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## MEETING OF ASIAN MINDS

### State Counsellor attends BIMSTEC, BRICS meetings in India

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who arrived in Goa, India yesterday, attended the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) Retreat at the Hotel Leela yesterday afternoon.

The State Counsellor and heads of state and government from member countries of BIMSTEC, an international organisation involving a group of countries in South Asia and South East Asia, were welcomed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India. The member countries of BIMSTEC are Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan and Nepal.

The Indian prime minister and leaders of member countries posed for photos before heading to the meeting.

After the BIMSTEC meeting, the State Counsellor attended the BRICS and Leaders' Outreach Summit at Hotel Leela Lawns. Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, five major emerging national economies, make up BRICS, an acronym for the organization formed in 2009 that uses the first letters of the country's names.



See page 3 >> State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi poses for photo together with other leaders of BIMSTEC countries in Goa, India. PHOTO: MNA

## Buddhists celebrate Thadingyut at pagodas across Myanmar

PAGODAS across Myanmar were packed with devotees on the full moon of Thadingyut yesterday, as the people celebrated the end of the Buddhist Lent.

On this auspicious day,

Buddhists perform meritorious deeds at the pagodas and monasteries across the country.

At the Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon, religious associations offered lights and recited

parittas celebrating the Thadingyut Festival, which marks the end of the holy period.

More than 200,000 pilgrims usually come to the Shwedagon pagoda on this important holi-

day.

Meanwhile, the Buddha Pujaniya festival of the Kyaikhtiyo Pagoda in Mon State was also opened yesterday, commencing the pilgrimage season to the pa-

godas for the next seven months.

Thadingyut festival is celebrated to welcome the Buddha's descent from Tavatimsa, a celestial abode, after

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## Buddhists celebrate Thadingyut at pagodas across Myanmar

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preaching Abhidhamma to a deva who had been His mother in a previous existence. Thadingyut falls on the seventh month in the Myanmar calendar and the festival marks the end of the three-month long Buddhist Lent.

The festivals marking the full-moon of Thadingyut are commonly held across the nation.

During festival days, Buddhists usually go to pagodas and monasteries to pay homage to the monks and offer alms and offerings.—*Kay Khaing*



Buddhist devotees recite religious verses at Kyaikhtiyo Pagoda in Thaton, Mon State. Photo: Aung Thet Oo



Buddhist devotees light candles at the Shwedagon Pagoda marking the Thadingyut Festival. The Shwedagon Pagoda is crowded with pilgrims on the Full Moon Day of Thadingyut. Photo: MNA



## No Zika found from 30 suspected cases: MoHS

THE MINISTRY of Health and Sports examined 30 persons from across the country suspected of having contracted the Zika virus, but no signs of the disease were found, according to the ministry's Public Health Department.

To prevent the outbreak of Zika in Myanmar, the ministry is monitoring every point of entry

into the country, including international airports in Yangon, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw, as well as port terminals.

The Zika virus is caused by the bite of the infected Aedes mosquitoes. The virus can also spread through sex. Pregnant women in particular are being advised to take precautions against

the Zika virus because of the heightened possibility of delivering babies with birth defects, according to the World Health Organization.

Those infected with the Zika virus can have symptoms including mild fever, skin rashes, muscle and joint pain, conjunctivitis and malaise or headaches.—*Kyu Kyu*

## Myanmar still faces shortage of skilled workers

MYANMAR is facing skilled worker shortage in many sectors, even though the country has as many as 32 million people of working age from a total population of over 51 million, according to economic experts. According to a report issued by the New Crossroads Asia (NCRA), the country's working population is between 24 million from 32 million, with 56.4 per cent of the workers employed in the agricultural sector, 15.8 per cent in wholesale and retail trade,

including hotels and tourism service businesses, 11.4 per cent in the manufacturing industry, 7.7 per cent in the government sector and 2.7 per cent in the construction sector.

The report shows that 43 per cent (10.8 million) of the total labour force in Myanmar do not complete middle school, a major deficiency for a country that is facing a scarcity of trained and capable workers. Experts said this could threaten the nation's ambi-

tious development prospects.

Some private entrepreneurs have solved this problem by improving the ability of their employees through effective human resources development training.

Global economic experts estimated that Myanmar's economy is likely to develop in the future. According to Asian Development Bank, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth in Myanmar is expected to pick up to 8.4 per cent this fiscal year.—200

## Authorities to expose manipulator of child beggars

MANDALAY Region authorities accelerate their operation to uncover manipulator of child beggars starting this month, said U Soe Tint Aung of Mandalay City Development Committee.

The authorities arrested 12 child beggars who were found within municipal areas but no person who trains and controls them was found. Those child beggars have been transferred to the Mandalay Region Social Welfare Department.

"A child beggar normally earns over Ks15,000 a day while an adult receives about Ks20,000 from begging", U Soe Tint Aung said. Action will be taken against those who participate in child trafficking with the purpose of making money from child begging under the children's law and the anti-traffick-

ing law, he added.

In order to eliminate child begging, mobile teams have carried out awareness campaigns, including the distribution of literature that underlines the ban on begging by children across the region, especially in crowded areas, as of October this year.

The authorities also provided warnings to parents and guardians to never force their children to sell flowers and other goods at junctions, they must protect them from possible traffic accidents.

A survey conducted by the social welfare department on 120 street children in Mandalay found 75 per cent of street children used drugs including yaba and other stimulant substances.—*Aung Thant Khaing*



# State Counsellor arrives in Goa

AT the invitation of Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi of India, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi left Yangon for Goa, India, to attend BIMSTEC Retreat and BRICS and BIMSTEC Leaders' Outreach Summit. She arrived at the navy base in Goa at 11.50 am local time.

The State Counsellor and party were welcomed by Deputy Minister HE Mr Vijay Kumar Singh of the Ministry of External Affairs of India, the Myanmar ambassador to India and officials.

The delegation led by the

State Counsellor proceeded to Hotel Leela, where accommodations for the delegation were arranged.

Later, the State Counsellor attended a luncheon held in honour of BIMSTEC leaders by the Goa State Chief Minister.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi held talks with Sri Lankan President Mr Maithritala Sirisena in Goa, India, Yesterday.

At the meeting, the State Counsellor discussed matters related to bilateral cooperation.—

Myanmar News Agency



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi being seen off by officials and diplomats at Yangon International Airport as she leaves for India to attend BIMSTEC Retreat and BRICS and BIMSTEC Leaders' Outreach Summit. PHOTO: MNA



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi holding talks with Sri Lankan President Mr Maithritala Sirisena in Goa, India, on 16th October, 2016. PHOTO: MNA

## State Counsellor attends BIMSTEC, BRICS meetings in India

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In the evening, the State Counsellor attended a dinner hosted in honour of the summit by the Indian prime minister.

The BRICS and Leader's Outreach summit was the first joint meeting between BRICS and BIMSTEC. The organisation BIMSTEC was founded as

the BIST-EC by Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka and Thailand on 6 June 1997, in accordance with the Bangkok Declaration. Myanmar joined the group on 22 December 1997. During the sixth ministerial meeting in Phuket, Thailand, in February, 2004, Bhutan and Nepal joined the group.— Myanmar News Agency

## About 30 hospitalized for food poisoning

ABOUT 30 people including several monks in Maha Aungmyay Township, Mandalay were hospitalised yesterday after suffering from food poisoning apparently caused by a chicken-and-noodle breakfast.

All are recovering except

for one patient, who remains in serious condition and is under watch in the hospital, according to a doctor.

"Almost everyone is recovering gradually, but one patient is still under serious condition," the doctor from Ward 1 said.

After the monks were served the chicken noodle dish for breakfast, others also ate the meal. About two hours later, they started to feel dizzy. Vomiting and diarrhea followed, and prompted their transport to the hospital.— Aung Thant Khaing

## Vice president calls for sustainable food production in Myanmar

VICE President U Henry Van Thio has called for cooperation from international organisations for achieving sustainable development with food production which is adaptable to climate change.

"We understand that we have responsibility for development of our country. At the same time, it needs to be aware that developing countries can not stand alone without cooperation by international organizations," said the vice president at the ceremony to mark World Food Day 2016 held at the University of Agriculture in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. In his opening speech, U Henry Van Thio also expressed commitment to changing agricultural practices that are adaptable to climate change in order to guarantee sufficiency of food for current and future generations. "It needs to be kept in mind that we have many challenges for implementing a new development programme. On the other hand, there are many opportunities for cooperation," he said.

The government, led by the National League for Democracy, adopted a new policy in order to narrow the gap between rural and urban while bringing about sustainable development and to successfully management national reconciliation and natural resources.

U Henry Van Thio also pledged to work for harmonious



Vice President U Henry Van Thio visiting the booth displaying food at the ceremony to mark the World Food Day 2016. PHOTO: MNA

development of the agriculture, livestock and industrial sectors in order to maintain the industrial economy that is largely based on agriculture.

The government has helped farmers in flood-hit areas by providing them with assistance both pre and post-harvest. The forests that cover 50 per cent of Myanmar are considered carbon reservoir areas and can help reduce the impact of the climate change.

The government is making efforts to change the production processes of the agriculture sector to help the country's smallholder farmers, who own 95 per cent of about 53 million acres of crops in Myanmar. Ms Xiaojie Fan, United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Resident Representative in Myanmar, read out the message sent by Director

of the FAO.

"The theme for World Food Day 2016 is 'Climate is changing. Food and agriculture must, too'.

At the same time, the global population is growing steadily and is expected to reach 9.6 billion by 2050. To meet such a heavy demand, agriculture and food systems will need to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change and become more resilient, productive and sustainable", she said.

FAO is calling on countries to address food and agriculture in their climate action plans and invest more in rural development.

"By strengthening the resilience of smallholder farmers, we can guarantee food security for the planet's increasingly hungry global population also reduce emissions", Ms Fan said.— Myanmar News Agency



## Ancient pagoda consecrated by King Bayintnaung to be renovated



Ancient pagoda consecrated by King Bayintnaung being seen. PHOTO: ZIN OO (MMAL)

LOCATED in Yesagyo Township in Magway Region, an ancient pagoda consecrated by Bayintnaung, King of Toungoo Dynasty of Myanmar from 1550 to 1581, will be renovated as quickly as possible, locals say.

Eindawya Pagoda situated near Ngatahmyaw Village was seriously destroyed by heavy rain early this month. A group of people including Tatmadawmen, monks, local well-wishers

and technicians visited the pagoda on 10 October to observe the current situation and discuss the renovation project.

Since March this year, measurement processes for the renovation project have been made between U Soe Win, an entrepreneur in Mandalay, and Tampawady U Win Maung, the country's famous architect and archaeologist, who specialises in Myanmar history.

According to the histori-

ans, the pagoda was built 500 years ago by the King Bayintnaung Kyawhtin Nawrahta, who is considered one of three greatest kings of Myanmar, along with Anawrahta and Alaungpaya.

Enthusiasts have been invited to make contributions to the renovation project.

Call 09 259 022 368 to reach the Sayadaw of Yadanadipa Monastery for further details.—Zin Oo (MMAL)

## Italy Embassy to present “Italian&Creativity” in Yangon on Oct 23-30

THE Embassy of Italy will organize, “Italian&Creativity”, a fashion show and an exhibition of Italian brands in the framework of the Embassy's Cultural Program “Italy in Myanmar 2016” at Junction Square Shopping Centre at 15:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 23rd 2016.

The event will consist of a fashion show where 4 fashion designers, namely KuKa by Cecilia Cervigni, Thwin Su Htwe, Mogok Pauk Pauk Couture, Bonara by Meme Ekpenyong, who represent a connection between Italy and Myanmar, will exhibit 12 dresses each.

It is the very first time that an Italian-style fashion show is displayed in Myanmar.

This is going to be a great occasion to discover the love that every Italian has for clothing, which we consider a very important form of art, and to have a glimpse of one of the best and most recognized fashion scenes in the world.

Italian creativity is also about the identification of a prod-



uct by its brand: therefore, from October 23rd to October 30th Junction Square will host an exhibition of 40 panels showing the history and the evolution of Italian brands and design.

The display will be an opportunity to give a privileged inside look to 20 brands representative of the Italian excellence in food, fashion, cars and sports.

Admission is free, no reservations required.—GNLM

## 400,000 holidaymakers expected to visit Chaungtha next year

TOURIST arrivals to Chaungtha, a beach resort in Ayeyawady Region, is expected to reach over 400,000 next year, according to the Chaungtha Zone Hoteliers Association.

Chaungtha Beach is a popular resort and one of the top tourist attractions in Myanmar. It is about 5 hours drive from the commercial capital of Yangon.

The Chaungtha Zone Hoteliers Association put forth concerted efforts to attract more visitors by implementing effective environmental conservation programmes to sustain the natural beauty of the beach in cooperation with the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and relevant organisations.

Practicing good sanitation

conditions along the beach and sustainable development of the beach resort top the association's list of priorities to increase the number of visitors from home and abroad, officials said.

The hoteliers association plans to send its report relating to the development of the beach to the Union government, respective ministry and experts to seek

their advice.

A member of the association said the resort needs to develop more hotel facilities, as the beach area has seen an increasing number of holidaymakers year by year because of the beautiful landscapes.

Discussions with responsible persons to expand the hotel zone will be made in the future, the as-

sociation said.

Plans are also underway to reduce accommodation costs and reset reasonable charges for domestic visitors.

According to the association, about 25 hotels and over 50 registered guest houses with a total of about 1,800 rooms have been developed in the beach resort.—200

## Crime NEWS

### Stimulants seized in Kyaukme



Tun Hla (a) Nilar, 20, seen together with the stimulants seized. PHOTO: MPF

Acting on a tip, members of the police in Naungpain Police Station in Kyaukme Township searched a motorbike ridden by Tun Hla (a) Nilar, 20, on 14

October and found 596 stimulant tablets in his bag. Action has been taken against Tun Hla under the Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances Law.—MPF

### Stimulant tablets seized in Loikaw

MEMBERS of anti-Drug Squad 27 in Loikaw found 4,380 stimulant tablets hidden in the backrest of a seat after a search of a vehicle on Loikaw-Namsan Road on 15 October.

The car driven by Khun Naing Thu, 25, was pulled over in front of the monastery in Pankhoukwo Village in Loikaw. Action has been taken against the driver and two passengers, Maung Hla, 28, and Htet Oo, 23, under the Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances Law.—MPF



Khun Naing Thu, 25, Maung Hla, 28, and Htet Oo, 23, are seen together with the stimulant tablets and the car seized. PHOTO: MPF



# LOCAL Business



Officials and journalists gather outside the Yangon Stock Exchange at the opening ceremony of YSX.

PHOTO: REUTERS

## Reconditioned fuel bowzers not allowed to be imported starting from November

RECONDITIONED fuel bowzers will no longer be permitted to be imported beginning in November because of their weakness in security and capacity, which could trigger the outbreak of fire and other hazards, said an official from the Ministry of Commerce.

“The commerce ministry will not allow. The import of the reconditioned fuel bowzers to ensure there is no harm to the public”, an official said.

The reconditioned bowzers, fuel tankers that are usually used to deliver fuel to aircraft at air-

fields and ports, are mostly imported from Japan, where they are structurally reconditioned. Currently, 17 fuel bowzers allegedly reconditioned are maintained at Yangon ports. These bowzers will be the last to be granted permits for legal use, it is learnt. —200

## Sesame powder from Magwe mill to be exported to South Korea

ABOUT 100 containers of sesame powder manufactured in a Magwe sesame mill will be exported to South Korea, it is learnt.

This factory was built on 7 acres of land near Sartinekan village, 3 miles away from Magwe to mill locally produced sesame seeds. The factory, constructed by Myanmar engineers, will mill various types of sesame seeds, depending on the order, officials said. In the milling process, sesame seeds are purified and cleaned with water. The seeds are then

roasted at a temperature of over 90 degrees after the water is filtered from the seeds. The roasted seeds are purified a second time after the seeds are cooled. After that, the sesame seeds are ready to be ground. The crushed sesame powder is then packed and exported to South Korea.

“The export price of the sesame powder is negotiable”, said U Phoe Ni, a spokesman for the sesame powder mill. “We will not export the sesame powder if we are not satisfied with the offered

price. Korea produces sesame oil, which is mostly found in Korean cuisine. They are fond of enjoying the sesame oil in their recipes.”

The commercial export of sesame powder business was begun in 2014, with an export of about 150 container loads of sesame powder. Purchase orders declined in 2015 because of the cheap price of the sesame seeds in African countries and Viet Nam. More sesame powder is likely to be exported this year, officials said. —200

## Authorities to spend Ks100m on development projects in Yathedaung

RAKHINE State government will spend Ks100 million allotted by the Union government to develop infrastructure in Yathedaung, a township in Rakhine State, according to a Pyithu Hluttaw representative from Yathedaung Constituency.

Regional development works include establishing transport facilities such as jetty bridge, village-to-village roads

and fencing around lakes and wells, all of which will be carried out in 47 target villages in the township.

Construction of a concrete jetty bridge tops the government lists of priorities, said Daw Khin Saw Wai, a Pyithu Hluttaw MP from Yathedaung Constituency.

The majority of villages in the state totally rely on water transport for their livelihoods,

so local people want the number one priority to be building a jetty bridge,” said U Aung Than from Yathedaung Township.

Although the project allows implementers to spend up to three per cent of total budget for general expenses, they plan to use only one per cent of funds and the other two per cent have been transferred to residents. —Myitmakha News Agency

## First Private Bank to commence share trading at YSX soon

FIRST Private Bank will soon trade its shares at Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) as the fourth listed public company, it is learnt.

All firms planning to list on the Yangon Stock Exchange must publish disclosure documents in advance of their Initial Public Offering (IPO), including details of their recent financial reports, business strategy and ownership structure.

The company will release disclosure of the basic price of the shares. Currently, the company is making assessments and observations to sell its shares. The first date of its stock trading at YSX will be announced soon, said an

official from First Private Bank.

The public companies which are in accord with the prescribed criteria by The Securities and Exchange Commission of Myanmar (SECM) are eligible to list at YSX.

Currently, the SECM has already approved six public companies to trade stocks at YSX. The Yangon Stock Exchange began on 9th December, 2015 and the three listed companies, First Myanmar Investment (FMI), Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings Public Limited (MTSH) and Myanmar Citizens Bank (MCB) are currently listed and trading stocks at YSX. —200

## Goat farmers unhappy with the decrease in price

GOAT farmers and goat herders from Mahlaing Township, Mandalay Region are not doing well because of a sharp drop in the goat price, it is learnt.

Previously, the price of goat was Ks45,000 to Ks50,000 per head.

The current price of the goat is less than half that, around Ks20,000 per head. The market has cooled significantly with little demand. Some farmers who want to keep a goat as a pet sometimes come to purchase a male, but there is virtually no demand for

female goats, which breed twice a year.

“The drop in the market price of the goat has been occurring for three months. When the goat herders sell the big goat for money, the buyers do not want to offer even Ks20,000 per head”, said a goat herder from Myitkyin village.

“The goat farmers as well as the goat herders are suffering losses. Therefore, the goats are returned to their owners”, said a goat owner. —Aung Htay (Mahlaing)



A woman driving goats to grazing land in central Myanmar.

PHOTO: KYAW SWAR



# Thai PM reassures on smooth succession; coronation after king's funeral

BANGKOK — Thailand has sought to dispel any concern about a royal succession after Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn said he would delay his ascension to the throne while he mourns his father, and the government stressed on Sunday its was working as normal.

King Bhumibol Adulyadej died on Thursday after seven decades on the throne. He was 88.

The prospect of complications in the succession in the politically divided country could alarm financial markets, but the military government has been quick to quash any such speculation.

The crown prince has requested that his succession be delayed for an unspecified period, so he can grieve with the people, Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha has said.

The government has not set a date for the royal cremation but a deputy prime minister said the prince had asked that it be held after a year of mourning, and the



Thailand's Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn takes part in a ceremony honouring the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej at the Grand Palace in Bangkok, Thailand, on 15 October 2016.

PHOTO: REUTERS

coronation would take place after the cremation.

The formal procedure for him to become king, which involves the president of the legislature inviting him to ascend the throne, can happen at any time before his coronation.

In the meantime, the head of the royal advisory

council, a 96-year-old former army chief and prime minister, Prem Tinsulanonda, is standing in as regent.

The prince held an audience with Prem and Prayuth on Saturday evening and asked them to pass on his reassurance to the people, Prayuth said.

"He asked the people

not to be confused or worry about the country's administration or even about the succession," Prayuth said in a televised address.

"He said at this time everyone is sad, he is still sad, so every side should wait until we pass this sad time ... When the religious ceremony and funeral have

passed for a while, then it will be an appropriate time to proceed," Prayuth said.

King Bhumibol, who was the world's longest-reigning monarch, has long been revered as a father figure and symbol of unity in a country riven by political crises over the years, most recently by a power struggle between the military-led establishment and populist political forces.

Many Thais worry about a future without him.

Thailand's strict lese-majeste laws, which have been applied rigorously since a military government took power in a 2014 coup, have left little room for public discussion about the succession.

Mourners dressed in black from across Thailand have flocked to Bangkok's gilded Grand Palace to pay homage to the only king most of them have ever known.

Buddhist monks have been chanting prayers beside his coffin in an imposing throne hall, and they will chant for 100 days as part of

the funeral rites.

Though the mood is sombre, and almost everyone is dressed in black, shopping malls, markets, cinemas and even some bars have been open.

Thailand's battered stocks recovered ground on Friday on hope for a smooth transition and shares were likely to rise again on Monday, said Kasem Prunratamala, head of research at CIMB Securities.

"The market should continue to rebound," he said. "Nobody would dare do anything that causes problems for the country."

Prince Vajiralongkorn does not enjoy the same adoration his father earned over a lifetime on the throne. He has married and divorced three times, and has spent much of his life outside Thailand, often in Germany.

Though the king designated his only son crown prince in 1972, shortly afterwards he also raised the possibility of the eligibility of a princess becoming the monarch.—Reuters

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## Philippine leader says will raise arbitration case with China, won't bargain

MANILA — Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said on Sunday he would raise a controversial arbitral ruling on the South China Sea with China's leaders, and vowed not to surrender any sovereignty or deviate from the July award by the tribunal in The Hague.

Duterte said his trip to China this week represented a turning point in bilateral ties, but he acknowledged there was some public concern about his rapid rapprochement moves and reassured Filipinos that would not impact on the country's maritime sovereignty.

In comments that will not sit comfortably with the Chinese leadership, Duterte said the decision by the Permanent Court of Arbitration would be talked about and the parameters of the award would be discussed, but there would be no "hard imposition" of it.

The ruling dealt a blow to China's extensive claims in the South China Sea. Beijing has refused to recognise the case and has chided any country telling it to abide by the ruling.

"I will not bargain anywhere, we will continue

to insist that is ours," he told a news conference in his home city of Davao.

"The international tribunal decision will be taken up."

The unpredictable president's moves to strongly engage China, just a few months after an arbitral award that sparked fears in the region of a backlash by Beijing in the South China Sea, mark a striking reversal in Philippine foreign policy since he took office on 30 June.

Duterte goes to China on Tuesday with at least 200 members of the Philippine business elite to pave the way for what he calls a new commercial alliance. Among the areas expected to be prioritized are financing for Philippine businesses, farm exports, major infrastructure investments and tourism.

It comes amid a torrent of anti-American comments by Duterte that have cast a cloud over a long-standing relationship with the United States.

While he continues to chastise and hurl abuse at Washington for expressing concern about his bloody war on drugs, he insists his strategic gambit is about



Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte gestures as he delivers a speech to the members of the Philippine Army during a visit at the army headquarters in Taguig city, metro Manila, Philippines, on 4 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

abiding by a constitution that enshrines an independent foreign policy.

He spoke of his intention to "intensify" trade ties and work closer with China, but would not avoid discussing what is a bone of contention between them.

"There will be no hard impositions. We will talk, we will maybe paraphrase everything in the judgment and set the limits of our territories, the special economic zones," he said of

meeting.

"It will be no bargaining. It is ours and many of you are wanting to ask the question. No bargaining."

Duterte's comments might rattle China, which has spoken glowingly about the new partnership, but may not want to hear about an international ruling that it lost comprehensively, and included the invalidation of the U-shaped "nine-dashed line" featured on Chinese maps and passports.—Reuters



## PM Modi, at BRICS summit, calls Pakistan ‘mother-ship of terrorism’

GOA (India) — India’s Prime Minister Narendra Modi branded Pakistan a “mother-ship of terrorism” at a summit of the BRICS nations on Sunday, testing the cohesion of a group whose heavyweight member China is a close ally of its South Asian arch-rival.

Modi’s remarks to a meeting of leaders from the BRICS — which include Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa — escalated his diplomatic drive to isolate Pakistan, which India accuses of sponsoring cross-border terrorism.

Tension between the nuclear-armed neighbours has escalated since a 18 September attack on an army base in Kashmir, near the disputed frontier with Pakistan, killed 19 Indian soldiers in the worst such assault in 14 years.

India later said it had carried out retaliatory “surgical strikes” across the de facto border that inflicted significant casualties. Pakistan denied any role in the attack on the Uri army base, and said the Indian operation had not even happened, dismissing it as typical cross-border firing.

“In our own region, terrorism poses a grave threat to peace, security and development,” Modi said in his remarks to BRICS leaders who met at a resort hotel in Goa.

“Tragically, the mother-ship of terrorism is a country in India’s neighbourhood,” the 66-year-old prime minister said, without directly naming Pakistan, in a series of tweets issued by the foreign ministry.

No immediate reaction was available from Pakistan’s foreign ministry.

Modi’s posturing overshadowed the gathering of leaders of a group originally set up to boost economic cooperation. It followed a productive bilateral summit with President Vladimir



(L-R) Brazil’s President Michel Temer, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chinese President Xi Jinping and South African President Jacob Zuma pose for a group picture during BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) Summit in Benaulim, in the western state of Goa, India, on 16 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Putin of Russia on Saturday that yielded billions of dollars in defence and energy deals.

The BRICS leaders had donned brightly coloured sleeveless jackets, of a style made popular by India’s first post-independence leader Jawaharlal Nehru, for an informal dinner on Saturday evening.

They were due later on Sunday to hold an outreach session with leaders from a little-known group of countries from the Bay of Bengal region whose key attribute, from India’s point of view, is that Pakistan is not a member.

Modi’s hard line against Pakistan marks a departure from India’s tradition of strategic restraint, and New Delhi has won expressions of support from both the West and Russia over the army base attack.

Yet China, a longstanding ally of Pakistan that plans to build a \$46 billion export corridor, has shown public restraint.

Modi and President Xi Jinping also held a bilateral meeting on Saturday and the accounts of their conversation emerging from both sides pointed to key differences of opinion.

In one remark reported by

the state Xinhua news agency, Xi said that China and India should “support each other in participating in regional affairs and enhance cooperation within multi-lateral frameworks”.

The dispatch went on to refer to the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). This grouping includes Pakistan, which was to have hosted a summit in November that collapsed after India and other members pulled out.

The final BRICS summit declaration was expected to repeat earlier condemnations of “terrorism in all its forms”, say

diplomats and analysts, but avoid levelling blame over tensions between India and Pakistan.

“Modi is aware that such language wouldn’t get the consensus necessary to make it into the final communique. Including it in his speech ensures it gets wide circulation anyway,” said South Asia expert Shashank Joshi.

“So far, we haven’t seen any indication at all that China is softening its public support for Pakistan. India did not expect differently,” added Joshi, a senior research fellow at the Royal United Services Institute in London.—Reuters

## Typhoon Sarika further weakens as Philippines braces for another storm

MANILA — A typhoon that barrelled into northern Philippine provinces on Sunday has further weakened as it moved toward the South China Sea, but the local weather bureau said it was closely monitoring another storm that could enter the eastern boundary by Monday.

Typhoon Sarika dumped heavy rains and unleashed strong winds on northern rice-growing regions, but there were no confirmed casualties, disaster officials said.

Weather forecasters said Typhoon Sarika was packing winds of up to 120 kph on Sunday afternoon as it moved out of the country.

As many as 2,552 families,

or 12,496 individuals, had been pre-emptively evacuated before Sarika made landfall early on Sunday. Authorities were forced to cancel ferry services and as many as 160 domestic and international flights scheduled for the day.

Damage to farm crops, mostly rice and corn, was estimated at 53.5 million pesos (\$1.1 million) initially, disaster officials said.

The weather bureau has lowered storm warning signals but said it was keeping a close watch on the next weather disturbance named Haima.

“It’s still far, out of the Philippine Area of Responsibility but it’s now in the level of a storm. Over time, while travelling over water, it gains strength so that’s

our next concern,” said Ricardo Jalad, executive director at the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

Jalad said the damage from Typhoon Sarika was “not that serious” as initially expected, but there were reports of landslides and flooding in some areas. The strong winds ripped off the roof of some houses and uprooted trees, he said.

“We were focused in Baler but local officials were able to conduct pre-emptive evacuation so there was no casualty,” he said, referring to the town where the typhoon made landfall.

“Hopefully, there is indeed no casualty... Our monitoring is continuous.” —Reuters

## Heavy rains in Central Viet Nam leave 21 dead, eight missing in 4 days

HO CHI MINH CITY — Heavy rains and strong winds in Viet Nam’s central region over the past four days have left 21 people dead and eight others missing, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development said Sunday.

Quang Binh Province has been hit the hardest with 15 dead, seven missing and 13 injured, followed by Ha Tinh Province with two dead and one missing, and Nghe An and Thua Thien Hue with two dead each.

Many road and railway sections and aquaculture ponds

in the central region have been submerged in water, causing big losses to transport sector and farmers.

A powerful typhoon named Sakira is forecast to affect the central region on 19 October, which may cause a new wave of heavy rain and floods.

Natural disasters killed or left 125 people missing, injured 266 others, and caused property losses of some 10,500 billion Vietnamese dong (470.8 million US dollars) in the first nine months of 2016, said Viet Nam’s General Statistics Office.—Xinhua



# Opinion

## Write for us

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## It is time for international community to review policies toward extremists

Tha Sein

**S**ECURITY forces are exercising caution and following the law in their response to the attackers—some armed with automatic weapons and others with sticks and swords—who launched a series of attacks in the western part of Myanmar, which has not typically been the site of armed insurgency. It is critical time for the international community to review their policies towards the atrocities of the extremist attackers whose perpetration still continues in many forms.

Exhibiting its neighborliness, Bangladesh had handed

over two of the assailants to Myanmar, a welcome move which came against a backdrop of heightened fabrications that a number of Muslims living in Rakhine state face discrimination, restriction of movements and denial of access to services.

In common with the neighboring country, the European Union-EU expressed its sympathy to the families of the victims who lost their lives in attacks on three border posts in Rakhine State, calling for conducting a formal police investigation into the incident in order to bring the perpetrators of the attack to justice. It is encourag-

ing to know that the EU stands with Myanmar in these difficult moments.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has sent a message to all countries across the world that the Myanmar government is doing its best to deal with the cause and resolution of recent violent attacks, exercising the rule of law so that it can reach the best and most just settlement. When it comes to the recent incidents, the state counsellor at the first anniversary of signing of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement — NCA has made public that we are brave enough to

take drastic, legal action within the framework of law, given the seriousness of the problem and its potential impact on the country's democratization process.

At a time when we are taking effective action to defend against, respond to and defeat all armed violent attacks and attempted attacks in accordance with the laws, weighing the gravity and consequences the problem, the provision of assistance by Bangladesh and the EU in the form of encouragement, is an valuable asset capable of holding the perpetrators ultimately accountable.

## The Significant and Noble Day of Abhidhamma (The Full Moon of Thadingyut, Mahapavarana Day)

Be Sein (Religious Affairs)

**T**HE Significant and Noble Day of Abhidhamma (the Full Moon of Thadingyut, Mahapavarana Day) falls on 16th October in the year 2016.

In the fourth week, after attaining the enlightenment, the Omniscient Buddha began to contemplate and review the Dhamma (the truth). He had realized near the Bodhi tree. On His seventh Vassa (Seven Years) of enlightenment, the Omniscient Buddha, out of compassion for the Devas and Brahmas, went to the TaVatimsa Devaloka (Celestial abode) where he preached the Abhidhamma Pitaka (Basket of Ultimate things) for a full three months to His deceased mother who was reborn as Santusita Deva, and also to the other Devas and Brahmas assembled there, hoping to make them realize the four ultimate things for which a Knowledge of Abhidhamma is absolutely necessary because it deals with the highest and ultimate sense of things springing into being as facts as distinct from mere names.

After preaching Abhidhamma (Ultimate Truth) to His deceased mother, Santusita Deva and other Devas and Brahmas for a full three months, the Omniscient Buddha returned to the human abode on the Full Moon Day of Thadingyut. According to the Pali Text, three decorat-

ed stairways of silver, gold and ruby beginning from the top of the great Mount Meru to the gate of Sankassa town on earth were created as a token of paying deep homage to the Omniscient Buddha who returned to the human abode. The Omniscient Buddha took the middle stairway accompanied by Devas and Brahmas who took right stairway and left stairway. All Devas and Brahmas from the Tavatimsa Devaloka (Celestial abode) paid deep homage to the Omniscient Buddha for a full three months from 1st Waning of Waso to Full Moon of Thadingyut. According to the Vinaya rules of the Omniscient Buddha, the period of a full three months from 1st Waning of Waso to Full Moon of Thadingyut (round about from mid-July to mid-October) is retreat-period of Buddhists. During retreat-period, all Buddhist monks must not have to go away from their residence (monasteries, temples) not more than seven days. Especially, they have to fulfill their religious duties (Ganthadhura and Vipassanadhura) during the retreat-period more than before. All Buddhist monks have followed and practiced the said Vinaya rules since over 2560 years ago.

When the Omniscient Buddha descended from Tavatimsa (Celestial abode), the Devas and Brahmas accompanied Him put-

ting up white sacred umbrellas and fanning Him. At that time, because of unlimited miraculous powers, supernormal powers and glory of the Buddha, the whole earthlings could see the magnificent celestial abode, and also the Devas and Brahmas could see hundreds of thousands of millions of people greeting and paying deep homage to the Omniscient Buddha who descended at the gate of Sankassa Town of the human abode on the Full Moon Day of Thadingyut (Mahapavarana Day).

The Full Moon Day of Thadingyut (Mahapavarana Day) has been marked by Buddhists as the significant and noble day of Abhidhamma since then (over 2560 years ago). On the auspicious occasion of the Abhidhamma (Mahapavarana Day), in remembrance of the Omniscient Buddha, members of the Sangha recite Abhidhamma discourses and multifarious Buddhist devotees offer lights, water, flowers, incense, fragrant scents, fruits and other offertories. And also, Dhamma talks about Abhidhamma (Mahapavarana) Day are held. On this noble day, most Buddhists keep nine-precepts for their meritorious deeds dedicating to the attainment of noble stage of Nibbana (supreme bliss).

The Pali term Abhidhamma is composed of Abhi which means subtle or ultimate, and Dhamma which means truth or doctrine. The Abhidhamma, therefore, means subtle or ulti-

mate truth or doctrine. The Abhidhamma Pitaka consists of the four ultimate things, Mind (Citta), Psychicfactor (Cetasikas) Matter (Rupa) and Nibbana. It is the most important and most interesting to a deep thinker. It is subdivided into seven books.

When the Omniscient Buddha had preached Abhidhamma for a full three months to His deceased mother who was reborn as Sannisita Deva and to other Devas and Brahmas at the celestial abode, He said to the king of the celestials that He would return to the human abode. Therefore, the king of the celestial created and arranged three stairways of silver, gold and ruby beginning from the top of the great Mount Meru to the gate of Sankassa Town of the human abode.

Sending forth the six coloured rays emanated from His body, the Omniscient Buddha descended by the middle stairway of ruby to the gate of Sankassa Town of the human abode (on earth). The Devas (Celestial beings) accompanied the Buddha from the right side stairway of gold playing musical instruments and fanning the Omniscient Buddha. The Brahmas (higher celestial beings) accompanied the Omniscient Buddha from the left side stairway of silver putting up white umbrellas.

At the time, when the Omniscient Buddha returned from the celestial abode to the human abode, the highest Brahma realm, Ekamanta, the lowest Aviji (Apya planes of miserable exist-

ences), the four cardinal points, the ten directions and thousands of worlds were clearly visible without any blockage and barrier because of unlimited miraculous powers, supernormal powers and glory of the Omniscient Buddha.

People could see the whole celestial abode, Devas and Brahmas, and all celestial beings in turn viewed more than hundreds of thousands of millions of people who were welcoming and paying deep homage to the Omniscient Buddha. There was no one that did not wish and pray to become a Buddha, the most noble wish after witnessing the most surpassing splendour.

Up to this day, we can visualize the most surpassing splendour and significant event of the Omniscient Buddha descending to the earth from the great Mount Meru accompanied by Devas and Brahmas to the gate of Sankassa, Town of the human abode.

On the full Moon Day of Thadingyut, we all Buddhists generously offer lights, water, flowers, scents, fruits, food and other various kinds of offertories to pagodas and monasteries and also pay respect to teachers, parents and elders. These meritorious deeds dedicate to the attainment of the noble stage of Nibbana through the most surpassing splendour and significant event of the Omniscient Buddha descending to the human abode from the celestial abode on the Full Moon Day of Thadingyut.

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## Crew shortages force Kenya Airways to cancel flights ahead of strike

NAIROBI — Loss-making national carrier Kenya Airways cancelled several flights on Sunday after some crew members did not report for work, the latest blow as the airline struggles to avert a strike called by its pilots.

“Some of our outsourced staff, including cabin crew, have stayed away from work from Friday and we are working with their employer to resolve any issues they may have,” said a statement from the airline.

Flights to the Kenyan city of Mombasa, Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Juba in South Sudan, Lusaka in Zambia, Harare in Zimbabwe and Maputo in Mozambique were cancelled because there were not enough crew members to fly safely, the state-

ment said.

Pilots union KALPA has called an indefinite strike, scheduled to start on Tuesday, to protest against the management of the airline, which is part owned by the government and Air France KLM.

The union said its members had lost confidence in the ability of the airline's chief executive and chairman to end years of losses.

On Friday, a court ruled the strike was illegal and the government had said it would be “economic sabotage”. On Thursday, the airline said it had halved its pre-tax loss to 5 billion shillings (\$49.4 million) in the past six months thanks to a recovery in passenger numbers.—*Reuters*

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For **Coherus BioSciences, Inc.**

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Email address: [myanmar@tilleke.com](mailto:myanmar@tilleke.com)

Dated: 17.10.2016

### Invitation of Expression of Interest (EoI) for Cooperation in Asbestos Cement Plant (Hmawbi) under supervision of No.2 Heavy Industrial Enterprise, Ministry of Industry

Asbestos Cement Plant (Hmawbi) under supervision of the No.2 Heavy Industrial Enterprise of Ministry of Industry are intended to cooperate with Local and Foreign entrepreneurs.

As a first step, companies who interested in those cooperation are required to submit their Expression of Interest (EoI) **not later than 3:00 pm (Myanmar Standard Time), on 28 October 2016 to Technical Development Department, No.2 Heavy Industrial Enterprise, Ministry of Industry, Office No.41, Naypyitaw, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.**

Interested entities can take over the EoI Form and other indications at above office commencing from (17.10.2016) by presenting the document of company profile.

#### Document of Company Profile

- Valid Certificate of Incorporation
  - Record and Regulation of Company
  - Name of Foreign's Technical Cooperator
- (For more information; 067 408160, 067 408208)



The US Navy guided-missile destroyer USS Mason conducts divisional tactic maneuvers as part of a Commander, Task Force 55, exercise in the Gulf of Oman on 10 September 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

## US warship targeted in failed missile attack from Yemen

WASHINGTON — A US Navy destroyer was targeted on Saturday in a failed missile attack from territory in Yemen controlled by Iran-aligned Houthi rebels, the third such incident in the past week, US officials said.

Multiple surface-to-surface missiles were fired at the USS Mason sailing in international waters in the Red Sea but the warship used on-board countermeasures to defend itself and was not hit, one defense official said, citing initial information.

The latest attack could provoke further retaliation by the US military, which launched cruise missiles on Thursday against three coastal radar sites in

Houthi-controlled areas in Yemen in response to the two previous failed missile firings against the Mason.

“The Mason once again appears to have come under attack in the Red Sea, again from coastal defence cruise missiles fired from the coast of Yemen,” Admiral John Richardson, US chief of naval operations, said during a ship christening in Baltimore on Saturday.

Another US defence official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told Reuters: “We are assessing the situation. All of our ships and crews are safe and unharmed.”

Thursday's US counter-strikes, authorised by

President Barack Obama, marked Washington's first direct military action against suspected Houthi-controlled targets in Yemen's conflict and raised questions about the potential for further escalation.

The Houthi movement earlier this week denied responsibility for the missile attacks on the Mason and warned that it too would defend itself.

The Pentagon on Thursday stressed the limited nature of the strikes, aimed at radar that it suspected enabled the launch of at least three missiles against the Mason on Sunday and Wednesday.

Pentagon spokesman

Peter Cook said at the time that the US counter-strikes were not connected to the broader civil war in Yemen, which has unleashed famine and killed more than 10,000 people since March 2015 in the Arab world's poorest country.

The United States, a longtime ally of Saudi Arabia, has provided aerial refueling of warplanes from a Saudi-led coalition striking Yemen and it supplies US weapons to the kingdom.

Iran, which supports the Houthi group, said last week it had deployed two warships to the Gulf of Aden, to protect ship lanes from piracy.—*Reuters*

## Syrian rebels seize village where Islamic State promised final battle

BEIRUT — Syrian rebels said they captured the village of Dabiq from Islamic State on Sunday, forcing the jihadist group from a stronghold where it had promised to fight a final, apocalyptic battle with the West.

The rebels, backed by Turkish tanks and war-

planes, also took neighbouring Soran, said Ahmed Osman, head of the Sultan Murad group, one of the Free Syrian Army (FSA) factions involved in the clashes on Saturday night and Sunday morning.

“The Daesh myth of their great battle in Dabiq is finished,” he told Reu-

ters, using a pejorative name for Islamic State.

An Islamic prophecy names Dabiq as the site of a battle between Muslims and infidels that will presage doomsday, a message used extensively in Islamic State's propaganda. The group also named a publication after the northwest

village.

However, the jihadist group has appeared to back away from Dabiq's symbolism more recently after advances by Turkey-backed rebels put the village at risk of capture, saying this battle was not the one described in the prophecy.—*Reuters*

## Britain sends new military training mission to Tunisia to counter IS

LONDON — Britain has sent 40 military personnel to Tunisia to provide training aimed at helping the North African country prevent the spread of Islamic State fighters from neighbouring Libya, the British defence minister said on Saturday.

The training will focus on operational planning, intelligence, surveillance and mobile patrolling and is the third mission of its kind by British troops in Tunisia since 30 British holidaymakers were killed in a beach attack there.

The massacre in June last year at a hotel in Sousse on the Mediterranean coast was the biggest loss of British lives in such an incident since the July 2005 bombings in London.

“We are determined to support our Tunisian allies to defend against Daesh (Islamic State) terrorists who slaughtered innocent Britons on a beach there last year,” Defence Secretary Michael Fallon said in a statement.

“Our training will help Tunisian forces strength-



British Defence Secretary Michael Fallon arrives at the annual Conservative Party Conference in Birmingham, Britain, on 4 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

en their border security and stop the spread of Daesh along the coast.”

The training will be delivered to around 200 Tun-

sian army personnel at various locations. Two previous training missions took place in February and late last year.—*Reuters*





US Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton speaks at a fundraiser in Seattle, Washington, US, on 14 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Clinton heavily favored to win Electoral College: poll

NEW YORK — After a brutal week for Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump, Democrat Hillary Clinton maintained a substantial projected advantage in the race to win the Electoral College and claim the US presidency, according to the latest results from the Reuters/Ipsos States of the Nation project released on Saturday.

If the election were held this week, the project estimates that Clinton's odds of securing the 270 Electoral College votes needed to win the presidency at more than 95 per cent, and by a margin of 118 Electoral College votes. It is the second week in a row that the project has estimated her odds so high.

The results mirror other Electoral College projections, some of which estimate Clinton's chance of winning at around 90 per cent.

For the Trump campaign there are a handful of states the Republican candidate must win if he is to cobble together enough states to win the White House.

Among them is Florida, but numerous recent visits to the Sunshine State by Trump and his vice-presidential running mate Mike Pence did little to dent Clinton's advantage in the contest for the state's 29 Electoral College votes. She leads by

6 percentage points, about the same lead she enjoyed last week.

Still, the race tightened in Ohio, another important state for Trump. Both Ohio and Nevada were leaning toward Clinton last week but are now toss-ups.

However, Clinton's support grew in North Carolina and Colorado, both of which moved from toss-ups to leaning Clinton.

In the last week, the Trump campaign struggled to respond to allegations from several women that Trump had groped them or made unwanted sexual advances over several decades. Trump said the reports were lies and part of a media conspiracy to defeat him.

All of the allegations came after *The Washington Post* disclosed a video from 2005 of Trump describing how he tried to seduce a married woman and bragged in vulgar terms how his celebrity allowed him to kiss and grope women without permission.

The accusations overshadowed what might otherwise have been a difficult week for Clinton. Her campaign manager's email account was apparently hacked and thousands of his emails were released by Wikileaks. US officials say the Russian government sanctioned the electronic break-in.

The emails have been trick-

ling out for two weeks. Included in the hacked emails were undisputed comments that Clinton made to banks and big business in a 2014 speech.

In those comments, Clinton said she supports open trade and open borders, and takes a conciliatory approach to Wall Street, both positions she later backed away from.

Since that release, waves of other emails have been released, among which were some that suggested Clinton had inappropriately received questions in advance of a debate with Bernie Sanders during the Democratic primaries.

Without Trump's own woes, the Clinton emails may well have become the central issue in the campaign. Yet with just over three weeks to go until the 8 November election, Trump does not have much time to turn the race around.

According to the project, Trump trails by double-digits among women and all minority groups. Among black voters he trails by nearly 70 points. To a large extent his support is almost entirely dependent on white voters.

And while Trump's support among white men is strong, among white women his lead is negligible.—Reuters

## UN Secretary-General's message on The International Day for The Eradication of Poverty

17 October 2016

We are approaching the end of the first year of implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. With its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, the 2030 Agenda is a universal vision for peace, prosperity and dignity for all people on a healthy planet. Achieving this objective is inconceivable without fulfilling the mandate of SDG 1 to end poverty in all its forms.

Today, some 1 billion people live in extreme poverty and more than 800 million endure hunger and malnutrition. But poverty is not simply measured by inadequate income. It is manifested in restricted access to health, education and other essential services and, too often, by the denial or abuse of other fundamental human rights.

Poverty is both a cause and consequence of marginalization and social exclusion. To fulfil the promise of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind, we must address the humiliation and exclusion of people living in poverty.

Humiliation and exclusion are powerful drivers of social unrest and, in extreme cases, the violent extremism that is troubling so many parts of our world. But, in most instances, people living in poverty respond to these societal ills with stoic resilience as they work to escape the degrading reality of their daily lives.

The duty of all Governments and societies is to address systemic socio-economic inequalities and facilitate the engagement of all people living in extreme poverty so they can help themselves, their families and their communities to build a more equitable, sustainable and prosperous future for all.

The message of today's observance is "Moving from Humiliation and Exclusion to Participation: Ending Poverty in All its Forms". We must break down the walls of poverty and exclusion that plague so many people in every region of the world. We must build inclusive societies that promote participation by all. We must ensure the voices of all those living in poverty are heard.

On this International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, let us listen to and heed the voices of people living in poverty. Let us commit to respect and defend the human rights of all people and end the humiliation and social exclusion that people living in poverty face every day by promoting their involvement in global efforts to end extreme poverty once and for all.—UNIC/ Yangon

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Explosion hits part of southern Turkish city of Gaziantep — Dogan

ISTANBUL — An explosion hit the Besyuzevler neighbourhood of the southern Turkish city of Gaziantep on Sunday, wounding several people, the privately-owned Dogan News Agency reported.

Broadcaster Haberturk said the blast happened during a raid by the security forces on a suspected militant safe house in the city and that one of two suicide bombers blew themselves up.—Reuters

#### Three dead, dozen wounded in shooting at Los Angeles party

LOS ANGELES — Three people were killed and a dozen wounded in Los Angeles early on Saturday after an argument at a party resulted in gunfire, a police spokesman said on Saturday.

A man and a woman are in custody over the shooting, which occurred shortly after midnight in southwest Los Angeles, a police spokesman, Officer Mike Lopez, said. The two people being held were not identified.

Conditions of the wounded range from critical to stable but serious, Lopez said.—Reuters

#### M5.3 quake hits northeastern Japan, no tsunami warning issued

TOKYO — An earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 5.3 jolted northeastern Japan on Sunday, Japan's weather agency said. No tsunami warning was issued.

There are no immediate reports of casualties or damage from the 4:37pm quake. The focus of the temblor was about 20 kilometres underground in the Pacific Ocean off Miyagi Prefecture, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

Tohoku Electric Power Co. said it saw no abnormality at the Onagawa Nuclear Power Station in Miyagi Prefecture.—Kyodo News



INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS SCHEDULE

YANGON TO BANGKOK				BANGKOK TO YANGON				RGN TO ICN				ICN TO RGN				MDL TO DMK				DMK TO MDL			
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days
TG-304	09:50	11:45	Daily	TG-303	7:55	8:50	Daily	KE-472	23:30	7:50	Daily	KE-471	18:45	22:25	Daily	FD-245	12:45	15:00	Daily	FD-244	10:50	12:15	Daily
TG-2302	15:00	16:55	Daily	TG-2301	13:15	14:10	Daily																
TG-306	19:45	21:40	Daily	TG-305	17:50	18:45	Daily																
PG-706	6:15	8:30	Daily	PG-701	8:50	9:40	Daily																
PG-702	10:30	12:25	Daily	PG-707	13:45	14:35	Daily																
PG-708	15:20	17:15	Daily	PG-703	18:25	19:15	3																
PG-708	18:20	20:15	3	PG-703	16:45	17:35	Daily																
PG-704	20:00	21:55	Daily	PG-705	20:30	21:45	Daily																
8M-335	7:40	9:25	Daily	8M-336	10:40	11:25	Daily																
PG-331	16:30	18:15	Daily	8M-332	19:15	20:00	Daily																
UB-017	15:10	19:20	1,3,5	UB-020	11:00	11:30	7																
UB-017	17:50	19:20	2,4,6,7	UB-018	20:20	20:50	Daily																
UB-019	8:05	9:35	7	UB-020	9:15	9:45	1,2,4,5,6																
UB-019	6:30	8:00	1,2,3,4,5,6																				
RGN TO DMK				DMK TO RGN				RGN TO KMG				KMG TO RGN				MDL TO KMG				KMG TO MDL			
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days
FD-252	8:30	10:15	Daily	FD-251	7:15	8:00	Daily	CA-416	12:15	15:45	Daily	CA-415	10:45	11:15	Daily	MU-2030	14:05	16:45	Daily	MU-2029	13:20	13:15	Daily
FD-256	13:25	15:10	Daily	FD-255	12:05	12:55	Daily	MU-2032	15:20	18:40	2,4,5,6,7	MU-2031	14:00	14:30	1	PG-710	14:05	16:30	Daily	PG-709	12:00	13:20	Daily
FD-254	17:30	19:05	Daily	FD-253	16:20	17:00	Daily	MU-2012	12:25	18:40	3	MU-2011	08:15	11:25	3								
FD-258	20:05	21:55	Daily	FD-257	18:05	18:55	Daily					MU-2031	13:55	14:30	2,4,5,6,7								
DD-4231	08:00	9:50	Daily	DD-4234	10:25	11:15	Daily																
DD-4235	12:00	13:45	Daily	DD-4230	6:20	7:05	Daily																
DD-4239	21:00	22:45	Daily	DD-4238	19:30	20:15	Daily																
SL-201	11:00	13:00	Daily	SL-200	9:05	10:00	Daily																
SL-207	20:05	21:45	"Daily"	SL-206	18:15	19:05	"Daily"																
RGN TO CAN				CAN TO RGN				RGN TO HAN				HAN TO RGN				NYT to BKK				BKK TO NYT			
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days
8M-711	20:30	01:05+1	5	8M-712	2:45	4:20	6	VN-956	19:10	21:30	1,3,5,6,7	VN-957	16:50	18:10	1,3,5,6,7	PG-722	20:25	22:35	2	PG-721	18:25	19:35	2
8M-711	8:40	13:15	2,4,7	8M-712	14:15	15:50	2,4,7									PG-722	19:30	22:30	1,2,3,4,5,7	PG-721	17:00	19:00	1,2,3,4,5,7
CZ-3056	11:25	16:15	3,6	CZ-3055	8:50	10:25	3,6																
CZ-3056	17:30	22:35	1,5	CZ-3055	14:40	16:30	1,5																
RGN TO SIN				SIN TO RGN				RGN TO SGN				SGN TO RGN				HKG TO RGN				DOH TO RGN			
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days
8M-231	8:20	12:50	Daily	8M-232	13:50	15:20	Daily	KA -251	1:10	5:45	1,2,3,4,6,7	KA-250	21:45	23:30	1,2,3,5,6,7	KA-250	21:45	23:30	1,2,3,5,6,7	QR-918	20:40	6:25	3,5,6
SQ-997	10:35	15:10	Daily	SQ-998	07:55	09:20	Daily	KA -251	1:30	5:55	5	KA-252	22:50	00:30+1	4	KA-252	22:50	00:30+1	4				
MI-515	14:20	18:50	1,5	MI-522	11:00	12:20	4,6	UB-8027	9:45	14:15	1,5,7	UB-8028	15:15	16:55	1,5,7	UB-8028	15:15	16:55	1,5,7				
MI-519	17:35	22:10	Daily	MI-518	15:15	16:40	Daily																
MI-522	15:45	20:15	4,6	MI-516	12:00	13:25	1,5																
MI-533	13:10	20:15	2	MI-533	11:00	12:20	2																
3K-584	19:15	23:50	2,5	3K-583	17:05	18:35	2,5																
3K-582	11:15	15:50	1,3,4,5,6,7	3K-581	8:55	10:25	1,3,4,5,6,7																
TR-2823	9:45	2:15	Daily	TR-2822	7:20	8:45	Daily																
UB-001	7:30	12:00	Daily	UB-002	13:15	14:45	Daily																
RGN TO NRT				NRT TO RGN				RGN TO CNX				CNX TO RGN				DAC TO RGN				RGN TO DAC			
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days
NH-814	21:45	06:50+1	Daily	NH-813	11:00	15:40	Daily	PG-724	13:10	15:05	Daily	PG-723	11:40	12:35	Daily	BG-060	12:45	15:30	1,3,6	BG-061	16:15	18:00	1,3,6

8M = Myanmar Airways International

BG = Biman Bangladesh Airlines

MH = Malaysia Airlines

MU = China Eastern Airlines

NH = All Nippon Airways

SQ = Singapore Airways

PG = Bangkok Airways

UB = Myanmar National Airlines

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AI = Air India

CI = China Airlines

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KA = Dragonair

MI = Silk Air

TG = Thai Airways

AK = Air Asia

CA = Air China

CZ = China Southern

FD = Air Asia

KE = Korea Airlines

QR = Qatar Airways

TR = Tiger Airline

DAY

1 = Monday

2 = Tuesday

3 = Wednesday

4 = Thursday

5 = Friday

6 = Saturday

7 = Sunday

AIRLINE CODES

- 8M = Myanmar Airways International  
BG = Biman Bangladesh Airlines  
MH = Malaysia Airlines  
MU = China Eastern Airlines  
NH = All Nippon Airways  
SQ = Singapore Airways  
PG = Bangkok Airways  
UB = Myanmar National Airlines  
VN = Vietnam Airline  
3K = Jet Star  
AI = Air India  
CI = China Airlines  
DD = Nok Airline  
KA = Dragonair  
MI = Silk Air  
TG = Thai Airways
- AK = Air Asia  
CA = Air China  
CZ = China Southern  
FD = Air Asia  
KE = Korea Airlines  
QR = Qatar Airways  
TR = Tiger Airline

- |               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| DAY           | 4 = Thursday |
| 1 = Monday    | 5 = Friday   |
| 2 = Tuesday   | 6 = Saturday |
| 3 = Wednesday | 7 = Sunday   |

China to launch Shenzhou-11 manned spacecraft on 17 October

JIUQUAN — The Shenzhou-11 manned spacecraft will be launched at 7:30 a.m. Monday Beijing Time, China's manned space programme spokesperson said Sunday.

The spaceship will take two male astronauts Jing Haipeng and Chen Dong into space, said Wu Ping, deputy director of China's manned space engineering office, at a press conference at the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre.

The mission will be carried out with a Long March-2F carrier rocket, Wu said.

The spacecraft will dock with orbiting space lab Tiangong-2 within two days, and the astronauts will stay in the space lab for 30 days, she said.

After that the Shenzhou-11 spaceship will separate with Tiangong-2 and return to Earth within one day, Wu said.

The mission aims to transport personnel and materials between Earth and Tiangong-2, and exam-



Wu Ping, deputy director of China's manned space engineering office, addresses a press conference at the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in northwest China, 16 October 2016. The Shenzhou-11 manned spacecraft will be launched at 7:30 a.m. on 17 October, 2016 Beijing Time (2330 GMT 16 October). PHOTO: XINHUA

ine rendezvous, docking and return technologies.

During the mission, the spacecraft will form a complex with Tiangong-2. The complex's capabilities of supporting astronauts' life, work and health, and astronauts' abilities for carrying out flight missions will be tested, Wu said.

Other objectives include conducting aerospace medical experiments, space science experiments and in-orbit maintenance with human participation, along with activities to popularize scientific knowledge, she added.

Several technical alterations have been made

to Shenzhou-11, though its main functions and technical parameters remain basically the same with Shenzhou-10, Wu said.

To meet the needs of this mission, the orbit control strategy and flight procedures have been adjusted to adapt Shenzhou-11 to the change of the rendez-

vous, docking and return orbit from 343 kilometres to 393 kilometres from Earth.

The layout of cargo loading has been adjusted to enhance transportation capabilities for the mission.

To further improve the spacecraft's reliability and astronauts' safety, wide-beam relay telecommunications devices have been equipped, which will significantly expand the scope of telemetry, tracking and control, as well as improve the space-ground communication support capabilities when the posture of the spacecraft is changing rapidly.

To verify future space technologies and meet the demand for prolonging the service life of rendezvous, telemetry and tracking devices in future space stations, such devices in Shenzhou-11 have been upgraded, according to Wu. Certain technical alterations have also been made to the carrier rocket, she said. —Xinhua

DHF kills 18 in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH — Dengue fever had claimed 18 children's lives in Cambodia during the first nine months of 2016, down 44 per cent over the same period last year, according to a report on Saturday.

Some 10,587 dengue fever cases were reported during the January-September period this year, a decrease of 3.3 per cent compared to 10,949 cases over the same period last year, Huy Rekol, director of the National Centre for Parasitology, Entomology and Malaria Control, said in the report posted on the centre's website.

"The incidence rate is 63.9 cases out of 100,000 people," he said, adding that over 71 per cent of the patients were children aged between 5 and 14 years old. "The situation of dengue fever in Cambodia is at a controllable level because this figure is still below the alarming line," he said.—Xinhua





Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May gives her speech on the final day of the annual Conservative Party Conference in Birmingham, Britain, on 5 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Britain's PM May heads to India with eye on post-Brexit trade

LONDON — British Prime Minister Theresa May will lead a delegation of small and medium-size businesses to India in November as part of efforts to bolster trade with countries outside the European Union as Britain prepares to leave the bloc.

The 6-8 November trip, May's first bilateral visit to a country outside Europe since she took office in July, will be in pursuit of her ambition of forging a new global role for Britain after it leaves the European Union, May's Downing Street office said in a statement.

The European Commission is responsible for trade negotiations for the

EU and some countries have said they will not negotiate a new deal for Britain until it has actually left the bloc.

"As we embark on the trade mission to India we will send the message that the UK will be the most passionate, most consistent, and most convincing advocate for free trade," May was quoted as saying.

She said past trade missions had focused on big business, but she wanted to adopt a new approach and would take small and medium companies from every region of the United Kingdom.

Among them will be Geolang, a cyber security

company based in Cardiff in Wales, Torftech, a bio-mass energy company based in southeast England, and Telensa, a company focused on high-tech wireless street lighting systems, based in Cambridge.

May will hold talks with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi during her visit, and the two heads of government will together inaugurate a tech summit in New Delhi.

Liam Fox, Britain's secretary of state for international trade, will join the visit, during which a number of commercial deals are expected to be signed. —Reuters

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Dated 17 October 2016

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## Trump pledges strong US ties with India if elected president

EDISON, (N.J.) — US Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump pledged that the United States and India would be "best friends" if he is elected and that he would boost intelligence sharing with India in the battle against Islamic militants.

Trump spoke at an event sponsored by the Republican Hindu Coalition to raise money for victims of terrorism. It featured Bollywood-style performers who danced in colourful, traditional costumes. "If I'm elected president, the Indian and Hindu community will have a true friend in the White House, that I can guarantee you," said Trump, who noted that as a real estate developer he has two "massive developments" in India. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has developed a friendly relationship with



Republican Hindu Coalition Chairman Shashi Kumar (2nd R) helps Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump (2nd L) light a ceremonial diya lamp before he speaks at a Bollywood-themed charity concert put on by the Republican Hindu Coalition in Edison, New Jersey, US on 15 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

President Barack Obama, a Democrat who wants Trump's opponent, Hillary Clinton, to win the 8 November election. "We will

defeat radical Islamic terrorism when I'm president. We will stand shoulder to shoulder with India in sharing intelligence and keeping

our people safe mutually," said Trump. He called India a strategic ally and that "we will be best friends" if he wins the election. —Reuters

## US detects failed North Korea missile launch

WASHINGTON/SEOUL, — North Korea has conducted an unsuccessful launch of what appears to be a new intermediate-range ballistic missile, the US military said Saturday.

The North fired a suspected Musudan missile from its northwestern region Friday night EDT, which followed more than 20 ballistic missile launches this year in violation of UN resolutions banning the use of ballistic missile technology by the country.

The South Korean Joint Chiefs of Staff also confirmed the failed launch attempt, which came on the last day of a six-day joint

naval exercise by South Korea and the United States in South Korean waters. The United States strongly condemned the series of missile tests, saying it will raise fresh concerns at the United Nations to press ahead with international efforts to hold North Korea "accountable for these actions." The US Strategic Command said its systems detected the failed missile launch conducted near the northwestern city of Kusong in North Korea.

"We strongly condemn this and North Korea's other recent missile tests," said US Navy Commander Gary Ross, a Pentagon spokesman. US commitment to

the defence of its allies, including South Korea and Japan "is ironclad," Ross said. "We remain prepared to defend ourselves and our allies from any attack or provocation." A Musudan missile has a potential range of between 2,500 and 4,000 kilometres, which would cover not only any target in Japan and South Korea, but could also even reach US military bases on the Pacific island of Guam. The Strategic Command said the latest launch did not pose any threat to North America.

Japan's Defence Minister Tomomi Inada also said the missile launch would not have any immediate impact

on the country's security. Tokyo is gathering information in cooperation with the United States and South Korea, Inada told a TV program on Sunday. North Korea went ahead with its fifth nuclear test on 9 September. The Security Council is discussing new measures in response to the test, which is seen as Pyongyang's most powerful detonation so far of a nuclear device.

North Korea's neighbouring nations have since been vigilant about another possible provocative act by the country around the founding of the Worker's Party of Korea last Monday. —Kyodo News



# Japan, North Korea students at odds over nuke issue

PYONGYANG — A group of Japanese college students visited Pyongyang in late August to discuss war and peace with local students, shortly before North Korea conducted its fifth nuclear test on 9 September.

Even after three days of intense discussions in the North Korean capital, the students remained at odds over how to maintain world peace and whether or not nuclear weapons should be abandoned.

“Both of us hope for peace, but the prospects we see and the means by which we seek to achieve peace are completely different,” said one of the participants, Mirei Jinguji, 23, a senior student at the University of Tokyo.

“I recognised the difficulty of understanding each other at a fundamental level,” she said, while also adding, “But we will keep doing what we believe we can do, instead of feeling despair and turning our back

on the issue.” The student programme was initiated in 2012 by Japanese nongovernmental organisations, including the Tokyo-based NGO called Relief Campaign Committee for Children, Japan, which works on cultural exchanges through children’s drawings. It has since been organised every year, and participants have gradually become able to take up political issues over the years, according to the organizers.

Jinguji was among eight Japanese students who took part in this year’s programme, and their counterparts were 11 North Korean students in their early 20s who major in Japanese language at the Pyongyang University of Foreign Studies.

During the three-day programme, both students enjoyed talking about boyfriends and girlfriends, taking photos with their smartphone cameras and playing

popular phone games — familiar scenes among young people in Japan. Once they started discussing nuclear weapons and missiles, however, they never reached agreement.

“To protect our country from US threats, we definitely need nuclear weapons,” Cho Gyong A said to Kosei Horikawa, 20, a sophomore at Hiroshima City University, on their way back from city sightseeing.

Cho, a final-year student at the five-year university in Pyongyang, said that she became interested in knowing more about Hiroshima after watching in class a Japanese documentary introducing the experiences of victims of the 6 August, 1945 atomic bombing on the western Japanese city. She also read the manga series “Barefoot Gen” featuring a Hiroshima boy who survived the devastation.

A native of Hiroshima, Horikawa countered, “Nuclear weapons are inhumane and must be completely abandoned in the future,” telling Cho his great-grandfather’s experience on the day when the bomb was dropped, a story he had heard from his family.

Cho replied, “It’s terrifying,” but still insisted, “We don’t want to make Pyongyang another Hiroshima and that is why we need

a nuclear deterrent to defend ourselves.”

Horikawa said he was puzzled by Cho’s idea that nuclear weapons are vital to keep peace. Sin Hye Jong joined them and said, “We will give up nuclear programme only if all nuclear weapons are eliminated in the world and that’s the future we truly hope for.”

The North Korean students were curious about how the Japanese students took the previous day’s test-firing of a submarine-launched ballistic missile, which Pyongyang conducted 24 August.

Reo Asahi, 21, a sophomore at Gakushuin University, said, “The test-firing is nothing but a threat to Japanese people and it is beyond our understanding that North Koreans celebrated the success.”

One North Korean student reacted to his remarks by saying, “If you want us to stop, you should drive US forces out of your country.”

Yet on the morning when the Japanese students were to leave home, some of the North Korean students had tears in their eyes. “I know that the current bilateral relations aren’t good, but I want to see you all again,” one North Korean student told the Japanese students, seeing them off at airport. —Kyodo News



Photo taken in August 2016 in Pyongyang shows Japanese and North Korean university students, including Mirei Jinguji (far R), a senior student at the University of Tokyo, sharing their views during a student exchange programme. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

## Thai internet operators urge customers to report royal insults

BANGKOK — Thailand’s main mobile telecoms operators instructed customers on Sunday to report “inappropriate content about the royal institution”, as the government steps up scrutiny for material deemed insulting to the monarchy.

King Bhumibol Adulyadej died on Thursday after seven decades on the throne. His son, Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn, is due to become the next king after a period of mourning.

Thailand has a tough law against lese majeste, or insulting the monarchy. Convictions have become more frequent, and punishments more severe, under a military government that seized power in 2014.

Mobile operators Advanced Info Service Pcl (AIS), Total Access Communication Pcl and True Move, a unit of True Corp, posted instructions on a messaging app and on their Facebook pages, for how to

report Facebook posts and Youtube videos.

True said it was following a request from the broadcasting regulator, the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC).

“The NBTC has asked all mobile operators to send the instruction to our clients,” Pimolpan Siri Wongwan-ngam, True’s head of public relations, told Reuters.

“We’re only acting as channels to spread the message.”

Spokeswomen for AIS and Total Access confirmed they had followed the NBTC guideline. The operators said people should send URLs or screenshots of websites deemed offensive to the Ministry of Information and Technology and the NBTC.

On Friday, the NBTC said it had asked internet service providers to monitor content and block anything inappropriate. Operators

must also inform platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, and messaging apps, to block such content.

The failure of internet providers to block inappropriate content when it is found would be considered a crime, NBTC secretary-general Takorn Tantasith said in a statement.

Information ministry spokesman Chatchai Khunpitoluck said some content hurt the feelings of people grieving for the revered king.

“Many heartbroken Thais are quite sensitive. When they see illegal content that offends them, they’ll be more stressed,” he said. “We have to let them know about channels to report content to relieve their sense of helplessness.”

Chatchai said more people had come across content they deemed inappropriate, partly because more people were going online to read about the king since his death. —Reuters

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Actress Lindsay Lohan.  
PHOTO: REUTERS

## Lindsay Lohan wants 'Mean Girls' sequel

LONDON — Actress Lindsay Lohan wants a sequel to her popular film "Mean Girls". Posting a throwback cast picture of Cady, Gretchen (Lacey Chabert) and Regina (Rachel McAdams) to Instagram, Lohan wrote: "Miss you all...Sequel?" The "Mean Girls" musical is already in works. The long-awaited stage adaptation of Tina Fey's masterful creation was announced on 3 October and will premiere next year in the US. Fey will be working on the musical alongside her husband, composer Jeff Richmond, and Broadway's Legally Blonde lyricist Nell Benjamin.—PTI

## Virtual reality to bring 'Fifty Shades Darker' to life

LOS ANGELES — James Foley, director of "Fifty Shades Darker" and "Fifty Shades Freed," says that virtual reality will be incorporated into the marketing for the latest movie sequel.

Foley confirmed the experience during a VR on the Lot conversation in California, reported Deadline.

"Yeah, there's marketing materials for behind-the-scenes (of Fifty Shades Darker), where

after we finished shooting for the day, the actors would stay over and VR people would re-create a facsimile of the scene.

"My own personal instinct is that cinema is going to move to VR because it's an extension of the visual language. For myself, watching the material they generated expanded my brain," he said.

"Fifty Shades Darker" returns to the big screen ahead of Valentine's Day 2017.—PTI

## Justin Bieber surprises students as he joins them in school

LOS ANGELES — Pop-star Justin Bieber surprised the school students as he joined them for a soccer game in London.

The 22-year-old singer was driving past a school in Highgate, North London ahead of his concert when he decided to join a few boys, who were in the middle of a soccer game, reported Ace-Showbiz.

"Justin and his manager came over to speak with us — I recognised him straight away.

They had been driving past and seen our lesson going on,"

the school teacher, Mario Noto said.

"They explained Justin was in town for his shows at the O2, that he enjoys his football, and would love to join in.

We thought this would be a great experience for the pupils.

"He was very down to earth and could have been another pupil, just enjoying himself, and spent about half an hour with us. He asked me to go in goal for a few penalties — and turned out to be pretty good," he continued.—PTI



Popstar Justin Bieber.  
PHOTO: REUTERS

LOS ANGELES — Singer Miley Cyrus and her boyfriend Liam Hemsworth have made their first public appearance as a couple since rekindling romance.

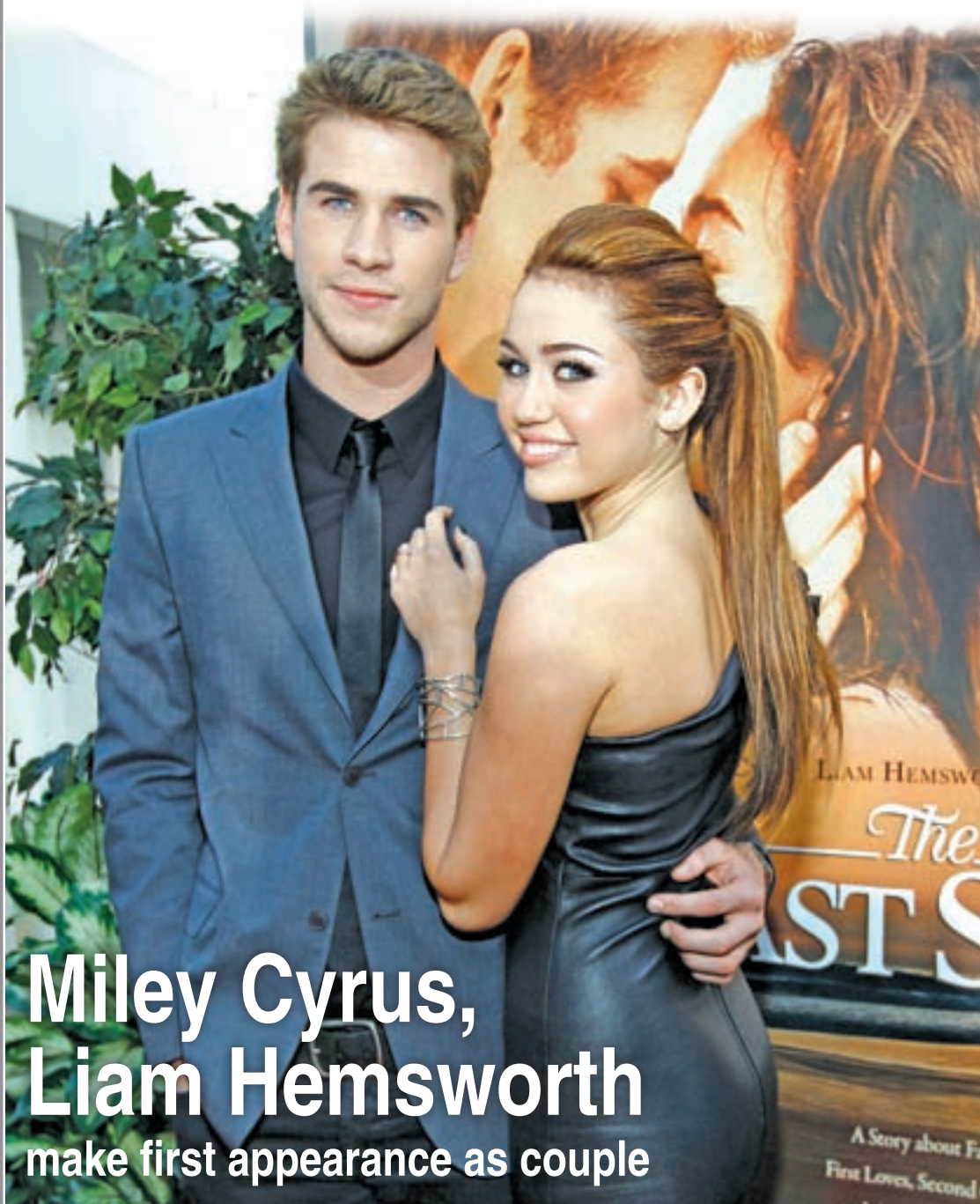
The event marked the couple's first official appearance

in three years, reported Ace-Showbiz.

The "Wrecking Ball" hit-maker and the actor attended Variety's Power of Women luncheon, where Cyrus was honoured for her work with her Happy Hippie Foundation.

Hemsworth opted for a black suit while Cyrus wore a polka dot and floral patterned jumpsuit.

Other honorees included Scarlett Johansson, Laverne Cox, Jenna Dewan Tatum and Ava DuVernay.—PTI



Miley Cyrus, Liam Hemsworth make first appearance as couple

## Robert De Niro to receive Chaplin Award

LOS ANGELES — The Film Society of Lincoln Center has named Robert De Niro the recipient of its 44th annual Chaplin Award, which honours major industry talents.

De Niro will take home the 2017 trophy for a four-decade acting career that stretches from early work including "Mean Streets," "Raging Bull" and "The Godfather Part II" to more recent projects such as "Silver Linings Playbook", reported Variety.

He is also the high-profile co-founder of the Tribeca Film Festival, launched in the wake of 9/11 in an effort to boost the economic prospects of lower Manhattan.

The 73-year-old actor-producer will be honoured by the Film Society at a springtime gala featuring notable guests and presenters as well as movie and interview footage drawn from De Niro's career.



Robert De Niro.  
PHOTO: REUTERS

He joins a list of previous Chaplin recipients that includes Alfred Hitchcock, Elizabeth Taylor, Meryl Streep, Billy Wilder and last year's honoree, Morgan Freeman. The 44th annual Chap-

lin Award gala is set for 8 May.

Prior to that, De Niro's latest project, the Broadway musical adaptation of "A Bronx Tale," which he co-directs, opens in December.—PTI



# Wuzhen Theatre Festival brings vitality to ancient town

WUZHEN — An annual theatre event kicked off on Thursday in Wuzhen, east China's Zhejiang Province.

Under the theme of "Gaze Beyond", the Fourth Wuzhen Theatre Festival invited artists and performers from 13 countries and regions, with nearly eighty theater shows to be staged, according to its official website.

This year's Wuzhen Theatre Festival consists of four parts: Reviving Classics, Celebrating Shakespeare, Physical Theatre and Incredible Discovery.

Besides, this festival will also hold competitions, dialogues and forums, providing platforms for young artists to roll out their shows and to exchange ideas about theatre performance.

This festival will last until 22 October. Co-founded by several

Chinese actors and directors, this festival has become a cultural symbol of Wuzhen, this 1,300-year-old water town.

Thanks to its protection and restoration, Wuzhen was named a candidate for the World Cultural Heritage List of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation in 2001.

With various kinds of performance, the Wuzhen Theatre Festival has injected vitality into the town, as more and more artists, performers and audience in and out of China begin to arrive.

Meanwhile, Wuzhen itself has drawn worldwide attentions in recent years, due to its hosting of the World Internet Conference, an event participated by guests from over one hundred countries and regions.—Xinhua



Photo taken by the author shows scenery in Wuzhen, east China's Zhejiang Province. PHOTO: XINHUA

## Ancient Chinese 'export-quality porcelain' discovered in Mexico's Acapulco port

MEXICO CITY — A new archaeological find announced on Friday in Mexico attests to China's age-old vocation as an exporting powerhouse.

Mexican archaeologists have uncovered thousands of fragments of a 400-year-old shipment of Chinese "export-quality porcelain" that was long buried in the Pacific Coast port of Acapulco.

The shipment of rice bowls, cups, plates and platters dates from the reign of the Ming Dynasty's 13th emperor, Wanli (1572-1620), and is believed to have arrived in Acapulco aboard the China Galleon, which regularly sailed between Asia and the New World.

"During its 250 years

of cabotage along the coasts of the Pacific in the Americas, the China Galleon left an indelible trail," Mexico's National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH), said in reporting on the find.

In an on-site interview posted on INAH's website, archaeologist Roberto Junco said "we discovered there were four or five models or styles ... characteristic of a type of ... export-quality porcelain that the Chinese made, mainly in the factories of Jingdezhen, and exported around the world."

According to Junco, the white-and-blue porcelain, painted with images of birds, beetles, swans, ducks, deer and other depictions of nature, was made in Zhangzhou, capital of south-cen-

tral Fujian province, and Jingdezhen, in Jiangxi province, which is known as China's "Porcelain Capital."

The find, located no more than a meter and a half below ground near Acapulco's Cathedral, in what is known as the Old Quarter, included fragments of a coarser type of ceramic used to make containers for shipping provisions, such as spices and liquids.

Mexico's ports were often targeted by pirates, which could explain why the shipment appears to have been destroyed.

The discovery coincides with an exhibit at Mexico City's Franz Mayer Museum called "Return Voyage: The China Galleon

and the Baroque in Mexico," which highlights China's artistic influence on the New World through trade.

While Mexico and China are separated by a great distance, trade ties have linked the two regions for centuries.

The China Galleon regularly sailed between Acapulco, and other Mexican ports, and Manila, in the Philippines, and today's Taiwan, China where it would load up on Chinese spices and silks, and other goods. Fabricio Antonio Fonseca, a researcher at the prestigious Colegio de Mexico, says the initial encounter between Mexico and China occurred when the galleon first sailed into a Mexican port.—Xinhua

## Beijing holds foreign language festival

BEIJING, — Cultural shows and English games were among nearly 20 activities on offer to tens of thousands of visitors to the Beijing Foreign Language Festival 2016 over the weekend.

Since the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics is a keyword for this year's event, citizens were able to learn about the history of the Olympics, in addition to language activities, according to a spokesper-

son with the city's foreign affairs office.

At one booth, in the cultural show zone, a woman from Krakow, Poland, whose English name is Anna, taught visitors some simple Polish phrases. "We designed games about the geography and customs of our country."

"Winners got traditional Polish desserts as prizes," she said.—Xinhua



<b>6:00 am</b>	Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw	Myanmar 2016 (Level-3) (Group -1)
<b>7:35 am</b>	• People’ Talks	<b>3:40 pm</b>
<b>8:35 am</b>	• Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competition	<b>4:10 pm</b>
<b>9:35 am</b>	• Women in Myanmar Society	• University of Distance Education (TV Lecture) — Fourth Year (Psychology)
<b>10:35 am</b>	• Solution for Agriculture	<b>4:35 pm</b>
<b>11:15 am</b>	• ASEAN Programme	• Socio Economic Scenes
<b>11:35 am</b>	• MRTV’s Youth Programme	<b>5:15 pm</b>
<b>12:35 pm</b>	• TV Drama Series	• This Week’s Special Interest
<b>1:10 pm</b>	• TV Drama Series	<b>5:35 pm</b>
<b>1:55 pm</b>	• Fine Arts-Bosom of Dramatic Performance	• Yes or No Talk Show “Sport or Adventure” (Part-3)
<b>2:55 pm</b>	• KARAOKE World Championships (KWC)	<b>6:35 pm</b>
		• Law Affairs
		<b>7:15 pm</b>
		• TV Drama Series
		<b>8:00 pm</b>
		• News/ International News/ Weather Report
		<b>9:00 pm</b>
		• News
		• TV Drama Series
		• MCN Dedate

Note/Hourly News Bulletins (Local + International)

## mitv Myanmar International

(17-10-2016 07:00am ~ 18-10-2016 07:00am) MST

### Today Fresh

07:03	Am	News
07:27	Am	Exquisite Myanmar Silk
07:45	Am	Traditional Thatch Roof- Thet Nge
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	Myanmar Childhood Games (Episode-I)
08:35	Am	Lantern Floating Festival in Kyauk Kyi Township
08:50	Am	Egg Shell
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	Gold: King of All Metals
09:56	Am	Black Gold (Part- II)
10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	Orchid Lover

10:35	Am	Wet Markets of Yangon: Thirimingalar Market
10:43	Am	A Lucky Boy

(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
07:26	Pm	Food Trip (Episode-9)(Part-1)
07:52	Pm	Products of Myanmar - Products of The Loom
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	Taste of Myanmar (Mandalay Noodle Salad)
08:44	Pm	Myanmar Leading Woman: May Sabai Phyu & L.Hkawn Htoi

(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](http://www.myanmaritv.com/schedule))



# Lanzini sets Hammers beating with Palace coup



Crystal Palace's James Tomkins in action with West Ham United's Manuel Lanzini. PHOTO: REUTERS

LONDON — West Ham United midfielder Manuel Lanzini is playing a key role in his team's recovery from a poor start to the Premier League and hopes his form will earn him a chance to play for Argentina.

Lanzini, showing the same

sharpness that put him in scoring positions at River Plate back home, struck a fine winner for a 1-0 victory at Crystal Palace on Saturday to lift his side out of the relegation zone.

Coach Slaven Bilic's tactics with three central defenders and

two wing backs paid off after a woeful early season that yielded a solitary 1-0 win at home to Bournemouth nearly two months ago and just one point from their previous five matches.

"(Bilic) always tells me more than anything to play, to

make the team play and get into scoring positions, as well and to defend," Lanzini told Reuters in an interview.

"He always tries to give me the confidence to score.

"He congratulated me, he has a lot of faith in me and I have a lot of faith in him.

"Luckily I was able to score so I'm happy for the team, we needed this victory."

West Ham, who host Sunderland next, have struggled to settle at their new Olympic stadium home in east London after finishing a creditable seventh last season, their last at Upton Park.

"We'll have to get used to playing (at the new home), but we must continue on this path, I think we'll be better and let's hope this is the start of something good," added the 23-year-old.

Lanzini was injured in a warm-up for the Rio Olympics in August and missed the tournament where Argentina crashed out of the group round.

"It was a shame to (miss the Olympics), I would have loved to have gone, it was a very important tournament for

me," he said.

"Now I'm getting over that and will try to get there again.

"It's something I always think about, it's my dream to play in the national team, I'd love to but I know that this way, doing things well, I can get to have a chance and be there."

Lanzini follows the Argentina team closely and watched them manage only two points from their last three outings, all without captain Lionel Messi.

Although Lanzini would love to help, he believes the best players are in coach Edgardo Bauza's squad already and that they would turn things around in their remaining eight qualifiers.

"There are very good players (in the squad), the majority stars in their (club) teams, it's a poor spell they are going through but I think they'll move forward with work and sacrifice," he said.

Argentina come up next against arch-rivals Brazil, who are on a run of four wins after putting their faith in half the young team that won the Olympic gold. "They have the confidence of the coach and winning the gold medal also gives you confidence," said Lanzini.

—Reuters

## Man City penalty woes allow Arsenal to join them at the top

LONDON — Arsenal joined Manchester City at the top of the Premier League on Saturday after leaders City suffered another afternoon of penalty woes in a 1-1 draw with Everton that ended their 100 per cent home record this season.

Arsenal's hard-earned 3-2 win over Swansea City, featuring a double from Theo Walcott, put them level with City on 19 points but Pep Guardiola's side remained as leaders on goal difference.

Tottenham Hotspur, who had started the day in second place, missed a chance to go top, needing an 89<sup>th</sup>-minute goal from Dele Alli to rescue a 1-1 draw at West Bromwich Albion and protect their record as the only unbeaten side in the league.

Guardiola saw his side's perfect record disappear at the Etihad after Kevin De Bruyne and Sergio Aguero both had poor penalties saved by Maarten Stekelenburg in a game the leaders dominated.

City have now missed four of their eight penalties this season, leaving Guardiola to opine:

"The players have all the qualities to score penalties but we miss a lot. Hopefully, we will score more of them in future."

Romelu Lukaku made City pay in between the missed spot-kicks with his sixth goal of the season for Everton before Noli to finally landed the reward for City's pressure with a 72<sup>nd</sup> minute equaliser. Guardiola said he was "proud" of his players.

Stekelenburg, Everton's hero, reckoned Phil Jagielka, whose fouls had given away both penalties, was the most relieved man at the Etihad. "Will Phil Jagielka buy me dinner after that? I will ask him!" the Dutchman joked. Arsenal introduced Swansea's new manager Bob Bradley, the first American to take charge of a top-flight English side, to the harsh realities of Premier League life as Arsene Wenger's men won a sixth consecutive league match. Walcott struck twice in the space of seven minutes in the first half and came perilously close to a hat-trick while Mesut Ozil also scored on his 28<sup>th</sup> birthday. —Reuters

## Ciganda survives meltdown to win in Korea

INCHEON — Carlota Ciganda survived a late-round meltdown to beat an equally error-prone Alison Lee in a playoff at the \$2 million KEB Hana Bank Championship on Sunday.

Spaniard Ciganda, a three-times winner on the Ladies European Tour and Order of Merit champion in 2012, squandered a four-shot lead with five holes to play but found herself in a playoff after Lee failed to par the last.

Korean-American Lee again found trouble on the 18<sup>th</sup> in the playoff, missing the fairway with her drive and second shot, before almost making birdie with a monster putt. Ciganda played with more control and sank an eight-foot putt for the win.

"It means the world to me,



PHOTO: REUTERS

and it's nice to win here in Korea where women's golf is so big," Ciganda, still wearing a traditional Korean hanbok from the prize-giving ceremony, told a news conference.

"It's been a tough two years for me. My coach passed away two years ago ... so it's been a long journey but I love this life. I love being an athlete, I couldn't ask for a better life."

Ciganda was mentored by coach Rogelio Echeverria for almost 20 years before he passed away in 2014.

"This tournament is for my coach, he's up there watching me," she added.

Ciganda carded a closing round of 70 for a combined 10-under 278, while Lee closed with a three-over-par 75. It was the Pamplona native's first win on the LPGA Tour and earned her a winner's cheque for \$300,000.

Ciganda had made up five

strokes on overnight leader Lee, surging ahead with six birdies through her first 10 holes in wet conditions at the SKY 72 Golf Club in Incheon.

Despite being ranked 113<sup>th</sup> in putting average on the LPGA Tour, Ciganda was red-hot with the flatstick, sinking putts from near and far while her rivals failed to get to grips with hard-packed greens that refused to soak up Sunday's incessant rain.

The first sign of trouble for the Spaniard came at the 14<sup>th</sup> when she made a mess of a bunker shot and took a double bogey. A careless tee shot at 16 saw her drop another shot and she looked to have blown her chances by bogeying the last.

The 21-year-old Lee, who is balancing the demands of being a student at UCLA with life on the women's tour, lost four shots in five holes around the turn but took a one-stroke lead with birdies at the 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.

Needing only to par the last to win, she somehow managed to leak her approach into water short of the green but got up and down for a bogey six to force the playoff. —Reuters