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**SUNDAY SPECIAL**



# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Dignitaries and diplomats attend the Interfaith Dialogue for Peace, Harmony and Security in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

## Interfaith Dialogue for Peace, Harmony and Security held

An interfaith dialogue for peace, harmony and security was held at Sitagu International Buddhist Academy for two days from 5th to 6th July under the leadership of Sitagu International Buddhist Academy Chancellor Sitagu Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru

Dr Bhaddanta Nyaneikthara.

The two-day dialogue, held in Dagon Myothit (North), Yangon Region, was convened by the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture with the concerted assistance of Japan foundation and the international foundation called Viveka Nanda from India.

Addressing the dialogue, the Sitagu Sayadawgyi emphasized that those in attendance have one thing in common despite with different religious faiths, cultures and social characters, that this common goal is nothing but peace, stability and security of the human world and that

the contemporary world lacks peace, security and stability because of variegated political, racial and religious conflicts.

Additionally, Sitagu Sayadawgyi pointed out the growth rate of atheists around the world.

**SEE PAGE-2**

## Death toll from H1N1 reaches 15

With one more death from H1N1 influenza yesterday, the nationwide death toll has reached 15, or 4.2 per cent of persons confirmed to be infected, said Ministry of Health and Sports.

As the number of confirmed cases of the H1N1 virus climbed to 136 yesterday, response teams speeded up their field trips to areas which saw clusters of H1N1 infections, monitoring the rate of infection of the virus.

A statement of the ministry said the number of patients who have been contracted the virus since 21st July reached 136 yesterday, increasing 110 from Thursday.

Meanwhile, 61 patients who have contracted with the virus are receiving treatment at hospitals and most of them are expected to be discharged soon.

Laboratory tests at the National Institute of Infectious Disease in Japan said that the H1N1 virus found in Myanmar is the same with the virus which spread across the world and it can be treated from 95 per cent to 98 per cent, said Dr Htay Htay Tin, Deputy Director-General (Laboratory) of the National Health Laboratory Department.

She also confirmed that the H1N1 virus is not mutated from the avian influenza virus.  
—Myanmar News Agency ■





# Soft opening of Daw Khin Kyi Women's Hospital

A soft opening ceremony of Daw Khin Kyi Women's Hospital, a Myanmar-China friendship hospital, was held yesterday morning at the hospital in the Bogyoke Museum Road, in Bo Cho Ward-1 in Bahan Township, Yangon where Daw Khin Kyi Women Hospital Medical Superintendent Dr. Daw Thin Yu Zaw explained about the hospital history and the reason for donating the hospital and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein delivered an opening speech.

Next, Head of the International Liaison Department of the Communist Party of the People's Republic of China H.E. Mr. Song Tao said support is always provided for socio economic development of Myanmar and its people and non-government organisations of China were always asked to come to Myanmar and conduct works that benefits the people. Afterward, the Head of the International Liaison Department of the Communist Party of the



Head of the International Liaison Department of the Communist Party of the People's Republic of China Mr. Song Tao presents the bouquet to NLD patron U Tin Oo at the Yangon People's Hospital **PHOTO: MNA**

People's Republic of China, Yangon Region Chief Minister, wife of Chinese ambassador to Myanmar and Ministry of Health and Sports permanent secretary pressed a button to

unveil a commemorative plaque of the Myanmar-China friendship hospital – Daw Khin Kyi Women's Hospital – and took a commemorative group photo.

At the event, China Founda-

tion for Peace and Development secretary-general Mr. Xu Jian Guo donated a car and National League for Democracy presented photographs of Daw Khin Kyi as a commemoration of the

donation.

Mr. Song Tao, U Phyo Min Thein and guests attending the event then toured the hospital construction and viewed the hospital equipment.

The hospital is 84 years old and it was named Tower Lane Women's Hospital in 1947, governed by the 13-member board chaired by Daw Khin Kyi, wife of Bogyoke Aung San, and was renamed Bahan Women's Hospital in 1992 and was transformed into the 50-bed hospital 2011.

Work on renovation of the old building and on construction one two-story building started on 22 February this year at the cost of US\$ 2 million funded by the Chinese government.

After this, Mr Song Tao and party met with Yangon Region government in Chatrium Hotel, Tamway Township. Mr Song Tao party then visited Yangon People's Hospital. and encouraged National League for Democracy patron U Tin Oo who was undergoing treatment there. —Myanmar News Agency ■

## Clearance of Mandalay, Yangon demonstration camps



Temporary suspension of demonstration camp in front of Yangon Bronze Buddha Image Pagoda Yangon. **PHOTO: ZAW GYI**

A demonstration camp setup in Maha Myat Muni Pagoda area, Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay since 2 August was cleared under the arrangement of Mandalay Region government. Yesterday morning.

11 monks and 2 women were detained when the camp was cleared on the morning of 2 August. The 11 detained monks include six who were of the eight leading monks and five persons who were already being issued an arrest warrant. The six were then defrocked in front of the Region Sangha Nayaka Committee Chairman Sayadaw.

Afterward, the remaining five monks who were not includ-

ed in the arrest warrants wrote testimonials and signed consent letters in front of Region Sangha Nayaka Sayadaws and were escorted back to their respective monasteries. A demonstration camp in front of Mahazeya Atula Marazane Bronze Buddha Image Pagoda was reported to have been temporarily suspended starting from yesterday evening. A decision was made to temporarily suspend the demonstration camp after the leading monks who staged anti-government protests at the camp were requested by Yangon Region Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee on 4 August to vacate.—MNA and Zaw Gyi ■

## Interfaith Dialogue for Peace, Harmony and Security held

### FROM PAGE-1

The atheists in England accounted for 35 per cent of its total population whereas those in Japan numbered 31 per cent and those in America totaled 33 per cent. In this age of science and technology, the younger generations tend to neglect the religious teachings, making the world vulnerable to terrorism. He concluded by urging those attending the dialogue to try to understand the very essence of different religious faiths, to commit themselves to promotion of peace and stability of the world and to tread on the common path to ensuring peace, security and stability of the world.

Next, Gen. N.C. Vij, Director, VIF, India greeted the attendees and presented a video tape covering the messages of felicitation sent by the Indian Prime Minister and the Japanese Prime Minister. Afterwards, Param Pujya Swami Avdeshanandaji read out the message of blessing. Then, Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko, Uttar Pradesh state governor HE Mr. Ramchandra Damodar Naik and State Minister

for Foreign Affairs of Japan HE Mr Nobuo Kishi spoke words of greeting.

Next, U Thaung Tun, national security adviser, delivered the opening speech on behalf of State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. He pointed out that the United Nations General Assembly held in 2003 passed a resolution calling for seeking the common values through dialogues regarding different religious faiths, that the dialogue being held is a measure of abidance by that resolution, that the venue of the dialogue is Yangon, which literally suggests end of enmity and that the place of the dialogue is, therefore, quite likely to be blessed by the God.

Additionally, U Thaung Tun said that all religious faiths have an objective to keep the world peaceful and prosperous. All religious faiths teach their believers to exercise restraints, avoid committing terrorists activities and cultivate a noble mind.

He continued to say that the constitution of Myanmar has granted all citizens the freedom to profess the religious faith they believe in without any discrimination whatsoever. Moreover, he

said that hate speech should not prevail in all strata of Myanmar; that when the world "security" is mentioned, the reference should go beyond the physical security and that peace is being built up through establishment of good relations between and among the religious faiths.

Afterwards, Japan Foundation Vice Chairman Ms Hiroko Tsuka spoke words of thanks. Next, the Buddhist monks from within and without the country, the religious leaders, the dignitaries from the governments concerned, the scholars and the researchers are presented with souvenirs before posing for a group photo.

Then, Union minister Thura U Aung Ko, HE Mr Ramchandra Damodar Naik and Indian Ambassador to Myanmar HE Mr Vikram Misri held a press conference.

The two-day dialogue was attended by 135 religious leaders and scholars from 32 countries inclusive of US, UK, Spain, Japan, China, Bhutan, France, India and Sri Lanka etc and 120 religious leaders and scholars from Myanmar.—Myanmar News Agency ■



# 50 mmcfd natural gas from offshore block A-6

Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Win Khaing together with Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister Mahn Johnny visited drill ship Dhirubhai Deepwater KG2 (DDKG2) drilling appraisal well Pyithit (1) in Myanmar western offshore block A(6).

Officials from Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE), shareholding companies MPRL Company, Woodside Company and TEPM Company explained to the Union Minister and party about the appraisal well drilling status and testing of the natural gas. The Union Minister and

party then tour the drill ship to view the testing and drilling operation.

Drilling of the appraisal well Pyithit (1) in offshore block A(6) was started on 10 June and reached the target depth of 4,570 metre on 15 July. A 35 metre thick sand layer where natural gas is likely to be contained was found at a depth of 3,542 metre and a drill stem test shows that 50 million cubic feet per day (mmcfd) of natural gas can be produced.

Exploration of offshore block A(6) was conducted with 20 per cent investment

by MPRL E&P, 40 per cent investment by Australia's Woodside Energy (Myanmar) Pte., Ltd. and 40 per cent investment by Total E&P Myanmar company under the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) signed with MOGE. The appraisal well Pyithit (1) was a third well drilled in block A(6) and is 90 km northwest of Patheingyi in a water depth of 2,001 metre. More appraisal/exploration wells will be drilled and if natural gas discovered is found to be commercially viable, development works will be continued.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Drill ship Dhirubhai Deepwater KG2 (DDKG2) testing of the natural gas in Myanmar western offshore block A(6). **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

## One of two missing women in August-3 attack in Maungtaw found dead

One of the two missing women in the recent attack which killed six villagers was found dead yesterday in Maungtaw.

The security forces found the body of Daw Htone Wai, aged 21, with gun shots and cuts by machetes.

The security forces continue to search for the remaining missing woman.

The bodies of six people near Kaigyi Village and the Mayu Mountain Range were discovered by Myanmar security forces

on patrol in Maungtaw, Rakhine State. The villagers, all members of the Mro-Arakan ethnic group, had been killed with machetes and gunshots, according to security officials.

Meanwhile, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu held a meeting with local authorities in Buthidaung, Rakhine State, over current security situation in the state.

Following the meeting, the Chief Minister went to Zedipyin Village in Yathedaung Township

and provided aid to internally displaced persons sheltering at the monastery in the village.

Rakhine State Hluttaw Speaker U San Kyaw Hla also met with families of the victims of August-3 attack on Mro ethnic villagers and delivered rice and cash assistance to them.

The victims were identified as Kon Wai, 25, Lin Kyat, 29, U Kaing Hmwe, 25, Daw Seik Yar, 38, Daw Yi, 27, and Daw Hti Kaw, 25, from Kaigyi Village.—Myanmar News Agency ■



## Live broadcast of State Counsellor's Peace Talk with rural villagers

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is conducting a Peace Talk with rural villagers in Myay Tine Kan Village, Wundwin, Meiktila District, Mandalay Region at 10 a.m. on 7 August.

The State Counsellor and eight Myay Tine Kan villagers will participate in the Peace

Talk and it will be broadcasted live by MRTV television channel, Myanmar Radio program and official Facebook pages of Myanmar State Counsellor Office and Myanmar President Office starting from 9:40 a.m. on 7 August.—Myanmar News Agency ■

## 4<sup>th</sup> Myanmar FoodBev and 2<sup>nd</sup> Myanmar Retail Sourcing Expo to be held in Aug

THE 4th Myanmar FoodBev and 2nd Myanmar Retail Sourcing Expo will be held from 17 to 19 August 2017 at Tatmadaw Hall, Yangon, Myanmar.

"The exhibition will be held under the patronage of a Thai-based company known as ICVEX Co.,LTD, the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry(UMFCCI), Myanmar Restaurateurs' Association and Myanmar Retailers Association. The exhibition will display over 80 brands and companies from Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, China and Taiwan offering the latest of food & beverage suppliers as well as equipment, retail business technology and sourcing of retail products. Moreover, the professional retail businessmen will provide educational talks with the topic of "Towards Retail Stores Excellence" for retail industry to equip with latest information and knowledge sharing at the exhibition," said U Myo Min Aung, the vice chairman of Myanmar Retailers Association, who is the organizer of the event.

"People who visit the event can get contact with the border trade businessmen. At the exhibition, the event organizers are making arrangements to provide the awareness talk concerning card payment system

and e-commerce. The international companies will also sell their software at the exhibition," he added.

Myanmar Restaurateurs' Association will hold 2 minutes lunch box competition whereas Bartenders Association will also demonstrate cocktail mixing.

"Previously, there were only a few suppliers in Myanmar. The restaurant owners had to purchase the raw materials of the food from other countries with their own arrangement. Now, people can purchase the various brands of foodstuff at the exhibition. People can also have a chance to meet the suppliers with whom they can share the knowledge of the foodstuff.

Therefore, the exhibition is very beneficial for Myanmar retailers, said U Nay Lin, the chairman of the Myanmar Restaurateurs' Association. The event organizers are also making arrangements for lucky draw the winner of which will be provided with three Bangkok round-trip air tickets. Only those who have registered themselves with the following websites [www.myanmarfoodbev.com](http://www.myanmarfoodbev.com) and [www.myanmar-retailsourcing.com](http://www.myanmar-retailsourcing.com) are entitled to take part of the luckydraw. For more information, please feel free to call: 097799239635.—May Thet Hnin ■



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# Tourists entering via Tachilek border gate on the rise

MORE than 1,900 tourists visited Myanmar through the Tachilek border gate from 1st July to 3rd August this fiscal year.

There are many beautiful natural scenes, eco-tourism sites and archeological sites in Myanmar. Besides, there is now community-based tourism (CBT) by which tourist can observe the lifestyle of ethnic people. Therefore, the tourists are also visiting border areas these days. Around 445 tourists made day return visits via Tachilek border gate while 970 tourists conducting overnight trips and 582 tourists visited with visa.

The tourists who made day

return visits went to Tar Lot market, Bayintnaung statue, Mahar Muni pagoda, Shwed-agon pagoda, the national ethnic village, Arr Khar market in Tachilek town.

The tourists who conducted the overnight trips went to the famous pagodas at Mong Phyat town and Keng Tung town. About 8,599 tourists visited Myanmar through Tachilek border gate from 1st April to 3rd August, 2017. Among them, 2831 tourists made day return trips whereas 3,417 conducted the overnight trips and 2350 tourists visited with the holding of visa via the international airport.— GNLM ■



Tourists are seen in Tachileik. PHOTO: MOHT

## Mobile generator handed over to the Yangon Region government

IN order to supply electricity in needed areas, a mobile electric power generator called TM 2500 was handed over to the Yangon Region government by the General Electric International Operations Company (GE) and Golden Green Energy Co., Ltd. (GGE) on 4 August, 2017, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

The TM 2500 can respond quickly to emergency situation or help generate back

up power. When TM2500 is operating at its full capacity, it could generate enough electricity to supply about 160,000 houses.

The project has been implemented by the Yangon Region Government with the Union Parliament's approved budge amounting to Ks 30 billion. The budget is allocated by the Presidential's special reserve fund. The project has been implemented with an aim to supply more electric

power in Yangon Region. "It will take many years to construct a large scale electric power generators".

The TM2500 is very much useful for both long-term and short-term electricity supply for Myanmar," said Mr. Andre Lee, the Chief Country Representative of GE Myanmar.

Now, the TM 2500 electrical power generator is under the management of Yangon Electric Power Corporation and the Ministry of Electricity

and Energy.

The TM2500 is a perfect mobile gas turbine and power plant solution that can be delivered easily.

The TM2500 will be of dramatic help to fulfill the power needs of the people when electric power stations can be upgraded.

Moreover, It can supply electricity to those areas, which have no connection with the national power grid.— GNLM ■

## Star bean to be grown extensively

A star bean oil mill will be set up in Keng Tung township in Shan State (east) within the next three months. Therefore, the star bean will be cultivated extensively, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

To cultivate the star beans on a wider scale, the Star Bean Growers' Association will de-

liver the star bean seeds free of charge to the local growers. The star bean oil mill will be established by SANDAI Co., Ltd, which plan to export the star bean oil to Japan as well as to South Korea and China (Taipei) markets.

Upon completion of building of the factory, the company will cultivate the star beans on

a large scale. The Japanese company has also planned to provide training courses for the local farmers. Japan will purchase only the star beans which are cultivated with their Japanese technology.

The company has sent the star bean oil to a Japanese laboratory last year. According to the result, they found the star

bean oil enriched in vitamin. Therefore, the Japanese company has decided to set up the star bean oil mill. Currently in Shan State (east), there are only 230 acres which are put under cultivation of the star bean plants. Therefore, the company has decided to cultivate more star bean plants in Shan State.— GNLM ■

## CICC takes action regarding complaints

CONSUMER Information and Complaints Centre (CICC) has taken legal action in regard to 14 complaints filed between May and 31 July, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

CICC was opened in May this year in every district of States and Regions. The com-

mittee has negotiated regarding seven cases and taken action concerning 14 cases.

The committee received many complaints within this three-month period. Some recent complaints include the unsatisfactory services of the restaurants, poor telephone operation services, the inconven-

ient highway passenger buses, poor services of the banks, the low-quality electrical goods, selling of the fake eggs, the decomposed frozen meat imported from abroad and the expired food stuff, said U Soe Aung, the deputy director of the consumer affairs department.

CICC solved the com-

plaints within 24 hours. If the court finds the complaints true and legal, the committee will either give warning or make the accused pay compensation or ban distribution in the market and revoke the company's license, give three-year imprisonment and impose a fine up to Ks 5 million.— GNLM ■





A truck carrying motorbikes is seen near the 105-mile Muse Trade Zone, northern Shan State. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH**

## More than 9,500 motorbikes imported to Myanmar from borders

MYANMAR imported more than 9,500 motorcycles worth US\$4.724 million from neighbouring countries between 15 and 21 July through cross-border trade stations, the Commerce Ministry reported.

The number of imported motorbikes was over 500 more than the previous week import. The country purchased

about 9,000 motorbikes in the previous week through Muse, Myawady and Tamu border gates.

According to the ministry, 8,107 motorbikes worth \$2.669 million have been bought from China via Muse border point of entry, \$2.010 million worth of 1,269 motorbikes from Myawady border gate, 13 mo-

torbikes worth \$0.011 million from Tamu border station and \$0.034 million worth of 120 motorbikes from Kanpaiktee cross-border trade camp.

A total of 342 three-wheel motorbikes were also been imported from China through Muse and Kanpaiktee border points during the same week.—Kyaw Swa ■

## July YSX trade value second lowest level on record

The value of the Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) declined in July to its second lowest level since its establishment in 2015, trading more than 161,000 shares with an estimated value of Ks1.37 billion, according to the YSX statistics.

Four companies, First Myanmar Investment (FMI), Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings (MTSH), Myanmar Citizens Bank (MCB) and First Private Bank (FPB) are listed on the YSX.

Last year, FMI traded shares worth Ks24 billion in March and Ks5.8 billion in April.

MTSH was listed on 20th May and combined FMI and

MTSH share trades were estimated at Ks16 billion in May, Ks6.8 billion in June and Ks3.7 billion in July.

Once MCB was listed on YSX, the combined share trades of FMI, MTSH and MCB were estimated to be worth Ks2.9 billion in August, Ks2.4 billion in September, Ks4 billion in October and Ks2.2 billion in November. YSX share trades dropped to Ks1.5 billion in December.

With the debut of First Private Bank (FPB) share trades of four listed companies in Jan and Feb 2017 rose again to Ks6 billion and then dropped to Ks3.3 billion in March. April's share trade values dropped to Ks1.2 billion.

Stock trading slightly increased in May with estimated value of Ks1.48 billion and again June with trading values of Ks1.54 billion.

The YSX is seeking to raise interest by holding the Yangon Stock Exchange Expo at the Park Royal Hotel in Yangon on 10 September.

The expo will include panels of economic and legal experts, lucky draw events and quiz programs, according to a report of City News published on 27 July.

A total of 18,892 shares were traded on 2 August. Share prices at closing time were Ks14,500 for FMI, Ks4,000 for MTSH, Ks8,800 for MCB and Ks23,500 for FPB.—Ko Htet ■

## Trade deficit reaches \$1.6 billion

THE VALUE of foreign trade for the current fiscal year hit more than US\$10 billion, with the trade deficit of \$1.6 billion, according to the Commerce Ministry's statistical report on Friday.

Between 1 April and 28 July of this year, the total external trade value increased by almost \$2 billion matched against the same period of last year. Exports were \$4.322 billion and imports were \$5.970 billion.

Trade value included \$7.9 billion from normal trade and over \$2.3 billion from the border trade. Eighty per cent of Myanmar's exports were by sea.

According to the ministry's yearly report, the country's trade deficit was \$91 million in FY2012-2013 and increased to \$2.555 billion in FY2013-2014, \$4.109 billion in FY2014-2015, \$5.441 billion in FY2015-2016 and \$5.5 billion in FY2016-2017.—Khine Khant ■

**THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR**

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

**နေပြည်တော်**  
မြန်မာ့သမ္မတမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော် (၇) နေပြည်တော်  
သတင်းနှင့်တည်းခံသတင်းစာ (၄) (မိုးမြေ)  
စီမံခန့်ခွဲမှုဌာနမှ ဖုန်း - ၀၉၄ ၄၁၂၁၀၀

**နေပြည်တော်**  
နေပြည်တော်သတင်းစာတိုက် (တပ်ကုန်း)  
သေတ္တာသိမ်းမြို့နယ်၊ သေတ္တာလမ်း၊ နေပြည်တော်  
ဖုန်း - ၀၉၄ ၃၆၀၄၈၊ ၀၉၄ ၃၆၀၂၉

**ရန်ကုန်**  
The Global New Light of Myanmar သတင်းစာတိုက်၊ အမှတ် ၁၅၀၊  
မိသားစုကြီးသုတေသန လမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့  
ဖုန်း - ၀၁ ၆၀၀၅၉၂၁၊ ၀၉၅ ၃၇၄၄၂၀၀၄

**မန္တလေး**  
လမ်း (၂၀ - ၂၁) ကြား (၁၂ - ၁၃) လမ်းကြား၊ ပုလဲခွေ  
ဆောင်ရွက်မှုဌာနမှ ဖုန်း - ၀၂၃ ၂၂၂၂၁၊ ၀၂၃ ၂၂၂၂၁

**တောင်ကြီး**  
ပုလဲလမ်း၊ သင်တန်းဆရာတော် တောင်ကြီးမြို့  
ဖုန်း - ၀၉၀ ၂၁၀၆၄၊ ၀၉၅ ၂၁၀၄၅၅

**မကွေး**  
နတ်မောင်လမ်း၊ တပ်မ (၈)၊ သင်တန်းဆရာတော်  
မကွေးမြို့ ဖုန်း - ၀၉၄ ၂၇၀၁၂

**ကချင်ပြည်နယ်**  
မြို့ဝင် (၃ - ၁) အမှတ် (၁) လမ်းဆုံ၊ မြို့တော်လမ်း  
ကချင်ပြည်နယ် ဖုန်း - ၀၈၄ ၂၃၉၂၂

**ကလေး**  
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## Southeast Asian states say Korea standoff threatens global peace

MANILA — Southeast Asian foreign ministers expressed grave concern on Saturday about rising tensions on the Korean peninsula stemming from long-range missile tests by North Korea that “seriously threaten” global peace and security.

Taking a stronger tone than it has previously on the standoff, the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) called for North Korea to comply with United Nations Security Council resolutions on its nuclear programme, and make a positive contribution to regional peace.

The statement was issued separately, rather than included in ASEAN’s customary communique at the end of the foreign ministers meeting.

Following the foreign ministers meeting is Monday’s annual ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), which gathers 27 foreign ministers — including those of Russia, Japan, South Korea, the United States, China and North Korea — to discuss Asian security issues.

“We strongly call upon (North Korea) as a participant of the ASEAN Regional Forum, to positively contribute to realise the ARF vision to maintain the Asia-Pacific as a region of lasting peace, stability, friendship and prosperity,” said the



ASEAN Foreign Ministers take part in a meeting of the 50<sup>th</sup> Association of Southeast Asia Nations (ASEAN) Regional Forum (ARF) in Manila, Philippines on 5 August, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

ASEAN ministers meeting in Manila.

North Korea is determined to develop a nuclear-tipped missile capable of hitting the United States and officials in Washington say its latest test a week ago showed it may be able to reach most of the country.

China has urged calm and restraint from all countries involved in the standoff.

The ASEAN position is short of the tougher line on North Korea urged by the United States, which wants South-east Asian countries to down-

grade their relations with the already isolated nation.

ASEAN countries have argued that is difficult since its members do not have substantive ties with North Korea.

Philippine Foreign Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano, who is chairing the Manila meetings, said on Friday ASEAN would not consider expelling North Korea from the ARF. He argued it is better to have dialogue and utilise a rare opportunity where parties involved in the issue are meeting together.

“There were views that, how can we hear them out or confront them (North Korea) if they’re not there?” he told reporters after a late-night discussion with his ASEAN counterparts.

Some Asian countries, including South Korea, are hoping to have bilateral talks with North Korea’s foreign minister, Ri Yong Ho. He left Pyongyang on Saturday and was en route to Manila, the North’s official KCNA news agency reported.

“If there is a chance, I would tell him that we must

have dialogue and that the North must stop the continuous provocations,” South Korean Foreign Minister Kang Kyung-wha told reporters upon arrival in Manila.

“Moreover, I will tell him that to build a peace system, North Korea must respond to the two proposals we recently suggested.”

US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson is due to attend the Manila meeting and will press China and other Asian countries to take tougher action against North Korea.

The United Nations Security Council was set to vote on Saturday on a US-drafted resolution that aims to slash by a third North Korea’s \$3 billion annual export revenue over Pyongyang’s two intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) tests in July.

North Korea briefed diplomats of Indonesia, Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia in Pyongyang on Tuesday about the “resounding success” of its latest ICBM test, its foreign ministry said on its website.

In the posting on Saturday, it said diplomats were told the US “trumpeting” about war and its threat of sanctions only increased Pyongyang’s “vigilance and courage”, and justification for its tests.—Reuters ■

## Maritime trade through South China Sea booms despite territory disputes

WASHINGTON — Global trade through the South China Sea totaled 28 trillion US dollars from 2008 to 2016, with annual value rising from 2.61 trillion dollars in 2008 to 3.37 trillion in 2016, a US leading think tank said in a report on Friday.

In pursuit of an accurate estimation, a team led by Bonnie Glaser with Centre for Strategic & International Studies constructed a new dataset for South China Sea trade using common shipping routes, automatic identification system data and bilateral trade flows.

The new research finds an estimated 3.37 trillion dollars in trade passed through the South China Sea in 2016. These

estimates represent a sizeable proportion of international trade, constituting some 21 per cent of global trade in 2016, the research said. According to the report, trade through the waterway increased in six years out of eight during the time period of 2009 to 2016. In other words, the territory disputes in the South China Sea in recent years did not stop maritime trade from booming.

“For many of the world’s largest economies, the South China Sea is an essential maritime crossroads for trade,” the report said. Over 64 per cent of China’s maritime trade transited the waterway in 2016, while nearly 42 per cent of that of Japan’s passed through the South China

Sea in the same year. The United States was less reliant on South China Sea, also with over 14 per cent of its maritime trade passing through the region. “Given the significance of the South China Sea for Chinese trade, Beijing may be more inclined to take steps to preserve the free flow of trade,” said the report. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Geng Shuang said in July that China has been committed to peacefully solving disputes over the South China Sea through consultation and negotiation with countries directly concerned and determined to maintain peace and stability of the South China Sea with the Association of South-east Asian Nations.—Xinhua ■

## DPRK warns US against further military pressure over nuclear programme

PYONGYANG — The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) on Saturday warned the United States against further military and economic pressure over its nuclear programme, after Pyongyang successfully test fired its second intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).

The official Korean Central News Agency said the United States has thrown “a hysteric fit” after being “taken aback by the DPRK’s continued demonstration of nuclear attack capabilities.”

The United States has been making repeated military threats against Pyongyang after

it launched its second ICBM on 28 July, by sending B-1B strategic bombers to the Korean Peninsula and holding joint missile drills with South Korea, said the news agency in a commentary.

“The more desperately the US works to realize its ambition for ‘nuclear dismantlement of the north’ through ‘maximum pressure and engagement,’ the more dynamically the DPRK has stepped up diversifying and modernizing its nuclear force,” it said. The United States is going to propose a new resolution of sanctions against the DPRK at the United Nations Security Council on Saturday, according to media reports.—Xinhua ■



## Asia security forum to push social media use to fight extremism

MANILA — More than two dozen Asian countries will agree to utilize social media to counter the spread of violent extremism in the region, according to a draft statement being prepared ahead of a top security gathering on Monday.

Foreign ministers from the 10-member Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and from 17 dialogue partner-countries are expected to create a regional mechanism to address the security threat.

“The ministers expressed strong condemnation of recent acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,” said the draft chairman’s statement seen by Reuters, reflecting discussions expected at the ASEAN Regional Forum in Manila.

“They also took note of the need to make full and effective use of social media to counter the spread of terrorists’ narratives online.”

The ARF is expected to discuss creating a mechanism to boost efforts on Security of Information Communication Technology, which Japan, Malaysia and Singapore have volunteered to lead. The Philippines, which is hosting the ASEAN meetings, is among those most affected. Authorities have said Islamic State’s radical ideology is taking a hold in the country’s south, with local groups using social media as a primary means of recruiting fighters, which include Indonesians, Singaporeans and Malaysians.

Philippine troops have been

battling Islamist militants who seized control of parts of the mainly Muslim Marawi City more than two months ago. Close to 700 people have died and more than 400,000 displaced in the intense fighting. Philippine authorities believe the problem goes beyond Marawi and militants may be preparing to attack other cities.

ASEAN ministers were ready to act because they have seen how extremists exploited social media to promote their ideology, recruit and inspire attacks, a senior Philippines foreign ministry official familiar with the issue told Reuters.

“They spread violent videos on Twitter and Facebook and communicate through Telegram messaging apps,” he said, adding the ministers decided to counter the threat using those same platforms. Brigadier-General Restituto Padilla, Philippine military spokesman, said many countries were making progress in that regard but “there is a need for ASEAN to do more.”

“We can do more beyond the traditional military cooperation,” he said, acknowledging support from Indonesia and Malaysia through information and intelligence exchanges and coordinated maritime border patrols.

“This is a very robust engagement that we wish to increase not only with Indonesia and Malaysia,” he said. “This challenge that we face in Marawi has its effects also in the whole region.” —Reuters ■



The freight train X8074 from Prague arrives in Yiwu, east China’s Zhejiang Province, on 4 August, 2017. The first freight train from Prague, the Czech Republic to Yiwu arrived at Yiwu west freight station at about 11:00 am Friday after a 16-day journey. The train carried 82 containers of crystal products, automobile accessories, beer and some other Czech products, with total value of about five million US dollars. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

## Surge in European eel exports to be probed, may impact Japan shipments

TOKYO — The secretariat of the international treaty protecting endangered species will investigate the surge in recent years of eel exports by Morocco and Tunisia, people close to the matter said on Saturday.

The probe could uncover illegal shipments of European eel — a protected species under the Washington Convention — to major eel consuming nations including Japan.

With exports of European eel banned outside European Union member states, there has been increased smuggling of the fish to Morocco and Tunisia for shipping to Asia.

According to the treaty’s secretariat, exports of European eel by those two countries jumped from 5 tons in 2011 to 498 tons in 2015. Shipments of processed eel also surged to 128 tons from 5 tons in the same period.

Japan, one of the world’s largest eel consumers, imported 17 tons of eel from Morocco in 2014, according to Japan trade data.

The data also shows imports from China have increased sharply, suggesting European eels may be being smuggled into Japan from there.

Japan’s native stocks of eel have declined due partly to over-fishing.—Kyodo News ■

## Singapore cancels residence status of “US citizen”, says he worked for foreign power

SINGAPORE — Singapore said on Friday it had cancelled the permanent residence status of a professor at a prominent post-graduate school whom it identified as a US citizen, and accused him of being an agent of influence for a foreign country.

The Ministry of Home Affairs said Huang Jing, a professor of US-China relations at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, “knowingly interacted with intelligence organizations and agents of the foreign country” with the aim of bringing about a change in the direction of Singapore’s foreign

policy. The ruling, which also applied to Huang’s wife, Shirley Yang Xiuping, means that if they leave Singapore, they will not be readmitted.

The ministry identified the couple as US citizens, but did not identify the country that Huang was alleged to have been working for. A spokeswoman for the US State Department said it was aware of the Singapore announcement but declined further comment, citing privacy concerns.

China’s foreign ministry said Beijing had no knowledge of Huang’s case. “We don’t un-

derstand the relevant situation,” the ministry told Reuters in a statement

Hong Kong’s South China Morning Post newspaper quoted Huang as denying the allegations.

“It’s nonsense to identify me as ‘an agent of influence’ for a foreign country,” he said. “And why didn’t they identify which foreign country they’re referring to? Is it the US or China?”

Huang said he would seek help from his lawyer and the US embassy in Singapore.

“My family and my home are all here. I have property in Singa-

pore, too. How can they treat me like this? If they have evidence, they should take me to court,” said Huang, who was not given a deadline to leave the island state.

The home affairs ministry charged that Huang had used his position at the Lee Kuan Yew school “to deliberately and covertly advance the agenda of a foreign country at Singapore’s expense.”

“He did this in collaboration with foreign intelligence agents,” it added. The ministry said Huang and his wife could appeal, but if unsuccessful, would have to leave Singapore within a grace period.

The university said it had suspended Huang without pay while it worked with the ministry on the matter.

“As these permits have been cancelled, we would not be able to continue with his employment,” it said in a statement, adding that it could not comment on the specifics of the case.

The ministry said Huang had engaged with prominent and influential Singaporeans, giving them what he claimed to be “privileged information” about the foreign country with which he was interacting.—Reuters ■



# Democracy, Politics and Discipline

Khin Maung Oo

THE above-said three words are commonly found in our everyday expressions wherever we go today. The word, “Democracy” had reached the mouths of almost all individuals for nearly three decades. Those belonging to the age-group 60 years and above have experienced several political systems, especially suffering the suppression of military dictatorships. As a result, they had to live in fear, without having a hint of freedom, not to mention expressing words such as freedom of speech, freedom of assembly and democracy. The then governments exercised various kinds of ways and means to retain their political power—such as tortures, imposition of news blackout and creation of the country as an isolated nation so that they can hang on to power forever. The worst thing was that many people

were subject to moral bankruptcy. “We get the government we deserve,” as the saying goes and we had to live for years under the said fear. The country plunged into the bottom of poverty. For this, we need not argue who was responsible.

With increasingly developed technology and the emergence of able persons who were endowed with advanced political vision and valor, we had managed to change into the political system we had hoped for years. And we have had the government that won the support of the people unprecedentedly. Though being in these circumstances, it cannot be said that we now have a perfect government. “A deva cannot fulfill the needs of mortals,” as a Myanmar saying goes. The incumbent government will not be able to deal with problems piled up for nearly half a century in a short period of time. We have

a deep trust in the “cetana” and good will of the present Union Government. We ourselves have elected the current leaders. So we are always responsible for our representatives not to go astray. We can point out and criticize our leaders from a constructive point of view, but we must be careful ourselves so as not to fall for the tricks and traps of evil-minded destructive elements. These days there are many who clap and boo for a meager amount of money in our surroundings. The other day, Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Nanda Malabivumsa who seldom speaks anything apart from sermons addressed a noteworthy word, “These days some people think that it is politics to act against a government. In fact politics means any effort one makes in the interest of the people and the country.”

The government, or rather we who have elected this government into

power have many things to implement and amend ahead of us. Here we need to distinguish between politics and discipline through the excerpt from Bogyoke Aung San’s speech addressed at the All Workers’ Union and dinner party in Natmawk, on 25th March 1947—“You are required to distinguish politics from discipline. Nothing will work without discipline. If someone wants to violate a code of discipline, he must be well convinced of what kind of punishment he deservedly will get as a consequence. Try your best to have an order changed, by keeping discipline. Abide by disciplines before having it changed. This is differentiation between politics and discipline.” Bogyoke’s speech will serve as a guideline for us to follow forever. We are required to support and help our elected government to be able to give a better future for our generation and future generations. ■

# The climate change is menacing the world

Khin Maung Myint

AFTER I had written quite a number of articles related to the climate change and its impact on the environments and its adverse consequences, I had wrongly thought I had written enough on that issue and turned my attentions to other subjects. Lately, however, as many places around the world are being hit by flooding of great magnitudes, I cannot ignore them any longer and thus decided to write this article.

This year, while our country and many other countries are reeling under the heavy rainfalls and extensive flooding, some places are being hit by extreme high temperatures and severe droughts. These are concrete proofs of the effects of the climate change and are wake up calls for every nation to participate in the fight against global warming. These adverse climate conditions are creating great inconveniences and also severely affecting the well beings of the humans and the wildlife and are also affecting the agricultural, fishery and animal breeding industries.

Experts around the world had for quite sometimes, been wary of the deteriorating climate conditions that can cause devastating effects on the environment. Since they had identified the carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions as being the main culprits behind the global warming, which is the main cause of the climate changes, they had been endeavoring to curb the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to save the world.

It is common knowledge among

those who have the slightest interest in the climate change, that a temperature rise of more than 2°Celsius above the average temperature of the pre-industrialization period could be very devastating. Thus the Paris Agreements reached in 2015 had required the reductions of the fossilized fuel consumptions to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and maintain the temperature at not more than 2°Celsius above that of the mentioned period and to eventually bring it down to 1.5°Celsius.

Year after year the global warming is becoming worse. The extreme temperatures had caused pasture lands to be turned into deserts. Because of the rising temperatures the glaciers around the world are melting and decreasing in sizes. Even the permafrosts or the frozen grounds, that consist of rocks or soils that are formed at or below the freezing point of water and are usually found in high latitudes or at very high altitudes in lower latitudes are being extensively thawing. These conditions caused the rocks and the soil, that were frozen to form the permafrosts, to loosen up and caused the grounds to collapse and the shorelines of some places in the Artic and Antarctic regions to recede inland. People living in those areas are facing the dangers of being displaced as the grounds on which their houses were built are collapsing. The permafrosts on the high mountain ranges such as the Tibetan Plateau and the Alpines are also facing the same fates. The ice caps that covered the North and South Poles, too, have diminished in



sizes due to the melting caused by the rises in temperatures. If these conditions cannot be checked and brought under control in time, the world would be headed for doom.

To date, 157 countries out of the 197 signatories to the Paris Agreements had ratified it. I understand that Myanmar too had signed the ratification not long ago. If only these countries comply with the agreements in earnest and do their share of duty to curb CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, the goals set are quite attainable and the above mentioned disasters could be avoided. Thus every country that had ratified has the obligation to endeavour to curb the temperature rises by reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions or by growing more trees to absorb the CO<sub>2</sub> and create carbon sinks.

Bhutan had committed to conserve its forests by enacting a law to have at least 60 per cent of its land covered

with forests at all times. It had not only achieved that goal, but surpassed it by quite a large margin and had become the first country in the world to be officially recognized as the most forested country and was commended for their achievements at the Paris Conventions in 2015. Today 72 per cent of the land in Bhutan is covered with forests. All other countries should take Bhutan as an example and do what they can to control the temperature rises.

There are many ways to do that and the easiest would be to control the deforestations and grow more trees, avoid using woods as fuels and stop the practice of slash and burn agricultures. Preventions of wildfires could also be greatly helpful too. More complicated and difficult way would be to reduce the use of fossilized fuels, such as: gasoline, diesel and coal.

SEE PAGE 9



## Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits Daihatsu Motor Company in Japan

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and party who were in Tokyo, Japan on a working visit left Tokyo yesterday morning by Shinkansen bullet train and arrive to Osaka where they met with Daihatsu Motor Company Chairman in Senri Hankyu Hotel.

In the afternoon, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and party visited Daihatsu Motor Company.

The Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and party then left Osaka by car and arrive to State Guest House in Kyoto.

Later in the evening, Senior



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and party observe Daihatsu Motor Company in Tokyo, Japan. **PHOTO: MNA**

General Min Aung Hlaing and party were hosted to a dinner in Kyoto State Guest House

by H.E. Mr. Taro Aso, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Japan. —MNA ■

## Police in pursuit of two in shooting in Ygn

A gunshot was fired at Farmer Money Changer shop in the corner of Pyay Road and Yodaya Road in Mayangone Township, Yangon yesterday, according to a report of a police officer in Mayangone Township.

Police Major Soe Aung said “Four cases had been opened for conspiracy, arm possession

with intention to kill, attempted robbery and causing material damage. We are viewing the CCTV records and the bullet casing has been sent to Criminal Investigation Department (CID) to identify the type of gun.”

According to the official, two person came to the mon-

ey changer shop and asked to exchange US\$ with Myanmar Kyats.

The two then attempted to rob and threatened the staff by shooting a gun. When the staff didn't open the door, the two fled along Pyay Road towards the airport on a motorcycle. —Zarni Maung ■

## Three statues lost in a pagoda in Chaung Oo

On 4 August, pagoda trustee of Yadanar Shwe Gu Gyi Pagoda in Chaung Oo Town, Sagaing Region reported to Chaung Oo Myoma Police Station of the loss of three statues out of 28 statues in the pagoda.

On the morning of 4 August,

U Than Dan, a trustee of the pagoda was reported by two other trustee members about the north door of the pagoda being found opened when they passed by. Upon investigation, they found three statues were missing and reported to the police station.

According to the CCTV recording, the thief used acid to open the door and was wearing a boots and pants with face covered by a longyi. The police are conducting further investigation to apprehend the thief.—Myo Win Tun (Monywa) ■



## Fourth day of 54<sup>th</sup> Myanmar Jade and Gems Emporium

54th Myanmar Jade and Gems Emporium continued for the fourth day at Mani Yadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

1,100 lots of jade were sold through an open tender system at the emporium where both local and foreign merchants viewed the jade lots and put their proposals into the tender boxes.

In addition to this, officials opened and announced the merchants' proposals made into the tender boxes on 4 August for the sale of 326 lots of gems.

Officials from Myanmar

Jade and Gems Emporium Central Committee, work committees and Myanmar Gems Enterprise were assisting the requirements of the local and foreign buyers and observers.

During the remaining days of the emporium, jade lots will be sold under an open tender system. Jade lot number 1101 to 2200 will be sold on the fifth day, jade lot 2201 to 3300 on sixth day, jade lot 3301 to 4400 on seventh day, jade lot 4401 to 5500 on eighth day and jade lot 5501 to 6561 on ninth day it is learnt. —

Myanmar News Agency ■



Merchant put their proposals into the tender boxes 54th Myanmar Jade and Gems Emporium. **PHOTO: MNA**

## The climate change is menacing the world

### FROM PAGE 8

Lately the news that India, Britain, France and Norway intend to ditch gasoline and diesel cars in favour of the greener ones, was a very welcoming one. Their target dates to end all sales of gasoline and diesel cars may differ from one another, but anyhow, these are encouraging developments.

At least 10 other countries have also set targets for sale of electric cars. More countries should follow their examples, especially the largest emitters of CO<sub>2</sub> gases, which are the most industrialized countries. However, for the developing countries including ours', such transitions should take much

more time. Furthermore, as the largest emitters of the CO<sub>2</sub> gases, like the United States America and the Peoples' Republic of China (PRC) are being mum on that move by the those four countries, we have every right to continue the use of fossilized fuels for sometimes into the future.

One regrettable thing is, while the US is encouraging productions of coal and the PRC is building one coal-fired power station every week, some foreign-funded activists under the guise of environmentalists or human rights NGOs are opposing the constructions of coal-fired power stations in our country. I wonder why

these people are so ignorant of the advancements in the technologies of the coal-fired engines today. They are nothing like those of the past and are even far less damaging to the environments than some that run on gasoline or diesels. Today such coal-fired power stations can be found in many locations in Laos, though that country is producing hydroelectricity in abundance and are even exporting the electricity to the neighbouring countries. As a developing country, which is just about to emerge from the threshold of poverty, we should be given a chance to use the coal-fired power stations to boost our economy.

However, I agree that these coal-fired engines must disappear one day.

Though, at the present we may not be ready to follow the examples of some countries to abandon the use of gasoline and diesels for the motor vehicles, the least we can do will be to preserve our forests, revitalize our once lush green dense rainforests, conserve our teak plantations to minimize the CO<sub>2</sub> presence in the atmosphere. This would definitely contribute significantly to the commitments our country had made in ratifying the Paris Agreements. It would even be better if we can grow more trees as much as possi-

ble to be able to absorb more CO<sub>2</sub> gases than we emit, we might be able to trade off the excess. For the time being we should be spared from making such transitions to other forms of fuels like the developed and rich nations as we are still rehabilitating our country. In conclusion, I would like to say that only if all the countries that are party to the ratification of the Paris Agreements honor their promises and fulfill their pledged commitments, the world would undoubtedly become a much safer and pleasanter place to live in for humans and animals alike.

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# US submits formal notice of withdrawal from Paris climate pact



View of the Department of State in Washington, DC. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

WASHINGTON — The US State Department has officially informed the United Nations it will withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement in a document issued on Friday, but left the door open to re-engaging if the terms improved for the United States.

The State Department said in a press release the United States would continue to participate in United Nations climate change meetings during the withdrawal process, which is expected to take at least three years.

“The United States supports a balanced approach to climate policy that lowers emissions while promoting economic growth and ensuring energy

security,” the department said in the release.

President Donald Trump announced his decision to withdraw from the Paris deal in June, saying the accord would have cost America trillions of dollars, killed jobs, and hindered the oil, gas, coal and manufacturing industries.

But he also, at the time, said he would be open to renegotiating the deal, which was agreed by nearly 200 nations over the course of years — drawing ridicule from world and business leaders who said that would be impossible.

During a visit last month to Paris to meet French President Emmanuel Macron, the two discussed the deal and Trump told

reporters “Something could happen with respect to the Paris accords, let’s see what happens.”

“As the President indicated in his 1 June announcement and subsequently, he is open to re-engaging in the Paris Agreement if the United States can identify terms that are more favorable to it, its businesses, its workers, its people, and its taxpayers,” the State Department said in its press release about the formal notice of withdrawal.

Republican US congressional leaders have backed Trump’s move to exit the accord. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, for example, said it was “another significant blow to the Obama administration’s assault on domestic energy pro-

duction and jobs”.

But numerous business leaders have called the move a blow to international efforts to combat climate change, and a missed opportunity to capture growth in the emerging clean energy industry.

The United States, under former President Barack Obama, had pledged as part of the Paris accord to cut US greenhouse gas emissions by as much as 28 percent from 2005 levels by 2025 to help slow global warming.

The earliest date for the United States to completely withdraw from the agreement is Nov. 4, 2020, around the time of the next US presidential election.—Reuters ■

## Russia’s Kislyak: talks with Trump’s ex-security aide “absolutely transparent”

MOSCOW — Russia’s former ambassador to Washington, Sergei Kislyak, said on Saturday his conversations with former White House national security adviser Michael Flynn had been transparent and focussed on matters of US-Russia cooperation.

Kislyak ended his tenure in

Washington in July but remains a key figure in ongoing US investigations into Moscow’s alleged meddling in the 2016 presidential election.

Flynn was forced to resign in February after it became known that he had failed to disclose the content of conversations he had

with Kislyak and misled US Vice-President Mike Pence about their meetings.

“We only spoke about the most simple things ... but the communication was completely correct, calm, absolutely transparent. In any case, there were no secrets on our side,” Kislyak

said during a panel discussion on Russian television.

“There are a number of issues which are important for cooperation between Russia and the United States — most of all, terrorism. And that was one of the things we discussed.”—Reuters ■

## WORLD BRIEFS

**Russia: new EU sanctions over Siemens turbines violate international law**

MOSCOW — Russia said on Saturday the European Union’s decision to sanction a Russian deputy energy minister over the delivery of Siemens’ turbines to Moscow-annexed Crimea was politically motivated and illegal.

The EU first imposed sanctions on Russia after the 2014 military annexation of Crimea from Ukraine. On Friday, it introduced additional measures in response to the delivery of Siemens’ gas turbines to Crimea, which violated its existing sanctions.—Reuters ■

**Magnitude 5.8 quake hits Philippines — USGS**

MANILA — A magnitude 5.8 earthquake struck south Mindanao island in the Philippines on Saturday, the US Geological Survey said. The quake’s epicenter was 21 miles (34 km) east of the city of General Santos, which has a population of almost 600,000. The USGS said the quake was 46.2 miles (74 km) deep but European quake agency EMSC put it at only 6.2 miles (10 km) deep, which would increase its impact. The temblor, initially reported as a magnitude 6.0, struck at 8:30 am (0030 GMT), the USGS said.—Reuters ■

**About 2,000 Islamic State fighters remain in Syrian city of Raqqa —US envoy**

WASHINGTON — About 2,000 Islamic State fighters are estimated to remain in the Syrian city of Raqqa, fighting for their survival in the face of an offensive launched by the US-backed Syrian Democratic Forces in June, a senior US official said on Friday.

“Today in Raqqa ISIS is fighting for every last block ... and fighting for their own survival” Brett McGurk, US special envoy for the coalition against Islamic State, told reporters.

“We estimate that there are about 2,000 ISIS fighters left in Raqqa.”—Reuters ■



## Iraq secures \$195 million Japanese loan for electricity sector

BAGHDAD — Japan has agreed to lend Iraq up to \$195 million for a project to help repair a thermal power station in the southern province of Basra, an Iraqi government statement said on Saturday.

Though Iraq is a major OPEC oil producer, the country faces chronic electricity shortages, with its fragile grid struggling to meet demand after years of war, sanctions and neglect.

The loan was signed during

a visit to Iraq by Japan's State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Kentaro Sonoura, who met Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi on Saturday, the prime minister office said in a statement.

Iraq needs external financing to plug a budget deficit of approximately 25 trillion Iraqi dinars (\$21.44 billion) for this year as it grapples with lower global oil prices and costs associated with the fight against Islamic State. —Reuters ■



Iraqis pass destroyed buildings in western Mosul, Iraq on 5 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Rwanda's Kagame wins third presidential term by a landslide

KIGALI — Incumbent leader Paul Kagame has swept to a landslide victory in Rwanda's presidential election, results showed early on Saturday, securing a third term in office and extending his 17 years in power.

Kagame has won international plaudits for presiding over a peaceful and rapid economic recovery in the Central African nation since the 1994 genocide, when an estimated 800,000 people Tutsis and moderate Hutus were killed.

But he has also faced mounting censure for what critics and rights groups say are widespread human rights abuses, a muzzling

of independent media and suppression of political opposition.

With 80 per cent of votes counted from Friday's election, the 59-year-old former guerrilla leader had secured 98.66 per cent, the National Electoral Commission's Executive secretary Charles Munyaneza told a news conference.

"We expect that even if we get 100 per cent of votes, there will not be any change," he said.

The full count will be released at 1400 GMT on Saturday.

The board expects turnout to have topped 90 per cent in the East African country of 12 million people, in an election that

fielded only a single opposition candidate, Frank Habineza, and an independent. Kagame said he would work to sustain economic growth in the tiny nation.

"This is another seven years to take care of issues that affect Rwandans and ensure that we become real Rwandans who are (economically) developing," he said in a speech broadcast live on television.

Under his rule, some dissidents were killed after fleeing abroad, in cases that remain unsolved. The government denies any involvement.

Kagame, a commander who led Tutsi rebel forces into

Rwanda to end the 1994 genocide, banned the use of tribal terms after becoming president.

He won the last election in 2010 with 93 per cent of the vote and had said during this campaign for a further seven-year term that he again expected an outright victory.

Habineza, who has so far won 0.45 per cent of the early count, had promised to set up a tribunal to retry dissidents whose convictions by Rwandan courts have been criticised as politically motivated. Another would-be opponent, Diane Rwigara, was disqualified by the election board despite her insistence that she

met all the requirements to run.

Some voters celebrated the election result into the early hours of Saturday, said John Habimana, owner of the popular Roasty Bar in the capital Kigali.

"Last night was fantastic. People kept coming in until my bar had more than 200 people. I usually get 100 on normal days. They were all celebrating and I left at 2 am but they were still dancing and more were coming," he said. Other residents were less happy. "To me I see this as a one-man race. I simply did not go to vote," said one man in Kigali who asked not to be named. —Reuters ■

## Communist allies of South Africa's ANC to support Zuma government in vote

JOHANNESBURG — The South African Communist Party (SACP), a key ally of the ruling party, will vote to keep President Jacob Zuma's government in power in a no confidence vote next week, its spokesman said on Saturday.

Zuma faces the no confidence motion on 8 August, the ninth time the opposition will have tried to unseat him by peeling off dissidents from the ruling African National Congress (ANC) party, whose majority has so far protected him by closing ranks.

If the motion succeeds, Zuma — in power since 2009 — and his entire cabinet would



South Africa's President Jacob Zuma. PHOTO: REUTERS

have to step down.

"The SACP does not have a mandate to support the removal of the whole ANC-led government or executive," spokesman Alex Mashilo said. "Its mandate is specifically

to pursue the resignation of President Zuma."

The SACP, which has 17 members in parliament, said it was in talks with the ANC and labour federation Congress of South African Trade Unions about getting Zuma to resign.

"If the president does not resign after engagements between SACP and the ANC, we will assess if a new course of action is needed to remove him," Mashilo said.

Zuma, 75, has suffered a string of judicial and political setbacks since he took office in 2009, but has held onto power with the backing of his party,

which dominates parliament.

The motion was brought by the Democratic Alliance and to pass it needs 201 MPs to vote in favour. The ANC said on Friday its 249 MPs would have to be "bewitched" to vote for it.

In July, South Africa's top court ruled that secret ballots can be held for motions of no confidence if the speaker of parliament so decides. She has not decided.

Zuma's critics want the no confidence vote to be anonymous, hoping it will embolden ANC lawmakers to support his removal by shielding them from pressure from other party members. —Reuters ■

## Senegal ruling party wins large parliamentary majority

DAKAR — Senegal's ruling party has won a large parliamentary majority, according to official provisional results, following an election last Sunday that opposition leaders say was tainted by fraud.

President Macky Sall's ruling coalition took 125 seats in the 165-seat National Assembly after winning nearly 50 per cent of the vote, according to the results announced on national television late on Friday. —Reuters ■



# Upgrade of Russian strategic bombers tops Defence Ministry's priority list

MOSCOW — The work to extend the service life of Tupolev Tu-160 and Tu-95MS strategic bombers and raise their combat efficiency is on the Russian Defence Ministry's priority list, Defence Minister Army General Sergei Shoigu said on Friday.

"We'll continue discussing today how tasks are being solved to develop the fleet of Tu-160 and Tu-95MS strategic bombers. These planes are an important component of the country's nuclear potential," the defence minister said at the ministry's conference call.

These planes carry out regular flights under the nuclear containment plan over the Arctic Ocean and the Black Sea and also in eastern areas, the defence minister said.

"That is why, extending the service life of the missile carriers and raising their combat efficiency are among our priority tasks. Now the public joint-stock company Tupolev is carrying out modernization of the planes joint-



Tu-160 strategic bomber. PHOTO: TASS

ly with other industrial enterprises and also repairing aviation engines, onboard equipment and reproducing new units and assemblies. Considering the high significance of works being car-

ried out, we'll discuss what has been done over this month," the defence minister said. The Tu-160 is the Soviet strategic missile carrier armed with cruise missiles that can carry nuclear warheads.

Along with the Tu-95MS missile carrier, the Tu-160 makes part of Russia's strategic nuclear forces along with the ground-based missile systems and submarines.—Tass ■

## Rouhani sworn in as Iran's president for second term

TEHRAN — Hassan Rouhani on Saturday was sworn in as the President of the Islamic republic for his second term.

Over 100 of the world leaders and political officials attended the inauguration ceremony of Rouhani in Iran's Majlis (parliament). Attended by Judiciary Chief Ayatollah Sadeq Amoli Larijani, Rouhani cited his oath and vowed to use all means of power to serve the country, Iranian nation and the Islamic establishment.

"I swear to protect the constitution and justice and to devote myself to protect freedom and people's dignity and rights on the basis of constitution," he said during the inauguration.

He vowed to defend the country's borders and politico-cultural independence.

Rouhani also said that on the basis of the oath, he would serve the nation and try to establish justice.—Xinhua ■

## Germany needs tougher laws against cyber crime, top policeman tells paper

BERLIN — Germany's top police official has called for tougher laws to fight cyber crime on the illegal internet — the Darknet — and other organised criminal structures, in an interview published on Saturday.

Holger Muench, president of the Federal Criminal Police Office, told Die Welt newspaper that German law needed to be adjusted to account for the massive harm such criminal activities can do.

"Professional hackers can cause enormous damage. They represent a danger for security and the economy," Muench said.

"That should be reflected in the sentences as well."

Muench said current law made it difficult to go after operators of botnet networks that enable large-scale automated cyber attacks.

Muench's comments came after a German court recently gave a suspended sentence to a British hacker-for-hire who

confessed to a cyber attack that knocked out the internet for around a million Deutsche Telekom customers.

The regional court in Cologne handed the man, named only as Daniel K, a suspended sentence of a year and eight months for attempted commercial computer sabotage.

The maximum sentence was up to 10 years, and prosecutors had asked for two years.

The Federal Criminal Police Office last year reported 83,000 cases of cyber crime that caused damage costing over 51 million euros.

More than half of German companies have been hit by spying, sabotage or data theft, the IT industry association Bitkom reported last month.

Die Welt newspaper also quoted the federal prosecutor for Frankfurt, home of Germany's internet crime agency (ZIT) as calling for reforms of current law to account for a

growing trade in drugs, pornography and weapons on the Darknet.

"The criminal code for cyber crime must be reformed and modernised, otherwise many of the crimes that we see cannot be sufficiently prosecuted," Georg Ungefuk told the newspaper.

Bavarian Interior Minister Joachim Herrmann, whose party wants him take over the federal interior ministry after the 24 September German election, said Germany needed a more comprehensive approach to cybercrime, despite its decentralised federal structure that assigns great responsibility to the individual states.

"The competencies between the federal government, states and military are even more blurred in the cyber realm than in the fight against terrorism," he told the weekly magazine Der Spiegel.

"We need new structures." —Reuters ■

## Venezuelan chief prosecutor's office blocked by security forces

CARACAS — Venezuelan security forces took up positions outside the office of the country's chief prosecutor on Saturday, a day after the government inaugurated a new legislative body that the prosecutor said was fraudulently elected.

Chief Prosecutor Luisa Ortega had asked a local court to halt the inauguration of the country's new 545-member constituent assembly, citing allegations that the government fudged the results of the vote that created it.

The assembly was nonetheless installed on Friday despite

opposition protests.

The new legislative body has no checks on its powers.

It could re-write the constitution, re-arrange state institutions and allow socialist President Nicolas Maduro to rule by decree.

Assembly members had said they would fire Ortega the first chance they got. It took less than 24 hours from the assembly's inauguration for her offices to be cordoned off.

Ortega, in a tweet, asked the international community to denounce what she called "this arbitrary action".—Reuters ■

## US Marines conducting search and rescue operation after aviation 'mishap' off Australia

SINGAPORE — The US Marine Corps said on Saturday an active search and rescue operation was underway for service members involved in an aviation "mishap" off the east coast of Australia. The incident involved a MV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft, the III Marine Expeditionary Force based in Okinawa, Japan, said on

its Twitter account.

"Ship's small boats and aircraft from the 31<sup>st</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit and Bonhomme Richard Expeditionary Strike Group are conducting the search and rescue operations," the tweet said. "We will provide more details as they become available."—Reuters ■



## ASEAN foreign ministers agree to adopt S China Sea conduct code

MANILA — Southeast Asian foreign ministers agreed on Saturday to the framework of a long-mooted code of conduct in the South China Sea to be adopted with China and voiced strong concerns over North Korea's continued belligerence.

The formal green light from the top diplomats of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations for the endorsement may translate into major progress for the first time in many years on addressing persistent tensions in the disputed sea. But not a few critics see it as more of a diplomatic achievement for China.

"The ministers endorsed the framework of the Code of Conduct for eventual adoption at the ASEAN-China ministerial meeting on 6 August," Philippine foreign ministry spokesman Robespierre Bolivar told a press conference after the one-day meeting in Manila.

"The framework is an outline. It helps structure the discussions," he said.

Philippine Foreign Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano praised ASEAN's development into a respected regional organization 50 years since its establishment, contributing to peace and stability in the region.

ASEAN countries have long sought a legally binding mechanism with China to manage disputes



Foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations gather in Manila on 5 August, 2017, to find a common position on a long-mooted code of conduct in the South China Sea and North Korea's continued belligerence. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

and avoid conflict in the South China Sea, one of the world's vital shipping routes, where several of them have overlapping territorial claims with China.

But so far the framework does not mention if the code will be binding or enforceable, according to officials with knowledge of its negotiations.

A draft copy of the framework seen by Kyodo News indicates as much, saying it is "not an instrument to settle territorial disputes or maritime delimitation issues."

It also notes the importance of respecting each other's "sovereignty and territorial integrity" and "the principle of non-interference in the

internal affairs of other states."

China, which claims virtually the entire South China Sea, has rapidly built artificial islands and militarized areas it occupies in recent years.

Beijing had long been reluctant to engage in in-depth negotiations toward a legally binding code of conduct. But senior officials from ASEAN and China agreed on the framework, including preambles of objectives and principles, in May in the southwestern Chinese city of Guiyang.

In 2002, ASEAN and China signed the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties, a looser set of guidelines for their actions in the contested sea. The

grouping had since then been working to upgrade it.

Ironically, the momentum for the negotiations strengthened after an international arbitration tribunal ruled in mid-July last year that China's sweeping claims to historical rights in the resource-rich waters have no legal basis.

The Philippines was a vocal critic of China's assertiveness in regional waters, but Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, since taking power just weeks before the ruling, has engaged in diplomacy with Beijing and started focusing less on differences over conflicting territorial claims between them, in return for receiving eco-

nomie cooperation from the Asian powerhouse.

The foreign ministry spokesman, however, stressed during the press conference that the Philippines continues to seek the code of conduct to be legally binding in nature in the forthcoming negotiations.

China has repeatedly said the ruling by The Hague-based arbitral tribunal for the case brought by the Philippines in 2013 is completely flawed and that territorial disputes in the region must be handled only by the countries directly involved through bilateral negotiations.

On Saturday, the ASEAN foreign ministers also expressed "grave concerns" over the escalation

of regional tensions in the wake of North Korea's two launches of intercontinental ballistic missiles last month.

After the meeting, they promptly issued a standalone statement criticizing North Korea's continued development of nuclear and missile technologies.

"These developments seriously threaten peace, security and stability in the region and the world," it said.

They urged North Korea, as a member of the ASEAN Regional Forum, to comply with its obligations under all relevant UN Security Council resolutions and to contribute toward making the Asia-Pacific "a region of lasting peace, stability, friendship and prosperity."

Saturday's meeting of the ASEAN foreign ministers will expand through Monday to include 16 other countries and the European Union.

The 16 include China, Japan, South Korea, Russia and the United States, all the major players in global efforts to abate North Korea's nuclear ambitions.

The Philippines this year holds the rotating chairmanship of ASEAN, whose nine other members are Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.—Kyodo News ■

### CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV WEST SCENT VOY. NO (150)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY. NO (150) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.8.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

### CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV YANTRA BHUM VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANTRA BHUM VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.8.2017 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 2301185

### CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV GSS YANGON VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GSS YANGON VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.8.2017 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 NEW GOLDEN SEA

Phone No: 2301185



# New 'Game of Thrones' episode leaks online through HBO partner



A scene from the latest season of "Game of Thrones". **PHOTO: REUTERS**

LOS ANGELES — The unaired fourth episode of the new season of HBO's hit series "Game of Thrones" has been leaked online, the pre-

mium channel's distribution partner Star India said on Friday.

"We take this breach very seriously and have immediate-

ly initiated forensic investigations at our and the technology partner's end to swiftly determine the cause. This is a grave issue and we are taking appro-

priate legal remedial action" a Star India spokesperson said in a statement.

Star India is a subsidiary of Twenty-First Century Fox Inc.

The leak of the episode, titled "The Spoils of War," was separate from a hack on HBO that was disclosed earlier this week, HBO said in a statement. In that incident, the company's chairman, Richard Plepler, told employees in a Monday email seen by Reuters that the hackers had stolen "proprietary information," including some programming.

Entertainment Weekly reported on Monday that hackers stole 1.5 terrabytes of data, including two unaired episodes of the "Game of Thrones" series.

HBO is owned by Time Warner Inc, which is waiting for regulatory approval to sell itself to AT&T Inc in a \$85.4 billion deal.—Reuters ■



Actress Sophie Turner. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

## Now I am learning to keep my mouth shut: Sophie Turner

LONDON — Actress Sophie Turner says she has had her fair share of controversies with the social media for being an opinionated individual, but the actor says she has learnt to stay quiet now.

The 21-year-old actress says she was a little ignorant about her responsibility as a public figure on the internet, according to Porter magazine.

"It was so gradual that I still treated my life and my social media like I wasn't in the public eye.

"I was a 15-year-old girl writing rash political stuff that would get a negative reaction and my team would tell me to take it down. Now, I am learning to keep my mouth shut," says Turner.—PTI ■

## Jon Bon Jovi used Patrick Carney to avoid Chris Christie

LOS ANGELES — Musician Patrick Carney said rock legend Jon Bon Jovi, who is a Democrat supporter, once used him to avoid having an interaction with the Republican leader Chris Christie.

The 37-year-old music composer said he was initially left bewildered that the 'All I Want Is Everything' hit-maker wanted to talk to him but the reality was a little different.

"I've met Bon Jovi once and it was actually at Howard Stern's birthday party. Chris Christie was in the room, and Jon Bon Jovi came over and started talking to me, like, really intensely. I was

like, 'Wow, why does Jon Bon Jovi want to talk to me?' Then I realised it was just because he didn't want to talk to Chris Christie," Carney said in an interview.—PTI ■



German techno band Scooter front man HP Baxxter (L) performs at the ZBFest rock festival in Balaklava, Crimea on 5 August, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

## German techno band faces charges for Crimea concert: Ukraine envoy

BERLIN — German techno band Scooter faces significant legal consequences for performing at a festival in the Crimea region of Ukraine that was annexed by Russia in 2014, the Ukrainian ambassador to Germany said in an interview published on Saturday.

Andriy Melnyk, Ukraine's envoy to Germany, told the Funke Mediengruppe newspaper chain that the band's decision to enter the Crimea region "illegally" on Thursday was "not only a scandal, but also a crime with serious legal consequences."

Melnyk said Ukrainian pros-

ecutors had already begun legal proceedings against the band.

"This isn't some minor infraction, but a serious crime that will be punished," he told the newspaper group.

The band was due to appear at the ZBFest rock festival in Balaklava on Friday.

Scooter front man HP Baxxter told German media last month the band was going to Crimea to perform music, not engage in politics.

No comment was immediately available from the band.—Reuters ■



# Tokyo photo exhibit to shine light on Cuba revolutionary icon Guevara

TOKYO — Every photo has a story to tell, and the eldest son of Argentine-born Marxist revolutionary Ernesto "Che" Guevara is hoping that photographs taken by his father will give people a fuller view of his life.

An exhibit in Tokyo, starting next Wednesday, will showcase for the first time in Japan around 240 photographs taken by Guevara, whose iconic image still emblazons T-shirts and posters half a century after his death in 1967.

"What is extremely important is (for people) to get to know about the life (of my father), his thoughts and ideals," Camilo, 55, said in a recent interview with Kyodo News through a Spanish interpreter on his first visit to Japan.

As a medical student, Guevara witnessed injustice and poverty during a journey by motorcycle across Latin America and embraced Marxism. He later joined Cuban communist revolutionary leader Fidel Castro to carry out the Cuban Revolution. The leader seized power in Cuba in 1959.

Guevara then moved up the ranks under the Cuban government led by Castro but left in 1965 for Congo and then Bolivia



Photo shows a gathering in Cuba in 1959. The photo, taken by Argentine-born Marxist revolutionary Ernesto "Che" Guevara, will be displayed during an upcoming Tokyo exhibit. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

to export revolution elsewhere. He was executed by Bolivian soldiers in 1967 at age 39 and has since become a symbol of heroism, rebellion and radicalism, either revered or reviled.

Camilo, a coordinator of Centro de Estudios Che Guevara, a museum in Havana dedicated to research and promotion of Guevara's thoughts, life and achievements, said he is "very honored" to share his father's photos in Japan during the 9-27 August exhibit which marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death.

Of particular interest are Guevara's shots of Hiroshima, including a cenotaph for the atomic bomb victims, during his 1959 trip there. In a postcard Guevara sent to Cuba

after visiting Hiroshima, Guevara wrote, "In order to fight better for peace, one must look at Hiroshima."

Camilo's Japan trip will also include Hiroshima, where he will join an annual ceremony to commemorate the 1945 US atomic bombing of the city. For many younger Japanese people, Guevara is known by the iconic photograph of him taken in 1960 by Cuban photographer Alberto Korda.

Camilo said he does not want people to learn about his father from information simply passed on by others, but to let Guevara's photos and books speak to them. In Japan, there is another opportunity to learn about him. A film entitled "Ernesto," depicting a

guerilla fighter of Japanese descent who fought with Guevara in Bolivia, is set to be shown in Japan in October.

"Today's world remains a world of inequality. That has not yet been corrected, and there is a need to change that. Which is probably why young people look at him as a symbol or model to steer the world in a better direction," he said.

If Guevara were alive today, he would have witnessed changes in the political landscape surrounding Cuba, such as the restoration in 2015 of diplomatic ties with the United States severed in 1961 and US President Barack Obama's visit to Cuba last year as the first sitting leader in 88 years.

He would also now be seeing the partial rollback of rapprochement toward the Communist-run island and new travel restrictions introduced by current US President Donald Trump.

As Camilo spoke of the need to overcome challenges such as injustice and inequality, he seemed to be taking to heart his father's wish for his children to "try always to be able to deeply feel injustice committed against any person in any part of the world."

—Kyodo News ■

# Irish prime minister attends gay pride event in Northern Ireland

BELFAST — Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar attended a gay rights event on Saturday during his first official visit to Northern Ireland, upsetting some social conservatives in the only region of the United Kingdom where same-sex marriage is still illegal.

Varadkar, who became Ireland's first openly gay leader when he took office in June, joined activists preparing for Northern Ireland's largest gay pride parade for a "Pride Breakfast" in a Belfast pub.

He said he was unable to attend the actual parade due to a prior commitment in Dublin.

His attendance was criticised by some members of Northern Ireland's largest party, the socially conservative Democratic Unionist Party, whose 10 seats in the British parliament prop up the government of Prime Minister Theresa May.

The DUP has repeatedly blocked attempts to allow same-sex marriage despite opinion polls that indicate it is supported by a significant majority in Northern Ireland.

"I am not here to unsettle anyone, but I am here to show my support and the support of my government for equality before the law for all citizens no matter where they reside," Varadkar told journalists on his way in to the event.

Asked about the prospects for legalising same-sex marriage in Northern Ireland, Varadkar said: "It is only a matter of time."

Varadkar announced publicly that he was gay in a radio interview dur-

ing Ireland's same-sex referendum campaign in 2015. Same-sex marriage was legalised after two-thirds of voters in what was once one of Europe's most socially conservative countries backed the change.

Saturday's breakfast, in the The Northern Whig pub in central Belfast, was also attended by Michelle O'Neill, the regional leader of Northern Ireland's largest nationalist party Sinn Féin, and by a number of gay rights activists from the Irish and Northern Irish police forces.

Several DUP members last week voiced concern about Varadkar's plan to attend the event, with some suggesting it was inappropriate interference in the politics of a neighbouring country.

"Many unionists ... will find it odd if he starts to interfere, as in some ways he already has done, in what is a social issue in Northern Ireland around the redefinition of marriage," Nelson McCausland, a senior DUP party member and former minister in the Northern Ireland executive, told the Irish News newspaper last week.

There was no official statement from any senior DUP member on Saturday and the party did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Varadkar's visit comes a day after the British government for the first time ordered a rainbow gay rights flag to be flown above its main office in Belfast — Stormont House — to coincide with the Belfast Pride Festival. —Reuters ■



## Myanmar International

Programme Schedule

(6-8-2017 07:00am ~ 7-8-2017 07:00am) MST

07:03	Am	News	07:03	Pm	News
07:26	Am	Lacquerware Technology College	07:25	Pm	The Mountain with antique stone sculptures & Mural Painting
07:41	Am	Talking Shwe Thway (Children Journal)	07:42	Pm	A Girl Guide
07:52	Am	Coin Collectors	07:49	Pm	Today Myanmar: Foods and Risks of Chemical Dyes
08:03	Am	News	08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Am	Star in the Gold Age: Tin Aung	08:25	Pm	Bogalay Tint Aung: A Man of Versatility (Part-3)
08:54	Am	School for the Blind	08:53	Pm	Myanmar Masterclass "Aung Thiha"
09:03	Am	News			
09:26	Am	Travelogue: To my dream city (Part-1)			
09:51	Am	Director: Maung Myo Min (Yin Twin Byit)			
10:03	Am	News			
10:26	Am	The Iron Rider			
10:39	Am	Traditional Thatch Roof - Thet Nge			
10:53	Am	Talented Kid "Moe La Win"			

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

**Prime Time**

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

(For Detailed Schedule - [www.myanmaritv.com/schedule](http://www.myanmaritv.com/schedule))





Myanmar women football players play the test match against women team from the department of Sports and Physical Education at Wunna Theikdi Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: SOE NYUNT**

## Myanmar women football team play test match

AS a final preparation for SEA Games where they are facing fierce competition, Myanmar women football team played a test match against women team from the department of Sports and Physical Education

at Wunna Theikdi Stadium, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday at 3 pm.

At the test match, Myanmar women team completely wiped out the sports and physical education team who is competing in the Women League with a

lopsided score of 9-1.

In an earlier test match with Academy U-14 men team on 2 August, the result was a 2-2 draw. The two teams are playing again on 10 August.—Shine Htet Zaw ■

## Neymar to miss PSG opener after registration delay

PARIS — World record signing Neymar will not be able to make his debut for Paris St Germain in Saturday's Ligue 1 opener after the French club failed to register the Brazilian's transfer in time.

PSG missed a midnight deadline for a transfer certificate to be submitted to France's

professional football league (LFP) from Spain's football authorities, sports daily L'Equipe and other local media reported.

Neither PSG nor the LFP were immediately available to comment.

PSG doubled the world record for a transfer fee this week when they agreed to pay 222

million euros (\$261.32 million) to lure the 25-year-old forward from Barcelona on a five-year contract.

Neymar said on Friday he hoped to take part in Saturday's opening league match against newly-promoted Amiens at Parc des Princes stadium in the French capital.—Reuters ■

## Arsenal will prioritise Premier League, says Wenger

LONDON — Arsenal's failure to qualify for the Champions League will allow them to focus their attention this season on winning the Premier League for the first time since 2004, manager Arsene Wenger has said.

The Frenchman noted in May that the two most recent league champions — Chelsea and Leicester City — did not play European football during their title-winning campaigns.

"For us it is a good opportunity to focus completely on the Premier League," Wenger told British media.

"I would say that the Premier League has, in my opinion, taken over from the Champions League interest-wise."

Arsenal's fifth-placed finish last season meant they missed out on the Champions League for the first time in 20 years and they will play in the less prestigious Europa League instead.

"I will always play a team that has a good chance to win the next game," Wenger added.

"In the Europa League, if we can afford sometimes to rest some players we will do it. But

we have to adapt to the level of the competition and see first what kind of group we play in."

Arsenal beat league champions Chelsea in May's FA Cup final and so on Sunday the London rivals will face each other again in the traditional season-opener, the Community Shield.

Wenger expects Antonio Conte's side to have a tougher time retaining the league title than they did winning it last season without the distraction of Champions League football.—Reuters ■

## Nishikori fights off three match points to beat 225th-ranked Paul

WASHINGTON — Second seed Kei Nishikori shrugged off fatigue and saved three match points before beating unheralded American Tommy Paul 3-6, 7-6(8), 6-4 in their Citi Open quarter-final on Friday.

The world number nine seemed destined for an early exit in the fierce Washington heat when 20-year-old Paul brought up match point at 5-3 in the second set with a backhand winner down the line.

Nishikori survived with an audacious drop shot from the base line that Paul could not run down, however, before staving off two more match points in the tiebreak and taking the second set. That appeared to break the spirit of the 225<sup>th</sup>-ranked Paul and Nishikori, who had post-midnight finishes to his previous two matches at the tournament, took control in the final set to advance to Saturday's semi-finals.

Next up for the 27-year-old Japanese is another 20-year-old in German fifth seed Alexander Zverev, who had too much in his arsenal for Russian Daniil Medvedev and won their quarter-final 6-2, 6-4 in less than an hour.

"I felt good from the start to the end. It was a great match for me," world number eight Zverev told Tennis Channel. "I knew I had to take his time away, play my aggressive

game and dominate as much as I could and it worked out very well today.

"Last year I didn't come to the net very often. This year I'm trying new things, trying to be more aggressive.

At times it's working out." The other semi-final will pit American Jack Sock against South African Kevin Anderson in a battle of the big servers.

Sock won his quarter-final against Canadian third seed Milos Raonic 7-5, 6-4 while Anderson came through a second three-setter in the space of 18 hours with a 6-4, 4-6, 6-3 victory over Yuki Bhambri of India.

"It was a really tough match tonight. Conditions were hot, it was a little gusty, balls were flying," said Anderson, who did not get to bed until after 2 am local time following his late night victory over top seed Dominic Thiem on Thursday.

In women's action, top seed Simona Halep wilted in the afternoon heat and retired with fatigue at 2-6, 6-3, 1-0 down in her clash with Russian Ekaterina Makarova, who will play Oceane Dodin of France for a place in the final.

The other women's semi-final will be an all-German affair with fourth seed Julia Goerges taking on unseeded compatriot Andrea Petkovic in an all German affair.—Reuters ■



Arsenal's manager Arsene Wenger. **PHOTO: REUTERS**



## The Global New Light of Myanmar

## NEXT GENERATION PLATFORM

6 AUGUST 2017

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

## From Looking Around to Looking Within



Cing Don Nuam  
Bachelor of Arts  
(Economics)

It would be a lie if I said I was not a little bit intimidated by my surrounding at the time. Being a bachelor degree holder sitting in the same conference room with nothing but Ph.Ds. and doctorates was both daunting and at the same time, amusing. As I looked around the room, I chuckled at myself asking, “What am I doing here?” Well, hopefully, to learn something from the great minds that had graced this conference.

At the time, I was at a conference called LCLUC SARI (Land Cover Land Use Change in South and Southeast Asian countries Research Initiative) International Regional Science Meeting, held in Chiangmai, Thailand. The topics of this conference were as broad and complicated as its name suggests, and rightfully so, because there are many critical research topics from which one can choose under this title. Accordingly, many presenters in the conference were not some Average Joe researchers. Most of them came from high-ranked institutions from different parts of the world. By now, you might understand why I was feeling like an abbreviated piece of nothing.

Would this insecurity hinder me from getting the best out of the conference?



Absolutely not. In fact, I found myself enjoying many aspects of the conference like the food and the coffee and more importantly, the attendees.

I always find myself being fascinated by conversing with other people not only because I learn more about them, but also because I learn more about myself in the process. There is no doubt that the conference was an invaluable experience, and one reason for this, of course, was the pure joy of learning from the experts; the research methods that they used, the

results that they got, and everything in-between.

The other reason was witnessing the effort that the presenters put into their work, and the mindset that comes with such passion.

The audience side may or may not know, that in order to complete their research, how many hours of sleep the presenters had lost; how many problems –

academic wise or social wise – they had gone through; how many unnecessary bureaucratic intricacies they had suffered, even as a research assistant,

I can testify, are many. Very few people can fully comprehend what tasks had been done behind an ostensibly simple research project. The outsiders only see the end results of the researchers’ long journey, and most of the time, the results are not even that satisfactory.

**SEE PAGE-B**

## A day I will never forget



Nay Bhone Htut @  
Dennis  
Grade 8, Section D,  
B.E.H.S (16) Mandalay

IT was a fine evening near the creek. My family usually comes to this creek in the summer. There were the other two families swimming in the creek. I can feel the cold breeze which blows through the water and hear the breeze which touches the leaves on mango trees.

Before swimming, my dad said, “Dear, take my phone from the car.” Whenever he said “Dear”, my sister responded as fast as she can. I dived into

water after having snacks. The water was so cold that it made me fresh and active. It was such clear water that I could see Charcoal Pavers, white pebbles, and marbles at the bottom.

After a while the sun went down and the darkness occupied the night. My dad said “Time to go home.” When we stepped into the car, the driver started the car. Unfortunately, he couldn’t start the car. He went out quickly and tried to search

the problem. Afterward, he shouted to us “The battery is dead.”

I was worried that I won’t be home tonight. The night was getting darker and I hardly saw a car on the road. My dad, mom, my sister and I had to push the car as the driver was trying to start the car. Finally we heard the engine sound “Roar, roar.” All of us were relieved at last and yelled “Yay!” When we were home, it was eleven.

## 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](mailto:dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com) with the following information: (1) Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), (2) Real name and (if different) your penname, (3) Your level of education, (4) Name of your School/College/University, (5) A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, (6) A color photo of the submitter, (7) Copy of your NRC card, (8) Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.). – Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar news office



# Basic English Grammar for Basic Students

## Lesson 13: Conjunctions

Hello Class, we are going to study “Conjunctions” in our Lesson 13 today.

“Conjunctions are joining words”. They join words, groups of words (phrases and clauses), and even sentences.

- e.g (1) my mother and father  
(2) apples and oranges  
(3) cats and dogs  
(4) flowing rivers and deep valleys  
(5) life or death  
(6) all people but fools  
(7) neither he nor she  
(8) The boy came down the stairs, but he did not go to his father.  
(9) One must come out, either you or your brother.  
(10) I will stay at home for I have a fever.

From the above examples, you can count the Basic Conjunctions. These are:

- “and, but, for, or, nor, either ... or, neither ..nor”.
- In examples 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 and 9 the Conjunctions join words.
  - In example 4, the Conjunction joins groups of words and
  - In examples 8 and 10, the Conjunctions join sentences.

For today’s Lesson, we won’t go too far to the difficult stage, but please keep it in your mind that these joining words are very useful in making different kinds of sentences. By using them, you can make long and

flowery and beautiful sentences. These are very useful in your Essay Writings too.

Now here comes the exercise:

### Exercise 13

I. Underline the Conjunctions in the following sentences.

- The boys and girls are playing in the sun.
- Apples and Oranges are the fruits I like.
- You will see the Queen, but you will not get the chance to talk to her.
- He cannot work well, for he was ill.
- Nyi Nyi or Ko Ko has to take this duty.
- He himself nor his son will not come up.
- Either the money or the power will destroy him.
- Neither the students nor the teachers are in the classes.
- I like this car, but I will not buy it, for this is a very expensive one.
- Roses and jasmines are flowers with sweet smell.

II. Fill in the blanks with suitable “Conjunctions”.

- When I saw him ----- his brother, I see that they looked so much the same.
- You will like the rose ..... not its thorns.
- They choose her as the Queen of the class, ..... she is the most beautiful in their class.
- ..... the mother ..... the father, she must obey.
- ..... the lesson ..... the homework interests him.

- You can select one ..... two of these jackets.
  - Will you go to Mandalay ..... Taunggyi?
  - I will drink ..... orange juice ..... lime juice.
  - Mya Mya ..... Hla Hla are sisters.
  - She will come home ..... then see her parents.
- That’s all for today’s lesson dear students.  
Hope that you can do your exercises very well!

Here comes the answers for the last week’s Exercise 12.

I. Examples of 10 Prepositions are: .. on, in, at, into, off, of, through, to, from, before.

II. To Underline

- on
- through
- of
- over
- to
- before
- in
- h
- at
- off

III. To underline

- for
- at
- about
- towards
- for

IV. Fill in the blanks

- to
- around
- for
- around
- into
- towards / to
- for
- out of
- over
- on

Hope that you’ve done well.

*Bye for now! See you next week!*

*Your English Teacher, GNLM.*

*email: dr.nunuwintin.rose.dawn@gmail.com*

## NEXT GEN PLATFORM

### From Looking Around to Looking Within

#### FROM PAGE-A

Unfortunately, there is no such thing as one-stop research paper because a single research paper will never be able to fully grasp any concrete issues. Simply put, a researcher cannot and should not rest as the job demands a great deal from the worker. It is because of this reason that, in order to generate an insightful research paper, one would have to be genuinely passionate about one’s research in order to stomach the tedious details and technicalities involved in the research, and be prepared to deal with other issues that could come unexpectedly.

Whether the presenters were happy with their own results or not, I did not know, but I applauded all who had the courage to talk in front of hundreds of research experts and let themselves be vulnerable to scrutiny. Because of the presenters, I had a newfound

appreciation for what I do and a newfound epiphany about what it actually means to “fail.”

The enthusiasm that I sensed from the presenters despite their struggles and limitations reminded me of how taking baby steps is better than being stagnant. I think many researchers, regardless of professionalism, feel stuck at times, and that is quite normal. It is not unnatural to want to play hopscotch from time to time when conducting research. After all, who does not want to get to the juicy results part as fast as possible? However, it has become clearer that the baby-step process, or the seemingly “stuck” phase, is where we actually learn the most important lessons, not only about the research per se but also about ourselves. This realization, as I was contemplating quietly amongst the enthused participants, led me to a whole new perspective on defining

failure.

You do not fail when you do not have a solution to a problem. Most of the time, nobody has one anyways. You fail only when you stop. Some of the best researchers I know do not always have the answers. Some of them were working on something for the longest time only to realize later that the tasks that they had been working on are essentially useless for their projects, thus forcing them to start their research again from a big fat zero. What sets them apart, though, from others is that they refuse to be stagnant. They never stop working hard, never stop making new mistakes and never stop learning, and that is what ultimately defines each of them as a researcher and more importantly, as a human being. (Cing Don Nuam is the Assistant Researcher of the Environment and Economics Research Institute (EERI) Myanmar.)

## How Could a Country Rise

How could a country rise  
From the ashes of disasters  
When negativism abets dogmatism  
The egoistic views  
of the distorted minds?

How could the images of a war-torn  
country develop  
Out of the shadows of the past?

A good leader needs good followers,  
But how can we rebuild a nation  
when the destructive mindsets are  
not changed?

Zaw Tun



# Professional Ethics for Education

By Dr. Khin Zaw  
Retired Rector, Yangon University of Education

Education, or Pedagogy, or Teaching, or whatever one chooses to call it, is a profession for many obvious reasons.

For many teachers the realization that their work is in a profession comes too late, if at all. This is a very unfortunate state of affairs. The realization must develop early, in the pre-teaching or preparatory years. The first need leading to the honored conviction that TEACHING is an IMPORTANT CALLING must come right at the start of teacher education or one's preparation for it.

Professor Frank, president of the University of Wisconsin with responsibility for choosing able instructors has said, "The great teacher brings to his business accurate and wide knowledge, an informed technique, intelligence, energy, initiative, adaptability, common sense, high standards of personal character and professional achievement, singleness of purpose, sympathy, a rich social background, and a convincing sincerity of personality."

Harvard's Professor Palmer, in his volume: "The Teacher", settles on four traits without which any teacher will be handicapped. He places first a sympathetic imagination .. a limberness of mind which enables one to think in terms of the other person's limitations, interests and needs, an aptitude for what he calls "altruistic vicariousness". This vicarious principle has been mentioned by us as the Kantian ethic or categorical imperative.

Next, according to Palmer, comes the necessity for a broad background of knowledge, an accumulated wealth extending far beyond the bounds of what is actually taught.

The third requisite he describes as the power to kindle interest, to invigorate the production activity of pupils as only a stimulating person can do. Such a person is the very opposite of the grind.

Finally, he stresses the capacity for disinterestedness-indifference to praise or recognition .. a trait which we have termed "disinterested dedication". Palmer defines this as "readiness to be forgotten". He says, "The teacher must keep himself entirely out of the way, fixing young attention on the proffered knowledge, and not on anything so small as the one who brings it."

These traits certainly make the teaching profession more professional, but what interests us more is what Professor Palmer said a long time ago. He once said that if Harvard did not pay him to teach, he would gladly pay Harvard for the privilege of teaching. Teaching is more professional if the teacher is propelled by "honorable" rather than utilitarian motives.

The kind of pay the teacher gets may even have subtle ethical implications. If he is paid a salary .. a polite word for wages .. there is a strong inference that he is being compensated for energies expended and therefore that the transaction falls in the category of usefulness.

Services that are honorable .. that redound to the development of the performer quite apart from their usefulness to someone else .. can hardly be assigned a price. For this additional reason, perhaps, the professional person may be expected not only to place pecuniary



motives .. second but an occasion to discipline with them altogether.

This kind of "good form" has its roots in the Socratic designation of the Elder Sophists for their acceptance of fees. Since it was not customary to accept payment for teaching those days (about 500 to 350 B.C.), the sophists had to go out and persuade the public to purchase their skills, resorting frequently to publicity stunts such as donning purple robes or making proclamations from a raised throne. Such stage effects aroused from conservatives Socrates, Plato and his student, Aristotle. It was then that Aristotle made his very famous distinction between "honorable" and merely "useful" activities.

It can be easily understood that pay was demeaning in a society where free men lived off the labour of slaves. Yet Plato, in his dialogue "Protagoras", attests to the Sophists' fame and professionalism in a scene in which young Hippocrates rouses Socrates from sound asleep to tell him that Protagoras has just arrived in Athens and that the great Sophist teacher must be visited without delay and that he must be persuaded to accept him as a student.

The implication is that the professionalism of the practicing pedagogue WILL NOT DIMINISH whether or not he accepts PAYMENT. I am of the opinion that, in modern times and modern practices, financial remuneration is NOT a matter of ethical concern.

Arizona State University's Professor of Education, Dr. Abraham strikes a soothing note of compromise between my position and that of Plato.

Professor Abraham asserts that the most important thing in our being recognized fully as a profession is our public image (or community attitudes). To Abraham the wrong image is apt to be created if and when pedagogues and teachers do things such as the following .....

1. Approach our jobs as stop-gaps (or stepping stones)
2. Say we are "just a teacher"
3. Make do with too little time, money, and resources for the job we want to accomplish
4. Put on the martyr complex and the "humble bit" as we sometimes accept large classes without even a murmur
5. Fail to join our professional organizations
6. Take foolish pride in running them down even if we do join
7. Ridicule our own preparation without DOING something about it "within the family"
8. Do not realize which are our professional tasks and

which are sub-professional ones that less skilled persons and mechanical means can handle (sometimes ask YOUR teachers about the CLERICAL ACTIVITIES that weigh them down)

9. Fail to understand that within our profession we must differentiate among our skills, rather than thinking or saying that we can all do anything within the teaching gamut
10. Give little consideration to recruitment of the kind of future teachers who can help us of the backwash of the professions
11. Do not keep our knowledge current and our techniques imaginative
12. Ignore our role of leadership, as citizens in a democracy, sometimes covering behind the seen-but-not-heard philosophy of the rural teacher of the nineteenth century
13. Settle for fringe benefits (like sick leaves, coffee breaks, vacations, and hospitalization plans) which peg us as professional personnel in the eyes of the public
14. Put in longer hours for no additional salaries thus garnering a kind of condescending gratitude rather than the STURDY RESPECT which accrues to other professions with their large hourly stipends.

Teachers, through one of their own organizations, the Department of Classroom Teachers of the All-American National Education Association, have also taken a penetrating look at themselves as professional persons. In fact, their theme for 1961-62 was "Teaching: A Profession", and they have singled out, for special attention, the possession of a unique body of knowledge and skills, autonomy, a national accrediting body, an effective professional organization, advancing "in the interest of society the cause which society has entrusted to it," and the unselfish protection of the welfare of its members.

There is but another characteristic of the professional dialogue .. intangible and all too rare .. eagerly sought by heads of schools, colleges and universities in the teachers whose services they engage. Realizing that a teacher's every word and act is a pattern which students consciously or unconsciously copy, they ask about a candidate, "Is he a cultivated person?" Cultivation is the embodiment in a person of what is best in a culture. It is a highly complex trait. Usually acquired in the atmosphere of a cultivated home with fine traditions and standards of speech, diction, manner, social behavior, and taste in reading and in the arts, it can, nevertheless, be achieved also by those who are sensitive to cultural values, even if they have not had these early advantages. The LANGUAGE and VOICE of a cultured person, the correctness of his every act and gesture, are natural, ingrained, automatic, never ostentatious or affected.

Fortunate indeed are the pupils of a teacher who not only understands them and likes to work with them, not only knows his subject and how to impart it, but also in his own person exemplifies the BEST TRADITIONS and IDEALS of TASTE and CONDUCT.

SEE PAGE-H





A variety of organisms: colorful fish, corals and sponges on the coral reef. **PHOTO: KYAW HAN (HOTEL AND TOURISM)**

# Myanmar's Mergui Archipelago now more accessible

The archipelago  
comprises of over 800  
beautiful islands

By Gopanjali Roy

**M**ERGUI (or Myeik) Archipelago, comprising of more than 800 pristine islands, is getting more accessible. Growing number of tour operators and some new accommodation options makes it easier than ever for travellers to experience one of the most beautiful places on the planet.

For decades, the Mergui Archipelago has been one of the best kept secrets of Myanmar and in fact South Asia. Since opening up to travellers in the late 90s, this region still remains very much untouched.

Until very recently, visiting the Andaman Club, Myanmar Andaman Resort or going for diving holidays were the only ways of experiencing the archipelago. With growing popularity of the area, the offer for travellers is also expanding. In addition to the aforementioned options, travellers can now go for sailing holidays with Burma Boating stay on Nyaung Oo Phee Island, or take part in eco-activities at Boulder Island Resort among a few other choices in this beautiful and unsoiled region.

"The Mergui Archipelago is just opening up to tourism and most people come to explore untouched and remote islands. We believe that our classic sailing boats are the best way to explore the

area in style," said Janis Vougioukas, General Manager of Burma Boating.

"I visited Mergui Archipelago for the first time in 2012 and almost instantly became a strong believer in the area. My work in Myanmar took me all around the country multiple times, but the Mergui Archipelago remains one of my favourite destinations not only in Myanmar, but also around the world," said Marek Lenarcik, General Manager of Mergui Projects & River Cruises at Tint Tint Myanmar Group of Companies.

Over 800 islands with powdery white beaches, thick coconut groves, and vibrant underwater ecosystems make up the natural splendour of this region. These islands are home to the Moken people or "sea gypsies" who are believed to have up to 2,000 members still scattered throughout the region today. They eat, live and breathe the sea.

"Mergui Archipelago is like Maldives with more dramatic scenery, less tourists and almost no infrastructure. We've already visited twice and are planning to come for the third time. There is simply nothing else on the planet, which can compare to this," said a couple of Swiss tourists after their most recent visit in October 2016.

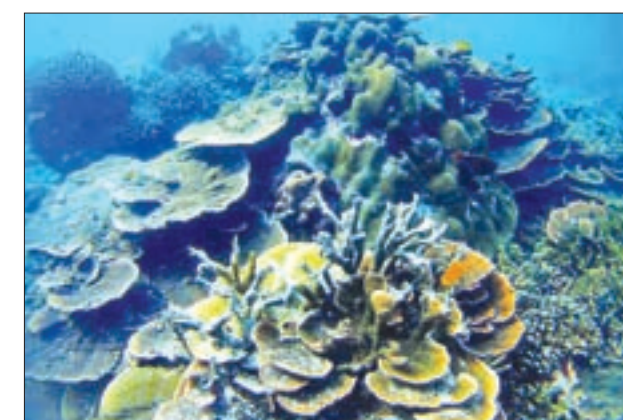
The islands are similar to their Thai counterparts, with rugged, high-profile limestone and granite topography. Apart

from the sheer number of Myanmar islands, one obvious difference is their unspoiled terrestrial scenery. Dense brush and rainforest cover most areas above the high-tide line, while vast stretches of mangroves and magnificent white-sand beaches are interspersed with rocky headlands, tidal creeks and a few freshwater rivers.

Underwater, this region offers scenic reefs, fascinating topography and prolific fish and invertebrate life. One of the main attractions for divers is the strong possibility of seeing big animals, especially sharks and rays. More dependable, however, is the tremendous variety of smaller fish and reef creatures, including many unusual species, some of which are rarely encountered in Thai waters. Add to this the allure of diving where few people have before and you have got all the ingredients for a top-notch dive destination. Considering the vast number of islands and reefs, many more dive sites are undoubtedly waiting to be discovered.

In addition to dedicated drive trips, there are some eco-adventure trips in Mergui Archipelago, combining sailing, snorkelling, diving, beach-combing, island exploration and, in some cases, kayaking.

*(This article has been published by the India-outbound)*



Mergui (or Myeik) Archipelago lies off the far south coast of Myanmar. It's comprised of hundreds of islands that have coral reefs and beaches. **PHOTO: KYAW HAN (HOTEL AND TOURISM)**



# SUNDAY COMICS

**Mi Chuu**  
HTOO



**PEOPLE**  
WILL BE  
**PEOPLE**  
Cartoon  
Maung Shwe Win



**SUNDAY**  
**JOKE**  
Maung Maung Aung  
2017





# Interview with Mr. Paul Seger, Ambassador of Switzerland to Myanmar

**A wide-ranging interview with Mr. Paul Seger, Ambassador of Switzerland to Myanmar by the Global New Light of Myanmar and MRTV touched upon democratic and economic reform, peace process and bilateral relations between Switzerland and Myanmar.**

**Q: We want to know the progress of Swiss-Myanmar diplomatic relationships.**

**A:** This year we are celebrating 60 years of diplomatic relations between Myanmar and Switzerland. I think we have made very strong progress. I know that the country has undergone difficult times but certainly since the opening in 2011 and after the democratic elections of 2015, our relations have increased quite substantially. We opened an embassy in 2012 also to honor the fact that the country opened up and started the democratic transition process. I'm optimistic that our relations will get stronger in the future.

**Q: The first Swiss resident ambassador, Mr. Christoph Burgener, said that as long as the armed conflict is not addressed there can be no real democracy and sustainable economic progress in Myanmar. What is your impression on the current government's endeavors for democratization and peace process?**

**A:** I think the government is in a good track on both areas. I think we all need to be patient. What I realize is that the international community is maybe less patient than the Myanmar people itself. From my previous experience in my work at the United Nations, I realize that peace building and peace making are processes which usually take a long time and there is no such thing as linear progress. There is progress and at times setbacks and that's completely normal. So if people at times feel that progress is going slow in Myanmar, I used to say that it's quite normal. It would be quite astonishing if the progress went sky up without any difficulties and challenges. But I think we have to keep in vision the long term perspective. And I don't mean three years or five years, it may be five or twenty years. If you even look in Europe how long certain conflicts have taken to solve, let's take the situation in Ireland, it took quite a long time. We cannot expect, if even us Europeans, for a country like Myanmar to solve all its problems and the legacies of a very difficult past, within one or two years. I think the general overall situation is quite positive. At times it's challenging but again, we have to look at the long haul here.



Mr. Paul Seger, Ambassador of Switzerland to Myanmar speaks during the interview at the Embassy of Switzerland in Yangon. **PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAH**

We cannot expect, if even us Europeans, for a country like Myanmar to solve all its problems and the legacies of a very difficult past, within one or two years.

**Q: Please share Switzerland's experience to reach unity in diversity as a federal state.**

**A:** We obviously have quite a long tradition with federalism and Switzerland is born out of federalism. It's not a coincidence that the country is officially called the Swiss Confederation. We are a very small country; it's the size of the province of Bago more or less but within that small country we have 26 different cantons. We have learned over the decades, and even centuries, to live in unity and diversity and in harmony despite the fact that we have different religions, different cultures, different languages and different backgrounds. We have maybe experienced that a good way to solve all the difficulties which arise from these differences is really federalism. It's about solving difficulties and problems which arise in my country. We don't pretend we don't have any problems at all so mechanisms where you can settle differences peacefully, legally, politically with armed struggle.

So what we are trying to do in Myanmar is not to export this model because Myanmar has to find its own way of federalism or unity in diversity itself. You can't copy paste one model to another but what we try to do is to show and share experi-

ences we have made; the progresses but also the difficulties. We have brought study groups from Myanmar to Switzerland to show them in everyday way how does federalism work on a daily basis.

What does it mean to teach a bilingual school? What does it mean to be a community based police force? What does it mean to be an army which has also a certain federal structure? Etcetera, just to show examples and maybe, hopefully, the people here will get inspired by these examples.

**Q: With the active foreign policy, Switzerland is frequently involved in peace building processes around the world. So we want to know Swiss support to Myanmar's democratization process.**

**A:** Well, I think we are one of the few countries in the world where the obligation to peace building and promotion of peace in the world is part of our national constitution. Switzerland is a neutral country so we don't have conflicts with anybody but we believe very much that the possibility of being neutral and not having any hidden agenda, not having any kind of imperial past gives us a unique opportunity to assist other countries and also promoting peace and overcoming situations of conflict and

transiting into peace and democracy. So we have been doing that here in Myanmar and other parts of the world. But what we've tried to do here is support the peace process with, as example shows, issues of federalism, also supporting all parties who want to do that such as how to negotiate in the peace process because we realize that especially ethnic armed groups come from a war type of situation and reflection. It's kind of difficult to change your mentality from war to peace. It means something completely different from going to war to negotiating peace. We help all parties, if they wish, with things like how do you structure yourself and your priorities and also the ceasefire negotiations. We try to support these technicalities because believe that if everybody is well prepared for a peace negotiation, the result is a best one because everybody can make good compromises.

The same is true for human rights and democratization so we're trying to support the country with implementing the recommendations of the Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review. We will also have in December a workshop supporting the countries who want to adopt the human rights covenants on civil and political rights or economic and social rights. So with quite concrete and tactical support, we're trying to help as much as we can but what is really important for us is we do that under the guidance and the national ownership of the country. The country is in charge we try to support and we do not want to impose anything. We want to help and if the country wants to be helped, we're here to help.

**Q: We also learned that Switzerland is one of the most developed countries in the world and also one of the biggest per capita gross domestic products. So would you share Swiss' example for a strong economy and national prosperity.**

**A:** It is true we are one of the richest countries of the world but if you just go back in time-a hundred years back-we were quite a poor country. Even our country could not feed all the people and we really had to encourage people to leave the country. So what made our success? We are also a country without natural resources except for water and I would say the only other resource we get is grey cells-brain power. We invested heavily in education and that's our trade secret, if I may say, relying on strong education: research and development, good universities but even more so on good basic and medium education which also encompasses vocational training.

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## Interview with Mr. Paul Seger, Ambassador of Switzerland to Myanmar

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The interesting fact is we are one of the countries with the lowest percentage of university degree students. Only 30 per cent of the young Swiss attend universities. Close to 70 per cent of the Swiss undergo vocational training. So there is really no linkage between the percentage of students and university degree people and national wealth; at least in our experience. What we've learned is that people with a good professional skilled training are the basis of our workforce. One of our major exports is Swiss watches and you don't need doctors or university students to make watches. You need a skilled laborer who can assemble a watch. The same is true for other products; we have machineries and pharmaceuticals and of course for pharmaceuticals you need chemists but you also need people who do the actual work; skilled people. So what we are trying to explain to the people of Myanmar, and bringing back to our 60 years of diplomatic relations, we started to explain how the Swiss system of vocational training works. And maybe that is also an inspiration for the country I'm sure Myanmar will also be a rich country again. It has been a rich country and it will be a rich country again.

**Q: Regarding the Swiss watch, it was a kind of family business and then it became big. So we have a lot of home industries in our country but because of modernization those industries are disappearing so that kind of vocational training will help sustain those traditional home industries.**

A: Yes, I agree. What we're also trying to do is to maintain and promote traditional

ways of craftsmanship and I think it's also a possibility of export for Myanmar. People are still looking all over the world for nice crafted materials and goods. It would be good if Myanmar like other countries, Laos for instance, can keep their traditional ways of craftsmanship. It's also a question of not only the economy but of national culture, so that is one thing. But I think vocational training is also important for other sectors of industry.

Myanmar strikes me as a beautiful country and the people are generally friendly so the ingredients of tourism are here and as the numbers show, there are more and more people coming into Myanmar. But you also need good infrastructure in hotel management and hospitality management. So I think also there, vocational training can play an important role and we are continuing investing in as well.

**Q: We want to know the Swiss' support and cooperation for economic reform in Myanmar.**

A: Well, Switzerland has decided that Myanmar is one of the major partner countries for our development cooperation. So we have developed this strategy over the last four years, and it will continue for the next four years, where we have invested 150 million USD in the development of the economy in Myanmar. We basically have identified three sectors with Myanmar authorities we concentrate on.

One sector is agriculture and nutritional security. We try to support Myanmar farmers to produce better quality with more quantity and to be able to start exporting. The country is quite fertile but our assessment is that production methods have not progressed as much as they

should have.

Another important area is health. We started in the southeast of Myanmar, especially in Mon and Kayin State, to support local health centers where midwives, for instance, are being trained so that they can also be used as local first points of call if somebody is sick. So I think we are slowly supporting health programs in Myanmar. The last one, also important, is the area of vocational training. I cannot stress how important it is for the development of the economy. If you have really skilled workers then that is a good basis for your future economy.

**Q: Could you tell us more about Swiss programs in Myanmar?**

A: Well, we are supporting the LIFT fund which is the Livelihoods and Food Security Trust Fund where, with other countries and donors, we are working in the delta region with farmers and also in other regions like Shan to also start producing with environmentally sound production methods. We have been working with fishers in Muktama (Mon State) to do sustainable fishery but since the fisheries are depleting we are also training them to get other jobs.

A third example is rubber plantations. This is also one of the potential domestic export products but the problem here is also that the rubber price is fairly low right now so the farmers have difficulties. So we either help them try to make better quality because apparently the quality of Myanmar rubber compared to other rubber is not so good. We also help other farmers who don't see a future (in this business) to change and find other areas of work.

**Q: These future projects if they are suc-**

**cessful may bring peace and prosperity for Myanmar.**

A: I hope they will all be successful but again I think we all need to be quite patient. It takes time for the country to come out of 60 years of isolation and stagnation. We will be here for quite some time, supporting the country but if we have progress tomorrow, I will be the happiest person.

**Q: The ASEAN market is very competitive so I think Myanmar needs more skills to face these kinds of challenges.**

A: Yes, indeed but the thing that which strikes me, also at my work with local staff here at the embassy is that people are extremely keen to learn. Take an example, I speak to people in English; my Myanmar is horrible; but I'm always impressed with people speaking in English and I ask where they learnt their English and they reply "Here in the country." Wow, because for a country which has been isolated for decades, people speak English fairly well and I sometimes have the impression that they speak English better than Thailand which has much more tourism.

I think what is really important here and what I cherish is the fact that people want to progress. That makes me quite optimistic. I always say to people that in the '60s, Myanmar had the double net income of Thailand and if I remember it well, one kyat equaled one dollar. Nothing prevents Myanmar from what it has been in the past though I think that if progress really goes along, and it may take some time, the good times from the past may well come back. And I think regional integration is quite right; ASEAN will play an important role.

## Professional Ethics for Education

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On the other hand, cultivation or politeness alone does not make the professional person. The following paragraphs prove this point .....

All over the country, especially in many small communities there are some teachers who are nice ladies, sweet mothers, and wonderful community workers, but that does NOT necessarily make the creative, challenging teachers.

If we talk to this group about the tragic waste of our gifted children, their reaction is glassy-eyed; for how could it be otherwise when their own intelligence may be below the average for the nation as a whole.

We discuss the need for the communicating effectively, and the papers they turn in abound with errors like "recieve", "handwriting" and "corespond".

We talk to them about world crises, and the extent of the teachers' international thinking is the Canadian border.

We mention a scientific approach, and their understanding of science may include the thermometer and barometer,

and then again, it may not.

These teachers are not to blame.

They work hard, and are capable of mixing the fluffiest "instant" cake batter you ever saw. But, they NEVER should have been PERMITTED to enter teacher education, to pass the courses in it, or to be certified by their state departments of education.

Fortunately, their numbers are decreasing, though gradually. Modern teacher education programs are attracting excellent and able university graduates, there is a tightening up in certification and teacher preparation in recent years, and the picture of the teacher as a person is slowly changing. All of these are altering the hard core of the profession.

The desire for large enrollments should not colipse the responsibility of the college or institute toward children, the community, and the country as a whole. The entire point of higher education as a setting for INTELLECTUAL PURSUITS and preparation for RESPECTABLE PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE must NOT be missed.

To correct the accumulated ills of several generations demands a massive, conscientious effort to ATTRACT THE BEST ... REJECT THE WORST ..... and PREPARE WELL the ones permitted to enter (our profession).

We started out by saying that teaching is a profession. It is .. but some of the practices of its participants and attitudes of its public are NOT PROFESSIONAL ..... Limited individuals or group goals and salary objectives, the closed-door-leading-to-closed-mind sort of isolation, false zeal, fake satisfaction, questionable adjustment, and a repetitive, rote approach to a job that for many has the aspects of exciting, thrilling adventure ..these are some of the aspects of STAGNATION that make many within and even more without raise an eyebrow when we refer to ourselves as a profession.

Our "professionalism" case also loses some of its weight when masters's level teachers ask to be transferred to the first or second year classes they FALSELY ASSUME or feel that they can then "relax for a year", when fear permeates a whole

school or college prior to a visit by an administrator or board/ council member; when the new teacher is ridiculed because he or she "dares" to suggest that there are new ways to teach mathematics or science, or that the demonstration method has on occasion been abused by lazy, incompetent teachers. These examples may be isolated but they sometimes, unfortunately, get more attention than the thousands of fine dedicated teachers we have.

Although change moves slowly in this direction or profession, it is coming. And these pictures of the past and present will not be always with us. Change will be brought about by our professionals who EXPECT SALARIES commensurate with their importance, RESPECT in line with their abilities and professional preparation, and an EXPERT EDUCATION that will prepare them for TEACHING, the most demanding occupation of all occupations.

*Dr. Khin Zaw is the Retired Rector, Yangon University of Education.)*