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# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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## Tatmadaw drops charges against journalists

THE Tatmadaw dropped charges yesterday against six journalists, one activist and one performance group facing trial on offences ranging from defamation to unlawful association, stating it wanted to work with the media in the interests of the country and its people.

The legal action had sparked fears over curbs on free speech during Myanmar's transition from decades of military rule to a democratic government.

"Recognising that working together with same intentions for the interests of the country and the people, and in order to keep on working together for the national interest of the country and the people, the Tatmadaw decided to forgive and drop charges against the personnel and media," said the statement.

The Tatmadaw took legal action because coverage by some media had "disgraced the image, the dignity and the activity of the Tatmadaw," it added.

The reporters were arrested in late June for covering an event organised by the Ta'ang National Liberation Army, an ethnic militia engaged in a stand-off with government troops.

Pyae Phone Aung, Thein



Journalists Pyae Phone Aung, left, and Thein Zaw, centre, raise their hands after being released in Hsipaw, Shan State yesterday. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Zaw and Aye Naing were charged under a colonial-era law against "unlawful association".

"We journalists were just doing our work, but we were charged and spent more than 60

days in jail", Pyae Phone Aung, one of the reporters arrested on 26 June in northeastern Shan state, told Reuters by telephone from the court where his trial was being held.

Pyae Phone Aung, Thein Zaw and Aye Naing were released from jail yesterday in Hsipaw, Shan State.

The three other journalists against whom charges were also

dropped are U Wai Phyto, Chief Editor of the Daily Eleven Newspaper, U Kyaw Min Swe, Chief Editor of the Voice Daily and U Ko Ko Maung, a satire writer.

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## 11,720 evacuated from Maungtau

MORE than 11,720 ethnic people from villages in areas affected by terrorist violence in northern Rakhine have been evacuated, according to a government information committee.

About 52 armed clashes occurred between the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) extremist terrorists from 25th August to date, leaving some ter-

rorists dead and several arrested.

A total of 2,625 houses from Kotankauk, Myinlut and Kyikanpyin villages and two wards in Maungtau were burnt down by the ARSA extremist terrorists, according to the government information committee.

While fleeing from the attacks, 14 civilians, including seven Hindu people, three ethnic

people and four Rakhine people were killed by ARSA extremist terrorists. Two were injured and two are still missing, according to the information committee.

In the fighting against the terrorists from 25 to 31 August, two soldiers and 11 policemen were killed. Five soldiers and 10 policemen were injured and one soldier is missing.

About 38 clashes occurred just on Friday, the committee said.

Around 38,000 Muslims from Rakhine State have crossed into Bangladesh from Myanmar, United Nations sources said, a week after ARSA extremist terrorists attacked police posts and an army base in Rakhine State, prompting clashes and a military

counteroffensive.

"As of August 31, 38,000 people are estimated to have crossed the border into Bangladesh," the officials said yesterday.

The army says it is conducting clearance operations against ARSA extremist terrorists and security forces have been told to protect civilians.

**SEE PAGE-3**





Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint holds talk with Mr. Hong Liang, Chinese Ambassador in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

## Speaker U Win Myint receives Chinese Ambassador

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Win Myint received Mr. Hong Liang, Chinese Ambassador at the Guest room of Pyithu Hluttaw, Nay Pyi Taw, at 2:00 pm yesterday.

During the meeting, matters on bilateral friendship and

promoting cooperation were discussed.

The meeting was presented by Deputy Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U T Khun Myat and officials from the Pyithu Hluttaw office.—Myanmar News Agency ■

## Hacked government websites repaired

MYANMAR websites that were defaced in a cyber-attack have been repaired, according to an announcement by a government information committee.

Yesterday morning five government websites, [www.forestdepartment.gov.mm](http://www.forestdepartment.gov.mm), [www.dryzonegreening.gov.mm](http://www.dryzonegreening.gov.mm), [www.tnrpmoecaf.gov.mm](http://www.tnrpmoecaf.gov.mm), [www.surveydepartment.gov.mm](http://www.surveydepartment.gov.mm) and [www.myanmarchm.gov.mm](http://www.myanmarchm.gov.mm) came under cyber-attack and in some cases defaced.

As soon as it was known,

counter measures were provided by the Myanmar Computer Emergency Response Team (mmCERT) and the websites were repaired.

If other websites in Myanmar come under similar cyber-attack, technical assistance can be obtained at mmCERT, national cyber security center, Department of Information Technology and Cyber Security, phone 01-650891, 067-3422633 or e-mail: [technicalteam@mmcert.org](mailto:technicalteam@mmcert.org). mm—Myanmar News Agency

## Donations invited for people affected by terrorist attacks in Rakhine

Authorities announced hot-lines for donating aid to people affected by terrorist attacks in Rakhine State.

People who want to donate aid for Rakhine people who fled from extremist terrorist attacks can make a contact to the following hotline numbers, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement: the director (Finance), the Relief and Resettlement department (Head Office), Nay Pyi Taw, 067-404316;

U Kyaw Myo Nyunt, deputy director, department of Social Welfare (Head Office), Nay Pyi Taw, 067-404222; U Aye Min Nyunt, deputy director, department of Social Welfare (Head Office), Nay Pyi Taw, 067-404999; the director, Yangon Region Staff officer's office, 01-522726/01-661812/01-651080/09-49266048; and the director, Mandalay Region Staff officer's office, 02-39457/09-43120867.—Myanmar News Agency

# Interview with Mro IDPs from KhaingGyi, Rakhine

On 3 August, armed terrorists entered KaingGyi (Mro village) in Maungtaw Township and attacked the local Mro ethnic farmers, killing 7 and one person is currently missing.

The Myanmar News Agency interviewed the remaining family of the deceased who fled to KaingGyi (Natala village) and IDPs in Maungtaw (4mile) basic education high school.—Myanmar News Agency

### U San Htun from KaingGyi (Mro Village)

“My youngest brother, Linn Kyat, and my eldest son, Kone Paing, were killed in those attacks. Our Mro people have been working happily in the woods for generations. We have never experienced anything like this before. The attacks started around 8 in the morning on the hillside farms where we work.”

“There’s a hut near the farms where we sharpen our mattocks and machetes. There were three men and three women in the hut when the attacks happened. We rushed to the hut when we heard gunshots and we found some bodies lying there.”

“When security forces arrived we tried to recover the bodies but two were missing. We



searched the area three times and we managed to recover one body but we suspect the terrorists threw the other body into the river to erase their traces.”

“We say it was a terrorist attack based on the evidence we found there. There is a terrorist camp in the Mayu Mountains

and we heard it has tunnels. We heard the military destroyed their camp. Our village is the only village around here so they may have tried to kill us thinking we can point out their locations. We don’t know if the terrorists are still here on the Mayu Mountains.”

“We want to report this to the higher ups because we want to live peacefully near the Rakhine villages. We have about 4 to 5 acres of hillside farms and the crops are ripe and will probably be eaten by the wild animals and other creatures to come. We want to be relocated near KaingGyi (Rakhine village) or the Zawmathet group and we would like three acres of farmland each.”

### U Mahn Mine (Mro ethnic)

“I am from KhaingGyi (Mro village). I lost a son and a daughter-in-law during the attack on 3 August. They left behind a one year old child. The hut and farms are a mile away from our village. We fled to Maungtaw because we feared for our lives and we’re taking shelter at the (4mile) school here.”

“We couldn’t bring anything with us. Some of us moved to

KhaingGyi from Chaungphyar two years ago. We were farmers but now we don’t know what to do. About 25 families from my village fled to Maungtaw while the rest fled to KhaingGyi (Rakhine village). We told the Chief Minister when he arrived here that we want to move to somewhere that is safe and secure. We had a primary school built by ourselves back in our village”



### U Zaw Naing Oo (KhaingGyi Mro village, primary school teacher)



“Since KhaingGyi is located in the woods we only had farming to do. The terrorist attacks killed five Mro ethnic women and three men. We heard the terrorists later attacked police outposts so we were too scared to continue staying there. It’s been three days since we got here. We had a primary school with 42 students in our village. It was self-made, not

opened by the government.”

“The attacks happened in the farms far away from the village. The government has provided us with provisions and cash donations. The Mro people mostly live in the northern parts of Maungtaw Township and also in the southern parts in Seinpan Myaing, Shwe Baho and KhaingGyi (Mro village).”

## Tatmadaw drops charges against journalists, activists

### FROM PAGE-1

They were charged with defamation for their articles critical of the military on the basis of several laws, including a broadly worded telecoms law that critics say restricts free speech.

Charges were also dropped against two other civilians, U Htin Kyaw, also known as Kyaw Htin, and a performance group known as “Kaytu Oh-Wai” led by Wai Yan Thein, who is also known as Victor.

In the statement sent to the

Myanmar Press Council, the military also asked the council to help in strengthening mutual understanding and trust between the Tatmadaw and the media, expressing hopes to see unbiased media coverage in the future. — MNA, Reuters



## Prime Minister of India to visit Myanmar

At the invitation of U Htin Kyaw, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, His Excellency Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, will pay a State Visit to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in the near future. — Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## U Myint Swe appointed as Non-Resident Ambassador to Kenya

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Myint Swe, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of South Africa, concurrently as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of Kenya.—Myanmar News Agency

## State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi receives New Mon State Party Vice Chairman



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi holds talk with the New Mon State Party's Vice Chairman Nai Han Tha in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

NATIONAL Reconciliation and Peace Center (NRPC) Chairperson State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi received the New Mon State Party's Vice Chairman Nai Han Tha at the NRPC guest hall in Nay Pyi Taw at noon yesterday.

Together with NRPC Chairperson and State Counsellor at the meeting were

NRPC Vice Chairman Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe, National Security Advisor U Thaung Tun, Deputy Minister for Ministry of President's Office U Min Thu, NRPC secretary Deputy Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Khin Maung Tin, Office of the State Counsellor Director Gen-

eral U Zaw Htay, while New Mon State Party Vice Chairman was accompanied by Nai Zayya, Naing Layikaung, Naing Win Hla and Naing Aung Ma Ngwe.

Participation of the New Mon State Party in the peace process was cordially discussed at this meeting.

In the afternoon, NRPC

Vice Chairman Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor U Kyaw Tint Swe hosted a working lunch for the delegation of the New Mon State Party.

The working lunch was also attended by NRPC member Lt-Gen Min Naung from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army).—Myanmar News Agency ■

## Mandalay District community centre opened

The opening ceremony for the Mandalay district community centre co-sponsored by the Information and Public Relations Department and the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation, under the supervision of the Ministry of Information, was held yesterday at the district IPRD in Pyigyitagon township, Mandalay Region.

Present at the ceremony were Dr. Pe Myint, Union Minister for Information, Dr. Zaw Myint Maung, Chief Minister of the Mandalay Region Cabinet and ministers of Mandalay Region Cabinet, U Maung Pe, director-general of IPRD and staff, departmental heads at the regional level, towns-elders, Dr Thant Thaw Kaung, central executive committee member of the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation and responsible officials, civil societies and donors.

At the opening ceremony, Dr. Pe Myint, Dr. Zaw Myint Maung, U Maung Pe, Dr. Thant Thaw Kaung and writer Maung



Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint visits Mandalay district community centre. **PHOTO: MNA**

Thit Lwin (Thit Lwin—Ludu) cut a ribbon draped across the community centre signboard and sprayed it with fragrance.

In the second part of the ceremony, Dr. Pe Myint spoke of the importance of the media.

“Radios, televisions and newspapers are performing

the tasks of the Ministry of Information — education and information. It is aimed at upgrading the offices of IPRD into a Community Centre by transforming into the locations for people to meet for discussions of regional development matters, for youths to

get technical knowledge, for bibliophiles to hold literary talks, for children to read in these children's libraries for their knowledge bank and for those from the aged group to take rest and recreation. Only if all the people join in building up a democratic nation will a perfect democratic country emerge. Success of these Community Centres depends upon active participation of responsible personnel and use of readers. Presently opened community centres need to be regarded as owned by the public.”

Afterward, Dr. Zaw Myint Maung and Dr. Thant Thaw Kaung made speeches, with U Maung Pe presenting certificates of honour to donors.

The Union Minister and party then inspected the mini-museum, the reading room for children, the library, the hall for computer training and the meeting room in the community centre. —IPRD ■

## 11,720 people evacuated from Maungtau

### FROM PAGE-1

The clashes and ensuing army crackdown have killed about 370 ARSA extremist terrorists, but also 13 security forces, two government officials and 14 civilians, the Tatmadaw said on Thursday.

The fighting is a dramatic escalation of a conflict that has simmered since October, when similar but much smaller Rohingya attacks on security posts prompted a brutal military response dogged by allegations of rights abuses.

The Union government evacuated more than 11,700 non-Muslims from the area affected by fighting, according to the Tatmadaw. More than 150 Muslim terrorists staged fresh attacks on security forces on Thursday near villages occupied by Hindus, adding that about 700 members of such families had been evacuated.—GNLM and Reuters ■



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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

# Yangon police install 411 CCTVs in 25 townships

YANGON regional police have installed 411 CCTVs in 25 townships of Yangon in an effort to reduce crime, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

The CCTVs have been installed in nine townships in the East district, six townships in the West district, five townships in the South district and five townships in the North district. There are altogether 411 CCTVs at 168 points in 25 townships.

The CCTVs will be monitored from control centres which are located at township police stations. Police will monitor the cameras and arrest

those who are seen committing crimes, said superintendent of police Hla Wai from the Yangon regional police commander's office.

Police have already installed 15 CCTVs at the Pazundaung night bazaar for the safety of the shoppers, said an official from Yangon City Development Committee.

To be able to reduce the crime in the Yangon Region, a combined team comprised of Yangon regional police and ward-based teams have been undertaking law enforcement measures since June 2016.—GNLM ■



Workers install CCTV in Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

## Disabled, elderly to benefit from new elevated crosswalks in Yangon

PLANS are underway to construct two new handicapped accessible elevated crosswalks in Yangon, said U Maung Maung Than, member of Yangon Region Hluttaw from Dagon Seikkan Township Constituency.

According to a report of the Myawady Daily issued on Wednesday, this is a part of the

government's effort to create barrier-free environments and transport systems. New flyovers will be constructed near new Merchant Road in Dagon Seikkan Township and in front of the basic education school on Pyay Road in Sanchaung Township in Yangon.

The Yangon Region Ten-

der Review Committee will accept bids for the overpasses until 18 September. Soil testing has been accomplished in Dagon Seikkan Township.

The plan will cost an estimated Ks500 million. Both projects will be initiated within the current financial year.—GNLM ■

## Bilateral trade with Singapore valued at \$800 mln

TRADE between Myanmar and Singapore topped more than US\$800 million in the first quarter of this fiscal year, according to Ministry of Commerce statistics.

Myanmar's exports to the Republic of Singapore amounted to \$154 million and imports from the ASEAN island nation was estimated at \$647million between April and June.

Myanmar predominant-

ly exports agricultural products, marine products, forestry products and mineral, textiles and clothing as well as footwear to Singapore. Imports from Singapore include intermediate goods, consumer goods, capital goods, chemicals, electronic appliances and other commodities.

Trade value between the two countries was about \$3 billion in FY2016-2017 and

FY2015-16 saw \$3.7 billion. The bilateral trade reached \$4.9billion in FY2014-2015, \$3.6 billion in FY2013-2014, \$2.8 billion in FY2012-2013 and \$3 billion in FY2011-2012.

In the current fiscal year, Singapore is Myanmar's leading source of foreign investment with more than \$1 billion, followed by China with \$537 million and the Netherlands with \$518 million.—Shwe Khine ■

## Yaba and opium seized in Yamethin Township

Acting on a tip-off, an anti-narcotics police unit seized 10,000 tablets of Yaba and 10 bags of opium from two people near Namlon Village in Yamethin Township, Mandalay Region on Thursday.

Police stopped two people walking on the road who were acting suspiciously. As they were stopped, one man left his bag and ran. Police arrested the second man, Nyunt Maung, and continue to search for Pho Tin.

When the police searched the bag, they found 10,000 Yaba tablets weighing 800 grams and opium weighing 14,696.379 grams.

Police have filed charges against both suspects under section 15/19(A)/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—Zaw Win Aung (District IPRD) ■

## World's largest teak tree found in Homalin

GOVERNMENT officials in Sagaing Region say that the world's largest teak tree stands in Uru forest reserve near Ton Sagar Village.

The tree stands 110-feet tall

and has a circumference of 27 feet and five inches.

The measurements were taken by Sagaing Region Chief Minister Dr. Myint Naing. The contender for the world's

largest teak tree was discovered by U Tin Shwe, a local resident.

In total, Myanmar claims five of the world's largest teak trees in Homalin, Banmauk,

Kawlin of Sagaing and Pyin-Oo-Lwin of Mandalay Region. India claims the sixth tallest teak tree, according to Forestry Department officials.—Ko Min (Inndaw) ■



## Border trade down by \$165 million

THE value of border trade from 1st April to 25 August this fiscal year was down by US\$165 million when compared to that in the same point of last fiscal year.

Border trade from 1st April to 25 August this fiscal year hit \$2.77 billion — \$1.65 billion in exports and \$1.12 billion in imports, according to the official statistics of the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar trades with neighbouring countries — China, India, Bangladesh and Thailand. Sino-Myanmar border

trade is carried out through the Muse, Lweje, Kanpikete, Chinshwehaw and Kengtung gates, while Myanmar is carrying out border trade with India via Tamu and Reed. The country's border trade gates with Bangladesh are Sittway and Maungtau.

The increase in exports through border trade is due to the major increase in Muse border trade camps, which performed the largest amount of trade out of all 16 border trade camps.

The border trade value as of 25 August in the current FY was \$1.89 billion in Muse, \$86.7 million in Lweje, \$219.5 million in Chinshwehaw, \$52.2 million in Kanpikete, \$560,000 in Kengtung, \$28.7 million in Tachilek, \$330.6 million in Myawady, \$56 million in Kawthoung, \$63.7 million in Myeik, \$2.5 million in HteeKhee, \$2 million in Mawtaung, \$230,000 in Maese, \$2.4 million in Sittway, \$5.1 million in Maungtau, \$11.8 million in Tamu and \$15.4 million in Reed.—GNLM ■



Merchants seen at 105-Mile Muse Boder Trade Zone in northern Shan State. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

## Myanmar needs Customs Bonding Arrangement to benefit from BIMSTEC

A top logistics expert has said Myanmar must work out customs bonding agreements with neighbouring countries to boost trade and transport incomes that could accrue from regional groupings like BIMSTEC.

Speaking to Mizzima on the side-lines of a seminar on 'Myanmar in BIMSTEC' logistics specialist and consultant Paul Apthorp said Myanmar is strategically located between South and South-east Asia.

"It is going to the biggest beneficiary of regional groups like BIMSTEC, but only if got into customs bonding agreements with India, Bangladesh, Thailand and other countries," Paul Apthorp told Mizzima in an exclusive interview.

"See how trade between Thailand and China exploded through the roof after the two countries arrived at a customs bonding agreement, said Paul

Apthorp, "That could happen if Myanmar worked out similar agreements with its neighbours."

Customs Bonding agreements involve a contract used for guaranteeing that a specific obligation will be fulfilled between customs and an importer for any given import transaction. The main purpose of a customs bond is to guarantee the payment of import duties and taxes.

Paul Apthorp said one option for Myanmar was to sign into the Transports Internationaux Routiers (TIR), as India has just done or China has done before.

India ratified the TIR or International Road Transports (TIR) Convention, IRU this year.

The multilateral international transit treaty—Customs Convention on International Transport of Goods under cover

of TIR Carnets—is also referred to as the TIR Convention and functions under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).

It will help India access transnational multi-modal connectivity and play an important role in the proposed transportation architecture in the region and beyond with the backdrop of India recently ratifying the trade facilitation agreement (TFA) of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

India became the 71st signatory to this international transit system, designed to facilitate the seamless movement of goods throughout these countries in Asia and Europe. Interestingly, the two countries which signed TIR before India were Pakistan (2015) and China (2016).—Subir Bhaumik/Mizzima ■

## MIC authorizes 13 new local and foreign investments

The Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) has authorized 13 new local and foreign investments in August, according to the press conference on Wednesday.

MIC authorized eight foreign direct investments: three in manufacturing, one in agriculture, two in the service sector and two in hotels and tourism. The total value of those foreign investments were estimated at US\$190 million, creating an estimated 1,303 employment opportunities for local people, said U Aung Than Kyaw,

the Deputy Director-General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

The five local investments permitted by MIC include: an electricity sector investment, two in industry sector, one in livestock and fisheries sector and one in the service sector. The value of local investments this year was Ks21.5 billion, creating 398 jobs.

A total of \$3.9 billion in foreign investment have flowed into 120 Myanmar enterprises including Thilawa Special Eco-

nomic Zone in FY2017-2018. Local investment of Ks1.4 trillion was invested into 45 local enterprises during the same period.

Manufacturing received 35 per cent of this year's investment, followed by transportation and communications with 30 per cent, the service sector with 25 per cent and real estate with six per cent.

According to the Myanmar Investment Law, MIC branch offices have authorized the local and foreign investors with an investment lower than Ks6 billion or \$5 million.—May Thet Hnin ■

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## Int'l panel agrees on flexible bluefin tuna catch limit

BUSAN, (South Korea) — An international fisheries panel agreed to adjust catch restrictions on bluefin tuna in the northern Pacific based on surveys, Japan's Fisheries Agency said Friday, amid concerns that stocks are dwindling due to overfishing.

Wrapping up a five-day meeting from Monday in Busan, South Korea, the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission reached the deal after toughening a Japanese-proposed flexible cap on catch sizes. The new catch limit is likely to be implemented in 2019.

Due to overfishing, the population of parent fish in the Pacific fell to about 17,000 tons in 2014, hitting a near record-low.

The panel also agreed on a long-term target to allow stocks to replenish from this level to about 130,000 tons by 2034.

The panel made some progress towards mitigating the depletion of fish stocks but the

agreed restriction could prove a tough measure for fishery operations in Japan, which is a major consumer of the threatened fish known as a prized delicacy when served as sushi.

Under the current interim goal to restore stocks to about 41,000 tons by 2024, the WCPFC has halved the cap on takes of small-size bluefin tuna that are less than 30 kilograms from average levels in 2002 to those of 2004.

In recent years, measures aiming to halt a plunge in fish numbers have been on the agenda at the commission's meetings. The group is made up of more than 20 nations including Japan, the United States, South Korea, China, Taiwan and the European Union.

At the Busan conference, Japan proposed catch quotas be slashed if the likelihood of attaining the panel's goal falls below 60 per cent in future resource surveys, but to expand the cap when it is over 65 per cent.

Apparently taking into account the United States, which advocates stricter restrictions, the panel decided to set approximately 75 per cent as the criteria level for countries to increase their catch.

In 2015, Japan and other members of the commission adopted quotas to protect Pacific bluefin tuna, halving catches of fish weighing less than 30 kilograms from the 2002-2004 average level.

But earlier this year, the Japanese government said it had breached its commitment, slightly exceeding the annual limit of 4,007 tons on catches of immature Pacific bluefin tuna.

In a report released in April, the agency said the domestic catch reached 4,008 tons, citing unusually large hauls in western Japan and the effect of tuna killed as bycatch in fixed nets. The excess catch for the current year will be deducted from next year's quota.—Kyodo News ■



File photo taken in May 2016 shows bluefin tuna being unloaded from a fishing boat at a port in Tottori Prefecture, western Japan. An international fisheries panel agreed to adjust catch restrictions on bluefin tuna in the northern Pacific based on surveys, Japan's Fisheries Agency said 1 September 2017. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

## Japan's struggling opposition Democrats pick ex-foreign minister Maehara as leader

TOKYO — Japan's struggling opposition Democratic Party elected former foreign minister Seiji Maehara to lead the party on Friday as it tries to raise its single-digit ratings and fend off a challenge by a new group with ties to popular Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike.

Maehara, 55, a conservative on security who shares Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's desire to revise the post-war, pacifist constitution, takes over amid speculation that Abe may call a snap general election later this year to refresh his mandate.

Maehara previously held the Democrats' top post from 2005-2006. "If I were to refer now to a change in government, the people would say, 'Whatever are you talking about?' But we must change this dangerous political situation where there are no choices except the (ruling) Liberal Democratic Party or hopes for something whose form is not yet known," Maehara told his fellow



Japan's former Foreign Minister Seiji Maehara stands up after he was elected as the leader of Japan's main opposition party, the Democratic Party, during the party plenary meeting in Tokyo, Japan on 1 September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

party members.

The party, an often fractious mix of conservatives and liberals, had to pick a new chief after its first female head, Renho, who goes by one name, quit having failed to capitalise on Abe's sagging ratings, eroded by suspected cronyism scandals and a perception he was complacent after 4-1/2 years in office.

Abe's support has since rebounded off lows of under 30 per cent in some polls, touching 46 per cent in a survey by Nikkei business daily in late August.

The novice Democratic Party surged to power in 2009, ousting the long-ruling LDP with promises to put individuals ahead of companies and address social inequalities.—Reuters ■

## Rescue efforts end in Indian building collapse; 34 dead

MUMBAI — Rescuers in the Indian city of Mumbai wound down on Friday their search for victims in the ruins of a condemned building that collapsed, after pulling 12 survivors and 34 bodies from the rubble, emergency services said.

The 117-year-old, six storey-building in a congested old neighbourhood came crashing down early on Thursday after heavy rain had drenched the financial hub for days. "Rescue operations are in a demobilisation phase. Two fire appliances and one ambulance will be on standby at site as a precautionary measure," said P. S. Rahangdale, chief fire officer of the Mumbai Fire Brigade. Among the dead was a 20-day old baby, police said. The collapse was the second in Mumbai in little over a month. In July, 17 people were killed when a four-storey building came down after suspected unauthorised renovations.

The cause of the latest col-

lapse was not known but it came after several days of torrential rainy-season downpours that flooded parts of the city.

Devendra Fadnavis, the chief minister of Maharashtra state, of which Mumbai is the capital, ordered an inquiry.

The building had been declared unsafe by the housing regulator in 2011 but many people had stayed on living here.

Neighbours said developers tasked with renovating properties in the area had not provided enough information about options for temporary housing.

Officials from the housing regulator told media they had granted a neighbourhood trust with the right to redevelop the building and provide temporary housing to residents.

The trust issued a statement on Thursday saying it had started relocating residents, and had moved seven families in 2014, but other residents had refused to leave.—Reuters ■



## Modi's \$87 billion river-linking gamble set to take off as floods hit India

DAUDHAN (India) — After years of foot-dragging India will begin work in around a month on an \$87 billion scheme to connect some of the country's biggest rivers, government sources say, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi bets on the ambitious project to end deadly floods and droughts.

The mammoth plan entails linking nearly 60 rivers, including the mighty Ganges, which the government hopes will cut farmers' dependence on fickle monsoon rains by bringing millions of hectares of cultivatable land under irrigation.

In recent weeks, some parts of India and neighbouring Bangladesh and Nepal have been hit by the worst monsoon floods in years, following two years of poor rainfall.

Modi has personally pushed through clearances for the first phase of the project — which would also generate thousands of megawatts of electricity — the sources say, despite opposition from environmentalists, tiger



A view of Gangau dam in Daudhan village in the central state of Madhya Pradesh, India, on 18 August 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

lovers and a former royal family.

That will involve construction of a dam on the Ken river,

also known as the Karnavati, in north-central India and a 22-km (14-mile) canal connecting it to

the shallow Betwa.

Both rivers flow through vast swathes of Uttar Pradesh

and Madhya Pradesh states, ruled by Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), and the prime minister hopes the Ken-Betwa scheme will set a template for other proposed river interlinking projects, one of the sources said.

"We have got clearances in record time, with the last round of clearances coming in only this year," Sanjeev Balyan, the junior water resources minister, told Reuters. "The Ken-Betwa interlinking tops the priority list of the government."

Government officials say diverting water from bounteous rivers such as the Ganges, Godavari and Mahanadi to sparse waterways by building a clutch of dams and a network of canals is the only solution to floods and droughts.

But some experts say India would be better off investing in water conservation and better farm practices. Environmentalists and wildlife enthusiasts have also warned of ecological damage.—Reuters ■

## Japan drills response to quakes, missiles on annual disaster day

TOKYO — Japan carried out disaster preparedness drills on Friday, dealing with mock earthquakes and other threats just days after its emergency warning system was used for real during North Korea's launch of a ballistic missile over the country.

Disaster Prevention Day falls each year on the anniversary of a magnitude-7.9 earthquake that hit Tokyo and the surrounding region in 1923, killing more than 105,000 people.

The central government's exercise on Friday was based on the scenario of a magnitude-7.3 quake occurring directly under the capital. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe called his entire Cabinet to a meeting at the government's emergency disaster headquarters and held a press conference based on that scenario.

"To minimize the damage, we will maximize the commitment of assistance from around the country," Abe said at the press conference.

Tokyo's Metropolitan Police Department practiced closing roads designated as special emergency vehicle corridors. The department's traffic regulation division said the drill was



An officer joining an emergency drill pushes a car on the Chuo Expressway in Tokyo, on 1 September 2017, Japan's Disaster Prevention Day. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

the biggest yet of its kind, and included part of a highway for the first time. Some cities in northern Japan chose to practice alerting and evacuating residents in the event of an incoming missile. On Tuesday morning, a ballistic missile launched by North Korea passed over part of the northernmost island of Hokkaido before landing in the Pacific Ocean.

The city of Osaka carried out its own exercises based on the scenario that a massive earthquake and tsunami had been triggered by a seismic event in the Nankai Trough that runs be-

low central and western Japan's Pacific coast.

Other municipalities' drills included responding to torrential rain, reflecting on the increased possibility of fatal downpours after parts of southwestern Japan were inundated earlier this year.

The Cabinet Office had in previous years collected data about the numbers of municipalities and people taking part in drills nationwide, but has decided not to do so from this year onwards in order to lessen the burden on local governments.—Kyodo News ■

## Australian military to provide training, advising assistance in Philippine fight against IS

CANBERRA — The Australian Special Forces may go one step further in aiding the Philippines in its fight against Islamic State (IS), as the two sides prepare to discuss training of troops, advising and other assistance.

Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull confirmed Friday that Defence Minister Marise Payne will be visiting Manila "shortly" to continue discussions on how the Australian troops would be best utilized, after Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte formally accepted Australia's offer of assistance to train and advise local troops earlier on the day.

The Filipino army has been engaged in a battle with the extremist terrorist group since May when IS-linked group launched an assault on the southeastern city of Marawi in an attempt to establish its Southeast Asian headquarters.

Australia has been offering support in the form of spy planes and intelligence, but no Australian troops have yet set foot in the Philippines.

"Now, we are working closely with the Philippines Govern-

ment. We are providing, as you know, support in intelligence, in the operation of our P3 Orion aircraft there and we're open to offering further assistance in capacity-building, training and so forth," Turnbull said when answering questions from local journalists accompanying him to Western Australia.

"We do not want IS establishing a stronghold in Southeast Asia. That is vitally in our interests to see that insurgency defeated," he said.

General Restituto Padilla of the Filipino army has said that Australia's help in the drawn-out battle was greatly appreciated.

Talking to the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), the general said that Australian troops would not be able to fight in the battle due to the Filipino Constitution preventing foreign troops from engaging in active combat within the country and would instead serve in training and intelligence roles.

Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop offered Duterte Australian assistance during a visit to Manila in August.—Xinhua ■



# A lie will go round the world while truth is putting its boots on

THE map of the world depicted below is the result of data analysis as to what kind of news is spreading, and what people across the world are saying, about the present state of affairs in Rakhine State.

The red colours represent negative statements, and the blue ones represent positive ones, according to the Myanmar government. In other words, true news and information are presented by the blue colour, with false news and information by the red.

This information is being released to the world from Nay Pyi Taw. The news and information is being released from two locations in Nay Pyi Taw — the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and the government’s Information Committee.

The amount of information released by these two sources are tiny compared to the messages sent using social media sites such as Twitter:

While we are releasing information only after careful and thorough scrutiny of the news and double-checking of facts done by a combined team consisting of members of the Tatmadaw and Myanmar Police Force, millions and millions of people across the globe are posting photos, stories and video clips regardless of whether they are real or false, and sending the same videos and photos to news agencies. Innocent victims — the local nationals who were brutally killed by extremists, had their photos posted in watermark cut and pasted on Twitter as Muslims killed by security forces.

All political parties stand on the right side of anti-terrorism. Some youths in the country were found to have issued statements of denunciation and protest against terrorism. It is a welcome deed. Simply out, we have a heart-felt wish for internal organisations and institutions to issue similar statements expressing their strong protest against these inhumane attacks of terrorists. We strongly urge them to do so.

At such a time for our people, out of a wave of patriotism, with “the Myanmar spirit” in their deepest minds, came to

post reports, spreading true news by using the Twitter social network. The local media outlets are also taking the trouble to release true news and information, such as where and who are greatly in need of provisions or under siege. To our great elation and excitement, we are seeing and hearing our people exhibiting so much enthusiasm and unity, so much so that we are at a loss for words.

Yet, those who thoroughly know about the media world know how to exploit and influence it. They tried to put pressure on the authorities by setting up statements released by the Information Committee as news items under the name of the State Counsellor.

After reading these, the people came to know by posting and tagging that it was a shame for the Information Committee to have twittered these photos without really knowing how to use Twitter properly.

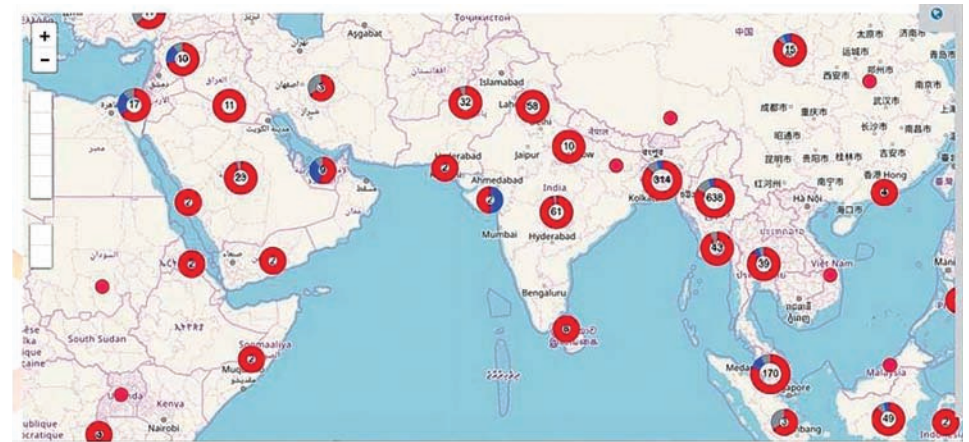
There are many gory photos in which our local nationals were killed very cruelly. These photos are too disturbing to be seen. We chose photos with great care to post with a view to not inflame conflicts based on religion or race. We do not wish to see the violence spread to other States or Regions.

On seeing the map, true news and information released by Information Committee and the Office of C-in-C of Defence Services, which are all marked in blue colour, in the central part of Myanmar is extremely tiny, not reaching one-millionth of the information flow in the whole world.

Accordingly, our State Leaders made arrangements for media representatives from home and abroad to visit the actual places of these horrific events to be able to cover news quickly.

On the other hand, the United Nations General Assembly, Security Council and Fact Finding Mission are monitoring the situation very closely and eagerly to see when the Myanmar Tatmadaw and Myanmar Police Force make a mistake.

Therefore, so as to overcome these situations once and for all, it is incumbent upon us to do what we can without blaming anyone.—Khin Maung Oo ■



Source : Analysis Report

# Rural Asian women are transforming their lives with solar power

By Paul Brown / Climate News Network

A solar revolution is transforming the lives of women in the remotest parts of Asia. They no longer have to wait decades to be connected to a power grid but are able today to exploit the huge potential of the abundant sunshine.

In societies where women normally play a subservient role and spend much of their time on menial chores, solar businesses are creating a new breed of female entrepreneur who are bringing electricity to their villages.



A Nepalese woman in the Empower Generation program works with solar technology. (Empower Generation / Twitter)

In the last two years two schemes designed to encourage women to bring the solar revolution to parts of rural India and Nepal have won international Ashden Awards, which bring the organizations involved £20,000 (US\$26,360) each in prize money and a lot of guidance to improve and extend their businesses.

The 2017 winner of the Ashden Award for clean energy for women and girls, Empower Generation, has enabled 23 women in Nepal to set up clean energy businesses and manage a network of 259 sales agents. They in turn gain a commission on sales of solar panels, lights, clean cooking stoves and water filters.

In a country where all but 12% of women are engaged in farm work, Empower Generation’s staff are now able to lead their communities out of energy poverty. Overcoming family and cultural resistance, they are developing leadership skills and setting up businesses employing women and also men as agents.

For customers who have no chance of a grid connection, solar lanterns and solar home systems bring clean electric light and ‘phone charging, often for the first time. Even those who are connected to the grid use the products as a back-up

during the frequent blackouts, or for attending to crops and animals after dark.

Customers include both local families and NGOs, many of which are working on programs initiated as a response to the 2015 earthquake.

The scheme is designed to build women’s confidence in themselves and their ability to run their own affairs and manage their finances. It also helps reduce the use of kerosene and therefore air pollution.

One of the entrepreneurs, Mina

Some of the businesses have been so successful that their CEOs are now selling many other household items. This success has inspired Empower Generation to expand beyond Nepal, and it has just moved into Myanmar.

Mahato, said: “I can now balance doing good in my community with running a successful business. I am extremely proud of the sign outside my shop that bears my own name.”

Another new businesswoman, Basanti Chaudhary, said: “Before Empower Generation, I was working in a food packaging factory, working long hours and earning very little. I felt like I was swimming in a tiny well. Now I am swimming in the ocean. I have ambitions, and there are possibilities for me.”

## Distant markets

Some of the businesses have been so successful that their CEOs are now selling many other household items. This success has inspired Empower Generation to expand beyond Nepal, and it has just moved into Myanmar.

The winner of the 2016 Ashden Award for clean energy for women and girls, Frontier Markets, runs an organization called Solar Sahelis in the Indian states of Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh.

Sahelis (the name means “solar women friends”) had already provided clean, reliable light and energy to 630,000 people by the time it received its award. Its systems are also designed to replace kerosene lights, leaving families more money to buy food and other essentials.

Solar systems make cooking and studying easier, providing brighter, less smoky light than kerosene lamps. Robust long-range torches are particularly popular with women, for moving around outside after dark and checking livestock.

Solar torches are brighter and more reliable than battery-powered ones, and save users from running down ‘phone batteries through using mobile ‘phones for outdoor light.

## Women decide

By the time Frontier Markets received its award 70,000 torches, 45,000 lamps and 12,000 solar home lighting systems had been sold. It estimates that, for around 70% of sales, women make the purchasing decision or are the main users of the products.

The cost of a single light product can be recovered within three to six months, through savings of typically US\$3/month on kerosene and dry cell batteries. Cutting kerosene use reduces greenhouse gas emissions by about 12,000 tons/year of CO<sub>2</sub>, as well as cutting indoor air pollution and fire risk in homes.

To encourage people to give up kerosene, a Frontier Markets pilot program gave a discount on a solar product to anyone who handed in a kerosene lamp. Around 50,000 customers took up this offer.

The products are sold with a written guarantee and warranty. Prices range from about \$7.5 for the smallest lamp to \$17 for a long-range torch, and \$100 for a 15W solar home system with two LED lights, fan and mobile ‘phone charger.

These are the latest in a series of Ashden Awards aimed at helping women and girls. Since the Awards were founded in 2001 Ashden has helped more than 200 enterprises around the world, which so far have collectively improved the lives of some 80 million people, saving more than ten million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions every year. ■

# Donation ceremony for security forces, public servants and ethnic nationals in Rakhine State

A donation ceremony for security forces undertaking national security and defense duties in Rakhine State, public servants serving in Rakhine State and ethnic nationals temporarily seeking refuge from ARSA extremist terrorists attack was held in Bayintnaung Guest House where Commander-in-Chief of Defence Service Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended and delivered a speech.

The Senior General said Alethanyaw event that occurred in 1942 where local ethnic nationals were attacked, driven out and lands lost must not happen again and Tatmadaw will completely preserve



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing delivers the speech at the Donation ceremony for security forces, public servants and ethnic nationals in Rakhine State. PHOTO: MNA

and protect Myanmar’s sovereignty. Not only the security forces, all public servants and the entire people must defend together with patriotism. While

the people in Rakhine State will be assisted to live with peace of mind and work for their livelihood, local people are urged to return to their own places and work for the development of self as well as the region. Present events caused losses and suffering and everything will be done to alleviate these as well as to develop the region. Today’s donors are honored and appreciated for their sympathy and spirit of nationalism. The Senior General added that he wished for the eternal existence of such spirit.

Senior military officers accepted the donation amounted Ks 1,942.54 million in total at the ceremony presented by families of the Tatmadaw and donors.— Myanmar News Agency ■

# Seven ARSA terrorists caught by Muslim villagers

SEVEN members of the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA), an extremist terrorist group responsible for deadly attacks on police stations and villages in northern Rakhine, were caught by Muslim villagers in Maung-taw and handed over to police.

On Thursday afternoon, villagers in Maung-taw Township detained Rofi Anwar, 28, on suspicion of committing terrorist acts and informed the Mingal-

argyi Chaungwa Police Outpost.

Later that evening, villagers again informed the police station by phone about their detainment of another five men, including Harmedulla, 20, and Anwar Faisal, 22, of Michauktet Village.

During interrogation, the suspects confessed that they were involved in terrorist attacks in the township.

Another suspect, Adu Tarlit, 22,

was arrested by villagers at 11:30 am as he entered Pyinshay Ale Village in Buthidaung Township after crossing the Mayu mountains. The suspect is from Seinnypinpya Village, Buthidaung Township.

The seven suspects are being investigated in order to take action in accordance with the law, according to the statement from the information committee.—Myanmar News Agency ■

# Indian gov’t nods for signing MoU for Conservation of Earthquake-Damaged Pagodas at Bagan

INDIAN government has approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Myanmar for the conservation of earthquake-damaged pagodas at Bagan yesterday, according to New Kerala in India. The MoU is expected to be signed during the visit of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Myanmar during 6-7 September 2017, said the report.

Implementation of the project will further strengthen India’s enduring ties in culture and religion with Myanmar. It will also generate immense goodwill for India among the people of Myanmar due to the religious significance as well as the touristic significance of the project.

It will also contribute to India’s development partnership with Myanmar. Bagan is one of the premier tourist attractions of Myanmar. It will be an opportunity to showcase India’s expertise in the restoration and conservation of monuments not only to the people of Myanmar but also to the tourists from other countries.

On 24 August 2016 an earthquake in Bagan region destroyed various



A woman walks past a damaged pagoda after an earthquake in Bagan, Myanmar on 25 August 2016. FILE PHOTO: REUTERS

pagodas and religious buildings.

Bagan, once a significant city in Myanmar, had over 2,200 pagodas, stupas, monasteries and other structures left from the thousands built between the 11th and 13th century.

The earthquake which occurred at 5pm on 24 August last year measured 6.8 on the Richter Scale and ruined 389 pagodas in Bagan and 3,133 pagodas and stupas in the greater Bagan region.— GNLM ■



# Putin warns North Korea situation on verge of 'large-scale conflict'

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin warned on Friday that the tense standoff between North Korea and the United States was on the verge of large-scale conflict and said it was a mistake to try to pressure Pyongyang over its nuclear missile programme.

Putin, who is due to attend a summit of the BRICS nations in China next week, wrote in an article published on the Kremlin's web site ahead of his trip that he favoured negotiations with North Korea instead.

"It is essential to resolve the region's problems through direct dialogue involving all sides without advancing any preconditions (for such talks)," Putin wrote.

"Provocations, pressure, and bellicose and offensive rhetoric is the road to nowhere."

The situation on the Korean Peninsula had deteriorated so much that it was now "balanced on the verge of a large-scale conflict," said the Russian leader.

North Korea has been working to develop a nuclear-tipped missile capable of hitting the United States and has recently



North Koreans watch a news report showing North Korea's Hwasong-12 intermediate-range ballistic missile launch on electronic screen at Pyongyang station in Pyongyang, North Korea, in this photo taken by Kyodo 30 August 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

threatened to land missiles near the US Pacific territory of Guam.

On Monday, Pyongyang, which sees joint war games between the United States and South Korea as preparations for invasion, raised the stakes in its stand-off with the United States and its allies by firing an interme-

diat-range missile over Japan.

"In Russia's opinion the calculation that it is possible to halt North Korea's nuclear missile programmes exclusively by putting pressure on Pyongyang is erroneous and futile," Putin wrote.

A road map formulated

by Moscow and Beijing, which would involve North Korea stopping work on its missile programme in exchange for the United States and South Korea halting large-scale war games, was a way to gradually reduce tensions, wrote Putin. —Reuters ■

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Norway tightens IT security, vote count procedures in run-up to election

OSLO — Norway is tightening security procedures ahead of parliamentary elections on 11 September to prevent possible vote tampering, the government said on Friday.

The security of IT systems will be enhanced, and all votes must be counted manually at least once in addition to the customary scanning of ballot papers by computers, it added.

There are no indications that anyone is trying to improperly influence the outcome of the election, the government also said. —Reuters ■

### Majority of Germans expect Brexit to hurt Britain and EU

BERLIN — Two thirds of Germans believe Britain's exit from the European Union will have negative consequences for the bloc, with only 20 per cent seeing the potential for long-term benefits, a Forschungsgruppe Wahlen poll for ZDF television showed.

Some 82 per cent believed the impact on Britain would be negative, according to the poll published on Friday, with just 9 per cent seeing the country benefiting in the long run. —Reuters ■

### Moscow to give tough response to US hostile acts: Russian FM

MOSCOW — Moscow will give tough response to hostile steps by the United States aimed against Russia, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said Friday.

"We will give a tough response to those things that hurt us absolutely without rhyme or reason, and which are dictated only by the desire to spoil our relations with the United States," Lavrov said in his address to students of the Moscow MGIMO international relations university. Lavrov commented on the US demand to close Russia's Consulate General in San Francisco, a chancery annex in Washington, and a consular annex in New York City by Saturday. —Xinhua ■

# Trump's expected repeal of Dreamer programme draws fire from business

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump is expected to rescind an Obama administration policy that protects from deportation nearly 800,000 immigrants who as children entered the country illegally, setting the stage for a fight with US business leaders and lawmakers over tough immigration policy.

A senior administration official told Reuters on Thursday that the plan could be announced as early as Friday and that Trump would let the so-called Dreamers stay until their work permits expire.

Trump has promised to crack down on illegal immigration to give more jobs to Americans. But business leaders say the Dreamers make important economic contributions and that ending the programme

will hit economic growth and tax revenue.

The technology industry quickly mobilized opposition, as it did to Trump's travel ban in January for visitors from Muslim-majority countries. Microsoft Corp President Brad Smith said the country cannot afford to "lose the tremendous talent of these individuals."

On Capitol Hill, Democratic lawmakers and a handful of Republicans urged Trump not to scrap the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), or "Dreamers" programme.

"@POTUS must uphold pledge 2 treat #DREAMers with 'great heart' + give these young folks certainty 2 stay in US, the only country they know," US Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, a Florida Re-

publican who is Cuban-American, said on Twitter.

Trump, a Republican, had pledged on the election campaign trail to scrap all of Democratic former President Barack Obama's executive orders on immigration.

What to do about the so-called Dreamers has been actively debated within the White House and Trump administration. One senior administration official described the debate as a "tug of war" between factions in favour of the move and those opposed.

Officials, believing the DACA programme to be ultimately unconstitutional, want Congress to impose a legislative fix for the Dreamers, two officials said.

White House spokeswoman

Sarah Sanders told reporters that Trump and his senior advisers were still reviewing the DACA programme and that the president not made a final decision on how to proceed.

Asked whether Trump still stood by a comment in February about treating Dreamers "with heart," Sanders said: "Absolutely, the president stands by his statement."

The overwhelming majority of the Dreamer immigrants came from Mexico and other Latin American countries.

Over 200,000 of them live in California, while 100,000 are in Texas, which is struggling to recover from Hurricane Harvey. New York, Illinois and Florida also have large numbers of DACA recipients. —Reuters ■



## Kenya's Supreme Court declares presidential vote invalid, calls for new polls

NAIROBI — Kenya's Supreme Court on Friday declared President Uhuru Kenyatta's election win invalid due to irregularities committed by the election board and ordered a new vote in 60 days.

The decision to cancel the result, the first of its kind in Kenya's history, sets up a new race for the presidency between Kenyatta and veteran opposition leader Raila Odinga.

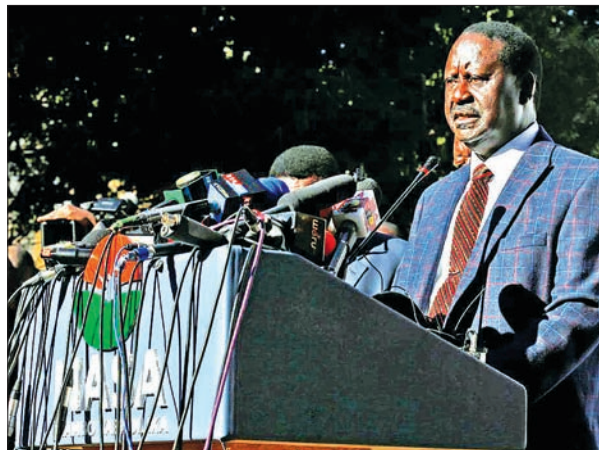
East Africa's biggest economy has a history of disputed elections. A row over the 2007 poll, which Odinga challenged after being declared loser, was followed by weeks of ethnic bloodshed in which more than 1,200 were killed.

"The declaration (of Kenyatta's win) is invalid, null and void," said Judge David Maranga, announcing the verdict backed by four out of the six judges and drawing cheers outside the court from Odinga supporters.

"The first respondent (the election board) failed, neglected or refused to conduct the presidential election in a manner consistent with the dictates of the constitution," the judge said.

International observers had said they saw no sign of manipulation of voting and tallying at polling stations. Several observers said the opposition did not conduct a parallel tally and had not challenged results with complete data of their own. Many voters in the west of Kenya, Odinga's stronghold, and along the coast, where there is traditionally large support for the opposition, feel neglected by the central government and shut out of power.

"This indeed is a very historic day for the people of Kenya," Odinga said after the decision. "For the first time in history of African democratisation a ruling has been made by a court nullifying irregular



Opposition leader Raila Odinga speaks during a news conference at the offices of the National Super Alliance (NASA) coalition in Nairobi, Kenya, on 16 August 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

elections for the president."

A lawyer for Kenyatta, Ahmednasir Abdullahi, said the decision was "very political" and the election board had "done nothing wrong." But he said the decision had to be respected.

Odinga has contested the last three elections and lost each time. After each one, he has claimed the votes were marred by rigging. In 2013, the Su-

preme Court dismissed his petition.

This time, his team focused on proving that the process for tallying and transmitting results was flawed, rather than proving how much of the vote was rigged.

Residents in the western city of Kisumu, where Odinga has strong backing, celebrated in the streets. Motorcycle drivers hooted their horns.—Reuters ■

### PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

We, Ye Zaw Aung Trading Co.,Ltd, would like to change distributor of the following products, (registered by Sigma Agrochemical Co.,Ltd/ Thailand) to Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar), to **Agro Green Land Chemical Co.,Ltd**. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Department of Agriculture from here to next 7 days. (1) Bingo (2)Super Man (3) Rainbow.

Ye Zaw Aung Trading Co.,Ltd ph-0925402228/ 09448045122

### PESTICIDES DISTRIBUTER CHANGING

We, Ye Zaw Aung Trading Co.,Ltd, would like to change distributor of the following products, (registered by Liar Chemical Co.,Ltd(China) to Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar), to **Agro Green Land Chemical Co.,Ltd**. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Department of Agriculture from here to next 7 days. (1)Admiral 25 SC (2) Killmaster 45 EC (3) Evergreen 80 WDG (4) Bullet 1 EC (5) Burnup 41 SL (6) Calm (7) Armstar 30 SC (8) Green Angel (9) Kungfu 2.5 EC (10) Crux 33 EC (11) Veteran 40 EC (12) Starconazole (13) Green Wood 50 SC (14) Moregren 80 WP (15) Cropstar 30 EC.

Ye Zaw Aung Trading Co.,Ltd ph-0925402228/ 09448045122

### Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Department of Livestock Veterinary and Breeding Department

#### IFAD Grant 'Developing scalable smallholder livestock models in Myanmar'

#### Endline Assessment Consultancy

The Department of Livestock Veterinary and Breeding (LBVD) invites expressions of interest from qualified and experienced Myanmar consultancy agencies for the above mentioned consultancy. This is an opportunity for an experienced consultancy agency to conduct an endline assessment of a smallholder development pig enterprise pilot project, aiming to lift rural communities in Kayin State, out of poverty.

The selected entity shall support the LBVD in showcasing the impact of the relevant grant, based on agreed baseline and benchmarking criteria. The agency shall assist in developing the questionnaire, conducting the interviews, analysing and reporting findings, independently of LBVD. The agency is responsible for all logistics, but arrangements for interviews, will be facilitated by LBVD. We seek a experienced consultancy agency with a minimum of five years of relevant experience. Competitive salary and benefits will be paid for this three to four-week assignment. Assignment is to be carried out in September including estimated require budget. Reporting to be finalised early October

A detailed Terms of Reference is available on request to LBVD Secretariat e-mail [irplanninglbvd@gmail.com](mailto:irplanninglbvd@gmail.com) with subject line Endline assessment IFAD Grant.

Please submit your application (by e-mail or mail) to Dr. Khin Ohnmar Lwin, Project Director, e-mail [irplanninglbvd@gmail.com](mailto:irplanninglbvd@gmail.com), [ohnmar06@gmail.com](mailto:ohnmar06@gmail.com) Deadline for the application is Monday 8 September 2017.

LBVD Secretariat,  
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.  
Office No. (36), Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

## CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV MATHU BHUM VOY. NO (1041)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MATHU BHUM VOY. NO (1041) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P/M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S MOL (S'PORE) PTE LTD  
Phone No: 2301185

## Iraqi prime minister declares victory over IS in Tal Afar

ERBIL, (Iraq)/BAGHDAD — Iraqi Prime Minister Hayder al-Abadi declared victory over Islamic State militants in Tal Afar and the entire province of Nineveh on Thursday, despite continued fighting in the small town of al-'Ayadiya.

Tal Afar had become the next target of the US-backed war on the jihadist group following the capture of Mosul, where it had declared its "caliphate" over parts of Iraq and Syria in 2014.

"Tal Afar has been liberated," Abadi said in a statement. "We say to the Islamic State fighters: wherever you are, we are coming for you, and you have no choice but to surrender or die."

The defeat in Mosul, Nineveh's provincial capital, marked the latest in a string of territorial losses for the group. However, the militants still control areas on both sides of the



Iraqi army with Shi'ite Popular Mobilization Forces gather during fighting with Islamic State militants on the outskirts of Tal Afar. PHOTO: REUTERS

Syrian-Iraqi border.

This includes Hawija, a city between Mosul and Baghdad that Iraqi officials have said will be the coalition's next target.

The Iraqi army dropped millions of leaflets over Hawija on Thursday, warning residents it was preparing an offensive to recapture the city from Islamic State, the military said in a statement.

The leaflets urged residents to stay away from

militants' headquarters, to drop weapons and turn themselves in to avoid being killed.

Iraqi forces had been waiting to clear al-'Ayadiya, 11 km (7 miles) northwest of Tal Afar, before declaring complete victory in the offensive. Islamic State militants had retreated to the town.

Divisions from the Iraqi army and federal police, backed by units from Shi'ite paramilitar-

ies, retook al-'Ayadiya on Thursday, military officers told Reuters, after several days of unexpectedly fierce fighting.

However, pockets of resistance remained and Iraqi forces were still working to clear the remaining militants from the town.

"We have to make sure that no more terrorists remain hiding inside the town's houses," Army Lieutenant Colonel Salah Kareem told Reuters.

Two military officers whose units are leading the fight in al-'Ayadiya on Thursday said scattered groups of militants were still hiding in houses and using tunnel networks to move through the town.

Four soldiers were killed and 10 more wounded as clashes continued in parts of al-'Ayadiya on Thursday night, despite the announcement hours earlier by the prime minister.—Reuters ■



THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR  
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY  
NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT  
Invitation for Bids

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2017  
SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE  
IDA Credit No. : 5727-MM  
Contract Title: Steel Parts and Accessories for National Electrification Project  
Reference No. : C1-G7

1. The Ministry of Electricity and Energy has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the National Electrification Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for Steel Parts and Accessories for National Electrification Project.

2. The Ministry of Electricity and Energy now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for supply of Steel Parts and Accessories to be delivered in 2018 to multiple destinations in all Regions and States of Myanmar. Domestic preference with the margin of 15% will apply. The goods will be grouped into 7 lots and bidders may submit bid for any one or more lots.

3. For quick reference, some of the key qualification requirements include:

- The minimum average annual turnover (or annual sales volume) of the last three years shall be shown in the table column (b) below.
- The bidder should have past experience of having satisfactorily completed during the last 5 years at least **two contracts** for supply of similar goods, with the value of each such contract should be greater than the minimum amount shown in the table column (c) below.
- The details of the qualification requirements are seen in the bidding documents.

Lot no. and description	Amount in USD (million)	Amount in USD (million)
(a)	(b)	(c)
Lot 1 – Steel Parts package for Yangon	2.0	1.5
Lot 2 – Steel Parts package for Mandalay	5.0	4.0
Lot 3 – Steel Parts package for Kayin, Mon	1.5	1.3
Lot 4 – Steel Parts package for Kachin, Kayah, Chin, Sagaing, Naypyitaw	12.0	9.5
Lot 5 – Steel Parts package for Bago(E)	7.0	5.8
Lot 6 – Steel Parts package for Ayeyarwaddy	7.0	5.7
Lot 7 – Steel Parts package for Rakhine, Shan(E), Shan(N), Shan(S), Magwe, Bago(W)	20.0	16.8

4. Bidding will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank's [Guidelines: Procurement of Goods, Works and Non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers](#) [edition of January 2011 revised in July 2014] ("Procurement Guidelines"), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Guidelines. In addition, please refer to the paragraphs 1.6 and 1.7 setting for the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Project Manager, Project Management Office, Office No.(27), Ministry of Electricity and Energy, [nep.pmomoep@gmail.com](mailto:nep.pmomoep@gmail.com) and inspect the bidding documents during office hours 10:00 to 16:00 hours Myanmar time at the address given below.

6. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be obtained free of charge by interested eligible bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below. The Bidding Documents will be issued through email only.

In case of any difficulty in obtaining the bidding documents, interested parties may contact in writing:  
Director General, Department of Electric Power Planning  
Office No(27), Ministry of Electricity and Energy  
City: Nay Pyi Taw  
Country: The Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Email: [nep.pmomoep@gmail.com](mailto:nep.pmomoep@gmail.com)

7. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **October 27, 2017, 10:00 hrs (10:00 am) Myanmar time**. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the bidders' designated representatives at the address below on **October 27, 2017, 10:00 hrs (10:00 am) Myanmar time**.

8. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security as stated in ITB 19.1 Bid Data Sheet of the bidding document.

9. The address referred to above is:

Attention : Director General Office, Department of Electric Power Planning  
Office No (27), Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Nay Pyi Taw  
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Telephone : +95 67 410203  
Facsimile : +95 67 410077  
E-mail : [nep.pmomoep@gmail.com](mailto:nep.pmomoep@gmail.com)  
Web site : <http://www.moep.gov.mm>

# Mexico, Canada to stay in NAFTA even if US leaves

MEXICO CITY — Mexico and Canada would remain in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) even if the Trump administration abandoned the accord, Mexican Economy Minister Ildefonso Guajardo said on Thursday.

“NAFTA will continue to regulate the relationship between Mexico and Canada,” Guajardo said at an event in Mexico City, noting that only Washington might consider leaving the accord. “The one that could take that decision, depending on how we get on with the negotiation, is our neighbour the United States.”

Guajardo was speaking a day before US, Mexican and Canadian negotiators meet in Mexico City to work on updating the 23-year-old trade accord, which US President Donald Trump has threatened to dump if he cannot rework it to his



Mexican Secretary of Economy Ildefonso Guajardo Villarreal looks on at a news conference prior to the inaugural round of North American Free Trade Agreement renegotiations in Washington, US, on 16 August 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

satisfaction.

The negotiations in Mexico City will be the second round on revamping NAFTA after talks in Washington two weeks ago.

Trump argues the accord has cost the United States jobs and industrial capacity, while Mexico says the integration of the region has made it more competitive, helping to protect jobs.

“Neither Canada nor Mexico will announce their departure (from NAFTA) because we want to keep being regulated by NAFTA,” Guajardo added after a meeting with lawmakers.

—Reuters ■

# Pope, Orthodox leader make climate change appeal to 'heal wounded creation'

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis and Orthodox Christian leader Patriarch Bartholomew called on Friday for a collective response from world leaders to climate change, saying the planet was deteriorating and vulnerable people were the first to be affected.

The appeal comes three months after US President Donald Trump withdrew from a global agreement, struck in Paris, to limit greenhouse gas emissions. “We urgently appeal to those in positions of social and economic, as well as political and cultural, responsibility to hear the cry of the earth and to attend to the needs of the marginalized,” Francis and Bartholomew said in a joint statement.

—Reuters ■

**CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE**  
MV KUO HSIUNG VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KUO HSIUNG VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S COSCO CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE**  
MV SINAR BATAM VOY. NO (021)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BATAM VOY. NO (021) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES**

Phone No: 2301185



# A week after Harvey, cities deluged and one million displaced

PORT ARTHUR, (Texas) — A week after Hurricane Harvey came ashore in Texas, no let-up in rescue efforts was expected on Friday as large pockets of land remained under water after one of the worst and costliest natural disasters to hit the United States.

The storm has displaced over a million people, with 44 feared dead from flooding that paralysed Houston, swelled river levels to record highs and knocked out the drinking water supply in Beaumont, Texas, a city of about 120,000 people.

Arkema SA (AKE.PA) and public health officials warned of the risk of more explosions and fires at a chemical plant owned by the firm. On Thursday blasts rocked the facility, about 25 miles east of Houston and zoned off inside a 1.5-mile (2.4-km) exclusion



A group of people carry supplies through flood waters caused by Tropical Storm Harvey in Port Arthur, Texas, US, on 31 August 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

zone, after it was engulfed by floodwater. With the presence of water-borne contaminants a growing concern, the National Weather Service issued flood watches from Arkansas into Ohio on Friday as the remnants of

the storm made their way through the US heartland. The Neches River, which flows into Beaumont and nearby Port Arthur, was forecast for a record crest from Friday well above flood levels. The flooding and loss of

drinking water forced the evacuation of a hospital on Thursday. “Beaumont is basically an island,” Mayor Becky Adams told a news conference on Thursday. The city, situated about 80 miles (130 kms)

east of Houston and largely cut off by floods, was only able to receive one major supply of drinking water on Thursday and there were plans to set up water distribution centres on Friday, city official said.

Harvey roared ashore late last Friday as the most powerful hurricane to hit Texas in half a century. It was downgraded to a tropical depression as it headed inland on Thursday, dumping unprecedented quantities of rain and leaving devastation across more than 300 miles in the south-east corner of the state.

Moody’s Analytics estimated the economic cost from Harvey for southeastern Texas at \$51 billion to \$75 billion, ranking it among the costliest storms in US history. Much of the damage has been to the Houston, the US energy hub, whose metropolitan area has an

economy comparable with Argentina’s. At least 44 people were dead or feared dead in six counties including and around Houston, officials said. Another 19 remained missing. Some 779,000 Texans have been told to leave their homes and another 980,000 fled voluntarily amid dangers of new flooding from swollen rivers and reservoirs, according to Department of Homeland Security acting secretary Elaine Duke. Tens of thousands were in crowded evacuation centres across the region. As floods began to recede in Houston, firefighters on Thursday began conducting a house-by-house search to rescue stranded survivors and recover bodies as some residents began to return to their homes to assess the damage.—Reuters ■

## CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV SINAR BANDA VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BANDA VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING  
LINE**

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RATNA VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RATNA VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AWPT 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER  
LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV SHAMIM VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SHAMIM VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S LAND AND SEA SHIP-  
PING LINE**

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV BLPL TRUST VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BLPL TRUST VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of BSW 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 BLPL SHIPPING LINE**

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV PATHEIN STAR VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PATHEIN STAR VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MIP 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 CONTINENTAL SHIP-  
PING LINE PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

MV HUNSA BHUM VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HUNSA BHUM VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/A.I.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185



# Miley Cyrus, Beyonce join Harvey storm relief effort

LOS ANGELES — Pop star Miley Cyrus and Oscar-winning actors Sandra Bullock and Leonardo DiCaprio pledged funds to help victims of storm Harvey, while Beyonce on Thursday said she was sending a team to her Houston, Texas hometown to help with relief efforts.

A donation drive organized by Houston Texans NFL star J.J. Watt had reached \$10 million in pledges from celebrities and ordinary people by Thursday, and singer Solange Knowles, Beyonce's sister, announced benefit concerts in Boston and New York for September and October.

A tearful Cyrus, 24, announced a \$500,000 contribution in an emotional appearance on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show."

"It just really makes me just really upset... I go home to my seven dogs and if I didn't have that anymore, it would just be really hard. So I am really happy to help in any way I can. And I hope people understand and can put themselves in those people's shoes," Cyrus said.

Some 779,000 Texans have been ordered to evacuate their homes and another 980,000 fled voluntarily amid concerns on Thursday that swollen reservoirs and rivers could bring new flooding. Harvey roared ashore late last week as the most pow-

erful hurricane to hit Texas in a half-century but has now been downgraded to a tropical depression.

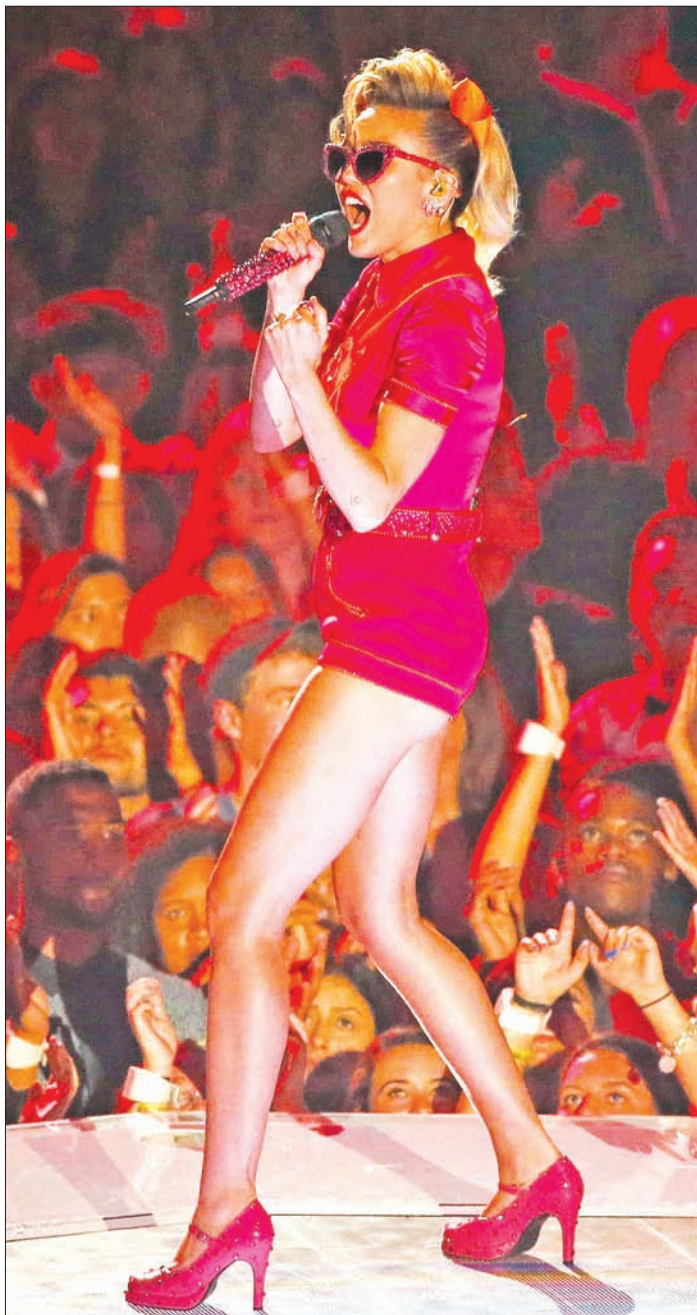
"Gravity" star Bullock, and DiCaprio's foundation said this week they will each contribute \$1 million to organisations helping people recover from the devastating floods.

"Beyonce, one of Houston's best-known celebrities, launched BeyGOOD Houston on her website. A statement said a team from her BeyGOOD philanthropic foundation was headed to the city to help with relief efforts, and the website asked fans to make donations to two local groups working there.

The "Lemonade" singer, who now lives in Los Angeles, has not said whether she is making a personal donation, but her pastor Rudy Rasmus said she tends to keep her charitable efforts quiet.

"Beyonce is extremely private and has done a lot that she has requested we don't announce and publicize over the years, Rasmus told celebrity website TMZ.com in an interview this week.

"She has really stepped up and it has been a big blessing for us," added Rasmus, who launched the non-profit Bread for Life in Houston in 1992 to feed homeless people.—Reuters ■



Miley Cyrus performs at 2017 MTV Video Music Awards Show in Inglewood, California, U.S., on 27 August 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

## All-female 'Lord of the Flies' misses the point, critics say

LOS ANGELES — Plans for an all-female movie of William Golding's young adult classic novel "Lord of the Flies" were slammed on Thursday for missing the point of the dark and deadly tale of bullying among teenage boys stranded on a desert island.

The news of the proposed remake, which Hollywood trade publication Deadline.com reported on Wednesday was in the early stages of development, became a top trending story on Twitter.

Author and feminist Roxane Gay said an all-female version of the story made no sense because "the plot of that book wouldn't happen with all women."

"If you want to tell a story about toxic femininity fine do that. But using 'Lord of the Flies' as the container is lazy and stupid," Gay added on Twitter.

English author Golding's 1954 book about a group of school boys trapped on a remote island after a plane crash, is a dystopian social allegory of human nature and survival instincts as the boys descend into a primitive state.

The film will be written and directed by Scott McGehee and David Siegel and made by Warner Bros., Deadline said. Representatives for the movie studio declined to comment. — Reuters ■

## Actor Richard Anderson, boss of 'Six Million Dollar Man,' dies

LOS ANGELES — Richard Anderson, who played the boss of both "The Six Million Dollar Man" and "The Bionic Woman" in an on-screen career stretching some 50 years, died on Thursday, a family spokesman said. He was 91.

Anderson died from natural causes at his home in Beverly Hills, California, surrounded by his family, publicist Jonathan Taylor said. Memorial services will be private, Taylor added.

The imposing 6-foot-3-inch (190-cm) actor often appeared on screen as an authority figure — politicians, government officials and policemen — but also played his share of cowboys and criminals. His roster of guest appearances included many popular shows still airing in syndication



Actor Richard Anderson. PHOTO: REUTERS

such as "The Big Valley," "Ironside," "Murder She Wrote" and "Dynasty."

Anderson played the police chief in the Burt Reynolds' detective series "Dan August" (1970-1971), and a police lieutenant in the last season of the long-running legal drama "Perry Mason." Two decades later, he had a prominent guest role in

the 1985 TV movie "Perry Mason Returns," which reunited original series cast members Raymond Burr and Barbara Hale.

In the 1967 two-part finale of "The Fugitive," Anderson played the husband of Dr. Richard Kimble's sister. The climactic episode in which Kimble, played by David Janssen, finally cleared his name in the killing of his wife after four seasons on the run, was at the time the most-watched series program in TV history.

But it was as US intelligence official Oscar Goldman that Anderson left his most lasting mark on television. Goldman was the chief of Steve Austin, a secret agent with enhanced bionic powers after reconstructive surgery in the 1974-1978 hit series "The

Six Million Dollar Man," starring Lee Majors.

Anderson became one of the first actors to play the same character simultaneously on two shows on different networks when he reprised his Goldman role in the 1976-1978 spinoff "The Bionic Woman," starring Lindsay Wagner.

"It was a time when everything was down. The Viet Nam War had just ended and everybody was down and we came in with a hero," Anderson told "Hollywood Exclusive" in 2009 when asked about the shows' popularity.

In the late 1980s, Anderson persuaded studio executives to reunite the two bionic heroes, which led to three television mov-

ies in which he reprised his Goldman role and helped produce.

"I'm very grateful to Oscar Goldman. He's been very good to me," Anderson told a Montreal radio show in 1994.

Born in Long Branch, New Jersey, on 8 August, 1926, Anderson began his acting career as an MGM contract player in the last days of the studio system. Among his many film credits were "Forbidden Planet" (1956), Stanley Kubrick's "Paths of Glory" (1957), and "The Long Hot Summer" (1958).

He made the leap into television in the early 1950s, becoming one of the medium's most familiar faces through a stream of character roles over five decades. —Reuters ■



# YouTube video on Myanmar memories goes viral

By Mark Angeles

A YouTube video that is quickly going viral points out the most memorable things about Yangon from the point of view of a former resident, including the large numbers of stray dogs, men in longyi, frequent power cuts, and the grandeur of the Shwedagon Pagoda.

The video, titled “5 Culture Shock in Myanmar”, posted by Hannah Lim, a Korean model and aspiring actress who lived in Myanmar for 20 months when she was working at a job in marketing, was watched by nearly 10,000 people only one day after it was posted. The video has since been shared by other popular YouTube pages and social media users, quickly boosting the number of times it’s been watched to over 200,000, Lim said.

“I always wanted to talk about my experiences living in Myanmar”, said Lim, who arrived in Myanmar in May 2015 and moved back to Seoul, South Korea in January 2017. “I consider Yangon my second hometown, and I stay in contact with friends.”

Lim, who speaks English,



Hannah Lim, above, wearing a longyi. PHOTO: COURTESY HANNAH LIM

Korean and Myanmar in the video [www.youtube.com/c/HannahLim](http://www.youtube.com/c/HannahLim), received some criticism on her

Facebook page because “some of the fact(s) she mentioned are not cultural”, but she pointed out

that the video was from the perspective of a foreigner.

“Locals said it’s not a culture thing, but every foreigner I’ve talked to agree with it,” Lim said in a phone interview from Seoul.

The five topics brought up in the video are:

1) The lack of crosswalks. “On a major street like Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, there are tons of cars coming from both directions. (To successfully cross), I’ve found the safest way is not to stop because the cars will go around you”.

2) Power cuts. “The first time I experienced a power cut (in Myanmar) was when I was in a shopping mall. Everything went dark and it was like, no big deal. In Korea, power cuts are something that don’t happen normally”.

3) Longyi. “I knew women wore longyi in Myanmar, but I was surprised to see men wearing longyi. One time an older man was walking toward me and he started untying his longyi. I just kept staring down at my phone”.

4) Stray dogs. “They’re pretty much doing nothing, except at night, when they start barking — a lot. Sometimes one dog barks

from this end of the street, and another dog answers from the other end of the street”.

5) Shwedagon Pagoda. “Just how big it is! On my last birthday in 2017 I went to the pagoda early in the morning to pray, and there were already so many people (there). They were not tourists, these were local people. I was impressed by how many people come to pray”.

Lim, who is currently in acting school and is continuing her modelling work, plans a visit back to Myanmar for a friend’s university graduation.

She says she has kept in touch with close friends.

“Thet Mhu Lwin, Swe Zin Aye and Pyi Thein Kyaw, they were my lifesavers. They took me to parties, explained the celebration of the Burmese holidays, introduce me to restaurants and new trends, and helped me understand the culture”, she said.

One of those friends, Thet Mhu Lwin, experienced the accuracy of Lim’s video while watching it on her computer.

“Now, power cut in my neighbourhood”, Thet Mhu Lwin wrote on Lim’s Facebook page. ■

## Thai Films Delegation to Myanmar a success

The Thai Films Delegation to Myanmar was held at the Novotel Max Yangon Hotel in Kamaryut Township, Yangon on 28 August from 10 am to 5 pm.

The event was held to promote Myanmar’s film industry which 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 utilise the latest recording technologies and computer software in inventive and unique ways to attract more

audiences. This is the first event held by Thailand’s Department of International Trade Promotion (DITP). Attending the event were members of the Myanmar Motion Picture Organisation (MMPO), experts on promoting Myanmar motion pictures in foreign markets, directors, businessmen and actors from Myanmar’s film industry.

Mr. Pakinay Len-Ee, the Minister Counsellor, Office of the Commercial Affairs office from the Royal Thai Embassy in Yangon, gave the opening speech.

This was followed by Dr. Daw Thida Tin, the Deputy Administrator of MMPO, Mr. Leng-Ee, Daw Swe Zin Htike, the Counsellor for penetrating Myanmar films into foreign markets and officials from DITP cut the ribbon to announce the opening of the event.

Fourteen major film companies and TV channels from Thailand were provided with individual booths for film enthusiasts and those in the film industry to participate in open discussions. The event ended at 5pm. —Khin Maung Thaw ■



Myanmar Golden Rock Int'l has opened its Canon showroom at the Taunggyi Business Centre in Taunggyi. PHOTO SUPPLIED

## Ovaltine to Gift Free Bus Rides for 1,000 People to Return Home and be with their Families this Thadingyut

Ovaltine, a brand present in many homes and which plays a part in the daily nutrition and health of people across Myanmar, has launched a campaign titled ‘Ovaltine Thadingyut Free Ride Back to Home’ that captures the essence of the Thadingyut festival – being home with family and paying homage to elders. With the belief that the real gift of Thadingyut is being

with family and loved ones and bringing good health to them, the brand will be offering free transportation for 1,000 members of the public to return to their hometown from Yangon for the upcoming Thadingyut celebrations and back to Yangon after the holidays.

Members of the public stand a chance to win free bus rides to their hometown

through a lucky draw programme to be held from 1 to 24 September 2017. Participation is free of charge and participants need not have to buy Ovaltine products. This is the biggest campaign of its type in Myanmar involving 1,000 people who will receive free transportation to return to their hometown for the festive celebration.—GNLM ■



# Ronaldo grabs hat-trick as Portugal beat Faroes 5-1

PORTO — Portugal captain Cristiano Ronaldo struck his fifth international hat-trick, including a spectacular volleyed opener, to lead the European champions to a 5-1 win over the Faroe Islands in their World Cup qualifier on Thursday.

The 32-year-old, Portugal's record scorer, took his haul in the current qualifying campaign to 14 goals in seven games and his overall tally to 78 in 144 international appearances.

The win left the Portuguese in second place with 18 points from seven games in Group B. Leaders Switzerland are three points clear after beating Andorra 3-0 in a game interrupted by rain. Third-placed Hungary beat Latvia 3-1 to reach 10 points.

The group winners qualify for Russia while the eight best second-placed teams in the nine groups go into a playoff round, with the Swiss having guaranteed at least runners-up spot.

Ronaldo needed three minutes to open his account when he met Bernardo Silva's cross with an acrobatic volley at the far post. "I've been looking to



Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo celebrates his third goal against Faroe islands during World Cup 2018 Qualifiers at Bessa stadium, Porto, Portugal, on 31 August 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

score a goal like that for a while," he said. "That sort of goal was missing from my career and now I've done it. It was a nice move."

Ronaldo doubled the lead in the 29th, sending Gunnar Nielsen

on the wrong way with a penalty after Joao Mario was tripped by Roaldur Jakobsen, and nearly completed a hat-trick when his low shot was turned away by the Faroes' goalkeeper.

Portugal then eased up and the Faroes, who had already forced an early save from Rui Patricio, pulled one back with the simplest of goals as a long throw-in was headed on at the near post and volleyed home by Rogvi Baldvinsson.

That angered Portugal coach Fernando Santos. "We lost concentration and they scored from a move that we had studied," he said. "I don't like us to concede goals that way, in a loss of concentration."

Midfielder William Carvalho gave Portugal some breathing space by heading in from Ronaldo's cross in the 58th minute.

Carvalho returned the compliment seven minutes later when he slipped the ball to Ronaldo who dummied and fired a left foot shot past Nielsen.

Portugal substitute Nelson Oliveira completed the scoring with an easy goal in the 85th minute after the Faroes defence failed to clear a Ronaldo cross.

Ronaldo's other hat-tricks were against Northern Ireland, Armenia, Sweden and Andorra. —Reuters ■

## AFF U18 Championship pre-match press conference tomorrow

KyawZin Lin

A pre-match press conference for the Asian Football Federation Under-18 Championship will be held at the Myanmar Football Federation conference room on Sunday, according to the Myanmar Football Federation website. Journalists and media representatives are invited to the pre-match press conference to hear news about the Myanmar team and the championship matches.

The 2017 AFF U-18 Youth Championship, formerly known as AFF U-19 Youth Championship, is one of the most popular competitions among Southeast Asian countries. This year Myanmar will proudly host the games. The football matches will start on Monday and end on 17 September. Myanmar will play against Indonesia on Tuesday, Brunei on 9 September; the Philippines on 11 September and Vietnam on 13 September. The semifinal matches will be played on 15 September, while the final and third and fourth-place matches will be played on 17 September. ■

## Shapovalov, Sharapova set to share Arthur Ashe spotlight

NEW YORK — Denis Shapovalov may not be old enough to drink in New York but is quickly becoming the toast of the Big Apple and the 18-year-old Canadian will again have a chance to light up the US Open when he takes on Briton Kyle Edmund.

After knocking off eighth seeded Frenchman Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, the Canadian giant killer returns to the Arthur Ashe Stadium court chasing a place in the fourth round.

Shapovalov's hit list includes back-to-back wins over US Open champions Rafa Nadal and Juan Martin De Potro at the recent Rogers Cup in Montreal, and the Canadian will now try to add the 42nd ranked Edmund to his list of scalps.

Another of the tennis young guns in Croatia's Borna Coric, who took down fourth seed Al-

exander Zverev in the second round, finds 28th seeded South African Kevin Anderson standing between him and a fourth round berth.

Against some criticism, Maria Sharapova will be back on Arthur Ashe for the third straight match where she will face American wild card Sofia Kenin.

Playing her first grand slam since returning from a 15-month doping ban, Sharapova has enjoyed wild fan support every time she steps on to the court but not everyone is happy to see the five-time winner back in action.

Fifth seed Caroline Wozniacki ripped US Open organisers for putting her on an outside court while Sharapova soaked up the applause on Arthur Ashe. —Reuters ■

## Nadal overpowers Daniel at US Open

NEW YORK — World number one Rafa Nadal came from behind to dispatch underdog Taro Daniel of Japan 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-2 in front of a sold-out crowd at the US Open on Thursday.

Despite playing a marathon five-setter the day before, 121st ranked Daniel looked the fresher of the pair at the outset of the match, breaking Nadal to take a 5-4 advantage when the Spaniard dumped a forehand into the net.

He eventually won the set and appeared poised to deliver a massive upset. But Nadal soon found the accuracy that had eluded him in the first set and his booming serve proved too much for the exhausted 24-year-old, who is now 0-6 against top 20 opponents in his career.

"All the matches are difficult, especially here where everyone wants to play their best," Nadal said in an on-court interview at



Rafael Nadal of Spain celebrates winning his second round match against Taro Daniel of Japan in New York, US, on 1 September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

the Arthur Ashe Stadium after the win.

"It's true that I didn't play very well tonight but it's also true that I'm through to the next round."

Nadal is now one step closer to a potential semi-finals match against third seed Roger Federer, who won his second consecutive

five-set match earlier on Thursday.

"I am here to improve every day. I believe I can do it much better and I really feel I am going to do it much better," Nadal said.

Next up for the 31-year-old is a third round match against aggressive Argentinian Leonardo Mayer. —Reuters ■