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A Myanmar border guard police officer escorts reporters upriver in Buthidaung, northern Rakhine state, on 14 July, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Legal action against violent attacks in Rakhine discussed at Amyotha Hluttaw

Thura Zaw, Mi Mi Phyo
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

Action in accord with the law against violent attackers in Rakhine State was discussed at yesterday's meeting of the Amyotha Hluttaw in Nay Pyi Taw.

The discussion was in regards to the motion presented by U Khin Maung Latt, of constituency 3, Rakhine State, to take legal actions against violent attackers operating in Buthidaung and Yathedaung townships under the Anti-terrorism Law and to carry out

arrangements for displaced national ethnic people to survive.

U Ye Htut of constituency 5, Sagaing Region, U Wai Sein Aung of constituency 1, Rakhine State, Lt-Col Ye Naing Oo and Col Soe Shwe, Tatmadaw personnel Hluttaw representatives and U Myint Naing, of constituency 5, Rakhine State participated in the discussion.

U Ye Htut said the terrorist efforts in northern Rakhine State need to be stopped so that similar incidents do not spread to other parts of the country.

"Rakhine State and its people are the target of violent

attackers with strong backgrounds, so the Government needs to eradicate them to nothingness by getting people's strength. Unless security of the country's western gate can be ensured, violent attacks can spread to other places in the nation. It is necessary to carry out security operations of the Tatmadaw without harming any human rights of national ethnic people. Besides, for the development of the region heavy industries, agricultural and livestock breeding should be established. As for security of the area, security forces should be deployed

more than ever permanently. Likewise, land plots should be granted to those without living abodes in the whole country and they all should be given out capitals to run their own business", U Ye Htut said.

Lt-Col Ye Naing Oo, The Tatmadaw Hluttaw representative said those causing violent attacks in Rakhine should be officially regarded as terrorists by the Amyotha Hluttaw in order to halt subsidies from international organisations that some believe fund the violent attackers.

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Pyithu Hluttaw

Electricity and Energy Ministry discloses plans for 24-hour power supply

Kyaw Thu Htet and
Hmwe Kyu Zin
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

The Ministry of Electricity and Energy has drafted the Generation Mix Plan in order to supply power around the clock nationwide.

“To supply power to the country around the clock, the Ministry of Electricity and Energy will mainly build base load generation plants which can produce power 24 hours and will practice the Generation Mix

methods, which encourages use of resources proportionally to produce electricity,” said Dr Tun Naing, Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy, in his answer to the question raised by U Nay Myo Htet of Kyauktada Constituency at the Pyithu Hluttaw yesterday over the government’s plan to tackle the power shortage.

Currently, the country supplies power using 29 hydro-power stations, 14 gas-fired and energy-from-waste plants and one coal-fired power plant.

The Myanmar National Electrification Project hopes to overcome the chronic summertime power shortages and overall power insufficiency.

The Generation Mix Plan would coordinate power delivery from a combination of sources, with 38 per cent from hydro-power stations, 20 per cent from the natural gas-fired power plants, 33 per cent from the coal-fired power plant and 9 per cent from renewable sources, said the deputy minister.

At the Pyithu Hluttaw meet-



Dr Tun Naing, Deputy Minister for Electricity and Energy. **PHOTO: MNA**

ing yesterday, Mi Kun Chan from Paung Constituency put forward a motion urging the government to abolish the rural area electrification committees nationwide and to hand over the task of electrification to the Ministry of Electricity and Energy. In her motion, the MP Mi Kun Chan pointed out that the electrification committees are not formed with experts for electricity and complained about the committees’ allegations of malpractice in rural areas on the pretext of power supply to rural areas. ■



Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint holds talks with H.E. Mr. Bhim K. Udas, Ambassador of Nepal. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister for Information receives Nepal Ambassador

Dr Pe Myint, Union Minister for Information, received H.E. Mr. Bhim K. Udas, Ambassador of Nepal, at 2:00 pm at the former’s Office yesterday. During the meeting, they discussed mat-

ters concerning bilateral trade, tourism, bilateral cooperation for investment, democratic reform process of Myanmar and implementation of peace process.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Chairman of Joint Committee of Inter-parliamentary Assembly receives, Secretary-General of AIPA

U Zaw Thein, Chairman of the Joint Committee of Inter-parliamentary Assembly received the Hon. Mr. Isra Sunthornvut, Secretary General of AIPA at the I-5 room of Hluttaw Committee Affair Building at 2 pm, yesterday.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed the subjects in relation to the facts that should be changed for the progress of AIPA, the programme to be carried out to promote the AIPA awareness programme, tourism development, the facts concerning with the parliamentary in the region, socio-economic development in the region and



Chairman of the Joint Committee of Inter-parliamentary Assembly U Zaw Thein receives Hon. Mr. Isra Sunthornvut, Secretary General of AIPA. **PHOTO: MNA**

the matters to be undertaken at 38th ASEAN parliamentary General Assembly.—Myanmar News Agency ■

National

Factory farms risk environment, labour ills

MUMBAI—The rapid growth of factory farming in Asia for livestock and seafood poses enormous environmental and forced labour risks, in addition to threats to public safety and health, according to a report by an investor network. Half of Asia’s aquaculture production is from factory farms, said the report published this week by Farm Animal Investment Risk & Return (FAIRR), referring to the major, industrial operations that raise large numbers of animals for food.

“Asia’s meat, seafood and dairy industries face a range of badly managed sustainability risks—from emissions to epidemics, fraud to food safety, and abuse of labour,” said Jeremy Collier, founder of FAIRR.

“It is clear that significant environmental and social risks

are building up.” Meat demand in Asia is predicted to grow by a fifth to 144 million tonnes by 2025 as populations expand and incomes rise, the report said. China, which has the largest animal population in Asia, is promoting large-scale farming for greater efficiency and economies of scale.

But the practice has serious environmental repercussions, besides leading to rural job loss and land rights violations, said the report published together with Singapore-based Asia Research and Engagement.

Cows, goats and chickens have higher greenhouse gas emissions and water footprints than other proteins. In addition, crops grown to feed them are causing forest loss. In Myanmar’s Irrawaddy delta, for example, most mangrove forests have been

cleared for shrimp ponds, while the growth in soy cultivation in Latin America for China’s pork and poultry production has come at the expense of rainforests.

Asia’s factory farms also increase the risk of forced labour of migrants, children and trafficked workers, the report said.

Thailand’s multibillion-dollar seafood sector has come under fire in recent years after investigations showed widespread slavery, trafficking and violence on fishing boats and in onshore food processing units. Last month, Thai Union - the world’s largest canned tuna company - in an agreement with environmental group Greenpeace, said it would take steps towards sustainably caught tuna while ensuring all workers are safe. Also earlier this year, a Thai court dismissed a



A recent report by an investor network said that poultry and seafood factories, such as this one in Myanmar, pose significant environmental and forced labour risks, in addition to threats to public safety and health. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

compensation claim by 14 migrant workers from Myanmar who had alleged labour violations at a chicken farm that supplied the European Union. “Top producers are working towards developing sustainable production

systems, certified through an increasing number of ecolabels,” said Collier.

“But a general lack of traceability in supply chains has made it difficult...to evaluate and mitigate these risks.” —Reuters ■

Chair of Women Parliamentarians of AIPA, Daw Su Su Lwin receives the Hon. Mr. Isra Sunthornvut, Secretary General of AIPA

The First Lady, Chair of Women Parliamentarians of AIPA, a representative of Pyithu Hluttaw, Daw Su Su Lwin received the Hon. Mr. Isra Sunthornvut, Secretary General of AIPA at the I-5 of Hluttaw Committee Affairs Building at 10 am, yesterday.

During the meeting they discussed on the matters relating to ASEAN Women Parliamentarians Committee Meeting at the 38th ASEAN Parliament General

Assembly and challenges and opportunities of the protection of rights of women and children in the region.

The meeting was attended by U Zaw Thein, Chairman of the Joint Committee of Inter-parliamentary Assembly and committee member Daw Pyone Kathy Naing and Pyithu Hluttaw International Relation Committee Member, U Phyo Zeyar Thaw. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Daw Su Su Lwin, third from right, the First Lady, Chair of Women Parliamentarians of AIPA and a representative of Pyithu Hluttaw, receives Mr. Isra Sunthornvut, Secretary General of AIPA. PHOTO: MNA



MPs discuss International Day of Democracy 2017. PHOTO: MNA

Meeting held for International Day of Democracy 2017 planned

AN executive steering committee met in Nay Pyi Taw to plan the International Day of Democracy 2017 at the Hall of Public Account Combining Committee, Pyithu Hluttaw (D) building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Present at the meeting

were Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U T Khun Myat, Chairman of executive steering committee Dr Than Win and members of executive steering and operating committees. — Myanmar News Agency ■

20 more H1N1 cases confirmed

The Ministry of Health and Sports announced yesterday that medical examinations for 39 patients were carried out between 15 and 16 August and 20 were confirmed to have the H1N1 virus. One more death from the virus was also reported. Of the 20 recent confirmed cases, it was discovered that the virus spread among people in close contact such as family members and tenants of the same building.

The ministry announced that there have been a total of 687 cases of severe respiratory infections, and now 262 con-

firmed cases of the seasonal influenza A (H1N1) pdm09 and 26 deaths from the virus.

The ministry announced that there have been reported cases or deaths from the H1N1 virus in Kachin and Kayah states.

There have been six inpatients at Wabargi Specialist Hospital and 52 inpatients in hospitals in various regions and states receiving treatment for confirmed cases of H1N1 yesterday. The ministry said the majority of patients are doing well. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Legal action against violent attacks...

FROM PAGE-1

"I hereby present that the group fighting presently in Maungtaung should be regarded to be terrorists by the Amyotha Hluttaw. By doing so from the Government and Hluttaw, it can stop subsidies supported by international organisations

and institutions from home and abroad, putting on the wrong front of human rights.

As some INGOs got involved with giving subsidies to the violent attackers in Rakhine and their (the attackers) links with global terrorist groups was found out, we can get support

and aid from international anti-terrorism organisations only if they are regarded as terrorists. Moreover, by reporting it to the UN Security Council, help and supports of terrorist groups can be effectively stopped", said Lt-Col Ye Naing Oo. ■

Asia's biggest budget airline trains crew to spot human traffickers

KUALA LUMPUR—AirAsia, the biggest budget carrier in Asia, is training thousands of its staff to fight human trafficking, becoming one of the first airlines in the continent to crack down on the global crime.

Companies have come under increasing pressure to tackle human trafficking, with an estimated 46 million people living in slavery and profits thought to be about US\$150 billion.

Air travel is a key part of the illegal business, as criminal gangs transport thousands of children and vulnerable people by air each year for redeployment as sex workers, domestic helpers or in forced labour.

The United Nations has urged airlines to step in and look out for the tell-tale signs of trafficking. Kuala Lumpur-based AirAsia, which flies millions of passengers annually to more than 110 destinations, said it was planning to train between 5,000 and 10,000 frontline staff, including cabin crew. "We like to be able to have our staff know what to do if somebody comes up to them and says 'I need help'," said Yap Mun Ching, the executive director of AirAsia Foundation, the airline's philanthropic arm,

which is driving the initiative. "Sometimes (the victims) don't know they have been trafficked. They realise it only when they are on their way and they want to be able to get help. Most of the time they don't know who to turn to," she told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. AirAsia has teamed up with US-based Airline Ambassadors International, a group that trains airline staff on trafficking, for the initiative, which kicked off this week at the airline's four main hubs - Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Jakarta and Manila. All are hotspots for trafficking. The group said signs of trafficking include young women or children who appeared to be under the control of others, show indications of mistreatment or who seem frightened, ashamed or nervous. The UN Office on Drugs and Crime urged airline bosses at a summit in June to train flight crews to help combat human trafficking, the first time the aviation industry has held global discussion on the issue.

While some training of airline staff to spot and report potential trafficking is mandatory in the United States, it is not widespread across the industry. So far, more than 70,000 US

airline staff have been trained under a programme that began in 2013. Asia has some of the worst offenders of human trafficking. Countries such as Thailand, Myanmar and Laos are listed by the United States on a trafficking watch list for not meeting the minimum standards needed to end the crime. The 2014 Global Slavery Index (GSI) found that there were nearly 36 million victims of human trafficking worldwide. Of that, 36 million, nearly two-thirds were from Asia. In its second five-year project from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2016, Myanmar exposed 606 cases of human trafficking, taking action against 1,751 alleged culprits and rescuing 1,776 victims.

This year, 143 cases of human trafficking have so far been exposed. Trafficking to China makes up 63 per cent of the human trafficking cases in Myanmar; trafficking to Thailand more than 12 per cent; to Malaysia nearly 4 per cent, to Singapore 0.16 per cent, to Indonesia 0.16 per cent, to Qatar 0.16 per cent, and to the US 0.16 per cent. Domestic trafficking made up for 18.8 per cent of cases.—Reuters and GNLM ■

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Myanmar migrant workers work at a shrimp factory in Bangkok, Thailand. PHOTO: REUTERS

Over 2.5 million people went abroad to work over the past 18 years

Over 2.5 million Myanmar people left the country to seek employment abroad since 1999, according to a City News Daily newspaper article yesterday.

Most of Myanmar's overseas workers went to Thailand, home to 2,275,432 Myanmar migrants.

Myanmar has sent 32,511

workers to South Korea, 310,489 workers to Malaysia, 13,879 workers to Singapore, 6,886 workers to Japan, 1,132 workers to UAE, 478 workers to Qatar and 174 workers to Hong Kong. Myanmar's government has attempted to provide greater protection for migrants abroad by requesting that they regis-

ter with their local embassy representatives and by regulating overseas employment agencies more strictly, said Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe, while at an event last week promoting the protection of Myanmar's overseas domestic workers. —GNLM ■

Three hospitals to establish health clinics for children's diabetes

As Myanmar's dietary habits change amidst a flood of processed foods, health officials are planning to open three new children's diabetes clinics at Yangon General Hospital, North Okkalapa General Hospital and Mandalay General Hospital, according to a report in the Myawady Daily.

"The clinics will conduct the blood test for diabetes. And there will also be clinical lectures for doctor and medical students," said Professor Dr Ko Ko of the Diabetics and Hormone Specialist Department.

"The clinics will also provide information to children and their parents about maintaining a healthy diet and

lifestyle."

A 2014 World Health Organisation study found that Myanmar has a 10.5 per cent diabetes prevalence rate, Southeast Asia's highest. Diabetes is a group of metabolic disorders that result in high blood sugar, with symptoms that include frequent urination, frequent thirst and hunger.

Diabetes causes complications that include cardiovascular disease, stroke, chronic kidney disease, foot ulcers and eye damage. Causes of diabetes include genetics, lack of exercise, stress and diets heavy in sugary foods and drinks, trans fats and saturated fats. Myan-

mar's increased diabetes prevalence is following a pattern familiar to many rapidly growing and urbanizing economies.

The clinics will provide diabetes awareness courses to medical staff and the general public.

The government intends to open more diabetes clinics in all states and regions within four years.

Until then, the government will hold annual diabetes awareness training courses at 10 hospitals for 500 district-level medical professionals.

The department is also planning further diabetes prevalence studies.—200 ■

NEWS BRIEFS

Definitive agreement expected between Singapore's Interra Resources Ltd and MOGE

SINGAPORE — based Interra Resources Ltd, plans to sign definitive agreement this month with the state-owned Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) to secure an 11-year deal between the two entities, according to a report of the Myawady Daily issued on Tuesday.

Interra Resources also has a 60 per cent interest in Goldpetrol Joint Operating Co, Inc.

Interra Resources plans to substantially expand petroleum resource exploration and development at Chauk and Yenangyaung fields.

The contract areas cover approximately 1,800 square kilometers.

In the first quarter 2017, Interra Resources generated combined shareable production of over 70,000 barrels of oil from the two fields. Mr Marcel Tjia, the chief executive officer and executive director of Interra Resources Ltd, said this 2017 agreement will allow Interra Resources to expand its operations to meet Myanmar's economic development potential and increasing energy demand.—GNLM ■

Tourism increased 20 per cent this year

More than two million tourists entered Myanmar in past seven months this year, an increase of more than 20 per cent compared to the same period last year, according to a report of Myawady Daily, yesterday.

Tourism is likely to increase after the rainy season, said U Thet Lwin Toe, the chairman of Union of Myanmar Travel Association.

Last year there was a total of 2.9 million tourists in Myanmar, which ranked ninth among other Southeast Asian nations. —GNLM ■



Colourful flower bouquets for sale at the wholesale market. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Japanese company eyes Myanmar flower industry

A Japanese company is investigating the potential of Myanmar flower exports to Japan, according to yesterday's edition of the Myawady Daily newspaper.

Francis Takuto Inchiara, a manager at Life Plus Myanmar Inc. of Japan and a director from

ASG Bancrop Myanmar Limited met with the Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Planters and Exporters Association (MFVP) last week to discuss the potential for flower exports to Japan. Under the proposal, the Japanese company would

provide financing, technical assistance, training and other inputs for Myanmar growers. The parties also discussed the export potential of Myanmar fruits and vegetables to Japan, especially mangos. No deal has been struck yet.—GNLM ■

UMFCCI and Pakistan's Ambassador discuss bilateral trade

H.E. Dr Khalid Hussain Memon, Ambassador of Pakistan to Myanmar visited U Zaw Min Win, the president of Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) yesterday to promote bilateral trade.

They discussed potential

for increased investment, especially in forestry, agricultural and fisheries sectors, according to the UMFCCI.

Bilateral trade with Pakistan was estimated to be about US\$58 million in the first three months of this financial year, with \$19.3 million in exports and \$38.3 million in imports.

Myanmar's trade value with Pakistan was about \$80 million in FY2016-2017 and \$44.3 million in FY2015-16, \$28.6 million in FY2014-2015, \$31.4 million in FY2013-2014, \$31.8 million in FY2012-2013 and \$30.2 million in FY2011-2012, according to the Commerce Ministry. —Ko Htet ■

Myanmar regional trade US\$2.6 billion in first three months of this FY

MYANMAR-ASEAN trade was estimated at US\$ 2.6 billion for the first three months of this financial year, including exports worth \$892 million and imports worth \$1.6 billion, according to the statistics released by the Ministry of Commerce last week.

As of the end of June, Thailand ranked first among ASEAN nations with \$1 billion in trade with Myanmar, followed by Singapore with \$801 million.

Malaysia was third, with \$253 million in Myanmar trade. Indonesia was fourth

with \$208 million and Viet Nam was fifth with \$197 million in Myanmar trade.

Bilateral trade with the Philippines was \$11million while trade with Cambodia, Laos and Brunei was about \$1.4 million, each. — Ko Htet ■

Pigeon pea prices drop below Ks 500,000 per ton

PIGEON pea prices were Ks 498,600 per ton on 15 August in the Bayint Naung wholesale market in Yangon, according to a report in the City News Daily yesterday.

Mung beans prices have

been holding relatively steady, with a price of Ks786,000 per ton on 15 August, said U Hsan Aung, a bean seller.

Myanmar has around 100,000 tons of pigeon pea in store.— GNLM

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့တိုင်း "Sunday Special" အချုပ်ပိုင် (၈) မျက်နှာပါဝင်သော The Global New Light of Myanmar နေ့စဉ်ထုတ် သတင်းစာကို အောက်ပါမြို့များတွင် ဖတ်ရှုနိုင်ပါပြီ

"Sunday Special" အချုပ်ပိုင် (၈) မျက်နှာ ပါဝင်သည်

နေပြည်တော်
မြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ရုံးအမှတ်(၇) နေပြည်တော်၊ သတင်းနှင့်စာနယ်ဇင်းလုပ်ငန်း (ရုံးချုပ်)၊ စီမံခန့်ခွဲရေးဌာန၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၇၄၁၂၁၀၈

နေပြည်တော်
နေပြည်တော်သတင်းစာတိုက် (တပ်ကုန်း)၊ ဝေယျာသီရိမြို့နယ်၊ ခရောင်လမ်းခွဲ၊ နေပြည်တော်၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၇၃၆၁၄၈၊ ၀၆၇၃၆၁၂၉

ရန်ကင်း
The Global New Light of Myanmar သတင်းစာတိုက်၊ အမှတ် ၁၅၀၊ ဝါးထပ်ကြီးဘုရားလမ်း၊ ဝဟန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကင်းမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၁၀၆၀၅၅၃၂၊ ၀၉၉၇၄၄၄၄၄၄၄

မန္တလေး
လမ်း (၂၀ x ၂၀)ကြား၊ (၈၂ x ၈၃)လမ်းကြား၊ ပုလဲဇွဲ ရောင်ရမ်း၊ မန္တလေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၂၃၂၇၂၉၊ ၀၂၃၂၅၀၀

တောင်ကြီး
ရုံးကြီးလမ်း၊ သစ်တောရပ်ကွက်၊ တောင်ကြီးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၁၂၁၁၆၄၊ ၀၉၅၂၁၄၄၅၇

မကွေး
နတ်မောက်လမ်း၊ တပ်မ (၈၈)တပ်နယ်ရေးအနီး၊ မကွေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၆၃၂၃၇၁၂

ကျိုင်းတုံ
မြို့ပေါ် (၃-၈) အမှတ် (၁) လမ်းသွယ်၊ မြို့ပေါ်လမ်း၊ ကျိုင်းတုံမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၀၄၂၂၇၉၂

ကလေး
အောင်လေးရပ်ကွက်၊ မြို့နယ်အားကစားကွင်းအနီး၊ ကလေးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၃၂၂၀၃၃

မြင်ကြီးများ
အမှတ် (၄၁)၊ ရေခဲရပ်ကွက်၊ အောင်ဆန်းလမ်း၊ မြင်ကြီးများမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၄၂၂၄၆၂

စစ်တွေ
ရမ္မာဝတီလမ်းနှင့် တက္ကသိုလ်ရိပ်သာလမ်း၊ မိခင်ကြီးအနီး၊ မန်ကျည်မြိုင်ရပ်ကွက်၊ စစ်တွေမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၄၃၂၃၀၆၈

လားရှိုး
ဟူးမွန်ကျေးရွာထိပ်၊ ဟူးမွန်ဆည်ဘယ်ဘက်ခြမ်း (၁၂) ရပ်ကွက်၊ မန်ဆူဘုရားရွာ၊ အဝေရလမ်း၊ လားရှိုးမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၈၂၂၄၀၆၇

ခြောက်
မေတ္တာလမ်း၊ ရှမ်းချောင်းရပ်၊ ကလွင်ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု၊ ခြောက်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၅၉၄၂၁၀၃

မော်လမြိုင်
ကြားအင်းကျေးရွာ၊ မော်လမြိုင်မြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၅၇၂၇၂၅၊ ၀၅၇၂၇၂၆

မုံရွာ
နန္ဒဝန်ရပ်ကွက်၊ ဆက်သွယ်ရေးတပ်မတော်အနီး၊ မုံရွာမြို့၊ ဖုန်း - ၀၇၁၂၆၅၃၅၊ ၀၇၁၂၆၅၃၃

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Tougher than steel: Japan looks to wood pulp to make lighter auto parts

KYOTO (Japan) — The global push among carmakers to make ever lighter vehicles is leading some auto suppliers in Japan to turn to what seems like an unlikely substitute for steel — wood.

Japanese researchers and auto component makers say a material made from wood pulp weighs just one fifth of steel and can be five times stronger.

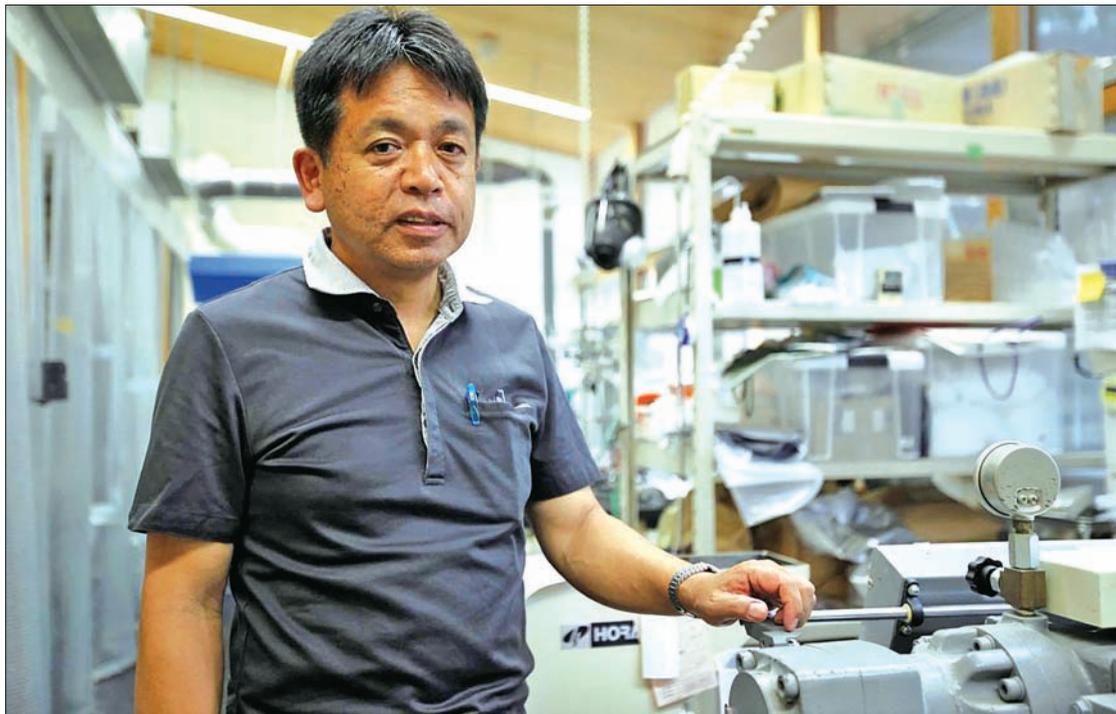
The material — cellulose nanofibers — could become a viable alternative to steel in the decades ahead, they say, although it faces competition from carbon-based materials, and remains a long way from being commercially viable.

Reducing the weight of a vehicle will be critical as manufacturers move to bring electric cars into the mainstream. Batteries are an expensive but vital component, so a reduction in car weight will mean fewer batteries will be needed to power the vehicle, saving on costs.

“Lightweighting is a constant issue for us,” said Masanori Matsushiro, a project manager overseeing body design at Toyota Motor Corp.

“But we also have to resolve the issue of high manufacturing costs before we see an increased use of new, lighter-weight materials in mass-volume cars.”

Researchers at Kyoto University and major parts suppliers such as Denso Corp, Toyota’s biggest supplier, and DaikyoNishikawa Corp, are working with plastics incorporated with cellulose



Kyoto University Professor Hiroyuki Yano, who is leading the research into using wood pulp fibers to make lighter auto parts, poses for a photograph at his laboratory in Kyoto, Japan on 25 July 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

nanofibers — made by breaking down wood pulp fibers into several hundredths of a micron (one thousandth of a millimeter).

Cellulose nanofibers have been used in a variety of products ranging from ink to transparent displays, but their potential use in cars has been enabled by the “Kyoto Process”, under which chemically treated wood fibers are kneaded into plastics while simultaneously being broken down into nanofibers, slashing the cost of production to roughly one-fifth that of other processes.

“This is the lowest-cost, highest-performance application for cellulose nanofibers, and that’s why we’re focusing on its use in

auto and aircraft parts,” Kyoto University Professor Hiroaki Yano, who is leading the research, told Reuters in an interview. The university, along with auto parts suppliers, are currently developing a prototype car using cellulose nanofiber-based parts to be completed in 2020.

Kyoto University Professor Hiroyuki Yano, who is leading the research into using wood pulp fibers to make lighter auto parts, shows wood chips (L) and fibers which are chemically treated before they are converted into cellulose nanofibers as they are kneaded into plastics and formed into pellets, at his laboratory in Tokyo, Japan July 25, 2017. Naomi

Tajitsu

“We’ve been using plastics as a replacement for steel, and we’re hoping that cellulose nanofibers will widen the possibilities toward that goal,” said Yukihiro Ishino, a spokesman at DaikyoNishikawa, which counts Toyota Motor Corp and Mazda Motor Corp among its customers.

Automakers are also using other lightweight substitutes. BMW uses carbon fiber reinforced polymers (CFRPs) for its i3 compact electric car as well as for its 7 series, while high-tensile steel and aluminum alloys are currently the most widely used lightweight options because they are cheaper and recyclable.

Yano said he was inspired in his research by a photo of the “Spruce Goose”, a cargo plane made almost entirely of wood in 1947 by US billionaire entrepreneur Howard Hughes. At the time, it was the world’s largest aircraft.

“I thought that if Howard Hughes could find a way to use wood to build a massive plane, why not use wood to make a material that was as strong as steel,” he said.

The cost of mass producing a kilogram of cellulose nanofiber is currently around 1,000 yen (\$9).

Yano aims to halve that cost by 2030, which he says will make it an economically viable product, since it would be combined with plastic, and so competitive against high tensile steel and aluminum alloys, which currently cost around \$2 per kg.

Industry experts anticipate that carbon fiber prices will fall to around \$10 per kg by 2025.

Analysts say high-tensile steel and aluminum will be the more popular alternative for many years to come, considering parts makers would need to overhaul production lines and figure out ways to fasten new materials like cellulose nanofiber onto other car parts.

Anthony Vicari, an applied materials analyst at Lux Research in Boston, said it “would be a big deal” though if Yano’s projections prove to be correct.

But for now, it remains “a very big if”, he said.— Reuters ■

As rural Sri Lanka dries out, young farmers look for new job options

ADIGAMA, Sri Lanka — Scorched by a 10-month drought that has killed crops and reduced residents to buying trucked-in water, Adigama’s young people are voting with their feet.

At least 150 youth have left this agricultural village 170 km northwest of Sri Lanka’s capital since the drought began, looking for jobs in the country’s cities, or overseas, village officials say.

Few are expected to come back, even when the rains end.

“If they get the lowest paying job overseas, or in a garment factory, they will not return,” said Sisira Kumara, the main government administrative officer in the village of 416 families.

“They will work at construction sites or as office helpers, anything they can get their hands on. The ambition is go aboard, to the Middle East or East Asia — but that takes time,” said Kumara, as he walked through a dried and long-abandoned maize plot.

W.M. Suranga, a 23-year-old who left his family’s withering paddy rice field six months ago for Colombo, said working for low wages in the city is at least preferable to struggling with no rain at home.

“At least I am sure of a pay check at the end of the month. This uncertainty of depending on the rains is too much of a risk,” he said.

As Sri Lanka struggles with its worst drought in 40 years, farmers in the hardest hit areas are migrating for work — with some wondering whether farming remains a viable career as climate change brings more frequent extreme weather.

“There is no income here. All the crops have failed in the last four seasons,” Kumara said.

Paddy rice and vegetables are usually the main source of income in Adigama. But since the last big rains in July 2016, there has been little to no harvest.

Older villagers like Rajakaruna Amaradasa, 55, say that at their age they don’t have the

option of looking outside the village for a new life.

After four decades of harvesting rice and herding cattle, he abandoned his paddy fields earlier this year when his harvest failed, and now spends his days moving his cattle around looking for scarce water.

“It will take us another two to three harvests to recover our losses and pay off any debt. Even then it all depends on the rain,” Amaradasa said.

With average rains, Amaradasa said he used to make between 30,000 and 40,000 rupees a month (\$200-\$260). Now his income has fallen to a third of that, he said.

Sri Lanka’s drought, which by mid-August had affected 19 of the island’s 25 districts, has particularly devastated arid regions that lie outside the country’s wet western plains and mountains.

A joint report by the World Food Programme and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, released in mid-June, classified the drought as worst in 40 years.

It predicted rice production this year in Sri Lanka would be almost 40 per cent less than last year, and 35 per cent lower than the five-year average. That amounts to the lowest harvest since 2004, it said.—Reuters ■

Australian science agencies uncover new evidence in MH370 search

SYDNEY — New evidence released by Australian government agencies on Wednesday may have narrowed the location of missing Malaysia Airlines flight MH370.

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau, the lead body behind search operations for MH370 in the southern Indian Ocean, released two reports, one of which concluded that the location of the aircraft may be identified "with unprecedented precision and certainty."

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, Australia's main scientific agency, conducted drift modeling on imagery captured by a French satellite, two weeks after the passenger plane disappeared.

"We think it is possible to identify a most-likely location of the aircraft, with unprecedented precision and certainty. This location is 35.6 degrees S, 92.8 degrees E," the report stated emphatically.

"(We) have a high degree of confidence that an impact in the southern half



A woman leaves a message of support and hope for the passengers of the missing Malaysia Airlines MH370 in central Kuala Lumpur on 16 March, 2014. PHOTO: REUTERS

of the 2016-proposed march area... (is) consistent with detection of debris in the images," the report stated.

However despite the CSIRO's conclusions, the Australian Transport Safety Bureau's Chief Commissioner Greg Hood urged caution. "The image resolution is not high enough to be

certain whether the objects originated from MH370 or are other objects that might be found floating in oceans around the world," he said.

"The information contained within the...reports may be useful in informing any further search effort that may be mounted in the future." According to

the ATSB, the Malaysian government retains overall authority and responsibility for any future search.

Earlier this month, families commemorated the third anniversary of the disappearance of MH370, which vanished from radar less than 40 minutes after taking off from Kuala

Lumpur International Airport just after midnight on 8 March, 2014.

The plane was on its way to Beijing with 239 people on board, mostly passengers from China. The ATSB's final report into the missing aircraft will be released in the third quarter of 2017.—Kyodo News ■

UK's biggest warship HMS Queen Elizabeth sails into home port for first time

PORTSMOUTH — Britain's most advanced and biggest warship, the 65,000-tonne aircraft carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth, berthed for the first time at its home port of Portsmouth on Wednesday.

The 280-metre (920-foot) vessel entered the harbour on England's southern coast at 0610 GMT, greeted by thousands of spectators.

HMS Queen Elizabeth is the largest warship ever built for the Royal Navy, according to the Ministry of Defence.

"Today we welcome our mighty new warship, HMS Queen Elizabeth, to her home for the very first time," said Defence Secretary Michael Fallon.

"She is Britain's statement to the world: a demonstration of British military power and our commitment to a bigger global role."—Reuters ■

Transferring Distributor for Registered Products

Distribution of following pesticides registered by Asiatic Agricultural Industries Pte Ltd (Singapore) is transferring from Asiatic Agricultural Industries Pte Ltd (Myanmar Branch) to **AKA YARZAR COMPANY LIMITED**. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within 7 days.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. DYNAMIC 20SL - ဒိုင်နမ်စ် ၂၀ အက်(စ်)အယ်(လ်) | 2. SUITABLE - ဆူးတေးဘဲလ် |
| 3. TALIC SUPER DUST - တားလေ့ပူဂါဒတ် | 4. SURE 75WP - ရှူးဝါး ၇၅ ဒပလျူပီ |
| 5. ERASE 500EC - အီရေစ် ၅၀၀ အီးစီ | 6. EXACT-SL - အိတ်ဇက် အက်(စ်) အယ်(လ်) |
| 7. PORISHKER 10WP - ပေါ့ရစ်(စ်)ဂါ ၁၀ ဒပလျူပီ | |

Asiatic Agricultural Industries Pte Ltd (Myanmar Branch)
01 684673, 09 5145328

Transferring Distributor for Registered Products

Distribution of following (7) pesticides registered by Asiatic Agricultural Industries Pte Ltd (Singapore) is transferring from Asiatic Agricultural Industries Pte Ltd (Myanmar Branch) to **MARGA MIN COMPANY LIMITED**. Any objection regarding to this transfer can notify at Myanmar Pesticide Registration Board within 7 days.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. AGRO KHARU 70WP - အက်ဂရို ခရု ၇၀ ဒပလျူပီ | 2. VANTAGE 56 % - ဗန်းတေ့ 56 % |
| 3. ADORA 60 EC - အဒိုရာ ၆၀ အီးစီ | 4. ESPIRE 60EC - အက်(စ်)ပိုင်ဇာ ၆၀ အီးစီ |
| 5. TRAZIN 80WP - ထရာဇင်း ၈၀ ဒပလျူပီ | 6. VIRON 80WP - ဝိုင်ရွန် ၈၀ ဒပလျူပီ |
| 7. LIMIT 100EC - လစ်မစ် ၁၀၀ အီးစီ | |

Asiatic Agricultural Industries Pte Ltd (Myanmar Branch)
01 684673, 09 5145328

Japan urges HK to lift ban on food imports from quake-hit zone

HONG KONG — Japan's agriculture minister Ken Saito on Wednesday urged Hong Kong to lift the six-year-old partial ban on food products from five Japanese prefectures over fear of radiation contamination.

In a meeting with Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam and Food and Health Secretary Sophia Chan, Saito, who heads the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, urged Hong Kong to scrap the ban on the basis of scientific evidence, he told reporters afterward.

Imports of milk, vegetables, fruits and other food products from Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma and Chiba prefectures have been banned since

March 2011 over worries about radiation contamination, following a massive earthquake and tsunami that caused multiple reactor meltdowns at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in northeastern Japan. However, meat, poultry, eggs and aquatic products can be imported with radiation certificates stating their safety.

Saito declined to comment on Lam's reaction to his requests. The Hong Kong government has said it will "manage food safety based on the well-being of Hong Kong people" but did not reveal the criteria needed for lifting the ban.

Since the Fukushima disaster, food imports from Japan have been regular-

ly tested for radioactive contamination but of the 430,000 samples so far, only three samples — a white radish, a turnip and spinach — taken in March 2011 yielded unsatisfactory contamination levels.

Scheduled to attend Thursday's annual Food Fair, Saito said Hong Kong remains Japan's biggest export market for agricultural food and Japan will strengthen the ties with Hong Kong in that respect.

According to Hong Kong's trade data, Japan's exports of foodstuffs to Hong Kong in 2016 amounted to US\$1.2 billion, accounting for near 26 percent of Japan's exports under such category.—Kyodo News ■

The importance of reform during a transition period

Kyaw Myaing

IN her speech at the Forum on Myanmar Democratic Transition which was held in Nay Pyi Taw from 11-13 August 2017, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said among other things “When we are trying to change, it is never easy”. In the olden days there has been a Chinese proverb which said something like this: “it is easy to conquer a country on horseback. It is not easy to rule on horseback.” Thus it is quite easy for theoreticians and scholars to write books about economic and political transitions but to actually carry out reforms at the national level and to transition from a military form of government to a democratic civilian government is sure to be a daunting task.

The NLD-led government is now in its second year of ruling the country. The very fact that this “Forum on Myanmar Democratic Transition” has been held is very good for the country. This is the humble opinion of the author. Why

do I say this? The reason is quite simple. The way this forum has been organized by the Ministry of Information highlights many of the fundamental principles of a democracy in transition. For one thing, the members of the different panels indicated that foreign experts as well as Myanmar experts from different academic and professional disciplines have been carefully selected and allowed to present their views and opinions freely. In my view, the proceedings of the forum should be printed and made available to the general public as soon as possible so that the younger generation as well as all the politicians, political parties, NGO’s and ethnic armed groups could read and benefit from the views expressed by the experienced experts. By conducting this forum, we could see a holistic view of the transition process so far, so that if there is any need to make adjustments or fine-tuning, this could be done in a timely manner.

Discussing about reform, whether it is economic reform or political

reform, experts on this subject have presented many views. Some say that political reforms should come before economic reforms. Some say that it is more important to achieve internal peace before economic reforms should be tackled. As Myanmar is undergoing a transition towards democracy, it could be said that we can learn a lot from the experiences of other countries. This is true and I agree with this statement. In fact State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said in her opening speech on 11 August 2017, “To be behind also has some advantages”.

In my opinion, while we should definitely learn from the experiences of other countries, that path that Myanmar follows would be based on different factors such as Myanmar’s geo-political position, the uniqueness of Myanmar’s modern history, the “State of the Union” at the time the NLD government took over the duty of running the country, the state of the economy at the time of transfer of power and the morale and

capability of the government service personnel.

To ensure that this transition towards democracy is a resounding success, perhaps the Union Government should consider the formation of a Council of Economic Advisors to advise the President and the State Counsellor. From my study of American Government and American politics, I have come to be very much in favor of having a Council of experts who are well-qualified academically as well as having long years of relevant government service experience. By doing this, I firmly believe that there would be a body of experts capable of advising the President and the State Counsellor on a continuing basis. Now that the NLD has been successful in taking over the reins of power, it may be time to set up the necessary institutions to make sure that the reforms are on track and that the transition towards a full-fledged democracy unfolds in a smooth and orderly manner. ■

How Shall We Deal With For Achievement of Peace?

By Aung Kyi Nyunt

Now is assumed to be the time when the Union of Myanmar has been in the first phase of its way towards the peaceful and developed nation. Provided that we can make rightful approach by taking lessons as to what we are to do and what we are not to do from the long history, we firmly believe that we can extinguish chronic civil war and we can build up a federal democratic union in the near future.

Among all the living beings, existence as human-beings is at the highest of the totem pole of the intellectual status. That being so we can conclude that disagreements and inconveniences can be solved

Had we approached by assessing who or which organization had done what kinds of mistake in which time, flawless ones cannot be found, instead inter-allegations, giving explanations and challenges may be increasing.

out through discussions and negotiations, that is to say, by speaking. Apart from humans, other living beings can manage to deal with all their problems by use of strength and force.

It is incumbent upon respective organisations involved to move toward the successful progress as hoped for Future Union of Myanmar. As per historical background which existed on its firm stance, there actually had been doubtful matters, anxieties and violation of mutual trust.

Had we approached by assessing who or which organization had done what kinds of mistake in which time, in other word had we approached with the question beginning with “Who,” flawless ones cannot be found, instead inter-allegations, giving explanations and challenges may be increasing. Only if we approach objectively why it happened, in other word, only if we approach with the question beginning with “Why”, will we get solution that can overcome challenges and move forward. We firmly believe like this.

Here, I would like to suggest that we will succeed in gaining peace promptly, without taking time in carrying out peace process like other countries, provided that we will find out which kinds of society our community is, and it was old but it was dignified with a high status.

What I want to present is that if we try to find out the civilization of

our society, which is nearly out of our memory, that is, which is nearly out of our sight, I firmly believe that all the problems will be able to be solved promptly. At our salad days when we were young, we had been indoctrinated with an idea since the advent of monastic education or basic primary school. Our forefathers themselves taught us how much they exerted their effort to have built their society based on obligation, not based on right.

They wanted us to retain the practice, and we as well never ever should forget it. As for me, I hereby would like to suggest that the practice should be revived again.

What I mean is that our ancestors did not give any rights to their offspring, by saying that these were rights and opportunities their children must get. What they gave was only obligations or parental duties. Our parents also gave us no rights, apart from obligations or filial duties. In the same way, rights and opportunities husband must get were given to wives as the latter’s obligations or duties or vice versa. I would like to conclude that it is the advanced civilization. As soon as rights are prioritized, selfishness, egoism and personal benefits follow them, causing conflicts between benefits and problems.

In dealing with these problems, it is assumed that problems will be able to solved in a short period

of time, provided that respective organizations would take into consideration as to from which part they are responsible to take part, in the interest of the State, the Union and all of our national brethren, by reviving the above-said culture. I firmly believe that our kinds of solving the problems will never move forward, as long as we hold right base by claiming that you are also required to do for us in reciprocation if you want us to do something for you, or vice versa. Had our societies considered what kinds of obligations we must fulfill, disunity among us will disappear in a prompt way.

Here, there are two factors we must take care. In our human society that is required to follow obligation base, one-sided performance of obligations will never bring about eternal peace and stability in the country. The second important thing is that myriads of problems will appear if the person or organization that had performed obligation base for a long time, converted his opinions—obligations into rights.

May our challenges we are experiencing and we will have yet to face, change into the stairway. May our national brethren co-exist peacefully, by building up the federal democratic union as hoped, regardless of majority or minority and near or far!

Translated by Khin Maung Oo
(Tada-U)

Union Ministers inspect Rakhine State public works projects

SEVERAL Union Ministers and other high-ranking government officials travelled to Thandwe District in Rakhine State to inspect the ongoing construction of the Kayan Mawlo Peik Dam.

The delegation, which included Union Minister for Border Affairs Lieutenant General Ye Aung, Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe, Union Minister for

Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye and Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu also visited Thandwe District Hospital, where they gave encouragement to patients and medical professionals.

In the afternoon, Union Ministers met with the town elders of Thandwe District at Annawa Guest House. During the meeting, Union Ministers said that the government is prioritising Rakhine State's peace and stability.

The town elders of Thandwe mentioned the need for better medical and education facilities, as well as roads in Ngapili.

They also pleaded for better security.—A One Soe



Union Ministers encourages a mother taking care of her child at the Thandwe District hospital. **PHOTO: MYO THU HEIN**

Villager killed in Maungtaw

A villager who lives in Naru Lar village, Tat Oo Chaung village tract in Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State was stabbed to death yesterday morning.

Haji Eienit was sitting at

the betel quid shop around 9:30 pm yesterday, when three men from his village, including one identified as Eumah, also known as Mar Saung, reportedly attacked him with knives.

Haji Eienit was sent to Maungtaw Hospital, where he died from his wounds.

Police are seeking the three suspects, who are still at large.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Public announcement for remonstrations

The Federal Democratic Party of Union Indigenous Races headquartered at No. 496, Kyun Pyintha Ward in Myitkyina, Kachin State, submitted an application for registration as a political party in accord

with the Section 5 of the Political Parties Registration Law on 16-8-2017. In their application they mentioned that they would use the following name, flag and emblem as described hereunder.

In accord with Section 14 (d) of the Political Parties Registration Rules, it is hereby announced that those who want to remonstrate with the Union Election Commission (UEC) about the party's name, flag and emblem may submit a complaint along with credible supporting evidence within seven days starting from the issuance of this announcement.—Union Election Commission (UEC) ■



Party Flag.



Party Logo.



Union Minister U Win Khaing presents a gift to Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than at the opening of a new office for Department of Rural Road Development. **PHOTO: MNA**

Government establishes Rural Road Development Department

HIGH-LEVEL government officials attended the opening of a new office for Department of Rural Road Development at the assembly hall of the Ministry of Construction in Nay Pyi Taw at 8 am yesterday.

The government plans to connect 90 per cent of Myanmar's villages with all-season roads by 2030. "Today a new sector has been opened for national transportation," Speaker of Amyotha

Hluttaw Mahn Win Khaing Than. Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw Mahn Win Khaing Than, Union Ministers, U Ohn Win, U Win Khaing, U Khin Maung Cho, U Ohn Maung and Naing Thet Lwin and Deputy Ministers, Nay Pyi Taw Council members, Ambassador of People's Republic of China to Myanmar and its diplomatic mission and members of Hluttaw Affairs Committee attended the ceremony.—MNA ■

Blood donation to be held at Jivitadana Sangha Hospital

With a view to saving lives as Jivitadana to donate blood to patients needing blood, Sanghas and nuns will hold collective blood donation ceremony at 8 am on Saturday, 30th September at Jivitadana Sangha Hospital in Bahan Township, Yangon during the Buddhist Lent, it was learnt. Medical doctor-in-charge of Yangon General Hospital's National Blood Bank and party will accept the blood to be donated.

Interested persons who would like to join the Buddhist Lent collective blood donation ceremony can enroll their names to following phones:

- Out-door Patient Department for Sanghas ph—552975
 - Out-door Patient Department for Nuns ph—542706
 - Out-door Patient Department for laymen ph—552542
 - Office of Medical Superintendent ph—558434
 - Social relation branch ph—541795 or
- they can contact in person, not later than September 29.—MNA ■

One more political party applies for registration

As applications for registration as political parties are being scrutinized by the Union Election Commission (UEC), it has been learnt that an application for reg-

istration has been received by the UEC on 16 August 2017 from the Federal Democratic Party of Union Indigenous Races.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

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



US President Donald Trump answers questions about his response to the violence, injuries and deaths at the “Unite the Right” rally in Charlottesville as he talks to the media in the lobby of Trump Tower in Manhattan, New York, US on 15 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Trump praises N Korean leader’s decision not to fire missiles towards Guam

BEIJING/TOKYO — US President Donald Trump on Wednesday praised North Korean leader Kim Jong Un for a “wise” decision not to fire missiles towards the US territory of Guam and for easing escalating tension between the two countries.

Reclusive North Korea has made no secret of its plan to develop a missile capable of firing a nuclear warhead at the United States to counter what it perceives as constant US threats of invasion, and tension has been rising for months.

Trump warned North Korea last week it would face “fire and fury” if it threatened the United States, prompting North Korea to say it was considering test-firing missiles towards the Pacific island of Guam.

But North Korean media reported on Tuesday Kim had delayed the decision while he awaited to see what the United States did next.

“Kim Jong Un of North Korea made a very wise and well reasoned decision,” Trump wrote on Twitter.

“The alternative would have been both catastrophic and unacceptable!”

North Korea has long ignored warnings from the West and from its lone major ally, China, to halt its nuclear and mis-

sile tests which it conducts in defiance of UN Security Council resolutions.

The United States has been hoping China can press the North to rein in its weapons programmes. The top US general reiterated that in talks in Beijing this week.

Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff Joseph Dunford told Fang Fenghui, chief of the Joint Staff Department of the People’s Liberation Army, in Beijing that North Korea’s weapons programmes threatened the entire international community, including China.

“He emphasised that the US and China have the same goal — a denuclearised Korean peninsula achieved through peaceful means ... North Korean actions threaten the economic and military security of China,” a US military spokesman said in a statement.

“In the interest of regional stability, he said the US views with growing urgency the need for China to increase pressure on the North Korean regime,” the spokesman said.

“Should preferred diplomatic and economic peaceful options fail, General Dunford reiterated America’s resolve to use the full range of military capabilities to defend our allies in the Republic

of Korea and Japan, as well as the US homeland.”

China has repeatedly called for all sides to exercise restraint and remain calm, and while it has signed up for tough UN sanctions on North Korea, it says the key to a resolution lies in Washington and Pyongyang talking to each other, rather than expecting China to do all the work.

Japan conducted air manoeuvres with US bombers southwest of the Korean peninsula on Wednesday involving two US Air Force B-1B Lancer bombers flying from Andersen Air Force Base on Guam and two Japanese F-15 jet fighters, Japan’s Air Self Defence Force said in a news release.

“These training flights with Japan demonstrate the solidarity and resolve we share with our allies to preserve peace and security in the Indo-Asia-Pacific,” the US Air Force said.

The US aircraft have flown several sorties in East Asia over recent weeks. In addition to air drills with Japanese fighters, the bombers have also exercised with South Korean aircraft.

North Korea regards the US exercises with South Korea and Japan as preparations for invasion. The exercises also upset China, which says they do nothing to ease tension.

On Wednesday, a senior Chinese military officer reiterated China’s position on the need to maintain peace and stability to Dunford, China’s Defence Ministry said.

Song Puxuan, commander of China’s Northern Theatre Command, stressed to Dunford that the North Korean nuclear issue must be resolved politically through talks, the ministry added.

The command is based in China’s northeastern city of Shenyang and has responsibility for a swath of northern China, including the border with North Korea. North Korea’s threat to fire towards Guam had prompted US Trump to say the US military was “locked and loaded” if North Korea acted unwisely.

In his first public appearance in about two weeks, Kim on Monday inspected the command of North Korea’s army, examining the plan to fire four missiles aimed at landing near Guam, the official KCNA news agency reported. “He said that if the Yankees persist in their extremely dangerous reckless actions on the Korean peninsula and in its vicinity, testing the self-restraint of the DPRK, the latter will make an important decision as it already declared,” KCNA said.—Reuters ■

WORLD BRIEFS

Moscow says does not support calls to stifle N Korean economy

MOSCOW — Moscow does not support calls for stifling the economy of North Korea, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Wednesday, adding that possibilities of putting economic pressure on the country had been nearly exhausted.—Reuters ■

Merkel says doing everything to get peaceful solution on N Korea

BERLIN — German Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Wednesday concerns about a crisis over North Korea could only be solved by negotiation and she was doing everything possible to achieve a peaceful resolution.

“I am totally against the rhetorical armament that is being used by all sides ... There is no military solution for this conflict, it must be worked out via negotiations,” Merkel said in response to a question on North Korea in a YouTube interview.

She said she was pleased that US and Chinese leaders spoke by telephone.

“We must use such means then ... we can avoid a catastrophe and we must do everything possible to do that. I am doing everything I can at least,” she said.—Reuters ■

Russian ex-economy minister Ulyukayev says charges against him “fabricated”

MOSCOW — Russia’s former economy minister Alexei Ulyukayev said in court on Wednesday that the charges in the bribery case against him were fabricated and accused Igor Sechin, the chief executive of oil giant Rosneft, and the FSB security service of carrying out a “provocation.”

Ulyukayev was put under house arrest in November pending his trial over allegations he extorted a \$2 million bribe from Rosneft. He denies the charges.—Reuters ■

Qatar sovereign fund said to plan new foreign investments despite sanctions

DOHA/ZURICH — Qatar's sovereign wealth fund, with around \$300 billion to its name, is shrugging off the country's diplomatic crisis with its neighbours and planning to expand its holdings.

Its chief executive was quoted on Wednesday as saying there were no plans to liquidate foreign assets — as some investors had speculated — and that the fund would soon announce big new international investments.

"We have just completed a tour of several countries around the world and you will hear about significant investments soon," Sheikh Abdullah bin Mohamed bin Saud al-Thani, who runs the Qatar Investment Authority, told the Lusail newspaper.

Qatar's economy has been under pressure since June 5 when Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Egypt cut diplomatic and transport ties with Doha, accusing it of backing terrorism, a charge

which Doha denies.

Banks from those states have pulled out deposits and loans from Qatar, prompting the QIA to deposit billions of dollars in local banks to prevent them from suffering funding squeezes.

Official data shows Qatar deposited \$10.9 billion in its banks during June, and commercial bankers believe it has probably deposited more money since then.

Although the QIA is believed to have substantial cash reserves, economists have speculated it may soon have to start liquidating some of its overseas assets — such as holdings or bonds or equities, or even real estate — in order to continue supporting the economy.

However, Sheikh Abdullah said on Wednesday that the sanctions against Qatar had not affected the QIA's investment strategy. He did not give any details of the planned new investments.



CEO of the Qatar Investment Authority Abdullah Bin Mohammed Bin Saud Al Thani. PHOTO: REUTERS

His comments were in line with observations by a private banker familiar with the QIA's operations, who told Reuters that he had not noticed any major asset sales by the fund in the past two months.

The QIA's overall stake in Swiss bank Credit Suisse, one of its most prominent foreign investments, has fallen since June, data from the SIX Swiss Exchange showed on Wednesday. However, the drop did not appear due to heavy selling of shares.

Qatar's voting stake in Credit Suisse, including purchase rights, dropped to 15.91 percent from 17.98 per cent reported in June. The portion of the stake held in the form of registered shares edged down

to 4.936 per cent from 5.01 per cent.

A European source familiar with the matter told Reuters that the QIA had sold some shares but that the bulk of the drop in its voting stake was due to dilution of its holdings during a capital increase.

A source close to Qatar's government said the change in the Credit Suisse stake was part of "normal portfolio rebalancing".

He noted that the QIA had trimmed other large investments in the past such as its stake in Agricultural Bank of China.

CEO of the Qatar Investment Authority Abdullah Bin Mohammed Bin Saud Al Thani. — Reuters ■

Suicide attacker kills seven Iraqi soldiers near city of Baiji

TIKRIT, (Iraq) — Seven Iraqi soldiers were killed on Wednesday when a suicide attacker tried to infiltrate a security headquarters near the northern city of Baiji where Islamic State is entrenched in nearby mountain areas, security sources said.

Around five assailants attacked the compound where police and army troops are based. One blew up his explosives vest at the entrance while the other four clashed with guards for around three hours, said army colonel Mohammed al-Assadi.

Police and army soldiers managed to kill the four attackers while six policemen and soldiers were also wounded, Assadi said.

Islamic State's self-proclaimed caliphate effectively collapsed last month when US-backed Iraqi forces completed the recapture of Mosul, the militants' capital in northern Iraq, after a nine-month campaign.

Some parts, including small towns and mountain areas, remain under Islamic State control, especially along the border. — Reuters ■

Afghan police discover mass graves after village attack

MAZAR-I-SHARIF, (Afghanistan) — Afghan police have discovered mass grave containing the bodies of at least 36 victims of a recent militant attack on a village, officials said on Wednesday.

One grave in the northern province of Sar-e Pul held 28 bodies and another contained eight, said provincial government spokesman Zabihullah Amani.

"Most of the victims were beheaded," he said, noting that all were men, except for three boys between the ages of eight and 15.

A third mass grave had been located but it was in an area under Taliban control, and security forces were searching for more possible graves, Amani added.

On Wednesday, residents held funerals for several vic-

tims of the raid.

At least 62 people have been confirmed dead in the attack on Mirza Olang village last week, with the number expected to rise, according to the Sar-e Pul governor's office.

The Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission said a preliminary investigation suggested that militants from the Taliban and Islamic State, who are normally bitter rivals, acted together.

That has been denied by the Taliban, who said they had carried out the attack alone and did not kill any civilians.

Islamic State issued a statement on Monday claiming it had led the attack and killed about 54 Shi'ite Muslims, a minority group in Afghanistan that has often come under attack from Islamic State.

Villagers who escaped from Mirza Olang told reporters they saw fighters carrying both the white banner of the

Taliban and the black banner of Islamic State.

In a region where bands of fighters often switch between

different militant groups, it can be difficult to establish allegiances with any certainty. — Reuters ■



Villagers collect the dead bodies of civilians who were killed by insurgents at Mirza Olang village, in Sar-e Pul province, Afghanistan on 15 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Russia to show off underwater robots' capabilities at Army-2017 forum

ALABINO RANGE (Moscow Region) — Underwater robots' capabilities will be demonstrated at the Army-2017 military and technical forum, Deputy Head of the Russian Defence Ministry's Main Directorate for Research Activity Roman Kordyukov said on Tuesday.

"Underwater robots will be demonstrated at Lake Komsomolskoye. We'll involve our marine anti-sabotage swimmers in the dynamic show. They will demonstrate their abilities with the use of marine robotics," the Defence Ministry official said.

The forum's dynamic show programme will fully differ from the previous year's scenario, Kordyukov said but gave no details.

The Defence Ministry official also declined to specify new military hardware items that would be showcased at the forum.

"Overall, over 200 pieces of airborne, naval and



Overall, over 200 pieces of airborne, naval and land-based hardware and small arms will be demonstrated. **PHOTO: TASS**

land-based hardware and small arms will be demonstrated," he said.

Military hardware will be demonstrated every day, including twice a day on the days of mass attendance at the forum, he added.

"Tank 'ballet' is en-

visaged for the completion of the demonstration programme. Organic hardware operational in the Russian Armed Forces - T-80 and T-90 tanks - will be used for it," Kordyukov said.

The Army-2017 military and technical forum

will be held on 22 -27 August on the territory of the Patriot congress and exhibition centre, at the Alabino training range and the Kubinka aerodrome, as well as in all of Russia's military districts and in the Northern Fleet.

—Tass ■

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Dated 17 August 2017

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Date: 17th August 2017

In rare rebuke of Trump, UK's May says leaders must condemn far-right views

LONDON — British Prime Minister Theresa May said on Wednesday there was no equivalence between fascists and those who opposed them, a rare rebuke of US President Donald Trump by one of his closest foreign allies.

Trump inflamed tensions after a deadly rally of white supremacists in Charlottesville, Virginia, by insisting that counter-protesters were also to blame, drawing condemnation from some Republican leaders and praise from white far-right groups.

"There's no equivalence, I see no equivalence between those who propound fascist views and those who oppose them and I think it is important for all those in positions of responsibility to condemn far-right views wherever we hear them," May told reporters when asked to comment on Trump's stance.

On Monday, May's spokesman had said that while Britain condemned racism, what the US president said was "a matter for him".

May has been widely criticised by domestic political opponents for her efforts to cultivate close ties with Trump, who she visited at the White House days after his inauguration and invited for a

state visit to Britain.

Her openly critical comment on Wednesday was an unexpected shift from May, who is keen to cement what she and many other Britons see as a "special relationship" between London and Washington as Britain prepares to leave the European Union.

The invitation to Trump to make a state visit to Britain sparked immediate controversy in Britain when the US head of state announced his widely-criticised ban on travel from Muslim-majority countries just hours after May left the White House.

Trump's stance on the Charlottesville violence drew renewed calls for Trump's state visit, which would be hosted by Queen Elizabeth and involve lavish pageantry, to be cancelled. May had rejected similar calls after previous Trump-related controversies.

"Donald Trump has shown he is unable to detach himself from the extreme-right and racial supremacists," said Vince Cable, leader of the opposition Liberal Democrats.

"It would be completely wrong to have this man visit the UK on a State Visit."

No date has been announced for the visit.

—Reuters ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV SINAR BALI VOY. NO (035)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BALI VOY. NO (035) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.8.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SILKAGO LOGISTICS
PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

Emperor looking to fulfill his desire before abdication

TOKYO—Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko are planning to visit in late October southwestern Japan areas hit hard by recent torrential rain, sources affiliated with the Imperial Household Agency said on Wednesday.

They are also considering visiting small islands in the region in mid-November; the sources said, in a plan that could help realize the emperor's desire to visit people living on remote islands and play his constitutional role as symbol of the state.

The seemingly tight schedule by the octogenarian couple is being arranged after the emperor expressed such a desire in a rare video message issued in August last year, in which he also hinted at his desire to abdicate as he was concerned that age and failing health could one day stop him from fulfilling his duties. The message led the nation's parliament to enact a law in June to allow him to become the first emperor to abdicate



Japanese Emperor Akihito (L) and Empress Michiko, seen in this combined file photo, are planning to visit in October 2017 southwestern Japan areas hit hard by recent torrential rain, sources affiliated with the Imperial Household Agency said on 16 August, 2017. PHOTO:KYODO NEWS

in 200 years. The agency is now making arrangements to enable the emperor and empress to visit on 27 October areas hit by the heavy rains in early July in Fukuoka and Oita prefectures, reflecting wishes of the couple who were deeply concerned about damage brought by the disaster; the sources said.

Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko were al-

ready scheduled to travel to Fukuoka for three days from 28 October to attend an annual ceremony for maritime resource conservation, but they are now likely to leave home a day earlier to visit the disaster-affected areas.

During the trip, the couple are expected to have the opportunity to meet those affected by the disaster to express sympa-

thy and offer encouragement.

As for the envisioned trip to small islands in Kagoshima Prefecture, the agency is making preparations with the prefectural government and local municipality offices to fix the travel dates that would take them to Yaku Island and the Amami group of islands, according to the sources.—Kyodo News ■

Risk of disease as hundreds queue to identify Sierra Leone mudslide victims

FREETOWN — Hundreds of Freetown residents queued on Wednesday to identify relatives killed in a mudslide on the edge of the Sierra Leone capital, as aid workers warned of an impending health crisis caused by nearly 400 corpses.

Dozens of houses were buried when a mountainside collapsed in the town of Regent on Monday morning - one of the deadliest natural disasters in Africa in recent years.

Emergency response teams have raced to dig out survivors and dispose of bodies but the central morgue is overwhelmed, and many bodies are still feared trapped under mud and rubble.

Sobbing and covering their noses from the stench, relatives stepped around corpses lying on the ground outside the morgue as the sheets covering them were lifted one by one.

"I have lost my loved ones. I came to identify my uncle in particular, but I couldn't find him," said 30-year-old Hawanatu Sesay, after her turn came to look through the morgue.

"Let his soul rest in peace," she said through tears.

Another man said he had identified his wife's body but had no news of his two young daughters. All had been trapped and buried when their house

was engulfed in mud, he said.

Chief coroner Seneh Dumbuya told Reuters on Tuesday that nearly 400 bodies had been brought in and that he anticipated more than 500 as the search continued. Authorities did not have an updated death toll on Wednesday.

The government summoned families to the morgue in a statement, and said all unidentified corpses would be buried on Thursday and Friday.

The country of 6 million people is one of the poorest in the world and was ravaged by West Africa's 2014-16 Ebola outbreak, which killed 4,000 people in the former British colony.

Aid workers said after the latest disaster there is a high risk of disease outbreaks such as cholera, as corpses are lying in the open, in stifling heat, and possibly leaking fluids into waterways.

Authorities have requested air conditioning units to keep the bodies cool but are in need of more protective gear such as masks, aprons, and glove disposal stations, said Idalia Amaya, an emergency relief coordinator for Catholic Relief Services.

"The morgues are just overflowing with corpses and it is becoming a public health emergency," Amaya said.

"They need to get the bodies out." —Reuters ■

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Dated 17 August 2017

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Pink to get Vanguard award at MTV Video Music Awards

LOS ANGELES — Pop star Pink has been chosen to receive the 2017 Vanguard Award, MTV's equivalent of a lifetime achievement honor for video music, the US cable and satellite television channel said on Tuesday.

Pink, 37, known for her powerhouse vocals and acrobatic live shows, is being recognized for her impact on music, pop culture, fashion and philanthropy over the course of her 17-year career, the Viacom Inc unit said in a statement. The "Don't Let Me Get Me" Philadelphia-born singer has released six studio albums since her debut in 2000, and won three Grammys and six MTV

Video Music Awards. She is also a UNICEF ambassador for children's nutrition worldwide and supports causes ranging from autism to human rights.

Pink will receive the honor at the MTV Video Music Awards show in Los Angeles on 27 August, where she will perform her latest single "What About Us." She joins previous Vanguard recipients including Rihanna, Kanye West, Beyonce and Michael Jackson. —Reuters ■



Pink performs "Just Like Fire" at the Billboard Awards in Las Vegas, Nevada on 22 May, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Hollywood super star calls on fans to identify white supremacists in Charlottesville

LOS ANGELES — Jennifer Lawrence, the highest-paid actress in the world, made an emotional plea Monday for fans to help identify white supremacists in the fatal "Unite the Right" rally in the US state of Virginia.

"These are the faces of hate," Lawrence wrote on her official Facebook page Monday afternoon, additionally sharing four pictures, which caught groups of young white men participating in the rally with torches and swastika-bearing flags.

"Look closely and post an-

yone you find. You can't hide with the internet you pathetic cowards!" wrote the Academy Award-winning actress.

In six hours after the message was posted, it received more than 3,400 comments, most of which were against white supremacy and racism.

"I'm right wing. I will admit. This is completely unacceptable behavior, our grandparents and great grandparents in WWII ripped swastikas down and tried to destroy them and there meaning forever. Now these 'Americans' are waving it

around like it's cool ... Pathetic hypocrites," wrote a Facebook user named Bobby Write.

On 13 August, thousands of white nationalists, neo-Confederates and right-wing protesters, as well as groups that oppose them, clashed during the demonstrations that took place in Charlottesville, a historic college town in Virginia.

After hours of brawls, a sports car ploughed into the crowd against white supremacists, killing a 32-year-old local woman and injuring 19.

—Xinhua ■

Daniel Craig confirms he will return as James Bond

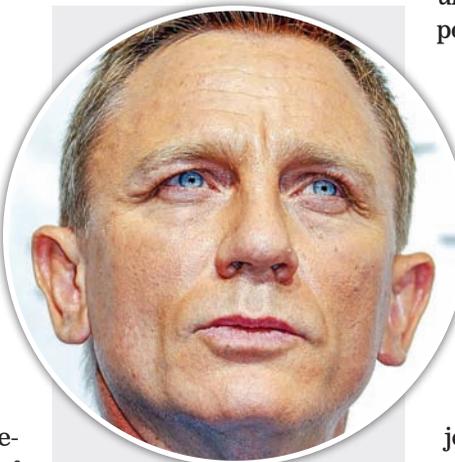
LONDON — British actor Daniel Craig has confirmed he will reprise the role of James Bond one last time, ending months of speculation.

Craig made the revelation during an appearance on the US TV programme "The Late Show" on Tuesday. Asked by host Stephen Colbert whether he would return as James Bond, Craig responded: "Yes", to cheers from the audience. Craig has appeared four times as the spy with a taste for martini: in "Casino Royale", "Quantum of Solace", "Skyfall"

and "Spectre".

Eon Productions, the company that runs the movie franchise, said on its website that the 25th Bond movie would be released in US cinemas on 8 November, 2019, with a traditional early release in Britain and the rest of the world.

Asked by Colbert whether he would appear in any further Bond movies after that one, Craig said no. "I think this is it. I just want to go out on a high note and I can't wait," he said. —Reuters ■



Actor Daniel Craig poses for photographers on the red carpet at the French premiere of the new James Bond 007 film "Spectre" in Paris, France on 29 October, 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

Despite losing trial to Taylor Swift, DJ insists he never groped her

LOS ANGELES — The former Colorado radio DJ who lost a court case to Taylor Swift insisted on Tuesday that he "never grabbed" the pop star's bare buttocks while posing for a photo with her four years ago.

David Mueller, against whom Swift delivered scathing testimony during a week-long trial in Denver, told ABC television's "Good Morning America" that he "didn't do what they say I did."

"I didn't do it. I never grabbed her. I never had my hand under her skirt. And I can pass a polygraph," Mueller said.

Swift on Monday was awarded the symbolic \$1 in damages that she had sought after a federal jury found that Mueller had groped her.

The jury rejected Mueller's claims that members of Swift's management team had gotten him fired from his "dream job" at a local radio station by making false accusations.

Swift said there was no question in her mind that Mueller had intentionally slipped his hand under her skirt to clutch her bottom.

"It was intentional. He stayed latched onto my bare ass

cheek. I felt him grab onto my ass cheek under my skirt," she testified.

Mueller, who had an expert calculate his loss of up to \$3 million in future earnings, said on Tuesday he had filed the lawsuit against Swift two years ago not for financial gain but to procure a note from her to help his applications at future jobs.

"I asked for something in writing which stated that there was a misunderstanding. And I can take that and possibly convince someone at a radio station to hire me," Mueller said.

Mueller said he may file an appeal. After Monday's verdict, Swift released a statement saying she hoped to "help those whose voices should also be heard" and would make donations to organizations that help sexual assault victims defend themselves. She has not spoken publicly since.

Swift received support from stars including singer Kesha, who has been involved in three-year legal battle against a music producer she accused of rape and emotional abuse. Kesha tweeted that she supported Swift and admired her "strength and fearlessness." Singer Nelly Furtado also praised Swift for "fighting 4 women's safety in the workplace." —Reuters ■

Thailand and Myanmar talk on film industry

Myanmar's film industry needs to be more innovative to penetrate into the international film market.

Everyone including the directors, screenwriters, editors, film score composers and etcetera need to utilize the latest recording technologies and computer software in inventive and unique ways to attract more audiences.

In order to achieve this goal and to discuss

about development of the film industry and technological support, film experts and producers from Thailand have been invited to attend the Thai Films Delegation to Myanmar.

The meeting will be held at the Novotel Max Yangon Hotel in Kamaryut Township, Yangon on 28 August from 10 am to 5 pm.

This is the first event held by Thailand's Department of Interna-

tional Trade Promotion (DITP).

Guests from fourteen major film companies and TV Channels will come to discuss about the film industry with Myanmar's film association.

The Thai companies will be provided with individual booths for film enthusiasts and those in the film industry to participate in open discussions.

Those interested in

attending can contact the event coordinator TTF Co. Ltd (Yangon) to their company phone 01-392579/392580, hand-phone and Viber 09-260155584 or via email at bizmatch.expo@gmail.com.ttfeventorganizer@gmail.com during office hours.

Attendants will also be provided with a lunch buffet and admission is free.—
Khin Maung Thaw ■

City Mart goes digital with finance

CITY Mart Holding Company Limited (CMHL) has implemented the SAP S/4HANA Finance module in its first phase of digital transformation, said the German-based software company SAP SE.

City Mart chose the software suite to run their business process digitally and replace its back-office systems as they expand their businesses.

"With SAP S/4HANA, we aim to improve the way we manage our financial reporting with accurate real-time insights into our financial results," said Carl Crick, CMHL's Chief Financial Officer. "Digital transformation is



City Mart Digital Transformation discussion in progress. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

simply the route companies are taking to leverage data and create value in the market," said Liher Urbizu, Managing Director of SAP Indochi-

na. "They can expect to increase productivity, improve inventory management, promote quality and effective human resources management,

reduce material costs and expenses and boost profits. Moreover, essential information can all be shared in real time."—
GNLM ■

Egyptian artist creates portraits out of burnt tobacco

ALEXANDRIA, (Egypt) — In a small studio littered with empty cigarette packets in Egypt's second city, Alexandria, Abdelrahman al-Habrouk sits hunched over a sheet of paper making portraits with tobacco.

The cigarettes fuel his art; he breaks them in half, painstakingly traces out monochrome images of celebrities or animals with the fine flakes of tobacco, then sprinkles his creations with gunpowder and sets them on fire.

The resulting scorchmarks on the white paper form the portrait.

Habrouk, now 23, started using unusual materials to make images a couple of

years ago, experimenting with coffee, salt and sand before settling on the tobacco technique because

it is more durable. "The idea is that I'm trying to make the art live longer," he told Reuters. "I wanted

to make something good out of something that is considered harmful," he added.—Reuters ■



A portrait of actor Johnny Depp made of tobacco, by artist Abdelrahman al-Habrouk, burns in Alexanria, Egypt on 10 August, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

U Aung Shwe dies at 101

U Aung Shwe, Retired Brigadier-General, Retired Ambassador of Myanmar to Australia, Egypt and France, Former Chairman of the National League for Democracy, aged 101, passed away peacefully after an illness at the Victoria Hospital in Yangon at 9:36 pm Sunday on 13th August, 2017.

*A great man who sacrificed all for the people of Myanmar
A gentleman for his family*

He is survived by his sons U Aung Than Shwe and U Than Pe Shwe, his daughters Daw Yuzana Shwe, Daw Myinzu Shwe, Daw Sabai Shwe and his son U Aung Myint Shwe and 6 grandchildren and 1 great grandson. His wife Daw Tin Tin Shwe has already passed away.

Melbourne named most livable city, 7th year in a row

SYDNEY — The Australian city of Melbourne was named the world's most livable city for a record seventh year in a row in a global survey released by the Economist Intelligence

Unit on Wednesday. Melbourne, the state capital of Victoria, received perfect scores for health

care, education and infrastructure, giving it a final score of 97.5 out of 100 in this year's Global Liveability Report. Austria's capital Vienna was ranked second, just 0.1 point behind Melbourne, while Canada's Vancouver followed closely in third place.—Kyodo News ■

mitv Myanmar International Programme Schedule

(17-8-2017 07:00am -18-8-2017 07:00am) MST

07:03	Am	News
07:25	Am	Ancient Shwe-San-Taw Pagoda
07:41	Am	The Green Corner (Epi-18) Jack O' Lantern
07:50	Am	Capable Though Disabled
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	The Longest Living Siblings (Part-2)
08:48	Am	Paper Flower
08:54	Am	Sticky Shan Snack
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	Product of Myanmar - Shin Ma Taung Thanakhar
09:42	Am	The Hills of Phowintaung And Shwebataung
10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	Historic Temples of Massiveness and Unique Structure
10:42	Am	Development Momentum Of Sittway
(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm) -Wednesday 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	Myanmar Invites You
07:43	Pm	Htan Taw Drums (Part-II) "Dobat"
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	Myanmar Traditional Identity (EP-4) Tumbling Doll, Pyit Tine Htaung
08:38	Pm	Bollywood Actress "Laila Khan" Born & Raised in Myanmar (Part-2)
(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm) -Today Repeat (09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)		
(11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am) -Wednesday 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)		

Chinlone Event 2: The first gold medal of Myanmar at 29th SEA Games

MYANMAR stayed at the top, competing with Thailand to win the gold medal in Chinlone Event 2 at 2pm on Wednesday, 16 August at the Titiwangsa Stadium. Myanmar team won the gold medal with 317 points against Thailand. Thailand team could only manage to get 303 points to clinch the silver medal.

After the competitions, awarding ceremony continued. General Secretary of Myanmar Olympic Committee and Director General of Sport and Physical Education Department U Myo Hlaing and chairman of Malaysia Chinlone committee awarded the gold medal to Myanmar team and silver medals Malaysia and Laos.

At female single competition of compound archery at Klsport City Stadium yesterday, one Myanmar athlete Aung Nein could only advance to the quarter final and was defeated by Viet Nam.

Today, August 17 Myanmar athletes will compete for compound archery competitions, women's national football match against Malaysia on 7:15pm of Myanmar Standard Time, Event (4) of Chinlone competition and Cricket competition.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Myanmar beats Laos 3-1 in SEA Games, leads Group A



Myanmar's Hlaing Bo Bo (left) and Aung Thu (Right) celebrating the victory after scoring Hlaing Bo Bo's third goals. **PHOTO: MFF**

Kyaw Zin Lin

MYANMAR'S national team football stars Shwe Ko and Hlaing Bo Bo's added timely goals to help secure a 3-1 win over Laos in the 2017 SEA Games, the second successive win for Myanmar in Group A following a 2-0 win over Singapore on Monday.

Myanmar also used Si Thu Aung and Aung Thu in the match. Similar to the match against Singapore, Myanmar

used a high-pressure approach from the start.

Mg Mg Lwin's attempt at a goal in the 15th minute from outside the penalty area could have given Myanmar an early advantage, but an alert Saymanolinh Paseuth, the Laos goalkeeper, punched the ball away.

Despite Laos' best efforts, Myanmar got the opening goal at the 36-minute mark by striker Aung Thu, who kicked the ball directly into the goal, elic-

iting cheers from the large Myanmar crowd at UITM Stadium in Malaysia.

During the second half, Laos changed their game tactics and played more confidently in the second half.

Phatana Phommathep evened the score in the 60th minute for Laos, courtesy of Soukchinda Natphasouk's push pass into the box, which caused some worry for the Myanmar fans.

In a last-ditch effort to

secure all three points with an outright win, Myanmar's aggressive play paid off when Shwe Ko hit home from close range, doubling their advantage in added time.

Myanmar didn't let up, with Hlaing Bo Bo taking advantage of Paseuth's rebound to roll Myanmar's third goal into the net. The win secured the top spot in Group A for Myanmar.

Myanmar's next match will be against Brunei on Friday. ■

Billiards, snooker players selected for 29th SEA Games

Kyaw Zin Lin

OFFICIALS from the Myanmar Billiards and Snooker Federation selected 10 male and two female players to compete in the 2017 SEA Games,

according to the federation's webpage.

For the singles and doubles billiards men's competition, Aung Htay, Minn Sithu Tun, Nay Tway Oo and Chit Ko Ko were selected. For the men's

singles and doubles snooker competition, Ko Htet, Aung Phyto and Ye Zaw Htut were selected. Selected to compete in the men's 9-Ball singles and doubles event were Maung Maung, also known as Arr T,

Mann Hein Kyaw and Aung Moe Thu.

For the women's 9-Ball singles competition, A Mi Aung and Thander Maung were selected.

The billiards and snooker

competitions will be held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Center (KLCC) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The competition will involve three disciplines — pool, snooker and English billiards. ■