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# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Thursday, 28 September 2017

## Verification process for refugees to launch soon

THE government will begin a national verification process soon for refugees who fled Rakhine to Bangladesh, said Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye yesterday.

“We will carry out the verification process at Taungpyo Lat-we Village for those who return by road and at Naguya Village for those who return by water,” told the Union Minister at the meeting with reporters following a third meeting of the committee on implementing recommendations on Rakhine State in Nay Pyi Taw.

“After the verification process, the refugees will be settled at Dargyizar Village. These are our current plans,” he added. The National Verification Process will be carried out based on the principles to which both Myanmar and Bangladesh agreed in 1993, said the Union Minister in his capacity as the chairman of the committee. Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe will leave for Bangladesh in the near future to hold talks with Bangladesh authorities over the national verification process. In some Muslim communities in northern Rakhine, their leaders have decided that they are not to join in the previous verification process.

**SEE PAGE-3**

A Hindu villager reacts while identifying the bodies of relatives found by government forces that authorities suspect were killed by terrorists last month. The bodies were found in mass graves near Maungtaw in northern Rakhine on Sunday. **PHOTO: REUTERS/SOE ZEYAR TUN**

## Slaughtered Hindus testament to brutality of ARSA terrorists

THE bodies were laid out in rows on a grassy field in Kamaungseik, northern Rakhine State yesterday, as the cries and wails of relatives and friends who came to identify them could be heard.

Myanmar authorities yesterday displayed the bodies of

Hindu villagers they say were killed by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA), a Muslim terrorist group that attacked 30 border police outposts on 25 August.

Security forces found 45 Hindu villagers in mass graves in northern Rakhine state this

week, many of them with their throats slit or their limbs cut off.

Information from a group of Hindu women from Kamaungseik Village who are currently being sheltered in Bangladesh, led to the discovery of the bodies.

“We watched as they tied

each person, hands behind their back and also legs ... They cut all their throats and pushed them into a pit,” said one of the women, Bina Bala, 22, adding that the women were spared after promising to convert to Islam.

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## BEST BANK IN MYANMAR

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Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung, right, holds talks with Country Director Mr. Kelly Stevenson, left, from Plan International Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

## Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker receives Country Director of Plan International Myanmar

AMYOTHA Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung received Country Director Mr. Kelly Stevenson from Plan International Myanmar yesterday

at the Amyotha Hluttaw building in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, the two representatives discussed through an interpreter in a

friendly and frank manner the law for management of activities of international non-governmental organisations. —Myanmar News Agency ■

## Slaughtered Hindus testament to ...

### FROM PAGE-1

Border guard police were able to find several mass graves. “We informed the border guard force about the information we got from the Hindu women who were abducted to Bangladesh by terrorists and followed the paths based on the information and found the ground where the bodies were buried,” said U Ni Maw, a Hindu from the Yebawkyia Village to local and foreign journalists.

A group of reporters was flown yesterday from Yangon to northern Rakhine State to see the bodies laid out on the grass, and to hear from those who found them after information about the massacre filtered back from Hindus who have sought refuge from the violence in Bangladesh.

“We followed the paths based on the information we got from the other side,” police officer Okkar Ko told reporters at the scene.

“We found where the soil wasn’t normal and then when we dug up the ground, the smell came out.”

The latest violence in Rakhine state erupted on 25 August, when ARSA extremist terrorists attacked 30 police posts and an army camp, killing about 12 people.

Hours later, ARSA extremist terrorists came to the Hindu village of Ye Baw Kya, gathered up about 100 people, marched them

away through their fields and killed them with knives, the Hindu villagers says. The military response to the terrorist attacks has driven 480,000 Rohingya refugees to Bangladesh, according to the UN and drawn U.N. accusations of ethnic cleansing by the army.

“Muslims who brought them to Bangladesh had ordered them to say it was Buddhist vigilantes who had done the killing. . . .

Myanmar denies its forces are fighting terrorists ruthlessly. For the government, the proof of the terrorists’ brutality is plain to see, lying in rows by the mass graves just outside the village of Ye Baw Kya.

“This is terrorism,” Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Win Myat Aye, who visited the site on Tuesday, told Reuters.

Some villagers have said the ARSA terrorists suspected Hindus of being on the side of the government and acting as government spies. In late August, Reuters reporters in Bangladesh interviewed a group of Hindu women from the village who said their male loved ones were killed by Rakhine Buddhists.

Three of the same women told Reuters this week that Muslims who brought them to Bangladesh had ordered them to say it was Buddhist vigilantes who had done the killing.

The three – who individually recounted closely matching stories – said that on 25 August, they and about 100 other Hindus were marched by masked men to the area of the mass graves.

They were later able to identify some of the masked men as Muslims, although the women said the men spoke several languages they could not identify, besides the dialect spoken by both Muslims and Hindus in the area. They said the attackers had objected to official identity cards given to Hindus but not Muslims, saying Hindus should not have them. The victims were blindfolded, with their hands tied and had their throats slit, said Kyaw Maung Maung Thien, hospital superintendent in Maungdaw, who examined the bodies. “The evidence points to a massacre by the ARSA terrorists,” he said. —GNLM, Reuters ■

## The Republic of the Union of Myanmar President's Office Order 25/2017

7<sup>th</sup> Waxing of Thadingyut, 1379 ME  
(27 September, 2017)

### Appointment of Deputy Minister

U Soe Aung has been appointed as Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in accordance with Section 234, subsection (a), (d) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and provisions under Section 16 (b) subsection 9 of the Union Government Law.

Sd/

Htin Kyaw  
President

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar



Red Cross members present commodities to displaced persons at camps in Sittway for internally displaced people. **PHOTO: MNA**

## Humanitarian aid reaches Sittway IDP camps

HUMANITARIAN aid donated by the Red Cross Movement were delivered to local people taking shelter at monasteries in Sittway.

The aid was handed over by volunteer Red Cross members from Rakhine State and Yangon Region led by U Ko Lay, Chairman of Rakhine State Red Cross Supervision Committee.

Last night, varieties of commodities for for 242 house-holds such as boxes of sanitary towels, mosquito-nets, blankets, tarpaulin sheets, canned sardines and packs of instant noodles were provided to displaced local nationals taking shelter at Kaw Wida, Dhamma Rama, Thayettaw, Ottara and Zeyawady

monasteries.

Similar items have been donated from 10 September to 27 September, in addition to two water tanks holding 1,000 liter each to Aung Myay Kone and Wi Thokeda Rama monasteries under the Red Cross Movement Program.

The humanitarian aid was delivered to those taking shelter at the following rescue camps in Sittwe — Aung Myay Kone monastery, Ceitta Thukha monastery, Dekkhina Rama monastery, Buddha Maw monastery, Alotawpyae monastery, Lanmadaw monastery (north), La Yaung Win monastery and Theikdi Karon monastery, a variety of commodities were offered. — Win Min Soe (IPRD) ■





State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi holds talks with Rt. Hon Mark Field MP, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Office. **PHOTO: MNA**

## State Counsellor receives Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Office

DAW Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received the Rt. Hon Mark Field MP, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Office, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw on 27 September 2017 at 10:15 am.

During the meeting, they discussed and exchanged views on matters pertaining to bilateral relations and cooperation, peace and national reconciliation, promotion and protection of human rights in Myanmar and measures taken for development in Rakhine State.—Myanmar News Agency ■

## Verification Process for refugees to launch soon

### FROM PAGE-1

“We would appreciate it if all friends could persuade them to join in the process because they have nothing to lose by it,” said State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in her speech at the 19 September diplomatic briefing in Nay Pyi Taw.

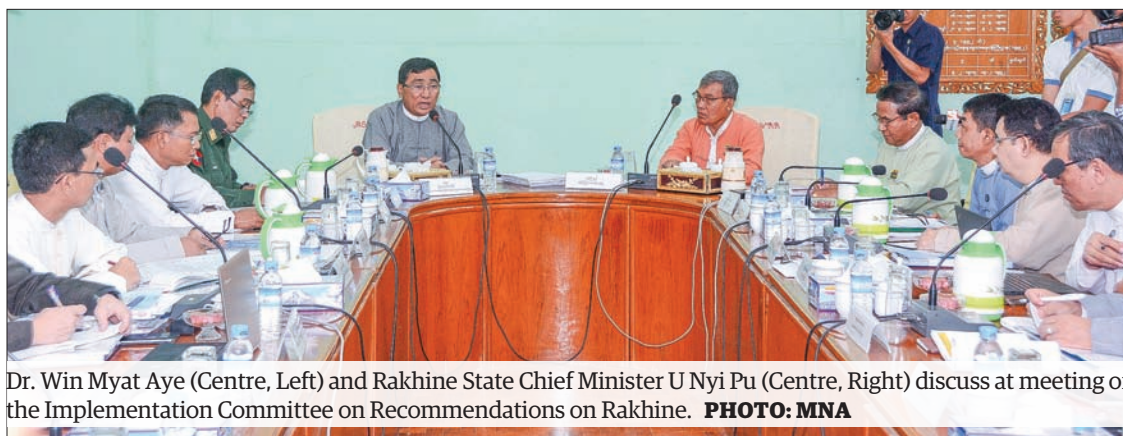
She also said the government wanted to find out why the exodus of Muslims was happening in northern Rakhine though there have been no armed clashes and there have been no security operations since 5 September.

“It is very little known that

the great majority of Muslims in the Rakhine State have not joined the exodus.

More than 50 per cent of the villages of Muslims are intact. They are as they were before the attacks took place. We would like to know why,” said the State Counsellor.—Kyaw Thu Htet ■

## 3rd Meeting on recommendations regarding Rakhine State affairs



Dr. Win Myat Aye (Centre, Left) and Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu (Centre, Right) discuss at meeting of the Implementation Committee on Recommendations on Rakhine. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE 3rd Meeting of the Implementation Committee on Recommendations Regarding Rakhine State Affairs was held yesterday afternoon at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

Dr Win Myat Aye, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, in his address to the meeting stressed the need to identify the long-term works and works that need immediate action depending on the real situation at the ground level. He added that it was necessary to sort out the priority works and to start implementing the cases that need urgent action; in carrying out the tasks the aim should be to produce long-lasting benefits and

putting stability, security and rule of law in place. Then, U Nyi Pu, Chief Minister of Rakhine State Government, explained the harvesting of crops, the discussion on clearing the ground ravaged by fire, the implementation works to be in line with the existing law and the establishment of an implementation committee at State level in accordance with the law. He then added that since the long-term plan was as important as the plan of immediate action, it was necessary to take great care in carrying out the works that should be aimed at regional development. Afterwards, the Deputy Minister for Border Affairs and Secretary of the committee, Maj-Gen. Than Htut, discussed

that a policy would be needed in implementing the projects and to resettle the ethnic villages and to construct concrete layers on border roads. Then, committee members, Permanent Secretaries and department heads participated in sector-wise discussions on regional security, rule of law, and forming the accepting and resettling committees for returnees, the preparation works for issuing NV Cards, quick release of news, scrutiny on land ownership, the improved efficiency of the telephone lines, preparations for the students at relief camps to be able to continue their studies and rendering health care and electrification.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint delivers the opening address at the paper reading on performance for internal peace process in Myanmar. **PHOTO: MNA**

## Paper reading on performance for internal peace process in Myanmar held

CEREMONY for paper reading on performance for internal peace process in Myanmar was held under the sponsorship of the local and foreign relations and information branch of the Ministry of Information at the meeting hall of the Ministry in Nay Pyi Taw at 2 pm yesterday.

At the paper reading session, Union Minister Dr Pe Myint gave an opening address, followed by introduction of paper presenters to those present at the ceremony from U Myint Kyaw, deputy permanent secretary of the Office of the Ministry who presided over the session.

Afterward, paper on performance for internal peace process in Myanmar was read out by U Kyaw Zin Thant, Director of local and foreign information and technology department, U Kyaw Zeya, Assistant Director, Daw Khin Chaw Ye, staff officer and U Sai Ne Lin

Tun, deputy staff officer.

Following that, responsible officials replied to the questions raised by the staff from the Ministry who attended the ceremony.

The resource persons read out in 4 parts under the title of “Performances for internal peace process in Myanmar,” viz, “Performances for peace process of successive governments”, “Performances for internal peace process in Myanmar during the reign of previous government”, “Performances for internal peace process in Myanmar during the period when President U Htin Kyaw took office” and “conclusions and suggestions as regards peace process.”

Present at the ceremony were directors-general, managing directors and responsible officials.—Myanmar News Agency ■



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## Number of tourist arrivals at Inle Phaungdaw Oo pagoda festival decreases significantly

THE number of tourists visiting to Phaungdaw Oo Pagoda Festival has decreased significantly when compared to the same period of last year, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

The Phaungdaw Oo pagoda festival is held annually in September for a total of 18 days. It is one of the most famous pagoda festivals in Myanmar. Both locals and tourists come to visit this traditional festival in Inle Lake, Shan State. The date of the festival is fixed according to the Lunar Calendar of Myanmar.

"This year only three or four tourists have contacted our company to visit the festival. The arrival list may be at least 50 per cent less than the last year", said U Zaw Htay Aung, the chairman of Myanmar Tourism Association (Taunggyi Zone).

Usually, the number of tourists increases in October. But this year, the open season



The Buddhas from the pagoda taken on a procession over Inle Lake to Nyaungshwe Township during Phaung Daw Oo Pagoda Festival. **PHOTO: THWE THWE TUN**

starts with poor results. The decrease in the number of tourists causes financial problems for the local tour companies and the tourist guides, too.

During the festival, which is

usually held from 21 September to 8 October, some hotels in Inle and Nyaungshwe have offered discount rates between 10 per cent and 15 per cent.

Hotels in Nyaungshwe are

offering discount rates during the festival depending on the room types. For example, the normal rate of Ks38,000 per night is reduced to Ks 30,000 per night.—GNLM ■

## Hlawga Wildlife Park to celebrate 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary festival

HLAWGA Wildlife Park in Mingalardon Township, Yangon Region will celebrate its 28th anniversary festival on 30 September, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

At the anniversary, the visitors will be able to feed the an-

imals. The festival will include education talks and lucky draw arrangements.

The Hlawga park has monkeys, barking deers, peacocks and other animals. Visitors also can see jungle fowl in the evening. There are also hiber-

nating birds in the park.

"Recently, we have upgraded the park and we would like to invite all visitors to come to observe our park", said U Ye Lin Soe, the officer in-charge of the park.

Hlawga Park is located on a

1,540-acre plot of land. Entrance fees are Ks1,000 for adults and Ks500 for children.

The park usually receives a few visitors on weekdays but most of the visitors come on the weekends for rest and recreation.—GNLM ■

## Stimulant tablets seized

STIMULANT tablets were seized at 16-mile Kyauk Chaw inspection gate in Patheingyi Township, Mandalay Region on Tuesday.

While local police were conducting regular inspections at the 16-mile Kyauk Chaw inspection gate, police stopped and inspected a vehicle and found 200 stimulant tablets from a passenger Wai Lwin Oo, also known as Wai Gyi and 369 stimulant tablets and a handset from Yan Naing Tun on board the vehicle.

Similarly, local police also inspected vehicle and

discovered 162 grams of heroin, 2,000 stimulant tablets and a handset from a passenger Ma Nwe Nwe Soe yesterday.

On the same day, Lashio Township police force searched a house owned by Ma Lu Hway Mann at Mannar Tayoke village in Lashio and found 37.5 grams of heroin, 1,425 stimulant tablets and Ks50,000.

Likewise, Muse police force found a suspicious looking man named Wulaukta near Ward 4, Kaukkai Township and found 52 grams of heroin and 1,000 stimulants



Two suspects are seen together with drugs. **PHOTO: MPF**

tablets on him. Hopan Township police force searched a house owned by Ma Shaukwah at Mainpan Wa Ward, Hopan.

The police discovered 1,312 stimulant tablets in the

house.

Police have taken action against them under the Anti-narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—Myanmar Police Force ■



## Border trade amounts to US\$ 3.2 billion

THE value of border trade from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 15<sup>th</sup> September this fiscal year was up by US\$8.33 million when compared to that in the same point of the last fiscal year.

Border trade from 1st April to 15th September this fiscal year hit US\$3.28 billion — US\$2 billion in exports and US\$1.27 billion in imports, according to official statistics of the ministry of commerce.

Myanmar is trading with her neighbouring countries — China, India, Bangladesh and Thailand. Sino-Myanmar border trade is carried out through Muse, Lwejel, Kanpikete, Chinshwehaw and Kengtung gates while Myanmar is carrying out border trade with India via Tamu and Reed. The country's border trade gates with Bangladesh are Sittway and Maungtau.

The border trade value as of 25 August in the current FY was US\$2.27 billion in Muse, US\$ 91.9 million in Lwejel, US\$249.8 million in Chinsh-



Trucks seen at 105-mile trade zone Muse, northern Shan State. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH

wehaw, US\$54.7 million in Kanpikete, US\$0.82 million in Kengtung, US\$32.9 million in Tachilek, US\$385.6 million in Myawady, US\$69.3 million in Kawthoung, US\$77.58 million in Myeik, US\$2.61 million in HteeKhee, US\$2.47 million

in Mawtaung, US\$0.27 million in Maese, US\$3.47 million in Sittway, US\$5.14 million in Maungtau, US\$14.62 million in Tamu and US\$17.21 million in Reed.

Myanmar exports agricultural products, forest

products, animal products, minerals, fishery products, manufactured goods and other products while capital goods, raw industrial materials and consumer products are imported into the country.

— GNLM ■

## Colourful lanterns selling well in local markets

THE Thadingyut festival, the lighting festival of Myanmar, is held on the Full Moon of the Myanmar Lunar month of Thadingyut. During the lighting festival, people hang the colourful lanterns at home.

Locally hand-made colourful lanterns and lanterns with various designs made in China are entering the Magway local market.

With the Thadingyut lighting festival taking place in the first week of October, the hand-made lanterns are selling.

The local hand-made lanterns are selling for between Ks500 and Ks1500 each, depending on the design, while the Chinese-made lanterns cost between Ks2,500 and Ks6,000. Myanmar lanterns sell better than the China-made ones as the former are cheaper, said a seller of the lanterns in Magway.— GNLM ■

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## Inle Phaung Daw Oo Buddha images conveyed for public obeisance

INLE Phaung Daw Oo Buddha Images are conveyed for public obeisance and U Win Myint, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw gilded the gold foils to the sacred images, and donated offertories to Sanghas.

Karaweik Royal Barge carrying Inle Phaung Daw Oo Buddha Images, was pulled by 37 traditional boats from Linkin village monastery to Nyaungshwe for the first leg of the public conveyance.

Then, U Win Myint and Hluttaw Representatives carried the First Image, with the Second Image carried by Dr Lin Htut, Chief Minister of Shan State and state ministers, the Third Image by Dr Myint Htwe, Union Minister for Health and Sports and state ministers and the Fourth Image by U Sai Lone Sai, Speaker of State Hluttaw, Shan State Advocate and state ministers.

Afterward, the Images visited round Nyaungshwe for people to pay holy respect. Following that Inle traditional regatta was held and prizes were offered to winner teams.



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint presents prize to male contestant winners team during the Inle Phaung Daw Oo Pagoda Festival. **PHOTO: SAI ALBE (NYAUNGSHWE)**

In the regatta of 46 oars, K-lar Nauk-Taung team stood first, San Bae Inn second. In the male Yarkyaw contest, Yay Thar Inn got first and Shwe Pyi Tha second.

In the regatta of 26 oars—female teams, Mai Thauk Inn stood first and Ai Daunt Gyi second. Prize winners includ-

ing male contestant winners were awarded prizes by U Win Myint and responsible officials.

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw and party donated the Buddha Images with sacred food, flowers, candle lights, water and gold foils, offering to Sanghas to offertories.

—Nay Myo Thurein ■

## Security force members and Hindu people search missing Hindu villagers

SECURITY forces and volunteers continued to search on 26 September for missing Hindus, but 48 missing Hindu people of Ye Baw Kya village were not found yet. Moreover, additional 144 Hindu people of Ohh Htain village are also reported for missing.

There were 52 death and 192 missing Hindu people due to ARSA extremist terrorist attacks.

The media group included journalists from TBS, Asahi Shunbum, EPA, AFP, VOA, CNA, BBC, Xinhua, TV Asahi, Nippon TV, Frontier Myanmar and Reuters made a day trip to the areas where corpses of Hindu were discovered in Rakhine State.

ARSA extremist terrorist attacks occurred on 26 August caused the death of seven Hindu people including six Hindu people in Maungtaw District Judicial court which is still under construction and one Hindu child in a house by gun shoot, according to the information released. The ARSA extremist

terrorist attacks displaced 2752 people of 563 Hindu families in Rakhine State. Of the displaced people, 1262 people of 321 Hindu families dwelt in temporary rescue camps of Sittway Township, 1487 people of 241 Hindu families dwelt in temporary rescue camps of Maungtaw Township and three people of one Hindu family dwelt in temporary camp of Buthidaung Township.

Moreover, people with Hindu faith in Maungtaw Township missed due to attacks of ARSA extremist terrorist. The security force members and displaced Hindu people searched the missing people.

The search team discovered 28 corpses including six children under 10 year and two under 16 years in two pits located 1500 meters away to the north-west of Ye Baw Kya village on 24 September. On 25 September, the team discovered 17 more corpses in two pits located 200 meters away to the east of former two pits. — Myanmar News Agency ■

## Workshop on amendment of land confiscation act held

THE opening ceremony for a workshop on the amendment of the excise act and land confiscation act of 1894 that is still being used by the government was held at the assembly hall of the Ministry of Home Affairs yesterday, with an opening address by Lt. General Kyaw Swe, Union Minister for Home Affairs.

Also, present at the ceremony were members of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs and permanent secretary, departmental heads under the Ministry, legal advisory committee members under the ministry, heads of its related departments, representatives from Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay City Development Committees, administrators from regions and states, retired officers of general administration department and representatives from the Myanmar Beverage Federation—45 altogether.

In addressing at the workshop, the Union Minister said it



Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-General Kyaw Swe delivers a speech at the opening ceremony for a workshop on amendment of land confiscation act. **PHOTO: MNA**

was time to enact a new law that superseded the current colonial-era statutes.

"Today's meeting was held to amend or renew the Excise Act and Land Confiscation Act, which are still being used by the general administration department under the Ministry of

Home Affairs, according to the suggestion of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission. In the colonial era, excise management and collection were administered by administrative personnel such as district collectors and township officers.

In 1972 when the new administration system was introduced, the excise department was abolished. From then, excise management was transferred to the Internal Revenue Department, with prevention and suppression duties transferred to the Myanmar Police Force. Starting from

FY 1989-1990, excise management and collection of excise tax was resumed by the General Administration Department. Now that 1917 Myanmar Excise Act entered the period of a century, and economic implementation type and manufacturing systems are changing with the passing time, it was found that compilation of a new law which will be of great benefit for the public is urgently needed. And, it is also necessary to cooperate with related ministries with a view to keep natural environment free from hazards, freedom from illicit excise businesses in the country, freedom from health risks, up to the stage as least as possible and acquisition of tax and revenues to the full. So as to bring about the national benefits, the new act needs to be drawn up after fulfilling necessary facts in every point, in accord with the prescription of the Constitution, 2008." The workshop will continue until 29<sup>th</sup> September, it was learnt. — Myanmar News Agency ■



## IAEA chief to arrive in S Korea on Thursday for talks on N Korea

SEOUL — International Atomic Energy Agency chief Yukiya Amano plans to make a three-day visit to South Korea from Thursday to discuss North Korea's nuclear program and ways to increase cooperation between South Korea and the UN nuclear watchdog body, South Korea's Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Amano's visit is expected to provide an opportunity for the two sides to hold in-depth discussions on ways to resolve the crisis over North Korea's nuclear ambitions, it said.

The visit comes as tensions have sharply escalated on the peninsula after North Korea conducted its sixth nuclear test, and most powerful to date, earlier this month. The IAEA chief is also expected to discuss with South Korean officials about related issues like nuclear safety.

During his stay, Amano is scheduled to meet with South Korean Foreign Minister Kang Kyung Wha, Science and ICT Minister You Young Min and the chief regulatory officer of the nuclear safety and security commission.—Kyodo News ■

## China says military means not an option to resolve Korea situation

BEIJING — China said on Wednesday the North Korean nuclear issue should be resolved through dialogue, and that military means were not an option, after US President Donald Trump warned North Korea that any US military option would be "devastating".

Bellicose statements by Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in recent weeks have created fears that a miscalculation could lead to action with untold ramifications, particularly since Pyongyang conducted its sixth and most powerful nuclear test on 3 September.

Speaking at a daily news briefing, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang reiterated that China has all along upheld the aim of the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula and protecting the international nuclear non-proliferation system.

"At the same we are resolute in working for the protection of the peninsula's peace and stability and uphold a peaceful resolution for the nuclear issue via dialogue and consultation," Lu said.

"We have always believed that military means should not be an option to resolve the nuclear issue on the peninsula. Because arms cannot resolve the differences and can only cause a bigger disaster. No side can accept this," he added.

"We hope all sides can avoid words and actions that intensify

the problem and may cause the situation to continue to escalate."

North Korea will be high on the agenda when US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson visits China later this week.

While China has been angered by North Korea's repeated nuclear and missile tests and has signed up for increasingly tough United Nations sanctions against Pyongyang, it has also said efforts must be stepped up to resume talks.

During a White House news conference on Tuesday, Trump also said the use of force was not Washington's preferred option for dealing with the North Korea's ballistic and nuclear weapons programme.

Despite the increased tension, the United States has not detected any change in North Korea's military posture reflecting an increased threat, Marine Corps General Joseph Dunford, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, said on Tuesday.

North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho on Monday accused Trump of declaring war on the North and threatened that Pyongyang would shoot down US warplanes flying near the Korean Peninsula after American bombers flew close to it last Saturday.

Ri was reacting to Trump's Twitter comments that Kim and Ri "won't be around much longer" if they acted on their threats toward the United States.—Reuters ■



A group of lawyers, led by Hidetoshi Masunaga (2nd from R in front row), heads to the Japanese Supreme Court in Tokyo on 27 September, 2017, to hear a ruling on a disparity in the weight of votes in the July 2016 upper house election. The court ruled the vote disparity to be constitutional, following more than a dozen conflicting rulings from lower courts. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

## Top court rules vote gap in 2016 upper house election constitutional

TOKYO — The Japanese Supreme Court on Wednesday ruled the vote disparity in the July 2016 upper house election to be constitutional, following more than a dozen conflicting rulings from lower courts.

The 10 July House of Councillors election was held with a disparity in the weight of votes of up to 3.08 times between the most and the least populated constituencies, a smaller gap than in previous elections held before the latest electoral district mergers.

The top court's 15-member Grand Bench, led by Chief Justice Itsuro Terada, said the vote disparity "was not in a state of extreme inequality that would generate issues of unconstitutionality."

Two groups of lawyers had filed a total of 16 suits across Japan, claiming the vote disparity, in which one vote carried the weight of up to three

votes when comparing the two extremes, violated the constitutionally-guaranteed equality under the law, and that the election results should therefore be invalidated.

Ten high courts went on to rule that the election was held in a "state of unconstitutionality," while six others ruled it was constitutional, prompting the Supreme Court to weigh in on the issue.

The top court previously ruled that the 2010 and 2013 upper house elections — in which the weight gap had reached up to 5.00 times and 4.77 times, respectively — were held "in a state of unconstitutionality" and urged parliament to review the demarcation of upper house districts.

Upper house constituencies were originally demarcated on the basis of prefectures. But after the previous top court ruling, the country redrew them by

merging two pairs of less-populated prefectures — Tottori and neighboring Shimane as well as Tokushima and neighboring Kochi — into two electoral districts.

As a result, the vote weight gap was slashed to around 3 times in the July 2016 election.

But the 10 high courts considered the weight gap still "in a state of unconstitutionality." The Okayama branch of the Hiroshima High Court, for example, said the 2015 constituency mergers, which only affected four prefectures, were insufficient.

In the latest case that reached the Supreme Court, an election board disputed plaintiffs' claims, saying upper house lawmakers tend to represent their local areas, and that the current electoral system that in principle retains prefecture-based districts is reasonable.—Kyodo News ■



# Long-term benefits and solution for Rakhine State affairs

Khin Maung Oo

IN meeting with diplomats in Dhaka in early September, Mr Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh alleged that there has been ethnic cleansing committed in Rakhine State. The allegation was, in fact, a groundless one. Yet, the Minister chose not to mention the brutal attacks carried out by ARSA extremist terrorist on 25th August of this year, which was widely reported in the Myanmar media. Burials of atrociously killed 45 Hindus in shallow graves were acts of terrorism committed by the ARSA extremists. No one can deny the veracity of these reports. Holding groundless allegations dogmatically, without solid evidence means an abnormal attitude.

Bangladesh Prime Minister

Sheikh Hasina's call to put international pressure on Myanmar to stop forcing persons of Bangladeshi origin into Bangladesh territory and take back those refugees is a big disappointment. In reality, the Bangladesh Prime Minister should have known that such pressure could not find a solution to any problem. The Bangladeshi Minister for Industries has repeatedly claimed that Myanmar is violating human rights over Bengalis in Rakhine State disclosed that there has been no plans for designating Bengalis fleeing from Myanmar as refugees. The Minister also said that fleeing Bengalis were not allowed to go outside the camp to mix with Bangladeshi citizens.

According to that statement that Bengalis said to have fled from Rakhine State could not be regarded as refugees, it can be assessed as to

how much Bangladesh value human rights. In actuality, Bengalis who claimed to have left from Rakhine State and Bangladeshi citizens exactly resemble in appearance, religion and use of language. For that reason, the Minister for industries was really worried. Evidently enough, Bengalis claiming to have fled from Rakhine do not belong to any of the 135 ethnic national races in Myanmar.

The State Counsellor herself did pledge that those who had lived in Rakhine would be accepted without delay in accordance with the agreement made between Myanmar and Bangladesh. They would be granted rights of citizenship provided that they comply with the Citizenship law. In other words, the State Counsellor has already explained about the principles that have been mutually accepted to solve the problem of

refugees.

Patrick Murphy, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Southeast Asia himself has already acknowledged the constructive approach of the State Counsellor. Mr. Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Singapore also warned in his address at the 72nd UNGA's general debate that UN member states should not fall for the trick of extremist terrorists, at the same time urging all nations to co-operate with Myanmar. We would like to urge Bangladesh to deal with the Rakhine State affair with a constructive attitude by co-operating with Myanmar on a bilateral basis for the benefit of both countries. Any attempt to exert pressure on Myanmar at the UN level or with the help of propaganda networks set up by ARSA and their supporters would be counter-productive. ■

# Let's keep our finger cross to be free of rabies

Kaung Htet Thar

RABIES has been notorious among people for many ages but very few people have had bad experience on it. However, it is not easy to understand the negative impact of rabies if someone has not had experience on it. Now, it is time to know about rabies without having personal bad experiences and its consequences of rabies, as it coincides with the celebration of world rabies day which will fall on 28<sup>th</sup> September. Globally, there are celebrations of world rabies days including the activities of vaccinating to dogs, public talk and awareness campaign on rabies. Celebration of world rabies day is a unique global activity which involves not only single organization but also all stakeholders to conduct disease prevention and control of rabies. The motto of 2017 world rabies day is "Rabies: zero by 30"

Among ASEAN countries, Brunei, Malaysia and Singapore are free from rabies and the other member countries are still struggling to control and eliminate of rabies with the ASEAN strategic guideline which include: prevention of rabies in line with one health strategy; harmonization of existing rule and regulation to support effective control programme; vaccination and PEP treatment; managing dog population control; strengthening capacity building; participation of all stakeholder. In Myanmar, although there are some activities to prevent and control against the disease by different organizations, it needs to

have consolidated approach with active engagement of national level for better and effective control of rabies. The major constraints in the disease control are: difficulties in depopulation of stray dogs by spaying or castration; providing rabies vaccine to those dogs; setting up nation wise strategy to control the population. According to the scientific studies, veterinary researchers revealed that the ratio of dog and human was 1: 6 in rural areas at Myanmar and it is an indication of existence of a large number of rabies susceptible animals within the country than that of the estimation of dog approximately 3.5 million in 2003. The majority of dogs are stray dogs and they are fed by sympathetic community who never take responsibility in case of unwanted events. In addition, the public participation in the prevention and control of rabies is still not satisfactory, as an example of pilot mass rabies vaccination campaign in central Myanmar.

Rabies is caused by virus and it can result fatal termination in the victims with no proper vaccination practice which can effectively prevent the fatal ending if it is practiced in early stage. The major source of rabies is from rabid dog bite. The disease is threatening to more than 150 nations and territories globally and over fifteen million human victims have been taking post exposure prophylaxis treatment every year. Over 60,000 persons are died of rabies and majority were reported in India whereas in Myanmar it was estimated around 1000

death case per year. The clinical signs in dogs mostly appear within 10 days of post exposure to the rabid dog and it can vary up to 6 months. The most prominent clinical signs is "changing behavior" with two distinct forms: one is furious form which show aggressive behavior and unprovoked attack to all moving objectives; the other one

 Celebration of world rabies day is a unique global activity which involves not only single organization but also all stakeholders to conduct disease prevention and control of rabies. The motto of 2017 world rabies day is "Rabies: zero by 30"

is dumb form which does not show any active activities and look calm in behavior. In Myanmar, the reported animals are not only in dog but also in cats, horses, cattle, buffalo, sheep and goat and pigs.

Even the disease can be effectively preventable by vaccination in both human and animal, the cost of mass vaccination in dog to get 80 percent coverage is higher than that

of PEP treatment in human victims according to an economic study in late 2016. Nevertheless, conducting mass vaccination to dog can prevent the disease transmission in both animals and human rather than vaccination in human alone which cannot reduce the animal rabies.

As nation develop, the human right and animal welfare issue are appeared as an important concept in modern community and many dog shelter and animal care volunteers emerge and they become active to save the lives of ownerless animals. Keeping those dogs in a shelter together providing feed, necessary treatments are humane activities to look after stray dog and helping in rabies control. Those dogs and dog attendants definitely need to have proper vaccination against rabies annually. Moreover, animal lover must also be aware of the risk of rabies and to save both human and animal, all of them need to take precaution with proper vaccination to establish a pleasant community.

By understanding the frustrating rabies disease, we should keep our finger cross to be free of rabies in our community in line with the world rabies day motto of 2017 "Rabies: zero by 30", providing rabies vaccine to our pet dog; reporting suspected case to the nearest veterinary department; taking prompt PEP treatment at nearest medical center and participating rabies campaign to save our country free from rabies. ■



## Shoe factory creating 300 job opportunities to be opened soon in Myawady Economic Zone

A shoe factory which can create job opportunities for 300 people will be opened soon in Myawady Economic Zone, Myawady Township near the border of Myanmar and Thailand.

This factory is located seven mile away from Myawady Town, where the Myawady Economic Zone was developed in 2013. Total 37 plots of lands for factories had been sold there, but only three factories were able to open so far.

“The said shoe factory was

built at the beginning of 2016 to run in cooperation with Thailand under authorized permission of the government. As the factory is completed, workers are being hired now. Approximately 300 workers will be required. Applicants who are good at sewing and speaking Thai language will be preferred. The unskilled Myanmar workers will be trained by 50 skilled workers from Bangkok. The unskilled workers will be paid 120 baht per day and skilled

workers will be paid about 150 baht with the additional payment of overtime. Hostels are also arranged for the workers who come from other places. The factory will be opened soon and heavy generators are used for electricity” said Daw Thin Thin Myat, owner of the factory.

“Job application forms are now accepted. Total 50 applicants we have today. Applicants who come from other places also applied. They will be employed if the qualification meets



Factories seen at Myawady Economic Zone near the border of Myanmar and Thailand. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

the requirement. The factory will be opened soon, approximately after one month” said

Zaw Min Oo, manager of the factory.—Htain Linn Aung (IPRD) ■

## Two Media Men Who Hit Land of Bangladesh

By Thargyi Maung Zeya

“SITUATIONS are no longer in good favour. When I am not online, call me. My number is 09450219800.”

To my great anxiety, I found a short note written by Ko Aung, Maungtaung correspondent, on the social website page, exclusively used by DVB reporters at the moment I got up from bed early in the morning.

Reporters always urgently inform their trustworthy colleague or reporter or their respective news agency of a hint of imminent danger or risk of losing life. This is the kind of disciplines for news men to essentially abide by as well as the vital ritual for their safety. That is repeatedly taught at the training for the safety course for news men.

A news man is always aware and careful about the use of words because the place he is covering the news is the one where religious and racial conflicts are dreadfully taking place and being watched by international communities.

Just at the time when local reporters are trying their best to present true news and information to the whole world, our news men from Myanmar came to notice that there are groundless tidings which do not comply with the media ethics spreading in the world. In almost all gatherings of news men, there used to be a frequently expressed question. It was none other than the statement, “How will we collect

true news on Rakhine State? and how will we do to spread the true news on Rakhine State Affairs?”

However true news are being released by the government-run news media, international community basically tend to believe that governmental news and information are mostly full of propagandas and most are over-inundated with news which defends the government. In other word, global community would have regarded that government news agencies mean the ones which lack in freedom and accuracy. Local news men are eager to cover true news and to spread them across the world by themselves. Yet, there are restrictions and some difficulties for local news men to cover news and information on the ground. They often demanded for the right to go and collect news at the places the events took places. But, they were not fully permitted to act according to their aspirations. So, whenever they find foreign news media’s false news, they feel annoyed with them. They are thinking ways and means to get true news and information, determining to make the acquired news known to the world.

Meanwhile, the news that the two Myanmar media men, Ko Zayar Min, the photographer and reporter, and another one named Ko Khun Latt had been detained in Bangladesh, alleging of espionage was found to have been posted. It actually happened on 7 September, but it was known only on 15 September, Friday. Know-

ing the event at the belated time made us worry a lot as to whether they were tortured or they would be depressed under harsh investigation. These days, myriads of news—exodus of Muslims fleeing to Bangladesh, amounting to several hundred thousand, and thousands of Myanmar Buddhist nationals coming to take shelter at Sittway and those who were slaughtered on the way are being posted online.

We noticed many trying to make images of the nation and State Counsellor drop in the International diplomatic front. To our great dismay and depression we are hearing and seeing people create religious and racial conflicts and criticize and defame the national figure with a view to trying to influence over all.

On 16 September, we were relieved to some extent to have seen the news release by Ministry of Information that the case of the arrest of two reporters would be solved through the diplomatic channel. Myanmar Press Council, Pen Myanmar, Myanmar Journalist Network and other news associations promptly made an appeal to Myanmar Government to make efforts for the release of Myanmar reporters as soon as possible. We were simultaneously elated to find the unity of news men. But, any interference cannot be made over rule of law between countries. It is a regulation for every nation to abide by, so we realized that effort to release two reporters will not be easy as expected. The

Ministry of Foreign Affairs had released the news that it had instructed Myanmar Embassy in Bangladesh, Dhaka to perform the necessary procedures concerning the detained Myanmar reporters, on 18 September. We felt a great sense of elation as we saw Myanmar government make a prompt and sharp response.

News that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi would make the national address on 19 September to the world were coming on website pages, while international societies were fighting against Myanmar government and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, with unreliable and fabricated news. What will she speak out? Racial and religious extremists and power-cravers were found to have tried to scare people, as if waiting for the frightened audience to disperse holding rolls of mats in their arms, with a view to occupying the empty places.

I was greatly pleased more than expected, to have a chance to listen to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi speech. Her invitation to the global community to come and see actual situations on the ground in Myanmar was erasing falsity with truth. It managed to bring about support of the whole populace and international diplomatic circle again. On 22 September, U Kyaw Tin, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs asserted that international pressure on human rights concerning conflicts in northern Rakhine State would be solved through negotiation rather than confrontation. On 23 Sep-

tember, we heard our reporters in the news room saying enthusiastically about the news that the two Myanmar news men detained in Bangladesh were granted bail.

People from Myanmar Media World increasingly hoped for good results regarding the case Myanmar reporters are facing now. They expect for respective authorities to understand the instance of reporters visiting on travel visa, when they find it difficult to go on reporter visa, prioritizing for the acquisition of the news and presentation of it to the public as soon as possible.

Simultaneously we will have more opportunities to present real images of our country, provided that we will understand their instance in return, when foreign correspondents come to Myanmar on travel visa as they have difficult time for covering news on Journalist and Media visa. In case they reported news which did not comply with media ethics, we must try our best to remove severe objections in co-operation with international media circle. If so, we can protect increasing mutual misunderstanding and doubts due to lack of opportunities to know each other, based on disconnection. If we can try hard to increase mutual understanding, based on two Myanmar reporters under detention in Bangladesh, it sure will help to implement the anti-terrorism in both countries as well as in global countries. ■

*Translated by  
Khin Maung Oo (Tada-U)*

## 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



## “Bitterly disappointed” by Bombardier ruling, Britain chides Boeing

LONDON — Britain is bitterly disappointed by a US decision to slap duties on Bombardier jets, Prime Minister Theresa May said on Wednesday, promising to protect thousands of jobs in Northern Ireland that the ruling puts at risk.

The London government said Boeing’s stance was unjustified and not the sort of position it would expect of a long-term partner.

May had asked US President Donald Trump to help find a solution to a trade dispute between Bombardier and its US competitor, but the US Commerce Department on Tuesday imposed an anti-subsidy 219.63-per cent duty on the jets.

Though a preliminary decision, it dismayed Canada, where Bombardier is based, and adds to pressure on May.

Her government is propped up by a small party in Northern Ireland and views the United States as its closest ally as Britain moves towards exiting the European Union in 2019.

“Bitterly disappointed by initial Bombardier ruling,” May said on Twitter. “The government will continue to work with the company to protect vital jobs for

Northern Ireland.”

The ruling threatens 4,200 jobs at a Bombardier plant in the UK province that makes the new CSeries 110-to-130 seat jets.

Boeing, the world’s largest aerospace company, accuses Bombardier of dumping the CSeries jet in the US market and says the aircraft is being unfairly subsidised by Canada, a charge Bombardier denies.

The US Commerce Department said it imposed a 219.63 per cent countervailing duty on Bombardier’s new commercial jets after it made a preliminary finding of subsidisation.

Canada’s foreign affairs minister Chrystia Freeland said Canada strongly disagreed with the anti-dumping and countervailing duty investigations into imports of Canadian large civil aircraft.

While juggling Brexit talks, May had lobbied the United States hard and intervened personally with Trump, who has made ‘America First’ a theme of his administration, to get one of the titans of US industry to back off. But the decision increases domestic pressure on May just as she tries to kickstart divorce talks with the EU.

After losing her majority



PHOTO: REUTERS

in a snap election in June, May is dependent on the Northern Irish Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) in parliament.

The DUP said it would fight to keep the Belfast plant, Northern Ireland’s largest manufacturing employer, open. Bombardier makes carbon wings for the CSeries CS100 and CS300 there.

“It is critical for Belfast,” Jeffrey Donaldson, a senior lawmaker in the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), told BBC Radio.

“This would have devastat-

ing consequences on our economy if the factory were to close and we’re going to do everything we can to ensure that doesn’t happen.”

The row comes weeks after Boeing began construction of its first European parts manufacturing site in Sheffield, northern England.

Boeing says it employs 2,200 people in the United Kingdom, its third largest supply base after the United States and Japan. — Reuters ■

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Moscow dismisses UN allegations of human rights violations in Crimea — Ifax

MOSCOW — Moscow considers United Nations allegations of human rights violations committed by Russia in Crimea to be “groundless”, the Interfax news agency quoted Deputy Foreign Minister Gennady Gatilov as saying on Wednesday.

Russia is committing “grave” human rights violations in Crimea, including its imposition of citizenship and by deporting prisoners, a UN human rights report said on Monday. — Reuters ■

### Conservative firebrand Moore wins Alabama GOP Senate primary — media

WASHINGTON — Alabama voters elected conservative firebrand Roy Moore as the Republican nominee to fill a US Senate seat, media reports said on Tuesday, dealing a blow to President Donald Trump and other party leaders who had argued that rival Luther Strange was a better bet to advance their priorities in Washington. Moore, 70, is best known for losing his position as the state’s top judge twice, once for refusing a court order to remove a Ten Commandments monument from the courthouse and a second time for defying the US Supreme Court’s decision to legalize same-sex marriage. — Reuters ■

### France to ‘lend’ control of STX shipyard to Italy’s Fincantieri — source

LYON — France and Italy agreed on Wednesday to end their row over an Italian bid for shipbuilding firm STX France, with a deal that gives the buyer, Fincantieri, effective control without it legally owning a majority, an Italian government source said. The deal, struck in talks between French President Emmanuel Macron and Italian Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni, gives Fincantieri 51 per cent of STX, though 1 per cent of this holding would be in the form of shares lent by Paris, the source said. — Reuters ■

## France says Trump method not best way to tackle North Korea crisis

PARIS — France’s foreign minister said on Wednesday that Donald Trump’s verbal jousting with North Korea was perhaps not the best method to handle the nuclear crisis and urged the US president to focus his attention on raising diplomatic pressure on Pyongyang.

Bellicose statements by Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in recent weeks have created fears that a miscalculation could lead to action with untold ramifications,

particularly since Pyongyang conducted its sixth and most powerful nuclear test on 3 September.

“Trump’s method is perhaps not the best, but at the same time we shouldn’t mix up the responsibilities,” Jean-Yves Le Drian told BFM TV. “The country that is breaking with nuclear international agreements is North Korea. President Trump is reacting forcefully to this, but without a doubt there is a way to act

in a different way by putting pressure and sanctions.”

North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho on Monday accused Trump of declaring war on North Korea and threatened that Pyongyang would shoot down US warplanes flying near the Korean Peninsula after American bombers flew close to it last Saturday.

The North Korean minister was reacting to Trump’s Twitter comments that Kim and Ri “won’t be around much longer”

if they acted on their threats toward the United States.

Le Drian repeated that a maximum amount of pressure needed to be placed on Pyongyang to get it back to the negotiating table, but warned there was a risk of an accidental military escalation.

“The world is living in a dangerous period,” he said. “At the moment we’re at a verbal clash, but there could be an incident. We need to avoid incidents.” — Reuters ■

## Topol ballistic missile test launched from range in Russia’s south

MOSCOW — A Topol RS-12M intercontinental ballistic missile has been test launched from the Kapustin Yar range in Russia’s southern Astrakhan region, the Russian defense ministry said

on Tuesday.

“A combat union of the Russian Strategic Missile Forces test launched an intercontinental ballistic missile Topol RS-12M from the Kapustin Yar state central

range in the Astrakhan region,” the spokesman said. “The goal of the launch was to test advanced ballistic missile warheads.”

The missile’s exercise warhead hit a maneuver target at the

Sary-Shagan range in Kazakhstan, the ministry said. According to the ministry, data on the Topol launch will be used to develop advanced anti-missile defence penetration aids. — Tass ■



# Mattis arrives in Afghanistan hours after small rockets explode at Kabul airport

KABUL — US Defence Secretary James Mattis arrived in the Afghan capital on an unannounced visit on Wednesday hours after several small rockets exploded in and around Kabul airport, police said.

There were no reports of casualties or damage in the attack which for which Islamic State claimed responsibility.

Mattis's visit comes

after US President Donald Trump announced a new strategy for Afghanistan, promising a stepped-up military campaign against Taliban insurgents who have gained ground as they seek to reestablish Islamic law after their 2001 ouster.

Mattis has said that the United States will send an additional 3,000 troops to Afghanistan to help train Afghan security



Afghan policemen stand guard outside of Kabul Airport after rockets exploded in Kabul, Afghanistan on 27 September, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

forces fighting the Taliban and other militant groups.

Currently there are about 8,400 US troops in

Afghanistan. Most are advising Afghan forces but some are involved in operations against the Taliban.

Islamic State claimed responsibility for the explosions at the airport, the group's AMAQ news

agency said, adding that "infiltrators" used SPG-9 rockets and mortars. —Reuters ■

## Saudi King Salman to lift ban on women driving

CAIRO — King Salman bin Abdulaziz of Saudi Arabia issued a decree Tuesday allowing the country's women to drive for the first time from June 2018, according to national media.

The Saudi kingdom has drawn criticism from international humanitarian organizations as the only country in the world

with such a discriminatory rule.

The policy change is part of Saudi's reforms to modernize their society.

In Saudi Arabia where women have to depend on male taxi drivers or male relatives for travelling purposes, around 800,000 men, including foreigners, work as taxi drivers solely

for women, according to data revealed by the Middle East news channel Al Arabiya.

Saudi Arabia is a male-dominated society where women also have to seek permission from male guardians for decisions regarding education, marriage and travel. —Kyodo News ■

## Islamic State attack west of Baghdad kills 7 — security sources

BAGHDAD — Islamic State militants holed up west of Baghdad launched their biggest attack on Iraqi troops in months on Wednesday, security sources said, killing at least seven soldiers before being forced to retreat.

The fighting, near the city of Ramadi in Anbar province, continued for

several hours after the militants attacked with suicide car bombs, mortars and machine guns, the sources said.

Bolstered by reinforcements, Iraqi forces killed 16 militants, state TV said, citing military commanders. Warplanes chased those who fled, it said.

According to a preliminary toll from security sources, the attack killed at least seven soldiers and wounded 16, making it one of the biggest since government troops recaptured Ramadi from Islamic State in December 2015.

A low-intensity guerrilla war has continued in the region. —Reuters ■

## South African unions to march against corruption under Zuma

JOHANNESBURG / CAPE TOWN — Thousands of South Africans will march on Wednesday against corruption under President Jacob Zuma's rule, in protests led by unions which have backed a rival to the president's faction as the next leader of the ANC.

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), which is in an alliance with the ruling African National Congress (ANC), has called on its more than one million members to strike and join marches in

major cities across South Africa.

Though the protests are officially against graft broadly, much of the frustration and anger is aimed at Zuma. "Corruption has become endemic under this administration," COSATU said in a statement.

"This calls for all of us as workers and citizens to stand up and push back against this rot."

Senior members of the ANC have called for Zuma to step down in recent months following a swell of allegations that his friends, the Gupta fam-

ily, wield undue influence over the award of state contracts worth hundreds of millions of dollars. The raiding of taxpayers funds by outside interests is known locally as "state capture". Guptas and Zuma deny wrongdoing and say they are victims of a politically-motivated witchhunt.

The ANC will pick its next president in December with Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa's camp prioritising fighting corruption, boosting economic growth and winning back the trust of support-

ers who have become disillusioned with the party under Zuma. Zuma's powerful faction is expected to back his ex-wife and former African Union chairwoman Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, although other candidates could still emerge as serious contenders. "Wednesday's series of marches and protests that target corruption and State capture are also targeting Mr Zuma and his succession faction in the ANC," said Gary van Staden, political analyst at NKC Research. — Reuters ■

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The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Dated 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017

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# Tillerson to discuss North Korea crisis, trade in China

WASHINGTON — US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson will visit China this week for talks that will include the crisis over North Korea's nuclear and missile programs and trade, the State Department said on Tuesday.

Tillerson's trip, from 28 to 30 September, will also lay the groundwork for President Donald Trump's visit to China in November, State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said. Tillerson's visit comes at a time of high tension between the United States and North Korea, China's neighbor and ally, which is working to develop nuclear-tipped missiles



PHOTO: REUTERS

capable of reaching the US mainland. President Donald Trump warned North Korea on Tuesday that any US military option against North Korea would be "devastating" for Pyongyang, but said the use of force was not Washington's first option. China has urged a

return to dialogue.

Nauert called China's steps to implement tougher UN sanctions on North Korea after its recent missile and nuclear tests "significant." "We have a good relationship with China," she told a regular news briefing, adding that this

was evidenced by what would be Tillerson's second visit to China in nine months in office. "China has taken enormous steps in the right direction. There is always more that countries can do, but at this point we want to thank China for the steps it has taken in the right direction." In Beijing on Wednesday, asked for details of Tillerson's visit, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang told a regular news briefing only that he would meet China's top diplomat, Yang Jiechi, and Foreign Minister Wang Yi. While backing UN sanctions, China, North Korea's main trading partner, opposes uni-

lateral US steps and has been worried Washington might move to freeze its banks out of the global financial system unless they cut ties to Pyongyang. On Tuesday, the US Treasury announced sanctions against 26 more individuals as part of its non-proliferation designations for North Korea, as well as nine North Korean banks, including some with ties to China. Tillerson's visit to Beijing follows one by US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, who said on Monday China needed to guarantee fair and reciprocal treatment for US firms, as he tried to strike an upbeat tone amid bilateral

trade tension. China-US ties have been strained by Trump's criticism of China's trade practices and by demands that Beijing do more on North Korea.

Chinese President Xi Jinping and Trump met for the first time at Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida in April. Trump has since played up his personal relationship with Xi, even while criticizing China over North Korea and trade.

In August, Trump authorized an inquiry into China's alleged theft of intellectual property — his first direct trade measure against Beijing, a move China called "irresponsible." —Reuters ■

## TRADEMARK CAUTION NOTICE

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Dated: 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2017

## THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE ( INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER ) ( 16/ 2017 )

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in Myanmar Kyats.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	DMP/L-065(17-18)	Spares for SJS Serva (TPB 600)Cementing Unit (1) Item	Ks
(2)	DMP/L-066(17-18)	Spares for Retest Factory (54) Items	Ks
(3)	DMP/L-067(17-18)	PAC-R (50) MT	Ks
(4)	DMP/L-068(17-18)	Spare Tools for Drilling Equipment (17) Items	Ks
(5)	DMP/L-069(17-18)	Spares for Dispenser (SAFE) (16) Items	Ks
(6)	DMP/L-070(17-18)	Spares for Dispenser (China) (19) Items	Ks

Tender Closing Date & Time- 30-10-2017, 16:30 pm

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 28 September 2017 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise  
Ph . +95 67 - 411206



Smoke and flames rise over a warehouse storing ammunition for multiple rocket launcher systems at a military base in the town of Kalynivka in Vinnytsia region, Ukraine on 27 September, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Thousands evacuated in Ukraine as ammunition depot explodes

KIEV — Massive explosions and a blaze at a military ammunition depot in central Ukraine forced authorities to evacuate 24,000 people and close airspace over the region, officials said on Wednesday.

The blasts occurred late on Tuesday at a military base near Kalynivka in the Vynnytsya region, 270 kilometres (168 miles) west of Kiev, Ukrainian emergencies service said in a statement.

One person was injured, it said.

Arriving in the region hours later, Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman said "external factors" were behind the incident. —Reuters ■

## Northern Ireland's DUP says will fight to keep Bombardier Belfast open

LONDON — Northern Ireland's biggest political party said it would do everything it could to keep Bombardier's plant in Belfast open after the US government slapped tariffs on the firm's C-Series jet which is partly made in the province.

"It is critical for Bel-

fast," Jeffrey Donaldson, a senior lawmaker in the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), told BBC Radio on Wednesday.

"This would have devastating consequences on our economy if the factory were to close and we're going to do everything we can to ensure that doesn't

happen."

British Prime Minister Theresa May's minority Conservative government depends on backing from the DUP for their control of the British parliament. Bombardier is the single largest manufacturing employer in Northern Ireland.—Reuters ■



# Thai court sentences fugitive former PM Yingluck to 5 years in jail



Former Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra. PHOTO: REUTERS

BANGKOK — Thailand's Supreme Court sentenced former prime minister Yingluck Shinawatra in absentia to five years in prison on Wednesday for mismanaging a rice subsidy scheme that cost the country billions of dollars.

Yingluck fled abroad last month fearing that the military government, set up after a coup in 2014, would seek a harsh sentence.

For more than a decade Thai politics have been dominated by a power struggle between Thailand's traditional elite, including the army and affluent Bangkok-based upper classes, and the Shinawatra family, which includes Yingluck's brother, former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who was also ousted by a coup.

Yingluck had faced up to 10 years in prison for

negligence over the costly scheme that had helped get her elected in 2011.

Yingluck had pleaded innocent and had accused the military government of political persecution.

Nine judges voted unanimously to find Yingluck guilty in verdict reading that took four hours, and a warrant was issued for her arrest.

The court said Yingluck knew that

members of her administration had falsified government-to-government rice deals but did nothing to stop it.

"The accused knew that the government-to-government rice contract was unlawful but did not prevent it ...," the Supreme Court said in a statement.

"Which is a manner of seeking unlawful gains. Therefore, the action of

the accused is considered negligence of duty," it said.

A former commerce minister in her government was jailed for 42 years last month for falsifying government-to-government rice deals in connection with the subsidy scheme.

Norrawit Larlaeng, a lawyer for Yingluck, told reporters outside the court that an appeal was being discussed.—Reuters ■

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Dated 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017 kmma@kcyangon.com

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The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.  
Dated 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017 kmma@kcyangon.com

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

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

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## Power gays and pussy hats, but 'Will & Grace' puts funny first

LOS ANGELES — Older, but certainly not wiser, Will, Grace, Karen and Jack return in television comedy "Will & Grace" this week, aiming to again test social and political boundaries but mostly to make audiences laugh.

The 1998-2006 Emmy-winning series about a gay attorney who shares a New York apartment with his straight female friend was credited with bringing gay men and women into mainstream culture long before gay marriage became law across the United States in 2015.

Making a comeback in fraught social and political times, the 16-episode revival starts on

Thursday on NBC 11 years after the show went off the air, and actor Eric McCormack (Will) says it's "going to be as progressive and offensive as we can be."

When it started "there was a novelty about seeing this kind of (gay) relationship on network television," said David Kohan, who created the series with Max Mutchnick.

Now, having Donald Trump as US president, "makes the show a little more interesting," said Mutchnick.

Set firmly in 2017, the show sees Will and interior designer Grace (Debra Messing) back living together in the same New

York apartment after the breakdown of their respective marriages. Flamboyantly gay friend Jack (Sean Hayes) and wealthy Martini-guzzling socialite Karen (Megan Mullally) live across the hallway.

Trump, first lady Melania Trump, Caitlyn Jenner, Newt Gingrich, Tinder, pussy hats, power gays and political activism all provide fodder for jokes in Thursday's first of 16 episodes, where Karen's friendship with Melania Trump gives Grace the chance to redecorate the Oval Office. Messing says the revival aims to "shine a light on what's happening in politics and pop culture, like we always did, and make it very current, provocative and sassy, and to make people laugh out loud." She said the flaws of the four main characters are fully intact. "They have not evolved or become less self-involved," she said.

Just having two gay lead characters, or showing a gay kiss on television was considered risky in the late 1990s.

But since then TV shows like "Transparent," "Modern Family" and "This Is Us" have brought transgender actors, bisexuals, and gay parents into American living rooms.—Reuters ■



The cast of Pretty Little Liars. PHOTO: PTI

## 'Pretty Little Liars' is getting a new spin-off

LOS ANGELES — Three months after "Pretty Little Liars" ended its seven-season run, the series is getting a new spin-off.

Freeform has given a pilot order to offshoot "Pretty Little Liars: The Perfectionists", toplined by "PLL" co-stars Sasha Pieterse and Janel Parrish reprising their roles, reported Deadline.

The show is based on the popular book series "The Perfectionists," written by PLL author Sara Shepard.

"Pretty Little Liars: The Perfectionists" is set in the town of Beacon Heights

where everything seems perfect, from their top-tier college to their overachieving residents. But nothing in Beacon Heights is as it appears to be. The stress of needing to be perfect leads to the town's first murder. Behind every 'Perfectionist' is a secret, a lie and a needed alibi.

The spin-off is produced by Alloy Entertainment and Long Lake Media in association with Warner Horizon Scripted Television. I Marlene King has written the pilot and serves as executive producer with Leslie Morgenstein and Gina Girolamo.—PTI ■



Cast members Debra Messing and Eric McCormack attend a panel for the television series "Will & Grace" during the TCA NBC Summer Press Tour in Beverly Hills, California, US on 3 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Shania Twain bounces back with "Now"

LOS ANGELES — Life has been tough for Shania Twain in the past decade, but the Canadian country-pop artist who ruled the charts in the late 1990s is hitting a high note again in her career.

Twain, 52, will release her first studio album in 15 years this week after a long struggle with Lyme disease and a devastating divorce.

"The album is really about a place that I've come to, and I've been for longer than I'd like in a transition period," Twain said in an interview.

"I'm just so relieved that I'm finally here now on the other side of that ... so I thought it was really fitting to call the album 'Now' as this is where I've landed."

With hit songs like "Man! I Feel Like a Woman!" and the romantic "You're Still the

One," Twain won four Grammys for her 1997 best-selling album "Come on Over."

But in 2004, her vocal chords were damaged by Lyme disease, which also afflicts people with lethargy and joint pains. Four years later she split with her husband and musical partner Robert Lange, alleging he had cheated on her with her best friend.

Twain said she has worked hard to overcome the vocal damage.

"There's a lot I can do about regaining my vocal competency, my vocal ability and I've gone through all of that, so I'm really grateful about that," she said. "But I'll never be able to remove the problem. It's a permanent injury."

Twain, who remarried in 2011, said she now aims to balance her career and personal

life. "I've been through a marriage already and I don't ever want to be divorced again so I'm invested in my relationship in a different way now."

"I have to spread myself out and organize my mental energy and my physical time differently and I can't just be only working on my career all of the time," she said.

Although Twain spent two years doing a nightly show in Las Vegas from 2012-2014 and toured North America in 2015, "Now" is her first album of new music since "Up!" in 2002. It goes on sale on Friday.

Twain is also filming a race car movie with John Travolta that is due for release in 2018.

"This has all just come out of just a phase that was a transition for me. So hey! I'm feeling good," she said.—Reuters ■



Singer Shania Twain performs inside Arthur Ashe Stadium during opening ceremony at the US Open in New York, NY, US on 28 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS



# KOICA's Volunteer Program Annual Meeting 2017

THE Korea International Co-operation Agency (KOICA) held 'KOICA's Volunteer Program Annual Meeting 2017' for representatives of host organizations in Yangon recently, attracting 30 relevant representatives and officials from partner ministries and departments where volunteers are currently performing their volunteering services.

This year meeting aims to express the kind appreciation to government officials from volunteer-related ministries and departments for their continuous support and contribution towards effective volunteering

activities, and to generate more effective communication ways between volunteers and host departments.

In this event, Chief Representative of KOICA Myanmar Office, Dr. Shin Euicheol requested, in his welcoming address, continuous help and support of host departments in creating more consistent ways of communication between volunteers and departments through this annual meeting.

"Consistent and effective communication between volunteers and departments can bring about great success in volunteering activities", said Dr.



Participants pose for a documentary photo at the annual meeting of KOICA's Volunteer Program 2017. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

Aung Win, Rector of University of Technology, Yadanarbon Cyber City in his opening remark.

As representatives of host organization and volunteers, U Tin Oo, Head of English Department of Thanlyin Cooperative University and Ms. Park Seon Ah, the volunteer at Pre-pri-

mary school, Taungyi (Music) shared their opinions that the effective communication is based upon the mutual respect of one's opinions and situations for the other, and understanding different conceptions.

Currently, 42 volunteers and 3 advisors are performing

their volunteer activities at 8 different regions in various sectors such as food processing, Korean language teaching, IT, agriculture, Taekwondo and Music with great focus on exchanging knowledge and technologies between South Korea and Myanmar.—GNLM ■

## Beset by visions, artist Yayoi Kusama has no intention of slowing down

TOKYO — Japanese avant-garde artist Yayoi Kusama, whose work commands some of the highest prices of any living female artist, said on Tuesday that at age 88, she still fills her days painting and has no intention of slowing down.

Long known for her obsessive, dot-covered art and pumpkin motifs, as well as the use of mirrors to create mystical "Infinity Rooms", Kusama, whose exhibitions have been among the hottest tickets in the art world this year, is now opening a museum in downtown Tokyo dedicated to her paintings and sculptures.

But the diminutive Kusama, one of whose paintings sold for

\$7.1 million in 2014 — close to the record for a living woman artist — refuses to take it easy.

"From age five or 10, I've been painting, from morning to night. Even now, there isn't a single day when I'm not painting," she told a small group of journalists at her studio, where completed canvases in her typical bright colors stood piled against the walls and spots of paint dot the gray wall-to-wall carpeting.

Laid over two tables, a barely begun azure canvas bore lines of linked eyes in black paint.

Kusama left for New York at 27, where she made a name for herself with her painting, its motifs inspired by the halluci-



Japanese avant-garde artist Yayoi Kusama works on a creation at her studio in Tokyo, Japan on 26 September, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

nations of flashing lights, dots and flowers she has seen since childhood.

She also wrote, took part in anti-war activities typical of the 1960s, and influenced artists such as Andy Warhol.

She has said that New York gave her neuroses. Around 1977, a few years after returning to Japan, she voluntarily entered a mental hospital and still lives

there, being driven to her nearby studio each morning.

"I still see hallucinations even now," said Kusama, wearing her trademark scarlet wig and an orange and black dress derived from her artwork.

"Dots come flying everywhere — on my dress, the floor, things I'm carrying, throughout the house, the ceiling. And I paint them." —Reuters ■

## KPMG in Myanmar appoints Partner in charge

KPMG in Myanmar yesterday announced that Sie Sie Htun will be the new Partner in Charge of KPMG in Myanmar, succeeding Yasuhide Fujii, who has served the firm since its establishment in 2012.

Her new role will take effect from 1 October 2017. As Partner in Charge, Sie Sie will officially assume overall responsibility for the day-to-day operations of KPMG in Myanmar, which offers Tax and Advisory services to clients in a broad range of industries.

"We are pleased to appoint Sie Sie to this position and fully support her as she further contributes towards the firm's ongoing growth and success," said Winid Silamongkol, Chief Executive Officer, KPMG in Thailand, Myanmar and Laos.

Sie Sie has over 25 years of experience in accounting, financial advisory and process & system migration within a variety of industries. She has a collective leadership style, strong client relationships and a proven track record of success in providing insights to assist clients to achieve their business goals.—GNLM ■

## Paris mint lures tourists with treasures

PARIS — After more than a thousand years of service, the Paris mint has thrown its doors open to the public with a vast exhibition of treasures, collectors' coins and a view of the craftsmen in their workshops.

On the banks of the River Seine, workers chisel, press and

engrave medals and memorabilia in the factory that advertises itself as the oldest in the French capital, with a history stretching back to the year 864.

Since the introduction of the euro in 2002, the mint — or the 'Monnaie de Paris' — has passed industrial-scale production of

everyday coinage to a plant in the southwestern town of Pessac.

Its workforce, about 150-strong, is now counting on collectors, the curious and tourists to give it a longer lease of life.

"Here we mint coins which still have a value," the mint's chief executive, Aurelien Rousseau,

said. "But it is indeed more often collectors who are interested in these products." Displays include ancient treasure chests, a coin dating back more than 2,000 years and the platinum meter measure that remains the international reference of the metric system.—Reuters ■



## Myanmar lost to South Korea in 2018 AFC U-16 Qualification



Myanmar player in action, poised to shoot the ball in yesterday's second match at Thuwunna Stadium. **PHOTO: MFF**

Although Host Myanmar played at their utmost effort with a strong hope of gaining a qualifying chance to 2018 AFC U-16 Championship in Malaysia, Myanmar blurred the hopes in yesterday's match against South Korea, a football powerhouse of Asia with a result of 0-4 at the Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon yesterday.

Due to remarkable difference in football skills and body structure between Myanmar and Korean footballers, Myanmar was unable to possess the ball for some time. Myanmar succumbed to allowing a goal at 16 minutes from the start. South Korea's star Yoon Sukju scored the opening goal.

After the starter goal, South Korea's strikers were aggressive for more goals. At 39 minutes mark, Lee Junsuk scored the second goal for South Korea.

In the second half, although Myanmar changed a game tactic, Myanmar's strikers still need accuracy to achieve goals even from within the penalty area.

Korea scored the third and fourth goals at 59 and 82 minutes and the match is ended with the 0-4 result.

As South Korea won two consecutive games, the team has already qualified for the next step while Myanmar and the Philippines will play tomorrow just for their dignity. —Kyaw Zin Lin ■

## Shakespeare waxes lyrical over versatile Iborra

LONDON — Vicente Iborra is adjusting to the intensity of English soccer but the midfielder must be prepared to play in different positions to further understand Leicester City's style, manager Craig Shakespeare has said.

The versatile 29-year-old signed from La Liga side Sevilla in the close season but a groin injury has delayed his Premier League debut.

Iborra did complete his first full 90 minutes in the 2-0 League Cup win over Liverpool last week and Shakespeare said he was impressed with the player's progress.

"He is slowly getting used to the game over here. He has got sharper in training and is moving the ball quicker. We have encouraged that," Shakespeare told the Leicester Mercury.

"I think the intensity has taken him by surprise. He is very much a team player in the mould of (Japanese forward) Shinji Okazaki. He is willing to adapt."

The Spaniard, who can play in a holding role or an advanced position, was a vital part of Sevilla's three-man midfield and Shakespeare said Iborra would have to adjust to playing with just one central midfield partner.

"We have had regular chats with him about that. You can draw on your experience because he hasn't just played as a number six, which is like a deep midfield player, he has also played as a number 10 in behind," Shakespeare said.

"It is interesting when we have the conversations about why he was used like that. He is very aware tactically. That game (against Liverpool) will have been great for him in terms of getting him up to speed."

Leicester, who are 17th in the league table, travel to Bournemouth on Saturday.—Reuters ■



Leicester City's Vicente Iborra in action with Liverpool's Philippe Coutinho at King Power Stadium in Leicester, Britain on 19 September, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

## China tops Philippines 2-0 in 2018 AFC U-16 Qualification



China footballer heading the ball in yesterday's first match at Thuwunna Stadium. **PHOTO: MFF**

Kyaw Zin Lin

The China U-16 national football team remained faultless after beating the Philippines 2-0 in their second AFC U-16 Championship 2018 Group H qualifier at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon yesterday.

China played energetically from the start of the match. The Philippines defenders cleared the ball well until the 39-minute mark, when China got the icebreaker goal scored by China's star Zhang Xingliang, who passed the Philippines defenders while showing some

impressive football tricks.

China's opening goal seemed to result in a lack of confidence for some of the Philippines football players.

But the defense of the Philippines remained strong.

Because of the massive defensive line of the Philippines, China strikers could not score more goals in the first half.

Both teams changed strategies and game tactics in the second half and made the match more exciting. China's Pan Yusheng scored the second goal just before the end of the match at the 90-minute mark. ■