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U Myint Swe
arrives in Bangkok

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donate offertories
to Members of the
Sangha in Mandalay

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Fully respect
rights of local
people in distress

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SECURITY TIGHTENED

Nine policemen killed, five injured, one missing in border attacks



The press conference concerning attacks on border posts in Rathedaung and Maungtau in Rakhine State in progress. PHOTO: MNA

VIOLENT armed attackers targeted three border posts in Rakhine State in the small hours of 9th October, killing nine policemen and injuring five, said Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win, Chief of the Myanmar Police Force. Eight attackers were killed.

At the press conference held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday evening, the Police Chief clarified that the attacks happened at three separate border posts. He said that the bodies of eight attackers were found. Two attackers were captured alive and one home-made pistol was seized along with two bullets and one cartridge of bullets, the police chief said.

The press conference came after a meeting between authorities and the State Counsellor in

Nay Pyi Taw. Officials said the meeting was to discuss the information to be released not to cause worry and panic among the people, according to Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint.

According to the clarification at the press conference, 62 assorted arms, 10,130 rounds of ammunition, one bayonet and 27 cartridges of bullets were taken by the attackers in the three attacks.

As the surviving attackers retreated, police and troops from the local battalion clearing the area found 13 more weapons that the attackers apparently discarded.

The authorities concerned have ordered troops to keep the area clear, provide the rule of law

and to recover the arms and ammunition seized by the attackers.

First attack on Kyikanpyin Border Post Headquarters in Maungtau Township

At about 1 am, approximately 10 men attacked the outpost in Maungtau Township. Six policemen fought back and seized one home-made pistol, two bullets and one cartridge.

After the first incident, another attack occurred at the central outpost of the headquarters around 1.50 am. Police at the outpost fought against approximately 90 attackers for about an hour. The attackers held high geographic position, which prompted police to move to a hill on the left side of the central outpost and gained an advantage.

The attackers withdrew around 4 am.

After the attackers withdrew, police inspected the area and found six dead policemen who had been stationed at hill No. 4. Their weapons had been taken by the attackers.

In addition to the accident, six police were killed and two injured and 51 arms and 10,140 bullets, one bayonet and 28 cartridges of bullets were taken away by the attackers.

Second attack on Kotankauk Outpost in Rathedaung Township

At 3 am, about 30 attackers jumped over the fence of the Kotankauk Outpost and attacked police with swords and spears. Ten policemen fought back, killing one attacker and capturing

two. The attackers withdrew at about 3.45 am. One policeman was killed and two injured. Two weapons were taken away by the attackers.

Third attack on Ngakhuya Office

As officers from the Ngakhuya Office reinforced police at the Kyikanpyin Headquarters to repel an attack earlier in the morning, about 50 men attacked the Ngakhuya office with swords, spears and home-made weapons. The police remaining at the outpost fought back before the attackers withdrew at around 5.45 am.

After the fighting, seven bodies of the attackers were found. Two policemen were killed, one injured and one policeman remains missing.

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Families of Tatmadaw donate offertories to Members of the Sangha in Mandalay

Families of the Tatmadaw donated dry ration and offertories to the Members of the Sangha at Ma-soeyin Monastery in Mandalay yesterday. At the ceremony, the congregation led by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received the Five Precepts and the Members of the Sangha recited parittas. Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife presented offertories donated by the families of the members of the Tatmadaw to the Members of the Sangha and shared the merits gained.

Following the ceremony, the congregation donated a day-meal to 442 Members of the Sangha. Yesterday's donation includes 20 bags of rice, 250 containers of edible oil, potatoes, onion and offertories and K5 million.

After the ceremony, the Commander-in-Chief visited Maha Withokedaryon Monastery in Mandalay and presented offertories to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Aggiya.—*Myanmar News Agency*



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife presenting offertories to a Sayadaw. PHOTO: MNA

POEM:

An Acronym for Red Rising Sun

* Aung: Victory
Sweeping, landslide;
With quite teary eyes,
All's dissolved into joy.

* San: Mystery
Metamorphosing
Bullets into flowers,
Foxes into lambs;
Doves flapping in open sky.

* Suu: Unity
Consolidation of brethren,
Strength of country,
Sheer solidarity,
Homogeneously fused.

* Kyi: Transparency
Unquestionable,
All through people,
Open-heartedly,
Being coequal.

* Aung Sun Suu Kyi:
Breaking of fresh dawn
Born with freedom –
Cum-circulation of one blood;
None but the red rising sun –
Our very days to come!

Tin Zaw Moe

Installation of traffic light control center to finish this month

MYANMAR Shweyin Co was given a warning by Yangon Region government about its delays in installation of a traffic light control center and replacement of old traffic lights in Yangon Region.

The authorities fined the

company K100,000 per day when the project failed to meet the deadline on 2 August. In accord with a new agreement, the company has to finalise all works no later than the last week of this month.

Under the project, 154 old

traffic lights across Yangon will be replaced with modern ones. A control center to ease traffic congestion in the city will also be built. Chinese technicians are providing their support to successfully complete the project.

The new project will use

state-of-the-art technology such as a power storage system, CCTV security cameras and voice signals for road users.

Authorities say the new project is expected to reduce traffic problems, including car accidents and traffic jams.—200

Singapore's condominium projects to be exhibited in Yangon

A REAL ESTATE sales event for condominium projects in Singapore is set to be held in Yangon this month.

The property expo, which is scheduled to take place on 22 October at Yangon's Novotel Hotel, will be organised by KAE

Alliance from Myanmar in partnership with Guoco Land, a public company listed on the Singapore Exchange.

During the event, the organisers plan to showcase the finished condominium projects including the 64-storey Wallich Residence

(District-2), the 15-storey Sim Urban Oasis (District-14) and Leedon Residence (District-10).

The first customer of each condominium will receive a two to three per cent discount of the value of the condo apartment. In addition, the customer will also

have an opportunity to observe apartments in Singapore under the arrangement of organisers, who will provide around K1.8 million transportation costs and other expenses for the buyers, said U Kyaw Min Zin, CEO of KAE Alliance.—200



Innwa Archaeological Museum being seen. PHOTO: AUNG THANT KHAING

Renovation of Innwa Archaeological Museum to be finalised within four months

RENOVATION of the Innwa Archaeological Museum, one of the tourist attractions in Mandalay, will be finalized within four months, according to the Mandalay branch of the Department of Archaeological Research and National Museum.

The authorities will spend around Ks77 million on the project.

The tender winner Hsu Latt

Pyae Company will start the renovation this month, said U Nyo Myint Htun, director of the department. The Innwa Archaeological Museum will close for the rest of the year in order for renovation work to take place, he added.

The two-hall museum houses artifacts and statues from the Inwa era, historical photos and maps.—*Aung Thant Khaing*

Yangon Book Plaza aims to reinvigorate book market

YANGON BOOK PLAZA is planned to be launched in early 2017 with the aim of reinvigorating the country's book market, according to a spokesperson of the Ngadoesarpay publishing house.

To promote mutual benefits

between buyers and publishers, the book plaza will be opened in Thanzay (Iron Bazaar) in Lanmadaw Township in Yangon, planning to display a wide variety of books on sale at a fair price, said U San Mon Aung of Ngadoesarpay.

Local publishers' bookshops, old bookshops, memorial spaces of famous Myanmar authors, spaces for books chains, office and coffee shops will be included in the new plaza.

Since the start of construc-

tion in April, the plaza is over 50 per cent complete, with plans to be finalised in January. The plaza will be the largest book mall in the country and will also host book festivals and related events, the project implementer said.—200

Ayeyawady Bank visits workplaces for credit card services

CREDIT CARD service has been provided by the Ayeyawady Bank to office staff at their workplaces in Yangon after the bank received a high number of requests.

The bank's service providers have made field trips to the customers' workplaces since the third week of September.

Credit cards are a convenient way of borrowing money to pay for goods and services. Credit card holders may purchase goods and services online and in stores and restaurants.

No initial deposit is required to receive the card, and there are no fees. The customer only needs to apply by providing a copy of household registration, recommendation letters from police and a ward administrator and a copy of the national registration card.

The loan amount from a credit card can be up to 3.5 times the user's monthly income.

There are three types of credit cards, recognisable by colour. The bank grants a platinum credit card to users who have a minimum monthly income of K2 million. Applicants with a minimum monthly income of K500,000 will receive a gold credit card and candidates with a minimum monthly income of K150,000 will get a silver card.

Credit card service is also available at Co-operative Bank, Myanmar Oriental Bank, Kanbawza Bank, Myanmar Apex Bank, and Asia Green Development Bank.—200

Vice President U Myint Swe arrives in Bangkok

VICE President U Myint Swe left Yangon to attend the Second Asian Cooperation Dialogue and arrived in Bangkok yesterday afternoon.

The vice president was welcomed at the Suvarnabhumi International Airport by the minister of labour of Thailand, Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Win Maung and officials.

Later, the vice president and

party visited the Emerald Buddha Temple and toured the ancient palace.

In the evening, the vice president attended a dinner hosted in honour of heads of state and wives of members of the ACD by the Prime Minister of Thailand General Prayuth Chan-ocha and wife at the convention hall of Thai Royal Navy.

— Myanmar News Agency.



Vice President U Myint Swe is welcomed by Labour Minister of Thailand at Suvarnabhumi International Airport. PHOTO: MNA

Nine policemen killed, five injured, one missing in border attacks



Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint.



Chief of Myanmar Police Force Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win.



Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin.



Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population U Myint Kyaing.

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Concerning the question on name of the organization that launched simultaneous attacks on various police posts, the chief of Myanmar Police Force said that authorities had detained two violent attackers and the process is underway to release the name of the organization based on interrogations of them at an appropriate time. In addition, he said that the Tatmadaw would cooperate with the police to relieve the concerns of local people, and troops were being mobilized with helicopter to block and arrest the fleeing attackers. Security has also been tightened in the area, according to the police chief.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin responded to questions concerning the ways and means of dealing the issue with a neighbouring country. He said that the police have launched an investigation into the attacks according to the law and have been chasing the violent attackers in

cooperation with the people and the Tatmadaw. If firm evidence of the involvement of another country, the government would discuss the issue with the Bangladesh ambassador but no involvement could be proved. If involved the government would invite the ambassador and ask for cooperation, he added. However, authorities are still waiting for evidences and such arrangement could take place sooner, he said.

As for the question on prevention of communal conflicts in Rakhine State, Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint said that one of the reasons to hold the press conference was to prevent such conflict based on rumours by releasing correct news as soon as possible. He also expressed his hope that the conflicts would not escalate further and the people would cooperate with the government to maintain stability, one of the foundations of the nation.

The police chief replied to question why the number of police

deployed there was not enough. He said authorities have deployed the largest number of police in Rakhine State compared to other states and regions with an emphasis on security of the state. He added that the Ministry of Home Affairs is taking necessary measures to enhance security by mobilizing troops by helicopter. In addition, he said that Rakhine State had been divided into operation zone and security and law enforcement zone and Tatmadaw were mobilizing only in the operation zone and Tatmadaw troops were not normally deployed in the security and law enforcement zone.

Director of Maungdaw District General Administration Department U Ye Naing clarified that authorities have imposed curfew on the whole district.

In conclusion, the police chief said that there were loopholes in information gathering although the police and Special Branch of the police had gathered information in cooperation with the public.

Asked about situation of migration in the border area, Permanent Secretary U Myint Kyaing said the ministry has established four branch offices in the border in Rakhine State with 252 employees. There were 30 employees of the ministry's Immigration and Population Department in the areas where attacks happened. There are 11 local offices and 26 camps in remaining areas to carry out immigration work.

The Permanent Secretary said that the attackers ambushed the outposts at the time when they could not be seen by others. He continued to say the employees of the ministry would tighten the security in cooperation with local police force.

In his answer to the question of what is the aim of the attacks and how the ministry is planning to discover the attackers who might be hidden among the villagers, Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win said there are several reasons behind the attacks. Recently, local police seized about six million of Yaba

pills in Maungdaw in September. He said the attacks might related to the drug trafficking according to the nature of the terrorism. The Police Chief also pledged that Myanmar Police Force would manage to arrest those who involved in the attacks and bring to the court in cooperation with local administrative bodies, leaders of the communities and religious leaders.

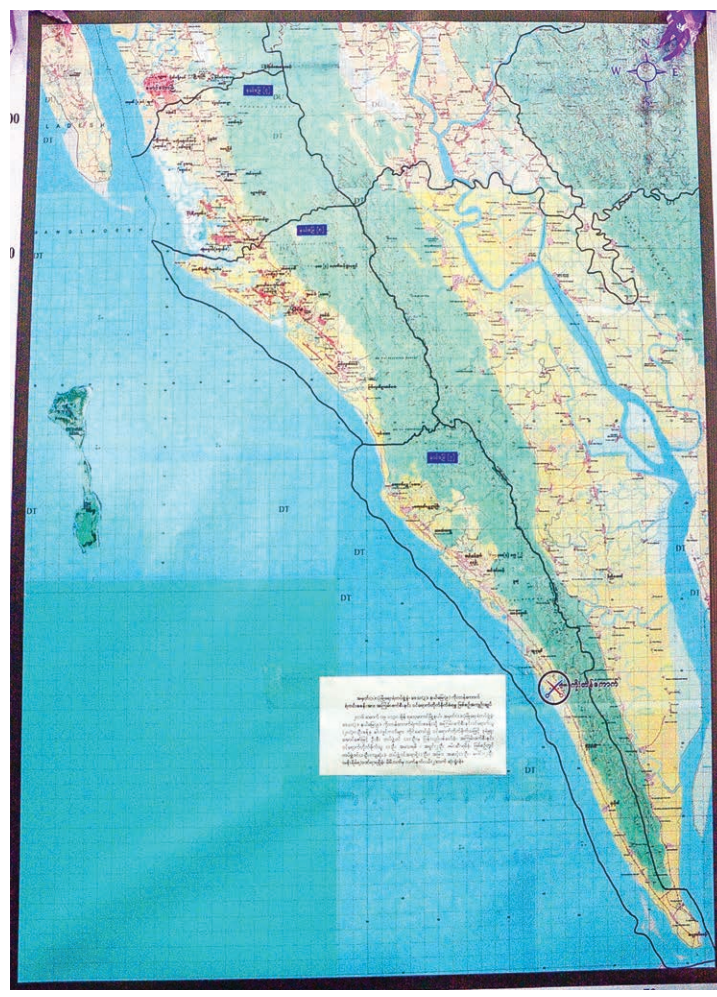
Measures are being taken to ease the tension between the two communities and to build trust between them, said Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin. He said that the violence coincided with the third committee meeting on human rights at the United Nations General Assembly, lifting of remaining US sanctions and announcement of EU not to submit

human right report on Myanmar. Those who wanted to highlights the issue of Rakhine State might be involved behind the scene, he added. Then he said that it was necessary for the government and the people to respond in accordance with the law or otherwise would be blamed by the international community.

In conclusion, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin urged all to react in accordance with the law as human rights report on Myanmar was scheduled at the third committee meeting at the UN, and he promised to discuss the issue in the speech at the UN in October.

The ministry will be in touch with the Bangladesh Embassy.— Myanmar News Agency

Map shows Kotankauk Outpost



KBZ to help boost investment in Myanmar with office in Singapore

KANBAWZA Bank also known as KBZ Bank, opened a representative office in Singapore on 6th October, its second overseas branch office following the launch of an office in Thailand.

The opening ceremony was held in the presence of Myanmar Ambassador to Singapore U Htay Aung, officials of the Monetary Authority of Singapore-MAS, Chairman of KBZ Bank U Aung Ko Win, the chairman of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chamber of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung, General Secretary of the Association of Banks in Singapore-ABS Ms Ong-Ang Ai Boon, Executive Directors of KBZ Bank Daw Nang Laung Kham and Daw Nang Kham Naung, senior officials of KBZ Bank and banks in Singapore, heads of international banks and monetary associations and guests.

"The opening of the representative office of KBZ Bank is aimed at assisting in boosting international investment in



General Secretary of Association of Banks in Singapore-ABS Ms Ong-Ang Ai Boon delivering a speech. PHOTO: THURA LWIN (Eco)

Myanmar," said U Nyo Myint, Senior Executive Director of the KBZ Group of Companies. "We also believe that an office in Singapore will help us

closely cooperate with home banks, international banks and monetary organisations in Singapore".

On behalf of the bank, U

Nyo Myint expressed his delight over opening the office in order to contribute to development of Myanmar's economy.

Before the dinner, Execu-

tive Director Daw Nang Kham Naung, Ambassador U Htay Aung, Ms Ong-Ang Ai Boon and U Wing Aung extended greetings to invited guests.

KBZ received permission to open the representative office in Singapore from the city state's Monetary Authority of Singapore on 15 July for its achievements in banking sector and corporate governance.

KBZ has also received permission from the Central Bank of Malaysia to open a representative office in Malaysia.

With more than 420 bank branches and more than 17,000 employees, KBZ provides banking services nationwide and topped the list of largest taxpayers for four executive years in Myanmar.

Since 2007, the bank's Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation has spent more than US\$109 million on philanthropic works, including disaster preparedness, resettlement and rehabilitation.—Thura Lwin (Eco)

US/MMK exchange rate on the move

THE US-dollar exchange rate to MMK experienced a fall from K1,300 in 2015 to K1,100 until last April but has risen to K1,260 again recently.

The rising US dollar exchange rate to MMK has led to higher prices for imported goods and local consumers have to buy imported commodities at higher prices but it is an opportunity for exporters and foreign investors, according to Chairman Dr Soe Tun of Myanma Vehicle Manufacturing and Imports Enterprise.

"Foreign investors now get 128 million MMK for their 100,000 US\$ but in the past they received only 110 million MMK. They are making 10 per cent more MMK for their dollar than they used to. The current US dollar exchange rate can attract foreign investment. Similarly, exporters get 10 per cent more MMK for their exports. It is an opportunity for them," he said.

"Major products of Myanmar are agricultural produces. During the rainy season, it is difficult to export agricultural produces and export volume drops. During the

last week of September, exports to China dropped as Chinese authorities seized commodities imported from Myanmar. Exports of pulses and beans to India also fell because the Indian market is closed. Timber export was also banned. Oil and gas prices in the

ing foreign investors.

Economic stagnation of the world economy and the Chinese economy also has an impact on the Myanmar economy, Dr Soe Tun added. Economists also pointed out that the Central Bank of Myanmar should change the illegal

Some economists pointed out that monetary stability is important for economic growth and attracting foreign investors. Economic stagnation of the world economy and the Chinese economy also has an impact on the Myanmar economy, Dr Soe Tun added.

international market have fallen sharply. As a result, Myanmar has imported more commodities than it can export and the exchange rate is rising," Dr Soe Tun said.

Some economists pointed out that monetary stability is important for economic growth and attract-

money remittance from Myanmar workers in foreign countries into a legal remittance system. If it continues to be an illegal market, it will negatively impact the economy, they said.

"About 4 million people from Myanmar are working abroad. The

CBM should arrange for them to remit their wages legally as soon as possible," Dr Soe Tun said.

Although 10 foreign banks have been licensed to operate in Myanmar, only foreign firms are allowed to open accounts with them and Myanmar companies have to open accounts at banks in Singapore.

"Budget deficits also cause the US dollar exchange rate to rise. To reduce the budget deficit, it is necessary to collect more taxes. Government ministries should help promote exports and reduce production costs for local entrepreneurs," Dr Soe Tun said.

"Merchants cannot sell their pulses and beans and have had to store their goods. They are losing because of falling prices. However, pulses and beans farmers have to buy fertilizers, pesticides and their other needs at higher prices due to higher US dollar exchange rates," said pulses and beans merchant U Soe Myint Win.

The US dollar exchange rate rose to its highest to 1,288 MMK on 4 October and fell again to 1,255 MMK now.—Min Thit

Mandalay to introduce wheel-locks

MANDALAY City is introducing a new system for vehicles that block other road users by double-parking or parking in restricted areas as of 15 October, according to U Win Maung, head of the Revenue Department of Mandalay City Development Committee.

Under the new system, car wheel locks will be placed on rule-breaking vehicles and the car owners behind the wheel will be liable to pay a fine ranging from Ks10,000 to Ks30,000, depending on the tonnages of the car. Those who are away from their cars will be liable to pay a fine of K 50,000. The system will take effect in 6 townships in the city area. In the past, authorities used tow trucks to haul away illegally parked cars, but the practice was deemed ineffective because a tow truck could only remove one car at a time. At present, authorities are informing motorists of the new system.—Aung Thant Khaing

Crime NEWS

Stimulant tablets and opium powder seized

MEMBERS of Hopon Township Police Force searched a motorbike driven by Kanna along with passenger Ma Nang Ong on Hopon-Mong Pyin Road and seized 1,170 stimulant tablets from them on 7 October while members of the Anti-drug Squad 34 searched Swan Htet Aung, who was standing in front of Kankaw

Store, and seized 61 g of opium powder from him on the same day.

This led to the arrest of Khin Maung Oo, who had allegedly given the opium powder to Swan Htet Aung.

Based on information gained during their interrogation, the members of the squad searched

the house of Ma Win Kyi at No 251, Manawhari 4th Street in Ayemayakantha Ward, Kawthaung and seized 2.38 kg of opium powder.

Action has been taken against all the accused under the Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances Law.—MPF



The criminal suspects seen together with the drugs seized. PHOTO: MPF

LOCAL Business

ZTE Corporation - Ready to Empower Myanmar E-government Initiative



ZTE Corporation (ZTE), as the world's leading telecommunication and G&E (Government and Enterprise) solution provider, participated as the "Gold Sponsor" in E-Government conference and ICT exhibition which were held on October 7th & 8th at Nay Pyi Taw MICC-2.

During the exhibition, ZTE experts presented integrated

E-government solution including: National Data Center, Public Safety Solution and E-office Solutions while showcasing its global experiences and successfully deployed solutions. The delegates led by Vice President U Henry Van Thio and other government officers firstly visited ZTE's exhibition stand, and had great conversation with

Mr. Li RuiYang (CEO of ZTE Myanmar) and expert team from HQ. Union Minister for Transport and Communication U Thant Sin Maung had deep conversation with ZTE regarding the national data center and other relevant E-government solutions.

ZTE provides 50+ comprehensive ICT solutions that cover Smart City, Green Energy, E-transportation, Smart Public Utilities and Cloud Solutions for Enterprises. These solutions have been successfully deployed in more than 40 countries. "We have successfully built the first

innovative government working model in Yin Chuan in China, which was given high praise by Chinese Premier Li Keqiang. "I believe we can learn from Yin Chuan E-government experience and build Myanmar-based E-government", said Mr. Li RuiYang. He noted that "Everyone knows that the construction of E-government would bring vitality and create opportunities to the nation and society, but it is not easy to achieve the goal for government without a professional partner. As one of the biggest and most professional M-ICT solution

provider, we would like to contribute our strength to help the development of Myanmar," Mr. Li said.

In Myanmar, ZTE has already facilitated major mobile operators to establish advanced mobile networks. With more than 15 years of local service experience, and more than a decade of global E-Government R&D experience, ZTE is dedicated to helping boost efficiency of Myanmar Government, enhance public life, & increase GDP of Myanmar while helping in E-government led initiative and digital transformation.



Garbage collection costs higher due to increased volume

WITH the volume of trash and waste in Yangon Region rising, garbage collection costs are also climbing, it is learnt from Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC).

According to a 2012-2013 garbage collection survey, the volume of waste disposal in

Yangon Region was over 1,500 tonnes a day. The volume rose to 1,600 tonnes the following year. According to the survey, each resident of Yangon annually generates 0.394 kilos of waste per day.

The areas designated to dump the garbage have been expanded due to the increased vol-

ume. Currently, there are 205.77 acres of land to handle the collected garbage in Htein Pin and Dawei Gyaung.

"The cost of garbage collection has become higher. We collect the disposed waste by hand-carts and trucks. A tonne of garbage costs Ks14,400 per year

and so, it costs Ks40 per day. For 1,000 tonnes of garbage, it costs Ks40,000", said an official from Department of Pollution Control and Cleaning under YCDC. Electric power will be generated from those areas where the collected garbage is piled, producing methane gas.—200

MNA kicks off Yangon-Gaya flight

Myanmar National Airline (MNA) is reported to launch its first destination flying from Yangon to Gaya, India with Boeing 737 on 8th October, with 164 passengers on board.

MNA introduced its new destination to facilitate the transportation for the local pilgrims visiting Bodh Gaya, where Gotama Buddha achieved enlightenment. Bodh Gaya is considered the holiest place in the world for followers of the Buddhist faith. The Mahabodhi Temple Complex

in the Gaya district in the Indian state of Bihar is a famous pilgrimage destination. During the 2016-2017 pilgrimage period, MNA will run Yangon-Gaya flights on Saturdays. There are plans to also fly on Tuesdays in November, December and January. MNA flies to 27 destinations across Myanmar and also to Hong Kong, Bangkok and Singapore.

MNA will soon begin flights to Chiang Mai, Thailand and will increase the frequency of evening flights to Singapore.—200



Pilgrims to Gaya seen at Yangon International Airport. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

MCB provides insurance for vegetable sellers and purchasers

MYANMAR Citizens Bank (MCB) will provide insurance for vegetable sellers and purchasers who ply their trade at the depots in various regions and states who have to deal with the problems and risks of an advanced purchase system, it is learnt from the Commerce Ministry. Advanced purchase has risks because there is always a possibility of loss. But the price of advanced purchase is always lower than the market price at harvest time, when the loans will be repaid.

The members of the depots will have to open an account with the Myanmar Citizens Bank. If they want to trade under insurance, both the sellers and purchasers have to each pay in 10 per cent of the trade value at the bank, which will issue the respective code number for them, it is learnt. The rules and regulations concerning the advanced purchase system has already been announced at the depots. —200

Philippines finance minister eyes Chinese investment, dismisses US flap

WASHINGTON — Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte will seek billions of dollars in infrastructure investments from China in the coming months as the country seeks to alter its relationship with Beijing, Philippines Finance Minister Carlos Dominguez said on Saturday. In an interview with Reuters, Dominguez dismissed concerns over the Philippines' investment climate raised by Duterte's blunt anti-US statements and a war on drug cartels that has killed thousands.

He described Duterte's recent comments telling US President Barack Obama to "go to hell," as a "bump in the road" in a century-long relationship with the United States that maintains deep

business and family ties.

"There are headlines and there are fundamentals. The fundamentals of the Philippines are rock solid," Dominguez said on the sidelines of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank meetings here.

With strong economic growth estimated by the IMF at 6.4 per cent in 2016 and 6.7 per cent in 2017, more foreign exchange reserves than foreign debt, strong banks and a young, relatively well-educated population, Dominguez said the Philippines was in a "golden moment" for attracting foreign direct investment. But Standard and Poor's said last month that the Philippines was unlikely to get a rating upgrade in the next two

years because of Duterte's unpredictability and uncertainty over his domestic and foreign policies.

Duterte's crackdown on drugs, core to a colourful election campaign likened to that of US presidential candidate Donald Trump, has claimed more than 3,800 lives since his 30 June inauguration. The high toll and mysterious circumstances of many killings have alarmed rights groups, the United States and the United Nations. "We believe this could undermine respect for the rule of law and human rights, through the direct challenges it presents to the legitimacy of the judiciary, media, and other democratic institutions," S&P said. On Tuesday, Duterte said Obama



Philippines Finance Minister Carlos Dominguez speaks during an interview with Reuters in Manila, Philippines on 3 June, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

can "go to hell" over refused arms sales and said that one day he would "break up with America" and align the Philippines more closely with China and Russia instead.

Dominguez said the US-Philippines relationship remained "rock-solid" due to longstanding family

and business links. "Now and then you have a spat with your partner, your friend, your wife. I think we will overcome those," Dominguez said. "It's a temporary thing, I think it's time to press the reset button here."

When Duterte visits

Beijing for the first time 19-21 October, he will discuss the potential for Chinese investment in a new railway linking Manila with rural southern Luzon, power grids and other projects. Dominguez said these projects would cost tens of billions of dollars.—Reuters

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India under pressure on HFCs as world seeks third climate accord

WASHINGTON — India will face pressure to speed up its plans for cutting greenhouse gases used in refrigerators, air conditioning and aerosols when governments meet this week to hammer out what would be a third key deal to limit climate change in a month.

About 150 nations meet in Rwanda, from 10-14 October to try to agree a phase down of factory-made hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) gases. US Secretary of State John Kerry will be among those attending.

A quick phase-down of HFCs could be a big contribution to slow climate change, avoiding perhaps 0.5 degree Celsius (0.9 Fahrenheit) of a projected rise in average temperatures by 2100, scientists say.

But India wants a peak in poor nations' rising

emissions only in 2031, to give industries time to adapt. More than 100 other nations including the United States, the European Union and African states, favor a peak in 2021.

"It really does matter how early the agreement kicks in," said Jake Schmidt, of the US Natural Resources Defence Council, which reckons India's proposal would add the equivalent of almost a year of global carbon emissions to the atmosphere.

"We must get enough time before the phasing out period starts. We are very clear," Indian Environment Minister Anil Madhav Dave said on 1 October, according to the *Times of India*.

Use of HFCs, which can be 10,000 times more powerful than carbon dioxide as greenhouse gases, is already declining in many rich nations.

An HFC accord would be the third big step this month to curb global warming after the 2015 Paris Agreement for a global shift from fossil fuels gained enough backing to enter into force and governments agreed a deal to limit emissions from aviation.

President Barack Obama, hailing the Paris Agreement at the White House last week, said HFCs and aviation would also help "build a world that is safer and more prosperous and more secure".

The US president has been keen to secure global climate agreements, meant to limit rising sea levels, droughts, floods and heatwaves, as part of his legacy.

Last month, 16 governments including the United States, Japan and Germany and private donors such as Microsoft

founder Bill Gates agreed an \$80 million fund to help an early phase down of HFCs, hoping to persuade developing nations to sign up.

Many industries are already moving.

"Unlikely as it may seem, a global HFC phase-down is backed both by leading environmental groups and the industry that makes and uses these chemicals," said Frank Maisano, of the US Air-conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute which represents companies such as Carrier Corp or Honeywell.

"We and many others in the industry have started to phase out HFCs. But the process is not completed," said Daniel Frykholm, spokesman for Sweden's Electrolux which wants to halve its greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 from 2005 levels.—Reuters

Australian, Briton arrested in Bali for possession of drugs

JAKARTA — An Australian and a Briton residing on the resort island of Bali have been arrested on suspicion of possessing hashish, an offense that can incur jail sentences of up to 20 years, Indonesian police said in a statement on Sunday.

Police found 7.32 grams of suspected hash-

ish at the residence of the 48-year-old Australian in Sanur. He led them to a 55-year-old Briton, who was found in possession of at least 10.09 grams of hashish, as well as a bong.

Both suspects has lived in Bali for five years according to the police.

Drug trafficking in In-

donesia carried a maximum death penalty, and the country has faced widespread international criticism for executions of drug traffickers, including those of a group including two Australians in 2015 which went ahead despite repeated pleas for mercy from governments and international activists.

"For sure, we are building this case further to find the big dealer behind the origin of this (drugs)," said Gede Ganefo, head of narcotics units of Denpasar police. The two suspects has violated a narcotic law which carries a maximum 20 year of prison, Ganefo said.—Reuters

Japan seeking return of US military land in Okinawa by year-end

NAHA (Japan) — A Cabinet minister in charge of Okinawa base issues told local officials Saturday that the central government is seeking the return of roughly half of a large US military training area in the island prefecture by year-end.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga's remarks over the return of land — within the US military's Northern Training Area in northern Okinawa — are viewed as a way for the government to demonstrate to local residents it is taking steps to ease Okinawa's base-hosting burden.

"(Japan) wants to negotiate with the United States to achieve the year-end return of the training area," Suga said during a meeting with the chiefs of the villages of Kunigami and Higashi where the training area is located.

A source familiar with the meeting, which took place in Okinawa's Nago, said it was the first time a high-ranking official from the central government had said the land would be returned "by year-end."

Suga conveyed a similar message to Okinawa Gov. Takeshi Onaga in a meeting in Naha. Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Suga said he told Onaga that the central government is



Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga (far R facing camera) holds a meeting with the chiefs of the villages of Kunigami and Higashi in Nago, Okinawa Prefecture on 8 October 2016. Suga said the government wants to negotiate with the United States to achieve the return of a portion of a large US military training area in Okinawa by year-end. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

"negotiating with the US military for the return of 4,000 hectares."

The United States agreed in 1996 to return to Japan about 4,000 of the approximately 7,800 hectares that make up the training area, provided helipads are relocated from the portion of the base to be returned to an area to be retained.

The return would reduce the acreage of land occupied by US

military facilities in Okinawa by 17 per cent, and would be the most land returned since the 1972 reversion of Okinawa to Japan from US control.

Onaga, Kunigami Mayor Hisakazu Miyagi and Higashi Mayor Seikyu Iju supported seeking the return by year-end.

"There are various issues but the prefecture's policy is for the early return, so this is welcome,"

the governor said after meeting Suga, who is on a weekend trip to the southwestern prefecture.

The outlook for construction of the helipads remains uncertain, however, as local residents oppose further construction due to noise and other concerns over their use by Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft.

Two of the six helipads have already been completed. Con-

struction work began in 2007, but was later suspended due to protests. The work resumed in July, but protests around the construction site continue.

Suga, in his meeting with the mayors, suggested the remaining helipads will be completed by year-end. Onaga has opposed the restart of construction work.

As the bulk of the US military facilities in Japan are concentrated in Okinawa, the prefectural government has been calling for the central government to reduce the Okinawa people's base-hosting burden, particularly by relocating a controversial US military air base outside of the prefecture.

By highlighting the land return as the central government's way to alleviate the burden, Suga appears to be hoping for progress in the long-stalled plan to relocate the US Marine Corps' Air Station Futenma from a crowded residential area in Ginowan to a less populated area in Nago.

Suga last visited Okinawa in June. On Saturday he sat down with the governor in earnest for the first time since a court last month ruled in favour of the central government over Onaga's high-profile move to block the relocation of the Futenma base within Okinawa.—Kyodo News

Power says US willing to use all means to pressure North Korea: Yonhap

SEOUL — US Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power said Sunday that the United States is willing to use every possible means to pressure North Korea to give up its pursuit of weapons of mass destruction, according to Yonhap News Agency.

Power made the remarks during a press conference held with a group of reporters in central Seoul.

She arrived in South Korea on Saturday for talks on coordinating policy toward North Korea. She visited Japan before coming to South Korea.

Earlier in the day, she toured the truce village of Panmunjom inside the Demilitarized Zone separating North and South Korea, according to Yonhap.

The trip was aimed at sending a strong message of Washington's resolve to counter all North Korean threats.

She also visited the

Hanawon centre, a resettlement support facility for North Korean defectors located south of Seoul.

Upon arriving in the South on Saturday, the ambassador said she wanted to directly hear the plight of those that have fled the North.

North Korea has ramped up its nuclear activities especially over the past year, with two nuclear tests in contravention of five UN Security Council sanctions resolutions. It has also conducted more than 20 banned ballistic missile launches.

The most recent nuclear test carried out on 9 September prompted the council to agree to impose a new sanctions resolution whose drafting is being led by the United States and China, Pyongyang's closest ally.

Other key members of the Security Council are being consulted on matters such as ways to close loopholes in past resolutions.—Kyodo News

China to remove 2,000-year-old price control over salt market

BEIJING — China has decided to remove administrative price controls on the salt market to foster competition, the country's top economic planner announced Sunday.

The move will put an end to the nation's 2,000-plus-year state monopoly in the salt industry.

Ex-factory, wholesale and retail salt prices will be decided by the operating costs of businesses, product quality and market conditions, rather than the

government, starting 1 January, 2017, according to a statement released by the National Development and Reform Commission.

China is rich in salt and has seen oversupply in the past few years, with over 300 registered producers and 4,000 distributors. The move aims to encourage market competition and cross-region sales to optimize product quality and sales patterns.

The State Council, China's

cabinet, released a statement in April to reform the salt industry by allowing private investors to join the market by partnering with existing salt companies.

Local governments and companies should prepare for the policy change and emergency measures will be taken in the event of a salt supply shortage and rising prices to ensure market stability, especially for people in remote and poor areas, according to the statement.—Xinhua

Malaysia arrests 16 for suspected militant links

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysian police said on Sunday they have arrested 16 people for suspected militant links after a two-week operation across the country.

The arrests were made between 21 September and 6 October. Fifteen were Malaysians and the other was a citizen of a North African country. The suspects were aged between 20 and 38 years old.

Fourteen were arrested for suspected links to Islamic State and channelling funds to Muhammad Wandy Muhammad Jedi, who was responsible for a grenade attack on the outskirts of Kuala

Lumpur in June, police said in a statement.

Wandy is a Malaysian known by police to be fighting with Islamic State in Syria.

Another suspect, a Malaysian student, was arrested on arrival at Kuala Lumpur international airport. The police said he had travelled to Istanbul with an intention to enter Syria, but was detained by Turkish authorities at the request of Malaysian police.

The police also said they arrested a citizen of a North African country for suspected links to Jabhat Al Nusra, an Islamic group in Syria. They did not specify which

North African country.

The grenade attack on a bar on the outskirts of the Malaysian capital in June is seen as the Islamist group's first successful assault in the country.

Authorities in Muslim-majority Malaysia have been on high alert since Islamic State-linked militants carried out an armed attack in the capital of neighbouring Indonesia in January. In late August, Malaysian police arrested three local supporters of Islamic State who had allegedly been planning several attacks in Kuala Lumpur ahead of independence day celebrations.—Reuters

Opinion

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Fully respect rights of local people in distress

Tha Sein

MYANMAR'S imperial jade is considered the world's most valuable and is highly sought after for its near-transparent emerald-green hues. According to an unpublished report, the undeclared value of Myanmar's jade trade may be equal to half of the country's GDP, or 46 times as much as the government spending on health care. But few revenues from the jadeite has made its way into the local economy.

More than 100 people died in one incident last year when a waste tip collapsed as scavengers, many of whom were driven by the hope of finding a large jade stone, searched for

jade scraps, drawing a sharp rebuke from many and prompting officials to propose that operations be shut down. There remains a growing unease about the number of social and environmental disasters fuelled by a wave of ongoing armed conflicts in the jade mining areas with local people in distress. There is hardly any other way to resolve the armed conflicts but to respect fully their right to health, food, shelter and access to information.

As a member of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, Myanmar has agreed to devise a plan by January 2017 for revealing the beneficial ownership of

jade companies and reforming mining legislation. But a particularly troubling part of the equation is how much local people are set to benefit from the jade revenues if the plan goes ahead.

Much to the dismay of transparency watchdogs, in September, President Barack Obama met with Myanmar State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi on her official visit to the US and announced that all economic sanctions including those affecting the Myanmar Gems Enterprise, would be lifted. Perhaps, not unsurprisingly, it was the MGE that announced that permits for more than 300 jade and gem blocks would expire this

month. A moratorium on new permits was declared in July.

To its credit, the incumbent government has moved quickly to try to rein in the out-of-control industry that is in dire straits, introducing transparency measures which are to be enforced with punishment for those who break the law while the jade demand remains high.

On top of that, the administration needs to take concrete action toward promoting greater protection of the rights of local people while ensuring cooperation of all stakeholders, especially the law enforcement agencies. Only then will things change for the better.

Tourism: the Smokeless Industry

Khin Maung Myint

IN the old days, when the word industry was mentioned, most people thought of the factories with belching smoke stacks and noisy machineries. Also, the dictionaries are still defining the term "**industry**" as an economic activity where goods are manufactured in factories. Later after the advent of electric-powered machineries, smoke producing factories become lesser. The term **industry** still applied to the manufacture of goods. However, the times have changed and the usage of many English words have also evolved to mean other than the usually accepted meanings. One good example is: the use of the word **industry**, which once applied only to businesses involving factories and machineries for manufacturing solid goods, now become widely used in other sectors too. The most visible and often heard usage is in the tourism sector, which lacked physical substance. People started to metaphorize the tourism as an industry: **the smokeless industry**.

Today, every country, including the rich and the developed ones, turn to tourism industry as a good source of income, creation of jobs and employments for the people. Some use it as an alternative income source, but many poor and developing nations without valuable natural resources or technological know-how are promoting tourism as the

main source of income. However, as there are gains to be made from it, there are many downsides or pitfalls involved in the tourism industry.

Lately, with the opening up, relaxations of travel restrictions and easy availability of the visas, our country is enjoying an unprecedented increase in tourists. Tourists are interested to travel to new destinations, where no foreigner have ever set foot. Our

interests and tastes.

Tourists traveling the world have varied intentions and interests. Some travel for business, some for pleasure, some for sight seeing, some to explore the eco-systems, some to study the culture, customs and traditions of different countries, some to sample the different cuisines from around the world, some for medical treatments and some, but few travel with criminal intentions.

Considered to be smokeless because it significantly contributed to the "greening" of the tourism.

country have many such virgin territories to offer, as we had isolated ourselves from the rest of the world for over half a century. We have many pristine and unspoiled beaches, many ancient cultural edifices, scenic and breath-taking views, multicultural ethnic races, diverse varieties of wildlife, different types of climate ranging from warm and humid climate in the south to cool and pleasant conditions on the highlands in the north. Also our diverse culinary culture, evolved through fusion with the Indian, Chinese, Thai and our own cuisines made our food distinct and attractive to the foreigners, especially the **Monhingar**---rice noodles in fish broth. These provide us with very good settings to attract tourists who have diverse

Unlike other businesses, where the bright side is making money and the dark side is losing money, the dark side of the tourism has much more to lose than just the financial losses. The most important is the breach of security of the country in this age of criminals and terrorists without borders.

We had already experienced the incidents of ATM scamming by foreign tourists, con-artists from a neighbouring country selling imitation golds and stealing of money from some of our citizens on the incoming flights by tourists from that same country. Such activities have been going on in Thailand for quite sometimes and that country have become a haven for criminals from around the world. Murders,

rapes, drug traffickings, human traffickings, child prostitutions, extortions, currency counter-feiting, ATM scamming, faking of travel documents and passports, bombings at busy tourist spots are just some incidents to mention as examples. All these activities poses security risks.

Second important problem is the ignorance of, or disregards to, our culture, customs and traditions, especially the religious ones that could cause ugly incidents. The incident of the foreign tourists wearing foot-wears on the Shwedagon Pagoda, which is much revered by the Buddhists and the recent case of the unplugging of the amplifier at a Buddhist religious building in Mandalay shouldn't have happened. The foreigner in the later incident may not have any ulterior motive to insult the religion, but his ignorance of our culture, customs and traditions and the ear-splitting blasts of the loudspeakers late in the night might have driven him to the breaking point and led on to such unacceptable behaviourism.

To avoid such ugly incidents in the future the authorities in the tourism industry, both the government and the private sectors should make our cultures, customs and traditions known to the visiting tourists. Brochures explaining the **DO and DON'TS** in our country should be distributed through the airlines and tour operators at home and abroad. It's a common practice in most countries.

Those who are involved in that trade should be aware of the

adverse consequences of promoting the tourism without proper precautionary measures taken to avert the dangers that could befall upon the country. Thailand have learned a good lesson and now they are trying to tighten their grip on the tourists. They are considering to make the use of tracking phone SIM cards compulsory by the tourists, so that their whereabouts can be located at anytime and clamping down on people with tourist visas doing businesses or working in their country. Such actions should also be taken in our country too. We should not let our security or our cultures, customs and traditions to be compromised just to make money out of the tourist industry. They are absolutely not worth it.

Before concluding, I think I owe my readers an obligation to explain, very briefly, why tourism is called "**the smokeless industry**". In the early 1970, the tourism industry was centered mostly on ecotourism, which was largely dependent on the using and developing of the natural and cultural resources. In those days it was considered to be smokeless because it significantly contributed to the "**greening**" of the tourism, which helped in conserving the environment. However, that led to financial losses and thus the tourism industry had to be diversified into other fields and since then it's becoming less **smokeless** in the opinions of the environmentalists. Anyhow, whether it may or may not be still as "smokeless" as before, the tourism industry is not without adverse effects.

Medics dash to rural Haiti as cholera kills 13 in Matthew's wake

PORT SALUT (Haiti) PORT-AU-PRINCE — Cholera has killed at least 13 people in south-west Haiti in the wake of Hurricane Matthew, officials said on Saturday, as government teams fanned out across the hard-hit southwestern tip of the country to repair treatment centers and reach the epicenter of one outbreak.

The storm took the lives of nearly 900 people in Haiti, many in remote towns clustered near the headland, according to a Reuters tally of numbers given by local officials.

Haiti's central civil protection agency raised to 336 its official death toll, a slower count because officials must visit each village to confirm the numbers.

The government said there would be three days of national mourning.

Six people died of cholera in a hospital in the town of Randel, which is inland on the peninsula, and another seven died in the coastal town of Anse-d'Ainault on the western tip, the officials said, likely as flood waters mixed with sewage.

Cholera causes severe diarrhea and can kill within hours if untreated. It is spread through contaminated water and has a short incubation period, which leads to rapid outbreaks.

"Randel is isolated, you must



Men stand by a fence next to a United Nations helicopter at the airport after Hurricane Matthew passes Jeremie, Haiti, on 7 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

cross water, you must go high in the mountains, cars cannot go, motorcycles cannot go," said Eli Pierre Celestin, a member of team that fights cholera for the health ministry. "People have started dying."

"There are nurses but no doctors," he said, concerned that cholera would spread due to lack

of hygiene and as ground water moved because of rain and floods.

He said there were also outbreaks in Port-a-Piment and Les Anglais, towns at the end of the Tiburon peninsula hardest hit by Matthew this week. Dr. Donald Francois, head of the Haitian health ministry's cholera pro-

gramme, said 62 others were sick with cholera as a result of the storm. He said he was traveling to the south to oversee the response.

Matthew slammed into South Carolina on Saturday, after skirting the Atlantic coast of Florida and Georgia, causing widespread power outages and flooding. —Reuters

Tesaro's ovarian cancer drug benefits all patients in study

COPENHAGEN — Tesaro's experimental drug niraparib improved outcomes for all women with recurrent ovarian cancer in a clinical study, boosting prospects for the product, part of a closely watched class of new medicines called PARP inhibitors.

The finding suggests that a Myriad Genetics companion diagnostic test, designed to select suitable patients, may not be necessary.

US biotech company Tesaro already cheered investors in June by saying that the study had met the main goal of prolonging survival without disease worsening, but full results were only reported at the annual European Society for Medical Oncology congress in Copenhagen.

The treatment helped patients live longer without their disease progressing. Even those least likely to be helped by the drug because of their genetic profile saw a benefit of 3.1 months, researchers told the meeting on Saturday.

Niraparib and other PARP inhibitors block enzymes involved in repairing damaged DNA, thereby helping to kill cancer cells.—Reuters

Social media affecting mental well-being of youth: Experts

NEW DELHI — Excessive exposure to social media is affecting the psychological well-being of youths with many of them exhibiting "unusual" behavioural and lifestyle changes that have "wrecked" their education and interpersonal relationships, say experts.

Psychiatrists at top health institutions in Delhi also say that in most cases people don't even understand they may be actually affected by it, which is a "cause for worry".

"Social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter are like double-edged swords, on the one hand, they may have brought a greater sense of democratisation, but on the other hand, there is the dark side to it too, and many youths are either being harassed on it or becoming addicted to it, leading to psychological problems," Senior Consultant Psychiatrist Dr Sandeep Vohra told PTI.

Vohra, who practices at Indraprastha Apollo in south Delhi, says the hospital's Psychiatry Department gets 80-100 case per week, which includes people who are suffering from common psychological disorders like depression and anxiety or severe ones like schizophrenia or bipolar disorder.

"But we are also getting what is called the Internet addiction disorder and cases where people's life has been affected because of some issue over the social media."

"Besides, social media has also made the youth more conscious about how they look and there is a constant sense of validation or approval from other around them, affecting their self-esteem and mental well-being," he says.

Dr Roma Kumar, Child and Adolescent Psychologist at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital cautions that with excessive social media, people, especially the youth are "allowing others to take control of their lives".

"We had a case in which a 30-year-old man became so obsessed with a girl that he lost 15 kg of weight running after her. He also stalked her on Facebook and Instagram. The family of the man then brought him to us. The girl and her family were stressed out because of this episode," she says.

Kumar says with celebrities posting on Facebook and tweeting 24x7, youths have become more "misguided into this 'like-comment-share' and 'instant reaction' culture, where many times people become upset if their friends do not like a post or a picture.

"Besides, many of them are

spending inordinate time on the internet and social media, sleeping late night and not communicating with people in real life. This is a dangerous trend. The worry is that many of these youth, do not know that they are exhibiting changed psychological behaviour."

Doctors, psychologists, psychiatrists and mental health experts globally will join hands on Monday to mark the World Mental Health Day.

Professor of Psychiatry at AIIMS, Dr Rajesh Sagar says, "It is no doubt that social media is affecting the emotional and psychological well-being of people. But that holds for excessive use of anything. What is needed is proper training for students at school level in judicious use of social media, as we cannot part with technological changes."

Sharing a case study at Apollo, Vohra says, "Social media is also triggering relationship breakdown in many cases. A 17-year-old girl came to us after she was harassed by her ex-boyfriend over Facebook. So much so that the girl's family had to file a police complaint against the boy, who has become obsessed with her."

He says besides triggering anxiety, depression and self-destructing tendencies, social media

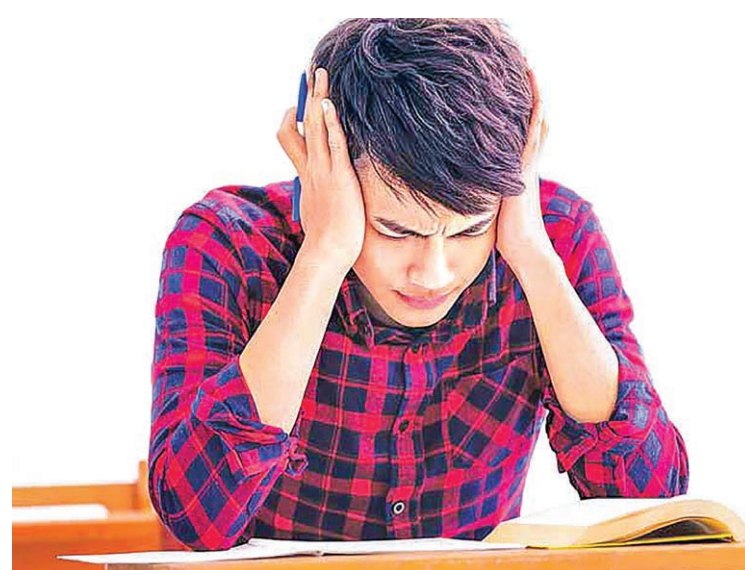


PHOTO: PTI

platforms have also led to people suffering from "body dysmorphic disorder".

"So we had a 21-year-old girl who was brought to us, who insisted that her nose was imperfect and tried rhinoplasty despite the fact it was alright. Constant bombardment of images on social media, peer pressure and 'selfie-culture' has engendered this narcissistic behaviour that borders on psychological disorders," Vohra says.

Ganga Ram Hospital's Kumar says she gets "cases where young people especially adoles-

cents come to me complaining they have suicidal tendencies and ask what they should do. After going through their history, one realises that many of them had some sort of harassment or bullying on social media."

A 24-year-old Delhi-based professional, who did not wish to be identified, says, "There is this culture of unwanted tagging with nasty posts on Facebook and trolling on Twitter that the social media culture has spawned. I myself have been its victim, so I know."—PTI

Trump vows to stay in race after lewd remarks surface

NEW YORK — With his campaign in crisis, US presidential candidate Donald Trump vowed on Saturday to stay in the race despite calls from more than two dozen prominent Republicans for him to drop out following the release of a recording of him making lewd comments about women.

Both Trump's wife and his running mate criticised his words, saying they were insulting and indefensible.

"The media and establishment want me out of the race so badly - I WILL NEVER DROP OUT OF THE RACE, WILL NEVER LET MY SUPPORTERS DOWN!" Trump wrote on Saturday afternoon on the social media website Twitter.

The video was the latest calamity for Trump, who had hoped to revive his flagging campaign in the face of a recent drop in polls with less than a month until Election Day.

Trump is due to appear alongside Democrat Hillary Clinton on Sunday in their second debate in the run-up to the general election. Clinton is not expected to address Trump's video before then.

The 2005 video of Trump talking on an open microphone showed the then-reality TV star speaking about groping women and trying to seduce a married woman. The video was taped only months after Trump married his third wife, Melania.

In a statement, Melania Trump called her husband's words "unacceptable and offensive to me."

"This does not represent the man that I know," she said. "He has the heart and mind of a leader. I hope people will accept his apology, as I have, and focus on the important issues facing our nation and the world."

The backlash over the video was swift and widespread.

More than 60 prominent Republican current and former of-

ficeholders issued statements condemning Trump's remarks about women, including House Speaker Paul Ryan and John McCain, the party's standard bearer in 2008. More than 20 called for Trump to end his presidential bid.

In an unusual move, his vice presidential running mate Mike Pence issued a critical statement of Trump's words, saying on Twitter that he "cannot defend them."

"As a husband and father, I was offended by the words and actions described by Donald Trump," said Pence, who is governor of Indiana.

Pence indicated he would continue to support Trump, despite calls from several Republicans for Trump to step aside and let Pence be the nominee. There is no precedent for a major party to replace its nominee this late in the campaign and it was unclear if there was an avenue to force him out. Voting has begun in several states, including swing states Virginia and North Carolina.

A recorded apology by Trump early on Saturday did not stymie an avalanche of calls from members of his party to quit.

Trump huddled on Saturday in Trump Tower with senior advisers, including New Jersey Governor Chris Christie and former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

Despite previous scheduling, Giuliani will appear on five major Sunday morning news programs, a rare round robin reserved for major news events — replacing Republican Chairman Reince Priebus on CBS's "Face the Nation" and campaign manager Kellyanne Conway on "Fox News Sunday," a last-minute switch. No reason was given for the bump of Conway. A CBS news release said the RNC asked to replace Priebus because Trump's operation wanted "a campaign person" to appear on the programme.

Trump left the building briefly

to greet a small crowd of supporters, saying "100 per cent" he would remain in the race. Before returning to a bank of elevators, he told reporters, "Tremendous support."

He quickly moved to do damage control in Saturday's video in which he declared himself a changed man and attempted to shift the focus to his opponent Clinton and her husband, former President Bill Clinton. On Twitter, Trump posted critical statements from Juanita Broadrick, a woman who has accused Bill Clinton of sexually assaulting her.

"Anyone who knows me knows these words don't reflect who I am. I said it, I was wrong, and I apologise," Trump said in his video statement, posted on his Facebook page.

Trump has struggled to win over women voters, and the video was expected to further feed Democratic criticism about his past behavior toward women. Trump's support has suffered among suburban women and white, college-educated women, groups that Republicans have traditionally won.

In the recording that triggered the firestorm, Trump said of one woman, "I did try and fuck her. She was married." He went on to discuss his attraction to others.

"I just start kissing them," he said. "And when you're a star they let you do it."

"Grab them by the pussy. You can do anything," Trump said.

On Saturday afternoon, CNN published a separate report detailing remarks Trump made over the course of several years while appearing on Howard Stern's radio programme. The remarks included discussing the size of his daughter's breasts and that he once had sex with three women at the same time. Trump was asked if he would have sex with a black woman and responded, "It depends on what your definition of black is."

—Reuters



Supporters of Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump stand outside Trump Tower where Trump lives, in the Manhattan borough of New York, US, on 8 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

NEWS IN BRIEF

Russian police shoot dead eight militants in Chechnya clashes: Ifax

MOSCOW — Police shot dead eight militants in Chechnya in southern Russia around midnight on Saturday after the men, travelling in two cars, opened fire when asked to stop at a checkpoint, the Interfax news agency reported on Sunday.

Moscow has fought two wars with separatists in Chechnya since the 1991 Soviet collapse and still faces a low-level insurgency in the mainly Muslim region in Russia's volatile North Caucasus area. Citing the Chechen Interior Ministry, Interfax said the militants had opened fire with automatic weapons and thrown grenades at police officers who tried to stop them.—Reuters

Seven killed in Afghan helicopter crash — defence ministry

KABUL — An Afghan air force helicopter crashed in northern Afghanistan on Sunday, killing at least seven people on board, said Afghan Defence Ministry officials who described the crash as an accident.

Four crew members and three soldiers were among the those killed in the crash of the Russian-made Mi-17 helicopter, said Defence Ministry spokesman Dawlat Waziri. "An Afghan army helicopter crashed in northern Baghlan province due to some technical problem," he said. "An investigation is under way."

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid however claimed the Islamist group's fighters had shot down the helicopter, saying the aircraft had been trying to resupply an Afghan government checkpoint that was surrounded by insurgents. The Taliban often exaggerate claims about attacks on Afghan government targets, as well as against the NATO-led coalition assisting Afghan forces.—Reuters

At least five injured in mortar attack near Somalia capital airport

MOGADISHU — At least five people were injured on Saturday evening in a mortar attack on a residential area near the airport in the Somali capital of Mogadishu.

Police officer Ahmed Jama told Xinhua that mortar shells were fired at a Buluhubey village, a short distance from the headquarters of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

Local resident Sulayman Abdi said he heard "five mortar rounds" rock the village and that they might be targeting the AMISOM base or the Aden Adde International Airport.

Witnesses said the injured included children and had been rushed to hospital. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack, but the Somalia-based Islamist militant group Al-Shabaab carries out frequent attacks in the country, many of them in Mogadishu. —Xinhua

One killed, thousands without power as storms hit Australia

MELBOURNE — Wind gusts and storms lashed the Australian state of Victoria on Sunday, killing one woman and disrupting power supplies to more than 100,000 people.

Roughly 120,000 homes were without power across the country's second-most populous state and Melbourne's International Airport closed one of two runways, causing significant delays.

A woman in her 50s died when a tree fell on her home in the town of Milgrove, east of Melbourne, Victorian Emergency Management Commissioner Craig Lapsley said. Falling trees injured several other people.

The electricity outages come a week after severe storms and lighting strikes left all of South Australia state without power for nearly 24 hours, grinding industries to a halt.—Reuters

Russia says US actions threaten its national security — RIA

MOSCOW — Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Sunday that the United States had been taking aggressive steps that threatened Russia's national security, the RIA news agency reported.

"We have witnessed a fundamental change of circumstances when it comes to the aggressive Russophobia that now lies at the heart of US policy towards Russia," it quoted Lavrov as saying.

"It's not just a rhetorical Russophobia, but aggressive steps that really hurt our national interests and pose a threat to our security."

—Reuters

Attack on mourners in Yemen kills more than 140, say local health officials

SANAA — Saudi-led warplanes struck a funeral at a community hall in the Yemeni capital Sanaa, the country's Houthi-run administration said on Saturday, but the coalition denied any role in the attack. More than 140 mourners were killed, according to local health officials cited by the United Nations, in an attack that prompted a strong rebuke from Washington, a key Saudi ally.

Jamie McGoldrick, a UN official in charge of humanitarian efforts in the country, said more than 525 were injured.

The death toll was 82, according to Ghazi Ismail, the administration's acting health minister. The reason for the discrepancy in numbers was not immediately clear.

Ismail said the air strike occurred in the southern part of the city, where a wake was taking place for the father of the administration's interior minister, Jalal al-Roweishan, who had died of natural causes on Friday.

The death toll was one of the largest in any single incident since the Saudi-led alliance began military operations to try to restore President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi to power following his ousting by the Iran-aligned Houthis in March 2015.

"The Saudi aggres-



sion committed a major crime today, by attacking a mourning hall for the al-Roweishan family, targeting residents in the hall," Ismail told a news conference in Sanaa.

In a strongly worded rebuke, the White House said it may consider cutting its support to the Saudi-led military campaign.

"US security cooperation with Saudi Arabia is not a blank check," said US National Security Council spokesman Ned Price in a statement. "In light of this

and other recent incidents, we have initiated an immediate review of our already significantly reduced support to the Saudi-led coalition and are prepared to adjust our support so as to better align with US principles, values and interests, including achieving an immediate and durable end to Yemen's tragic conflict."

Sources in the Saudi-led coalition said there was no Arab coalition air role in the strike.

"Absolutely no such operation took place at that

target," one of the sources said, citing what he described as confirmation from the coalition air force command.

"The coalition is aware of such reports and is certain that it is possible that other causes of bombing are to be considered. The coalition has in the past avoided such gatherings and (they have) never been a subject of targets."

The Saudi-led coalition has been providing air support for Hadi's forces in a civil war that has killed

more than 10,000 people since March 2015 and displaced more than three million.

Fighting has intensified since August when UN-sponsored peace talks in Kuwait ended without an agreement.

Iran, Saudi Arabia's main regional rival, described the attack as "a horrific and inhuman crime", and called for the resumption of peace talks among all Yemeni parties.

"To resolve the crisis in Yemen there is no solution

but the end of aggression by the brutish Saudi rulers and start of new round of talks that includes all Yemeni sides," Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman, Bahram Qasemi was quoted as saying by Tasnim news agency.

Residents said aircraft fired two missiles at the hall, where hundreds of mourners had gathered to offer condolences.

One missile tore through the building, setting it on fire and sending a large plume of smoke above the area. The other landed nearby.

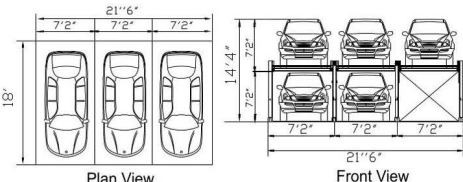
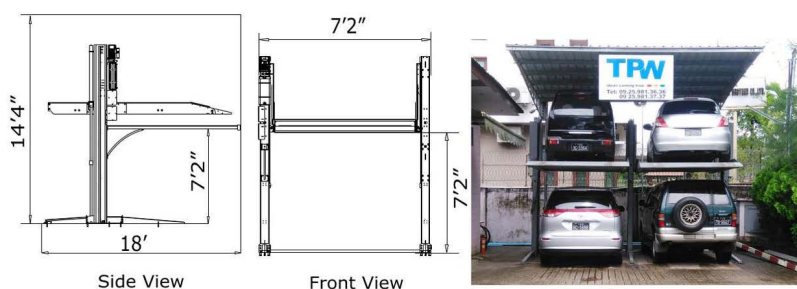
Witnesses described a scene of carnage, with charred or mutilated bodies strewn around. Ambulances raced to carry the wounded to hospitals, which sent out urgent appeals for blood.

A spokesman for Yemen's Houthi group condemned the strike as an act of savagery.

"The aggression continues to shed blood in an uncommon savagery and with international collusion that reaches the level of direct participation," the Houthi-run Saba news agency quoted the group's spokesman, Mohammed Abdul-Salam, as saying in a statement. At least two local officials were among the dead. It was not immediately clear if Roweishan was in the hall when the strike happened.—Reuters

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Car bomb attack kills nine soldiers in southeast Turkey: sources

DIYARBAKIR — Nine Turkish soldiers were killed and more than 20 people were wounded on Sunday when suspected Kurdish militants detonated a car bomb that ripped through a checkpoint near a police station in the country's southeast, security sources said.

The blast hit the Durak gendarmerie station, 20 km (12 miles) from the town of Semdinli, in a mountainous part of Hakkari province near the border with Iraq and Iran, where Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) militants are active.

Soldiers looked on as locals wandered amid mangled wreckage and debris from the explosion at a checkpoint where vehicle searches are conducted, video footage on CNN Turk showed.

Authorities were on high alert for possible attacks on Sunday, 18 years to the day since PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan fled Syria

before being captured by Turkish special forces in February the following year.

He has since been in prison on an island near Istanbul.

On Saturday, a man and a woman who authorities suspect were PKK militants preparing a car bomb attack, detonated explosives and killed themselves near the capital Ankara in a stand-off with police.

Violence has flared in Turkey's southeastern Kurdish heartland in recent days.

On Saturday, 12 people were killed, including eight PKK fighters. Four civilians were killed by gunfire from an armored police vehicle in the town of Yuksekova near the Iranian border.

On Thursday, a bomb attack near a police station in Istanbul wounded 10 people. The Kurdistan Freedom Hawks (TAK), a PKK offshoot, claimed re-

sponsibility for that blast.

The PKK, which launched a separatist insurgency in 1984, is designated a terrorist organisation by Turkey, the United States and the European Union.

A two-year ceasefire between the group and Turkish authorities collapsed in July last year and the violence subsequently rose to levels not seen since the height of the conflict in the 1990s.

The surge in violence coincides with a Turkish military operation in northern Syria in support of rebels and designed to drive away from the border Islamic State militants and a Syrian Kurdish militia closely linked to the PKK.

President Tayyip Erdogan chaired a security summit with the head of the armed forces and ministers in Istanbul on Saturday, but details of the meeting have not been disclosed.—Reuters

BoJ chief says no need to cut rates for now

WASHINGTON — Bank of Japan Governor Haruhiko Kuroda said Saturday the central bank is ready to conduct further monetary easing if necessary, but that a moderate recovery of the Japanese economy does not warrant the BoJ taking such action. Referring to the bank's forecast that the Japanese economy will grow about 1 per cent in fiscal 2016 and accelerate toward 1.5 per cent in fiscal 2017, largely due to hefty fiscal stimulus, Kuroda said, "The economy would move up and at this stage we don't

think it's necessary to further reduce" a negative 0.1 per cent rate on some reserves that commercial banks park at the BoJ. "But if it becomes necessary, we will not hesitate to reduce interest rates or expand the asset purchase programme," he said in a question-and-answer session after delivering a speech at the Brookings Institution, a think tank in Washington.

Asked whether the BoJ can lower the minus 0.1 per cent rate to, for example, the European Central Bank's deposit rate of minus 0.4 per cent, Kuroda said it would

be "technically possible," but that he thinks the minus 0.1 per cent is an "appropriate" level for now.

If the rate falls deeper into negative territory, it "could have a negative impact on the profitability of the financial system," or banking sector profits, while it "could have a stronger, positive impact on the real economy," he said. In the speech, Kuroda spoke of the BoJ's shift in monetary policy to target interest rates, instead of controlling the amount of assets it buys to flood the economy with

cash, in an effort to beat deflation and sustain growth.

Last month, the BoJ introduced the so-called "yield curve control" policy by guiding the yield on 10-year Japanese government bonds to around zero per cent while maintaining the minus 0.1 per cent rate applied to some commercial bank deposits.

The central bank also announced it will keep expanding the monetary base until growth in the consumer price index excluding fresh food, a key gauge of inflation, "overshoots" its 2 per cent target. The BoJ chief

played down suggestions by some scholars that central banks should raise their inflation targets from 2 per cent to about 4 per cent as a possible policy option to address declines in inflation expectations. "Based on Japan's experience, the argument that a central bank can lift inflation expectations of various economic entities simply by raising its inflation target seems a little naive to me," he said. Kuroda, a former president of the Asian Development Bank, suggested Japan should accept more foreign workers to offset a

decline in the nation's population. "The workforce in Japan is shrinking by about 1 million a year. This is a real problem," he said. "Personally, I think we should allow many more foreign workers to come to Japan."

Kuroda hailed a plan by the Japanese government to open agriculture and in-home care services to foreign workers as part of efforts to revitalize regional economies. Kuroda was in Washington for annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.—*Kyodo News*

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Dated **10 October 2016** **Imm@kcyangon.com**



Image provided by Cubadebate shows Cuban doctors boarding a plane destined for hurricane-ravaged Haiti, at Jose Marti International Airport, in Havana, Cuba, on 8 October, 2016. PHOTO: XINHUA

Cuban president oversees recovery efforts after hurricane

HAVANA — Cuban President Raul Castro supervised on Saturday the recovery works in the eastern Guantanamo province after the region was hit hard by hurricane Matthew, the official TV reported.

The Cuban leader established his headquarters in Santiago de Cuba city a week ago. He made effective measures to prevent bigger damages caused by

the meteorological event.

Considering that many houses were partially or totally destroyed by the hurricane, the Cuban government decided Saturday that the State Budget will finance 50 per cent of the construction materials for the damaged houses.

According to an official release published in the local media, the local Municipal Defence

Councils will evaluate the damage of every dwelling place and confirm the resources to be assigned in each case.

The people in need can ask for bank credits, which will be granted with lower interests and longer repayment terms. Persons without enough income to obtain bank credits may apply for subsidies, partially or totally covered by

the State.

The Municipal Defence Council of Baracoa, the oldest Cuban city, announced Saturday that over 9,000 houses had been affected.

Hurricane Matthew hit the eastern Cuban provinces of Santiago de Cuba and Guantanamo on Tuesday, without causing casualties, but resulted in heavy property damages.—*Xinhua*

Train derailment injures dozens, disrupts service on Long Island

NEW YORK — A Long Island Rail Road passenger train derailed on Saturday near the community of New Hyde Park, New York, injuring as many as 29 people and halting service on the key transit line in both directions, railroad officials and police said.

Official details were not available on the precise circumstances of the incident, which occurred at about 9 pm local time (0100 GMT) when a passenger train struck a work train about 20 miles (32

km) east of Manhattan, according to police.

It was not immediately clear if the work train was stationary at the time.

Nassau County Executive Ed Mangano told a news conference 29 people were treated in hospitals for non-life threatening injuries such as broken bones and concussions. Scores more were evaluated or treated at the scene for scrapes or bruises.

A statement from New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, citing "early

reports," put the number of injuries at 11, "none of which are considered to be serious." According to Cuomo, the 12-car train was heading eastbound on the railroad's main line carrying about 600 passengers when the first three cars derailed a half mile east of the New Hyde Park Station.

Photos from the scene of the wreck posted on social media showed at least two of the derailed train cars leaning upright but askew and partly off the track. People riding on the

train told local media they saw sparks or fire outside the windows after the train, which had been moving at a normal speed, began shaking mildly, then more violently before striking something and coming to a halt.

The New Hyde Park stop is just east of the border with the New York City borough of Queens. The rail line, one of the busiest commuter routes into America's largest city, said the derailment had forced suspension of service in both directions.—*Reuters*

Weakened Hurricane Matthew still packs potent punch as it hits North Carolina, Virginia

CHARLESTON, S.C./SAVANNAH, (Ga.) — Hurricane Matthew slammed into North Carolina and Virginia on Sunday, packing a diminished yet still potent punch as it caused major flooding and widespread power outages along the US Atlantic coast after killing hundreds in Haiti.

Now weakened, the most powerful Atlantic storm since 2007 unleashed torrential rains and powerful winds as it churned slowly north after pummeling the southeastern coast of the United States, killing at least 11 people in Florida, Georgia and North Carolina since Thursday and leaving more than two million businesses and homes without power.

Early on Sunday, the storm threatened coastal communities in North Carolina and Virginia, where flash flood warnings were issued and gusts of winds

of 75 miles per hour (120 kph) were recorded.

“The wind is bending the trees to a 90 degree angle in my backyard, I’ve lost electrical power in my home and the rain is blowing sideways,” Frank Gianinni, a 59-year-old occupational therapist, said in an email from his home in Wilmington, North Carolina.

“Standing outside in my backyard just now, and I’m humbled by the power of nature.”

Forecasters warned that widespread flooding was possible from heavy rain — 15 inches (40 cm) was expected to fall in some areas — along with massive storm surges and high tides.

“We are looking at very significant flooding. Almost every road in the city is impassable,” Virginia Beach spokeswoman Erin Sutton told the Weather

Channel on Sunday from the city of almost 500,000 people that sits between Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean.

On Saturday evening, North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory had urged residents to stay off roads and sidewalks to avoid “deadly conditions” caused by severe flooding and debris.

Local and national media showed footage from throughout the region of motorists and passengers sitting and standing on vehicles stuck in rushing flood waters as crews used swift water boats to rescue the stranded. In Cumberland County, North Carolina alone, more than 500 people had been rescued by crews as early on Sunday, the Weather Channel reported.

As of 2 a.m. EST (0600 GMT) on Sunday, the storm was about 50 miles (80 km) east of



Flood waters rise up to homes in an affluent historic neighbourhood after Hurricane Matthew hit Charleston, South Carolina on 8 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Morehead City, North Carolina, the US National Hurricane Centre said in an advisory. The center of the storm was set to move near or south of the North Carolina coast early on Sunday and east of the state later in the day as it weakens.

Matthew, which topped out as a ferocious Category 5 storm days before and killed at least 877

people in Haiti, has now been downgraded to Category 1.

It made US landfall on Saturday near McClellanville, South Carolina, a village 30 miles (48 km) north of Charleston that was devastated by a Category 4 hurricane in 1989.

The storm was blamed for at least 11 deaths in the United States — five in

Florida, three in North Carolina and three in Georgia, including two people killed by falling trees in Bulloch County, the county coroner said.

Power was reported knocked out for more than 2 million households and businesses in the US Southeast, the bulk of those in Florida and South Carolina.—Reuters

US formally accuses Russian hackers of political cyber attacks

WASHINGTON — The US government for the first time on Friday formally accused Russia of a campaign of cyber attacks against Democratic Party organisations ahead of the 8 November presidential election.

“We believe, based on the scope and sensitivity of these efforts, that only Russia’s senior-most officials could have authorised these activities,” a US government statement said on Friday about hacking of political groups.

“These thefts and disclosures are intended to interfere with the US election process.” US intelligence officials concluded weeks ago that the Russian government was conducting or orchestrating cyber attacks against the Democratic National Committee and the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, possibly to disrupt or discredit the election, in which Democrat Hillary Clinton faces Republican Donald Trump.

A Kremlin spokesman called the US allegations “nonsense”, the Interfax news agency reported.

On Saturday, the Russian Foreign Ministry said the US accusations lacked any proof and were an attempt by Washington to fan



The headquarters of the Democratic National Committee is seen in Washington, US on 14 June 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

“unprecedented anti-Russian hysteria”.

“This whipping up of emotions regarding ‘Russian hackers’ is used in the US election campaign, and the current US administration, taking part in this fight, is not averse to using dirty tricks,” Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said on Saturday in comments posted on the ministry’s website.

The Obama administration’s decision to blame Russia for the attacks is the latest downward turn in US relations with Moscow, which are under strain over Russia’s actions in Syria

and Ukraine and in cyber-space.

Also on Friday, US Secretary of State John Kerry said Russian and Syrian actions in the Syrian civil war, including bombings of hospitals, “beg for” a war crimes investigation.

In addition, a US intelligence official said on Friday that Russia was moving short-range nuclear-capable missiles into Kaliningrad, a tiny Russian enclave between Poland and Lithuania, confirming Estonian news reports.

Clinton’s campaign chairman, John Podesta, said the public blaming for

the hacks left one remaining question of “why Donald Trump continues to make apologies for the Russians”. Trump had previously expressed doubt about Russia’s involvement. In July, he suggested Russia should attempt to retrieve and publish emails from Clinton’s private server.

Trump’s campaign did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Hours after the US government’s accusation was levied, WikiLeaks posted hundreds of emails on its website purportedly hacked from Podesta’s private account.—Reuters

In the matter of the Myanmar Companies Act MYANMAR CARBONIX LIMITED (In Members Voluntary Winding-up) Notice of Special Resolutions pursuant to section 206(1)

The following Special Resolutions were unanimously passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting (adjourned) of the shareholders of Myanmar Carbonix Limited was held on 30 September 2016 at 10:00 am at No. 1 Refinery, Thanlyin, Yangon Region required under Section 203 (2) of the Myanmar Companies Act:-

Special Resolution No.1

Resolved that the Company be wound up as “Members’ Voluntary Winding Up” with effect from 30 September 2016.

Special Resolution No.2

Resolved that U Maung Maung Aung, C.P.A, be hereby appointed as Liquidator of the Company with effect from 30 September 2016, for the purpose of such winding up and is authorized to carry on the business of the Company to such extent and for such period as may be necessary only for the beneficial winding up thereof and is granted such other powers as may be deemed fit and proper and to finally wind up the Company.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

I, the undersigned Liquidator of Myanmar Carbonix Limited have fixed the period for creditors to submit their claims together with supporting documents, to the undersigned as one month from date of the publication of this notice and that in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved and before the final winding up date.

All persons claiming to be creditors of the above company are therefore requested to submit details of the claims, together with any documentary evidence in their possession, to the Liquidator at the address given below, before the above date.

U Maung Maung Aung
Liquidator

Myanmar Carbonix Limited
(In Members’ Voluntary Liquidation)

64(B), 1st Floor, Shwegon Plaza,
Komin Kochin Road, Bahan Township, Yangon.

Rolling Stones pay tribute to The Beatles at Desert Trip festival

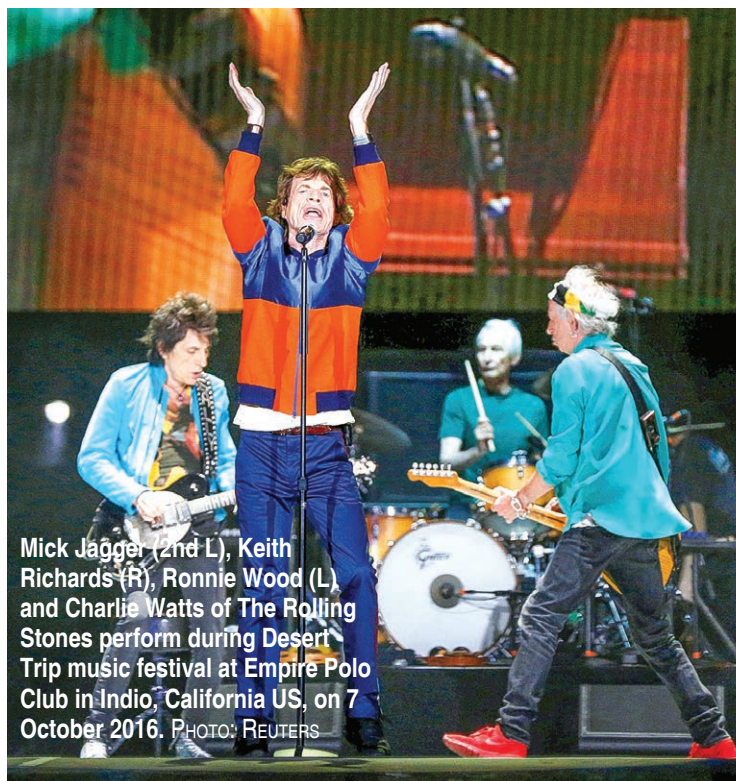
LONDON — Rolling Stones have paid tribute to the pop rock music veterans The Beatles at Desert Trip festival in California.

The band, which is composed of Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Charlie Watts and Ronnie Wood, performed a cover song of The Beatles as they hit the stage on the opening night of the festival, reported Femalefirst. “This may be strange to you now. We’re gonna do a cover song of a sort of unknown

beat group. I think you might remember (them), we’re gonna try a cover of one of their tunes.

“Tonight we’re not going to do any age jokes or anything, OK? Welcome to the Palm Springs retirement home for gentle English musicians,” Jagger, 73, told the crowd.

Jagger, also the lead vocalist of the group, talked about their upcoming album “Blue & Lonesome”, which features their rendition of “Ride ‘Em on Down”.—PTI



Mick Jagger (2nd L), Keith Richards (R), Ronnie Wood (L) and Charlie Watts of The Rolling Stones perform during Desert Trip music festival at Empire Polo Club in Indio, California US, on 7 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Kanye West resumes ‘Saint Pablo’ tour

LONDON — Rapper Kanye West has resumed his ‘Saint Pablo’ tour after his wife, Kim Kardashian, was robbed at gunpoint in Paris.

The 39-year-old rapper, who has recently rescheduled the dates of his tour because of his wife, kicked off his concert with a 90-minute performance, reported Femalefirst.

West did not mention the robbery of his 35-year-old model-wife but told the crowd that it was “good to be home”.

The star postponed his Philadelphia and Detroit dates from last week until December so that he could support Kim.—PTI

Selena Gomez spotted in Tennessee amid break from spotlight

LOS ANGELES —

Singer Selena Gomez has spotted in Tennessee with her fans after she announced that she would be “taking some time off” to deal with anxiety and depression.

The 24-year-old singer was seen enjoying and taking selfies with the people, reported E! Online.

“She enjoyed herself and was there for a late lunch. She couldn’t have been more gracious to everyone and to the fans and was more than happy to take pictures with whoever,” a source said.

Gomez’s fans also took to Twitter and posted sweet messages for the singer along with her pictures with them.

In August, Gomez said she is taking a break due to complications of her autoimmune disease, Lupus. She also cited “anxiety, panic attacks and depression” as side effects.

“As many of you know, around a year ago I revealed that I have lupus, an illness that can affect people in different ways. I’ve discovered that anxiety, panic attacks and depression can be side effects of lupus, which can present their own challenges,” she said that time.—PTI

Jon Voight defends Donald Trump, blasts Robert De Niro for rant

LOS ANGELES — Academy award-winning actor Jon Voight took to social media to defend Republican candidate Donald Trump and criticise fellow movie star Robert De Niro for his remarks about the real estate mogul.

“Midnight Cowboy” star Voight, who has supported several Republican politicians over the years, said on Twitter that Trump’s remarks to “Access Hollywood” host Billy Bush in 2005 “were not as damaging as De Niro’s ugly rant. Trump’s words did not hurt anyone,” reported Fox News. “I am so ashamed of my fellow actor Bobby De Niro’s rant against Donald Trump. What foul words he used against a presidential nominee, who has worked harder than any other man I know in the past year and a half to get a good message to the American people,” Voight, 77, tweeted.

“I don’t know of too many men who haven’t expressed some sort of similar sexual terms toward women, especially in their younger years. “Donald Trump’s words



Actor Jon Voight from the Showtime series “Ray Donovan” arrives at the 68th Primetime Emmy Awards in Los Angeles, California US, on 18 September 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

were not as damaging as Robert De Niro’s ugly rant. Trump’s words did not hurt anyone. Can you imagine if any Republican said words like Robert De Niro used — against Hilary Clinton or Barack Obama? All hell would break loose,” he wrote.

He further posted, “I am calling for all Trump supporters to express their outrage and

anger against De Niro and all of the Republican turncoats cont’d against Trump. Let Donald Trump know we are completely behind him, and may God give him the strength to continue his calling.” De Niro had hit out at Trump, saying he wants to punch the politician in his face. “I’d like to punch him (Trump) in the face,” he had said in a video clip.—PTI

Alibaba Pictures, Amblin to co-produce films for global, Chinese audiences

BEIJING — Steven Spielberg’s Amblin Partners and Alibaba Pictures Group Ltd (1060.HK), the film studio unit of Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba Group Holding Ltd (BABA.N), said on Sunday they will co-produce and finance films for global and Chinese audiences.

They will also collaborate on the marketing, distribution and merchandising of Amblin Partner films in China, the companies said in a joint statement. Under the terms of their partnership, Alibaba Pictures will also acquire a minority stake in Amblin Partners,

which is chaired by Spielberg, the award-winning US movie director and producer.

Amblin Partners creates film, television and digital content under the Amblin Entertainment, DreamWorks Pictures and Participant Media brands.

Hong Kong-listed Alibaba Pictures has yet to release any films, although the company formerly known as ChinaVision Media Group Ltd has several projects in production. Alibaba Pictures began investing in Hollywood films in 2015 with its stake in ‘Mission: Impossible — Rogue

Nation’. It was an investor in this year’s blockbusters ‘Star Trek Beyond’ and ‘Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows’.

Billionaire Jack Ma’s Alibaba Group paid about \$800 million for a controlling stake in ChinaVision Media in 2014. The company later became known as Alibaba Pictures. The investment was part of a wave of acquisitions by big Chinese companies looking to expand their Hollywood footprint while bringing more Western films to China, set to soon surpass the United States as the world’s biggest movie market.—Reuters



Singer Selena Gomez. PHOTO: REUTERS

Back to basics: Retro games make a comeback in Indonesia

JAKARTA — An increasing number of Indonesians are taking a stand against digital games like Pokemon Go that they say erode values, and encouraging children to play traditional toys like wooden spinning tops and bamboo pinwheels.

Tens of thousands of Indonesians were hooked on Nintendo's augmented reality app, in which players hunt virtual characters in real-life places, months before the smash-hit game was officially launched in the Southeast Asian country.

But parents and teachers worry that children get too caught up in the virtual world and are missing out on interacting with each other.

Some parents are nostalgic about the games they used to play and want to introduce their children to them.

Hundreds of parents and children attended a traditional games festival on

a recent weekend at the Pilar Bangsa, or "pillar of the nation", school in West Jakarta.

A gaggle of children huddled around a wooden board, taking turns shooting marbles at goal posts made of rubber bands in a version of table soccer.

Others were tying strings around tops and spinning them on a circular platform.

"Traditional games involve more activities, whereas electronic games only require kids to use their thumbs," said Januar Surjadi, who was teaching his three-year-old boy to play with a bamboo toy that made a clicking sound when spun.

Some games like "wayang", or traditional puppets, and "congklak", which requires players to collect as many "seeds" as possible in the holes of a wooden set, have been passed down through



Boys play a mini soccer game during an event for traditional games at a school in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 1 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

generations.

Pilar Bangsa Principal Agustinus, who goes by one name, said his school would organise more events to introduce kids to traditional games.

"We want to show the unique features of Indonesia, that it has a rich culture."

His school is not the only one. Education ministry official Essi Hermaliza

said authorities aimed to instill old values in students through traditional games across the country.

The mayor of the city of Bogor has renovated a park and equipped it with

wooden stilts and other toys to "help children avoid Pokemon Go", media reported recently.

Traditional toys are often cheap — some sell for a dollar or less — but even so present an opportunity for businessmen like Fahrudin, who gets toys made in villages and sells them online.

"The response from consumers has been positive and there's still a lot of demand," he said at his warehouse near Jakarta, where workers were packaging toys for delivery.

For children like Michelle Miranda, 13, traditional toys won't replace her electronic gadget, but they are still fun.

"I'm getting a little bored of Pokemon Go because it's harder to find the rarer Pokemons," she said.

"I play congklak at home with my friends, it's fun and it helps to teach mental arithmetic." —Reuters

Girls spend 160 million more hours than boys doing household chores everyday: UNICEF

UNITED NATIONS — Girls between five and 14 years old across the world spend 40 per cent more time, or 160 million more hours a day, on unpaid household chores and collecting water and firewood compared to boys their age, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) said in a report released on Friday.

The report, "Harnessing the Power of Data for Girls: Taking stock and looking ahead to 2030," includes the first global estimates on the time girls spend doing household chores such as cooking, cleaning, caring for family members and collecting

water and firewood.

The disproportionate burden of domestic work begins early, with girls between five and nine years old spending 30 per cent more time, or 40 million more hours a day, on household chores than boys their age, showed the report which was released ahead of International Day of the Girl on 11 October.

The numbers rise as girls get older, with 10 to 14 year olds spending 50 per cent more time, or 120 million more hours each day, the report said.

"The overburden of unpaid household work begins in early childhood and

intensifies as girls reach adolescence," said UNICEF's Principal Gender Advisor Anju Malhotra.

"As a result, girls sacrifice important opportunities to learn, grow, and just enjoy their childhood," Malhotra said. "This unequal distribution of labour among children also perpetuates gender stereotypes and the double-burden on women and girls across generations." Meanwhile, the report noted that girls' work is less visible and often undervalued. Too often adult responsibilities such as caring for family members, including other children, are imposed on girls.

Time spent on chores limits a girl's time to play, socialize with friends, study and be a child. In some countries, collecting firewood and water puts girls at risk of sexual violence.

The report also found that: — Girls between 10 and 14 years old in South Asia and the Middle East and North Africa spend nearly double the amount of time on household chores compared to boys. — The countries where girls bear the most disproportionate burden of household chores compared to boys are: Burkina Faso, Yemen and Somalia.—Xinhua

Working moms struggle to keep careers without reduced work hours

TOKYO — Working mothers in Japan often change their jobs and turn into contract employees after they become ineligible for shortened working hours at their workplaces, as many of them have a hard time managing child-rearing and long hours of work at the same time.

The child care and family care leave law obliges employers to reduce working hours to six hours a day in principle for those taking care of children under 3 years old and offer them an exemption from overtime work upon request.

Names of parties neglecting such obligations will be made public, according to the website of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. But there are no penalties for companies that breach the obligation.

The law is doing little for working mothers. Long work hours remain a major obstacle for them to keep their careers on track.

"We can take child-care leave without any problem. But many female co-workers of mine left their jobs after returning to work from their leave because of overtime work," said 36-year-old Kanako Takano, recalling her former workplace where she was a regular employee.

Takano, living in Kawasaki, southwest of Tokyo, currently works as a contract-based employee, as she gave up a permanent job at her former company in February after her daughter turned 3 and she was no longer eligible for the company's short working hour program, under which she had been able to leave work at 4:30 pm.

At her previous job, even when she left the workplace at the end of regular work hours, 6:30 pm, she arrived at her daughter's nursery school after 8:00pm.

Few nursery schools and after-school day-care facilities extend their service hours beyond 8:00 pm.

"My co-workers were working overtime and handling on-call duties during nighttime. It was hard for me to leave the office on time every day," she said.

A 41-year-old female system engineer in Tokyo quit her job as her reduced working hours were set to be extended and decided to be a temporary worker.

"I wasn't able to continue my job without short work hours," the mother of a 6-year-old boy said, as she sometimes had to work late when problems occurred to customers' systems. — Kyodo News



Myanmar International

(10-10-2016 07:00am ~ 11-10-2016 07:00am)

Today Fresh

07:03	Am	News
07:27	Am	Innovative Handiworks Based on The Art of Line Drawing
07:45	Am	Myanmar Traditional Toys
08:03	Am	News
08:26	AmChanges
08:41	Am	A Way of Life: Aikido
08:54	Am	Made in Myanmar "Mixxo"
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	Crab Business (Part-I) Mud Crab
09:42	Am	A Chance to Change Their Future
10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	All About Orchids

10:40 Am Conflict & Solution Between Man & Elephant

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

Prime Time

07:03	Pm	News
07:27	Pm	Food Trip (Ep-10) (Part -2)
07:47	Pm	Amazing: Sayargyi Nyein Chan Aung
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	Taste of Myanmar (Glass Noodle Soup)
08:45	Pm	Myanmar Outstanding Lady Thin Zar Phyto

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

(For Detailed Schedule - www.myanmaritv.com/schedule)

Bisping defeats Henderson to retain UFC middleweight belt

LONDON — Middleweight champion Michael Bisping finally avenged the most devastating loss of his career by claiming a close decision victory over Dan Henderson in a thrilling title fight at UFC 204 in Manchester on Saturday.

Hometown favourite Bisping finished the brutal five-round battle with his face swollen and bloodied after he flirted with disaster against his veteran American opponent before finally retaining the belt thanks to the judges scorecards.

The 37-year-old won the title in sensational fashion in June, stepping up to fight Luke Rockhold at short notice at UFC 199 and knocking him out in the opening round to become the first British UFC champion.

He immediately called out the 46-year-old Henderson, who knocked him out in 2009 in what he called “the worst knockout in UFC history”, and despite his plans to retire, the former Olympic wrestler duly obliged.

The fighters entered the octagon at 4:30 am (0330 GMT) to cater for the American pay per

view audience and after a cagey start, the fight exploded into life late in the first round

Henderson floored Bisping with a thundering right hand but despite the American piling on the punishment, the champion was able to survive until the end of the round.

Bisping ignored the blood streaming down his face and started the second by landing some stinging shots of his own, but with a little more than a minute to go, Henderson uncorked another right hand to floor the champion for a second time.

Once again, Bisping held on grimly to the end of the round and with Henderson breathing heavily, the Briton bounced back to take the third round.

Both men had their chances in the fourth and fifth rounds, but Bisping just about did enough to shade it on the scorecards.

“This guy is incredible. At his age, he just kicked my ass. You’ve got to respect the guy he’s a legend,” a gracious but battered Bisping said in a post-bout interview after the decision was announced.



Michael Bisping of England (Right) and Dan Henderson of the USA (Left) fight for Ultimate Fighting Championship in Manchester Arena on 9 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

For Henderson it was to be his last professional fight and while he will be remembered as a UFC great, he goes into retirement without ever having won a

belt in mixed martial arts’ largest and most prestigious circuit.

“Fortunately for you guys, this is the last time that anyone will see me fight live,” he said.

“I appreciate all the support throughout the years, I gave my heart and soul to this sport, and fans like you... made it worthwhile.”—Reuters

Few smiles as Southgate starts England reign with win

LONDON — Gareth Southgate’s plea for England to play with adventure and style was answered only fitfully as his reign as caretaker manager began with a 2-0 win over Malta in a World Cup Group F qualifier on Saturday.

It took half an hour for the former England defender’s selection to break down a stubborn rearguard but thanks to first-half goals from Daniel Sturridge and Dele Alli they did go some way to meeting Southgate’s demands.

However, in the first outing since Sam Allardyce’s embarrassing departure as manager after one match and 67 days in charge, the victory that gave England maximum points at the top of the group brought only the odd smile to a Wembley full house of 81,781. Southgate, who has four games to secure the job full-time, had a right to feel irritated that, despite completely outclassing a side ranked 176th in the world, his team did not have the wit to make their second-half domination count with a hatful of goals.

Starting with captain Wayne Rooney in midfield and giving a debut to Jesse Lingard, a former favourite when he was in charge of England’s under-21 team, Southgate was hoping for sharper finishing.



England’s Gary Cahill in action with Malta’s Michael Mifsud during 2018 World Cup Qualifying European Zone at Wembley Stadium, in London, England, on 8 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

In the first half there was a notable shift in tempo and intensity from the side that performed sluggishly in their one match under Allardyce. Malta packed the defence and England initially lacked ideas, Rooney going closest with a curling shot well-saved at full stretch by London-born keeper Andrew Hogg.

Jordan Henderson then crossed deep after 29 minutes and Sturridge’s well-placed

header found the corner of the net. England made it 2-0 when Henderson’s surging run in the 38th minute resulted in the ball falling to Alli who scored at the second attempt.

Malta remained content to let England huff and puff after the break and, apart from one free kick from Rooney and a close-range attempt by Theo Walcott that were well saved, the fans had little to cheer.—Reuters

Kyrgios keeps cool to win Japan Open

BEIJING — Nick Kyrgios shelved the on-court histrionics and let his tennis do the talking to win an enthralling battle against rising Belgian David Goffin 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 and clinch the Japan Open on Sunday.

The Australian number one, long criticised for his temper tantrums, was a model of composure as he overhauled the world number 14 for the biggest title of his career and his third overall.

“It was a great week and I’ll be here again,” 21-year-old Kyrgios said at the trophy ceremony, thanking the crowds for their support and tournament organisers for the “amazing” food.

“I’m going to come here, for sure, for my whole career.”

Since bowing out of the US Open with a hip injury in the third round, a retirement that prompted American great and TV pundit John McEnroe to question his commitment, Kyrgios has shown tantalising signs of realising the potential that his gifts have long promised.

The world number 15 returned home to help Australia

retain their place in the Davis Cup World Group with victory over Slovakia in their Sydney playoff and his triumph in Japan featured an impressive semi-final win over world number eight Gael Monfils.

Goffin, a highly-fancied 25-year-old, was the first to take a set off Kyrgios in the whole week at Tokyo and was successful in blunting the Australian’s monster serve early with a crisp returning game.

But Kyrgios gradually turned the tide, wearing down the fleet-footed Goffin with a succession of thumping forehand winners.

Both blew a pile of break points, with Kyrgios converting two of his 13 chances, only marginally better than Goffin’s one from 12.

But in a game of fine margins, it was enough for the Australian, who landed the decisive blow at 5-5 in the third set and calmly served out the match.

Kyrgios picked up a \$310,000 winners’ cheque and a shot of confidence in time for this week’s Shanghai Masters.—Reuters