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# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IV, No. 184, 13<sup>th</sup> Waning of Thadingyut 1379 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Wednesday, 18 October 2017



Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, centre, in saffron jacket, and UN Under Secretary-General for Political Affairs Jeffrey Feltman, centre left, meet with villagers. **PHOTO: MNA**

## UN envoy visits northern Rakhine

VILLAGERS from conflict areas in northern Rakhine State voiced their concerns for security, resettlement and job opportunities at a meeting with a UN delegation yesterday.

The UN delegation led by

Mr. Jeffrey Feltman, Under Secretary-General for Political Affairs of the United Nations, toured villages in Yathedaung and Maungdaw townships yesterday to listen to the voices of communities who endured the

terrorist attacks in August and their current challenges.

The delegation, accompanied by Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Nyi Pu, visited the Islamic village of Anaukpyin in Yathedaung Township, Maung-

taw Township's Ngakhuya Village, where Rakhine ethnic people, Hindus and Islamic villagers are living in harmony and the village of Shwe Yin Aye (Na-ta-la).

At the meeting with villag-

ers, Mr. Jeffrey Feltman explained to villagers about his mission, calling on the villagers to disclose their suffering, worries and current challenges due to the deadly terrorist attacks.

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## BEST BANK IN MYANMAR

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## Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

2<sup>nd</sup> Pyidaungsu Hluttaw resumes, to focus on financial issues

THE second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw 6th regular session resumed yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw, with announcements on several issues to be discussed by the parliament.

“In the 6th regular session, the Hluttaw will focus on approving the additional budget bill for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. And concerning the matter of changing the financial year, which is a matter of national finance policy, sent by the President to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the issue of getting loans from the Central Bank of Myanmar to fill the budget deficit of the Union Government’s deposit account for FY 2017-2018”, Mahn Win Khaing Than, Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, said.

“In accord with the changing political systems to develop

a multi-party democratic system and a market economic system in the country for the emergence of peaceful, developed and modernised democratic nation, implementations are being made in legislative, administrative and judicial sectors. In doing so, all need to take part in their respective sectors. Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is the one comprised of people representatives, representing all the national populace. So, all the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives must accept that they must keep their promises given to the people.”

The Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw added, “National solidarity, national reconciliation and acquisition of peace must be brought about. Being the national cause, people’s repre-

sentatives must carry on the task with great momentum and by taking into deep consideration. In marching toward peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation, Hluttaw affairs should be implemented in order of priority, in addition to legislation, the major responsibility of Hluttaw, in accord with designated prescriptions for broad-mindedness, industriousness and dutifulness to be put on record in history.”

In the meeting, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win clarified the Union Government’s plan for changing the current financial year, which starts on 1st April to the new financial calendar, which starts on 1st October, urging the parliament to approve the new period for the financial

year starting in 2018. The new period of the budget year would help construction work to get eight consecutive months as the new period starts after the rainy season. Besides, the start of the financial year would not be hindered by holidays, he added.

He also clarified the weaknesses of the new period and preparations to be made to overcome the challenges posed by the change. With regard to Myanmar’s participation in signing in the BIMSTEC Convention on provision of mutual assistance concerning criminal cases sent by the President of the State, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs, Maj-Gen Aung Soe said, “Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation — BIM-

STEC is calling for to release BIMSTEC Convention with the approval of member countries to effectively cooperate provisions of legal assistance to each other in suppression of terrorism, drug trafficking human trafficking and money laundering from border crossing crimes threatening regional security after 2015. BIMSTEC’s provision of legal assistance to each other is free from any legal bondage over member countries, showing effective cooperation in the sphere of border crossing crimes suppression among member countries. Myanmar has promulgated rules and laws on providing assistances in criminal cases between member countries, implementing the process in order.

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## Pyithu Hluttaw

2<sup>nd</sup> Pyithu Hluttaw 6<sup>th</sup> Regular Session holds first meeting

AT the first meeting of the 6th regular session, 2nd Pyithu Hluttaw held at 10 am yesterday, the speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw said budgetary items and bills would be addressed.

“In the 6th regular session, the Hluttaw will decide and approve the additional budget allotments and revised budget estimates of the union-level organisations for the FY 2017-2018. There are 17 bills to be discussed in Pyithu Hluttaw, with 9 already replied motions and a total of 129 readily prepared, star-marked questions, including 85 star-marked questions to be tabled in the 6th session prepared. To-



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint. PHOTO: MNA

day, we must show our unity, as for the whole national populace. Looking into our background history, we have found out that disintegration of unity led to

the destruction of the country in every way”, said U Win Myint, Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw.

“Presently, we deeply urge all to bear the Union Spirit in

mind by getting rid of doubts and distrust among the national populace and political parties. Had we encountered any difficulties and dangers everywhere in the country, we need to cooperate collectively with the Union Spirit, assuming that it is the affairs of the Union. Only if there is unity among us will we be able to defend our nation from the dangers of internal and external destructive elements, hand in hand with each other. Survival of the Pyithu Hluttaw, the second panel of legislature reached the sixth session of the 2nd Pyithu Hluttaw.

Now, it is operating its rou-

tines as a more strengthened organisation. In making legislation, we must take care to see whether it complies with the constitution.

Prescriptions included in the approved amendment must be the ones which can protect and upgrade the socio-economic lives of the people. Questions to be put forward in Hluttaw and motions to be submitted must be carried out in accord with the existing rules and laws. I warmly greet the people’s representatives, calling for you to carry out the benefits of our State and our national people.”

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## Amyotha Hluttaw

2<sup>nd</sup> Amyotha Hluttaw 6<sup>th</sup> regular session 1<sup>st</sup> day meeting

THE sixth regular session of the second Amyotha Hluttaw held its first-day meeting yesterday morning at Amyotha Hluttaw’s meeting hall.

In his welcoming message Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than said Hluttaw representatives are believed to have met with the electorate during the one-and-a-half month’s time when the Hluttaw was adjourned and learnt of the people’s requirements and difficulties while conducting an on-site survey to develop the region. Hluttaw representatives are also



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than. PHOTO: MNA

urged to ask questions about the socio-economic, health, and education sectors of their constituency, table motions and perform relevant committee-wise duties.

Only when this is done can the voice of the people become the voice of the Hluttaw and the will of the people will become the will of the Hluttaw, in accordance

to the motto of the Hluttaw and perform beneficial works for the people and the country.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker added that in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw meeting, an additional union budget allocation bill for fiscal year 2017-2018 will be debated and hluttaw representatives are advised to debate in the best interests of the people and the country the requests for funding by the union level departmental organisations, states and regions who are implementing the projects.

In response to a question by

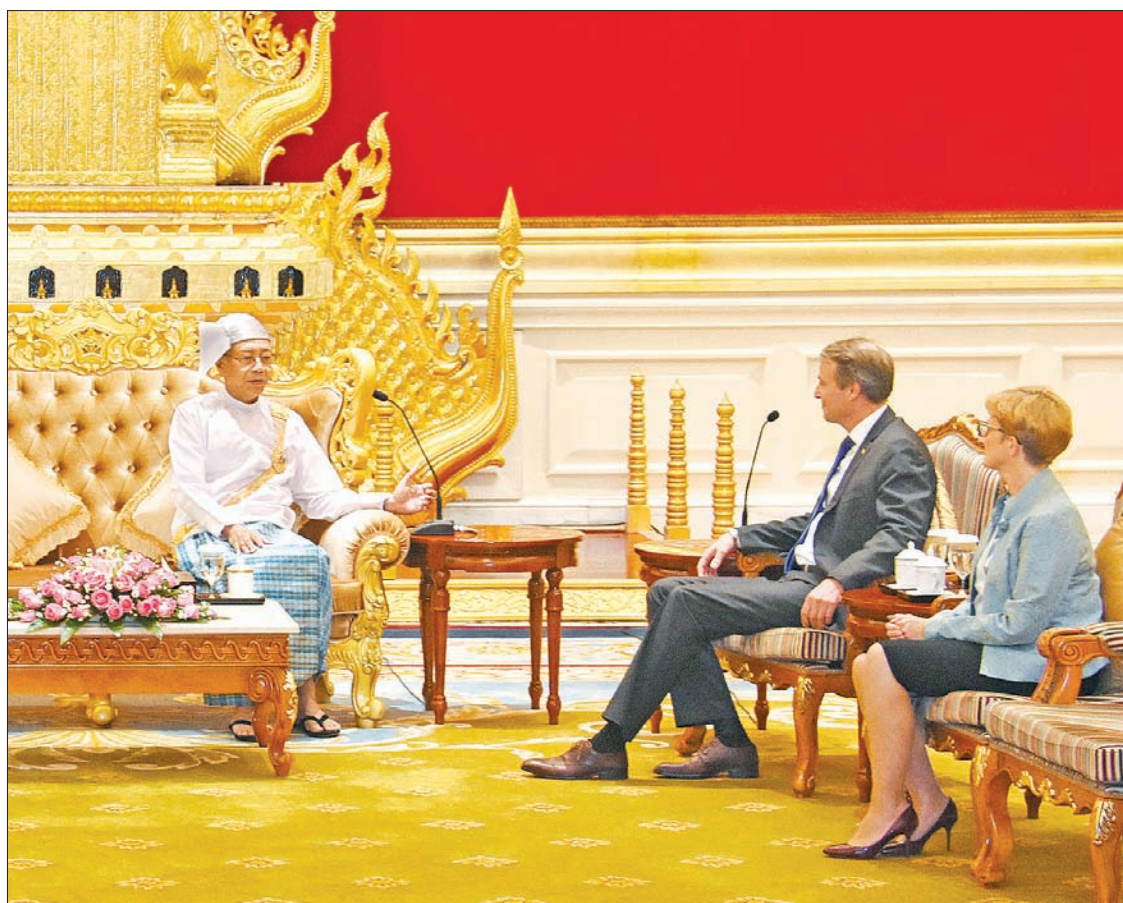
U Win Myint of Magway Region constituency 8 on plans to ease the difficulties and delays for farmers who haven’t applied using the farmland ownership form (7), Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw said notifications were published in daily newspapers, and broadcast on radio and television every six months to ease the application process and to inform directly to the central farmland management group to resolve any difficulties encountered.

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President accepts her credentials from Ms. Riikka Laatu, the newly-accredited Ambassador of Finland to Myanmar. **PHOTO: MNA**



President U Htin Kyaw receives Mr. Kristian Schmidt, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Delegation of the European Union to Myanmar, at Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

## President accepts credentials of Ambassadors Finland, EU

H.E. Ms. Riikka Laatu, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Finland to Myanmar, presented her Letter of Credence to U Htin

Kyaw, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, at Presidential Palace, Nay Pyi Taw at 3pm yesterday. Following the event, H.E.

Mr. Kristian Schmidt, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Delegation of the European Union to Myanmar, presented his Letter of Credence

to President U Htin Kyaw at Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw. Present on the occasions were Minister of State

for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin and Director-General U Thant Sin of the Protocol Department.—Myanmar News Agency ■



State Counsellor shakes hands with Mr. Richard Gordon, Chairman of Philippines Red Cross in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi receives USIP's Senior Advisor Mr. Derek J. Mitchell at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw on 17 October 2017. **PHOTO: MNA**

## State Counsellor receives Red Cross delegation, USIP's Senior Advisor

DAW Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, received the Red Cross delegation comprising Mr. Richard Gordon, Chairman of Philippines Red Cross, Prof. Dr. Daw Mya Thu, President of Myanmar

Red Cross Society (MRCS), Mr. Xavier Castellanos, Director of Asia Pacific Regional Office (IFRC), Prof. Dr. Tha Hla Shwe, Honorary President (MRCS) and Mr. Joy Singhal, Head of Delegation of IFRC Myanmar Country

Office, on 17 October 2017 at 11:00 hours at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

During this meeting, they exchanged views on strengthening cooperation to accelerate the provision of humanitarian assistance to all affected

communities. Following the meeting, the State Counsellor also received Mr. Derek J. Mitchell, Senior Advisor to the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) and former U.S. Ambassador to Myanmar on 17 October 2017 at 10:00 hours at

the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During this meeting, they exchanged views on recent developments in Rakhine State and possible ways to support Myanmar government's efforts to address the issue.—Myanmar News Agency ■



GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.comPrinted and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.gnlmdaily@gmail.com  
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# UNICEF's project aims at door-to-door water supply in Thazi Township

A door-to-door water supply programme is being carried out in Thazi Township, Meiktila District, Mandalay Region, with the financial assistance of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

The motive of the rural water supply programme is to provide safe and adequate water for drinking.

Construction of tube wells, water tanks, pipelines and a water plant are being carried out in two target villages in the township, and targets distribution of drink-

ing water to more than 300 households.

In Ywapalelay Village, a 4-inch wide and 300-foot deep PVC tube well, a 2,400-gallon water tank, a 3,640-foot long pipeline and a water plant have been built with the use of Ks20 million — Ks14 million funded by the UNICEF and Ks6 million contributed by village dwellers.

Similar water facilities have also been constructed in Shikyitaingkon (North) Village.—Thein Myint Kyaw (Meiktila)■



Officials inspect the door-to-door water supply project in Thazi Township. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

## Onion farmers face massive losses due to flooding

ONION growers in Monywa Township, Sagaing Region, are facing massive losses as heavy rain wreaks havoc on the kitchen crop, according to a report of the Myawady Daily issued on Sunday.

"All onion plantations in the region have been flooded because of heavy rains that

pour the area beginning on 13 October. Calculation of our losses during the worst flood disaster will be made after the flood water subsides," said Ko Tint Lwin from Kweye Village who estimated that most of plantations will be badly destroyed as flood-hit onions are at risk of rotting within two

days.

Onion farmers in Shintn-gase, Taungpalu, Khoethan, Kyauksitpone and Eattaw villages are also facing flooding.

Those villages in Monywa District usually make mass production of onion than other regions.

Meteorologist Dr Tun Lwin predicts that there is likely to be a series of storms in South China Sea and Bay of Bengal before the end of this year. Storms mostly occur in October and November as the highest sea temperatures are typically reached during these months.—GNLM ■

## Four-year plan aims to build Agribusiness Service Centres nationwide

MORE Agribusiness Service Centres (ASCs) are planned for 33 townships in 10 states and regions through a four-year plan, according to a report of the Myawady Daily issued on Tuesday.

The project will be implemented by the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) in partnership with the Myanmar Agribusiness Public Cooperative

(MAPCO) and CITIC Construction Group, a state-owned conglomerate based in China. They signed a memorandum of understanding in cooperation for the construction of ASCs in July.

The centres will be set up starting this year in 10 agricultural areas including the Ayeyawady Delta and the Mandalay and Bago regions to help farmers boost productiv-

ty, production, and to improve post-harvest conditions.

Project-related preparations have been carried out, officials said. The ASCs will provide one-stop service to farmers, where they can receive community-based agricultural services that will stabilise the farming system and ensure timely completion of tasks.

The services include ef-

ficient and effective technology and technical assistance, cost savings and reduction of post-harvest waste and increasing crop yield by precision technology. The centres will also manage agricultural machinery hiring services, distribution of fertiliser, fuel and related equipment and rural electrification using a rice husk-powered system.—GNLM ■

## Wild bird garden in PyinOoLwin to reopen later this month

LOCATED in the National Kandawgyi Garden, a wild bird garden will be reopened at the end of this month after repairs are complete, said general manager U Wai Myo Aung.

According to the Myawady Daily's Tuesday report, the wild bird garden was temporarily closed in early July, as many parts of the garden needed renovation.

Painting, planting of new

species and replacement of some fencing were the main projects in the renovation project, plus the upgrading of the wild bird garden. In addition, educative booths will be added in the area to raise public awareness on the importance of conservation of rare birds and to correct their bird feeding mistakes. Further improvements are planned in the future if necessary, said U Wai Myo Aung.—GNLM ■

## Community-based projects target to support seven million people

MYANMAR plans to extend community-based projects in the country, targeting to benefit about seven million populations including those in rural areas, according to a report of the Myawady Daily's Sunday edition.

With the aim of promoting socio-economic status of rural people, the national-level community-based projects have been implemented in 8,565 villages since past four years, resulting that residents enjoy more ben-

efits from over 14,500 different projects under this programme.

The current projects spanning four years had helped around 5.2 million people. Over 2,000 local young people including 264 professionals took appropriate jobs thanks to the projects.

Authorities are planning to extend this kind of project to implement in 16 townships next year, aiming to help rural community in 11,500 villages.—GNLM ■



## Border trade down by \$88 million as of early October

BETWEEN 1 April and 6 October in the current fiscal year, border trade amounted to US\$3.7 billion, which is about \$88 million less than that in similar period of last FY, according to the figures recently released by the Commerce Ministry.

A slump in trade value at Muse checkpoint, which handles the country's largest volume of cross-border trade, resulted in the decrease of total border trade value. In addition to Muse, Myanmar's second and third-largest trade gates -- Myawady and Chinshwehaw -- also showed a slight decrease.

Myanmar trades with four neighbouring countries -- China, Thailand, India and Bangladesh -- through 16 checkpoints.

The value of Sino-Myanmar border trade at Muse, Lwejel,



File photo shows trucks run near 105-mile Muse Border Trade Zone, Northern Shan State. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH**

Chinshwehaw, Kanpiketee and Keng Tung gates as of 6 October this FY reached over US\$3 billion, which shows a decrease of \$91 million less than same point of last FY.

The country's border trade with Thailand flows in and out of these gates- Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Hteekhee, Mawtaung and Maese.

The country's border trade with Thailand flows in and out of the following gate -s- Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Hteekhee, Mawtaung and Maese. Although trade values at Tachilek, Myawady, Myeik

and Hteekhee gates slipped a bit, Thai-Myanmar border trade increased by \$17 million as border trade value at Kawthoung checkpoint increased by \$34 million.

Despite about \$2 million increase at the Reed gate, Indo-Myanmar border gate- Tamu showed a decrease of about \$21 million from that of last FY, which led to a decrease of cross-border trade between India and Myanmar. Sittway and Maungtaung land points of entry between Bangladesh and Myanmar saw a small increase compared to that of last FY. — Ko Htet

## More than about 40,500 cooperatives formed so far to enhance rural development

WITH a view to creating job opportunities for rural people, the government is emphasizing on cooperative sector and number of cooperatives has reached about, 40,591 so far, according to yesterday's report of Myanma Alin.

Lack of job opportunity in the rural areas forces local residents to move to other cities or to go abroad in order to seek better jobs, resulting in shortage of workers. To minimize migration, cooperatives are formed in 15 regions and states. Through the cooperatives, investments are put into farming sectors to effectuate rural development. Awareness campaigns of cooperative enterprises and capacity building courses are also conducted to

the members.

Loan from China Exim Bank totalling about Ks512 billion were lent to more than 2,679,600 farmers from 31,865 cooperatives in 294 townships. All members from cooperatives have totally repaid the loan and so, much loan was given to cooperatives in early and mid 2017. Since July 2016, estimated Ks1.5 trillion has been loaned out so far. Agriculture machines and equipment were also sold in installment. A total of 5,488 equipment with estimated value of Ks34.9 billion were provided so far. Additionally, Ks11 billion was also given to 8,082 farmers from 611 cooperatives in 162 townships to make land treatment during last FY. —GNLM

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Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye delivers the opening speech at the 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN GO-NGO Forum on Social Welfare and Development in Yangon. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

## Dr Win Myat Aye attends 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN GO-NGO Forum on Social Welfare and Development

THE 12<sup>th</sup> ASEAN GO-NGO Forum on Social Welfare and Development and the related ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on social welfare work in the ASEAN Social Community that are meant to strengthen and develop the inter connectivity and assistance of the three communities in the ASEAN Blue Print hosted by Myanmar was held in the Sule Shangri La Hotel yesterday morning, where Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye delivered an opening speech.

In his speech, the Union Minister explained about social welfare works conducted in the country, cooperation between ministerial departments and non-government organisations, cooperation with civil society organisation, region and sector-wise discussions and meetings. Similarly, the Union Minister said the current forum was held with an aim to increase and strengthen cooperation between ASEAN region governments and civil society organisations and establishing projects that

enable region-wise, and country-wise cooperation. The Union Minister added that the current ASEAN meeting was held under the theme “Strengthening Social Protection to Address Challenges of Aging Societies” and governmental departments, civil service societies and development partners are invited to discuss the topic openly and establish social welfare protection work policies for ASEAN countries and share country-wise experiences on implementation.

The forum was attended by 79 officials and representatives of governments and non-governmental organisations from 10 countries in the ASEAN region and the ASEAN Secretariat’s office.

From 18 to 20 October 2017, the 13th ASEAN social welfare and development meeting of senior officials and the 12th ASEAN+3 social welfare and development meeting of senior officials will be held.—Myanmar News Agency ■

### Republic of the Union of Myanmar Office of the President Order No. 86/2017

12<sup>th</sup> Waning of Thadingyut 1379 ME  
(17 October 2017)

### Establishment of the Committee for the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine

1. In order for the Union Government, the people, the private sector and local NGOs, CSOs, partner nations, UN agencies and INGOs, to implement the projects in all sectors for the development of Rakhine State in cooperation, a Committee for the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine has been established with the following persons.
 

(a) Daw Aung San Suu Kyi State Counsellor	Chairperson
(b) Dr. Win Myat Aye Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement	Vice-Chairman
(c) Dr. Aung Tun Thet	Chief Coordinator
(d) U Kyaw Myaing	Information and Communication Director
2. Duties of the Committee for the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine are as follows:
  - (a) To carry out the effective provision of humanitarian aid.
  - (b) To coordinate the resettlement and rehabilitation efforts.
  - (c) To carry out regional development and work towards durable peace.
  - (d) As the tasks would be carried out using cash assistance funded not only by the State but also by local and foreign donors, the committee must arrange for its financial accounts to be audited not only by the Union Auditor-General but also by an international audit firm.
3. The Chairperson may form a group of consultants as needed.
4. The Chief Coordinator is to establish the Committee Office and carry out administrative matters with the knowledge and approval of the Chairperson.
5. The administrative affairs of the committee are to be jointly carried out by the Office of the President and the Office of the State Counsellor.

(sd) Htin Kyaw  
President  
Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
(Unofficial translation)

# Private sector assistance in Rakhine State

IN recognition of the need for development of the economy of Myanmar, the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), including all brotherhood associations and entrepreneurs, will be strongly involved in the resettlement of conflict areas and under-developed regions in Rakhine State.

Representing the private sector in the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine, the UMFCCI will help the people to devel-

op skills, said U Zaw Min Win, president of the UMFCCI.

Private sector representatives under conduct of the Government and specified State or Region governments, will first conduct a survey to determine the social, educational and economic requirements and also determine the most effective way for resettlement in Rakhine State. Upon analysing the results of the survey, work projects will be performed with the skills and support of the representatives.

Yangon Region Chief Min-

ister U Phyo Min Thein and representatives from the UMFCCI met at the offices of the UMFCCI on 7 October and negotiated how to implement the work projects, which will prioritise jobs creation, health care services and schools.

The UMFCCI recently urged all Myanmar entrepreneurs and brotherhood associations to provide cash assistance through the Government in order to implement regional development projects in Rakhine State.

Works projects, which were

negotiated in the meeting with the Yangon Chief Minister, will include vocational training, building millers, equipment and machinery required for agricultural development, upgrading of the Sittway port, providing furniture and construction items necessary for schools and health care services centres, assisting the treatment of mental injuries and help on restoring the self-confidence of local women in Rakhine State.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi urged entrepre-

neurs, in her speech of 12 October, to cooperate in bringing about results in practical development to ensure a peaceful and developing Rakhine State.

Previous assistance from the UMFCCI were humanitarian assistance worth over Ks56 million presented to the Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement on 30 August, Ks30 million to the Yangon Region Chief Minister on 5 September and over Ks52.8 million to the Rakhine State government on 6 September.—Myanmar News Agency ■



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Pyidaungsu Hluttaw resumes...

### FROM PAGE-2

Myanmar signed the agreement providing assistance in criminal cases among ASEAN nations. It is necessary for Myanmar to take part as the leading role as the President of the State urged member countries in the 3rd BIMSTEC conference so that Myanmar can describe in the sectors of active participation in discussions and up-gradation of cooperation in regional countries more vividly. BIMSTEC's cooperation is an important part. Upon receipt of the approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, it will be sent to the Office of General

Secretary of BIMSTEC for Myanmar to take part in signing the agreement."

Following that, Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than announced that interested parliamentarians could enroll their names to discuss concerning the explanations.

U Hset Aung, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance clarified concerning Myanmar's participation in signing the agreement on the amendment of ASEAN multi-investment contract. Then, Patron of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw announced to enroll names of interested per-



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is been convened in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

sons to discuss the explanations, followed by clarification from U Soe Thein, Deputy Governor of Myanmar Central Bank, concerning FY 2015-2016 monetary policy implementation report

and report of monetary system stability. After that, the Patron of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw announced to enroll names of interested persons to discuss concerning explanation. In addition, Patron of

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw announced to enroll names of interested persons concerning report of the performances during the period from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017.—MNA ■

## 2nd Pyithu Hluttaw 6th Regular ...



Dr Myint Htwe, Union Minister for Health and Sports. PHOTO: MNA



U Sai Oo Kham of Hsenwi constituency. PHOTO: MNA



U Shwe Hla (a) U Shwe Hla Win, of Thingangyun constituency. PHOTO: MNA

### FROM PAGE-2

The Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw announced that the official visits of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw and Hluttaw representatives from September to October to attend conferences and study trips to the People's Republic of China, the Philippines, Russia, the Czech Republic, Indonesia, Thailand, Viet Nam, and Italy will be put on the record.

Dr. Myint Htwe, Union Minister for Health and Sports, replied to a question raised by U Myint Oo, of Magway constituency.

"The department of health is supplying medical equipment needed in hospitals. A piece of medical equipment for cleaning kidneys from the Central Medical Drugs Storehouse was supported to Magway General Hospital in June 2017, with another one to be sent in FY 2018-2019.

In 2017-2018, a total of Ks72 billion was spent for the purchase of various kinds of medical equipment.

Very soon, another one will be sent to Magway general hospital", said Dr. Myint Htwe.

Dr Myint Htwe also replied to a question raised by U Shwe Hla (a) U Shwe Hla Win, of Thingangyun constituency.

"1st Region and State Soccer Match was held at the-then BAA ground (now known as Aung San Stadium) on October 6, 1952 with 9 teams taking part in the competition. Starting in 1952, it has been successfully held, but during 2012-2015, it failed to be held for various reasons.

But since 2016, Region and State Soccer matches resumed at the Wunna Theiddi playground in Nay Pyi Taw. As to holding the matches in Yangon annually, it will be held in Yangon after negotiations with the Myanmar Football Federation as of 2019, provided that the budget allotment needed in FY 2018-2019 is granted."

U Sai Oo Kham of Hsenwi constituency put forward a motion urging the State Government to lay down a strategy on pre-primary education and investment in nurturing and developing children in their

early ages.

"Most children under 5 spend their lives carelessly near their parents prior to going to school. As for parents, they basically know that their children must be enrolled at schools just after 5 years of age. Little is known about how to develop their children.

In urban areas, children living nearby pre-primary schools opened by the department of social welfare were sent to schools, with those living far from such schools unable to go to school. Wealthy parents can sent their offspring to private pre-primary schools.

But many fail to have adequate access to multi-development of children due to the barriers of finance. In urban areas, children who can attend pre-primary schools excel.

Those who cannot suffer mental development. So we deeply urge the government to lay down a strategy on pre-primary education and invest in nurturing and developing children at an early age", said U Sai Oo Kham.—Myanmar News Agency ■

## 2nd Amyotha Hluttaw 6th regular session...

### FROM PAGE-2

Each notification was published for four straight days and the duration of the application process is also specifically defined to prevent delays, in accordance to farmland law.

Farmers were buying, selling, transferring and renting farmland without properly informing the relevant ward/village tract farm land management groups and were improperly registering farmlands under nicknames and locally known names instead of the names on national identification cards, resulting in improper land records. Township farmland management and land record departments are reviewing and re-assessing records issued Form 7 to correct discrepancies and duplications.

"When there are difficulties and delays in applying, issuing, correcting and amending Form 7, there are ways and means to contact and resolve the matter with relevant township farmland management groups and township farmland management and land record departments", replied the Deputy Minister.

Next, U Kyaw Htway of Yangon Region constituency 8 raised a question on plans to set up a modern agriculture and livestock breeding research centre in Yangon Region western districts townships of Dala, Seikkyi Khannaungto, Twantay, Kaumu Kungyangon townships that will benefit farmers and livestock breeders. Responding to the question, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw said technical support was provided on

raising locally bred chickens, dairy cows, swine, ducks, goats and beekeeping for the livestock breeding sector to develop and produce healthy and nutritious livestock products.

In the fishery sector, the Fishery Department is establishing small-scale hatcheries and distributing a certain percentage of fish fingerlings for free while training was provided on fish breeding techniques and basic training on artificial insemination of fish. The vegetable and fruit research and development centre in Yemon, Hlegu Township, Yangon Region, the Myanmar rice research center in Hmawbi Township and plant biology center in Pale, Mingaladon Township were established for agriculture sector development, said the Deputy Minister.

Setting up a modern agriculture and livestock breeding research centre would require a substantial financial investment and since the aforementioned research works and centres were being conducted for agriculture development, an additional research centre could not be established in Yangon Region's southern district and western region areas at the present time, said the Deputy Minister.

However, the Yangon Region government is planning to set up agriculture service centres in Kawhmu Township, Magyitan village, Lekhike Village, Lawadi Village and Kungyangon Township, Kangyima Village in Yangon Region's southern district, added the Deputy Minister. — Aung Ye Thwin ■



# Let our future steps be regular ones!

By Khin Maung Oo

MYANMAR which gained her independence from colonial rule in 1948 had to inherit the evil historical legacy of internal armed conflicts right after independence. Doubts and hatred left by imperialists caused armed conflicts and flaming civil wars among our national brethren who breathe the same air and live on the same soil, claiming thousands of lives. And, hundreds of thousands of people in warring areas have been affected by the scourge of war for many decades.

Though successive governments have made attempts to bring about a nationwide ceasefire and internal peace through many ways, it came to nothing. Yet, after the democratic people's government took office, it tried in earnest to solve political problems through political means, apart from other ways

and means. As a result, a ceasefire agreement between the government and 14 national ethnic armed groups was successfully signed. But, just by signing a ceasefire agreement it is not sufficient enough to move towards long-lasting peace. It was an implementation of a peace process for reaching an agreement to stop fighting during the period of holding political negotiations and finding solutions for political problems.

Under the process, for success of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement—NCA, Joint Monitoring Committee—JMC was formed, with Union Peace Dialogues Joint Committee—UPDJC formed for implementing political negotiations. Terms and acronyms may confuse ordinary people, but in general, we must keep in our minds that “NCA, that is, process bound for eternal peace is under way. Meanwhile, fighting will be

stopped and a committee will monitor as to whether the ceasefire agreement is really being kept by those concerned. Simultaneously, political dialogues are to be held for the achievement of eternal peace.” Now, the ceremony to celebrate the 2nd Anniversary of the NCA has been held in Nay Pyi Taw on the 15th of October 2017.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Chairperson of the National Reconciliation and Peace Center gave a speech at the ceremony marking the 2nd anniversary of the NCA, “In fact, the NCA is not an end in itself, but just the first step towards national reconciliation in the country. I would like to reiterate that the NCA opens the door for political dialogues which will pave the way to the Union Peace Conference. Taking this opportunity, I would like to express my appreciation to everyone who made great efforts leading to the

establishment of the NCA including former President U Thein Sein.”

The NCA process is meant to find solutions at the round-table negotiations, instead of fighting one another. It is none other than using our knowledge and intellect instead of physical strength and martial prowess. The NCA is not a one-sided prescription. Instead, it is the result of negotiations with the Government based on submissions from armed ethnic groups. The NCA came into being with the following characteristics—patience, broad-mindedness, sacrifices and respective fulfillment of duties.

The NCA is not the final destination yet, but it has managed to reduce conflicts in the NCA signatory areas, which has resulted in uplifting the socio-economic lives of the local people. Let us try our best to take our future steps with firmness and regularity. ■

## The Relation between Mobile Phones And Auditory of Our Ears

By Thin Hlaing Hmwe (Junior)

MOBILE phones have become indispensable as communication tools in the present world. During recent years, worldwide mobile subscriptions has grown more and more for every operators. In Myanmar, there has also been increased numbers of mobile phone users reaching the bottom of the economic pyramid to cater up to the lowest socioeconomic levels.

Widespread mobile phone ownership and usage has aroused public concern over possible harmful biological effects of their use. There are electromagnetic frequencies of mobile phones emitting radiations between the 800 MHz and 2000 MHz. These causes excitation and rotation of water molecules and some other organic molecules. Therefore, they cause thermal and non-thermal effects on human beings. The effects of electromagnetic fields (EMF) transmitted by mobile phones over human health is a matter of public and scientific concern.

**Burning sensation and sensation of warmth around the ear, headache, sleep disturbance, changes in the cognitive functions and neural activity as well as changes such as decrease in the cerebral blood flow and alternation in functioning of blood in brain as barrier are the reported effects of mobile phones use. The potential carcinogenic effects of radiations emitted from mobile phones is controversial. Therefore, any biological effect related to mobile phone use should be considered as a high-priority health issue.**

Our hearing system is in the close proximity to the mobile phone. So, hearing system is potentially the most affected target for thermal and non-thermal effects. The external ear provides the route by which electromagnetic frequencies from mobile phones reach the peripheral and central auditory system. The system leads to relatively high energy deposition in the ear. The auditory system and particularly the cochlea outer hair cells are known to be highly sensitive to a variety of exogenous and endogenous factors. Externally applied electrical and magnetic fields are known to produce some hearing sensation in the ear. The proximity of

ear to electromagnetic source may lead to even larger damage and side effects such as hearing loss. A report released from a research in India revealed that people who talk on a cell phone for more than an hour a day were found to have suffer losses of high frequency hearing.

Little attention has been paid to the effects of electromagnetic field of mobile phones on hearing by many users. Till this date, the interaction between electromagnetic fields emitted by mobile phones and auditory function is not well established. However, every users should be aware of it.

There are two common technologies used by mobile phone networks for transmitting information. They are TDMA i.e. Time Division Multiple Access and CDMA i.e. Code Division Multiple Access.

TDMA also known as GSM i.e. Global System for Mobile communications does it by chopping the signals into sequential time frames. Each user of the channel takes turns to transmit the receive signals. In reality, only one person is using the channel at a given point of time. One of the important features of GSM system is the Subscriber Identity Module (SIM card). The SIM is a small, detachable smart card, which contains the user's subscription information and phone book. This allows the user to retain his or her information while switching mobile phone handsets. Alternatively, the user can also change service provider while retaining the handset, by changing the SIM card. GSM is currently the market leader in mobile phone industry.

CDMA is based on spread spectrum technology which uses the whole bandwidth available. This allows each user to transmit frequency to the entire spectrum at all the time. CDMA uses a type of digital modulation called spread

spectrum. CDMA spreads the voice data over the channel in a random fashion.

The receiver undoes this randomization and collects the bits together to produce the sound. CDMA is an example of multiple accessed, in which several transmitters can send information over a single communication channel at the same time. This allows several users to share a band of frequencies.

It should be noted for every user that GSM phones emit continuous wave pulses, so there is a great need to reduce the exposures of electromagnetic fields emitted from the cell phones with 'continuous wave pulses'. On the other hand CDMA phones do not produce these pulses. GSM phones emits about 28 times more radiation when compared to the CDMA mobile phones. Therefore, GSM phones are more biologically harmful as compared to CDMA.

The subtle deleterious effects to hearing can be assessed by modalities such as brainstem evoked audiometry response (BEAR), otoacoustic emission (OAE) and pure tone audiometry etc. They measure the cochlea and out hair cochlea cells and middle ear function respectively. But these terminologies are very complex for an ordinary user to understand easily. Therefore, one had better to be aware of that every mobile phone can give the users both advantages and disadvantages. It is essential for every user to use the mobile phones wisely and beneficially with little hazard. It is also necessary to know almost thoroughly about the devices with which you are going to use. ■



It should be noted for every user that GSM phones emit continuous wave pulses, so there is a great need to reduce the exposures of electromagnetic fields emitted from the cell phones with 'continuous wave pulses'.



# UN envoy visits northern Rakhine

FROM PAGE-1

Muslims from Anaukpyin Village expressed their needs for education and health care, security for travelling and communications, agricultural machinery for farming, road infrastructures, rebuilding of houses destroyed in the terrorist attacks, TVs, job opportunities and negotiations for peaceful coexistence with ethnics from neighbouring villages.

At the meeting with the UN delegation, Rakhine ethnic villagers, Hindus and Muslims from Ngakhuya Village expressed their concerns among

the different communities, and their requirements for jobs and national security.

Villagers from Shweyinaye Village (Na-ta-la) shared what they experienced on 25 August, the day of the terrorist attacks, and their current challenges for their livelihoods and security.

Following the visit to villages, the UN delegation met with Sayadaw Bhaddanta Panna Jota and Sayadaws of Alotawpyae Monastery in Sittway, who carried out rescue and relief works soon after the terrorist attacks occurred.

During the visit, they sought advice from the Sayad-

aws for stability, peaceful co-existence and eradication of anxieties of the different communities and regional development.

Before returning to Yangon, the delegation met with religious leaders at Thakkepyin Village.

The delegation also held talks with representatives of Rakhine State government in Sittway before their visit to villages yesterday, discussing how to supply humanitarian aid effectively, repatriation of refugees, resettlement and rehabilitation, regional development and ridding the state of conflict. —GNLM

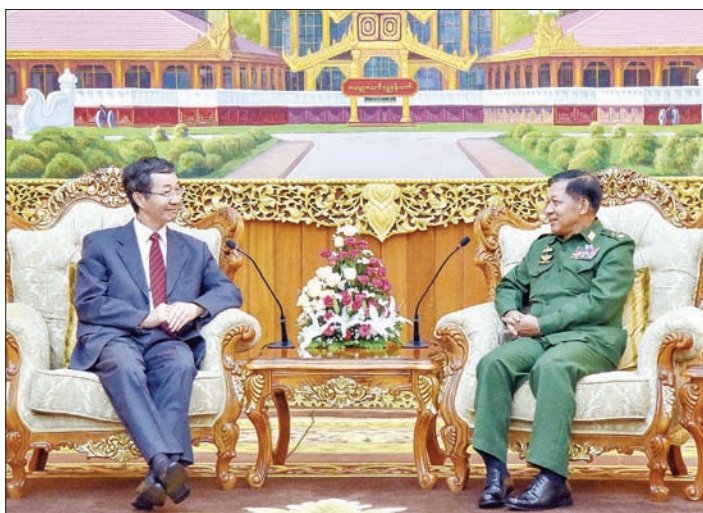
## Senior General receives special envoy from China, UN Under Secretary-General

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received H.E. Mr. Sun Guoxiang, Special Envoy for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China at the Bayintnaung guest room in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

During the meeting, Mr. Sun Guoxiang said that the stance of their government strongly supports the Myanmar peace process and it is believed that there is good potential in the peace process.

He also discussed matters relating to negotiations for peace by closely dealing with the armed groups in northern Myanmar, recommending the Government and Tatmadaw's implementation for the State's independence and sovereignty in Rakhine affairs. Mr. Sun Guoxiang said his country will help by standing as a good neighboring country, promoting bilateral relations and cooperation in addition to closely collaborating in anti-terrorism efforts, and matters on the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, which will be held in China.

The Senior General said that the Tatmadaw is ready to negotiate with groups who have yet to sign the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement. He said he hopes for participation by all ethnic armed groups in signing the NCA based on Myanmar's peace process, Rakhine State affairs, the multi-party democratic path and acceptance of the three main national



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing holds talks with China's Special Envoy for Asian Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

causes.

The Senior General also met Mr. Jeffery Feltman, Under Secretary-General for Political Affairs of the United Nations at the Bayintnaung Guest Room in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, Mr. Jeffery Feltman said that the world is interested in Rakhine State affairs and that there are differences between world views and Myanmar's practical implementation upon this. He added that the purpose of his tour is to accelerate the process implemented by the Myanmar government. The UN will provide long and short-term support on the Government's performance. He then said it is necessary to know the security of local nationals as it is not possible to implement the support with no security.

The Commander-in-Chief then explained that the Tatmadaw systematically monitored events concerned with Rules of Engagement (ROE) from day violence broke out to more recent days, and that there is nothing being performed outside of rule and regulations. If there is a violation of rules, it will take action in accord with the law. People did not accept the allegations that the Tatmadaw used force in terrorism.

There were fewer deaths of innocent people, staff and police forces because of the Tatmadaw's implementation of security. People are still worrying for their security, as there is a threat that the terrorist attacks will be made again. Thus, the Tatmadaw must protect the security of local people, the Senior General added. — Myanmar News Agency ■



## Cash assistance, supplies for displaced people in Kyauktaw

OFFICIALS from the social welfare department of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement provided cash assistance and supplies for displaced people in Kyauktaw Township, Mrauk-U District, Rakhine State yesterday morning.

Officials met and gave words of encouragement to 34 family members of seven households in Thatyatpin Village and 17 family members of three households living in Pyay-tawtha ward. Officials provided women with personal products,

clothing, cans, cooking oil, soap and other supplies. Ks20,000 was given to five people above the age of 60, a total of Ks100,000.

Encouragement was also given to the displaced children. Places for them to play were also created.

“Officials from the social welfare department will go to the IDP camps in Mrauk-U Township and provide aid”, said Daw Cho Pyone Assistant Director of the Department of Social Welfare. —Win Min Soe (IPRD) ■

## Housing project for Mro ethnics in Rakhine State launched

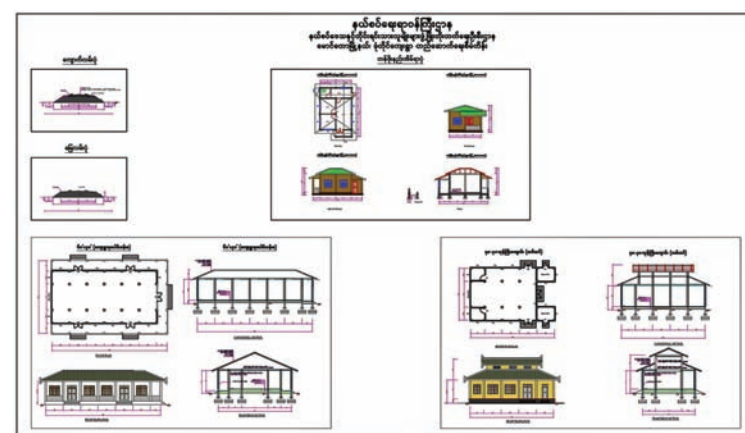
Under the instruction of the Head of the State, a project is underway to build houses with border development funds by the arrangement of the Ministry of Border Affairs for Mro ethnics at Khondine Village in northern Maungdaw, where houses were destroyed in terrorist attacks by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) on, 16 October.

The new houses will not be built at the original location, which was destroyed, but nearby at rough index map DU-309402 Padakar Chaungzone roadside Maungdaw-Bandoola, according to the desires of the local nationals.

In the first phase of the project, 48 dwelling places will be built with acquisition of water to be prioritised. If it is necessary to build Khondine Village as a combined village, an extension containing more houses will be constructed, under instruction of the State Government.

The housing estate project includes a village assembly hall, a monastery, a rural dispensary, a primary school, a marketplace, lakes, wells and solar panel installations.

The first phase of the project will be completed by the end of January 2018. —Myanmar News Agency ■







Youths and dignitaries from different faiths participate in the interfaith prayers in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: ZAW GYI (PANITA)**

# Interfaith people pray for peace in Myanmar

By Zaw Gyi (Panita)

AN interfaith praying was held in Yangon for peace in Myanmar, attracting hundreds of people from different faiths.

The ceremony at the Inya Lake's bank kicked off with prayer for peace by participants with candlelit lights in the evening of Tuesday.

Speaking on the occasion, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyto Min Thein called for unity among the people with different faiths in the country in marching towards of the goal of the Union.

"Let's build our Union with loving kindness" he said.

U Tun Myint, chairman of the committee for holding the interfaith prayer, said such kind

of event would help building and cultivating loving kindness among the people of different faiths showing the world that people of different faiths are living in harmony in Myanmar.

Ma Thinzar Myo Win, Islamic participant from Thingangyun Township, expressed her delight for holding the interfaith prayer, saying that she believed that the

interfaith prayer would help building trust and unity among the people with different faiths and would be bring peace to the country.

The event is second big event held by the National League for Democracy after the 10-October interfaith prayers at the Aung San Stadium which attracts 30,000 people. ■

## More 8 firearms seized

By Myo Thu Hein

CONCERNING further seizures after arresting 3 suspects including U Phyto Ko Ko Tint San on October 15 night together with firearms, ammunitions and stimulants in hand, Maj-Gen Aung Soe, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs replied to the questions raised by reporters, upon completion of Hluttaw meetings, "On the first day, firearms were seized and today as well more 8 firearms were seized again. So far 12 people had been detained. After finding out clues who got involved, weapons are being discovered. Investigations are under way and facts and information acquired will be released."

He added, "Arrests and seizures of remaining weapons and links are of great importance. In accord with the procedures, all performances are being reported to the Government of the State. All violations and violators of existing laws will be found out."

## Reflections of Public Health Professional Volume I comes out

AUTHOR Dr Myint Htwe, has been learnt to have published collection of articles on medicine for publication, named "Reflection of a Public Health Professional Volume One."

The Book is the collection of his writings on public health and research works acquired during the author's 18 years of health staff under the Ministry of Health (from 1976 to 1994) and 16 years of service under World Health Organization (1994 to 2010)—34 years in total and articles on health written by the Author; it was learnt. The Book was said to have been distributed by Myanmar Book Center. The book volume one has been divided into three—Part A, B and C. Being the presentation of a professional by taking time, it includes variety and accuracy. Though not being a prolific writer, the book proves to be a worthwhile effort of the author, as the readers can acquire myriads of knowledge at a sitting. —GNLM ■

## 73rd ASEAN Science and Technology Committee meeting held

The opening ceremony of the 73rd ASEAN Science and Technology meeting was held in the Myanmar International Convention Centre-2 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The ceremony attended by science and technology deputy ministers of ASEAN countries, high ranking officials and members of ASEAN Secretariat office was opened with the playing of the ASEAN theme song.

In his welcoming speech, Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun said it has been 20 years since Myanmar became a member country of ASEAN in 1997, and Myanmar is actively participating and cooperating in ASEAN science and technology activities to reduce the development rate difference and increase expertise and build



Deputy Minister U Win Maw Tun delivers the opening address at 73rd ASEAN Science and Technology meeting. **PHOTO: MNA**

capacity in science, technology and creativity. Myanmar is working together to increase cooperation between ASEAN member countries and partner countries and ASEAN's 2015 aim of increasing the momentum of competition and creativity. The Deputy Minister added his strong belief of valuable outcomes, firm decision and com-

plete results being the consequence of holding the meeting.

The current ASEAN Science and Technology Committee chairman Cambodia Ministry of Industry and Handicraft Under Secretary-General of State Dr. Tung Ciny also delivered a speech, after which he transferred the chairmanship of the ASEAN Science and

Technology Committee to Myanmar.

Ministry of Education, Department of Vocational Training Director General Dr. Aye Myint accepted the chairman's position and delivered a speech.

The 73rd ASEAN Science and Technology meeting was held where science and technology deputy ministers of ASEAN countries and high ranking officials discussed matters relating to science and technology sector cooperation among ASEAN countries, science and technology matters that will be discussed by ASEAN in cooperating with ASEAN and partner organisations such as the US, Russia, India and the EU.—MNA ■





A tank belonging to Iraqi army is seen in Dibis area on the outskirts of Kirkuk, Iraq on 17 October, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Iraqi forces seize more territory in advance against Kurds

BAGHDAD/KIRKUK — The Baghdad government recaptured territory across the breadth of northern Iraq from Kurds on Tuesday, widening a sudden and dramatic campaign that has shifted the balance of power in the country almost overnight.

In the second day of a lightning government campaign to take back towns and countryside from forces of the Kurdish autonomous region, Kurdish troops known as Peshmerga pulled out of the long disputed Khanaqin area near the Iranian border.

Government troops took control of the last two oil fields

in the vicinity of Kirkuk, a city of 1 million people that the Peshmerga abandoned on Monday in the face of the government advance. A Yazidi group allied to Baghdad also took control of the town of Sinjar. The government advances have redrawn the map of northern Iraq, rolling back gains by the Kurds who infuriated Baghdad last month by holding a referendum on independence.

The Kurds govern three mountainous northern provinces of Iraq in an autonomous region, and have also held a wide crescent of additional territory in northern Iraq, much of which

they captured after helping drive out Islamic State fighters.

Prime Minister Haidar Abadi ordered his troops on Monday to raise their flag over all Kurdish-held territory outside the autonomous region itself. They achieved a swift victory in Kirkuk, reaching the center of the city in less than a day.

The fighting in one of Iraq's main oil-producing areas, has helped return a risk premium to oil prices. After months of range-bound trading, benchmark Brent crude is now above \$58 a barrel, up almost a third from its mid-year levels.— Reuters ■

## Turkey to try detained rights activists on 25 October — Anadolu

ANKARA — Turkey will put a group of human rights activists, including the local head of Amnesty International and nationals of Germany and Sweden, on trial on 25 October, state-run media said on Tuesday.

The detention in July of the activists has aggravated tensions between Turkey and European Union leaders, who fear that Ankara is sliding towards authoritarianism under President Tayyip Erdogan.

A Turkish prosecutor called earlier this month for jail sentences of up to 15 years on terrorism charges for the activists, who were detained after attending a workshop on digital security on an island off Istanbul.

State-run Anadolu news agency said a Turkish court accepted the prosecutor's indictment, setting the October date for the first hearing in Istanbul. It said the activists would be remanded in custody until the hearing.

Among those arrested were Amnesty International's Turkey director, Idil Eser, German citizen Peter Frank Steudtner and Swedish citizen Ali Gharavi, who have been accused of being members of and aiding an "armed terrorist organisation".

Shortly after they were detained, Germany said it was reviewing Turkey's applications to buy weaponry from Germany. A cabinet minister in Berlin compared Ankara's behaviour to that of the former Communist East Germany.

Chancellor Angela Merkel said last month that Turkey's 12-year journey to join the European Union should be halted, although Ankara has said it remains determined to press on with its accession process.

Erdogan's government says EU critics of the court case — and of the wider security crackdown in Turkey since last year's failed military coup — do not understand the scale of the challenges facing Turkey.

More than 50,000 people have been detained since the abortive coup and 150,000 people, including teachers, academics and lawyers, have been suspended from their jobs.

EU leaders will meet on 19 October to address the deterioration in relations between Brussels and Ankara at a two-day summit, though Merkel said the leaders would stop short of drawing conclusions on Turkey's longstanding bid to join the bloc.— Reuters ■

## Taliban attacks kill at least 61 across Afghanistan

KABUL — Taliban suicide car bombers and gunmen attacked a provincial Afghan police headquarters on Tuesday, killing at least 33 people, including the police chief, and wounding 160, in the deadliest of a series of attacks across the country, officials and militants said.

The attack targeted a police training centre attached to the headquarters in Gardez, the capital of Paktia province, and the death toll was expected to rise.

At least five attackers were also killed, the Interior Ministry said in a statement.

Three officials told Reuters that the provincial police chief was among the dead. Both civilians and security forces were among the casualties, deputy public health director Hedayat-

ullah Hameedi said.

The Taliban, seeking to reimpose strict Islamic law after their 2001 ouster by US-led forces, claimed responsibility.

The militant group also attacked a district centre in neighbouring Ghazni province on Tuesday, an offensive that included detonating armoured Humvee vehicles packed with explosives near the provincial governor's office.

Provincial officials said at least 15 government security forces were killed and 12 wounded in the Ghazni attacks, with 13 civilians killed and seven wounded.

The Taliban said they had killed 31 security forces and wounded 21 in those clashes. w— Reuters ■

## Islamic State defeated in their Syrian capital Raqqa

RAQQA (Syria) — US-backed militias raised a flag inside Raqqa stadium on Tuesday, a Reuters witness said, as a four-month battle to take Islamic State's Syrian capital came to an end.

The fighting was over but the alliance of Kurdish and Arab militias was clearing the stadium of mines and any remaining hiding militants, said Rojda Felat, commander of the Raqqa campaign for the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF).

A war monitor, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, said Islamic State was now completely cleared from the city.

The fall of Raqqa city, where Islamic State staged euphoric parades after its string

of lightning victories in 2014, is a potent symbol of the jihadist movement's collapsing fortunes. From the city, the group planned attacks abroad. The SDF, backed by a US-led international alliance, has been fighting Islamic State inside Raqqa since June.

Another Reuters witness said militia fighters celebrated in the streets, chanting slogans from their vehicles.

A group of militia fighters and commanders clasped their arms round each other, smiling, in a battle-scarred landscape of rubble and ruined buildings at a public square.

The flag in the stadium and others waved in the city streets bore the yellow background and red emblem of the Kurd-

ish YPG, the strongest militia in the SDF. "We do still know there are still IEDs and booby traps in and amongst the areas that ISIS once held, so the SDF will continue to clear deliberately through areas," said Colonel Ryan Dillon, a spokesman for the coalition.

In a sign that the four-month battle for Raqqa had been in its last stages, Dillon said there were no coalition air strikes there on Monday.

Islamic State has lost swathes of territory in Syria and Iraq this year, including its most prized possession, Mosul, and in Syria it has been forced back into a strip of the Euphrates valley and surrounding desert. — Reuters ■



## German ex-chancellor calls for better EU relations with Russia, Turkey

BERLIN— Former German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder (SPD) called for the European Union (EU) to improve its relations with Turkey and Russia on Monday.

Speaking at an entrepreneurs' forum in Germany's western city of Moenchengladbach, Schröder warned that there could be no stability in eastern Europe unless the EU cooperated with Moscow and Ankara.

The ex-chancellor predicted that Russia and Turkey would "drift" to Asia if European leaders failed to rebuild trust. Schröder further criticized existing EU economic sanctions against Russia's largest oil company Rosneft. Structures could only be changed through "economic exchange" rather than with pressure, he argued.

Schröder has recently been named chairman of Rosneft's supervisory board, prompting criticism in Germany of his close ties with Russian President Vladimir Putin.—Xinhua ■



The ships also trained to repel air attacks and jammed and fired an air target. **PHOTO: TASS**

## Varyag cruiser and Admiral Tributs destroyer conduct firing drills

MOSCOW — The Varyag guided-missile cruiser and the Admiral Tributs destroyer have carried out a series of firings at sea and air targets as part of the final check, the Pacific Fleet's representative Nikolay Voskresensky told reporters.

"The cruiser and the destroyer have carried out firing at a moving sea target that simulated the "enemy's" surface target.

The ships also trained to destroy a buoyant mine," he said. The officer noted that on

Thursday the Varyag and the Admiral Tributs also trained to repel air attacks and jammed and fired an air target.

On Monday, 9 October, the Varyag launched a Bazalt winged missile at a surface target. The Tomsk submarine

also took part in the firing then and launched a Granit missile while submerged.

The missiles were launched from the Sea of Okhotsk with a maximum range and both hit the target.—Tass ■

## Portugal's wildfires die down, criticism of government grows

LISBON — Lethal wildfires in Portugal died down on Tuesday under the first real rain since June, but the government faced growing criticism for its slow response to the second such disaster in four months.

Hundreds of fires broke out across northern and central Portugal on Sunday after the driest summer in nearly 90 years, killing at least 36 people and overwhelming fire-fighting and rescue services.

The government, which says the fires were due to an extraordinary spell of unusually dry weather, declared three days of mourning.

But critics asked why the government had not learned the lesson from an even deadlier for-

est blaze in central Portugal in June in which 64 people died.

"If a tragedy happens twice in four months it is not exactly extraordinary. And since it is not (extraordinary), it implies that the government repeated the failure of its most basic duty; protecting the lives of its citizens," wrote columnist Joao Miguel Tavares in daily Publico on Tuesday.

A report on the fire in June pointed to failures in response times by emergency services and poor coordination by fire-fighters, in addition to a breakdown of communications networks used by the civil protection agency. Socialist Prime Minister Antonio Costa said in a televised address to the nation on Monday

that he would not sack his interior minister, but he promised reforms, adding: "nothing will stay the same after this year."

The parliamentary head of the centre-right opposition Social Democrats, Hugo Soares, said on Tuesday that Costa's statement was an "insult to the intelligence" of the Portuguese.

"The prime minister missed an opportunity to take political responsibility (for the fires) and he missed an opportunity to say sorry," he said.

This weekend's fires brought the total area burned in Portugal this year to 350,000 hectares, the worst since 2003, making the country by far the worst hit by fires this year in the European Union.—Reuters ■

## Spanish military plane crashes outside Madrid, killing pilot

MADRID — A military F18 fighter plane crashed on the outskirts of Madrid on Tuesday killing its pilot, the Spanish Defence Ministry said. The accident at the Torrejon military base east of the city occurred during takeoff, a Defence Ministry spokesman

said. Images in Spanish media showed plumes of smoke rising from the base's runway.

"As a result of the accident, which happened during takeoff manoeuvre, the plane's pilot has died," the ministry said on Twitter.—Reuters ■



Rescue workers stand in the scene where a military F18 fighter plane crashed at Torrejon airport in Torrejon de Ardoz, outside Madrid, Spain on 17 October, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**



# 19<sup>th</sup> CPC National Congress to plan for political reform

BEIJING — The 19<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) will map out overall reform measures about the country's political system and other systems, a spokesman for the congress said on Tuesday.

Based on the systematic review of achievements and experience of reform in the past, the congress will strive to address outstanding issues that have emerged in practice and work out overall reform measures, Tuo Zhen told reporters.

"We will unswervingly move toward the goal of improving and developing socialism with Chinese characteristics and modernizing China's state governance system and capability," Tuo said.

"All the achievements China has made in reform and development since

the launch of reform and opening up nearly four decades ago will not be possible without political system reform, and this will remain the case in the future," he said.

The spokesman said China has achieved major and historic achievements in political system reform, which have provided important guarantee for deepening reform in other fields and created better conditions for economic and social development.

China will not copy and replicate the models of other countries in political system reform, the spokesman said.

"Our unique cultural traditions, unique historic experience and unique national conditions determine that we must pursue a path of development suited to our own features," he said. —Xinhua ■



Tuo Zhen, spokesperson for the 19<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Communist Party of China, holds a press conference at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China on 17 October, 2017. PHOTO: XINHUA

## German "Nazi grandma" receives jail sentence

BERLIN — Ursula Haverbeck, better known as the "Nazi grandma" has been sentenced to six months in prison by a Berlin district court, German media reported on Tuesday.

Haverbeck was filmed at an event in January 2016, saying the murder of 6 million Jews during the holocaust never occurred and that the gas chambers on display in the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp were "fake." Denying the holocaust is punishable under the German law as a form of hate speech.

Haverbeck rejected the accusations and insisted that she had merely been quoting from a book she was presenting at the event. Nevertheless, the 88-year-old reiterated her belief in front of the press during a break in court proceedings that the murder of Jews in gas chambers "did not occur

in Auschwitz."

The defendant's attorney further referred to his client's right to freedom of expression.

Haverbeck has gained notoriety as Germany's "Nazi grandma" due to her membership of right-wing extremist circles and her repeated public denials of the holocaust. In a similar case, Haverbeck was sentenced to two years in jail in Lower Saxony in August 2017.

Appearing on television, the "Nazi grandma" declared that the "holocaust is the biggest and most sustainable lie in history." The Berlin district court criticized Haverbeck's intransigence, noting that she was fully aware of the legal consequences of her actions. Haverbeck has launched an immediate appeal against her sentencing. The verdict is not yet legally binding. —Xinhua ■

### CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV WEST SCENT VOY. NO (157)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY. NO (157) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.10.2017 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 CAPE FLORES VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CAPE FLORES VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.10.2017 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 CHINA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 2301185

### CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV SHIBA VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SHIBAVOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.10.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S LAND & SEA LOGISTICS

Phone No: 2301185

### CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV MCC SHENZHEN VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCC SHENZHEN VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.10.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185



## Lin-Manuel Miranda's Puerto Rico relief song tops Billboard chart

LOS ANGELES — “Hamilton” creator Lin-Manuel Miranda’s star-studded charity song to fund relief efforts in Puerto Rico topped the Billboard digital singles chart on Monday, while Christian music rapper NF topped the Billboard 200 album chart.

Miranda’s “Almost Like Praying” debuted at No 1 on the Digital Songs chart, which measures online single sales, with 111,000 copies sold, according to figures from Nielsen SoundScan.

All proceeds from sales and streaming of the single, which includes vocals from Jennifer Lopez and Gloria Estefan, will go toward relief efforts in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria killed at least 43 people last month and left most of the island without power or access to clean running water.

On the Billboard 200 chart, “Perception,” the latest album from NF, sold 55,000 album units comprising album and song sales and streaming activity.



Actor Lin-Manuel Miranda. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

The Billboard 200 chart tallies units from album sales, song sales (10 songs equal one album) and streaming activity (1,500 streams equal one album).

Rocker Tom Petty’s “Greatest Hits” album with his band The Heartbreakers held steady at No 2 with 47,000 copies sold two weeks after the “American Girl” singer died at age 66.

Other new entries on the Billboard 200 chart this week include rapper Lil Pump’s self-titled album at No 3 and rocker Marilyn Manson’s “Heaven Upside Down” at No 8.—Reuters ■



Actress Angelina Jolie. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

## Angelina Jolie to voice star in ‘The One and Only Ivan’

LOS ANGELES — Angelina Jolie will lend her voice in the upcoming animation film “The One and Only Ivan”.

The 42-year-old actor will star in Disney’s adaptation of the Newbery Medal-winning book, written by Katherine Applegate and illustrated by Patricia Castelao, according to The Hollywood Reporter.

Jolie will voice Stella, a baby elephant who changes Ivan’s life — who is a silverback gorilla with

a memory lapse — when she enters the mall where he lives.

The actor will also serve as producer on the movie.

Thea Sharrock is attached to direct the film from a script penned by Mike White.

The movie is being said to be a live-action hybrid, which will be co-produced by Allison Shearmur. Previously, Jolie has voice starred in animated films such as “Kung Fu Panda” and “Shark Tale”.—PTI ■

## Box Office: ‘Happy Death Day’ Crushes ‘Blade Runner 2049’ With \$26.5 Million

LOS ANGELES — “Happy Death Day” has cause for celebration.

The latest from Blumhouse and Universal is leading the box office this weekend with \$26.5 million from 3,149 locations. That puts it far ahead of “Blade Runner 2049,” which is skidding to \$15.1 million during its second weekend at 4,058 locations, down 54% from its disappointing opening weekend.

A horror spin on “Groundhog Day,” “Happy Death Day” centers on Tree Gelbman (Jessica Rothe) as a woman who wakes up to the same day — her birthday — every day, and is murdered every time.

Christopher B Landon directed the film based on a script by Scott Lobdell.

Earlier this year in January, Blumhouse’s “Split” opened to a monster \$40 million in January, and went on to earn \$278.3 million worldwide. Then, the next month, “Get Out” was a smash hit as well with a \$33.4 million opening and \$253.1 million in global grosses by the end of its run. The production house is also responsible for the hugely profitable “Purge” and “Paranormal Activity” franchises.

Otherwise, “The Foreigner” — a US-China co-production be-



Harrison Ford poses with Ryan Gosling during a photocall to promote Blade Runner 2049 at a hotel in central London, Britain in September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

tween STXfilms, Sparkle Roll Media, and Wanda — is opening to \$12.8 million from 2,515 locations. The Jackie Chan-starrer started its international rollout on 30 September, and has tallied \$88 million overseas so far. “Casino Royale” director Martin Campbell made the \$35 million flick, which also stars Pierce Brosnan as a British government official.

And two biopics are struggling to draw significant grosses. Open Road’s “Marshall” is opening to \$3 million from 821

locations, and Annapurna’s “Professor Marston & The Wonder Women” is barely making a dent with \$737,000 from 1,229 locations.

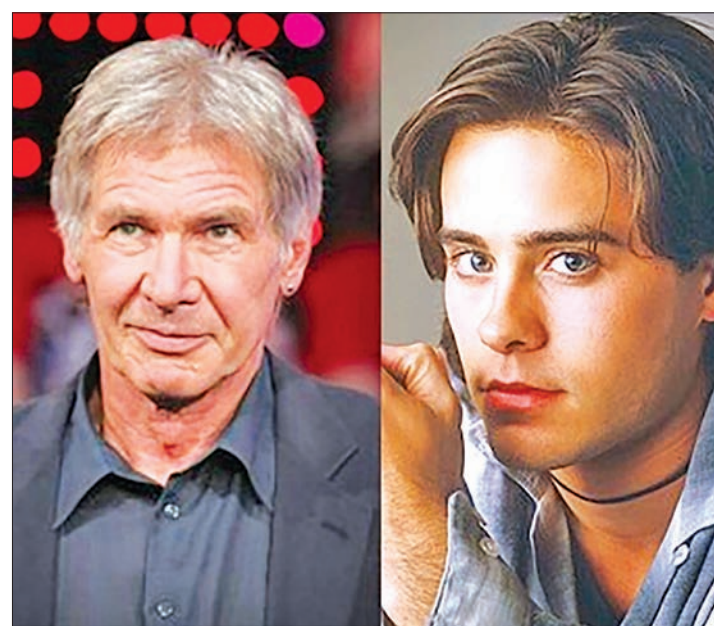
“It” remains in the top five this weekend, as horror continues to dominate the box office. In its sixth weekend, the Warner Bros. and New Line release is grossing \$6 million from 3,176 spots. Rounding out the top five is Fox’s “The Mountain Between Us,” which is taking in \$5.7 million from 3,259 locations.—Reuters ■

## Harrison Fords faith in me was a beautiful thing: Jared Leto

LOS ANGELES — Actor Jared Leto says starring alongside Hollywood legend Harrison Ford in “Blade Runner 2049” was an amazing experience.

The Oscar-winning star says he relished working with Ford, 75, who is one of his idols, reports Collider.

“There were moments that I had with Harrison on the set that I’ll carry with me the rest of my life. Very emotional, powerful



Hollywood legend Harrison Ford and Actor Jared Leto. **PHOTO: PTI**

moments; very transcendent moments. And it was humbling to be a part of and something I’ll never forget.

“Harrison gave me a wonderful gift in the faith that he had in me. He’s not the kind,

when you’re seeing pages and pages of dialogue, you’re sitting across from one of the biggest legends in the history of film, and to feel his confidence and his faith in me was a beautiful thing,” says Leto, 45.—PTI ■



# Ruins of Jerusalem hall shed light on Roman-era gatherings

JERUSALEM — A small, half-built and roofed amphitheatre from 2nd-century Jerusalem has been unearthed during excavations below Judaism's Western Wall, the first such Roman-era find in the city, Israeli archaeolo-

gists said on Monday.

The 200-seat carved stone structure was found underneath a passageway leading to the raised esplanade where an ancient Jewish temple stood until it was razed by the Romans as they put down a

rebellion in 70 AD.

Unlike larger, open-air Roman auditoriums, the amphitheatre was likely meant to be an odeon, for musical performances, or a city council meeting hall known as a bouleuterion, the Israel

Antiquities Authority said.

"This is the first time that a theatre-like structure has been exposed in Jerusalem, so it's extremely exciting," the IAA's Joe Uziel told Reuters.

The design was also likely to have been in use during Jesus' time, he said.

Work on the structure may have been halted because of a 2nd-century Jewish revolt against Roman rule, the IAA said. The find abuts the site known to Jews as the Temple Mount and to Muslims as the Noble Sanctuary, as it houses the Al-Aqsa Mosque complex.

The Western Wall, one of Judaism's holiest sites, is a remnant of the compound of the Second Temple that was destroyed nearly 2,000 years ago. —Reuters ■



Israel Antiquities Authority archaeologist Dr. Joe Uziel stands inside a theatre-like structure during a media tour to reveal the structure which was discovered during excavation works underneath Wilson's Arch in the Western Wall tunnels in Jerusalem's Old City on 16 October 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

## Greek church bells ring funeral toll over sex change law

ATHENS — Churches in a western Greek region will ring funeral bells every day until Saturday to protest a new law that makes it easier for people to change their legally recognized gender, clerics said on Monday.

Greece's parliament passed a law last week which allows people over 15 to change their gender

on official documents with a court ruling, without requiring medical tests or sterilization as was the case until now.

The bill laid bare divisions within the left-right coalition government and led to debates between the ruling leftist party and the conservative opposition. It has also angered the powerful Orthodox Church,

which demanded it be withdrawn.

Clerics of the Orthodox Diocese of Kalavryta and Egialia decided that churches in their region will ring the funeral toll for three minutes every day until 21 October.

On Monday, Skai TV showed a banner on the facade of a church in the city of Egio reading "Chris-

tian morals have been murdered" as church bells rang in mourning.

"I want to share with you my agony and we may turn it into a protest movement," Bishop Amvrosios of Kalavryta told clerics on Saturday, before the decision was made. "We may be able to influence others too and lead to a revolt."

The clerics' decision said it was "an outrageous inspiration to allow a person to change gender with a simple application, in a few minutes, contrary to what God gave humans" and called homosexuality a "deadly sin".

"The frivolous passing of the law, which opposes human nature and biology and leads to the abominable sin of homosexuality, creates unrest and confusion." The law was welcomed by human rights activists. Amnesty International said it was a historic step forward for transgender people in Greece. —Reuters ■



A woman walks outside a church at the Asomaton-Petraki monastery in Athens, Greece on 7 February, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

### ASLEEP IN JESUS CAPTAIN TIN MAUNG CHO (BOYSIE) 61 Years

Captain Tin Maung Cho (Boysie) Residing at No. 8, Yodaya Lane, Mayangone Township. Son of U Khin Maung Cho + Daw Mya Mya Win, Younger brother of Daw Cho Cho Win, U Tin Aung Cho, U Kyaw Win Elder brother of Daw Kaythi Cho Passed away Peacefully on Tuesday at (1:00)am Christian Funeral Services will be held at (3:00)pm and will be cremate at (4:00)pm on Thursday 19.10.2017.

**Bereaved Family**

## Jockeying for cash: North Korea allows racetrack gambling as sanctions bite

SEOUL — Punters in North Korea who once risked three years hard labor for gambling are now able to bet on local horse races as the isolated country scrambles to unearth new sources of hard currency amid intensifying international sanctions.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has been building resorts, swimming pools and other luxurious leisure facilities in what experts say is a bid to capture some of the individual wealth generated by growing private markets for goods and services.

A series of races took place at the Mirim Horse Riding Club, one of Kim's flagship leisure developments, near Pyongyang on Sunday, according to North Korea's official KCNA news agency.

Race goers aged 12 or older were allowed to bet on jockeys in a raffle-type system, broadcaster Korean Central Television said on Friday ahead of the races.

Pictures from KCNA showed hundreds of spectators watching and filming

with their phones as a field of mostly white-grey horses and their riders stormed out of the starting gate.

In the communist North, horses — especially white ones — have traditionally been a propaganda symbol associated with the ruling Kim family. "Kim has been pushing for vanity projects for a theme park, sky resort and the horse riding club for the sake of propping up the people's well-being but their real purpose was to earn foreign currency," said Na Jeong-won, head of the North Korea Industry-Economy Research Institute in Seoul.

North Korea's access to foreign currency has been impacted by a series of international sanctions over its nuclear weapons program, including bans on key exports such as coal, textiles and seafood.

Lee Sang-keun, a researcher at the Institute of Unification Studies of Ewha Womans University in Seoul, said the primary target for the leisure facilities is affluent North Koreans. —Reuters ■



People take part in a horse riding game at the Mirim Equestrian Riding Club in Pyongyang, North Korea on 15 October, 2017, in this picture released by North Korea's Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) in Pyongyang. **PHOTO: REUTERS**



## General Aung San Shield's semifinal matches to be played today and tomorrow

Shine Htet Zaw

THE remaining semifinal matches of the 2017 General Aung San Shield tourney will be played today and tomorrow.

Ayeyawady FC and Shan United FC play today at 3pm at Ayar Stadium, Patheingyi Township in Ayeyawady Region while Yadanarbon FC and Yangon United FC will play tomorrow at 5pm at Mandalaythiri Stadium in Mandalay. The first semifinal matches were played at the home grounds of Yangon United FC and Shan United FC. Yangon United FC

won 1-0 over Yadanarbon FC, while Shan United FC played to a 1-1 draw with Ayeyawady FC.

In the second round of the semifinal matches, Yangon United FC will advance to final even if the result of tomorrow's match is a tie. Yadanarbon FC must win to advance to the final. It is possible for Yadanarbon FC to win as they have previously defeated Yangon United FC 3-0 on their home ground, but they were defeated by Yangon United FC by a score of 1-2 on the home field of Yangon United.

For Shan United, if they win

or draw with a score of 2-2 or better, they will advance to final as they drew 1-1 to Ayeyawady FC on their home field. Ayeyawady FC has a record three championships, but Shan United has advanced to the final only once. According to the previous round of this season, Shan United FC has ever won against Ayeyawady FC at an away match, therefore, it will be interesting to watch how they will perform. So far this season, Ayeyawady FC has played three times against Shan United FC, resulting in one draw and two losses. ■



File photo was taken at the first leg of Yangon United FC and Yadanarbon FC at the playground of Yangon United FC. **PHOTO SOE NYUNT**

## Public invited to Bicycle Network Myanmar's cycling tour

Kyaw Zin Tun

BICYCLE Network Myanmar will hold a cycling tour between Yangon and Htantabin Township via Hmawbi on Sunday to mark their 52th bike tour, according to an announcement on its Facebook page.

The first tour of Bicycle Network Myanmar was in 2014, cycling between Yangon and Twantay.

Their golden jubilee tour was held on 20 August with a tour between Yangon to Kayan Township. Every bike tour of Bicycle Network Myanmar has been open to the public.

Participants in Sunday's tour will gather at Shwe Kayhar teashop in Mingaladon Township. Check-in will be from 5:30am to 6:00am.

It is nearly 100km for the round trip from Shwe Kayhar teashop, Mingaladon to Htantabin Township.

Tour organisers recommend checks on brakes, lights, tires and spare tubes before participating. Anyone who wishes to participate is invited to come to the gathering point on Sunday.

At their last event on 10 September, nearly 120 cyclists participated at the tour between Yangon and Bago. ■

## ISPE beats YREO 1-0 in week 12 of KBZ Bank Women's League

Kyaw Zin Tun

THE Institute of Sport and Physical Education (ISPE) FC beat YREO FC 1-0 in week 12 of the KBZ Bank Women's League at Aung San Stadium yesterday evening.

In the first half, the two teams had opportunities to

score, but neither team could convert, resulting in a 0-0 half-time score.

In the second half, ISPE broke through at the 60-minute mark when forward Kay Zin Myint scored what turned out to be the winning goal. The two teams battled for the balance of the game, but there was no

further scoring.

The other two matches of week 12 are Zwegapin FC against Sports and Education FC today at 3:30pm and Gandamar FC against Myawady FC tomorrow at 3:30pm at Padonmar Stadium in Sanchaung Township.

So far, Myawady FC is at

the top of the standings after playing nine matches, winning eight and drawing one. Thitsar Arman FC is in second place after playing 10 matches, winning seven and drawing three. Sport and Education follows in third place after playing 10 games with six wins, two draws and two losses. ■



Japan forward Genki Haraguchi (R) vies for the ball against Haiti forward Duckens Nazon during a friendly match at Nissan Stadium in Yokohama on 10 October, 2017. The match ended 3-3. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

## Haraguchi suspended for 2 Bundesliga matches

BERLIN — Japan striker Genki Haraguchi has been suspended from playing two matches for Hertha Berlin in the Bundesliga after he was given a red card for a dangerous tackle during Saturday's home game against Schalke, the German Football Association announced on Monday.

Haraguchi will miss Sunday's Bundesliga match against Freiburg and another against Hamburg SV on 28 October.

During Saturday's match, Haraguchi received a red card after tackling Schalke's Guido Burgstaller in the 44th minute. Berlin lost 2-0.—Kyodo News ■