the contest.

Among the spectators at the final day of the contest were Daw Khaing Nwe Oo, wife of Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint, U Phyo Min Thein, Yangon Region Chief Minister, and U Myint Htwe, Director-General of the Myanma Radio and Television. Anyeint contest is shown to public free of charge and Yangon Region Government provided free ferry services to the people. ■



Eight Anyeint troupes compete in the final contest, making constructive criticisms for the transition period of Myanmar. Photos are taken by Zaw Gyi.



Dignitaries enjoy the contest of Anyeint troupes. PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY

## Yoko Ono won't let it be, forces 'John Lemon' drink to re-brand

LONDON —It wasn't exactly instant karma when Beatle John Lennon's widow, Yoko Ono, heard about a Polish beverage company's new drink called "John Lemon".

She threatened legal action alleging that it infringed on the trademark of her late husband.

The company has now agreed to change its drink's name to "On Lemon", after lawyers acting for Ono wrote to distributors warning they faced costs of up to 5,000 euros (\$5,998) a day and 500 euros for every bottle sold if they infringed the trademark.

Lawyers acting for the beverage firm denied it had infringed the late star's rights,



PHOTO: REUTERS

but Ono's lawyers pointed to a Facebook post from John Lennon Ireland, which featured an

image of the iconic singer.

Other marketing materials included the brand's logo next to the words "let it be" and a pair of round glasses, both closely associated with Lennon.

John Lemon's lawyers also said that pointed out that their EU trademark had been registered in 2014, two years earlier than the John Lennon trademark was registered in 2016.

Karol Chamera, the founder of Mr Lemonade Alternative Drinks which distributed the John Lemon beverage in the UK told the East London Advertiser newspaper: "all of us involved with this product are startups and we couldn't take on someone who is worth many, many millions.—Reuters ■

## Fashion doesn't need to kill animals - British designer MacDonald

LONDON — British fashion designer Julien MacDonald has apologised for using fur in his past collections - raising a hot topic that returned to rock London Fashion Week.

He spoke to Reuters days after dozens of anti-fur activists disrupted British fashion house Burberry's show at the event and heckled celebrities including rapper Stormzy and model Naomi Campbell as they arrived. "As a young designer I did use a lot of fur and do you know what, I think you should perhaps try not to," MacDonald said late on Monday. "You

know what? It was my mistake. I was young. I am sorry. I apologise."

Earlier in the day, he showcased his own collection - a mix of glamorous and revealing gowns displayed by some big names, including former Victoria's Secret model Alessandra Ambrosio.

There was no fur in sight. "You do not need to kill animals to wear nice clothes," he said.

There was also no fur on show at Burberry's London event, but the label does sell items made from fox and racoon fur. —Reuters ■

## Real Madrid stunned by last-gasp Sanabria header for Betis

MADRID — Real Madrid suffered a shock 1-0 home defeat to Real Betis on Wednesday as an inspired performance from their former goalkeeper Antonio Adan and a stoppage-time winner from Antonio Sanabria stunned the Liga champions.

Sanabria had an effort disallowed for offside in the final minute of normal time, but rose highest to head in a 94th-minute winner to secure a memorable backs-to-the-wall victory for Quique Setien's side.

The defeat leaves Real Madrid without a win in their three home La Liga games this season and in seventh place in the table, seven points behind leaders Barcelona, who beat Eibar 6-1 on Tuesday, their fifth straight win.

Atletico Madrid continued their undefeated start to the season with a 2-1 victory away to Athletic Bilbao on Wednesday to move up to third, while Sevilla's 1-0 triumph at home to Las Palmas left the Andalusian outfit second on 13 points.

With Real Madrid having equalled Brazilian outfit Santos's 54-year-old record of scoring in 73 consecutive games last time out against Real Sociedad, all the talk before kickoff was of the attacking prowess of Zinedine Zidane's side.

It was the visitors, however, who should have taken the lead as Sanabria saw an effort spectacularly cleared off the line after two minutes. —Reuters ■

## Temporary head coach chosen for Myanmar U19 football team

KyawZin Lin

The Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) has already selected a temporary local head coach and team officials for managing the Myanmar U-19 national football team said MFF according to a MFF strategy committee meeting held on Monday.

By the decision reached at the meeting, the following appointments were announced: U Tin Myint Aung as team manager, former City Yangon FC Coach U Chit Naing as temporary Head Coach, U Minn Thu as Assistant Coach and U Sai Maung Maung Oo as Goal Keeper Coach and U Moe Wai Aung as Secretary of the team. The Myanmar U-19 national football team is mainly comprised of players from the Myanmar U-18 team who participated in the 2017 AFF U-18 Youth Championship hosted in



Former City Yangon FC Coach U Chit Naing who is now acting as temporary Head Coach of U-19 of national football team seen with 2017 MNL-2 Cup. **PHOTO:MFF**

Yangon, Myanmar recently.

Local temporary Coach U Chit Naing will manage the

team in upcoming Group G matches of AFC U-19 Championship Qualification that will

be hosted in Phnom Penh, Cambodia from 4 to 8 November. ■

## MNF Cup 2017 to be played in Singapore

Kyaw Zin Lin

The Myanmar Nationalities Friendship (MNF) Cup 2017 will be played in Singapore from 7 October to 4 November with a total of eight teams.

The eight teams will be in two groups, A and B, and will play in a round robin format, according to the MNF. Group A will consist of Chinland FC,

Paoh FC, Monland FC, and Bamar United. Kandarawaddy FC, Arakan FC, Kachin United FC and Karen United will comprise Group B.

In first-round matches on 7 October, Chinland FC will meet Paoh FC, Kandarawaddy FC will play Arakan FC, Monland FC will match up with Bamar United and Kachin United FC will battle

Karen United.

In second-round matches on 14 October, Chinland FC will play Monland FC, Kandarawaddy FC will meet Kachin United FC, Paoh FC will play Bamar FC and Arakan FC will play Karen United.

In third-round matches on 21 October, Chinland FC will play Bamar United, Kandarawaddy FC will meet Karen

United, Paoh FC will play Monland United and Arakan FC will play Kachin United FC.

The first and second-round matches will be played at the Rainforest Hub and The Cage Stadium, respectively.

The semifinal matches will be played on 28 October and the final match on 4 November at NTU Stadium in Singapore. ■



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