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'Private sector development vital for the country' says VP U Myint Swe to Myanmar entrepreneurs

VICE PRESIDENT U Myint Swe, Chairman of the Private Sector Development Committee (PSDC), attended the 18th regular meeting between the Private Sector Development Committee and Myanmar entrepreneurs at the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) office in Yangon yesterday morning.

Present at the meeting were Vice Chairman of the Private Sector Development Committee and Union Minister for Commerce Dr. Than Myint; Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein; Deputy Ministers U Aung Htoo, U Win Maw Tun and U Maung Maung Win, Yangon Region Ministers, officials from five work committees, UMFCCI President U Zaw Min Win, Vice Presidents and members, Permanent Secretaries, Directors-General and officials from Myanmar Retailers Associations, Magway Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Myanmar Arts and Crafts Association (MACA).

In his address to the meeting the Vice President said PSDC was formed over one and a half years ago by the Office of the President on 24 October 2016 to effectively implement Private



Vice President U Myint Swe, centre, Chairman of the Private Sector Development Committee (PSDC), addresses the 18th regular meeting between the Private Sector Development Committee and Myanmar entrepreneurs at the UMFCCI office in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Sector Development Framework of PSDC. Special emphasis is placed towards private sector development as it is vital for the country's economic development as well as socio-economic development of the people. PSDC

meetings were held once every two months in order to conduct the Private Sector Development Framework and seven such meetings have already been held.

Entry of illegal goods through the border is threaten-

ing the existence of SMEs (small and medium enterprises) and since no taxes were paid to the State, it is causing difficulties for foreign investors to compete in terms of technology and market share. As such, special groups

were formed in states/regions adjacent to the border; in addition to setting up inspection gates in Yebu and Mayanchaung gates to prevent and control entry of illegal goods through the border.

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Agreements on prevention of violence to children reached by working committees for peace conference

THE third day meeting of the political, economic, social, security, land and environment work committees in preparation for the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong (Third Session) was held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre II in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Matters to be submitted to the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong (Third Session) were discussed and approved.

On the social sector committee meeting, U Zaw Htay said there wasn't much to argue about as it was regarding

the social sector. Compared to other sectors, discussions were smooth and sufficient agreements were reached.

Two more agreements were reached this morning. The first topic agreed upon was to prevent Six Grave Violations against children. This was already included

in the NCA (Nationwide Cease-fire Agreement) signed between the government and the EAOs (Ethnic Armed Organisations).

Some of these include the killing of children, sexual violence and the recruitment of child soldiers.

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Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe arrives back from Israel

UNION Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe arrived back to Yangon the afternoon of 6 July 2018 after paying a working visit to the State of Israel.

Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe held talk with Mr. Ayoob Kara, Minister of Communications of the State of Israel, on 4 July at the Knesset Building in Jerusalem, and discussed matters on strengthening of bilateral relations and exchange of high-level visits, promotion of cooperation in multi-faceted areas between the two countries.

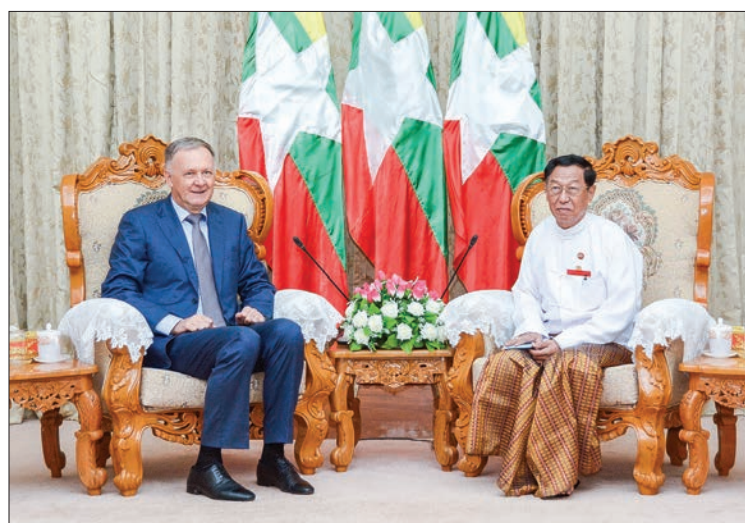
In the evening on that day, Mr. Ayoob Kara, Minister of Communications of the State of Israel, hosted the dinner to the Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem.

During the visit, Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe also held talks with Mr. Michael Oren, Deputy Minister of the Prime Minister's Office and Maj. Gen (Retd) Mr. Amos Yadlin, Executive Director of the Institute of National Security Studies (INSS) respectively and discussed matters of mutual interest. —Ministry of Foreign Affairs ■



Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe (right) shakes hand with an official during his visit in Israel. **PHOTO: MOFA**

UEC Chairman, Russian Ambassador discuss electoral process



UEC Chairman U Hla Thein (right) holds talks with Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Nikolay Listopadov (left). **PHOTO: MNA**

U Hla Thein, Chairman of the Union Election Commission, received Russian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Nikolay Listopadov and held talks over the electoral process for the by-election this year and the 2020 General Elections.

At the meeting, they exchanged views on the measures taken by the UEC in preparation for holding the by-election in 2018 and the General Election

in 2020 and the fair election process in accordance with the rules and regulations.

They also exchanged views on the process of examining complaint letters and advance voting by Myanmar citizens overseas.

The Russian Ambassador also offered Russia's cooperation in the electoral process in Myanmar.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe attends British NHS 70th anniversary celebration

UNION Minister Dr Myint Htwe attended the 70th anniversary celebration of the British National Health Services-NHS and the Myanmar-UK Health Forum on Improving Quality Health Services Towards Universal Health Coverage held yesterday at Sedona Hotel in Yangon.

In his opening speech, Union Minister Dr Myint Htwe said the NHS was established by British Health Minister Aneurin Bevan on 5 July 1948, based on three core principles to meet the needs of everyone, to be free at the point of delivery, and to be based on clinical needs, it is a model for Myanmar and other countries to get access to Universal Health Coverage.

He also lauded Britain and organisations from Britain, including the Department for International Development-DFID, which is helping Myanmar in the process of drawing up a National Health Plan.

He then expressed thanks to the Ministry of Health and Sports (Myanmar) for their serious efforts with a limited health staff population of over 110,000 and the annual allocated budget of around US\$1 billion, whereas the health staff population of Britain is 1.7 million and the annual allocated budget is around £144

billion.

Medical universities in Britain and Myanmar are co-operating over technical issues and the skills of Myanmar doctors can be observed through data which shows that 628 doctors passed the MRCP exam (Membership of the Royal Colleges of Physicians) and 103 doctors passed the MRCPCH exam (Member of Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health) from 1991 till date.

“The long-term cooperation between Myanmar and Britain benefited Myanmar people and that cooperation will be strengthened in the future,” said the union minister.

Next, Head of Office of the

Department for International Development (DFID-Myanmar) Dr. Gail Marzetti delivered a speech.

Many years ago, Britain played a main role as a donor in the health sector of Myanmar in which funds such as the 3MDG Fund, Global Fund, Gavi, Global Health Security and International Health Regulations, Fleming Fund and Anti-Microbial Resistance were supported.

Moreover, £97 million for the Access to Health Fund and bringing UK expertise will also be supported during the five-year period from 2019 to 2023. — Myanmar News Agency ■



Union Minister Dr. Myint Htwe delivers the speech at 70th anniversary celebration of the British National Health Services at Sedona Hotel in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

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National Interest

Parties are not essential. What is essential is that they be free from partisan biases that harm the national interest.

When it is in the national interest for them to do so, all parties should be ready to abandon partisan concerns and unite and cooperate with each other.

(Excerpt from Bogyoke Aung San's Speech delivered at the 1st Congress of AFPFL)



'Private sector development vital for the country' says VP U Myint Swe to Myanmar entrepreneurs

FROM PAGE-1

To support private sector development works, meetings were held with business persons and resolved difficulties in group and sector-wise starting from 2016 December. As of 17 May, meetings were held and 250 suggestions were raised.

All were being responded and replied to the relevant business persons.

Some requires further follow up and the five work committees arranged Public-Private Dialogue between private business persons and relevant ministerial departments to resolve it.

In fiscal year 2017-2018, total foreign trade was US\$ 33.52 billion out of which the private sector contributed US\$27.24 billion or 81 per cent.

Trade amount up to 22 June 2018 is US\$ 7.983 billion and is over US\$ 977 million for the same period last year. The private sector contributed US\$ 6.924 billion which is 87 per cent of the total.

A group led by the Deputy Minister for Commerce is working with officials from the World Bank on improving the Ease of Doing Business ranking in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index and it is believed that the ranking

would improve. Departments and private sector companies need to reply patiently and systematically to questions raised.

The Vice President also spoke of organizations attending the meeting to openly discuss and raise matters in which they are facing difficulties.

Union Minister for Commerce Dr. Than Myint then explained the status of the works implemented by the ministry in the export/import and investment sectors.

Next, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein explained about economic devel-

opment in Yangon Region and status of opening vocational training schools.

Afterwards UMFCCI President U Zaw Min Win explained about sector-wise works conducted for private sector development.

Later, Myanmar Retailers Association Vice Chairman U Myo Min Aung, Magway Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry President U Sein Aye Maung and MACA Chairman U Thadu explained and discussed about work sector-wise difficulties faced.

This was followed by UMFCCI Vice Presidents U Wai Phyo, U Ye Min Aung and

Myanmar Pharmaceuticals & Medical Equipment Entrepreneurs Association Chairman U Zaw Moe Khaing who commented and suggested on the suggestions made at B4B Insights Forum, standards on tax and customs duty and import of medicines and medical equipment.

The Vice President, Union Minister, Region Chief Minister and officials gave detailed comments to ensure coordination based on the discussions and suggestions made.

The meeting then came to a close after the Vice President delivered a closing speech.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Agreements on prevention of violence to children reached by working committees for peace conference

FROM PAGE-1

These are Myanmar matters discussed in the Security Council. Myanmar is included as a Listed Country. This was discussed by us, as well as EAOs at the Peace Conference. A basic principle on pledges and promises agreed in the NCA was established after the discussion. This was very satisfactory, he said.

Discussions at the Peace Conference are believed to counter the accusations made at the Security Council, as well as on other fronts. This was willingly agreed upon by all groups.

Another thing is rights for the handicapped. Whether it is a building or public areas, special lanes for wheelchairs and handicapped persons should be mandatorily included. A basic principal on this was agreed upon this morning. Based on this agreement, policies will be implemented.

In the social sector, some 10 agreements are expected to be reached but about nine will remain: especially, resettlement, redevelopment and social development. This includes refugees displaced to border areas due to conflicts and those who are in internally displaced persons (IDP) camps. Discussions with emphasis on these were conducted and agreements reached.

As such, nine to ten undisputed agreements are expected to be submitted to the upcoming conference. The agreements reached yesterday included frameworks on redevelopment, resettlement, drugs and mostly social development, redevelopment and resettlement.

Discussions were widely held on refugees displaced to border areas due to conflicts, IDP camps in the country and ownership of farmlands upon return to their places of origin.



The third day meeting of the economic committee in preparation for the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong (Third Session) was held at MICC-II, Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

These were completed in our sector.

But it needs to be discussed more in the land sector. As this is related to two work committees, it was not completed. In tomorrow's Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee (UPDJC) secretariat meeting, the attending five work committees will amend the policy papers. After it is amended, the UPDJC meeting will be held on 9 July. Policies, proposals and basic principles discussed by work committees will be submitted as agreements to this meeting. In some matters where there

were disagreements and arguments, they will be submitted as proposals and options. It will be discussed again at the meeting and when the conference is held, it will be re-discussed, said U Zaw Htay.

On the land and environment sector work committee meeting, Daw Wah Wah Maung said the works include the registration of traditional ethnic national rights. Another issue is regarding the protection of land: illegal settling on land and non-citizens not permitted to own land. Only citizens can legally own land. We expect to reach

an agreement on at least five points. It will include policy on land ownership and protection after the policy is enacted. There should be prior consultation and discussion with relevant local people on management, land development projects, land usage and environmental protection.

The day's meeting was attended by members of the UPDJC's secretariat group, joint committee members, working committee members from the government, Hluttaw and Tatmadaw groups and other officials.—Thura Zaw, Myo Thu Hein (MNA) ■

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More vocational schools to be opened in Yangon

By May Thet Hnin

THE Yangon Region government will establish vocational training institutes for those who cannot reach higher education access, said Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein.

"The Yangon Region government will try to produce skilled labourers and professionals under the guidance of the Ministry of Education by opening vocational training schools. It is also a step toward fulfilling the needs of

the labour force in commerce and industry.

At present, the Singapore Myanmar Vocational Training Institute has opened in cooperation with Singapore on Natmauk Road. More vocational training institutes are planned to be opened nearby.

The Yangon Region government, in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and Sports, will open a health-care-related vocational training institute. Similarly, the government also plans to open a fisheries vocational training

institute near Yangon Aquarium, U Phyo Min Thein said.

Additionally, more vocational training courses will be offered at the Government Technical Institute (GTI) in Insein Township.

"Vocational training courses will bring about smooth entry into the labour market for young people. Vocational training schools will enable its trainees to link with enterprises. Now, most of the educated young people are far removed from the work industry. The principals of Insein GTI are

endeavouring to link with the private sector", U Phyo Min Thein noted.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi also encouraged vocational education in the peace talk held in Mon State on 14 June, as vocational education also plays just as an important role as university education. Vocational education is increasingly improving in the world's most developed countries such as Switzerland, Sweden and Germany. It is regarded as equally valuable with university education. ■

Photo exhibition highlights Myanmar's jade industry

"JOURNEY of The Blood Jade", a photo exhibition, is being held at the Jefferson Center, the US Embassy's outreach hub for Upper Myanmar situated at the corner of 26th and 71st streets in Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay. The exhibit opened on Thursday and will continue until 13 July.

The exhibition showcases 76 works of four photographers, Ko Zaw (Phakant), Soe Win Nyein, Zaw Moe Htet and Nyan Hlaing Lynn. Video showing the impact of the jade trade in the Phakant area will also be shown.

The photographs depict the life of jade workers, jade fields and excavation sites



Guests at the Mandalay photo exhibition. PHOTO: THIHA KO KO (MANDALAY)

in Phakant Township, Kachin State, environmental impacts, lifestyles of residents and nar-

cotics addiction that is rampant in the area.

The event is open to the

public between 9 am and 5 pm daily.—Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay) ■

Eleven airlines to switch terminals at Yangon International Airport

ELEVEN airlines will eventually relocate from Terminal 2 (T2) to Terminal 1 (T1) of Yangon International Airport (YIA) with the opening of its inter-terminal connection this week, the Yangon Aerodrome Co. Ltd. announced yesterday in a news release.

This is the first step towards linking the two international terminals, according to the news release.

Biman Bangladesh Air-

lines will be the first air carrier to move from T2 to T1 beginning on 7 July, with the new check-in area at Row C, counters 11-13.

Other airlines scheduled for the move are Air Asia, China Airlines, Jetstar Asia, Malaysia, Myanmar National Airlines, Nok Air, Qatar Airways, Thai Airways international, Thai Smile Airlines and VietJet Air. The move is expected to be completed by the end of this

month.

During the period, Yangon airport will be deploying driveway ushers and guides at T1 and T2 to ensure all passengers are directed to the right terminals.

Passengers may check airline updates at www.facebook.com/yangonairport. Updates will also be posted on the YIA's official website www.yangonairport.aero.

As the largest and busiest

airport in Myanmar, Yangon International Airport is strategically located between India and China with two-thirds of the world's population within six hours flying range, including cities such as Tokyo, Dubai, Singapore, Beijing and New Delhi. The airport handled a total of 5.92 million passengers last year. It serves 28 international airlines that offer 24 international destinations.—GNLM ■

Yangon Region Investment Cmte. approves nine endorsements for foreign enterprises

By May Thet Hnin

THE Yangon Region Investment Committee (YRIC) approved nine endorsements for foreign enterprises in accordance with Myanmar Investment Law at the YRIC meeting 9/2018 held on Wednesday at the Yangon Region government office.

Those foreign enterprises will bring in a capital of US\$21.29 million, creating 5,729 job opportunities for local people.

The YRIC approved a total of 25 endorsements for 20 foreign and five domestic projects in the past three months (from April to June) for the interim

period prior to next fiscal year 2018-2019, with the emergence of 14,655 job opportunities. Twenty enterprises from China, South Korea, Hong Kong, Japan, Seychelles and Viet Nam will execute projects in the manufacturing and hotel and tourism sectors, with a capital of \$45 million. Domestic enterprises will make investments worth Ks8.19 billion.

During August 2017 to March 2018, a total of 48 endorsements of 39 foreign enterprises and nine domestic enterprises were approved by the YRIC, creating 20,953 job opportunities. Those foreign

enterprises from Singapore, China, South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia and British Virgin Islands put up a capital of \$56.61 million into manufacturing, hotel and other sectors. Meanwhile, nine domestic enterprises invested Ks2.3 billion.

According to Myanmar Investment Law, region and state investment committees are authorised to grant endorsements of an investment proposal with a capital of not more than \$5 million (Ks6,000 million), with an aim to facilitate the verification process of investment projects.

High feed cost impacts poultry egg production in Thaton

SMALL-scale egg growers in Thaton Township in Mon State are currently facing hardships due to high cost of feed in the domestic market, even though they are receiving a good price for eggs, local producers said.

U Sein Win, who has operated poultry farms on a manageable scale in the region for the last 20 years, said, "Egg-producing ducks are usually fed broken rice and dried powder of prawn shells. At present, the price of broken rice has increased by Ks7,000 per bag. However, the egg price hasn't increased yet. Eggs produced from Thailand are also found in the market. Those eggs are bigger than

that of local produce. But the imported eggs are not marketable due to a durability problem."

Last year, a bag of broken rice sold for Ks14,000, and a bag of dried prawn shell powder was Ks28,000. A bag of broken rice has risen to Ks21,000 and a bag of dried prawn shell powder sells for Ks27,500.

Currently, one egg is worth Ks130-Ks135 in the wholesale market depending on size. In the retail market, an egg is worth Ks150-Ks160.

There are about 40 egg producers who run businesses on a manageable scale in Thaton Town. Egg production has decreased slightly this season.—Thet Oo (Thaton)

Hotels ministry: 1,666 hotel licences granted as of June



Shwe Kyun Myaw Hotel in Inle, Nyaungshwe Township, Shan State. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

A total of 1,666 licensed hotels, motels, guesthouses and inns are operating in Myanmar, as of the end of June, offering 66,913 rooms, according to statistics provided by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

The ministry has issued 4,404 tour guide licences, 3,579 regional tour guide licences and 2,569 transport licences as of June.

Further, 2,773 travel agencies were issued permits by the ministry, with one foreign company, 41 joint ventures and 2,731 domestic companies.

Famous tourism attractions in Myanmar are in the cities of Mandalay, Yangon and Bagan, Inle, Kayin and Mon states, Myeik Archipelago, Chin Hills and beaches such as Chaungtha, Ngwehsaung and Ngapali.

Additionally, tourists like to explore cultural zones, such as the one in Bagan-NyaungU, Innwa cultural site and Pyin Oo Lwin.

The hotels and tourism ministry has created eco-tourism sites and community-based

tourism (CBT) spots, establishing Thandaunggyi in Kayin State, Pa-O community-involved tourism in Shan State, the Kayah Cultural Community Tour, CBT with dolphins along Ayeyawady River, the Phoe Kyar elephant camp, Popa Mountain National Park, Indawgyi Wildlife Sanctuary, among others.

Tourists visit Myanmar through the three international airports, as well as the border checkpoints on bikes or other vehicles. Tourists are also flocking to Myanmar via luxury cruise liners. — Ko Htet

Border imports decrease slightly

IMPORTS through all cross-border trade camps in the first three months of the present fiscal year was valued at US\$700.7 million, which was a slight decrease, by almost \$3 million, from the same period last year, the Ministry of Commerce announced yesterday.

From 1 April through 29 June this year, the country's total border trade topped \$2.026 billion, consisting of \$1.325 billion in exports. Despite a decrease in the value of border imports, this year saw an increase in value of

border exports by \$247 million, compared to the similar period last year.

Myanmar carries out border trade with China mainly through Muse, Lweje, Kanpikete, Chinshwehaw and Kengtung.

Of these, the Muse border sees the largest volume and value. From 1 April to 29 June, the Muse border crossing handled trade amounting to \$1.416 billion, while trade value from the remaining border points was lower than \$220 million.—Shwe Khine

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7th coord meeting held for updated Myanmar encyclopedia

A coordination meeting for publishing an up-to-date Myanmar encyclopedia was held yesterday afternoon at the meeting hall of the Printing and Publishing Department on Theinbyu Road in Yangon.

At the meeting, Myanmar Encyclopedia Republishing Steering Committee member and Printing and Publishing Department (PPD) Director General U Aung Myo Myint, Vice-Chairmen writers Dr. Khin Aye (Maung Khin Min – Danubyu) and Dr. Tin Hlaing (Bo Hlaing), and Secretary Dr. San Win discussed and suggested works that are completed and future works to be done.

At the meeting, Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint said efforts should



Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint addresses the coordination meeting yesterday. **PHOTO:MNA**

be made to get rid of errors, to be precise in the facts, and to include detailed facts and figures in Myanmar for the Myanmar Encyclopedia. It

is learnt that a draft version of Myanmar Encyclopedia Volume One is 90 per cent complete. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Request to voters

1. For the by-election which will be held on 3 November 2018, the Union Election Commission has completed the compilation of voters lists in constituencies in townships based on voters lists from the 2015 General Elections.
2. The voters lists will be made available to the public at the ward/village election sub-commissions for 14 days from 9-7-2018 to 22-7-2018. Only if voters check their names on the lists on notice boards at respective constituencies will the voters lists be correct and perfect.
3. Hence, voters are urged to check their names on the list, and to demand for inclusion of their names by filling out Form 3 if they do not find their names on the list, and to make objections to the sub-commissions concerned if they find names which should not be included on the list, and to correct the list by filling out Form 4-c to correct mistakes on the list. Required forms are available free of charge at ward/village election sub-commissions. After completion of amendments, rejections and corrections in the voters lists, they will be made available to the public again for 14 days in October 2018 and voters can demand their voting rights, corrections and objections again during that period.
4. To get perfect voters lists, at least one member of a family of voters should check the voters list without fail.

Union Election Commission
(Unofficial Translation)

Film studio project in Nay Pyi Taw brings investment opportunities

UNION Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint has called for private businesses to consider investment opportunities in the film sector as the Union Government, ministries concerned and the Nay Pyi Taw Council have been working on establishing modern film studios in the capital.

Speaking at a ceremony to show a documentary about establishing modern movie studios at the Motion Picture Promotion Division of the Information and Public Relations Department in Yangon, Dr. Pe Myint said the Ministry of Information has joined hands with people from the film business to step up efforts for development of Myanmar's movie industry, as the State Counsellor has expressed a desire for improvement of the art of motion pictures.

Promoting the socio-economic life of the people of the country's movie industry, their creativity and boosting investment in the movie industry are parts of the development of Myanmar motion picture industry, he said.

High quality products of the motion industry can attract the interest of local people and neighbouring countries as well, and the country's image can be



Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint gives some instructions for a film studio project in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO:MNA**

improved through the movies, he added. Afterwards, the documentary by director Zaw Myint Oo about the strong points for using Nay Pyi Taw as a location for shooting a movie was shown.

Next, Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Min Thu and Deputy Director-General of the Myanmar Investment Commission U Thant Sin Lwin spoke about assistance for establishing modern studios and investment opportunities in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the meeting, suggestions on establishing movie studios, cinemas, and film schools were made by chairman of the Myanmar Motion Picture Organisation U Zin Waing, Secretary U Nyi Nyi Tun Liwn, Director U Zinyaw

Maung Maung, Director Maung Myo Min, Daw Swe Zin Htike and Patron of Myanmar Motion Picture Organisation Director U Soe Moe, Managing Director of Mingalar Company Ltd and Mingalar Zaw Film Production U Zaw Min and Script Writer U KoKo Lay. The efforts for establishing modern movie studios are also aimed at entertaining the people who visit Nay Pyi Taw and to develop Nay Pyi Taw.

Learning from foreign countries which are famous for their movie industries, plans are being formed to establish a park for a movie studio and film schools, and a cinema-based entertainment city.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Stake driving ceremony held for Myanmar Medical Association (Central) Training Centre

A stake driving ceremony for a Training Centre to be constructed by the Myanmar Medical Association (Central) was held in the compound of the Myanmar Medical Association (Central), Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon, yesterday morning.

The Training Centre is being constructed with an aim to train, inform and disseminate the ever changing and progressing medical information and experiences to the medical community. Stakes were driven and

scented water sprinkled by the Myanmar Medical Association Vice Chairman Dr. Khin Pyone Kyi, Secretary Professor Dr. Htin Aung Saw, Treasurer Professor Dr. Mya Thida and officials from Ah Yone Oo (Dawn) Company. The Training Centre is a five-story building that includes a skill lab and lecture halls and is being constructed at a total cost of Ks1,029.2 million with funds from the Myanmar Medical Association and donations, it is learnt. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Wife of Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye (left), drives the stake at the stake driving ceremony for MMA Training Centre. **PHOTO:MNA**

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Yankin Township, Yangon, Myanmar.

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Food safety a top priority for Myanmar

WE strongly believe that improving food security and nutrition requires accessing food systems, not merely in terms of the quantity of production, but also in terms of its quality, access, diversity, equity, safety, resilience, and more.

Myanmar's food systems must become not only economically sustainable, but also socially and ecologically sustainable.

EuroCham Myanmar said on Thursday that food safety is a major concern for Myanmar.

In 2017 and 2018, several studies indicated inadequate food safety standards. A research team of the Department of Medical Research tested 84 BBQ fish vendors in the Yangon Region and found that 27 per cent of the fish contained the *Vibrio* bacteria, according to the study. *Vibrio* is a food-borne bacteria commonly found in undercooked seafood.

Another study by the regional government in Yangon showed that 93.5 per cent of red bean cakes sold in the markets were laced with formalin.

Also, the Agrobusiness Advocacy Group of EuroCham highly recommends having updated laws and standards in place and making them work in practice, which entails enforcement, controlling mechanisms and raising awareness.

When food safety standards, practices and enforcement of these standards are put into place, this will enable food enterprises to improve efficiency and cut costs, contributing to a stronger brand value and enabling Myanmar to diversify opportunities in new markets.

In 2016, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) stressed the urgency to provide technical training to the staffs of management agencies at various ministries, covering specific areas, such as food safety, sanitation, good hygiene practices, and good manufacturing practices.

Also, the Agrobusiness Advocacy Group of EuroCham highly recommends having updated laws and standards in place and making them work in practice, which entails enforcement, controlling mechanisms and raising awareness.

To conclude, investment in food safety management systems is a prerequisite for the growth of agribusiness, which accounts for 38 per cent of the gross domestic product and 23 per cent of the country's exports.

Small-scale research done in the Inle lake region at the beginning of this year discovered that 75 per cent of the vegetable samples in both villages and markets had pesticide residue. Food safety has not only impacted on the social well-being of Myanmar's citizens, it also influences tourism, the economy and the development of the country.

From an international perspective, Myanmar and its Southeast Asian neighbours are seen as countries with minimal and limited food safety standards.

In the Economist Intelligence Unit's 2017 Global Food Security Index, among 113 countries, Myanmar ranks 71 for quality and safety.

This is lower than Thailand, Laos and India, according to the World Health Organization report.

Bogyoke's loyalty, loving kindness and benevolence

By Maung Sein Ei (Na Bai Myay)

IT is with much sorrow and sadness to remember that Bogyoke Aung San and Arzarni leaders were assassinated by the henchmen of imperialists 71 years ago on 19 July.

Many years have passed, but all the people remember these martyrs in their hearts.

With tremendous courage, they sacrificed their lives for the independence of the country. Bogyoke Aung San devoted his whole life for his country. Through his efforts, the country regained independence from the imperialists.

Unique person

Despite his late enrollment to school, he was a brilliant young man and passed the matriculation examination from Yenangyoung in 1932. As a university student he studied hard, and at the same time he eyed the political developments of the country and world affairs. He organised his fellow students and founded the Students' Union under the watchful eyes of colonialists, and fought against the colonial university law.

Formation of the Tatmadaw

On 8 August 1940, he left the country with Thak-hin Hla Myaing with the aim of forming the Tatmadaw to liberate the country. In 1941, he returned to the country with an independent plan and secretly teamed up with patriotic youths. The courageous team was later known as the 'Thirty Comrades'.

After acquiring military training in Hainan Island, they entered Bangkok, Thailand on 27 December 1941 and formed the Burma Independence Army (BIA).

This article is an attempt to recall, remember and cherish all the 'loyalty, loving kindness and benevolence' of Bogyoke that he enveloped over the nation and the people during the independence struggle for the future generations.

Crush the nearest enemy

On 17 March 1947, Bogyoke Aung San made a speech on the brutality of Japanese Forces towards the people at the open space (now Resistance Park) situated at north-west of Shwedagon Pagoda. He said that they were going to war right now, and that they would face hardship and difficulties. He added that they must show courage and obey orders. He further vowed to step forward to the war with the soldiers to attack the enemy of Myanmar, and to crush the nearest enemies.

It was a short speech, but valuable and precious for the Tatmadaw of today.

The words of Bogyoke to inspire the soldiers before they engaged in war strengthen the resolve of Myanmar people to this day.

Enemies must not be ridiculed

When the Tatmadaw was driving out Japanese forces from Myanmar soil, the British forces kept coming onto our lands. At that juncture, some Myanmar officers had a high impression on the British forces, and eventually ignored their Tatmadaw tasks. Of the situation, Bogyoke Aung San gave words of advice at Tha Yet Chaung Village on 11 May 1945.

Bogyoke reminded those gathered that the ini-



tial minor wins were not to be taken as big victories and not to get "high-minded". The enemies must never be belittled and underestimated. He warned them to always keep that in mind.

Fighting war for independence

On 19 August 1945, Bogyoke made a speech at the Nay Thu Rain Meeting, clarifying the aims and tasks of the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League (AFPFL), and they were depicted as follows:

Bogyoke pointed out that he and his Tatmadaw-men were engaged in the war, fighting against the enemy, without getting a single dime, no uniform, no medicine, and not even enough arms or ammunition. He said it was not for personal gain, and added that with all the hardship, they were fighting for the independence of the country and for the masses of the nation. The words that he spoke were most decisive for the country, to be emulated by all.

Need to unite

In August of 1954, a time of Myanmar's independence struggle, Bogyoke urged and advised the political parties and political leaders to unite. He pointed out that the difficult situation could be redressed in a peaceful atmosphere if the people and the leaders were united. Bogyoke and the Tatmadaw also believed in this concept. He highlighted the importance of unity, which is reflected in the needs of the current situation in the country.

Meaning of politics

At this point, the author would like to recall the speech of Bogyoke delivered on 20 January 1946 at the Shwedagon Pagoda. Bogyoke clarified that politics was not a dirty game, but some persons entered into politics and did filthy and grimy jobs. Politics was the business of human beings, and that our daily household chores regarding food, clothing and shelter were all included in the political sphere. These valuable words of Bogyoke are still competent, fit and appropriate.

On 20 October 1946, in the backdrop of purging

the Communist Party from the AFPFL, Bogyoke called out to those who wanted to work in politics, and said he engaged himself in politics not to boost himself. He candidly said that he was fighting for the masses of the country. He said that he would be able to have something to eat by entering politics, but working in politics was at a loss. These words were valuable, and should be emulated by the new generation.

Politics never descends from the sky above

On 4 February 1947, Bogyoke delivered a speech, saying that independence was not a matter to beg for, and that it never comes down from the sky. He said that they went to Britain as a strategic maneuver to acquire independence for the country. With this speech, he convinced the public.

At different occasions and events, Bogyoke spelled out concept, notion and perception as he deemed fit.

Regarding the collective performances, he delivered a speech on 11 February 1947 at the Panglong Dinner by saying that unity was very important and that the national races such as Bamar, Kayin, Kachin, Chin and other nationalities should not be split in their activities, but must work in unity and union. This concept is sorely needed today.

Bogyoke went to Britain and signed the Aung San-Atlee Agreement and clearly pointed out on 28 February 1947 that whether this was the right or wrong would be decided by history. He said that the leaders must have the guts to tell the people what one believes and what one has done. The notion of telling the truth is still the right decision until today.

Regarding the matters of conspirators in the Parliamentary election, Bogyoke on 5 April 1947 warned through a radio broadcast to the rogues and rascals not to turn the country upside down. If they dare disrupt the process, the scoundrels would be crushed by the strongest force. That was

a showdown to protect the interests of the country and the people.

In connection with fake news, Bogyoke declared that he would never tolerate fake news. On 17 April 1947, he delivered a Myanmar New Year speech where he warned of unfair and unjust agitation by the opposition forces. Bogyoke also warned the media never to tarnish the image of the government and not to spread fake news.

At different places and different times, Bogyoke unveiled his views in strongly worded statements for the country.

In April 1947, after visiting his native town Nat-mauk, he said that he would rule the country with loving kindness and loyalty. He added that with courage, loyalty and integrity they would succeed against all odds.

On 19 May 1947, Bogyoke clarified the true essence of democracy. He said that the people have elected the government with a view to solve the conflicts and problems, but after being elected the government grabbed power and remained above the people. The elected government must serve the interest of the people; otherwise, it was not a democracy. These are the words from which we must take lessons.

With regard to national unity, Bogyoke delivered a lengthy speech on 13 July 1947. He said that independence means that whatever the task being undertaken, for one individual or for the whole nation, the act must never hurt or deter another person. That was the essence of independence. If we do not want to shoulder the responsibility of independence, then our independence would be lost. Whoever ruled the country, if there is no unity among the national races, and on the other hand, if the unity is faded among the citizens, then the nation would be like a 'whore country' that needs to satisfy others.

The words of Bogyoke encompassed 'loyalty, loving kindness, and benevolence' that enveloped the whole country. If the people and the new generation embrace this guidance, we may have the positive outlooks and the moral strength in building the union peace and the future democratic federal union.

The future is in the hands of the new generation. Bogyoke Aung San devoted his whole life in hard struggle to regain independence of the country. During a 32-year lifespan, he sacrificed his life and at the same time he spread day and night most valuable themes to the people such as that of thought, theory, view, viewpoint, opinion, feeling, outlook, belief, judgment and evaluation.

In conclusion, the author of this article would like to sum up that these are the words embedded with loyalty, loving kindness, and benevolence. If and when the people of the country accept, abide and apply these concepts, the future of Myanmar society would be in eternal unity with prosperity and happiness.

Translated by UMT (HK)

Appointment of Head of Department confirmed

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of U Ko Ko Aung as Managing Director of the Myanma Pharmaceutical Industrial Enterprise, Ministry of Industry, on expiry of the one-year probation period.— Myanmar News Agency

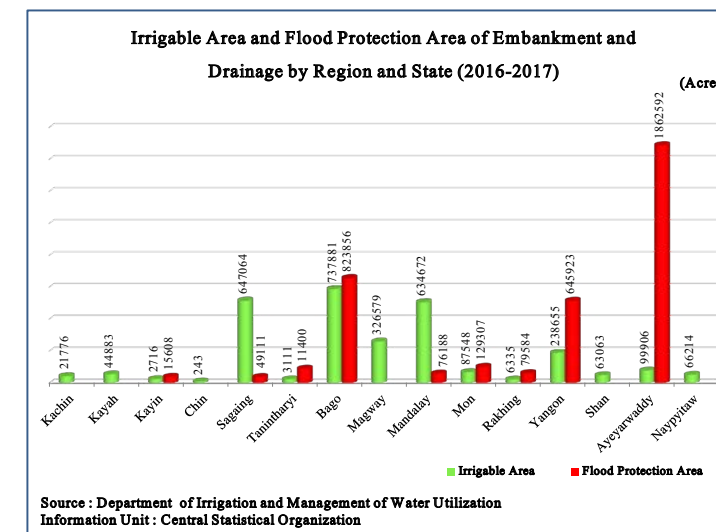
Foreign and domestic press registration for the third session of Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong

THE third session of the Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong will take place at the Myanmar International Convention Centre – II in Nay Pyi Taw from 11 to 16 July.

Foreign and domestic journalists attending the conference can register at the Ministry of Information's website www.moi.gov.mm by clicking on Union Peace Conference – 21st Century Panglong (Third Session) and filling out the ME-

DIA REGISTRATION FORM. Registration ends at 4pm on 9 July. Press passes can then be picked up at the Ministry of Information on 10 July between 10am and 4pm.

Foreign journalists are required to apply for a visa at the nearest embassy. For further questions, contact the News and Periodicals Enterprise by phone at 067-3412125 or 067-3412126.— Myanmar News Agency



Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

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

Chinese cartoon series with Myanmar dubbing to be broadcast in August

A ceremony to introduce a Chinese cartoon series with Myanmar dubbing, jointly organised by Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) and Guangxi People's Broadcasting Station (GPBS) was held at the MRTV compound in Yangon yesterday afternoon.

The cartoon series is about a white-headed Langur and his animal friends in the mountains of Guangxi Province and is aimed at protecting and conserving the natural surroundings and the environment in the mountains.

At the ceremony, MRTV Director General U Myint Htway and GPBS Director General Mr. Fan Yi delivered messages of greeting and children conducted quizzes, drawing and painting.

Next, a review was conducted on the broadcasted Chinese series with Myanmar dubbing and prizes were given to two first place, four second place, six third place and 38 consolation prize winners. The first prize winners will undertake a five-day visit to Guangxi Province.

MRTV Director General U



Director-General of Guangxi People's Broadcasting Station, Mr. Fan Yi extends greetings at the ceremony of Chinese cartoon series introduction at MRTV in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO:MNA**

Myint Htway said the cartoon series is planned to be broadcasted in August. The series includes some 30 parts and is planned to be broadcasted roughly on Sunday mornings. As per the agreement, the Chinese series will be broadcasted for some three years. Movies with Myanmar dubbing are not broadcasted much, so in the beginning it might be awkward. But the elderly and youngsters who have

just learned to read may find it difficult to read subtitles, so this may be more convenient for them. The current cooperation agreement was to make Myanmar movies here and to broadcast them in China. We are discussing this. We have many interesting stories such as the Bagan era and Innwa era stories. They will be shown here, as well as there. We are still working it out, as it might be costly.

The agreement between MRTV and GPBS was signed in September 2013. As per the agreement, representatives from GPBS and MRTV conducted study tours from 2013 to 2015. An additional agreement was signed in March 2017 and a joint production agreement for Chinese movies was signed in June 2017.

GPBS Director General Mr. Fan Yi said this arrangement

was made to showcase popular cartoon series from China. The Chinese would like to know how the Myanmar people live, so Myanmar movies on how the Myanmar people live will be made here and shown in China with Chinese dubbing.

As per the agreement, some Chinese television series were already being broadcasted with Myanmar dubbing.—Nyunt Ko Ko ■

Headmaster killed in Madaya Township

A headmaster of Pwetaingkyaw village, Thekyaw village-tract, Madayatownship, Mandalay region, was killed on 5 July.

DawNyoNyo San, 60, of Pwetaingkyaw village, informed the village administrator and her relatives that U Tin Wan, her husband, 61, A headmaster

of Myitkauk BEPS, was found lying dead supine with bruises, open wounds and cuts under his left eye and upper forehead.

The MadayaMyoma Police Station filed a criminal case before launching an investigation into the incident.—Soe Kyaw Thu Htwe ■

Body found in Sanchenhmi Ward, Kyauktan

A body was found in a plot near Kyetkhatsu village, Sanchenhmi ward, Kyauktan, at around 12 a.m. on 4 July.

Policemen from Kyauktan Myoma Police Station, together with local authorities, acting on information rushed to the scene and identified the deceased as Ko Ko Maung, 27 years old, son

of U Barlar (Hindu/Buddhist) of Kyetkhatsu village. According to his family members and relatives, Ko Ko Maung was a heavy drinker and was missing since 1 July. The body was transported to Kyauktan People's Hospital and an investigation is ongoing to check for any foul play.—Kya San Myint (IPRD) ■

Video Business Scrutinizing and Supervisory Central Committee to fight video, film piracy

VIDEO Business Scrutinizing and Supervisory Central Committee held its 1/2018 meeting in Yangon yesterday, discussing amending license fee for video business, fighting piracy of videos and online piracy of video and films.

At the meeting held at the

Motion Picture Promotion Division of the Information and Public Relations Department of the Ministry of Information, U Ye Naing, Director-General of the IPRD U Ye Naing, in his capacity as the chairman of the central committee, made coordination between the

central committee and representatives of the region/state governments.

The central committee was reformed with nine members on 1st April, 2018 in conformity with the 1996 Myanmar Broadcasting and Video Law.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Director-General U Ye Naing of the Information and Public Relations Department delivers opening remarks at the meeting of Video Business Scrutinizing and Supervisory Central Committee. Photo: MNA

Two dead, five missing as heavy rain hits wide areas of Japan

TOKYO — Heavy rainfall continued in wide areas of Japan on Friday, leaving two dead and five missing due to landslides and swollen rivers in western prefectures.

The Japan Meteorological Agency forecast record amounts of rain through Sunday, warning of flooding, mudslides and lightning strikes.

Evacuation orders were issued for nearly 170,000 people in nine prefectures in the Kansai and other regions, including those affected by last month's strong earthquake in Osaka Prefecture, according to the Fire and Disaster Management Agency.

A man was confirmed dead after being found in a swollen river in Hiroshima Prefecture around 6 am. Kazuhiko Miyane, 59, is believed to have been washed away from near his house, police said.

A landslide struck some homes in Fukuoka Prefecture, around 7:30 am. Six people were rescued from the site, rescue workers said, adding they were trying to confirm information that a man and his wife, both in their 60s, had been buried alive.

The southwestern Japan prefecture asked the Ground Self-Defense Force to send members to assist with disaster relief.

A woman in her 50s went missing in Kyoto Prefecture, after leaving home in a car that was found in a swollen river around 2:40 am, according to lo-



Photo taken on 5 July 2018 shows wooden terraces on the bank of the swollen Kamo River following heavy rainfall in Kyoto, western Japan. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

cal authorities that said she was thought to be the other person confirmed dead.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told a press conference, "I want people to try to evacuate at an early stage and ensure their safety."

In the city of Kyoto, roads were inundated near a bridge in Arashiyama, a popular tourist spot, and the level of the Kamo River running through the city's central area was swollen.

A 69-year-old woman from Osaka said, "I have seen the Kamo River for more than 30 years while commuting to work but I have never seen it swollen to the extent that the walking trail along it was flooded. It is terrifying."

Sanyo shinkansen bullet train services in western Japan were partially halted from Thursday night due to heavy rain and the risk of mud flowing onto railway tracks in some

areas. But West Japan Railway Co. resumed operations Friday morning.

Many people were left stranded in train stations and lined up for taxis due to a number of cancellations caused by the heavy rain. Some shinkansen bullet trains were opened as temporary "hotels" for people who needed to stay overnight and about 420 people did so.

Atmospheric conditions have become very unstable as

warm and damp air is flowing into a seasonal front, potentially causing gusts and tornados, the agency said.

It warned of particularly heavy rain of up to 80 millimeters per hour with lightning on Saturday. In the 24-hour period through Saturday noon, 400 mm of rain is forecast in the Shikoku region, 300 mm in the central and southwestern Japan regions and 250 mm in the eastern and western regions.— Kyodo News ■

Fireworks explosions kill 24 in central Mexico

MEXICO CITY — At least 24 people were killed in a series of explosions Thursday at fireworks warehouses in the town of Tultepec in central Mexico, including rescue workers who died saving others' lives, officials said.

The initial explosion occurred around 9:30 am (1430 GMT), then spread to other warehouses just as police and firefighters began attending to the first victims.

Tultepec, a town of 65,000 people just north of Mexico City, is known for its artisanal fireworks -- and a history of deadly accidents.

"We deeply regret the deaths of those who were killed this morning in... Tultepec, including our firefighter and police

colleagues who lost their lives saving those of many others," read a tweet from the Red Cross in the state of Mexico, where Tultepec is located.

At least 24 people were killed -- including a minor -- and 49 wounded, officials said.

The victims included four firefighters and five police.

Hundreds of soldiers, police and firefighters deployed to the neighborhood of Xahuento, on the outskirts of the town, cordoned off a wide area around the smoldering workshops where the explosions occurred.

An anguished teenager was asking rescue workers for news about his father, a fireworks maker who worked in the area.

"I left school to look for him as soon as we heard about the

explosion. But they won't let me through and nobody is giving me any information," said Allan Osvaldo, 14.

Hours later, his father reappeared, badly shaken but safe.

"I was in my workshop when I heard the explosion. I ran out and was immediately enveloped in the cloud of smoke," said the father, 43-year-old Osvaldo Urban, his voice trembling.

"I'm so grateful to be OK."

'It rained fire'

An overpowering smell of gunpowder hung in the air, and occasional detonations could still be heard hours after the original accident.

Charred furniture and bricks hurled by the explosions could be seen lying in the grass,

even outside the ample security perimeter.

"I was having breakfast when there was a terrible blast. We left the house running and I saw a huge white cloud in the sky, as if it were going to rain -- except today it rained fire," said Alondra Perez, 62, who lives across the road.

Two badly damaged firetrucks were visible beside one totaled workshop, and a police officer told AFP an ambulance had been completely charred in one blast.

"People here insist on continuing to make fireworks. It's their tradition. But they don't gauge the consequences of these tragedies. It's infuriating, because our firefighter colleagues... end up dead saving

these people," he said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

History of accidents

Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto sent his condolences to the victims' families on Twitter and said the army and interior ministry were supporting the state rescue effort.

Authorities suspended all fireworks sales in the area.

State Interior Minister Alejandro Ozuna said an "exhaustive review" would be conducted of all workshops' permits.

"We know it's a way of life and a tradition, but we have to send the community the message, and they have to understand, that it must be regulated, for their own safety," he said.— AFP ■

Thai military diver dies as window for cave rescue narrows

MAE SAI — A former Thai navy diver helping to rescue a football team trapped inside a flooded cave died Friday as officials warned the window of opportunity to free the youngsters is “limited”.

The diver’s death raises serious doubts over the safety of attempting to bring the 12 boys and their football coach out through the cramped, waterlogged passageways of the Tham Luang cave.

But Thailand’s Navy SEAL commander indicated that rescuers may have little choice but to attempt the tricky extraction of the group, in the first official admission that they cannot wait out the monsoon underground.

“At first, we thought the children could stay for a long time... but now things have changed, we have a limited time,” Apa-

korn Yookongkaew told reporters.

A sombre mood has clouded the elation from earlier in the week, when the boys were found dishevelled and hungry but alive on a ledge several kilometres (miles) inside the cave.

Many of the boys -- aged between 11 to 16 -- are unable to swim and none has scuba experience, further imperilling any attempt to dive out of the cave.

Those risks were made all the more immediate by the death of the diver, identified as Saman Kunan, who passed out and perished while returning from the chamber where the boys are trapped.

He was part of a team trying to establish an air line to the chamber where the children are awaiting rescue.



Thai soldiers and police officers pay their respects as a Thai Navy plane carrying the body of Saman Kunan flies by. **PHOTO: AFP**

The Seal commander said oxygen levels in their shelter had dropped, but said a doctor was with the team monitoring their health.

‘Still have faith’

Chiang Rai depu-

ty governor Passakorn Boonyaluck delivered the “sad news” of the diver’s death to reporters massed at the entrance to the cave complex.

But Navy Seal commander Apakorn vowed the rescue bid will con-

tinue. “We lost one man, but we still have faith to carry out our work.”

Saman resigned from the Thai military in 2006 before working at Bangkok’s Suvarnabhumi airport, according to a post on the Thai Navy Seals

Facebook page, which said he was a triathlete and a “skilled and able diver.”

Tributes poured out across social media in Thailand.

Asked how the boys could make it out safely if an experienced diver could not, Apakorn said they would take more precautions with the children.

Even for expert divers the journey is an exhausting 11-hour round trip.

“It’s very risky (diving out). Think about it, a Navy Seal just passed away last night, so how about a 12-year-old kid,” said Rafael Aroush, an Israeli volunteer helping the rescue bid.

Officials vowed to investigate the death, and have sent the body to a local hospital for an autopsy. —AFP ■

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V DYANMIC OCEAN 01

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V DYANMIC OCEAN 01 are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of SPW-2 where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S RK SHIPPING &
TRADING PTE LTD.**

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V EF ELENA VOY. NO. (1833/1834)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V EF ELENA VOY. NO. (1833/1834) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7-7-2018 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.

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT
(S’PORE) PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V HUNSA BHUM VOY. NO. (422)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V HUNSA BHUM VOY. NO. (422) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/A.I.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 REGIONAL CONTAINER
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Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V OCEAN PROBE VOY. NO. ()

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V OCEAN PROBE VOY. NO. () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AIPT where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S BLPL SHIPPING LINE**

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CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (093N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (093N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.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 NEW GOLDEN SEA
SHIPPING LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

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Myanmar-born teen praised in Thai cave ordeal

By Thanaporn
PROMYAMYAI

BORN in Myanmar, raised by Christian teachers in Thailand, and now trapped in a flooded cave for 13 days, Adul Sam-on's unflinching politeness and startling ability to speak English is capturing hearts.

Images of the wide-eyed teen were beamed around the world when he was discovered alive with the rest of his young football team deep inside the Tham Luang cave.

He remains stuck in the bowels of the mountain as rescuers work out how to get the 12 boys and their coach out safely, a race against time with heavy rains expected to return soon.

"I'm Adul, I'm in good health," the rake-thin 14-year-old said in Thai in a video that emerged hours after the group was discovered, offering a traditional Thai "wai" greeting — trademark politeness, his teachers say.

"The first thing that comes to mind when I talk about him



This video grab taken from footage released by the Royal Thai Navy on 4 July 2018 shows Adul Sam-on, right, gesturing as he sits inside the Tham Luang cave in Khun Nam Nang Non Forest Park in Chiang Rai province. **PHOTO: AFP**

is his nice manner. He gives a 'wai' gesture to every teacher he walks past, every time," his instructor Phannee Tiya-prom at Ban Pa Moead School told AFP.

Adul is also being praised for his English skills in a country where less than a third of the

population speaks the language.

He was the only one able to communicate with the British divers that discovered the boys on Monday night.

"What day is it?" he shouted, telling the divers they were hungry, in footage broadcast around

the world after the agonising search for the boys.

Born in Myanmar's self-administering Wa region, young Adul — who also speaks Thai, Burmese, and Chinese — has been at the school since he was seven years old.

He left his family behind to get a better education in northern Thailand, but his parents still visit him at the Christian Church where he's been taken in.

Adul is among more than 400,000 people who are registered as stateless in Thailand, according to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) — though some estimates put their numbers at 3.5 million.

With no birth certificate, no ID card and no passport, Adul cannot legally marry, get a job or bank account, travel, own property or vote. Thailand has vowed to register all stateless people by 2024, but until then people like him remain stuck in legal limbo.

But he refuses to let his status hold him back. The passionate footballer also loves to play the piano and guitar, and is an accomplished student too. "He's a gem," school director Phunawhit Thepsurin told AFP. "He's good at both studying and sports... he's brought our school several medals and certificates from his achievements." ■

From vine to seabed, Spain's winemakers dive in

MADRID—With the aid of a small crane, Borja Saracho lowers five cages loaded with 2,500 bottles of white wine from a fishing boat into the Cantabrian Sea.

He then plunges into the sea wearing a wetsuit to check sensors that monitor temperature and water pressure around the precious load. "We are a winery," says the 44-year-old founder of Crusoe Treasure in the picturesque bay of Plentzia near Bilbao in Spain's northern Basque region.

Until several years ago this diving enthusiast did not even drink wine. Now he sells wines that have been aged underwater — a growing niche market — in Spain as well as in Belgium, China, Switzerland, Germany and Japan. "I have always been interested in sunken ships and hidden treasures," said Saracho, whose company has been in the market since 2013 and is the largest underwater winery in Spain.

Crusoe Treasure expects to sell 30,000 bottles of red and white wine this year, up from just 7,000 in 2017. The prices of its wines start at 58 euros (\$67.50)



Spain's Crusoe Treasure lowers cages loaded with bottles of wine into the sea where they remain to age in what has become a growing niche market. **PHOTO: AFP**

a bottle.

It is one of about a dozen firms that age wines underwater in Spain. Other firms which age wine underwater exist in Italy, France and Chile.

The underwater conditions — total darkness and constant temperature — are thought to accelerate the ageing process, adding complexity to the wine.

But it comes at a price — the

technique costs 25-70 percent more for the winemaker than ageing wine on land because of the logistics required.

Entrepreneurs are investing in this sector "thinking it is not a fad, but a technique that in the medium term can be very useful" and "add qualities to a wine that make it more attractive to the public," said Rafael del Rey, the director of the Spanish

Wine Market Observatory, an independent foundation.

Fresh, floral wines

Ageing wine under the sea, with its tides, currents and waves, can be "very rough" so it is best to work with "very robust wines", said Crusoe Treasure's chief oenologist, Antonio Palacios.

The company works with

wineries from different parts of Spain, and since it is not restricted by the system of geographical indications, or designation of origin protection linked to where a wine is produced, it can mix different strains of grapes from more than one region.

Most of the wines are stored first in barrels of the firm's partner wineries before they are transferred to bottles, which are closed with a special stopper and seal. The bottles then go 20 metres (65 feet) under the sea, where they rest for six to 12 months in metal cages. Over in the northeastern region of Catalonia, the Hotel Cala Joncols has since 2009 aged wines underwater.

It keeps them only six months underwater because "any longer and wine can lose its edge", said its sommelier Josep Lluís Vilarasau.

The hotel uses young and recently bottled wines which they store 17 metres underwater. One of its wines sells for 30 euros a bottle for the traditional earth produced version and 40 euros if it was underwater. —AFP ■

Let the Games begin: Netflix releases first Indian series

MUMBAI — Netflix's first original Indian series premieres on Friday as the US streaming giant battles with Amazon Prime for a slice of the country's fast growing on-demand video market.

"Sacred Games", an adaptation of Vikram Chandra's 2006 novel of the same name, stars Bollywood stalwarts Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Saif Ali Khan and Radhika Apte.

Analysts say the gritty underworld thriller sets a new benchmark for Indian-produced internet shows as providers seek to capitalise on the country's burgeoning number of smartphone users.

"Sacred Games" is probably the most high-profile content that has been made. Others have not been on the same scale," Girish Menon, who tracks media and entertainment for KPMG, told AFP.

Revenues from India's entertainment streaming industry are expected to be \$823 million by 2022, up from \$297 million in 2017, according to a PricewaterhouseCoopers report released this month.

Netflix, which is blocked in China, is investing millions in the world's second-most populous country to attract young consumers with access to cheap mobile data and an appetite for something different.

"India is seeing the biggest and fastest investment in content for any country we have launched in," said Erik Barmack, vice-president of international originals at Netflix.



Indian commuters walk below a poster of "Sacred Games", the Indian series on Netflix, in Mumbai. PHOTO: AFP

"Sacred Games" is also a punt that high-quality Indian content will prove popular overseas and forms part of Netflix's worldwide drive to produce programmes in many different languages, including Spanish and German.

The eight-part series — filmed mainly in Hindi — centres on the attempts of police officer Sartaj Singh, played by Khan, to capture mafia boss Ganesh Gaitonde (Siddiqui).

'Lust Stories'

"Sacred Games" is the first release of eight Indian series that Netflix has commissioned.

Last week the company announced it would adapt Salman Rushdie's multiple-award winning novel "Midnight's Children".

"Selection Day", based on

Aravind Adiga's novel about cricket and corruption, is also in the works.

"Sacred Games" follows Hindi-language movie "Love per Square Foot" and "Lust Stories", a collection of four short films, which both came out on Netflix this year.

Amazon has also released a host of original Indian content, including crime drama "Breathe" and several successful stand-up comedy shows.

Experts say producing high-quality programmes in Hindi and regional Indian languages is essential if Netflix and Amazon are to make up ground on market leader Hotstar.

"One needs to have local content. It's a given," Frank D'Souza, a media and entertainment analyst with PwC in Mumbai, told

AFP.

Hotstar dominates India's streaming landscape owing to its huge catalogue of entertainment and movie channels owned by Star India, many of which are free to view.

It also streams live cricket and English Premier League football.

A yearly subscription for all content costs 999 rupees (\$14.55), the same as an Amazon Prime membership.

Netflix's India subscriptions start at 500 rupees a month, something that experts say currently restricts its appeal to well-off Indians.

"A challenge for Netflix is that their price points are significantly more expensive than anybody out there. That means their user size is very small at

the moment," said Menon.

Free from censorship

India's mobile entertainment market is a crowded one — other players include Eros Now, Jio TV and ALTBalaji. Turning a profit is difficult with many platforms offering the same stock of movies and TV shows.

Netflix and Amazon have signed deals with Bollywood megastars Shah Rukh Khan and Salman Khan respectively to secure the rights to their films, setting themselves apart from their competitors somewhat.

Industry watchers also expect the US duo to try to snap up subscribers by producing bolder content.

India's over-the-top (OTT) media providers, as streaming sites are known, are not subject to the country's notoriously stuffy censor boards which regularly cut scenes from films at the cinema and on TV.

"The content that appears on television is very homogenous. It's typically soap operas aimed at women. We can expect slightly edgier, differentiated new-age type content on OTT platforms," said KPMG's Menon. Netflix, which has 125 million subscribers in 190 countries, will be hoping that "Sacred Games" and its other Indian dramas will become global hits like blockbuster shows "Narcos" and "Stranger Things".

"Netflix is trying to create original content which can travel across the world," Menon said. — AFP ■

Actor James Woods says dumped by agent over politics

NEW YORK — US actor James Woods, one of the rare Hollywood celebrities to openly support President Donald Trump, has been dumped by his talent agent — apparently over politics.

The Emmy Award-winning actor shared on Twitter the email he received from Ken Kaplan on Independence Day, informing him he no longer wished to represent him.

"It's the 4th of July and I'm feeling patriotic," wrote Kaplan, whose list of clients includes "Twilight" star Kristen Stewart. "I don't want to represent you anymore. I mean I can go on a rant but you know what I'd say."

Woods, 71, who described

Kaplan as a "political liberal," included his response on his Twitter feed.

"Dear Ken, I don't actually," he wrote. "I was thinking if you're feeling patriotic, you would appreciate free speech and one's right to think as an individual."

"Be that as it may, I want to thank you for all your hard work and devotion on my behalf. Be well." The twice Oscar-nominated actor, known for his roles in "Salvador" and "Casino," has drawn attention for his support of Trump and has previously complained about being black-listed by Hollywood because of his conservative views.—AFP ■

Ariana Grande responds to Pete Davidson's Manchester bombing joke

LOS ANGELES — Ariana Grande has responded to the controversy over her fiancé Pete Davidson's joke about the Manchester bombing during her concert last year.

The blast at Grande's Manchester Arena concert on 22 May last year had left 22 dead and hundreds injured. The 25-year-old singer has admitted to suffering from PTSD following the incident.

At a stand-up benefit show at the Laugh Factory in Los Angeles last year, Davidson had reportedly joked that Grande became famous only after the bombing, adding,

"Britney Spears didn't have a terrorist attack at her concert."

Ever since reports of Davidson's joke resurfaced last week, the 24-year-old comedian has been subject to severe criticism.

Responding to a fan, who had criticised Davidson's joke, Grande admitted that the entire incident had been "very tough and conflicting" for her.

But she defended her fiancé and wrote, "He uses comedy to help people feel better about how f**ked up things in this world are. We all deal with trauma differently. I of course

didn't find it funny. It was months ago and his intention wasn't and is never malicious but it was unfortunate."

Following the incident, Davidson's representative told Metro that for the comedian, "no subject is off limits and that includes jokes about his father and 9/11."

Davidson had lost his father, a firefighter, in the 9/11 terrorist attack. Grande and Davidson got engaged last month after dating for a few weeks. Grande's new album "Sweetener" will release on August 17 and includes a song titled 'Pete'. —PTI ■

Steeped in history but crumbling, Albania's 'slanted city'

GJIROKASTRA—The Lolomani dwelling, formerly the home of the Ottoman period family of that name, was once an impressive sight in the mountainside town of Gjirokastra in southern Albania.

Now the house lies in ruins, like dozens of others in the "City of Stone", defined by its castle, steep cobblestone roads and silvery-coloured limestone structures with views of the Dri-no Valley near the border with Greece.

Many of the centuries-old, fortified buildings, which won the town a place on the prestigious UNESCO World Heritage List in 2005, are a tourist attraction but at risk of disappearing.

Some are deserted or have not been maintained for years, others underwent changes that have destroyed their historic value, or have too many owners to agree on the necessary work or too poor to do it.

Authorities in the Balkan nation don't have the means to restore them either.

"I feel pain for every stone, every wall that is getting damaged," sighs Email Nacaj, a 58-year-old house painter, who remembers the collapse of the Lolomani house in winter 2016.

Below, the roof of his own house has half fallen in.

"I'm scared here, but my mother does not want to leave," he says. Even if he had the money, he couldn't do anything -- his cousin, who lives in the capital, Tirana, and is a co-owner, refuses. Out of 615 monuments in the town's historic centre "more than half are subjected to illegal or out-of-context constructions, while 169 are in critical condition or at risk of collapse," warned Europa Nostra, a pan-European federation of heritage NGOs, early this year.

'Once upon a time...'

Most of the buildings date from the 17th and 18th centuries, although the town's origins go back further and its walls were built in the 3rd century.

Albania's most famous writer Ismail Kadare famously described his native Gjirokastra as the "slanted city, set at a sharper angle than perhaps any other city on earth".

"It was surely the only place in the world where, if you slipped and fell in the street, you



Albanian Culture Minister Mirela Kumbaro insists Gjirokastra "is no longer in danger" and that the government has taken the problem in hand. **PHOTO: AFP**

might well land on the roof of a house," he wrote in his 1971 novel "Chronicle In Stone".

Massive emigration has compounded the buildings' fate, as Gjirokastra has not been immune to the trend plaguing Albania.

The town's population has dropped from 34,000 in 2011 to less than 25,000, according to Engjell Seriani, head of tourism at the town hall.

Its houses are named after their original owners, dignitaries of the Ottoman Empire such as Lolomani, Karaulli, Fico, Zeko, Babameto, whose power was measured by the number of chimneys on their homes.

Today, Sokol Karaulli, a descendant of one of those noble families, says his way of life is a far cry from the ostentation of his home's substantial five chimneys. A former soldier but not yet eligible for his pension, he says they only survive thanks to the salary of his pastry chef wife.

"The day when we will say 'Once upon a time there was Gjirokastra' can happen," the 60-year-old warned.

Karaulli cut off the electricity on the first floor and placed plastic washing-up bowls to collect the leaking water that had already rotted the wooden frame of his crumbling house.

'Worsening daily'

Around the town's bazaar, the clean facades are down to a three-million-euro (\$3.5-million) restoration footed by an Albanian-US association and the World Bank. Small stalls tout souvenirs to tourists, 77,000 of whom visited the citadel last year. Their numbers grow 10

to 15 percent annually.

"However Gjirokastra is not only the bazaar and those emblematic places," said architect Lejla Hadzic, of the NGO Cultural Heritage without Borders (CHwB). Elsewhere, "the situation... is getting worse day by day," she told AFP. In 2014, the NGO had warned of the "rapid destruction" of the historic districts of the town, where Albania's former communist dictator Enver Hoxha grew up.

Of the 650 buildings it took into account, CHwB said that 40 were in a very poor condition, 34 were in ruins while 15 were on the verge of collapse.

Now, the number in ruins has gone up to 47, it says.

'Only one Gjirokastra in the world'

Today about 80 houses are uninhabited, raising the possibility that a leaky roof will affect the wooden structure.

"Every day, I see something that is wrong, as if the building is whispering to me to do something," said deputy mayor Vangelj Muco.

But with a total overall budget of 2.5-3.0 million euros, his municipality cannot tackle the issue properly. Albanian Culture Minister Mirela Kumbaro insists the town "is no longer in danger" and that the government has taken the problem in hand.

Since 2013 structural changes to Gjirokastra houses have been banned. She also has high hopes for a newly passed law on cultural foundations, as well as for tourism after the conversion of about 20 houses into hotels.—AFP ■

Idris Elba to play villain in 'Fast & Furious' spin-off

LOS ANGELES — Actor Idris Elba has been finalised as the villain in "Fast & Furious" spin-off, "Hobbs and Shaw".

The "Jungle Book" actor joins Dwayne Johnson, Jason Statham and Vanessa Kirby in the film, which will be helmed by "Deadpool 2" director David Leitch. The details of Elba's character have not been revealed as yet, according to *The Hollywood Reporter*. The film will focus on the characters Luke Hobbs (Johnson), a Diplomatic Security Service agent and Deckard Shaw (Statham), a criminal mas-

termind and an assassin. Chris Morgan wrote the script, making it his sixth instalment in the franchise. The movie is slated to be released on July 26 next year.

Neal H. Moritz will produce the project alongside Johnson, Dany Garcia and Hiram Garcia. Statham and Morgan will also produce with Kelly McCormick, Steven Chasman, Amanda Lewis, Ainsley Davies and Ethan Smith serving as executive producers. Elba, 45, was most recently seen in "Avengers: Infinity War" and he is shooting for Netflix comedy series "Turn Up Charlie". —PTI

First live-action film of Gundam anime in works

TOKYO — The first live-action film of sci-fi television animation series "Mobile Suit Gundam" will be co-produced with a US media company, Sunrise Inc., the Japanese creator of the franchise said Friday. Sunrise and Legendary Entertainment both made the announcement, but details such as the release date and starring actors are still yet to be decided.

It will be the first live-action film of Gundam since the original television series started in 1979, according to Sunrise, a group firm of Bandai Namco Holdings

Inc. Gundam has spawned a globally successful franchise including sequels, spinoffs, plastic models and video games.

The story revolves around characters piloting giant robots, known as "mobile suits," to fight battles in space and on Earth.

Hollywood production company Legendary, whose films include "Godzilla" and "Pacific Rim," is currently producing another live-action movie, "Detective Pikachu," based on Japanese animated series Pokemon. — Kyodo News ■



A statue of the Unicorn Gundam robot from the "Mobile Suit Gundam Unicorn" anime series is unveiled in Tokyo's Odaiba waterfront area on 23 September, 2017. The 19.7-meter-tall statue, weighing 49 tons, transformed itself into the Unicorn Gundam Destroy Mode, as it does in the anime. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

France beat Uruguay to reach World Cup semi-finals

NIZHNY NOVGOROD (RUSSIA) — France became the first team to reach the World Cup semi-finals as goals from Raphael Varane and Antoine Griezmann gave them a deserved 2-0 victory over Uruguay on Friday.

It is the first time France have been in the last four since 2006 and sets up a mouth-watering clash against either Belgium or Brazil, who play later on Friday, in St Petersburg on Tuesday.

France took the lead in the 40th minute from the unlikely source of defender Varane, who glanced home a fine header from an Antoine Griezmann free-kick.

It was only the Real Madrid player's third goal for France and represented redemption for Varane, who was largely blamed for the goal which saw France lose at the quarter-final stage to Germany four years ago.

Griezmann, who counts several of the Uruguay players as close friends, scored a second in the 61st minute, but it was mostly due to a howler from La Celeste's goalkeeper, Fernando Muslera.

The usually dependable stopper flapped at Griezmann's 20-yard shot and agonisingly saw the ball float over the line.

It was Griezmann's third



Fernando Muslera made a terrible misjudgement to hand France their second goal. **PHOTO: AFP**

goal of this World Cup, but his first not from a penalty.

That goal secured the victory but did not end the drama in Nizhny Novgorod, as Uruguay's frustration boiled over in the 67th minute when Kylian Mbappe fell to the floor.

Uruguay skipper Diego Godin gestured with the teenager to get up, then tried to pull him from the turf, sparking a me-

lee which involved most of the players and saw French coach Didier Deschamps come onto the pitch to try to calm tempers.

France's victory was merited as it was they who had the bulk of possession and always looked the most likely to score.

They might have scored as early as the 15th minute when Mbappe mistimed a close header.

The lightning-quick Mbappe and Griezmann struck fear into the Uruguayan defence all afternoon.

In midfield, France's N'Golo Kante and Paul Pogba snuffed out any potential threat posed by Uruguay.

And up front for La Celeste, Luis Suarez cut an isolated and agitated figure as his team desperately went in search of an

equaliser as Edinson Cavani was ruled out with injury.

Increasingly, Suarez vented his frustration with Argentinian referee Nestor Pitana, who, co-incidentally, was the official in charge of France's quarter-final 2014 defeat.

The Barcelona star was partnered by Cristhian Stuani after a week of will-he-won't-he speculation surrounding Cavani ended up with the Paris Saint-Germain striker failing to recover from a calf strain.

Without Cavani, Uruguay posed little threat.

A tight and nervy encounter to begin with, the game burst into life after Varane's goal.

Until that point Uruguay had struggled to get into the French penalty area, but within four minutes of the goal would have been level except for an exceptional save by Hugo Lloris.

The French skipper saved superbly with one-hand from defender Martin Caceres, whose header from a free kick look destined to go in.

Diego Godin could have scored from the follow-up, but that was the closest the South Americans would come to scoring all afternoon.—AFP ■

FIFA boss invites Thai cave boys to World Cup final

MOSCOW — FIFA president Gianni Infantino has invited the Thai boys' football team trapped in a cave to the World Cup final, as messages of support poured in from top players. Infantino said he hoped the Wild Boars team, who were stranded by rising floodwaters two weeks ago, would be rescued in time to watch the final in Moscow on 15 July. "If, as we all hope, they are reunited with their families in the coming days and their health allows them to travel, FIFA would be delighted to invite them to attend the 2018 World Cup final

as our guests," he wrote in a letter to the head of the Football Association of Thailand.

"I sincerely hope that they will be able to join us at the final, which will undoubtedly be a wonderful moment of communion and celebration."

The Thai footballers, aged 11-16, have been stuck in darkness deep underground after setting off to explore the cave with their 25-year-old coach after training on 23 June. The players remain trapped despite being reached this week by cave-diving rescuers, who released footage

of them looking emaciated but calm, some wearing football shirts. Their harrowing ordeal coincides with the World Cup in Russia and it has not escaped the attention of players.

"I've been speaking about it with a few of the boys," said England defender John Stones, according to British media. "It's so sad to see where they are and we hope they get out safe and sound." Japan's World Cup squad tweeted a video urging the team to "Hang in there!", while Brazil legend Ronaldo called their plight "terrible".—AFP ■

 FIFA WORLD CUP RUSSIA 2018 20:30 MST (7.7.2018)			
Sweden			England
00:30 MST (8.7.2018)			
Russia			Croatia
World Cup 2018 Results			
Uruguay	0 - 2	France	