

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IV, No. 89, 7th Waning of Waso 1379 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Saturday, 15 July 2017



Independent journalists tour Buthidaung, Maungtaw

Journalists representing local and foreign media visited Tinmay Village, Buthidaung Township yesterday, gathering information on the aftermath of the deadly 9 October attacks on border patrol outposts that killed nine police officers and sparked months of security clearance operations. The reporters arrived in Rakhine State on Wednesday and will leave tomorrow. **PHOTO: MNA**



NATIONAL
State Counsellor accepts credentials from Chief of Mission of IOM in Myanmar

PAGE-3



NATIONAL
Greening efforts for dry zone to be stepped up

PAGE-3



NATIONAL
Digital Economy Development Committee held

PAGE-2

Myanmar to join Paris accord

Hluttaw approves inclusion in climate change agreement

By Kyaw Thu Htet & Mi Mi Phyo (MNA)

MYANMAR will become a member of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and another international environmental organisation dedicated to mitigate global warming.

U Ohn Win, Union Minister for Natural Resources and En-

vironmental Conservation, has proposed for Myanmar to become a member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), a move that would provide benefits for the country in preserving its natural resources.

The proposal to join the IUCN was made in yesterday's meeting of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in Nay Pyi Taw, with U Nay Htet Win of Sinbaungwe constituency, U Zarni Min of Shwegu constituency and Dr. Aung Khin of Pyin Oo Lwin constituency supporting the action.

There were no objections against the proposal and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker announced the agreement of the hluttaw for Myanmar to become

a member of IUCN and to pay its annual fee.


Dr. San Shwe Win of Yekyi constituency, U Myint Lwin of Twantay constituency, Dr. Daw Khin Sithu of Loikaw, Daw Mi Kun Chan of Paung constituency and Dr. Aung Khin of Pyin Oo Lwin constituency then discussed

SEE PAGE-3



LOCAL BUSINESS
UMFCCI to submit suggestion to improve Myanmar's economy in coming 12 months

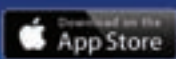
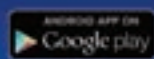
PAGE-5



SO SIMPLE, SO EASY

KBZ mBANKING

AVAILABLE ON



KBZ BANK

STRENGTH OF MYANMAR

01-2306219

VP U Myint Swe attends opening of upgraded school in Taungtha

A SCHOOL upgraded from the basic to middle level at Yabe Village in Taungtha, Myingyan District, was inaugurated yesterday, with the presence of Vice President U Myint Swe.

Speaking at the ceremony to formally open the Basic Education Middle School, Vice President U Myint Swe expressed the government's commitment to all-round development of the country, giving priority to the education sector.

He also expressed his hope that the school would produce the intellectuals and intelligentsia for the country.

The school's signboard was unveiled by Chairman of

the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Bharmo Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivumsa, Vice President U Myint Swe, Chief Minister of Mandalay Region Dr Zaw Myint Maung and regional ministers.

Following the ceremony, Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Bharmo Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivumsa donated K5 million to the school; chairman of the Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association K50 million; Shwe Thanlwin Co K5 million and wellwishers exercise books and stationery to the school.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Vice President U Myint Swe and Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Bharmo Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kumara Bhivumsa unveil the Basic Education Middle School's signboard at Yabe Village in Taungtha, Myingyan. **PHOTO: MNA**

Action to be taken inevitably against those who don't comply with Sangha Committee's decisions

Organisation for protection of race and religion, also known as Ma Ba Tha is to take down Ma Ba Tha signboards nationwide by 15th July and if not done, action will be taken according to civil law to uphold the dignity of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and for national stability and peace it is learnt.

At the Seventh State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee's 47-member special meeting held on 15 July 2013 a decision was made that groups such as Ma Ba Tha, 969, Sangha Network Group and Patriotic Sangha Union were not permitted to be formed.

The statement of the Ministry of Religious Affairs said that organizations which formed illegally can cause diverse opinions on religions and nationalism and unnecessary conflicts.

At the Seventh State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee's 47-member special meeting held on 14 July 2016, organisation for protection of race and religion (Ma Ba Tha) was decided as an organization that was not formed in accordance with basic Sangha organizational principles, rules and regulations.

Therefore, Ma Ba Tha and its associate Sangha or laymen associations are not legal organizations.

At the Seventh State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee's 47-member special meeting held on 23 May 2017 a decision was made for individuals and organization using the name of Ma Ba Tha to cease all activities, take

down Ma Ba Tha signboards nationwide by 15th July and if not done, action to be taken according to civil law.

In the afternoon of 23 May 2017, Chairman Sayadawgyi and Vice Chairman Sayadaw of Ma Ba Tha had signed an agreement in the presence of State Ovadacariya (Patron) Committee members inclusive of the committee chairman Bharmo Sayadaw to abide by the decision of State Sangha Maha Nayaka and to inform other member sayadaws of Ma Ba Tha.

While countrywide Ma Ba Tha groups were abiding by the decision, Kayin State, Hpa-an and Mandalay city Ma Ba Tha were found to fail to abide by the decision.

Sayadaws and majority of the Members of the Sangha have agreed that orders and instructions of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee should be as the Power of the Buddha's teaching, said the statement.

Majority of the Members of the Sangha are willing and majority of the peoples are demanding to take action against those who do not follow the instructions of the State Maha Nayaka Committee.

Bharmo Sayadaw, Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, clarified the situation to the highly respected Sayadaws in the country, and Hpaauk Tawra Sayadaw and Tipitaka Yaw Sayadaw released their request letters to the Members of the Sangha.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Digital Economy Development Committee held

U Henry Van Thio, Vice President addressed the digital economy development committee meeting 1/2017 held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Planning and Finance in Nay Pyi Taw at 9 am yesterday and said that efforts have been made to upgrade the national economy and so as to economically compete with countries in the regions under the economic policy of Myanmar.

Vice President added, "Digital Economy Development Committee was formed with the intention of performing the tasks of effective and successful implementation of national economic policies, provision of governmental supports for the successful emergence of digital economy in the country, development of other economic sectors based on digital economy, development of social affairs, education, health and economy by the use of digital technology, creating Myanmar as a digital

hub of ASEAN region by upgrading better economic environment and digital technology. Likewise the digital economies of global countries have been implemented by laying down objectives in their respective years.

The Vice President went on to say, "In building up digital economy by upgrading all the national sectors into digital economy, as the first stage efforts are required to be made to upgrade needs of Myanmar's economic infrastructure, to change rules, regulations and policies, to upgrade human resources, to get work and monetary resources and to create better economic environment. As the second stage, getting advices from international leading technological companies and cooperating with them, inviting international investments, trying to transfer technologies from international companies, performing emergence of in-

ventions in the country, encouraging the emergence of startup companies and planning to make national income by basically building up digital economy so that the country can become a digital hub of ASEAN region in a designated period of time."

Afterwards, U Kyaw Win, Union Minister for Planning and Finance, and chairman of digital economy development committee clarified as regards the digital economic development.

U Kyaw Myo, Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications, Permanent Secretaries, Directors-General and professionals from private sectors in their respective sectors also attended the meeting

Finally, U Henry Van Thio, Vice President, patron of digital economy development committee gave advice regarding the clarifications presented at the meeting. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Vice President U Henry Van Thio delivers speech at the digital economy development committee meeting at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Planning and Finance in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**



“We cannot bank our hopes on possibilities. We must put our trust in ourselves, in our capabilities and efforts and strength and preparations not only for our success but even to avoid our own defeat.

(Excerpt from the Presidential Address made by Bogyoke Aung San at AFPFL Supreme Council Session, August 1946)



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi holds talks with Mr. Akio Nakayama, newly appointed Chief of Mission of International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

State Counsellor accepts credentials from Chief of Mission of IOM in Myanmar

State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi received Mr. Akio Nakayama, newly appointed Chief of Mission of International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Myanmar and accepted his credentials at 10:00 hours on 14 July 2017 at

the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they discussed issues relating to the impact of migration, providing technical assistance, and current and future cooperation between Myanmar and IOM.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Greening efforts for dry zone to be stepped up

Vice President U Myint Swe visited the Shwepontaung area greening project in Chauk Township yesterday, calling for stepping up efforts for greening in the dry zone in central Myanmar.

After hearing reports on greening efforts by the Dry Zone Greening Department, the Vice President has urged them to accelerate their efforts focusing on areas with least forest cover in

four districts in Sagaing Region, four districts in Magway Region and five districts in Mandalay Region.

“Besides, it is needed to promote use of wood-substitute fuel in regions,” said U Myint Swe.

He also stressed the need to promote raising awareness about natural disasters and environmental conservation among the local peoples.

Shwepontaung greening area has 12,379 acres and is located besides the Chauk-Nyaung-U Road and on the eastern bank of the Ayeyawady River.

Currently, more than 282,000 Neem trees and 6,600 hardwood trees have been grown with water supplied from the Ayeyawady River.— Myanmar News Agency ■



Vice President U Myint Swe inspects the Shwepontaung area greening project in Chauk. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar to join Paris accord

FROM PAGE-1

whether Myanmar should become a member of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win proposed the matter for hluttaw approval while Dr. San Shwe Win of Yekyi constituency supported the proposal.

The Hluttaw then decided to agree on Myanmar becoming a member of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

The Paris Agreement lays out commitments for nations to limit their greenhouse-gas emissions and contain the impact of global warming.

Also in yesterday's meeting, the appointment of state and regional ministers for security and border affairs was sent to the hluttaw by the President and was put on record, a bill to amend the Myanmar stamp act sent by union government was submitted to the hluttaw, a joint bill review committee's report was read and an announcement made

for hluttaw representative who want to discuss the bill to enroll their names.

Furthermore, a bill on amending the government's Aung Bar Lay lottery was submitted, a bill on inland water transport was sent with the President's remark, a bill on the Myanmar Territorial Sea and Maritime Zone, and an artisan oil well bill were debated paragraph by paragraph and discussion and confirmation for Myanmar ratifying the Doha Amendment of Kyoto Protocol on climate change was made. ■



U Zarni Min. **PHOTO: MNA**

GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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

Kyaw Myaing

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

Kyaw Zeya Win @ Phoe Khwar

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

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



Union Minister U Ohn Win delivers a speech at 54th Gem Emporium Central Committee meeting.

PHOTO: MNA

54th Gem Emporium Central Committee holds meeting

THE 54th Gem Emporium Central Committee held a meeting yesterday afternoon at Mani Yadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw.

First, Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win said the coming gem emporium will sell gem lots in an open bid system with foreign currency and is the third held by the

incumbent government. Work committees formed are urged to organise a gem emporium of international standard without any flaws in the exhibition works, said the Union Minister.

Responsible persons from management committee, jade work committee, gems work committee, security committee, financial work committee and Myanmar Gems and Jew-

ellery Entrepreneurs Association discussed the jade and gems lot selling programme, work that needs to be done prior to the emporium, and receipt of jade lots and other relevant matters.

Departmental officials then discussed related sectors, with Union Minister U Ohn Win who made coordination remark and gave concluding speech.— Myanmar News Agency ■

About 70,000 books to be sold to mark Martyrs' Day

ABOUT 70,000 books will be sold for the 70th anniversary of Martyrs' Day at the Yangon Book Plaza from 19 to 26 July, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

"The book will sell between Ks 200 and Ks 500 per book. There are many types of books such as novels, poems, stories, translations, comic and cartoons. The Yangon Book Plaza is offering a discount price for those who want to buy the books for their family and for donation. The Yangon Book Plaza is selling the books at a discount with an aim to inspire Myanmar literature and lift the position of Myanmar books in the world to the next level", said a responsible person from the Yangon Book Plaza.

At the book festival, the books which are to be sold from Ks 200 and Ks 500 are only old books. Recently published books will also be sold at a special discount price.— GNLM ■

Myanma Insurance pays Ks1million for each passenger killed in accident of YBS buses

MYANMA Insurance yesterday paid a third-party liability insurance payment to the families of the 10 passengers killed in an accident involving two YBS.

U Khin Maung Win, the general manager of Myanma Insurance, paid Ks1 million each to the families of ten victims of the accidents through Yangon Re-

gion Transport Authority in the presence of Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein.

In addition to the deceased passengers, Myanma Insurance is also planning to make a liability payment to 20 injured passengers as soon as possible, after presenting the medical report of the related hospitals.

At about 2 pm on 7 July, a YBS 55 bus broke a tie rod and slammed into a YBS 37 bus on the other side of the road, resulting in the death of ten passengers and injuries to 20 others, according to Yangon Region Transport Authority (YRTA). The accident occurred near the old Shwenyaungbin Bo Bo Gyi Nat

shrine in Pyinmabin village tract on Yangon-Pyay Road.

The owners of vehicles are required to purchase a Third Party Liability Insurance Policy when they renew their vehicle registration every year. This allowed for the survivors of the victims in the accidents to receive payment.—Su Hnin Lae ■

Aquatic production training centre to be included in a new Myanmar Aquarium

THE Myanmar Fisheries Department will construct an aquatic production training centre at the new Myanmar Aquarium site, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

The training centre will be built at the Myanmar Aquarium because there is no other place to teach aquatic pro-

duction businesses and it is a business that has potential of developing rapidly, officials said.

Construction of the Myanmar Aquarium is about 75 per cent complete, officials said.

The Myanmar aquarium is expected to open by the middle of 2018.

To construct the aquatic production training centre, the construction company Myanmar Aquariums and the Myanmar Fisheries Department are presently holding discussions. Estimated cost of the project is over US\$ 30 million.

The new international aquarium will showcase both saltwater and freshwater fish.

The new Myanmar Aquarium is being constructed on Natmauk Road by the Royal Lake in Yangon.

The construction of the Myanmar Aquarium was started in 2014.

Myanmar Aquariums won the tender from the department of fisheries to build the Myanmar Aquarium.—GNLM ■

UMFCCI to submit suggestion to improve Myanmar's economy in coming 12 months

By May Thet Hnin

IN an attempt to improve Myanmar's economy in 12 months, Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and its associate members will submit suggestions to the State in the first week of August, said U Ye Min Aung, the vice president of UMFCCI.

The representatives engaged in different industries need to put forward the suggestions about country's economy to UMFCCI by 27 July in a bid to have a smooth flow in businesses. The suggestions include amendment of some facts on the custom duty and taxes and minimising office procedures and the barriers in businesses", said U Ye Min Aung.

"The government's smart intervention is needed because some businesses are required to control with regulation whereas some need deregulation. We need to focus on the stability of a macro economy in order to control the exchange rate and inflation by laying down monetary policy and



A farmer ploughs with a small machine on a field in Dala, Yangon on 2 June 2017. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH

fiscal policy. It is of vital importance that we need to analyse the strengths and weaknesses of the country and have to exert efforts to promote international trade", he added.

"At the current period, Myanmar's economy is lagging behind. We will make suggestions regarding loan access to small and medium enterprises, infra-

structural development, control over soaring price of land, reduction of tax, invitation to foreign investors to create import substitute industries, combating illicit trade, establishment of laboratories which meet international criteria and creation of new gateway to more international countries", he continued.

"We need to develop a mas-

ter plan by laying down policy or drawing strategy on income from export products — agro products like rice, various peas, sesame seeds, fishery products, mineral products, etc. We need to assign appropriate duties to private sectors but the government needs to encourage the private sector financially and technically with strong policy and smart inter-

vention. Sometimes, trade has become much easier through Government-to-Government (G to G) agreement", said U Ye Min Aung.

The Union of Myanmar Travel Association discussed the difficulties faced in the tourism sector; different points of view between the government and private sectors and granting of visa-on-arrival for more countries at a recent meeting held at UMFCCI, said U Thet Lwin Toe, the president of this association.

A tourism marketing strategy will be drawn up in August by the aforementioned association to enhance the tourism sector. A summit meeting for development of the tourism sector is slated to be held in the coming months.

As a step to improve the country's economy, an SME forum will be held on 29 July. Those engaged in the SME industry and economic experts will tackle the problems encountered in the industry. Additionally, an Export Promotion Forum is reportedly to be held in August. ■

Foreign Direct Investment survey to be conducted

By May Thet Hnin

ONE-hundred companies will be surveyed in order to compile foreign direct investment (FDI) data, said U San Myint, Deputy Director-General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

"During this Fiscal Year, the survey will be initially carried out with 100 companies in cooperation with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). In the coming years, we will conduct a survey of more companies. Firstly, we will try to build relations with companies through an e-commerce programme", said U San Myint.

"At present, awareness campaigns for the FDI Pilot Survey and FDI data compilation and dissemination are being conducted to the staff of Myanmar Investment Com-

mission (MIC) and the related ministries. We have prepared for questionnaire form and data input", he added.

"We will conduct a campaign to educate 100 companies selected for survey in September or October before starting operation", he continued.

Conducting the survey will help compile FDI data and realise the growth of FDI. It will also contribute to economic policy and investment policy, said U San Myint.

"MIC is conducting an inspection tour to the enterprises permitted by MIC and action is also taken against unscrupulous companies if they failed to adhere to MIC's prescribed rules and regulation", said U San Myint. In order to invest in Myanmar, investment proposals are required to be submitted to MIC. MIC will grant a permit only after the ministries con-

cerned screened and verified these proposals.

MIC announced 10 prioritised sectors for investment — agriculture and related services, value-added production of agricultural products, livestock production, breeding and production of fishery products, export promotion industries, import substitution industries, the power sector, logistic industries, education services, the health care industry, construction of affordable housing and establishment of industrial estate. The MIC will plan to approve the investment proposals for these prioritised sectors as soon as possible.

"The MIC has been revising investment promotion plans with the assistance of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and this plan is expected to finalise soon", said U San Myint. ■



Available @

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

သတင်းစာများကို ဤဆိုင်များတွင်ဝယ်ယူဖတ်ရှုနိုင်ပါပြီ

- Market Place by City Mart (6.5 Mile)
- Market Place by City Mart (Damasidi Road)
- City Mart (Aung San Stadium)
- City Mart (47th street)
- City Mart (Yankin)
- City Mart (China Town)
- City Mart (Myay Ni Gone)
- City Mart (FMI)
- City Mart (Junction Square)
- City Mart (Junction Maw Tin)
- City Mart (Sule Square)
- City Mart (Star City - Thanlyin)
- City Mart (Waizayandar)
- City Mart (Hledan)
- City Mart (Myanmar Plaza)
- Ocean North Point (9 mile)
- Ocean Shwegonedine

Ocean City Supercenter City Mart Supermarket

CCTV cameras

—ever-watching-eye for Yangon security

By Htin Paw Win (Kamayut)



PHOTO: TIN SOE (MMAL)



CCTV cameras have become parts of security in Yangon where population has increased year by year. In recent years, they were mostly installed at restaurants and supermarkets but now it has been used even at homes, streets and other places for ensuring security. Government offices, residential areas and public places use the cameras for their securities.

It can be said generally that the more the people, the greater the number of crimes. The imbalance between security personnel and the population make harder for the lawmen to get their eyes on every evildoer. People come to realize that such problems can be solved partly by the CCTVs and thus its role became greater and are widely used.

A good example of using CCTVs is at U Tun Linn Chan Street in Kamayut Township ward 1. Chairman of the Street Development Committee Ko Han Min Zaw alias Ko Htay explained the benefit of using such device. He said, "For the security of our family members residing in our street, CCTV cameras are installed both

on the street as well as in the back alley. Sometimes, township police officers asked to review the image. They work 24 hours and the images are clear. At the Dhammaryon in the street, a server is erected to watch from the security booth through 32-inch-TV. We have made arrangements to watch the camera one way or the other to make sure that not a single image is missed."

As a CCTV camera costs just 30000 kyat for medium-size and 60000 kyat for large-size it is very reasonable for the users. Out of the six downtown townships in Yangon, some townships install the camera in every street. Township police office monitor the cameras to provide security service to the public.

In case of breaking out of fire in Yangon, not only the fire-

fighters on the scene but also the responsible persons from the fire central control station can monitor the whole event and thus they can provide assistance as necessary.

At traffic lights, cameras are installed to monitor traffic flow, indiscriminate driving and other incident for public safety.

Regarding installation of CCTV cameras in Kamayut township, Township Police Chief Officer Thein Han said, "Kamayut is a township home to over 80000 people and it is organized with 10 wards. As the population is dense and the wards are wide, we need to adjust the strength of our force and the rate of crimes. Frankly speaking, the crime rate is higher than other townships in the West District formed with 13 townships. Moreover, people with different backgrounds are residing in the township, it becomes the hunting ground for burglars and pickpockets. Therefore, it is important to install CCTV cameras in the township. This help monitor the prospect of crimes in the township better than assigning one policeman at a place where crimes happen. As cameras can record every detail of a scene, we can trace back the events and exposed the offenders. If a policeman is assigned to watch a scene, he is not able to watch 24 hours but a camera can record the event, 75 percent of the crimes can be exposed."

As regards the budget of using the camera, the police officer said that if they get Ks 10 million from the government, Ks 1 million was allotted for each ward and based on this fund the respective ward installed cameras on their own. "The cameras help us a lot. First, We installed 18 cameras and now we have made arrangements to install another 10 at the places where crimes are expected and this can be said that safety of the people have been carried out for 75 %," he said.

It is hope that the role of the ever-watching-eye will be enhanced for public security in our country.—Translated by Wallace ■

Role of ever-watching-eye enhanced public security

PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAR



Yangon, a place of high cost of living

By Thun Wathan

Yangon was ranked 67th at the list of the Cost of Living Ranking for 2017 according to the data provided by MERCER, the leading provider of data on cost of living and housing for employees. Last year, when the economic opportunities were blooming, MERCER's 22nd Cost of Living 2016 showed that Myanmar stood at the 39th place and thus it can be said that the rank slid a little.

MERCER Global is the leading provider of data on cost of living and housing for employees sent to work abroad. As part of the ongoing research, MERCER produces these annual rankings of the cost of living in more than 200 of the most prevalent assignment destinations for expatriate employees. The rankings demonstrate how currency fluctuation and shifts in the prices of goods and ser-

vices can affect the purchasing power of expatriate employees. Multinational companies rely on MERCER for timely and accurate information to compensate their skilled professionals who take on international assignments.

A housing estate developer in Hong Kong praised MERCER's works as the most reliable data which ranks Luanda, the capital of Angola, top at the most expensive city list followed by Hong Kong, Tokyo, Zurich, Singapore, Seoul, Geneva, Shanghai, New York and Bern.

MERCER compiled the data by asking many people including entrepreneurs, experts and residents who have contacts with it. The data issued on 21 June described facts about over 200 cities and Myanmar stands at 67th place of 209 cities together with Bangkok of Thailand and Santiago of Chile.

Market City Yangon

By Maung Maung Htwe

People dub Yangon "Economic Hub", but in my eyes, I see Yangon as a market city.

Most of the ground floors in the six downtown townships in Yangon are shops, and most of the houses on the main streets in suburb area are running business of shop cum residential house.

But it is very rare view to see a big stall of a businessman who expands his business from a small shop to a big one. Most of the shops are struggling to survive.

Why? The answer is most of the shop owners in Yangon are weak in the art of commerce.

I will show you an example. I studied two teashops near a train station. I visited the first shop almost every day while I was waiting for the train but I have to wait for several minutes after ordering a cup of tea. One day, as usual, I sat down at a table, ordered a cup of tea and then wait. At that time the tea sommelier was talking to his friend and his focus was not on me and thus I left the shop at

once and never went again there. The second shop is also situated near the station. But the taste of the tea is not the taste of the tea and the appearance is dirty.

A thought came into my mind that if they do their business with high creative mind and deal the people with good attitude most of the train catchers will be their customers.

The same is the fruit vendor who sells fruits on our street. He sold me who is his daily customer a nearly decayed durian with the same price of the good ones. When I got back home I prepared to eat it but it was in no position to have and I threw it into the dustbin.

A group selling durian by car shouting "Thandaung durian" also sold me a durian with just three or four segments at a cost of three thousand kyat. From then on, I decided to buy Malaysian or Thai durians.

I had an experience of buying a fish with the price of five thousand kyat believing the good talk of the vendor as she said it is a delicious one but in reality it was

just an ordinary fish.

Nowadays, food with expiry date are revoked or destroyed and actions have been taken against the sellers but the unscrupulous persons brazenly lie their customers and kick them out. I remembered the story of a boy in the book named "Thardu is insolent" written by famous writer Thardu. The writer portrayed a dirty boy who was also the writer in his childhood, who after playing football and visiting famous department store in Yangon. The guard barred him from entering into the stores as he thought that boy was a shoplifter. Angrily the boy went straight to the manager and made complaints. The British manager patiently listened to the boy's complaints and he himself sold what the boy wanted. And he dressed down the guard after seeing the boy off apologizing the boy, who was at that time under British rule.

The British manager also said, "Come again, you are more than welcome."—Translated by Wallace ■



Street vendor selling fruits to tourist. PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAR



A woman sells lottery with vehicle. PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAR

Pay Attention to Freedom of Speech

By Khin Maung Oo

In the transitional period, every individual wants freedom of expression. After getting freedom of speech, what we want to say can be done verbally or in writing through print media. In the past, legal action was rarely taken if their sayings or writings were found to be untrue, apart from being sued for libel. Now true news and information with circumstantial evidence can be expressed freely. This can be said to be one of the benefits of democracy.

At such a time when information technology is rapidly developing, we are having freedom of speech and expression more than ever; through social media, added to verbal speeches and print media. In fact, any accusations and

criticism need to be proved true and should be accurate.

Instead, unsubstantiated speeches and criticisms which had been done verbally or in writing may not be severely harmful for their deeds, but it was found that legal actions were taken against those who posted similar information on social website pages such as Facebook. That is none other than suing individuals who exercise freedom of expression, under the Myanmar Telecommunications Act. In many cases, for those who have been sued under this act, judges rarely grant bail. In this case, the accused has to spend a long time in jail during the trial process.

The above said Telecommunications Act which was enacted on 8th October 2013, intended to control inter-

national telecommunications enterprises which came to operate in Myanmar. But later those who spread news and criticisms through social website pages were sued under section 66(D).

It should be possible to take legal action against violators in a just and fair way in accordance with an enacted law, as prescribed by the law. In case the public claims that the law does not comply with justice and fairness—essence of law, the law is required to be amended in accord with legal procedures. Thus, very recently the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw issued a bill to amend the Telecommunications Act.

The bill includes 6 amendments, including 66(D) mostly criticized among the people. In amending a law, probably there will be advantages and disadvan-

tages in the bill. It was just a bill presented for the public to study beforehand and suggest. We must support advantages of the law, and simultaneously we are responsible to criticize, and point out any disadvantages found in the bill.

At the present time, the Myanmar Telecommunications Act should be the one which can arrest a violator of the law in just and fair ways. At the same time, it needs to be the one which will not harm civil rights and development of news media freedom. Whatever it is, a law must be amended if it does not meet the needs of the current situation any longer. As for the citizens, we firmly believe that we are required to be prudent about our speeches and deeds, so as not to encounter any problems with the law. ■

Sayagyi U Razak

A Patriot, A Visionary & A Dedicated Teacher

By Nyi Nyi

B.Sc.(Hons)., Ph.D.(London). D.I.C

Six decades ago, we lost our beloved leader Bogyoke Aung San and his close colleagues in the assassination on 19 July 1917. It deprived the nation of a corps of leaders who would have provided wise and strong leadership in newly independent Burma in various spheres of life. Starting with the turmoil soon after independence, the impact of the loss is still being felt today. It was a tragic loss to the families, the nation and its citizens.

As a fellow educationist, I would like to write on the grievous loss of Sayagyi U Razak, a selfless patriot, a visionary of the future needs of the country and a dedicated teacher of repute who made the ultimate sacrifice together with Bogyoke Aung San. As the Principal (in those days known as Superintendent) of the Central National High School of Mandalay, he trained and nurtured generations of students to be patriotic, to love, appreciate and be proud of being a Burmese and proficient and excel in the areas of study they pursued. His school produced the greatest number of national and local leaders (including several Cabinet ministers) civil and military leaders, diplomats, scientists, sportsmen, artists, writers and journalists. To parents and the community, he was the headmaster

of all students in Mandalay and Upper Burma/Myanmar. During the Resistance, in which he participated, he was unanimously elected president of the Mandalay Division of the Anti-Fascist Organisation (A.I.O. and also later of the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League (A.F.P.F.L.), its successor national front.

Some western writers referred to him as a muslim politician. While it is true that he was a muslim, it would be more appropriate to describe him as a national and regional leader whose faith was Islam.

Bogyoke Aung San was a secularist leader and he chose his team based on merit, regional representation and experience. He regarded religion as a private faith. He did not adopt Buddhism as a state religion despite the urging by some leaders, but a religion practiced by the majority of the people. Sayagyi was, in fact, proposed for inclusion in the cabinet as the representative of Upper Burma/Myanmar by the Buddhist sanghas of Mandalay.

Sayagyi was a secularist but felt young people need to respect and learn their religion and its teaching for its

moral values and also as part of the national culture.

Every morning, he would make rounds of the school, after school assembly to ensure that all Buddhist students attend their prayers and religious lessons. Mandalay is, of course, the epicenter of the Buddhist faith and most students were Buddhists.

Parents and later students themselves when they grew older, appreciated Sayagyi's stewardship in giving them their cultural roots.

U Razak, born in Mandalay in 1898 was popularly known as "Sayagyi" in Mandalay and Upper Burma/Myanmar. His mother was Daw Nyein Hla, a Burmese Buddhist from Meikhtila and his father, Mr Sheik Abdul Rahman (also known as U Tun) was an Inspector of Police. His brothers (U Ba Kyu, U Ba Kyaw, U Ba Mu and U Ba Than) and sisters (Daw Yan and Daw Thein Thein) were all Buddhists. He retained his foreign sounding name, Razak, on the advice of his mentors that there was nothing wrong in retaining the name honouring his father.

Despite being in Senior B.A. class in Rangoon (and later University) Col-

lege in 1920, on the verge of graduation, he joined the University Strike of 1920 as the students's demand for alleviating the restrictions imposed by the new University was rejected by the authorities. While the nationalist leaders felt the need for more highly-educated people in the country to meet the growing needs and also to prepare for the home rule of the country, the authorities were; promoting an elitist approach, placing several hurdles including the prohibitive cost due to the compulsory requirement of all students to stay in the hostels, thus limiting each year's intake.

He refused the offer of the government after the strike to join the police force at a senior level. Instead, he completed his formal degree at the National University and joined the newly-emerged national education movement whose schools could not even pay the salary regularly. But the movement enabled more students to be enrolled, and it reinvigorated Burmese/Myanmar studies, promoted Burmese/Myanmar culture and instilled patriotism and nationalism to all its students, making them to be proud to be Burmese/Myanmar again. He became the Principal and a teacher of Mandalay Central National High School, one of the two biggest national schools in the country.

SEE PAGE-9



French National Day held in Yangon

Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi and Daw San San Yu was welcomed by Mr. Olivier Richard, Ambassador of France at the ceremony in commemoration of the Anniversary of the National Day of France was held at 6:30 p.m. at the Novotal Yangon Max Hotel in Yangon on 14 July. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

Human Rights Rapporteur holds talks with Myanmar Human Rights Commission

An UN delegation led by Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar Ms. Yanghee Lee held a meeting with members of the Myanmar Human Rights Commission in Yangon yesterday.

Following the meeting, she went to Lashio by air and met with local authorities.



Ms. Yanghee Lee meets with members of the Myanmar Human Rights Commission in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

At the meeting, she looked into the regional security, freedom of press, security for the internally displaced persons, regional development and land

mines clearance work in Shan State.

In the evening, she visited Laship Prison.—Myanmar News Agency

FDA to support technical and mechanical assistance to test dye in green tea

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will provide technical assistance and machinery to local green tea sellers who are selling green tea in which dye is added, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

Some of the green tea traders are using yellow dye that is prohibited by the FDA. The FDA

is providing technical and mechanical assistance to conduct tests on the spot.

“The yellow dye mostly found in green tea is not fit for human consumption. The green tea traders want technical assistance and machinery from the FDA”, said Dr. Tun Lin Aung, the deputy director of FDA.

The FDA will sell the test tube machinery to the local green tea traders. The FDA will also demonstrate how the machinery should be used and handled. Moreover, the FDA will give an FDA certificate after the green tea traders test their product with the proper machinery.—GNLM ■

Sayagyi U Razak

FROM PAGE-8

He taught English and Pali, the classical language of Buddhism. Recognising the importance of English in colonial times and when the country attain its independence, and also to refute the reputation that national schools were weak in English, he enacted a rule that all students must spoke in English except in the Burmese/Myanmar and Pali classes. His knowledge of Pali was also profound and came in useful during the Second World War when he could explain the young novices and monks in Mingun studying the Buddhist scriptures of what they were learning as Sayagyi and his family took refuge in a monastery in Mingun.

Sayagyi also believed in the need for a well-rounded education, promoting the physical development of the young people –

his favourite sports being boxing, nurturing the future champion, Tiger Ba Nyein amongst others. He also established a boxing club and hired a professional coach to teach the techniques of boxing and sportsmanship systematically as one of his ambitions was to train his students to fight against the authority figures (like police, military, etc.) in the arena of a boxing ring – instilling the spirit of standing up against the authorities when required, and the practice of a fair fight.

He also founded the Yedat, a volunteer corps for paramilitary training in preparation for a future armed struggle for national liberation. It was an inspiring sight to watch him in uniform leading his corps in parades. His students were later found to be at the core of successive military establishments, such as BIA: Bur-

ma Independence Army, BDA: Burma Defence Army and BNA: Burma National Army. They also provided the leadership in the Resistance in many areas in Upper Burma/Myanmar against the Japanese later.

A major achievement during his short tenure as the Minister of Education was to lay the foundation and start the process of establishing a future University in Mandalay. He entrusted the project to U Ko Lay, the future Vice Chancellor of the University of Mandalay to start higher learning in Mandalay without further delay even if not all the bricks were in place. He adopted the principle of not allowing “the best be the enemy of the good”, Sayagyi U Razak and Sayagyi U Ko Lay were the tow architects of the first University for Upper Burma Myanmar, providing access to higher learning to the northern half of the country with its roots in Mandalay, the centre of national culture.

Sayagyi was loved and respected by his students, their parents and the community as a whole. They loved him for his integrity and sacrifice, fairness and generosity, kindness and care, foresight and leadership, and inspiration. And not least, they also remember the cane to instill discipline. I was with Dr Kaung Zan, one of Sayagyi’s students, in London in the 1950’s doing our graduate work in the same college, Imperial College of Science and Technology (at the time, medicine had not yet been added). Dr Kaung Zan was doing research in plant pathology and he became Chief Agriculture Research Officer in Burma/Myanmar. He later joined the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in the Philippines, serving in several duty stations around the world. Whenever we reminisced in the college about our younger days, two persons would invariably dominate his observations, Sayagyi and his

(Dr Kaung Zan’s) future wife, Thet Thet. He attributed his achievements to the training and discipline instilled by his Sayagyi. Sayagyi was a leader of man with a vision for the future. He foresaw what would be needed in a newly independent country and started preparing its young people for it. Alas, the good die young. He was only 49 when he died. ■

The author is former Professor of Geology, Director of Universities, Permanent Secretary of Education, Deputy Minister of Education, Minister of Mines and Ambassador to Australia and New Zealand. He later joined UNICEF as its Director of Programmes. On his retirement, he served as Clinical Professor of Public Health in the Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine and also as a member of the Board of Directors in several international non-profit organizations.

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

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

WORLD
BRIEFS

US asks nations to provide more traveller data or face sanctions

WASHINGTON — The US State Department will require all nations to provide extensive data to help it vet visa applicants and determine whether a traveller poses a terrorist threat, according to a cable obtained by Reuters.

Countries that fail to comply with the new protocols or take steps to do so within 50 days could face travel sanctions.

The cable, sent to all US diplomatic posts on Wednesday, is a summary of a worldwide review of vetting procedures that was required under US President Donald Trump's revised 6 March executive order that temporarily banned US travel by most citizens from six predominantly Muslim countries.

The memo lays out a series of standards the United States will require of other countries, including that they issue, or have active plans to issue, electronic passports and regularly report lost and stolen passports to INTERPOL.

It also directs nations to provide "any other identity information" requested by Washington for US visa applicants, including biometric or biographic details.

The cable sets out requirements for countries to provide data on individuals it knows or has grounds to believe are ter-



Passengers arrive at Terminal 4 of JFK airport after US President Donald Trump's limited travel ban was approved by the US Supreme Court, in New York City, US, on 29 June 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

rorists as well as criminal record information.

Further, countries are asked not to block the transfer of information about US-bound travellers to the US government and not to designate people for travel watchlists based solely on their political or religious beliefs.

"This is the first time that the US Government is setting standards for the information that is required from all countries specifically in support of immigration and traveller vet-

ting," the cable said.

The new requirements are the latest in a series of steps the Trump administration says it is taking to better protect the United States from terrorist attack.

However, former officials said much of the information sought is routinely shared between countries, including examples of passports and additional details about particular travellers that may present security concerns.

Some US allies may wor-

ry about privacy protections if Washington is seen as seeking information beyond what is already shared, said John Sandweg, a former senior Homeland Security Department official now with the firm Frontier Solutions.

"I don't think you can ignore the political aspects of the unpopularity of the current administration. That puts political pressure to stand up to the administration," he said.

—Reuters ■

Former US President
Carter hospitalized
over dehydration in
Canada

WINNIPEG, (Manitoba) — Former US President Jimmy Carter was receiving hospital care on Thursday after becoming dehydrated at a charity house-building project in Canada, but he is doing "OK," Habitat for Humanity said.

Carter, 92, became unsteady at the construction site and slumped away from his work area to a chair, according to eyewitnesses, who said he was working for more than an hour on steps of the home, using a drill. Several workers helped him to sit, and he was later taken away by ambulance.—Reuters ■

Five Egyptian
security men killed in
checkpoint attack

CAIRO — At least five security men were killed on Friday when militants opened fire randomly in a checkpoint in Egyptian province of Giza, an interior ministry source said.

"Two policemen and three recruits were immediately killed after an attack with guns on their fixed checkpoint in Badrasheen district, south-west Cairo," official news agency MENA quoted the security source as saying. —Xinhua ■

Police officer killed,
five injured in N
Afghan clash

TALUQAN, (Afghanistan) — One police officer was killed and five police personnel were wounded in a clash in Afghanistan's northern province of Takhar overnight, provincial police spokesman said Friday.

"The clash flared up in Bagh-e-Yaran locality of Dasht-e-Qala district late Thursday night after Taliban militants attacked a police patrol in the area," spokesman Khalil Asir told Xinhua. One police vehicle was also damaged, the official said, adding that militants also suffered casualties during the fighting, but their number could not be exactly specified as they evacuated their casualties after the clash. —Xinhua ■

Britain takes step towards Brexit with repeal bill

LONDON — Britain published legislation on Thursday to sever political, financial and legal ties with the European Union, an important step towards Brexit but one which the opposition said it would challenge.

The repeal bill is central to the government's plan to exit the EU in 2019, disentangling Britain from more than 40 years of EU lawmaking on everything from finance to fisheries and repealing the treaty that first made Britain a member in 1972.

Its passage through parliament could make or break Theresa May's future as prime minister. The election she called last month cost her an outright parliamentary majority and re-

opened the debate on the nature of Brexit, with Britain's public spending watchdog now saying the government is not well prepared.

"It is one of the most significant pieces of legislation that has ever passed through parliament and is a major milestone in the process of our withdrawal from the European Union," Brexit minister David Davis said in a statement.

The government also fleshed out its negotiating stance with the EU, publishing three position papers which underlined that Britain would quit nuclear body Euratom and leave the jurisdiction of the European Court of Justice.

May faces a battle even within her own Conservative Party to stick to her plan of a clean break. Pro-Brexit lawmakers will give her little room for movement, while pro-Europeans are looking to soften the divorce terms.

Rebellion by either side could derail the legislation and test May's ability to negotiate a compromise or find support from opposition parties. If she fails, her position could swiftly become untenable.

The publication of the bill is the first step in a long legislative process to ease Brexit, which is stretching the government with the sheer volume of issues to cover.

A report by the govern-

ment's spending watchdog said Britain's planned new customs system, essential to smooth trade, might not be ready in time for Brexit, adding to a list of concerns over the government's plans.

"We have been clear from the outset that we are putting the resources in place, have got the resources in place that we need to deliver on Brexit," May's spokesman told reporters.

The parliament has yet to set a date to debate the bill, which will be closely examined to see how the government plans to carry out the difficult and time-consuming technical exercise of transposing EU law. —Reuters ■

Three Israelis wounded in shooting near Jerusalem holy site, gunmen dead — police

JERUSALEM — Three gunmen opened fire at police near Jerusalem's holiest site on Friday, wounding three Israelis, two of them critically, before the attackers were killed by security forces, Israeli police said.

The gunmen arrived at the sacred site, known to Muslims as the Noble Sanctuary and to Jews as Temple Mount, and walked towards one of the Old City gates nearby, police spokeswoman Luba Simri said.

"When they saw policemen they shot towards them and then escaped towards one of the mosques in the Temple Mount compound," Simri said. "A chase ensued and the three terrorists were killed by police."

She said three firearms were found on their bodies.

Mobile phone video footage aired by Israeli media showed several policemen chasing a man and shooting him down at the site, which is a popular place for foreign tourists to visit. Israeli authorities are still working to identify the attackers, police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said.

There was no immediate comment from Palestinian of-



Israeli border policemen secure the area near the scene of the shooting attack, in Jerusalem's Old City on 14 July, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

ficials.

The Israeli ambulance service Magen David Adom said three Israelis were wounded, two critically.

Tensions are often high

around the marble-and-stone compound that houses the Aqsa Mosque and the golden Dome of the Rock. It is managed by Jordanian authorities and is adjacent to the Western Wall,

the holiest site where Jews are permitted to pray.

Police said Friday prayers for Muslims would not be held at the site following the attack.

A wave of Palestinian street

attacks that began in 2015 has slowed but not stopped. At least 255 Palestinians and one Jordanian citizen have been killed since the violence began.

Israel says at least 173 of those killed were carrying out attacks while others died in clashes and protests. Thirty-eight Israelis, two US tourists and a British student have been killed in stabbings, shootings and car-rammings.

Israel annexed East Jerusalem, where the Old City and the holy compound are located, after the 1967 Middle East war and regards all of Jerusalem as its capital, a move that is not recognised internationally.

Palestinians want East Jerusalem as the capital of the state they want to establish in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Israel blames the wave of violence on incitement by the Palestinian leadership. The Palestinian Authority, which exercises limited self-rule in the West Bank, says desperation over the occupation is the main driver.

The last, US-led attempt to broker peace between the Israelis and Palestinians broke down in 2014.—Reuters ■

Iraq faces pockets of Islamic State resistance in Mosul's Old City

MOSUL — Iraqi forces still faced pockets of resistance from Islamic State in Mosul's Old City on Friday, four days after the prime minister declared victory.

Iraqi army helicopters flew overhead and explosions could be heard, residents said, while videos of alleged revenge attacks against people detained during the retaking of Mosul underlined future security challenges.

"Three mortars landed on our district," a resident of Faysaliya, in east Mosul, just across the Tigris river, said by telephone.

A few hundred Islamic State fighters swept into Mosul three years ago and imposed a reign of terror after the Iraqi army collapsed.

Iraq's victory in Mosul

marked the biggest defeat for Islamic State, which is under siege in the Syrian city of Raqqa, its operational base.

Even though the group's caliphate is crumbling, it is expected to revert to an insurgency and keep carrying out attacks in the West and Middle East.

Securing long-term peace in Iraq will not be easy.

Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi faces the challenge of preventing revenge killings that could create more instability, along with sectarian tensions and ethnic strife that have dogged Iraq since a US-led invasion toppled Saddam Hussein in 2003.

On Thursday, Human Rights Watch said it had used satellite imagery to verify that a video published on Facebook on



Destroyed buildings from clashes are seen in the Old City of Mosul, Iraq, on 10 July, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Tuesday, showing armed men in military uniforms beating a detainee before throwing him from a height and then shooting at him, had been filmed in west Mosul.

The footage shows the men shooting at the body of another man already lying at the bottom

of the perch. Reuters could not independently verify the footage.

Iraq's joint operations command, said that the allegations were being looked at closely and if any violations were found, those responsible would be held accountable. It also said that

the videos could have been fabricated. Three other videos posted this week by the same account appear to show members of various Iraqi security forces beating men wearing ordinary clothes. Reuters could not independently verify the footage.—Reuters ■

Defence, euro zone centre stage for Franco-German alliance as Brexit looms

PARIS — France and Germany set out plans to make fighter jets together and tighten euro zone cooperation on Thursday as the European Union's two biggest economies look to life beyond Brexit.

Speaking after a joint meeting of their cabinet ministers in Paris, the first since this year's French presidential and parliamentary elections, Chancellor Angela Merkel and President Emmanuel Macron also flagged their aim to harmonise taxes within the EU and develop a coherent digital strategy for the bloc.

"I believe that we have shown shortly after the new government here was installed that we are ready to activate Franco-German relations with a new impetus," Merkel told reporters at a joint news conference.

Most of what the pair announced went over old ground, but the plans to develop Europe's next generation of fighter planes together could shape the future of the European fighter industry and its three existing programmes — Eurofighter, France's Rafale and Sweden's Gripen.

It also comes as Britain's decision to leave the European Union changes the balance of interests for a country that is both a key defence industry player and a military power.

France and Germany said their new combat system, which analysts say could involve a mixture of manned and unmanned aircraft, would replace



French President Emmanuel Macron welcomes German Chancellor Angela Merkel as she arrives to attend a Franco-German joint cabinet meeting at the Elysee Palace in Paris, France, on 13 July 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

both the Rafale and the Eurofighter.

That marks the end of a decades-long split which saw France withdraw from the Eurofighter project in the 1980s to produce its own Rafale warplane under Dassault Aviation. The two aircraft compete fiercely for global sales.

"It is a sign to the British. It means 'you are leaving the EU and we are driving forward. We are no longer interested in you blocking the EU on defence'," a senior German defence industry official told Reuters.

The deal could push Britain further towards co-operation with the United States where London-listed BAE Systems,

also part of the Eurofighter programme, helps Lockheed Martin make the F-35.

Tighter cooperation in the euro zone currency bloc was also flagged by the leaders — continuing a theme running through the core members of the European Union since Britain's vote to leave shook its foundations just over a year ago.

"We agreed we must stabilise the euro zone and develop it further; that a standstill is always close to going backwards so we need some dynamism," Merkel said.

Concrete steps in the direction of tax harmonisation would, however, be required to make

real progress on that integration, and neither leader gave any real details on progress.

France and Germany have long pushed for convergence in the way taxes are calculated in the euro zone, but have made little progress even agreeing among each other.

German business newspaper Handelsblatt nevertheless said finance ministers from both countries would present a roadmap by mid-September on the subject.

The plan would be finalised by December and could then be adopted next year, Handelsblatt added, citing sources involved in the negotiations.—Reuters ■

High-speed Hyperloop project ready for key test in Nevada

CARSON CITY, (Nevada) — Engineers will soon conduct a crucial test of a futuristic technology championed by entrepreneur Elon Musk that seeks to revolutionize transportation by sending passengers and cargo packed into pods through an intercity system of vacuum tubes.

Hyperloop One, the Los-Angeles-based company developing the technology, is gearing up to send a 28-foot-long (8.5 meter-long) pod hurtling down a set of tracks in a test run in Nevada in the next few weeks, spokeswoman Marcy Simon said.

Hyperloop One is working to develop a technical vision proposed by Musk, the founder of rocket maker SpaceX and electric car company Tesla Motors.

In 2013, he suggested sending pods with passengers through giant vacuum tubes between Los Angeles and San Francisco. Hyperloop aims to achieve speeds of 250 mph (402 km/h) in its upcoming phase of testing.

As it gears up for that experiment, the company on Wednesday released the results from a 12 May test in the Nevada desert. A Hyperloop One sled on wheels for the first time coasted above a track using magnets, Simon said.—Reuters ■

Five hurt in acid attack robberies in London, teenager arrested

LONDON — British police arrested a teenager on Friday after five acid attacks in less than 90 minutes across east London left several people with facial burns, including one with horrific injuries.

Two assailants on a moped pulled up alongside a 32-year-old man in the Hackney area of east London at 2125 GMT on Thursday and threw acid in his face before one of the pair made off with the victim's moped.

In the next hour and a half, three other men across Hackney and one in the neighboring

borough of Islington had corrosive substances hurled at them, police said.

After one of the robberies in Hackney, a man was left with facial injuries described by police as life-changing.

"A male in his teens has been arrested on suspicion of grievous bodily harm and robbery," the London police service said. "He is currently in custody at an east London police station."

Metropolitan Police Commissioner Cressida Dick said that while still relatively rare,

the number of acid attacks appeared to have risen in the capital.

"I don't want people to think that this is happening all over London all of the time - it's really not, but we are concerned because the numbers appear to be going up," Dick told the LBC radio station in an interview.

"Acid attacks are completely barbaric," Dick said. "The acid can cause horrendous injuries. The ones last night involved a series of robberies we believe are linked."—Reuters ■



Emergency response following acid attack on the junction of Hackney Road junction with Queensbridge Road, London, Britain, on 13 July 2017 in seen in this picture obtained from social media. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Euro zone trade booms in May, EU-Russia commerce surges

BRUSSELS — Euro zone's trade boomed in May with both exports and imports of goods to the rest of the world growing markedly, in a new sign that global commerce was in good health.

The European Union, the world's main trader, also saw its trade increase with all its main partners, with a surge of exchanges with Russia despite economic sanctions on Moscow. The European Union statistics office Eurostat said on Friday the 19-country currency area in May exported goods worth 189.6 billion euros (167.08 billion pounds) to the rest of the world, an increase by 12.9 per cent on the year.

Imports also grew yearly by 16.4 per cent for a total volume of 168.1 billion euros, according to data not adjusted for seasonal factors.



Containers are pictured at a loading terminal in the port of Kiel, Germany, on 25 January 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Both figures were the second highest ever-recorded for the euro zone after the peak reached in March when exports were above 200 billion euros and imports stood at 176 billion euros.

The faster growth of imports compared to exports slightly reduced the bloc's trade surplus which stood at 21.4 billion euros in May, lower than the 23.4 billion surplus recorded in May 2016.

Commerce among the 19 euro zone states also increased by 15.3 per cent in May on a yearly basis, for a volume of 162.4 billion euros of traded goods.

The European Union as a whole also recorded

a 15.9 per cent surge of exports to the rest of the world in May year-on-year and a 17.2 per cent increase of imports, Eurostat said.

The 28-country bloc expanded its trade with all its main partners in the

period between January and May, with exports to the United States rising on the year 6.6 per cent and to China 20.3 per cent, while imports increased respectively 4.0 and 6.8 per cent.

The highest increases were recorded with Russia, which overtook Switzerland as the third main source of imports for the EU.

Despite western economic sanctions imposed after Russia's annexation of Crimea in 2014, EU exports to Russia grew 24.6 per cent between January and May, driven by manufactured goods and machinery, while imports, composed principally of oil and gas, surged by 37.6 per cent.

As a result, EU trade deficit with Russia expanded in May to 29.5 billion euros from 18.9 billions the year earlier.—Reuters ■

EasyJet sets up new airline in Austria to protect flights post Brexit

LONDON — British budget airline easyJet said on Friday it would establish a new airline in Austria to protect its flying rights in the European Union once Britain leaves the bloc.

The new airline, easyJet Europe, will be headquartered in Vienna. The budget airline must have a licence and an air operator's certificate (AOC) in an EU member to allow it to continue flying between and within EU countries after Brexit. The new airline licence in Austria will protect these flights regardless of what happens in negotiations over the status of flights between Britain and the EU after Britain leaves the bloc in March 2019. "The accreditation process is now well advanced and easyJet hopes to receive the AOC and licence in the near future," easyJet said in a statement. EasyJet is headquartered in Luton, 30 miles north of London, and said jobs there would

be unaffected. The airline already has a Swiss licence and AOC. Lufthansa also selected an Austrian operating licence for its budget unit Eurowings. Lufthansa management drew criticism from German unions for the move which they viewed as a way of avoiding more expensive German labour contracts.

EasyJet said it had selected Austria because of its strict implementation of European safety regulations and the fact that it should be able to handle large numbers of planes thanks to its experience with other major airlines.

The move will create jobs in Vienna, easyJet said, and Austria welcomed the airline's decision.

"The quality of the country won in competition with 27 other European countries, not tax dumping. The better one won, not the cheaper one," Austrian Chancellor Christian Kern said in a statement.—Reuters ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV DYNAMIC OCEAN 27 VOY. NO (27)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DYNAMIC OCEAN 27 VOY. NO (27) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of BSW-1 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 RK SHIPPING & TRADING
PTE LTD.

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV SENTOSA STAR VOY. NO (1711)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SENTOSA STAR VOY. NO (1711) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S BLPL SHIPPING LINE
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV OCEAN PEARL VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV OCEAN PEARL VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MIPL 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 COMET SHIPPING & CHARTERING LTD.
Phone No: 2301928

Marriage

Deri Trigg & Sundee Soe-Naung

The marriage took place on 6th July 2017, at Mayfair Library, Central London, between,

Deri
Son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Trigg of Grays,
Essex and
Sundee

Only daughter of U Soe Naung and
Daw Khyn Thu Lwyn of Yarm-in-Cleveland.

Winter comes to Westeros with dose of revenge in new 'Game of Thrones'

LOS ANGELES — After six seasons of warring families, countless deaths and mounting menace, winter has finally come to Westeros in HBO's hit fantasy series "Game of Thrones", bringing with it an army of the undead and some long pent-up revenge.

Emmy-winning "Game of Thrones" debuted the first episode of the seventh season at a lavish premiere in downtown Los Angeles on Wednesday at the Walt Disney Concert Hall, which was lit up with projections of dragons, fire and ice for the occasion.

The new season sees the show's lead characters with nothing left to lose after they sacrificed families, children, innocence, dignity and even their lives, in the case of the resurrected Jon Snow.

The stakes are high as they head towards a great war that will determine who will sit on the Iron Throne and rule over the Seven Kingdoms of Westeros, while the zombie army of White Walkers advances towards them, threatening mankind's destruction.



Cast member Kit Harington poses at a premiere for season 7 of the television series "Game of Thrones" in Los Angeles, California, US, on 12 July 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

The theme of revenge is set early in the new episode, titled "Dragonstone," as one character warns "if one wolf survives, the sheep are never safe."

Guests were asked not to reveal any more details of the

plot until the episode's Sunday debut on HBO, though spoilers have already started to appear online.

Actress Sophie Turner said her character Sansa Stark, who evolved from a young captive into

a stoical leader, has to grapple with "new-found power."

"She has no idea how to kind of absorb that and take on that role because she's never worked like that," Turner told Reuters TV on the red carpet.

"Game of Thrones," based on George R.R. Martin's "A Song of Ice and Fire" books, follows the epic story of a multi-generational struggle for control of the Iron Throne.

It is the most-watched show on cable network HBO, averaging around 25 million viewers last season, which saw the women of Westeros rise up and seize power.

It left Cersei Lannister (Lena Headey) sitting on the Iron Throne in King's Landing, her brother Jamie at her side, both struggling with the deaths of their children.

Daenerys Targaryen (Emilia Clarke) was last seen sailing towards King's Landing with Tyrion Lannister, her army and dragons to reclaim her ancestral home. Arya (Maisie Williams) had just killed the man who murdered her family, while Sansa sat alongside Jon Snow as rulers of the North.

The saga will conclude with its eighth season next year, and a series of spin-offs is being developed—Reuters ■

'Westworld,' 'SNL' lead 2017 Emmy list packed with new TV shows

LOS ANGELES — Sci-fi drama "Westworld" and satirical sketch show "Saturday Night Live" led Emmy award nominations on Thursday with 22 apiece in a list stuffed with new contenders that reflected a booming era for television.

With reigning Emmy champ "Game of Thrones" ineligible this year for the highest honors in television after it moved its seventh season to this summer, the door opened to five new shows vying for the top prize of best drama series.

The crowded race includes British royal series "The Crown" and supernatural mystery "Stranger Things," both on Netflix; Hulu's breakout dystopian women's series "The Handmaid's Tale" starring best actress nominee Elisabeth Moss; and NBC's emotional family drama "This Is Us."

Peter Morgan, creator of "The Crown," said he was

"chuffed, thrilled, proud, honored!" at the show's 13 nominations.

Television Academy Chairman Hayma Washington noted the "explosive growth" in television, where more than 400 scripted shows vie for attention across streaming, cable and broadcast networks.

"The creativity and excellence in presenting great storytelling and characters across a multitude of ever-expanding entertainment platforms is staggering," Washington said in a statement.

The nomination for "This Is Us," which also received acting nods for stars Milo Ventimiglia, Sterling K. Brown and Chrissy Metz, make the show the first from one of the four leading US broadcast networks to enter the Emmy drama series contest since CBS's "The Good Wife" in 2011. —Reuters ■

I like rewards more than awards: Salman Khan

NEW YORK — Bollywood actor Salman Khan has never been a favourite at award shows but the superstar has no complains as he said he prefers performing at such ceremonies over receiving an honour.

"I have never won an award. I have got some supporting actor award. I like rewards more than awards," Salman told reporters here at the International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) awards press conference last evening.

The actor recalled a time when a magazine editor had called him to attend an award show as he was nominated for "Maine Pyar Kiya".

"I was nominated alongside Jackie Shroff and others. The moment my name was announced, I stood up to receive the award but it went to Jackie. I don't go and receive awards, I just go and perform."

The actor joked that even though he was not the best dancer, organisers are always ready to pay him a fat cheque.

"Even after such bad performances, they (organisers) are paying me for it. I am more than happy doing it. It's like I am get-



PHOTO: PTI

ting money for standing there," he said.

The "Dabangg" actor, who is set to perform at IIFA 2017, said it will turn out to be an incredible and fabulous experience this time.

"Thank you for all the love and support. And if I can get my act correct, which I always get after the concert, I promise IIFA will be fabulous and incredible. It will be the best IIFA ever."

Salman also took the opportunity to wish his former girlfriend, actress Katrina Kaif, who was also present during the

event. The actress will celebrate her 34th birthday on 16 July.

"I don't remember the dates (of the IIFA award show) the only date I remember is 16 July and that is Katrina Kaif's birthday. Let us sing for her right now... 'Happy birthday to Katrina'. The best thing is to wish someone like this," Salman said as he hugged Katrina. Shahid Kapoor, Alia Bhatt, Varun Dhawan, Kriti Sanon, Sushant Singh Rajput, Anupam Kher, Nawazuddin Siddiqui and cricketer-singer Dwayne Bravo were also in attendance at the press meet.—PTI ■

At least 10 hurt in Pamplona's final bull run of 2017



Runners fall in front of bulls during the eighth running of the bulls at the San Fermin festival in Pamplona, northern Spain, on 14 July 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

PAMPLONA, (Spain) — At least 10 people were hurt at Pamplona's final bull run of 2017, though no one was gored as runners, many wearing traditional white shirts with red neckties, raced through the narrow city streets chased by a dozen bulls and

steers. Around 2,000 people a day take part in the centuries-old tradition, in which especially-bred animals are released from their pen to stampede through a 875-metre stretch of the city to the bull ring as runners attempt to dodge

out of their way. Made famous internationally by Ernest Hemingway's novel "The Sun Also Rises", the Pamplona bull run is the largest of many similar local events throughout Spain. The bull run on Friday, the last of eight runs which start every day at 8 am from 7 July to 14 July, included bulls from the Miura ranch and was the fastest this year at 2 minutes, 10 seconds. Once the morning run is over, the bulls face off with matadors in the city's bull ring in the afternoon.—Reuters ■

US astronaut Armstrong's moon bag to fetch up to \$4 million at auction

NEW YORK — The long-lost bag used by US astronaut Neil Armstrong to bring back to Earth the first samples of moon dust is expected to sell for up to \$4 million (3.09 million pounds) when it is auctioned with other space memorabilia next week in New York City.

The sale at international art auction house Sotheby's also features the Apollo 13 flight plan annotated by its crew, a spacesuit worn by US astronaut Gus Grissom, and lunar photographs taken by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

The auction will be held on 20 July, the 48th anniversary of the first moon landing, and organizers hope it will draw large crowds.

"It (space) is one of few subjects that I think are not culturally specific. It doesn't matter your religion, where you're from, what language you speak," Cassandra Hatton, a vice president and senior specialist at Sotheby's, said on Wednesday. "We all have the common experience of staring up at the sky and wondering what's going on amongst the stars."

The fate of the bag,

which measures 12 inches by 8.5 inches and is labelled "Lunar Sample Return", was unknown for decades after Armstrong and his Apollo 11 crew came home in July 1969.

For years it sat in a box, unidentified, at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Hatton said.

It ultimately surfaced in the garage of the manager of a Kansas museum, Max Ary, who was convicted of its theft in 2014, according to court records.

The bag was seized by the US Marshals Service which put it up for auction three times, drawing no bids, until it was bought in 2015 for \$995 by a Chicago-area attorney, Nancy Lee Carlson.

She sent the bag to NASA for authentication, and when tests revealed it was used by Armstrong and still had moon dust traces inside, the US space agency decided to keep it.

Carlson successfully sued NASA to get the bag back, and the attention created by her legal challenge prompted many inquiries from potential buyers, according to Sotheby's. That led Carlson to decide to auction it again.—Reuters ■

mitv Myanmar International Programme Schedule

(15-7-2017 07:00am - 16-7-2017 07:00am) MST

07:03	Am	News
07:26	Am	Great Shwedagon - The Architectural Heritage
07:53	Am	My Life & My Art
08:03	Am	News
08:27	Am	Winkabar Festival
08:50	Am	Laser Cutting and Engraving
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	A Novitiation Ceremony in a Rural Township
09:52	Am	General Aung San Museum
10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	Next Generation "Saw Noel (Violinist)"
10:35	Am	Oboist and His Life
10:55	Am	Doctor Painter

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

Prime Time

07:03	Pm	News
07:27	Pm	Cruising To Precious Islands (Part-2)
07:53	Pm	Today Myanmar: Water Hyacinths
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	Myanmar National Poet And Literary Icon; Prolific Writer of Poems & Prose - Min Thu Wun (Ep-2) Student Life & Early Literary Career
08:51	Pm	Myanmar Masterclass: ARTIST SOE HNIN AUNG

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

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

MRTV

Programme Schedule
(15-7-2017, Saturday)

6:00 Am	◆ Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw	2:15 Pm	◆ TV Drama Series
7:00 Am	◆ Breakfast News	5:05 Pm	◆ Documentary (ASEAN)
7:35 Am	◆ Weekly Sport	5:20 Pm	◆ NHK Programme "The World of Flowering Plants" (Plants that Move)
8:35 Am	◆ Pan Pyo Khin (Part-19)	5:45 Pm	◆ Documentary
9:10 Am	◆ Documentary	6:20 Pm	◆ Go For Gold (Taekwondo)
9:35 Am	◆ World of Innovation	6:35 Pm	◆ Tasty Trip
10:30 Am	◆ Documentary	7:15 Pm	◆ TV Deama Series
10:50 Am	◆ Poem for Children	8:00 Pm	◆ News/ International News/ Weather Report
11:00 Am	◆ Health and Vegetables	8:30 Pm	◆ Peace Music Festival (Myitkyina)
11:35 Am	◆ Game for Children	◆ Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competition	
12:30 Pm	◆ TV Drama Series		
1:45 Pm	◆ Talk on Old Film		

Myanmar to play Australia in U-15 Championship

Myanmar's U-15 team will play the Australian U-15 squad in the fourth match of the 2017 AFF U-15 Championship's Group (A) in Thailand today.

Myanmar has 7 points and is in second place, Thailand is leading with 9 points, Australia has 6 points, Laos 3 points and Singapore 0 points.

Because Myanmar and Australia are close in point totals and high in the standings, today's match is a decisive match for both teams.

The first and second-place teams from Group (A) and Group (B) will play in the semi-finals.

Myanmar also has to play host Thailand on 15 July. — Shine Htet Zaw ■



Myanmar U-15 players seen before a match. PHOTO: MFF

Ceballos joins Real from Betis on six-year contract

MADRID — Spain under-21 midfielder Dani Ceballos has signed a six-year contract to join Real Madrid from Real Betis, the European champions said on Friday.

The 20-year-old was named player of the tournament at the European under-21 Championship this year. Financial terms were not disclosed.

"Real Madrid... and Real Betis... have agreed the transfer of Dani Ceballos, who has signed a six-year contract with the club," Madrid said in a statement. —Reuters ■

Mayweather and McGregor circus hits the Big Apple

NEW YORK — The Floyd Mayweather Jr. and Conor McGregor world media tour stormed into New York on Thursday with the fighters unleashing more profanity-laced attacks on each other as they looked to build up interest in their light middle-weight boxing bout.

On the third stop of four-day, four-city barnstorming blitz to promote their 26 August Las Vegas clash, the witty barbs that characterised their exchanges Los Angeles and Toronto were replaced by what appeared to be real venom.

Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) champion McGregor traded in the stylish suits he wore on the previous two legs of the tour for psychedelic pants and a furry white coat worn over a bare, tattooed chest.

He strutted imperiously onto the Barclays Centre stage to an Irish ballad and thunderous applause before flexing his muscles, striking poses and rattling off a dance step or two as he waited for the undefeated boxer.

It looked for a moment as if the circus was going to take a turn for the worse when McGregor, who addressed the 40-year-old Mayweather as "boy" in Toronto, let a howling crowd know he did not take the charges of racism seriously.

"A lot of media have said



Floyd Mayweather and Conor McGregor during a world tour press conference to promote the upcoming Mayweather vs McGregor boxing fight at Barclays Center, Brooklyn, NY, USA, on 13 July 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

I am against black people, that's absolutely ... ridiculous," McGregor roared.

The Irishman, who at times during the earlier stops had appeared to get under Mayweather's skin, had no such luck in Brooklyn, where the American ignored the jibes and took selfies while McGregor barked in

his ear.

McGregor is expected to be the aggressor in the ring against the former five-division world champion to make up for his lack of boxing experience and has played that role throughout the tour, which wraps up on Friday with a stop in London.

Famous for his knock-

out power in the MMA cage, McGregor managed only glancing blows on Thursday as Mayweather, widely regarded as one of the best defensive fighters of all-time, side-stepped and returned fired by dubbing McGregor a quitter.

"(He) didn't quit once, (he) didn't quit twice, (he) quit three

time," Mayweather screamed with another volley of profanity, referring to McGregor tapping out in his three career defeats.

While boxing purists have denounced the fight as nothing more than a laughable cashgrab it has nonetheless captured the fascination of many fight fans.

McGregor has been the undisputed favourite at each stop on the media tour, and can expect more of the same in London, but few give him any chance in the ring against one of the most skilled and tactically astute boxers of all time.

The fight would seem an outlandish mismatch with Mayweather 49-0 stepping into the ring against McGregor, who will be making his professional boxing debut.

The underdog role is one that fits McGregor like one of his tailored suits, however, and he recalled similar predictions before he beat Jose Aldo to win the UFC featherweight title in late 2015.

"They said the same things then as they're saying now," he said.

"They said I had no chance. They said I'm in over my head. They said he kicks too hard. Too many weapons.

"The Irishman is going to fall short, he doesn't stand a hope. "It took me 13 seconds." — Reuters ■