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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi welcomes the delegation of Kachin Baptist Convention (KBC). PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets with Kachin Baptist Convention

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with Kachin Baptist Convention (KBC) Chairman Rev. Lalawg Gyung-Hkawng at 10 a.m. at the National Reconciliation and

Peace Centre in Nay Pyi Taw. After the usual exchange of greetings, KBC General Secretary Dr. Hkalam Samson explained obstacles to, and opportunities for, peace

in Kachin State. Attendees also discussed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement and the challenge of internally displaced persons in a cordial and friendly manner.

The State Counsellor discussed the points raised and gave her comments after which she gave concluding remarks.

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Three H1N1 cases confirmed in Yangon

Three patients are being treated at Yangon General Hospital for Seasonal Influenza A-H1N1 infections; two are in serious condition and one is recovering

from flu-like symptoms. The seriously ill patients are a 35-year-old woman from Ayeyawady Region and 25-year-old man from Insein Township. Both are being

treated at the hospital's intensive care unit.

According to Ministry of Health and Sports, 10 Myanmar residents contracted H1N1

in Matupi, Chin State, in July 2009; and one person died of the illness. The 2009 outbreak was international in scope.

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Pyithu Hluttaw

MP denounces UN Human Rights Special Rapporteur's statement

Thura Zaw and
Hmwe Kyu Zin
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

Daw Thandar, parliamentarian of Einme constituency put forward a motion to Pyithu Hluttaw, strongly denouncing the statement dated on 21st July 2017 issued by Ms Yanghee Lee, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar.

In her important motion on strongly denouncing the statement at Pyithu Hluttaw yesterday, she said that the UN rights convoy failed to focus the national reconciliation being implemented by the Government, neglecting the government's co-operation with the United Nations, and it was void of descriptions about existing actual situations in Rakhine State.

And she added, "The government's concerted efforts for national reconciliation and bringing about internal peace

can be clearly seen. Moreover, the conflict happening currently in Rakhine State is very complicated, getting involved with political attitudes.

The Government is implementing means and ways which will safeguard and upgrade human rights in accord with the law within the framework of the Constitution.

Likewise, as for the Hluttaw as well, it approved the laws such as Law on the protection of personal freedom and security, carrying out the tasks of defending human rights and civil rights. Similarly, spending the special fund of the President for the development of Rakhine State, subsidizing pregnant women under 1000-day project, substituting teaching staff in Buthidaung and Maung-taw where conflicts took place by the Ministry of Education are the government's arduous efforts."

In addition, Daw Thandar



Daw Thandar, parliamentarian of Einme constituency.
PHOTO MNA

went on saying, "In solving out loss and damages happening in Rakhine State, it is essential to deal with by using deep and sober ways politically. After the incumbent government took office, the advisory commission on Rakhine State led by H.E Mr Kofi Annam, Ex-UN Secretary General was formed to report the actual events in the area, and simultaneously news re-

leases were made known to the international communities. At the press release by the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar, Ms Yanghee Lee's description saying that they were still found in refugee camps although refugees disclosed they would like to go back to their original places in winding up 3 refugee camps as suggested by the advisory commission on Rakhine State, was found to be imperfect.

In reality, suggestions included in page 21 of Interim Report, issued in March 2017 of the advisory commission on Rakhine State include that negotiations should be made in consultation with respective societies after laying down strategies with time schedule clearly described, in winding up IDP Camps, and suggestions should be expressed as to whether they will go back to their original locations or move

to other areas to resettle with security and job opportunities provided.

Depending upon the fundamental circumstances, moreover, the Government is implementing as suggested by the commission to carry out the tasks of reviewing security matters and to carry out suitable performances if necessary."

The motion presenter expressed, "As suggested by the advisory commission on Rakhine State, 3 refugee camps were closed in Kyaukpyu, Pauktaw and Yanbye townships, with 55 households selected in accord with the law to let them move to Yangon. Moreover, over 20,000 birth certificates were given out.

At the press conference, we were very sorrowful to hear that news items of man-made tunnels, weapons and terrorist training camps found on May Yu mountain range were deliberately concealed." ■

Amyotha Hluttaw

Myanmar migrants protected in accordance with the law

Aung Ye Thwin, Aye Aye Thant
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

At the 2nd Amyotha Hluttaw 5th regular session 31st day meeting held yesterday, Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe said Myanmar overseas workers including housemaids will be protected in accordance with the law.

The Union Minister was responding to a question by Daw Ei Ei Pyone of Ayeyawady Region constituency 8 on government plan to protect Myanmar overseas workers including housemaids.

The Union Minister added that at present, housemaids were not officially sent but those who went abroad to work as housemaids went with either a visit visa or to work in some other type of works. On departure from Myanmar, they were not registered as going abroad to work as housemaid but in the host country, they were registered as housemaids.

Whether they went officially or unofficially to work, whenever there is any problem, relevant embassy official ensure that full rights under the host country's

laws were obtained. If there is a case of human trafficking, action is taken according to Anti Trafficking in Persons Law together with Ministry of Home Affairs Anti-human Trafficking Police Force. Discussions are underway with civil society groups and agency groups in Singapore that provides supports and protections of workers and housemaids from Myanmar.

In order to provide work opportunities, arrangements will be made to send workers officially in accordance with the law at an appropriate time for appropriate type of workers said the Union Minister.

In responding to a question by U Kin Shein of Tanintharyi Region constituency 9 on appointing township religious affairs department head, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko said in townships where there is no township religious affairs department head, township immigration and national registration department head work concurrently as township religious affairs department head and any religious affairs matters in such townships are handled by



Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe. **PHOTO: MNA**

the township immigration and national registration department head. There are plans to open dedicated township religious affairs department in townships that are far and difficult to travel from existing township religious affairs department but it will depend on having the organization setup, permission of the President office and budget allocation and once these are provided the township religious affairs department head will be appointed said the Union Minister.

Afterwards, questions by Dr. Win Myint of Bago Region constituency 11, U Ye Htut of Sagaing



Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Tun Naing. **PHOTO: MNA**

Region constituency 5 and U Min Naing of Sagaing Region constituency 12 were answered by Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy Dr. Tun Naing, Union Election Commission member U Hla Tint and Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe.

The Hluttaw then decided and confirmed the bill amending the special marriage act that had been confirmed and sent with amendment by Pyithu Hluttaw, bill amending the Myanmar divorce act, bill amending the guardian and ward law and bill amending the Christian

Marriage Act.

Next, a report of Amyotha Hluttaw Citizens Fundamental Rights, Democracy and Human Rights Committee on its conducts during the duration of the 2nd Amyotha Hluttaw 5th regular session was read by the committee secretary U Myo Htat (a) Salai Myo Htike of Chin State constituency 12 and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker announced interested Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the report to register their names.

In the day's meeting matter of replacing members and reorganizing Amyotha Hluttaw committees was submitted to the Hluttaw and decided on, committee report on questions and motions submitted to 2nd Amyotha Hluttaw 4th regular session and Amyotha Hluttaw local and foreign non-government organization committee report on its activities during the 2nd Amyotha Hluttaw 5th regular session were read by relevant committee members and announcement was made for interested Hluttaw representatives who want to discuss the reports to register their names.■

Potential increasing income from freshwater shrimp breeding in Maungtaw

**Myint Maung Soe,
Aung Kyaw Oo**

Maungtaw District in Rakhine State is gaining economic success with its marine shrimp breeding, exporting most of its marine shrimps to the neighbouring country, according to an official of the district fishery department.

U Tun Tin, deputy director of Maungtaw district fishery department said, "In Maungtaw district, there is not yet freshwater shrimp breeding, apart from marine shrimp breeding, until now. Marine shrimp breed-

ing here is the kind of breeding where young shrimps carried by tides are kept into the shrimp ponds along the coast. Any feeding is not needed for them, apart from changing water in the pond. One acre of the shrimp pond produces nearly 30 viss of shrimp. In Maungtaw, there are over 15300 acres of such ponds. Shrimp is the major export of the region."

Currently, inshore fishing industry was closed for security after 2016 October armed attack and only shrimp breeding is being operated. It has been learnt that Maungtaw is the best region for breeding freshwater



Shrimp breeding farms, like the one in this picture, contributes to the marine shrimp exports from Maungtaw to other neighbouring country. **PHOTO: THEKKA**

shrimps, potentially producing fish a lot from the area and it is likely to become a fish export market provided that small-scale fishing ponds can be created.

Pre-Monsoon some kinds of fish were sent from Yangon to Sittway by refrigerated trucks, thence southern Maungtaw by ferry, Maungtaw border trade

zone and Bangladesh. U Tun Tin added that it would be beneficial for the area if freshwater fish breeding ponds can be created. ■

Union Minister Dr Pe Myint receives ambassador of Qatar

Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint received H.E. Mr. Hassan Bin Mohamed Al-Emadi, Ambassador of the State of Qatar at the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday at 2:00 pm.

During the meeting, they

discussed media development and bilateral affairs.

Present at the meeting were News and Periodicals Enterprise's Managing Director and the Deputy Permanent Secretary. —Myanmar News Agency ■

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets ...

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After this, she presented gifts of remembrance to the KBC Chairman and members of his delegation.

After the conclusion of the meeting the State Coun-

sellor posed for photos with the KBC Chairman and his delegation.

Other attendees included Union Minister for the Ministry of the State Counsellor's Office U Kyaw Tint Swe, Peace

Commission Chairman Dr. Tin Myo Win, the Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye and Deputy Minister for the President's Office U Min Thu. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Thura U Shwe Mann receives MYPOL delegation

Thura U Shwe Mann, Chairman of Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw received MYPOL delegation in which they are supporting to the reform of the Myanmar Police

Force at Hluttaw Building Hall (I-1), Nay Pyi Taw at 11:00 am of 24 July.

During the meeting, they discussed matters relating to legal affairs. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Flood condition of rivers: still danger

The water levels of Ayeyawady, Sittoung, Ngawun and Toe rivers which have exceeded their respective danger levels are expected to decrease in the next three days, according to the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

The water levels may fall by about 1/2 foot but may still remain above their respective

danger levels.

The weather bureau has alerted the people who are living along the rivers in Hinthada, Zalun, Madauk, Ngathaingchaung and Maubin to take precautionary measures against possible floods.

The Ayeyawady River exceeded its danger level by about two feet at Hinthada and

about 1 1/2 feet at Zalun yesterday. The water level of Sittoung River has exceeded by about 1 1/2 feet above its danger level yesterday in Madauk.

The water level of the Ngawun River have exceeded by about 2 1/2 feet above its danger level in Ngathaing Chaung and Thabaung yesterday. —GNLM ■

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globalnewlightofmyanmarFile photo taken on 20 July shows Myanmar migrants workers arrive Kawthoung on Thai-Myanmar Border. **PHOTO: KYAW SOE (KAWTHOUNG)**

Female migrants face challenges at home and abroad

May Thet Hnin

MYANMAR women are increasingly facing pressures to find work overseas, observers said at a Myanmar Women's Labour Migration and Gender Mainstreaming round table held in Yangon on Saturday.

Female migrants face many difficulties at home and abroad, and often receive inaccurate employment information before they go abroad. Female migrants often pay higher service fees to overseas employment agencies' middlemen, face language barriers and lack of job skills.

Ms. Melanie Hilton, consultant of United Nations Women, a global gender equality advocate, said research conducted in 2016 found that Myanmar migrants experience sexual abuse, forced prostitution, exploitation, unsafe worksites and discrimination

in foreign countries.

Ms. Hilton said Myanmar's government should put more effort into sending foreign workers under a memorandum of understanding system so that they can migrate and work legally with full protection of the laws of their nation of residence.

She also said the government should provide migrant workers more information about working in various countries and engage them in a strong network of migrant workers.

In addition, Myanmar female migrants need embassy supports to fully enjoy labour rights during pregnancy and after birth. In addition to governmental support, women should be able to rely on international labour organizations.

Myanmar female migrant workers favoured destinations are Thailand, Malaysia, Singa-

pore, Japan, Macao and United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The Myanmar Overseas Employment Agencies Federation (MOEAF) received 1,286 labour dispute cases last year, of 342 cases involved female workers.

A study shows that financial hardship and lack of employment opportunities are leading causes for women leaving their homelands to seek jobs abroad.

Daw Khin Nway Oo, deputy director-general of the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, said the five women at a time may seek employment in Malaysia so that they are not isolated.

The ministry also provides female migrants with identification cards and official recommendations to Malaysian embassy. Female migrants are registered at their respective worksites. ■

Union Supreme Court sits to pass judgment and hear civil cases

Chief Justice of the Union U Htun Htun Oo, Supreme Court judges U Mya Thein and U Khin Maung Kyi of Special Appellate Bench sat at Union Supreme Court room number 1 yesterday morning and passed judgment on five (Certiorari) civil cases and heard five other (Certiorari) civil cases. — Myanmar News Agency ■

FDA to create drug safety policy

Myanmar's Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is working with the World Health Organization (WHO) to draft a National Safety Policy to target illegal pharmaceuticals, according to a report of yesterday's edition of Myawady Daily newspaper.

Seventy five per cent of the country's population lacks adequate knowledge about health and medicine, a lack of education that drives the black market in sub-standard medical products and practices. "The FDA will conduct an awareness campaign about illegal and sub-standard medicines for the public", said Dr Thazin Yee Hlaing, the deputy director of FDA. "We are discussing with WHO the basic outline of a campaign to develop a National Safety Policy."

A workshop meeting about counterfeit medication and a new safety policy is scheduled for September in Nay Pyi Taw. —GNLM ■

Majority of expatriates chose MRESA for house hunting

Most of the expatriates living in Myanmar like to engage the Myanmar Real Estate Service Association (MRESA), instead of an independent agent or local agencies, according to a report of Myawady Daily newspaper, yesterday.

"Foreigners connect us more than to local landlords. Governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations come direct to us to make inquiries about real estate deal. Meanwhile, locals prefer individual agent," said U Than

Oo, chairman of MRESA.

In addition, most of the local people come to use social media to hunt the house they like. "The property market is not as good as it was.

There is no demand and prices have dropped. Besides, buyers

want a direct link with the owners", said Daw Thet Thet Swe, a real estate agent to Myawady Daily.

Foreigners primarily purchase condominium apartments for offices, preferring them over industrial parks. —GNLM ■

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Bangladesh considers proposal for 300,000 tonnes of Myanmar rice

BANGLADESH and Myanmar are exploring a trade deal involving 300,000 tonnes of Myanmar rice, according to a report in yesterday's edition of the Myanmar Alin Daily newspaper.

A delegation led by Bangladesh's Ambassador to Myanmar visited the Union Minister for Commerce to discuss the rice deal, which would be carried out under the auspices of a previous agreement at the No-

vember 2016 Bangladesh-Myanmar Joint Trade Commission meeting.

Representatives from the two nations also discussed a proposal to reduce tariffs on Myanmar exports and to enter into a preferential trade agreement as defined by the World Trade Organisation, said U Khin Maung Lwin, an assistant secretary in the Commerce Ministry.

Trade representatives also stressed the importance of private agricultural trade between the two nations over land and sea. Myanmar and Bangladesh sea and land port facilities at Maungtau and Sittway were also discussed. The nations will hold a follow up meeting of the Bangladesh-Myanmar Joint Trade Commission in Nay Pyi Taw in November 2017. —Zar Lin Thu (AMIA) ■



A farmer drives a harvester as he harvests rice in field. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

10 SMEs in Mandalay win cash awards

TEN small and medium enterprises in Mandalay won KBZ SME Awards, with total cash prizes worth Ks10 million each, according to a press statement

issued by KBZ Ltd. yesterday.

The awards were presented at a KBZ SME Awards (MRCCI) ceremony jointly conducted by KBZ Ltd. and the

Mandalay Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MRCCI) at the National Theatre in Mandalay.

The selection process for the awards was led by the MRCCI, which used the following criteria: the enterprise must be owned by a Myanmar citizen, the enterprise must be based in Myanmar, the enterprise does not bring harm to society and the natural environment, and the enterprise promotes development and stability for society and the natural environment.

U Zaw Lin Aung, Administrative Director of KBZ Bank Ltd., said Mandalay Region is becoming a SME hub and that small businesses are driving Myanmar's economy. —Thura Lwin (Eco) ■



A business man receives the 10 million award. PHOTO: THURA LWIN (ECO)

Singapore's Grab raises \$2.5 bil led by SoftBank, Didi Chuxing

SOUTHEAST Asia ride-hailing giant Grab said Monday that Japan's SoftBank Group Corp. and China's ride-hailing leader Didi Chuxing will invest up to US\$2 billion in financing aimed at strengthening its market position in the region.

Grab offers private car, motorbike, taxi, and carpooling services across seven countries in the region — Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, Viet Nam and Myanmar

Grab, which is headquartered in Singapore and competes with US-based Uber Technologies in Southeast Asia, also said it expects to raise an additional US\$500 million, bringing the total to US\$2.5 billion in this latest round of financing.

This is the largest single financing in the history of Southeast Asia, it said in a statement.

The company has been

planning to invest in solidifying its lead, such as by investing in the development and expansion of GrabPay, a mobile payment platform, and expanding its research and development, according to a company spokesman.

Anthony Tan, chief executive and co-founder of Grab, said in the statement, "We are delighted to deepen our strategic partnership with Didi and SoftBank," which he said "share our optimism for the future of Southeast Asia and its on-demand transportation and payments markets."

Masayoshi Son, chairman and chief executive of SoftBank, was quoted as saying in the statement, "Grab is using technology to address transportation and payments, some of the biggest challenges present in Southeast Asia, and we believe Grab is a tremendously exciting company in a dynamic and promising region." —Kyodo News ■

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- 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

China says it wants to “maintain stability” in disputed South China Sea

BANGKOK — Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on Monday Beijing wanted to maintain stability in the South China Sea as it seeks alliances in the region amid tensions in the disputed waters.

The United States has criticised China for disregarding international law by the construction and militarisation of artificial islands in the South China Sea, undermining regional stability.

China claims most of the energy-rich sea through which about \$5 trillion in ship-borne trade passes every year. Neighbours Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam also have claims.

Thailand is not a claimant state in the dispute and has maintained a neutral stance on the topic.

Addressing the South China Sea issue, Wang, on an official visit to Bangkok, told reporters China would like to “maintain stability in the South China Sea, abiding by the terms



Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi (L) shakes hands with Thai Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-O-cha (R) at Government House in Bangkok on 24 Thailand July, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

that have been agreed on the Declaration of Conduct and Code of Conduct in near future”.

China and Southeast Asian

countries agreed in May to a framework for a long-proposed code of conduct for the disputed waters.

Wang’s visit comes ahead

of a regional meeting of South-east Asian countries in Manila next month.

“China and Thailand are like brothers,” Wang said.

Thai Foreign Minister Don Pramudwinai praised Thai-Chinese relations, saying there were “no obstacles” to the relationship between the two.

Thailand this year has approved Chinese submarines, tank and helicopter purchases worth more than \$500 million.

Last month, Thailand approved the construction of the first phase of a \$5.5 billion railway project to link the industrial eastern seaboard with southern China through landlocked Laos, part of China’s One Belt One Road regional infrastructure drive.

The project, which has been held back by delays, was pushed through after junta chief Prayuth Chan-ocha invoked an executive order known as Article 44.

Wang said he hoped the rail project would “elevate” Thailand’s status in the region and said that the two countries would overcome differences to bring the rail project to fruition.—Reuters ■

Singapore’s Grab raises \$2.5 bil. led by SoftBank, Didi Chuxing

SINGAPORE — Southeast Asian ride-hailing giant Grab said Monday that Japan’s SoftBank Group Corp. and China’s ride-hailing leader Didi Chuxing will invest up to US\$2 billion in financing aimed at strengthening its market position in the region.

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Grab offers private car, motorbike, taxi, and carpooling services across seven countries in the region — Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam and Myanmar.—Kyodo News ■

Viet Nam detects fewer smuggling, trade frauds cases in H1

HANOI — Viet Nam recorded 88,564 cases of smuggling, trade frauds and counterfeit goods in the first half of this year, seeing a year-on-year drop of 6.3 per cent, the government said on Monday.

In the six-month period, Viet Nam also collected nearly 7,950 billion Vietnamese dong (352 million US dollars) from administrative fines, confiscated goods sales, and tax arrears, up 40.4 per cent, the country’s National Steering Committee on Prevention and Control of Smuggling, Trade Fraud and Fake Commodities said.

Meanwhile, the country’s different forces prosecuted 1,189 cases which involved 1,372 individuals.

The police force alone prosecuted 423 cases which involved 552 people. According to the committee, most of smuggled items were essential consumer goods, and heavily taxed or banned products, such as alcohol, beer, cigarette, beverage, fertilizer, pesticide, cosmetics, petrol, elephant tusk and rhino horn.—Xinhua ■

China’s Politburo pledges to prevent ‘systemic’ financial risks — Xinhua

BEIJING — China’s Politburo, the Communist Party’s top decision-making body, said Beijing will implement a “proactive” fiscal policy and “prudent” monetary policy in the second half of the year, the official Xinhua news agency reported on Monday.

China will also strengthen coordination of financial regulation, stabilise the property market and prevent systemic

financial risks, according to a statement following the meeting chaired by President Xi Jinping.

“While fully affirming economic performance, we must at the same time clearly recognize the many problems and contradictions in the economy,” the meeting decided, according to Xinhua.

The meeting also stressed the need to address debt risks.

“We must actively and steadily resolve built-up government debt risks, effectively regulate local government debt financing, and resolutely curb the increase in hidden debt,” the statement issued after the meeting said.

The statement’s themes were reiterations of past declarations of government policies. Chinese officials have regularly declared their determination

to tackle debt and other issues while still maintaining solid economic growth.

Monday’s statement gave no details of any new policies. Economists take “proactive” fiscal policy to mean an increase in government spending. On 17 July, China reported annual economic growth of 6.9 percent in the second quarter, slightly above expectations.—Reuters ■

Philippines' Duterte warns miners: "I will tax you to death"

MANILA — Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte on Monday said he wanted to stop exporting mineral resources and might close the mining sector completely and tax miners "to death" if damage to the environment persisted.

"The protection of the environment must be made a priority ahead of mining and all other activities that adversely affect one way or another," Duterte said in his State of the Nation address, his second since assuming power in June last year. "This policy is non-negotiable."

The Philippines is the world's biggest supplier of nickel ore and also among the top producers of copper and gold. However, the sector contributes less than 1 per cent to the country's economy, based



Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte gestures as he delivers a speech during the State of the Nation Address (SONA) on the Joint Session of the 17th Congress at the House of Representatives in Quezon City, Manila, Philippines on 24 July, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS/

on data from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau.

The country's miners have been under fire

by Duterte's government for alleged violations that include building mines in prohibited areas like wa-

tersheds.

Duterte said miners have "considerably neglected" their duty to protect the environment and to repair damage done by mining.

"You have to come up with a substitute, either spend to restore the virginity of the source or I will tax you to death," he said.

Duterte also said he wanted all mineral resources extracted from the country to be processed domestically before being exported.

"I call on our industrialists, investors, commercial barons to put up factories and manufacturing establishments right here in the Philippines to process our raw materials into finished products," he said.

Previous governments in the Philippines called for more domestic

processing of raw minerals but the country's Congress has not enacted appropriate laws.

The Philippines became the world's top nickel ore exporter after Indonesia banned exports of unprocessed ore in 2014, a move meant to spur the development of higher value smelting industries.

The country has four mineral processing plants, two for gold and two for nickel. But most of its metallic mineral output is shipped abroad unprocessed.

"If possible, we shall put a stop to the extraction and exportation of our mineral resources... for processing abroad and importing them back to the Philippines in the form of consumer goods at prices twice or thrice the value of the raw materials,"

Duterte said.

To encourage smelting investments, the government needs to provide incentives to investors and subsidize power costs, which are high in the Philippines, mining industry executives have said.

Duterte's first appointment as Environment Minister, Regina Lopez, was dismissed in May by the Philippine Congress but she led a 10-month crackdown on the industry, highlighted by the closure and suspension of 26 of the country's 41 mines.

She also imposed a ban on open-pit mining and demanded a bigger government share in mining revenues, but her orders are now under review, according to a senior official of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau. —Reuters ■

Chinese capital shuts major road during rare protest

BELJING— Beijing police shut down part of a major road on Monday as they dealt with a rare protest in the Chinese capital, with demonstrators gathering to complain the government had unfairly accused a company they say helps the poor of pyramid selling.

While there are thousands of protests every year in China, over everything from pollution to corruption, large protests are rare in heavily guarded and affluent Beijing, with the ruling Communist Party valuing stability above all else.

State news agency Xinhua said late last week that police had detained executives from a company called Shanxinhui, accusing them of operating a pyramid scheme and duping people out of money in the name of raising funds to help the poor.

On Monday, investors in the company came to

Beijing from all parts of China to complain that Shanxinhui had been dealt a huge injustice and that it had genuinely helped a lot of poor people.

Police blocked off a major intersection in a working class southern Beijing neighbourhood, lining up police cars and vans along the road and forming a cordon to prevent people accessing the grounds of a small convention centre where some of the protesters had gathered.

Dozens of other investors in the company stood on the roads outside the centre, as police kept a wary watch but did not attempt to move them on.

It was not immediately clear how many people were inside the grounds of the centre or why they had chosen it as the site for their demonstration.

"They have accused the company of pyramid selling but they did

nothing wrong. They only wanted to help poor people. It's an injustice," said a man who gave his family name as Zhong and said he was from the far western region of Xinjiang.

Another man, who declined to provide his name but said he was from Hebei province, which partially surrounds Beijing, said all the funds in the company had been frozen.

"We want China's leaders to come and hear our complaints," he said.

Beijing police declined immediate comment when reached by telephone.

One man showed a Reuters reporter video he said was taken inside the convention centre grounds of police manhandling a protester. It was not possible to independently verify the footage.

The government has repeatedly vowed to crack down on financial crime and fraud.—Reuters ■

Viet Nam halts gas drilling in South China Sea due to China threats: BBC

TOKYO — Viet Nam has halted its drilling for gas in an area of the resource-rich South China Sea also claimed by China, due to "strong threats" from that country, the British Broadcasting Corp reported on Monday.

The BBC quoted a source in the Southeast Asian oil industry as saying that the Spanish-owned Repsol group, which is behind the drilling, was ordered to leave the area.

The source said that Repsol executives were told last week by the Viet-

namese government that China "had threatened to attack Vietnamese bases in the Spratly Islands if the drilling did not stop," the BBC reported.

China claims virtually the entire South China Sea, a vital shipping route and a rich fishing ground with possibly large oil and natural gas deposits.

Viet Nam is among the Southeast Asian countries to have claims that overlap those of China in the sea.

The BBC said the order to exit the area came just days after Repsol

confirmed the existence of a major gas field.

Earlier this month, BBC reported, citing an oil industry consultant, that a drilling ship on contract to Repsol subsidiary Talisman-Viet Nam began working in an area of sea about 400 kilometres off the Vietnamese southeast coast on 21 June.

The drilling is taking place in a piece of seabed known as Block 136-03 by Viet Nam and Wan-an Bei 21 by China, which has leased out the same area to a different company.—Kyodo News ■

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Implementation of Two-in-One Project

Khin Maung Oo

IN building up the nation collaboratively, we need those who would like to work in the interest of the public more than the ones who work for their own personal interest. In undertaking rehabilitation and resettlement works for the nation simultaneously, the country needs a myriad of people who will contribute much labor for the public by taking only a meager amount of benefits more than the kind of people who will run their related business by taking much profit for their own sake.

Here, public interest means the works needed to be done for the public urgently, essentially and continually. For example, health-care, social affairs, transportation and conservation of natural environment matters are the

works to be prioritized. In carrying out these kinds of works, two kinds of people are found—those desirous of working completely for people's sake and the ones who work satisfactorily of their own accord by taking a small amount for their personal benefit, in the interest of the country. In countries in the region, labor of volunteers is found to have been utilized as a priority in the conservation of urban areas and the natural environment.

What our country currently needs is the conservation of urban areas and the natural environment. The task can be said to be more likely to be connected with volunteers, more than the governmental staff. In China, labor of volunteers who live on daily-wages is being utilized in implementing conservation and greening the environment

initiatives, with the task of conserving the urban areas being carried out by the aged, pensioners and the unemployed.

In Myanmar's rural areas we can find a great number of unemployed who are finding it difficult to make ends meet. They do not know from where their next meal is coming from. Provided that they can be systematically employed as daily-wage volunteers for conservation of the natural environment, it will be surely beneficial for the country and these poor unemployed people, a two-in-one benefit—helping the poor and the environment at the same time. If governmental staff and volunteer daily-wagers are employed at the ratio of 1:2, the task can be broadly implemented across the nation. Salaried staff will manage the

task while volunteer daily-wagers will do the practical work by taking small amounts of money.

Starting from the current financial year, it has been learnt that reforestation—the project for conserving the natural environment will be launched across the nation. The task of protecting the natural environment is daunting as forests cover the vast land of the nation. It is therefore difficult to effectively conserve the whole area with existing staff. If government staff and volunteer daily-wagers are allowed to work collectively as soon as possible, the proposed “two-in-one project”—creation of jobs and greening the country could become a huge success. In this way Myanmar could come to be known as a “green valley” in the South-east Asian region. ■

Public Service Motivation, PSM

Dr. Khine Khine Win

FOR the past three days I attended the 2017 Knowledge Forum on Public Service Motivation which was held in Nay Pyi Taw, MICC-2 organized by USCB and UNDP. I had a great opportunity to learn related to Public Service Motivation from international experts. Many civil servants participated in this forum and it was a valuable chance not only for civil servants but also for all those who are interested in PSM.

In one country, the civil service should embody the highest standard of ethical behavior, professionalism, meritocracy, impartiality and a commitment to public service excellence. However here we need motivation. Motivation is the force that converts intention into action and it includes both intrinsic and extrinsic motivation. Lack or less motivation affects performance at work. The most crucial thing to foster public service motivation through workplace is trust. It is important to build trust and confidence of the civil service personnel in their own capacities and in their respective institutions and ultimately in the State.

According to Dr. Nigel Goh, UNDP's explanation, PSM is an individual's predisposition to respond to motives grounded primarily or uniquely in Public Institutions or Organizations and also explained that PSM is one form of intrinsic motivation. According to Dr. Chung-Aen Cheng from Nanyang Technological University, Singapore research's finding, PSM is a good thing. In the West, it may be

true. In East Asia, where the Public Service exam is competitive, it may not true. He mentioned that in Asia, a majority of people (over 50%) long for public service career and public service exams are difficult. In the West, they would like to hire high PSM people unlike East Asia.

From aforementioned presentations made by two International experts, I have gained valuable knowledge. In brief, not all Public Service Jobs require PSM and it does not ensure high performance on all jobs. However it is necessary for the civil service to sustain development momentum in a fast-changing, complex and resource-constrained environment.

Civil servants are the bedrock of public administration, they need to assume a more important role in democratic development, a society free of corruption and strengthen rule of law. Civil Service is the most important segment of society. If the civil service is disgruntled, lacking in public spirit, a lot will be wrong in the country. As I mentioned before, PSM is one form of intrinsic motivation, we should not ignore intrinsic motivation if we want to be successful civil servant and excel at work. But on the other hand intrinsic motivation alone cannot reach the goal. We need extrinsic motivation, for instance reward, benefits, salary, work condition, safety etc. Indeed other motivation factors include leadership in working organizations, the level of responsibility at work are crucial too.

My personal opinion is that a

happy civil servant is not necessarily driven by money. Well, not just by money. I myself prefer happy working environment where has good leadership management and a good leader who values his civil servants. I hope other civil servants have same feeling as mine. If a civil servant trusts his leader, his organizations, clear, fair and transparent policies and process we do not need higher salary. Money may be good incentives to get to work but praise and recognition that will help us achieve incredible thing.

Even intrinsic motivation is more desirable than extrinsic motivation, extrinsic rewards the intrinsic motivation. Motivation has been prioritized by the Government of Myanmar and the UCSB as a key factor underpinning effective Civil Service Transformation. It is through motivation that strong and effective leadership is nurtured and role models, who are driven with high moral values, are found.

In many developing countries, many poorly paid public servants with a job guaranteed for life and minimal repercussions for poor performance, remain in a remarkable fashion dedicated and engaged to deliver high quality work and results. Now a day, many civil servants despite having huge challenges and poor incentives, they have been continued to working faithfully as motivated by intrinsic motivation including professional pride and patriotism.

Myanmar has now clear vision for civil servants reform by adopting the civil service reform strategic action

plan that will guide us in the coming four years. In order to implement CSR action plan successfully, all levels of civil servants must work together with mutual respect and trust. While we are implementing the action plan, the most important thing is that all levels of civil servants must have a desire to work for the public and for our beloved country. The experience of other countries shows us that change is possible but the real change requires patience and political will. ■

The civil service should embody the highest standard of ethical behavior, professionalism, meritocracy, impartiality and a commitment to public service excellence. However here we need motivation. Motivation is the force that converts intention into action and it includes both intrinsic and extrinsic motivation.

Pyithu Hluttaw: Education is biggest investment for Myanmar

Thura Zaw
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

In yesterday's Pyithu Hluttaw meeting U Win Maw Htun, Deputy Minister for Education, replied to questions about matriculation certificates, incorrect measurements of rice and changing the quality of paper in textbooks for government schools.

He said the responsibility of

getting the name, birthdate and other factors correct on matriculation certificates depends on the student who fills the form. If any mistakes do come up, students can report to the administrator of the matriculation exam. The administrator will then cross check with the Myanmar Board of Examination's list of applicants and send it to the Board for correction. But the Board does not usually change

the contents of the matriculation certificate as they fill it in with the form submitted by the students.

As to a question of issues of inconsistency arising in using bushels as units of measurements in rice sales, the Deputy Minister replied that all the units of measurements in Myanmar were developed under the Department of Research and Innovation (DRI) with cooperation

from other ministries and experts from non-government organisations. They are continuing work on drafting and amending laws and rules and regulations to avoid conflicts between farmers, retail and wholesale entities. There is also an ongoing project to establish a laboratory that test apparatuses used in rice sales to see if they meet standard requirements.

Afterwards, the Deputy

Minister said they may not replace the use of Woodfree Paper 70gsm in government school textbooks as it was chosen for its quality and resistance to weather damage. The Deputy Minister said education is the biggest investment for Myanmar and they planned for the books to be durable for long years as they will soon implement a relay system of old books thus reducing production costs. ■

No boundary and limit for development based on knowledge

At an event honoring outstanding Tatmadaw members and sons and daughters of Tatmadaw members who passed the 2016-2017 matriculation examination and outstanding youths held in Zeyathiri Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said there is no limit and boundary to the depth and extent of knowledge and socio economic development of a people depends on human resources development while the main and basic source for human resources development is skills and knowhow obtained from schoolrooms.

As per the Myanmar saying "starts well to end well", foundation is very important and for those who have started well by passing the matriculation examination should build on this foundation and acquire higher education for their own development as well as for the country's development. For a nation to develop, both science and arts knowledge is important. While pursuing both knowledge cares should be taken of self in order to achieve the ultimate aim said the Senior General. Afterward, Lt-Gen Hsan Oo explained about the achievements of the outstanding Tatmadaw members and sons

and daughters of Tatmadaw members who passed the 2016-2017 matriculation examination and award winning students of national level essay, painting and cartoon competitions. Next, awards and certificate of honors were handed out to Tatmadaw Basic Education High Schools and Tatmadaw schools with best passing results, Tatmadaw members and sons and daughters of Tatmadaw members who passed the 2016-2017 matriculation examination with distinctions and award winning students of national level essay, painting and cartoon competitions. —Myanmar News Agency ■



C-in-C Senior General Min Aung Hlaing awarding an outstanding female student from a Tatmadaw family. **PHOTO: MNA**

Three H1N1 cases confirmed in Yangon

FROM PAGE-1

Ministry of Health and Sports held an emergency meeting yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw to discuss preventive measures. "We have informed the World Health Organization and possess the adequate medicine supplies and preventive equipment," Union Minister for Health and Sports Dr Myint Htwe said at the meeting.

H1N1 disproportionately affects children, the elderly and other people with weakened immune systems. In 2009, the virus spread to most countries in the world. At least 66 people contracted it in Myanmar, according to official comments carried by media at the time.—Ko Moe (GNLM) ■



A woman gives out free masks to passerbys as the Seasonal Influenza H1N1 arrives in Yangon. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWA**

Four police missing in boat capsized in Buthidaung

A patrol boat of the security forces capsized in Buthidaung, Rakhine State, Sunday, leaving four missing. The boat with seven on board lost control around 10.30 pm due to the strong current in

a river near the Tinmay Village while patrolling along the river, according to policemen who managed to escape from the disaster. The remaining four are feared dead. —Myanmar News Agency

Man killed in Buthidaung

A man, who is authorized to manage 10 households in a village in Buthidaung Township, was killed at his home by an unidentified man yesterday. Husaung Namauk, the head of 10 households of the Phayar Pyinthein Tan Village, was cut and stabbed

to death around 1 am yesterday by the intruder as he was sleeping at his home. The body of Husaung Namauk was brought to the Buthidaung Hospital for further forensic investigation. The case has been filed at the Buthidaung Police Station. —MNA ■

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

Kremlin waiting for Washington to word clear position on further anti-Russian sanctions



PHOTO: TASS

MOSCOW — The Kremlin is waiting for the US Donald Trump administration to finally word a clear position on further sanctions against Russia, Russian president's press secretary Dmitry Peskov said on Monday.

"We have already said we are extremely negative about the topic of sanctions, especial-

ly, the new initiatives the US Congress keeps on advancing. We are negative about them as well.

As for the Washington administration's position on the sanctions, we have heard certain adjustments and will wait with patience when this position is worded clearly," he said.

Continuation of Washington's sanctions rhetoric harms not only the interests of the US and Russia, but also affects interests of third countries, Peskov told reporters commenting on new sanctions targeting Russia discussed by the US Congress.

"We consider the contin-

uation of rhetoric of sanctions counter-productive, harming the interests of our two countries, as well as potentially damaging interests of third countries, with which Russia continues and develops trade-economic relations despite all negative tendencies," Peskov said.—Tass ■

Germany wants wider EU sanctions blacklist on Russia over Siemens Crimea turbines — sources

BRUSSELS — Germany is urging the European Union to add up to four more Russian nationals and companies to the bloc's sanctions blacklist over Siemens gas turbines delivered to Moscow-annexed Crimea, two sources in Brussels said.

The EU has barred its firms from doing business with Crimea since the 2014 annexation from Ukraine, imposed sanctions on Russian individuals and entities, and curbed cooperation with Russia in energy, arms and finance over its role in the crisis in Ukraine.

After it annexed Crimea,

Moscow threw its support behind a separatist rebellion in eastern Ukraine, which has killed more than 10,000 people and is still simmering.

The EU's blacklist comprises 150 people and 37 entities subject to an asset freeze and a travel ban. The restrictions are in place until 15 September.

"The regular review would normally be the moment to look at who is on the list. In the past, when there were good grounds, we've added entries to the list," an EU official said.

Siemens says it has evidence that all four turbines it

delivered for a project in southern Russia had been illegally moved to Crimea.

The proposed additions to the blacklist could include Russian energy ministry officials and the Russian company that moved the turbines to the Black Sea peninsula, one senior diplomatic source said.

Another source said representatives of all 28 EU member states could discuss the matter for the first time in Brussels as soon as Wednesday.

The EU needs unanimity to impose or extend any sanctions.

Hungary, Bulgaria, Italy and

Cyprus are among EU states which are usually sceptical of sanctions. They take the line that punitive measures have failed to force a change of course by Moscow but have hurt European business.

Reuters first reported a year ago on the Siemens case, which has exposed the limits of EU sanctions.

Siemens, trying to distance itself from the scandal, last week said it was halting deliveries of power equipment to Russian state-controlled customers and reviewing supply deals.—Reuters ■

WORLD BRIEFS

Chainsaw attack in Swiss town not "act of terror" — police

ZURICH — Police have identified the chainsaw-wielding suspect in an attack that left several injured in the Swiss town of Schaffhausen on Monday, they said, adding the incident was not an "act of terror". Police said the man entered an office building on Monday morning. Police were informed at 10:39 am (0839 GMT).

The suspect — identified as balding and unkempt — remained at large and was believed to be on the run in a Volkswagen Caddy with Swiss license plates.—Reuters ■

Death toll from Pakistan blast rises to 11- rescue service

LAHORE, PAKISTAN — The death toll from an explosion in eastern Pakistani city of Lahore has risen to 11, a rescue service official said, in a blast near a popular vegetable market in central Lahore. "We are confirming 11 people are dead and 20 are wounded," said Jam Sajjad Hussain, spokesman for the Rescue 1122 service. A spokesman for the Punjab provincial government said authorities were trying to establish the cause of the explosion, but two police sources in Lahore told Reuters the explosion was a bomb blast targeting police.—Reuters ■

Chainsaw attacker wounds five in Swiss town, police launch manhunt

SCHAFFHAUSEN, (Switzerland) — A man armed with a chainsaw wounded at least five people, two of them seriously, on Monday in a small Swiss town that was then put into lockdown as police hunted for the suspect.

Police said the attack was "not an act of terror". They said they had identified the attacker, but did not name him, describing him in a statement appealing for help from the public as bald, unkempt and around 190 cm (six feet three inches) tall.—Reuters ■

Taliban suicide car bomber kills dozens in Afghan capital

KABUL — A Taliban suicide attacker detonated a car bomb in the western part of Kabul on Monday, killing up to 35 people and wounding more than 40, government officials said, in one of the worst attacks in the Afghan capital in recent weeks.

Police cordoned off the area, located near the house of the deputy government Chief Executive Mohammad Mohaqiq in a part of the city where many of the mainly Shi'ite Hazara community live.

Monday's suicide bombing, which targeted government personnel, continued the unrelenting violence that has killed more than 1,700 civilians in Afghanistan so far this year.

The Taliban, which is battling the Western-backed government and a NATO-led coalition for control of Afghanistan, has launched a wave of attacks around the country in recent days, sparking fighting in more than half a dozen provinces.

"I was in my shop when suddenly I heard a terrible sound and as a result all of my

shop windows shattered," said Ali Ahmed, a resident in the area of Monday's blast.

Acting Interior Ministry spokesman Najib Danish said at least 24 people had been killed and 40 wounded but the casualty toll could rise further.

Another senior official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk about the incident with the media, said the toll stood at 35 killed.

That was in line with a claim on Twitter by Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid, who said 37 "intelligence workers" had been killed.

Mujahid said in a tweet claiming responsibility for the attack the target had been two buses that had been under surveillance for two months.

Government security forces said a small bus owned by the Ministry of Mines had been destroyed in the blast but the National Directorate for Security, the main intelligence agency, said none of its personnel had been hit.



Smoke rises at Zawul Institute of Higher Education after an explosion near the institute in Kabul, Afghanistan on 24 July, 2017 in this still photograph uploaded on social media. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Three civilian vehicles and 15 shops were destroyed or damaged in the blast, the Interior Ministry said in a statement.

At least 1,662 civilians had already been killed in Afghanistan in the first half of the year.

Kabul has accounted for at least 20 per cent of all civilian casualties this year, including at least 150 people killed in a massive truck bomb attack at the end of May, according to

United Nations figures.

The Islamic State group claimed an attack on a mosque in the capital two weeks ago that killed at least four people.

On Sunday, dozens of Afghan troops were under siege after Taliban fighters overran a district in northern Faryab province, a spokesman for the provincial police said.

There was also fighting in Baghlan, Badakhshan, and Kun-

duz provinces in Afghanistan's north, and Kandahar, Helmand, and Uruzgan in the south, according to officials.

The resurgence of violence also coincides with the US administration weighing up its strategic options for Afghanistan, including the possibility of sending more troops to bolster the NATO-led training and advisory mission already helping Afghan forces.—Reuters ■

South Africa rhino poaching dips from record high

CAPE TOWN — The number of poached rhinos in South Africa decreased by 13 animals to 529 between January to June compared with the same period last year, a downward trend welcomed with "cautious optimism" by the government on Monday.

Rhino poaching in South Africa surged from 83 in 2008 to a record 1,215 in 2014 to meet burgeoning demand in newly affluent Asian countries such as Viet Nam, where their horns are prized as an ingredient in traditional medicines.

South Africa has more than 80 per cent of the world's rhinos, with about 18,000 white rhinos and close to 2,000 black

rhinos. It has countered poaching by increased activity by park rangers and tougher jail sentences. "As we have always stated, these declining numbers do not mean we can proclaim victory. Nevertheless, the downward trend is being established, which is cause for cautious optimism," environment minister Edna Molewa told a media briefing. A total of 243 rhino carcasses were found in the Kruger National Park, which has traditionally borne the brunt of rhino poaching, down from 354 in January-June last year, but the decrease in Kruger was mostly offset by increased poaching elsewhere.—Reuters ■

Kenyan girls to fly to Google HQ after inventing app to end FGM

NAIROBI — Animated chatter spills out from a corner of tech giant Google's Nairobi offices as five Kenyan schoolgirls discuss their upcoming trip to California where they hope to win \$15,000 for I-cut, an app to end Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

The five teenagers, aged 15 to 17, are the only Africans selected to take part in this year's international Technovation competition, where girls develop mobile apps to end problems in their communities.

"FGM is a big problem affecting girls worldwide and it is a problem we want to solve," Stacy Owino told the Thomson Reuters Foundation, while snacking on chocolate on a break from boarding school before flying to the United States on 6 August.

"This whole experience will

change our lives. Whether we win or not, our perspective of the world and the possibilities it has will change for the better."

The five girls from Kenya's western city of Kisumu call themselves the 'Restorers' because they want to "restore hope to hopeless girls", said Synthia Otieno, one of the team.

One in four Kenyan women and girls have undergone FGM, which involves the partial or total removal of the external genitalia, even though it is illegal in the East African nation.

Although the girls' Luo community does not practice FGM, they have friends who have been cut. "We were very close but after she was cut she never came back to school," said Purity Achieng, describing a classmate who underwent FGM. "She was among

the smartest girls I knew."

I-cut connects girls at risk of FGM with rescue centres and gives legal and medical help to those who have been cut.

Its simple interface has five buttons — help, rescue, report, information on FGM, donate and feedback — offering users different services. Kenya is one of the most technologically advanced countries in Africa, known for its pioneering mobile money transfer apps.

Technovation, which is sponsored by Google, Verizon and the United Nations, aims to teach girls the skills they need to become tech entrepreneurs and leaders. "We just have to use this opportunity as a stepping stone to the next level," said schoolgirl Ivy Akinyi who plans to become computer programmer.—Reuters ■



Sovershenny corvette. PHOTO: TASS

Russia's new advanced corvette to take part in Navy Day parade in Far East

VLADIVOSTOK— The Sovershenny advanced corvette that recently became part of the Pacific Fleet will take part in the parade dedicated to the Navy Day in the Amur Bay, Primorye Region, Head of the Eastern Military District Press Service's Department of Information Support for the Pacific Fleet, captain

2nd rank Vladimir Matveyev, said.

"After the end of the ceremony dedicated to the first raising of the Navy's flag and the introduction of the ship to the Pacific Fleet, the Sovershenny corvette will take part in the parade. About 40 ships, boats, submarines and support vessel of the fleet will participate

in the parade. The Sovershenny corvette will join them," Matveyev said.

He added that the Pacific Fleet's seamen would start mooring vessels to buoys in the Amur Bay on 24 July. From 21 July, rehearsals for the military festival will start, and the final rehearsal is planned for 28 July. —Tass ■

IMF cuts UK growth forecast, Treasury calls for smooth Brexit

LONDON — Britain has suffered the biggest downgrade of economic growth projections by the International Monetary Fund for the world's rich nations this year, prompting the finance ministry to renew its call for a smooth exit from the European Union.

Britain's economy now looks set to grow by 1.7 per cent this year, down from a forecast made in April of 2.0 per cent but still higher than growth in France, Italy and Japan, the IMF said.

The IMF said its downgrade reflected Britain's weaker-than-expected growth in the early part of this year.

"The ultimate impact of Brexit on the United Kingdom remains unclear," the Fund's chief economist Maurice Obstfeld said.

The IMF in April raised its forecasts for British growth after the economy withstood the initial shock of the referendum decision in June last year to leave the EU.

However, the world's fifth-biggest economy grew by just 0.2 per cent in the first quarter of 2016 compared with the last three months of 2016 as accelerating inflation — caused in large by part by the fall in the value of the pound since last year's Brexit vote — prompted consumers to rein in their spending.

The economy is expected to have picked up only a bit of speed to 0.3 per cent in the second quarter, according to the median forecast of economists polled by Reuters ahead of the release of preliminary data on Wednesday.

British finance minister Philip Hammond has stressed the need for a transition deal to ease Britain out of the EU, angering some Brexit campaigners. A spokesman for the Treasury said the weaker growth seen by the IMF was a reminder of the need to smooth Brexit as much as possible. "This forecast underscores exactly why our plans to increase productivity and ensure we get the very best deal with the EU, are vitally important," the spokesman said. The 0.3 percentage-point cut to Britain's 2017 growth forecast contrasted with upgrades for most of the big advanced economies covered by the IMF's forecasts although the projection for US growth this year was cut by 0.2 percentage points. —Reuters ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV LE JIN VOY. NO (128)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV LE JIN VOY. NO (128) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AIPT-2 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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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.

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CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV OEL MALAYSIA VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV OEL MALAYSIA VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.7.2017 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.

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

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV SINAR BATAM VOY. NO (017)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BATAM VOY. NO (017) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV MCC MERGUI VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCC MERGUI VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV MAERSK WASAW VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MAERSK WASAW VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Australia's consumer watchdog probing Takata air bag recall

SYDNEY — Australia's consumer watchdog said on Monday it is investigating the recall of Takata Corp vehicle air bags after a probe found that potentially lethal faulty air bags were being replaced by local car manufacturers with new defective bags.

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's announcement came after consumer advocacy group CHOICE wrapped up a three-month investigation into the air bags of the Japanese manufacturer, which is reeling from a scandal that forced it to file for bankruptcy protection last month.

Concerns that Takata-made air bag inflators could explode and spray shrapnel into passengers

prompted the largest recall ever in the auto industry. Globally, 18 people — including possibly a Sydney man this month — died from injuries caused by the device's rupture, according to the commission.

Manufacturers including Honda Motor Co and Toyota Motor Corp confirmed to CHOICE that they were making "like-for-like replacements" of the faulty devices as a temporary solution.

Rod Sims, the commission's chairman, said they were urgently seeking information from the government about what information car manufacturers and retailers are required to give consumers.

"We would have very serious concerns if man-



Visitors walk behind a logo of Takata Corp on its display at a showroom for vehicles in Tokyo, Japan, on 6 November 2015. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

ufacturers were found to be misleading consumers about their car's safety in breach of their obligations under consumer law," Sims said in a statement.

Speaking at a press

conference, Sims urged vehicle owners not to panic if they suspected their car's air bags had been replaced with new faulty safety devices.

"If you had a replace-

ment air bag, it does take five or six years for these things to degrade," he said. "The biggest concerns are those who have not had the replacement air bags."

More than 2.3 million cars used in Australia have been subject to a recall since 2009. But the consumer watchdog said only 850,000 cars have had their air bags replaced.

Monday's announcement also came a day after New South Wales state police revealed that a faulty Takata air bag was the "likely cause of death" of a Sydney man earlier this month.

The 58-year-old man was driving a Honda CRV when it collided with another vehicle in a suburb in southwestern Sydney on 13 July, according to local media reports. The police said the man died at the scene after being struck in the neck by a small fragment. — Kyodo News

Two German women held in Iraq; Germany checking IDs of two more

BERLIN—The German government said on Monday that two women being held in Iraq are German citizens, including a 16-year-old girl who had joined Islamic State, and that it was still trying to confirm the nationality of two more women.

Foreign ministry spokeswoman Maria Adebahr told reporters that German consular officials had confirmed the citizenship of the first two women during a meeting last Thursday. They

are due to meet the two other women on Monday, she said. "Our embassy in Baghdad was able to visit two of the women on July 20," Adebahr told a regular government news conference. Further details about the other two could only be released after consular visits, she said.

Adebahr identified one of the Germans as Linda Wenzel, a 16-year-old from the state of Saxony who ran away from home last year to join Islamic State. —Reuters

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV MATHU BHUM VOY. NO (1039)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MATHU BHUM VOY. NO (1039) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P/M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S MOL (S'PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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DECLARATION

It is informed and declared as follows; so that the public can know it; as per the assigned instruction of my friend U Yan Naung Oo, the holder of N.R.C.No 12/Ka Ma Ya (Naing) 050376



MUSIC VIDEO

It has been released and distributed all over Myanmar, on (9.7.2017), with the 12-songs; to Music Video (DVD); the Two Ends of the above-mentioned singer G Latt. It is being informed and declared, so that the public can know it; it is required to request the legal permission; to be able to broadcast or to be on air and show, contacting officially or legally, to the copyrighter Naung Naung or the singer G Latt; who are entitled to administer or manage all the benefits or interest related to the copyright of the Two Ends - Music Video or when it wants to be broadcast or presented commercially; in Internet Websites, Facebook, You Tube, Twitter and the Social Networks or when it wants to be broadcast or shown in the TV shows or the Channels' not for free/for free, upon the 12-songs included in the said "Two Ends-Music Video (DVD)".

As per the assigned instruction of the copyrighter Naung Naung and the singer G Latt,
U Lynn Shein (LL.B) Higher Grade Pleader (S.No. 45717) Ph. 09250243985
U Lynn Phone Myat (LL.B) Higher Grade Pleader (Sr.No. 37805) To Contact: 09-964281630

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV BAGAN STAR VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BAGAN STAR VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CONTINENTAL SHIP-
PING LINE PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV KUO HSIUNG VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KUO HSIUNG VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.7.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MIP where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA HASIL VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA HASIL VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.7.2017 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

Louis Tomlinson's mother wanted him to reconcile with Zayn

Los Angeles — Louis Tomlinson's mother, Johannah Deakin, wanted him to reconcile with his former One Direction bandmate Zayn Malik before her death last year.

Deakin died at the age of 43 in December 2016 after a battle with leukemia. Tomlinson, 25, revealed that her mother told him life was too short to hold a grudge against anyone, reported *Us* weekly.

"My mum said, You've got to get back in contact with Zayn. Lives too short. A mother's intu-

ition is just crazy. It always felt supernatural to me. My mum always knew what I was feeling and what I wanted," he said.

Since then, the "Back to You" singer has reconciled with Malik, 24. "I can't stand to hold a grudge with anyone. It doesn't sit with me right. If there is any animosity, just clear the air. I met up with him and it was nice. "I can't speak on behalf of him but we really care about each other."

—PTI ■



Louis Tomlinson. PHOTO: REUTERS

David Guetta trying to create timeless music

LONDON — French DJ David Guetta says he wants his music to be "timeless" and appeal to all generations.

The 49-year-old DJ believes he can create such music by using the same underlying emotions, reported *Contactmusic*.

"I'm trying to do something timeless. People always want to listen to something new, but at the same time emotions are always the same. There's not a new emotion that is going to come out, because we are human beings," Guetta says. He says he wanted to be a DJ since he was 12-years-

old, which he feels was crazy as there were no famous DJs around during that time.

"There was no glamour, there was no money, there was nothing like that. I was just obsessed with music and I was very into the technical aspect of creating it. I don't even understand it myself because my family were not musicians or anything ...

"My mum thought that everything I was doing was very stupid. She was a communist so she felt like all this is superficial and chasing materialistic dreams were a waste of my time," he says. —PTI

I'm going to do the best job I can: Affleck on playing Batman

LOS ANGELES — "Justice League" will be Ben Affleck's second starring role as Batman and the actor said he would make every possible effort to do justice with the character.

The Oscar winner said he would love to play the Caped Crusader as long as the makers would allow him, reported *Entertainment Weekly*.

"I'd love to do it as long as they'll have me. Eventually it'll be somebody else, and I'm sure they'll get somebody great. But



Ben Affleck. PHOTO: REUTERS

while I'm doing it, I'm going to do the best job I can, and really appreciate how lucky I am," he said. —PTI ■

I'm a great admirer of Harrison Ford: Ryan Gosling

LOS ANGELES — Ryan Gosling will soon be seen alongside Harrison Ford in "Blade Runner 2049" and he said it was an honour to work with an actor like "Indiana Jones" star.

Gosling said he was in a constant state of nervousness while working with Ford, who is reprising his role as Rick Deckard in the sequel to



Director Ryan Gosling. PHOTO: REUTERS

the 1982 Ridley Scott-directed movie, reported *Entertainment Tonight*. "It's kind of surreal to be a part of this film, because it's such an important part of film history, and also, you know, (I'm) obviously a great admirer of Harrison's. "So, to get to work with him and, you know, hang out in these situations... I feel very lucky," Gosling said. —PTI ■

Epic war film "Dunkirk" dominates North American box office in opening weekend

LOS ANGELES — Warner Bros.' presentation of Christopher Nolan's epic war film "Dunkirk" dominated North American box office with an estimated 50.5 million US dollars in its opening weekend.

Set during the Second World War, the film concerns the evacuation of the British and Allied forces from the French seaport of Dunkirk as they battled the Nazis in 1940.

"Dunkirk" also brought in an outstanding 55.4 million US dollars from 46 overseas markets and nabbing the top spot everywhere for a global combined total of 105.9 million US dollars, according to studio figures collected by comScore.

"It enjoyed a spectacular weekend debuting amidst great reviews and a tremendously enthusiastic response from critics and audiences alike...The film should have tremendous 'legs' in the coming weeks as it continues to generate strong buzz with moviegoers," wrote movie analyst Paul Dergarabedian at comScore in an email to Xinhua.

Another newcomer, Universal's "Girls Trip" opened in second place with an estimated 30.37 million US dollars. Directed by Malcolm D Lee, the comedy film stars Jada Pinkett Smith, Queen Latifah, Regina Hall and Larenz Tate. It tells the story of four close friends who go to New Orleans on a retreat in an effort

to reconnect.

Sony's "Spider-Man: Homecoming" moved to the third place at the North American box office with an estimated 22.01 million US dollars in its third weekend. The second reboot of the Spider-Man film have brought in 251.71 million US dollars after just 17 days in North America.

20th Century Fox's "War for the Planet of the Apes" landed in the fourth place with an estimated 20.4 million US dollars in its second weekend in North America. English-language French science fiction film "Valerian and the City of a Thousand Planets" finished fifth with an estimated 17.02 million US dollars. —Xinhua ■

Nepali activists pedal through Myanmar for environmentalism, AIDS awareness

FOUR Nepalese cyclists toured Myanmar as part of their "World Bicycle Tour," aiming to raise awareness on the importance of saving Mother Nature and the dangers of HIV and AIDS.

The four young men namely Ajit Baral, Saroj Gurung, Yam Gurung and Surendra Sharma chose Myanmar as part of their Asia tour for drugs and environmental protection awareness, considering that Myanmar needs more education and awareness as compared to developed countries.

"Youths as well as oth-

er people need awareness in third world countries like ours. Also, I want to make Burmese youths aware so as to stay away from drugs and better do something good for the society and themselves. Moreover, Myanmar needs reduce, reuse, recycle of wastes and trash-es like other countries in South Asia and South East Asia," said Ajit.

This is the second trip of their tour and in their first world tour, they pedaled Nepal, India, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand,

Laos, Cambodia, Viet Nam, Brunei, Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, Japan, South Korea and USA.

Ajit pedaled Myanmar in 2015 for the first time together with his brother Dr Amrit Baral, and this is second trip to the country.

Arriving in Yangon from Bangladesh on 12 July, they cycled through the nation and experienced the local culture, people and how they live.

In Myanmar, they have visited Yangon, Mandalay and Thanlyin on their bikes and before



Ajit, Saroj, Yam and Surendra take break at Kandawgyi Lake in Yangon as they pedal across Myanmar to raise awareness of AIDS and environmentalism. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

heading towards Maesot of Thailand via Bago by bicycle.

"Myanmar needs to

carry out proper trash management, to reduce plastic use and reusing / recycling the non biode-

gradable waste as well as proper management of biodegradable wastes," said Ajit.—GNLM ■

People invited to join Zumba dance

A ZUMBA dance party is planned to take place at People's Square on 29 July in Yangon from 6 am to 7 pm hosted by Malaysia Healthcare Myanmar, according to the news of the Myawady Daily issued on Sunday.

Zumba is a dance fitness programme created in the 1990s by Colombian choreographer Alberto Perez. Zumba involves dance and aerobics.

A Malaysia Health-

care Myanmar executive board member said the campaign is aimed at promoting personal health and Zumba.

Trainers will be on hand to lead participants.

The event is free and open to the public.

According to a study, approximately 15 million people now take regular Zumba classes in over 200,000 locations across 80 countries.—GNLM ■



A Zumba class in Yangon. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

Myanmar youth philanthropist wins TAYO ASEAN award

Daw Nang Lang Kham, Chairman of KBZ's Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation, received a TAYO ASEAN Award at The Ten Accomplished Youth Organisations (TAYO) ASEAN Awards 2017 held in Indonesia. Between 18 and 20 July, Indonesia held the 10th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY), the 6th ASEAN Plus Three (ASEAN + 3) and the TAYO Awards 2017.

Daw Nang Lang Kham was chosen for the award as the result of KBZ Brighter Future Foundation's effective

philanthropic efforts, said a report from ASEAN. She said she takes pride for winning the award and representing her country and everyone who supported her.

"The fact that youth leaders like us can achieve these things is a huge opportunity," she said. "This represents the hopes and future of Myanmar. Each of us are responsible for building up the nation in our respective sector and I think it helps promote further cooperation between ASEAN member countries.—Thura Lwin (Eco) ■



Daw Nang Lang Kham accepting the TAYO ASEAN Award in Indonesia. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

Ford vehicles assembled in Myanmar for the first time

FORD Motor Company recently announced the assembly of Ford vehicles

in a newly built facility in Myanmar through a formal agreement with its local

partners, RMA Group and Capital Automotive Limited.

As part of the agreement, the distributor partners will assemble both the Ford Ranger pickup truck and Ford Everest mid-size SUV in the East Dagon industrial park on the outskirts of Yangon.

Outfitted according to industry-leading standards, the plant will assemble Ford vehicles for sale in the domestic market.

With sales, servicing and spare parts facilities

in Yangon and Mandalay, the presence of a local assembly plant in Myanmar furthers Ford's promise to support the country's burgeoning auto industry.

"This is another significant milestone for Ford in Myanmar, and we are excited to continue contributing to the development of the rapidly growing auto industry," said Bagus Susanto, managing director, Asia Pacific Emerging Markets, Ford Motor Company.—GNLM ■



A worker putting together parts of a Ford in a factory in East Dagon Myothit, Yangon. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

Myanmar women's national futsal team prepares in Thailand for the 2017 Southeast Asian Games

Kyaw Zin Tun

Myanmar women's national futsal team drew 2-2 with Thailand women's national team on 23 July, according to the Myanmar Football Federation's (MFF) Facebook page.

In preparation for the upcoming 29th SEA Games in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia the Myanmar Women's national futsal team held their training camp in Thailand, where they played four friendly matches, winning one, tying two and

losing one.

Myanmar was defeated 2-4 by Thailand on 21 July.

Myanmar's last friendly match is scheduled for today, 25 July, against Iran.

Futsal competitions at the 2017 Southeast Asian Games in Kuala Lumpur will take place at Panasonic Stadium in Shah Alam. Five women futsal teams will compete – Malaysia, Thailand, Viet Nam, Myanmar and Indonesia – starting on 18 August. ■



Myanmar women's futsal team is seen in front of the National Football Center in Thailand. **PHOTO: MFF**



Myanmar and Japan teams pose for the photo in the playground. Photo: MFF

Myanmar Women's National Football Team defeats Japan

Kyaw Zin Tun

Myanmar women's national football team defeated two Japanese teams in friendly matches in Osaka, Japan on July 23, according to the Facebook page of the Myanmar Football Federation (MFF).

The Myanmar women's national football team established their training camp for the upcoming SEA Games in Osaka, Japan between July 13 and 24, during which time they played friendly matches against Japanese teams. On July 23, Myanmar women's national football

team defeated Japan U-18 Alberix Niigata women's team 6-0.

Myanmar began the game with a line-up that included Mya Phu Ngon, Wai Wai Aung, Phu Pwint Khine, Khin Than Wai, Zin Mar Win, Than Than Htwe, Khin Malar Htun, Naw Ar Lo Wer Phaw, Ye Ye Oo, Win Theingi Tun and Khin Moe Wai.

In the second half, Myanmar team substituted Zar Zar Myint for Mya Phu Ngon, Yupa Khine for Naw Ar Lo Wer Phaw, Nge Nge Htwe for Zin Mar Win, Thanda Moe for Than Than Htwe and May Sabel Phuu for Khin Malar Htun. Naw Ar Lo

Wer Phaw and Win Theingi Tun scored two goals each and, Khin Malar Htun and Ye Ye Oo scored one goal each.

After playing against Japan U-18 Alberix Niigata women's team, Myanmar team played an additional 30-minute match against the Niigata Japan Sport College Team with the following line-up: Myo Ma Ma Nyein, San San Maw, May Sabel Phoo, Lae Lae Hlaing, Chit Chit, July Kyaw, Nge Nge Htwe, Yupa Khine, Khin Mo Mo Htun, Ei Yadana Phyoo and Nu Nu. July Kyaw scored the winning goal for Myanmar team at 30 minutes. ■

United's Mkhitarian vows to get better after tough first season

LONDON — Manchester United midfielder Henrikh Mkhitarian backs himself to improve in his second season at the club, saying his struggle to impress manager Jose Mourinho has made him mentally stronger.

Mkhitarian, who arrived at Old Trafford from Borussia Dortmund at the start of last season, had to wait until September to make his first Premier League start against Manchester City, only to be subbed at half-time.

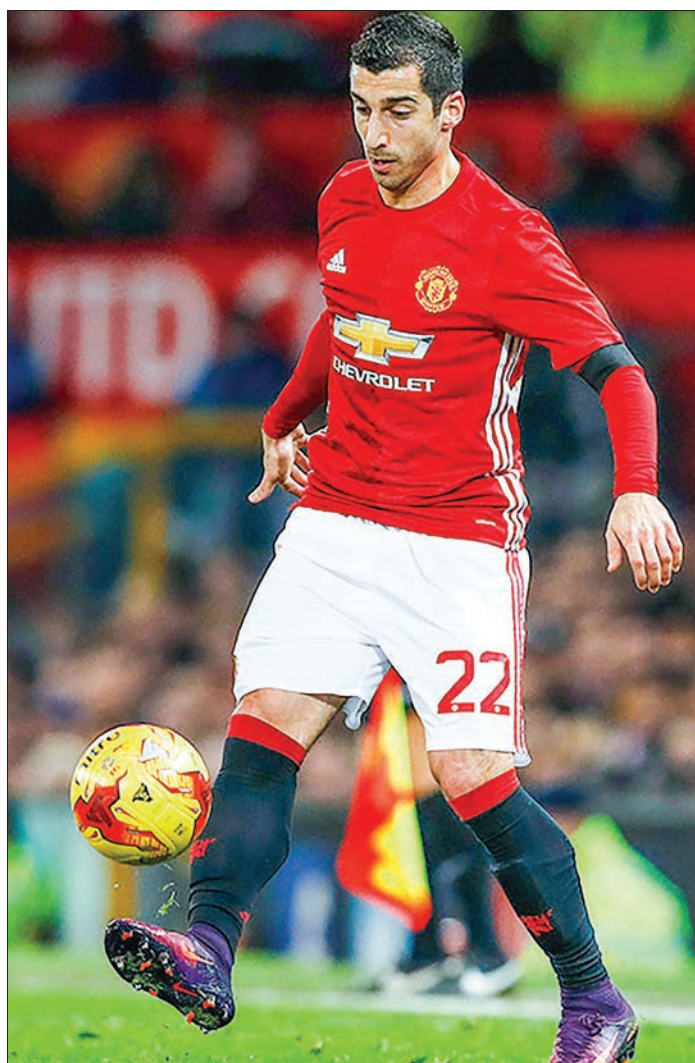
The Armenian improved in the second-half of the season and finished the season strongly, scoring in the 2-0 Europa League final victory over Ajax Amsterdam.

"For sure I will be a better player for this experience," Mkhitarian told reporters.

"Last year with my difficulties they helped me a lot. I could stay more strong in my mind,

like mentally," "It shows that you are strong enough to win them over or not. I think I have done everything to work hard, to show everyone I can play and that I can do my best for the team."

Mkhitarian said United have set higher targets ahead of the upcoming season after finishing with League Cup and Europa League title in Mourinho's first season at Old Trafford. "The manager in general is saying that we need to do more," the 28-year-old added. "We know this season is going to be a little bit harder because we are not going to play in the Europa League we are going to play in the Champions League, which is different." United, who finished sixth in the league last season, host West Ham United on 13 August in the opening game of their campaign on 13 August. —Reuters ■



Henrikh Mkhitarian. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Koscielny has no desire to leave Arsenal

LONDON — Arsenal centre back Laurent Koscielny has no desire to leave the Premier League club, the France international has said, despite reported interest from Ligue 1 side Olympique de Marseille. The 31-year-old, who signed a new long-term deal at the Emirates Stadium in January, has been linked with a move to Marseille during the close season transfer window by the French media. "When I first got here, I didn't think about how long I would stay at this club — but now I am starting my eighth season so I am very happy with this," Koscielny told the club website (www.arsenal.com). "I have a long contract with Arsenal and I have (no reason) to leave the club. I am just here to enjoy my job and give everything for the team, and get the best results for the club. If I can do all of that, then I am happy." —Reuters ■