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Friday, 8 September 2017

Modi wraps up trip

Indian PM visits religious and historic places

ON HIS FINAL day in Myanmar, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Shwedagon Pagoda, the Martyrs' Mausoleum and Kali Bari Temple in Pabedan Township.

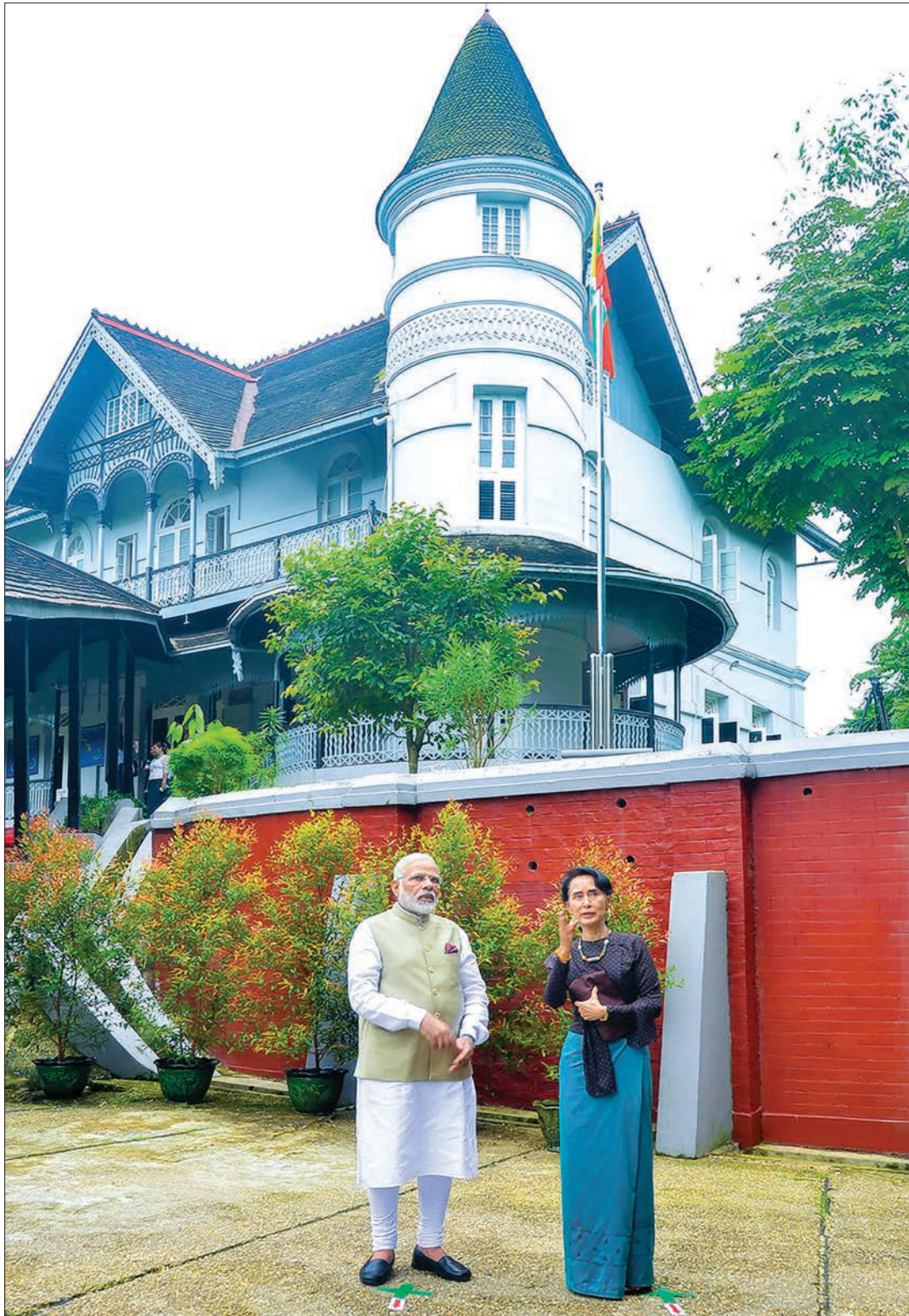
The prime minister visited Shwedagon in the morning and was greeted by Union Ministers for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko, for Construction U Win Khaing. The head of state also met Shwedagon Pagoda's board of trustees.

Mr. Modi, who is a Hindu, paid homage to the Shwedagon Pagoda, left flowers and candles and donated cash to the pagoda fund. The prime minister also planted a Bodhi tree in the Shwedagon compound's western garden.

At the Martyrs' Mausoleum, Mr. Modi laid a wreath for Bogyoke Aung San and other martyrs.

And at Kali Bari Temple in Pabedan Township, Mr. Modi offered prayers and left flowers, water and candles. After posing for photos with the temple's board of trustees and volunteers, he visited Bogyoke Aung San Museum in Bahan Township and the Tomb of Bahadur Shah Zafar on Zewaka Road, Dagon Township.

SEE PAGE-3



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi visits Bogyoke Aung San Museum, accompanied by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in Yangon yesterday. **PHOTO: YE HTUT**

ARSA attacks displaced 30,200

THE terrorist group known as ARSA is to blame for the displacement of 30,200 residents of Maungtau Township, Rakhine, according to the information committee of the government.

Due to ARSA extremist terrorists' attacks between 25 August and 4 September on border police outposts, residents in Taungpyo Letwe, Kwuntheepin, Thechaung, Meetaik and Taungpyo Letwe villages fled to border areas to take shelter.

SEE PAGE-9



NATIONAL

U Win Myint meets Chinese officials, visits Tooth Relic Temple

PAGE-2

NATIONAL

Gov't officials meet locals in Maungtau

PAGE-3

NATIONAL

Home-made mines found in Taunggyi

PAGE-9

LOCAL BUSINESS

Myanmar coffee exports are increasingly popular

PAGE-5



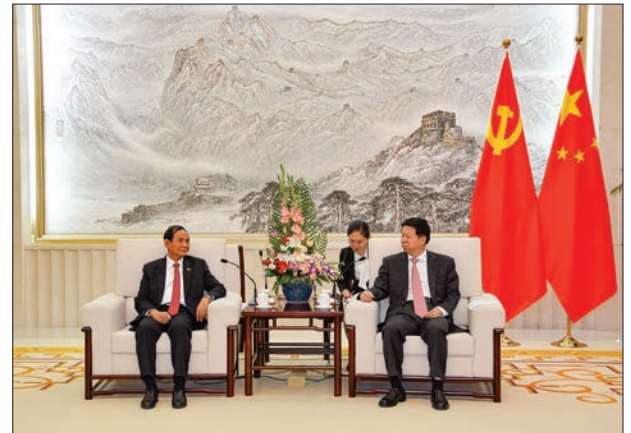
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Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint presents offertories to the monk. **PHOTO: MNA**



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint is welcomed by H.E. Mr. Zhang Dejiang. **PHOTO: MNA**



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint holds talks with H.E. Mr. Song Tao. **PHOTO: MNA**

U Win Myint meets Chinese officials, visits Tooth Relic Temple

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint met H.E. Mr. Song Tao, Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Head of the International Liaison Department of the Communist Party of China at the office of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China yesterday morning.

The two officials discussed cooperative efforts between their two nations.

After their meeting, H.E. Mr. Song Tao hosted a lunch in honor of the Myanmar delegation.

Also present was Hluttaw affairs committee members Mahn Nyunt Thein, U Than Nyunt, U Khun Than Htoo, Daw Wint War Tun, U Tin Nu – also known as – U Tin Nu Aung, Myanmar Ambassador to China U Thit Lin Ohn and other Pyithu Hluttaw officials.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint meets Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U

Win Myint met H.E. Mr. Zhang Dejiang, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, the People's Republic of China at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing yesterday.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker and Standing Committee Chairman then held a meeting in which they discussed cooperative efforts between Myanmar and China.

After their meeting, the two officials exchanged gifts.

H.E. Mr. Zhang Dejiang host-

ed a dinner in honor of Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint in the dining hall of the Great Hall of the People. Also in attendance at the dinner were Hluttaw affairs committee members Mahn Nyunt Thein, U Than Nyunt, U Khun Than Htoo, Daw Wint War Tun, U Tin Nu – also known as – U Tin Nu Aung, Myanmar Ambassador to China U Thit Lin Ohn and other Pyithu Hluttaw officials.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint and party pay

homage to Buddha tooth relic stupa

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint and party paid homage to Buddha tooth relic in Lingguang Temple, Beijing, People's Republic of China yesterday morning and donated offering to Venerable Shin Chan Zang.

Afterwards they visited the ancient palace and the Great Hall of the People where officials show them around. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Bridges destroyed by ARSA terrorists repaired

On Wednesday morning, a group comprised of state and regional road and transport officials formed by the Rakhine State government inspected roads and bridges along 44 miles of the Maungtaw-Kyikanpyin-Kyeinchaung-Aungthapay and Bandoola roads that were destroyed by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) extremist terrorists and began emergency repairs.

“Roads and bridges destroyed by terrorists will be repaired by 10 September. Repair of the Arzanbaw bridge and Letyachaung bridges are underway. Roads damaged by rain will also be repaired urgently”, said Maungtaw District Assistant Director (Civil) U Zaw Min.

According to the state road department ARSA extremists destroyed the Wetkyein Bridge and the Padaka Dewanali bridges 1 and 2, the Laungbote Bridge, the Letyachaung Bridge



Workers repair the bridge destroyed by ARSA extremist terrorists. **PHOTO: MNA**

and the Arzanbaw Bridge on the Maungtaw-Kyikanpyin-Kyeinchaung-Aungthapay and Bandoola roads.

“Security is important in rebuilding the destroyed bridges. It is dangerous with terrorists still active. Only with tight security near the workers can the bridge rebuilding work be done” added U Zaw Min.

Departmental officials of the Maungtaw region road transport improvement implementation committee inspected the 49 mile-long Muangtaw-Kanyintan-Alethan-kyaw-Thawinchaung and Angumaw roads on 5 September and found the road to be in good condition. — Myanmar News Agency ■

ASEM Senior Officials' Meeting and related Meetings continue

THE Opening Ceremony of the Asia-Europe Meeting Senior Official's Meeting (ASEM SOM) was held yesterday morning at MICC-1 in Nay Pyi Taw.

Myanmar ASEM SOM Leader, U Kyaw Zayya, Permanent Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar delivered welcome remarks at the Opening Ceremony of ASEM SOM.

In his opening remarks, Myanmar ASEM SOM leader highlighted the fact that last year remarked the 20 years of cooperation among ASEM partners and expressed pleasure as ASEM partners continues to maintain the ASEM fine tradition of close partnership well into the third decade.

He said “Strengthening Partnership for Peace and Sustainable Development” as peace and sustainable development are not only pertinent to Myanmar but they are also of

crucial important to nations all over the world. Peace and development can only be achieved with collective efforts and enhanced partnerships.

The Sub-group Meetings of the ASEM Senior Officials' Meeting were held at MICC-1 Nay Pyi Taw, in the morning. Myanmar ASEM SOM Leader, U Kyaw Zeya charied ASEAN and Asian Sub-group meetings.

U Kyaw Tin, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs attended the Officials Dinner as guest of honour given by Myanmar ASEM SOM Leader at the Thinhaha Hotel.

Delegations from the ASEM Member States comprising 51 Asian and European countries, ASEAN secretariat, European Union and Asia-Europe Union and Asia-Europe Foundation are attending the ASEM SOM meetings and related Meetings held in Nay Pyi Taw.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Indian PM visits religious and historic places

FROM PAGE-1

The prime minister departed Myanmar from Yangon International Airport, where he was seen off by Union Minister U Win Khaing, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, the Indian ambassador to Myanmar and other officials.

State Counsellor welcomes Indian PM at Bogyoke Aung San Museum

On the last day of a two-day visit to Myanmar, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi was met at the Bogyoke Aung San

Museum, yesterday, by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

"I thank Daw Aung San Suu Kyi for the special gesture of showing me around the Bogyoke Aung San Museum. Paid tributes to General Aung San," Modi tweeted.

At the visit, he signed the museum guest book and posed for a photo with the State Counsellor. Bogyoke Aung San Museum is the former residence of Bogyoke Aung San, architect of Myanmar Independence.— Myanmar News Agency ■



Indian PM Narendra Modi visits Bogyoke Aung San Museum, accompanied by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. PHOTO: YE HTUT



Prime Minister Narendra Modi visits Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon on 7, September 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Gov't officials meet locals in Maungtaw

U Nyi Pu, Rakhine State Chief Minister, U KhinMaung Tin, Deputy Minister for the Ministry of the State Counsellor's Office and responsible officials from the Multi-Religions Friendship Association went to Maungtaw region yesterday, near where extremists from the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) committed attacks, which has been described as a terrorist group, and met with local people.

The officials arrived at the office of Yathedaung township general administration, meeting local nationals and followers of Hinduism and Islam to ask their opinion of the terrorist attacks.

Following that, the officials went to Maungtaw, meeting Colonel Phone Tint, State Security and Border Affairs Minister, U

Ye Htut, district administrator, departmental heads, town-elders, local nationals as well as Christian, Hindu and Islamic residents.

In the meeting, Chief Minister said, "Union Government and State Cabinet are dealing with many difficulties and challenges during just over a one-year period. As known by all, the affair of the Maungtaw region is not only the affair of Rakhine State, but also a national affair, so it is being deeply and soberly dealt with. Now is the time for us to build peace and stability in the nation. It is firmly believed that the Union Government, State Cabinet and all the responsible officials are essential to cooperate in unity so that the future will become the best."

U Khin Maung Tin, Deputy

Minister for the Ministry of the State Counsellor's Office, said that the officials came here for the multi-religions friendship association to be well convinced of the actual situations on the ground and to make people from home and abroad know more about the situation.

The officials then went to Buthidaung, meeting with local nationals and followers from different religions at the office of the township general administration department.

According to the statistics collected as of 4 September, 59 villages and 6,842 houses were burnt down, an estimated loss of Ks600 million. It is learnt that 6,158 families consisting of 26,747 people were displaced.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Meeting to support and assist Rakhine State

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye led officials from the Red Cross in a coordination meeting at the ministry office yesterday afternoon to support and assist people affected by the terrorist actions of the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA).

The Union Minister said the government will lead and cooperate with the Red Cross for support and assistance to quickly reach people who were displaced by the recent events in Maungtaw. Currently required aid, social, health and education requirements will be discerned and fulfilled

quickly. The meeting was held to explore and cooperate the best way to do this, said the union minister.

The Myanmar Red Cross Society chairman explained and discussed the current works and programmes to continue cooperating with Red Cross Movement.

In the meeting, matters relating to providing security for Red Cross volunteers, non-duplication of cash transfers & relief assistance beneficiaries, setting up time frames for daily programmes, and cooperating in psychological social support work processes were discussed.—Myanmar News Agency ■

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More than 3,000 ancient monuments inventoried in Bagan

File photo shows the aerial view of Bagan, Mandalay Region. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

The Association of Myanmar Architects (AMA) announced there are a total of 3,822 monuments in the ancient site of Bagan archaeological zone, according to a report in the City News Daily yesterday.

The AMA has decided to conduct an inventory of ancient monuments after an earthquake

shook Bagan on 24 August 2016.

"The reason why we did the record as soon as possible is to know the real number of monuments after earthquake has destroyed the monuments," said U Maw Linn, the vice chairman of the AMA. "The record will be very useful. The record can also determine if the monuments are

original designs or not."

The last inventory was conducted by French architect Pierre Pichard from UNESCO between 1982 and 1991. He listed 2,834 monuments.

AMA recorded 3,699 monuments in the ancient area and the Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Li-

brary also recorded an additional 123 monuments omitted by AMA.

Recently, Myanmar's Culture Ministry banned visitors from climbing ancient pagodas to protect the structures in its bid to acquire a designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Site for Bagan by 2019.—City News ■

MCRB releases anti-discrimination briefing paper

By May Thet Hnin

THE Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business (MCRB) issued a briefing paper urging local and foreign entrepreneurs to fight employment discrimination against women, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, people infected with HIV, disabled people and ethnic and religious minorities.

The paper named "Combating Discrimination by Business and in the workplace in Myanmar," includes chapters on each form of discrimination and recommendations to promote equality in workplaces.

Vicky Bowman, director of MCRB said "We would like to see all companies to combat discrimination and make a commitment to having inclusivity, diversity and equal opportunities as core business values". Disabled people are often excluded from jobs due to lack of access to educational resources, physical spaces and therapeutic assistance in

Myanmar. For some people, even opening a bank account becomes an insurmountable challenge due to institutions' lack of solutions to accessibility challenges for disabled people.

In addition, Myanmar parents are not afforded maternity or paternity leave. And women are seldom seen in executive leadership or manual labor positions in Myanmar and are, on average, paid less than their male counterparts, according to the briefing paper.

LGBT people also still face discrimination in Myanmar in workplaces and among their families.

"Employers do not understand gender identity," said Daw Khin Ma Ma Aye who involves in activities for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender LGBT's rights. "People should have equal opportunities regardless of their gender or sexual preference. More awareness campaigns about discrimination are required to convince entrepreneurs to give

equal rights and opportunities in the workplace. Government also needs to encourage labour rights.

"I learned more about discrimination during a workshop with Mandalay entrepreneurs, who said they will be hire women based on their qualifications but that they cannot expect senior level," said Daw Khin Ma Ma Aye.

"Companies should ensure there is no discrimination in the workplace with company rules," Vicky Bowman added.

The MCRB briefing paper was based on interviews, news reports and other sources of public information about discrimination. The paper will be submitted to Hluttaw and various ministries.

MCRB has issued briefing papers addressing calling for businesses to adhere to indigenous people's rights, sustainable land use, labour protections, children's rights and other sustainable business practices. ■

Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention to be held in Yangon

THE World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention will come to Yangon's Myanmar Convention Center between 15 and 18 September, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

About 2,000 Chinese entrepreneurs from around the world will participate in the event. The convention will be held under the theme: "An Opening Economy in Myanmar: A new Epoch in History".

Discussions will explore opportunities for Chinese businesspeople to jointly participate in the development of Myanmar and the region under ASEAN and the "One Belt One Road" program.

The World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention, held every other year, is among the largest events for global Chinese business community. Previously conventions were held in Hong Kong, China, Thailand, Canada, Australia, Malaysia, South Korean and Indonesia.—GNLM ■



Participants pose a documentary photo after the signing ceremony of MoU on rice trade between Myanmar and Bangladesh yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar and Bangladesh signs MoU to export 300,000 tons of rice

May Thet Hnin

MYANMAR signed a memorandum of understanding to export 300,000 tons of rice to Bangladesh under a proposed government-to-government deal, yesterday.

Union Minister Dr Than Myint for the Commerce Ministry of Myanmar and Bangladesh Minister of Food Qamrul Islam signed the MoU at the Hotel Hilton in Nay Pyi Taw.

Under the proposed deal, Bangladesh would purchase 250,000 tons of Myanmar white

rice and 50,000 tons of Myanmar parboiled rice, annually, from 2017-2022, said U Ye Min Aung the secretary of Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

"This is first time that the current government signed a rice trade agreement under G to G system," said Dr Soe Tun, the vice chairperson of MRF. "We want the government to continue exerting efforts to have rice trade under G to G agreement with other countries."

Such government to government transactions help build government revenue and foreign

exchange.

Myanmar plans to export 2 million tons of rice this fiscal year and has shipped 1.2 million tons so far.

Sixty per cent of Myanmar's rice export goes to China. Myanmar exports rice to 44 foreign markets of countries in Africa, Asia and Europe, including Spain, Germany, Japan, Malaysia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore and Bangladesh.

If the Bangladesh deal is successful it would be Myanmar's only government to government rice deal. ■

Myanmar coffee exports are increasingly popular

Myanmar coffee exported approximately 100 tons of coffee beans to the United States, Japan, Switzerland, England, Iceland, Australia, Dubai, Hong Kong, Russia, the Netherlands and other export markets, at the price of US\$4,900 to \$7,000 per ton depending on quality, according to yesterday's report of Myawady Daily. At present, coffee growers are seeking Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) certificates to certify their crops' quality and sustainable cultivation practices.

The Agricultural Department will go on a study tour to grant this certificate this year. Only coffee growers who conform to 16 conditions set for GAP will be certified.

GAP criteria are set relative to market conditions in the cultivating nation, ASEAN standards and World GAP rules. GAP standards, including food safety requirements and environmental protection, have been disseminated to Myanmar coffee producers, said an official from coffee research team. —GNLM ■

ASEAN "The Legacy Award" conferred on KBZ's Chairman

U Aung Ko Win, who founded the Kanbawza (KBZ) Group of Companies in 1994, one of the largest privately owned diversified group of companies in Myanmar, was awarded with the ASEAN's The Legacy Award conferred on by the ASEAN Business Advisory Council-ABAC.

He, along with eight other renowned business leaders from ASEAN members states, was recognized at the 10th ASEAN Business Awards-ABA for their enterprises's contribution to the region on Wednesday in Manila,

the Philippines, by Mr Rodrigo Duterte, President of the Philippines.

Legacy Awardees were given distinctions for their commitment to growth, genuine development, and excellence in their national economies which significantly contributes to the ASEAN Community.

The award also marks the 50th anniversary of ASEAN.

More than 900 guests attended the ABA Gala Night and 400 delegates mainly from the ASEAN region.—Thura Lwin-Eco ■



U Aung Ko Win (2nd from Right) accepts the Legacy Award presented by President of the Philippines Mr Duterte. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

Thailand-Myanmar trade worth US\$1 billion this FY

TRADE with Thailand led among Myanmar's ASEAN trade partners at the end of June, with deals estimated at US\$1 billion. Singapore followed Thailand with trade worth \$801 million.

Total ASEAN trade was worth \$2.6 billion in the first three months of this fiscal year, including exports worth \$892 million and imports worth \$1.6

billion, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Bilateral trade value between Thailand and Myanmar was about \$4.27 billion in FY2016-2017, \$4.86 billion in FY2015-16, \$5.71 billion in FY2014-2015, \$5.66 billion in FY2013-2014, \$4.69 billion in FY2012-2013 and \$4.51 billion in FY2011-2012. Between 1 April and 25 August, Thailand

and Myanmar did border trade worth \$484 million, which was about \$17 million less than the same period last year.

Trade values were \$28.7 million at Tachilek checkpoint, \$331 million at Myawady, \$56 million at Kawthoung, \$64 million at Myeik, \$2.4 million at Hteekee, \$2 million at Mawtaung and \$240,000 million at Maese. — Ko Htet ■

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Trade Mark Ads

Call: Thin Thin May, 09251022355

Technology, trained workers needed in fishery sector

By Ko Moe

Q: Could you tell us a bit about the fishery sector?

A: Our fishery sector is facing some difficulties right now. Raw fish and prawns are scarce and we are not technically improved to produce high value commodities.

It's difficult to breed healthy prawns and fish that are free from diseases. When Cyclone Nargis came in May 2008, many prawn and fish breeders lost all their hatcheries and were unable to pay back their loans from the bank. Many of them are still unable to restart their businesses but they are trying.

Q: Can you tell us the strength and weaknesses of Myanmar fisheries competing in the EU and other international markets?

A: One of our strengths is being free from import tax since receiving the GSP (Generalized Scheme of Preferences). A weakness of ours is lacking the proper infrastructure to meet the standards of the EU when exporting into their market because although they pay a high price, their demands are also many. For example, many of our factories can't meet the food safety standards they demand. This is because when EU and the US imposed sanctions on Myanmar, our main export market was China and our other neighboring countries however, we only exported them as raw materials and for a long time we did not focus on producing high quality commodities. So even though there is a demand for high quality goods, our factories are not ready to produce them yet.

Q: Can you give some comments on the traditional fisheries still in the industry?

A: The traditional fisheries in the country breed small amounts of fish using big ponds so they can't produce at full capacity. However there are plans to upgrade fisheries to breed large amounts of fish in compact spaces using modern technology. The fishery sector is also not receiving much foreign investment and we are still using traditional methods of breeding that typically take a long time. For example, we used to extract oil by pounding the materials in a mortar but now it's all done by machines. Similarly, we have people sort out the prawn and fish by hands but in the future it will be done by machine. Of course, we have to

consider how to retain those staff when we bring in the machines. With regard to food safety, the lesser people handle it by hand the better.

Q: What are the current difficulties the fishery sector is facing?

A: Currently the production rate for fish and prawn is low and we can't get sufficient raw materials. Not enough raw materials mean we can't meet the market demands. There is also not enough quantity to export into the new global markets. Take the hilsa fish (also known as the five spot herring) as an example. We used to be able to produce large sized hilsa but now we can only produce small sized ones. Freshwater prawns are rarely bred now and most of the fish bred in hatcheries take a long time to mature and fetch a low price as well.

Another difficulty is a lack of capable workers. Now there are many Burmese migrant workers who returned from Thailand when the new laws were passed. They have been trained in the fishery sector over there and if we can provide them with reasonable pay then we'll be able to solve our problem of insufficient workers.

In the past there used to be training courses provided by the Institute of Fisheries Technology for quality control, production, fishing and so on but they were closed down due to various reasons. But now we are collaborating with international agencies to reopen these courses.

We need a university and vocational training schools focused on the fishery sector to promote it.

Q: What are some of the things being done to penetrate into the global market?

A: As I've said, because of the sanctions we were cut off from the global market for many years so there are some difficulties. We need to connect with international agencies and participate in international exhibitions. We were able to participate in the 2017 Seafood Expo Global in Brussels in Belgium. We also enter an expo in Boston in the US and another in Shanghai in China every year to enter into the global market. We try to get the international community to recognize Myanmar's brand of fishery products.

Q: What are some plans to raise the fishery sector to higher standards?



U Myo Nyunt of Myanmar fishery products association. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

A: To get a sufficient amount of the much needed raw materials, the Myanmar Fisheries Department bans fishing during the breeding season and will gradually reduce the percentage of fishing each year. We now see the results of these practices as prawns and fish become more common. But we will have to wait and see about four more months this year. The fishermen need to follow the set rules too and avoid using electric shocks and poison when catching fish. We need to take legal action against people who do that otherwise it will result in a shortage of fish in their region.

Another thing we need to work on is setting up technical regulations by collaborating with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Our laboratory for examining the quality of the prawn and fish has an ISO 17025 and it is currently running. These are some of the things we are doing to promote the fishery sector.

Q: Some factories shut down due to the shortage of raw materials. What can be done to prevent this from happening?

A: First we need to make sure there are no shortages of

raw materials. For example, Thailand and Vietnam import their raw materials for production. We also need to use the Cut-Make-Pack (CMP) model when we export. We also need to start the breeding of high-value prawns and fish that only require a short breeding period and we need to produce high-value commodities from the short supply of raw materials we have. The fishery sector has 117 factories which include 20 approved by the EU but only 5 of those can produce value added products.

Q: How will you attract FDI into the fishery sector?

A: We need laws that will draw in FDI and there needs to be a win-win situation for foreign investors too.

Q: Fishing is given more priority than breeding in Myanmar so what is your impression on that?

A: We need to do more offshore fishing and upgrade the fishing boats from wooden hulls to steel hulls. Currently the Myanmar Fisheries Department is drafting laws to promote offshore fishing.

There are only 10 per cent of the natural fish resources left in the sea compared to 30 years

ago so we can't rely on the fishing industry to meet our needs. We need to focus more on breeding and hatcheries to get the raw materials we need.

Q: The Union is doing much economic reforms and the Yangon Region Government is improving the fishery sector for better exports. What is your impression on this?

A: To produce high-value commodities we need the technical resources and financial support and the interest rates from bank loans need to be reduced. We also need adequate electric supply and better infrastructure. The cost of transportation is high compared to other countries and while other countries have to pay a 3 per cent interest rate, our country has to pay 13 per cent interest on loans. China for one promotes its domestic exporters while in Myanmar we have to pay 2 per cent for our exports when it should be tax free. We have to import our raw materials to produce finished products for export and the tax on imports is an obstacle when penetrating into the global market. Even if they do not support us like other countries they should at least make it tax free.

We also have to import our machinery so production costs in Myanmar are higher than in other countries. I think there should be more support for the fishery sector as it has a fast rate of return and can boost the country's GDP.

Q: Do you have anything else to say to our readers?

A: If the union government gives adequate support and the business owners try their best then the country's economy will develop. We need foreign investment, the technologies and skilled workers to make the fishery sector a booming business. ■



Workers pack prawns in Yangon for export to foreign countries. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**



Supplied photo shows the US Navy destroyer John S. McCain arriving in Singapore on 21 August, 2017, after colliding with an oil tanker east of Singapore and the Strait of Malacca, leaving 10 crew members missing. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

Damaged US destroyer to be transported to Yokosuka in Sept

YOKOSUKA, (Japan) — The US Navy said Wednesday it will transport the damaged guided-missile destroyer USS John S. McCain to its home base in Yokosuka later this month in the wake of its collision with an oil tanker east of the Strait of Malacca.

The ship will be carried by a heavy lift vessel from the Changi naval base in Singapore to the US Navy's ship repair facility in the eastern Japanese city near Tokyo. The extent of damage to the destroyer, which collided with the tanker on 21 August resulting in the death of 10 crew members, will be checked at Yokosuka and repairs carried out.—Kyodo News ■

Pope to urge Colombians to come together around peace deal

BOGOTA — Pope Francis will use his first full day in Colombia to send a message of unity, planting a tree of peace and saying a Mass to preach reconciliation in a nation bitterly divided after five decades of war.

Francis received a tumultuous welcome on Wednesday afternoon. Screaming crowds mobbed the popemobile carrying the leader of the world's 1.2 billion Roman Catholics as it made its way slowly from the airport to the Vatican Embassy in central Bogota. Faithful threw flowers and held up children to be kissed.

"Don't let anyone steal your happiness, don't let anyone steal your hope," Francis told young people outside the embassy, his residence during the trip.

Francis, making his 20th foreign trip since becoming pontiff in 2013 and his fifth to his native Latin America, will spend all of Thursday in Bogota and then make day visits to the cities of Villavicencio, Medellin and Cart-

agena before leaving for Rome on Sunday night.

The Argentine pope will hold private meetings with President Juan Manuel Santos and Catholic bishops. He will also meet bishops from Venezuela, which has gone through months of protests against President Nicolas Maduro, who has tightened his hold on power amid an escalating economic crisis.

Francis will encourage reconciliation for Colombians as they prepare to receive 7,000 former FARC rebels into society and aim to repair divisions after a war that killed more than 220,000 people and displaced millions over five decades. During his stay in Bogota — whose theme is "Builders of Peace, Promoters of Life" — Francis will visit the colonial cathedral to pray before a painting of Our Lady of Chiquinquirá, the patron saint of overwhelmingly Catholic Colombia. The afternoon Mass in the capital's sprawling Simon Bolivar Park is



Priests hold a banner reading "Welcome Pope Francis" while standing on a street where Pope Francis will drive past upon his arrival in Bogota, Colombia, on 6 September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

expected to draw more than a million people. Former fighters from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, now a civilian political party, hope to use words instead of weapons to change Colombia.

But many are furious that under the 2016 peace deal FARC leaders accused of kidnapping, displacements and murder will

avoid jail sentences and instead may receive seats in congress.

Anger over the accord has not dampened enthusiasm for the pope's visit. Tens of thousands are expected to pack the main cathedral square carrying rosaries, waving flags and wearing T-shirts and baseball caps bearing Francis' image.—Reuters ■

AU, UN to convene joint peace and security meeting in Ethiopia's capital

ADDIS ABABA — The African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) and the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) will hold their 11th joint consultative meeting on Friday at the AU Headquarters in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa.

The meeting will deliberate on peace and security situations in Africa, particularly on the situations in Somalia, South Sudan and the Lake Chad Basin.

The meeting will be preceded by informal consultations on Thursday, which focuses on the partnership between the AU and the UN, funding for AU peace and security activities, and post-conflict peace building.

The UNSC members on Wednesday arrived in Addis Ababa, capital of the East African country, which co-chairs the meeting together with Botswana, chair of the AUPSC for the Month.

Head of Ethiopian Mission to the UN and President of UNSC for the Month of September, Teke-da Alemu, said the consultative meeting would further strengthen and deepen the cooperation between the two organisations.

The meeting is also expected to discuss ways to further strengthen financial support to peace keeping operations.—Xinhua ■

Teenage suicide bomber surrenders in eastern Afghan province

JALALABAD, (Afghanistan) — A tanager would-be suicide bomber has surrendered to police in eastern Afghan province of Nangarhar; the provincial governor office said in a statement Thursday.

"The 17-year-old Noor Aqa, who was lured by his father and

brother to launch suicide attack on the government forces, has surrendered himself to police in Bati Kot district, but declined to carry out a suicide attack against security forces," said the statement.

Afghan officials blame Tal-

iban militants for encouraging children to take part in fight against government security forces and foreign troops stationed in the country.

According to the statement, father and brother of the boy are active members of the Taliban

militant group.

Last year, a 12-year-old suicide bomber handed himself over to the Afghan security forces in the same province after changing his mind about carrying out a planned attack.—Xinhua ■

Deepening Myanmar-India Friendship

By Maw Lin

Human resource development and high capacity of the people working in various fields of national economy are crucial factors in carrying out the development works of the country. Due to the historical background of the country, the international assistances are needed for the human resource development in Myanmar. It is a heartening news to welcome that India is enthusiastically rendering helps for human resource development of Myanmar.

India had already assisted Myanmar in setting up two Industrial Training Centers in Myingyan and Pakokku. Basing on the positive experience gained from the

Industrial Training Centers of Myingyan and Pakokku, India has decided to extend their help and made a pledge to give two more industrial centers in Monywa and Thaton. The pledge is to be welcomed as it supports in boosting the industrial technology of people in Myanmar. The program to build a planetarium in Myanmar under the assistance of India is to be highly appreciated as it can help nurture scientific temper among Myanmar youth.

As two-third of the population of Myanmar has depended on the agricultural business, to promote the agricultural science and technique is seriously needed. It is to honour the India assistance for rapid progress in operationalizing the Advanced

Center for Agricultural Research and Education set up at the Yezin Agricultural University and assistance given to Rice Bio park established at the Department of Agricultural Research is also an important one as Myanmar is an agricultural country.

The high-level skill in Information Technology is also essential and basic requirement for the all round development of Myanmar. The decision to extend the period of support to the Myanmar Institute of Information technology and the India-Myanmar Center for Enhancement of IT skills is also to be welcomed with great appreciation. The agreement to render regular training to Myanmar diplomats at the Foreign Service Institute, New Dehli

is also a step to further strengthen the bilateral friendship between Myanmar and India. The offer to train 150 Myanmar Civil Servants in English Language at Indian training institutes every year for a period of 5 consecutive years is also to be highly appreciated as it will boost the capacity of service personnel. It is also a welcoming program to upgrade Women's Police Training Center at Yamethin and to open a new training center for police officers as it can promote the rule of law in Myanmar.

In conclusion, Indian assistances to Myanmar is to be welcomed and appreciated as it tremendously supports the human resource development of Myanmar.

(Translated by Khin Maung Win)

On International Literacy Day, 2017, Remember that Literacy is the first priority

Maung Mye Moe

Every year on September 8, nations of the world join together to express their determination that literacy is the first priority for all people since 1966. In Myanmar, International Literacy Day celebration is held on every day of the year, as we have been devoted as we recognize the literacy practices from around the world in connection with this year's theme: Literacy in a digital world and as a key target in Sustainable Development Goal 4. The SDG target we all have already set up is, by 2030, to ensure that all youth and a sustainable proportion of adults, both men and women achieve literacy and numeracy.

We all fully accept that literacy not only assists individuals to improve themselves socially and economically and allow them to realize their full potential, but it also helps whole communities to achieve multi-dimensional development goals. Literacy alone can provide access to much of the accumulated knowledge of mankind and eradicate ignorance, mistrust, prejudice, misunderstanding, egotism and lack of interaction which together are causing a lot of tensions, unhappiness and conflict in many regions of the world. Only literacy can help develop critical thinking skills which is the one of 21st century education goals. Literacy can also have much impact on our daily lives as it creates access to knowledge and information on life skills and social and economic development such as, healthy living, social skills, principles of democracy, human right and conservation of environment, etc. Moreover, a literate person is more likely to value education and it can accelerate

the learning generations to grow up.

Literacy is the ability to read, view, write, design, speak and listen in a way that allows you to communicate effectively. The power of literacy lies not just in the ability to read and write, but rather in a person's capacity to apply these skills to effectively connect, interpret and discern the intricacies of the world in which they have.

Literacy data published by UNESCO displays that since 1950, the adult literacy rate at the world level has increased by 5 percentage points every decade on average, from 55.7 per cent in 1950 to 86.2 per cent in 2015. However, for four decades, the population growth was so rapid that the number of illiterate adults kept increasing, rising from 700 million in 1950 to 878 million in 1990. Since then, the number has fallen markedly to 745 million in 2015, although it remains higher than 1950 despite decades of universal education policies, literacy interventions and spread of print material and information and communications technology (ICT). However, these trends have been far from uniform across regions. In Myanmar, according to 2014 Census, 2.7 million learners (aged five to sixteen years) have either never enrolled in school or have dropped out of the formal education system, and an estimated 3.5 million adults (over the age of 15) are illiterate. In order to meet the needs of all learners, the Department of Alternative Education (DAE) has been formed under the Ministry of Education since September, 2016. From the establishment of the new department of Alternative Education (DAE) basic literacy programmes are implemented at Kayah, Shan and Rakhine

States. The DAE department is also providing non-formal education to the learners (over the age of 10) in 81 townships.

Alternative education system in its flexibility can accommodate the needs of different groups of learners with restricted access to formal schooling which relevant to their situations. Alternative education system has multiple path ways of learning and each has their own objectives. Alternative education include a range of non-formal learning opportunities, including equivalency programmes which provide condensed version of what is learning in the formal education system, basic and functional literacy programmes which aim at children and youth, basic vocational skills for learner to have more earning quality and life-long learning opportunity programmes. During the last two decades, the learner's literacy repertoires extend beyond the traditional pillars of reading, comprehension, grammar and writing to include digital and interactive applications. Today's learners are facing with a myriad of traditional and digital literacies so it is so important that they can develop the skills to effectively navigate and decipher the constant information streams that surrounds them.

Today, many children are being classed as 'digital natives' – just as comfortable online as they are offline. The effective use of ICT enables endless educational possibilities, with constantly evolving information streams. However, the vastness of the internet can be a hindrance to those children who cannot effectively assess very carefully in order to decide what is important. Strong Literacy skills are a key tool used when

children know, understand and interpret information.

Let's find the ways to support the literacy development of our children studies have shown that children's motivation and achievement improve when their parents are involved in their education. There are many everyday things the parents and teachers can do to encourage literacy learning. These include –

- Sharing your knowledge and explaining how you use literacy in your everyday life.
- Encouraging the children to read and view a variety of texts such as newspapers, novels, magazines, websites, etc.
- Talking about things you have read or viewed which are amusing, interesting or knowledgeable.
- Discussing favorite authors, directors or illustrators and what you like about them.
- Playing games that develop knowledge and enjoyments of words
- Making use of school libraries, communities learning centres and resource centres.

It is remarkable that illiteracy is declining in Myanmar; just as in many parts of the world. Not only schools, universities, and education institutions, but also non-formal, and adult literacy centres are vital providers of literacy and these will sustain literacy skills as well as other community development activities. With greater participation, enthusiasm and commitment from the community, it is hoped that Myanmar will definitely gain the further progress in its efforts to bring universal literacy to its citizens. ■

Local, foreign independent journalists report from Maungtaw

A group of independent journalists including local and foreign media yesterday talked to people of the Islamic faith at a Bengali Market, Ka Nyin Tan Ward in Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State yesterday morning to gather the information regarding the activities of the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) extremist terrorists.

The media group then went to Maw Ya Wati Village, where they interviewed village elder U San Hla Phyu and other residents.

The journalists also took photos of damage by fires in Maung Tu Lar and Zay Gone Tan villages of Alae Than Kyaw village tract, Maungtaw Township and interviewed officials of border security police outposts, which defended



Independent journalists interview security members. Photo: MNA

against the ARSA extremist terrorist attacks on 25 August that killed over 70 people and forced thousands to flee.

Photos of the damages due to fire in upper Kan Paing Gyi and Kan Bu villages and Gaw Du Thar Ya village were also

taken. While media group was gathering information in Gaw Du Thar Ya village, around four or five ethnic people were found and media group reported to officials of Maungtaw District General Administration Department and the security forces after being

informed of the news made a search for the suspicion men. Then, the media group took photos of constructed fence near No.1 inspection gate at Myoma west ward of Maungtaw between Myanmar and Bangladesh border.—Myanmar News Agency ■

New coaches for circular train to arrive in 2020

By Ko Moe

According to Myanmar Railways and the Ministry of Transport and Communication, 18 Diesel-Electric Multiple Units (DEMU) train coaches ordered from Japan will arrive in Yangon in September 2020.

The new coaches — 66 units in all, were bought using a loan from the Japanese government, to be used in the Yangon circular train line and other places in need. Japanese loans amounting to US\$206.53 million will be used for the purchase of the 66 coaches and for installing advanced signal systems at 25 level crossings along the circular train route, according to Myanmar Railway.

“Trains ordered from Japan will arrive here in two batches. Eighteen

coaches will arrive in the first batch in September 2020, with the remaining units to arrive in 2021. Moreover, works for upgrading level crossings along the circular railways will be implemented using the loan from the Japanese government, with the aid of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)”, said U Ba Myint, Senior General Manager of Myanmar Railways.

Myanmar Railways will carry out the project of upgrading the Yangon Circular Train Rails by investing \$300 million in order to provide a more convenient, safer and better traveling experience very soon, it was learnt. The Yangon Circular Train route is over 46 kilometers, with 38 railway stations. Myanmar Railways runs trains in 25 shifts daily. ■

ARSA attacks displaced 30,200

FROM PAGE-1

Currently, a total of 30,200 people are camped along the Myanmar side of the border, including 1,200 people are camped along the border between milestones 31 and 32, 11,000

between milestones 32 and 33 and 18,000 between milestones 34 and 35, according to the information office. On Wednesday, a homemade gun and an improvised explosive manufactured by ARSA

was discovered by villagers, who were crossing a sugar-cane field in Aung Mingalar Village, Maungtaw. Upon learning of the discovery, police secured the weapons.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Home-made mines found in Taunggyi

Acting on a tip-off, police from Taunggyi, accompanied by the ward administrator, searched Nul Armin, also known as Aung Min, 44, at about 10:30 am yesterday and discovered equipment that appeared to be three home-made mines of varying sizes made of a mini-gas boxes. One of the home-made bombs had a bamboo stick fastened to it, police said. In addition, one decapitated Buddha statue measuring one-inch in height, along with pieces of lead and iron were found.

Under investigation, it was learnt that the man seized with the weapons suffered a head injury in a motorcycle accident over two years ago. The accident caused him to suffer from



mental episodes, authorities said. Nul Armin, the son of Nul Din, also known as U Maung Maung of Kone Thar Kyaung Lane, Myoma Ward, in Taunggyi

township, remains hospitalised at the Sao San Tun hospital in Taunggyi and is being kept under the close watch.—Myanmar News Agency ■

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May calls on MPs to back bill, move closer to Brexit

LONDON — British Prime Minister Theresa May called on parliament to support legislation to sever political, financial and legal ties with the European Union, a step towards Brexit the opposition says it will challenge.

The repeal bill, or EU withdrawal bill, is central to the government's plan to exit the bloc in 2019, untangling Britain from more than 40 years of EU lawmaking and repealing the treaty that first made Britain a member in 1972.

On Thursday, parliament will start debating the "main principles" of the bill, which seeks largely to copy and paste EU law into British legislation. Lawmakers will vote on Monday on whether the bill can move on to the next part of its long legislative journey, when it could be amended.

Its safe passage through parliament is especially important for a government that has been criticised in Brussels over its Brexit strategy and after a series of leaks, one of a letter to companies asking them to support Britain's plans.

"The repeal bill helps deliver the outcome the British people voted for by ending the role of the EU in UK law, but it's also the single most important step we can take to prevent a cliff-edge for people and businesses, because it provides legal cer-



Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May leaves 10 Downing Street in London, on 6 September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

tainty," May said in a statement.

"We've made time for proper parliamentary scrutiny of Brexit legislation, and I look forward to the contributions of MPs (lawmakers) from across the House (of Commons). But that contribution should fit with our shared aim: to help get the best Brexit for Britain."

Her Brexit minister, David Davis, also urged lawmakers to speak out if they felt that any rights were not carried forward

into British law by the bill, a challenge to the main opposition Labour Party which has said it cannot support the legislation without it being amended to better protect workers' rights.

Monday's vote will be a test of May's deal with a small Northern Irish Party to shore up the majority she lost in an election she did not have to call in June. Labour would need to convince EU supporters in May's Conservatives to side with them to

vote down the bill.

Some more vocal pro-EU lawmakers in the Conservative Party have now said they will vote with the government after asking for reassurance that parliament will be able to scrutinise any changes to the law.

"We are not rejecting EU law, but embracing the work done between member states in over forty years of membership and using that solid foundation to build on in the future, once we return to being masters of our own laws," Davis said.

"I hope everyone in this House recognises this bill's essential nature — it is the foundation upon which we will legislate for years to come — and I look forward to working with the whole House to deliver the bill," he said in a statement.

But Chris Leslie, a pro-EU campaigner and Labour lawmaker, questioned whether parliament could trust May and Davis.

"(The bill) will give the executive unparalleled powers to change laws that affect the lives and rights of the British people by the stroke of a ministerial pen," he said.

"For Theresa May and David Davis to ask us to just trust them isn't good enough. I urge MPs from all parties to vote down this shambles of a bill." —Reuters ■

WORLD BRIEFS

Malaysia says foils hijacking of Thai tanker, 10 pirates arrested

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysian authorities thwarted the hijacking of a Thai oil tanker on Thursday and arrested 10 suspected Indonesian pirates on board the ship, a maritime security agency commander said.

A special team from the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) stormed the MT Tanker MGT1, off the coast of the northeastern state of Terengganu, nearly 10 hours after it was reported missing on Wednesday. —Reuters ■

Hong Kong Customs combats counterfeit medicines

HONG KONG — Hong Kong Customs conducted an anti-counterfeit medicines operation on 5 September to 6 September and smashed a syndicate suspected of storing and supplying counterfeit medicines and controlled pharmaceutical products.

Fourteen persons were arrested in the operation which was conducted in Tsing Yi, Kwai Chung, Hung Hom and Wong Tai Sin.

About 2,700 pills of suspected counterfeit medicines and 92,000 pills of suspected controlled medicines were seized with an estimated market value of about 2.05 million Hong Kong dollars (262,215.55 US dollars). —Xinhua ■

Philippine army says two Indonesians rescued from Abu Sayyaf captors

MANILA — Philippine soldiers rescued two Indonesian hostages on Thursday after a firefight that killed five of their Islamist militant captors on a southern island, an army commander said.

Five soldiers were also wounded in the encounter with about 20 members of the Abu Sayyaf group on its stronghold of Jolo in the country's Mindanao region, Brigadier-General Cirilito Sobejana told reporters. —Reuters ■

Germans most afraid of terrorism, secure about finances

BERLIN — Fear of terrorism, political extremism and social tension due to mass migration are Germans' top concerns as they prepare to vote in a federal election, a survey showed on Thursday.

Worries about jobs and the economy have meanwhile fallen to record lows, according to the annual study by insurer R+V.

Having presided over an economic upswing that has boosted wages and created jobs, Chan-

cellor Angela Merkel is widely expected to win a fourth term in the 24 September election.

Some voters from her conservative alliance have however defected to the anti-immigrant Alternative for Germany (AfD) over her decision in 2015 to open Germany's borders to hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing war in Syria and Iraq.

The R+V study showed terrorism remained the top fear, worrying 71 per cent of Germans

compared to 73 per cent last year.

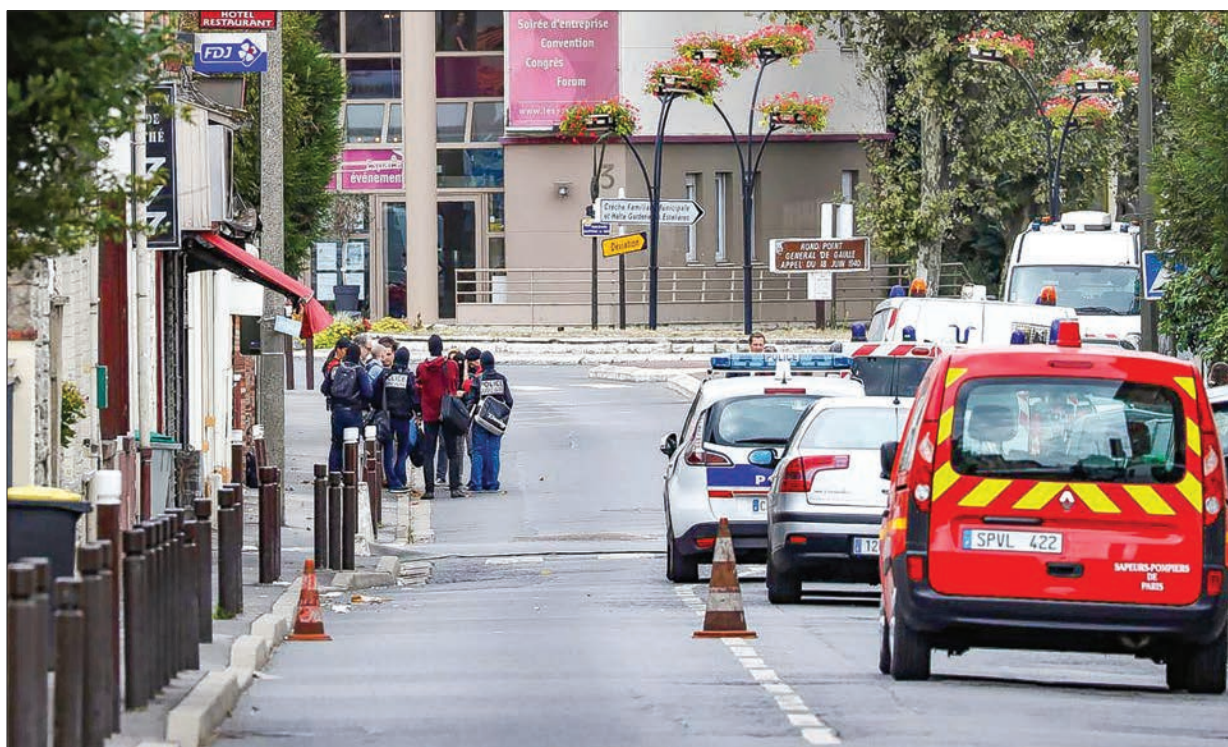
Security officials have said the country should brace for further violence by Islamist militants after it was hit by five attacks in 2016, including one in December on a Berlin Christmas market that killed 12 people.

"The fear of terror attacks is clearly in first place and is at one of the highest levels that has ever been measured," said Brigitte Roemstedt, who heads the R+V Info Centre that surveyed around

2,400 Germans.

Political extremism was the second biggest worry, troubling 62 per cent of Germans compared with 68 per cent last year, while 61 per cent fear that immigration could provoke social tension, down from 67 per cent.

R+V said fear of unemployment and a poor economic situation were at record lows, while concerns about natural disasters and contaminated food had increased. —Reuters ■



French investigators and firefighters are seen during a police operation in Villejuif, near Paris, on 6 September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

French make third arrest in terrorism probe after explosives find

PARIS — French police are questioning three people after a raid where explosive materials were found at a flat near Paris, Interior Minister Gerard Collomb said on Thursday.

Materials used to produce TATP, an explosive often used by suicide bombers, were found at the flat in Villejuif on the southern rim of the French capital on Wednesday after

a plumber contacted police to report suspect activity there.

A third person has been arrested after two were apprehended after the raid, said Collomb, who added that the suspects were being questioned on suspicion of terrorist activity despite talking of a bank heist.

“Those under investigation spoke of wanting

to blow up a bank with the TATP but they way we see it is they have links with terrorism, and this is the channel of investigation,” Collomb told public radio station franceinfo.

That line of inquiry was prompted by information found in telephone communications after the raid, he added.

More than 230 people have been killed by Isla-

mist-inspired attackers in the past three years in France, which along with the United States and other countries are bombing Islamic State bases in Iraq and Syria. TATP, an unstable explosive, has been used by militants in several attacks in western Europe in recent years, including Manchester in May, Brussels in 2016 and Paris in 2015.—Reuters ■

Key to Korean Peninsula issue is sanctions and dialogue: Chinese FM

BEIJING — Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said Thursday that the key to solving the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula is both sanctions and dialogue. Wang made the remarks during a press conference after a meeting with visiting Nepalese Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Krishna Bahadur Mahara.

He said China strongly opposes the nuclear test made by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), which he said violated UN Security Council resolutions. Wang said China supports further moves made by the UN Security

Council on the issue, and China will maintain close coordination with related parties on the basis of objectiveness and fairness. Sanctions are only one half of the key to solving the nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula, and the other half is dialogue, he said, adding that sanctions and dialogue should work together to solve the issue.

He called on the international community to push for the restarting of dialogue and expected all the members of the UN Security Council to maintain unity to reach consensus and send a concerted message on the issue. —Xinhua ■

MSDF says helicopter crash in sea caused by human error

TOKYO — The Maritime Self-Defence Force said Thursday a recent helicopter crash off the coast of northeastern Japan in which three of the four crewmen remain missing was caused by human error. The helicopter plunged into the Sea of Japan off Aomori Prefecture on 26 Au-

gust while crew members were trying to fix an error with the bearing indicators' reading, according to the MSDF's investigation report. The MSDF reached the conclusion based on data from the flight recorder as well as testimony by the rescued crew member. —Kyodo News ■

Indian court jails Mumbai 1993 blasts convict for life

MUMBAI — A court on Thursday jailed for life Abu Salem, convicted of involvement in India's most deadly bombings, a series of blasts in the financial capital that killed 257 people in 1993, television channels said.

The fate of the other four men found guilty of the blasts along with Abu Salem, a prominent member of the group that planned the attack, was not immediately known.

In June, a court had ruled six men, including Abu Salem, guilty of involvement in the blasts that shook Mumbai more than two decades ago, but one died in prison before



Abu Salem (C) is surrounded by policemen as he arrives at a court in the southern Indian city of Hyderabad in 2007. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

sentencing.

Investigators had said the bombs were ordered by India's most wanted man, gangster Dawood Ibrahim, to

avenge the demolition of the historic Babri mosque in north India by Hindu hardliners in 1992, during a period of religious conflict.—Reuters ■

In the matter of the Myanmar Companies Act and MYANMAR VES JOINT VENTURE COMPANY LIMITED [UNDER SECTIONS 203 & 206 (1)]

The Extra-ordinary General Meeting of Myanmar VES Joint Venture Company Limited duly held and convened on 31-8-2017, at 10:00 a.m at No. 66, Kabaraye Pagoda Road, Mayangone Township, Yangon Region, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the following special resolutions were passed.

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

- (1) Resolved that the Company be and is hereby wound up voluntarily under Members' Voluntary Winding up.
- (2) Resolved that U Moe Kyaw (B.Com, C.P.A, D.B.L, ACCA), holder of Citizenship Scrutiny Card No. 12/ Ou Ka Ma (Naing)-056566, Managing Director of Win Thin & Associates Limited, located at Room No. (2B & 2C), Rose Condominium, No. 182/194, 1st Floor, Botahtaung Pogoda Road, Pazundaung Township, Yangon Region, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar be and is hereby appointed as Liquidator of the Company for the purpose of such winding-up and be authorized him to carry on the business of the Company to such extent and for such period as may be necessary for the beneficial winding up thereof and be granted such other powers as may be deemed fit or proper.

By order of the Board,
U Khine Soe Tha
Director
Myanmar Ves joint Venture Company Limited

CORRECTION NOTICE TO NOTICE INVITING OBJECTIONS TO CHANGE OF DISTRIBUTOR

Reference is made to the Notice Inviting Objections to Change of Distributor of DuPont Company (Singapore) Pte Ltd published on page 13 of the Global New Light of Myanmar on 28 August 2017. DuPont Company (Singapore) Pte Ltd hereby informs members of the trade and public that the correct trade name of item No. 2 should read as DuPont™ Curzate M® 8 instead of DuPont™ Curzate M®.

U Nwe Oo, LL.B., MBA, Advocate Reg. No.7320
For DuPont Company (Singapore) Pte Ltd
c/o Tilleke & Gibbins Myanmar Ltd. No. 1608, 16th Floor, Sakura Tower, 339 Bogyoke Aung San Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar.
Email address: myanmar@tilleke.com
Dated: 8th September 2017.

South Korean installs four additional US anti-missile system launchers

SEOUL — South Korea on Thursday installed four additional advanced US missile defence launchers, known as the Terminal High Altitude Area Defence system, to better insure against the escalating threat from North Korea.

"The government provisionally deployed the four remaining THAAD system launchers from the US Forces in South Korea in order to protect people's lives and safety from North Korea's ever-escalating nuclear and missile threats," South Korean Defence Ministry spokesman Moon Sang Gyun said.

The deployment is tentative and a final decision will be made after conducting a full environmental survey into the area in accordance with relevant procedures, Moon added.

The four interceptor launchers brought from the United States were set up in Seongju, south-east of Seoul. Two others were installed there in April and are operational. Earlier this week, a provisional survey into the environmental impact of the THAAD system was completed, paving the way for deployment of the additional launchers at the site, formerly a private golf resort, in North Gyeongsang Province. Clashes occurred throughout



A US military vehicle transports materials for the Terminal High Altitude Area Defence interceptor on 7 September, 2017, in Seongju, southeast of Seoul, amid protest against the installation of four additional launchers there for the advanced US missile defence system. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

the night near the site as some 400 residents of a nearby farming village clashed with police officers during a protest opposing the deployment, according to Yonhap News Agency. The police said some 8,000 officers were sent to the area near the deployment site. Dozens of residents and police officers sustained injuries and were taken to nearby hospitals. Local residents have protested the deployment for fear of becoming primary targets in a North Korean attack. They have also raised concerns over the potential harmful impact of electromagnetic waves from the THAAD's radar on their health as well as agricultural products.

Later in the day, South Korean Defence Minister Song Young Moo said in a statement to the public that the deployment is "an inevitable measure" needed to protect the nation's people from North Korea's military threats.

"North Korea has a large number of mid- and long-range missiles that can pose direct threats to us, and it carried out a high-powered nuclear test on 3 September," Song said.

Ministry spokesman Moon said South Korea is considering holding consultations with "a related country" to discuss specific ways to ease concerns about the THAAD system.

He was apparently referring to China, which

has firmly demanded that South Korea scrap the THAAD deployment. Beijing believes that the advanced defence system's radar enhances the US military's ability to spy on its territory. South Korea and the United States, however, insist the system is solely designed to intercept missiles fired from North Korea. After the announcement by the previous South Korean government last summer that the country would deploy the THAAD system, its relations with China plunged to their worst level in many years, with South Korean businesses there allegedly targeted under what Seoul sees as retaliatory measures by Beijing. —Kyodo News ■

Message from Ms Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO on the occasion of International Literacy Day

Literacy in a digital world

8 September 2017

Digital technologies permeate all spheres of our lives, fundamentally shaping how we live, work, learn and socialize.

These new technologies are opening vast new opportunities to improve our lives and connect globally — but they can also marginalize those who lack the essential skills, like literacy, needed to navigate them.

Traditionally, literacy has been considered a set of reading, writing and counting skills applied in a certain context. Digitally-mediated knowledge societies are changing what it means to be literate, calling for new and higher-level literacy skills. At the same time, in return, technology can work to improve literacy development.

This must be understood in the wider context. Worldwide, 750 million adults today still lack even the most basic literacy skills. Some 264 million children and youth are not benefiting from school education. Furthermore, international surveys show that a large share of adult and youth populations all over the world, including developed countries, are inadequately equipped with the basic digital skills required to function fully in today's societies and workplace. Narrowing this skills gap is an educational and developmental imperative.

Information and communication technologies are creating opportunities to address this challenge. Digital tools can help expand access to learning and improve its quality. They have the power to reach the unreached, improve the monitoring of literacy progress, facilitate skills assessment, and make the management and governance of skills delivery systems more efficient.

To create and seize new opportunities to take forward Sustainable Development Goal 4 on Education and lifelong learning for all, we need collective action. Partnerships between governments, civil society and the private sector are essential today to promote literacy in a digital world. I see the Global Alliance for Literacy within a Lifelong Learning Framework as a model of the concerted efforts we need to advance the global agenda and support national literacy initiatives.

International Literacy Day offers a moment to review the progress and come together to tackle the challenges ahead. This year, the event is devoted to better understanding the type of literacy required in a digital world to build more inclusive, equitable and sustainable societies. Everyone should be able to make the most of the benefits of the new digital age, for human rights, for dialogue and exchange, for more sustainable development.—Irina Bokova

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV KORALIA VOY. NO (774)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KORALIA VOY. NO (774) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT-4 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 MERIDIAN SHIPPING
AGENICES PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV SAN GIOGRIO VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SAN GIOGRIO VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.9.2017 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 MCC TRANSPORT
(S'PORE) PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV EVER ABLE VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EVER ABLE VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.9.2017 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 EVERGREEN SHIPPING
LINE**

Phone No: 2301185

Singapore, Indonesia likely to strengthen cooperation in digital economy, tourism

SINGAPORE — Singapore and Indonesia will likely deepen their cooperation in digital economy and tourism, according to Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and Indonesian President Joko Widodo at a joint press conference on Thursday afternoon.

Lee said he discussed the areas Singapore and Indonesia can deepen bilateral cooperation with Widodo in a “good meeting this morning”, which is part of Singapore-Indonesia Leaders’ Retreat for the 50 years of bilateral relations between the two countries.

He said since last Leaders’ Retreat, many areas of cooperation have been progressing, including investments and skills training, digital economy and initiatives to support regional growth and development in Indonesia.



Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong (3rd L, front) and Indonesian President Joko Widodo (4th L, front) attend a celebration marking the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Singapore and Indonesia at the Singapore's Marina South, on 7 September 2017. PHOTO: XINHUA

“We will continue to enjoy a strong, forward-looking and dynamic relationship,” said the prime minister. “And I look forward to seeing Singa-

pore and Indonesia rise together to greater heights over the next 50 years.”

Widodo said Indonesia and Singapore have overcome challenges of last 50

years, and they will face challenges of next 50 years.

“I am glad that the discussion this morning with Prime Minister Lee was focusing on our coop-

eration ahead, including the development of digital economy,” he said.

Indonesian president said digital economy development is now imperative and will be a priority for Indonesia and Singapore.

“If we can combine the potential of investment, technology with talents, as well as the youth market potential, then digital economy cooperation will make Indonesia as well as Singapore's economy even stronger,” he said.

Widodo added that the two countries agreed to improve cooperation and synergize their comparative attempts in tourism, through developing joint tourism destination, cooperating on operating cruise ships and cruise ship harbor construction, and increasing tourism infrastructure investment. —Xinhua ■

Hurricane Irma kills eight on Saint Martin as it pounds Caribbean

SAN JUAN, (Puerto Rico) — Hurricane Irma killed eight people on the Caribbean island of Saint Martin and also caused devastation on other islands on Thursday as one of the most powerful Atlantic storms in a century took aim at Florida.

Television footage of the Franco-Dutch island of Saint Martin showed a damaged marina with boats tossed into piles, submerged streets and flooded homes.

Power was knocked out there and on Saint Barthelemy.

“It is an enormous disaster, 95 per cent of the island is destroyed, I am in shock,” Daniel Gibbs, chairman of a local council on Saint Martin, told Radio Caribbean International.

French Interior Minister Gerard Collomb said eight were killed and the toll was likely to rise in the coming hours.

“We did not have the time yet to explore all the shores,” Collomb told Franceinfo radio, adding that 23 people were also injured. In all, at least 10 people were reported killed by Irma on four islands.—Reuters ■

Strong solar flare to affect shortwave communications

BEIJING — A strong solar flare may affect short-wave communications on earth, but the disruptions in China will be minor, the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) said Thursday.

According to the CAS

National Space Science Center, an X9.3-class solar flare emitting from a group of sunspots code-named AR 2673 was spotted at 7:53 pm Wednesday.

The sunspots have triggered solar flares more than 10 times since

Sunday and may continue to cause large flares in the following days, CAS said in a statement.

They are the strongest spotted since 2005 and likely to impact earth on Friday night or Saturday, according to CAS.

The flares may also lead to strong disturbances in the earth's magnetosphere, ionosphere and upper atmosphere, and affect the performance and safety of satellites, the statement said.

A solar flare is a vio-

lent explosion in the sun's atmosphere caused by huge magnetic activity.

The flares produce large amounts of radiation that can affect the earth's ionosphere and disrupt radio communications. —Xinhua ■

High-speed passenger train derails in Indian capital

NEW DELHI — A high-speed passenger train derailed in the Indian capital Thursday, railway officials said.

The derailment of Delhi-bound Rajdhani Express from the eastern city of Ranchi took place on Minto bridge around 12:00 pm local time, hours after seven coaches of another passenger train went off the tracks in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh.

However, there have been no casualties in the incident.

“The engine and the

power car are affected. Since the speed of the (Ranchi-Delhi Rajdhani Express) train was very low, there was no injury to any passenger,” Neeraj Sharma, Northern Railways spokesperson, told the media.

Earlier this morning, Shaktikunj Express train derailed near Obra railway station close to Sonbhadra in Uttar Pradesh. However, all the passengers are safe.

This is the sixth incident of train derailment in the past 20 days.

On 29 August, nine

coaches and the engine of Durgam Express derailed near Titwala station, a small town in the western state of Maharashtra. No injuries were reported.

Five people were injured after a passenger train derailed in India's financial capital Mumbai on 25 August.

Similarly on 23 August, over 80 people sustained injuries when Delhi-bound Kaifiyat Express derailed in the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh.

And on 19 August, 14 coaches of Utkal Express

derailed in the same state, killing at least 24 people and injuring over 150 others.

While Chairman of Railway Board A.K. Mittal resigned last month, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi replaced Suresh Prabhu with Piyush Goyal as the Rail Minister earlier this week.

Indian Railways is one of the world's largest train networks, criss-crossing the country from north to south and carrying millions of passengers daily, but its safety record is poor.—Xinhua ■

TRADEMARK CAUTION

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For Greiner Bio-One GmbH

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Email address: myanmar@tilleke.com

Dated: 8th September 2017.

Festival in honour of Democracy Day presents special film in 3-D



A scene in "The Great Myanmar", one of the five films to be shown during Myanmar Democracy Day on 15 September, is based on the history of Buddhism and Buddhist culture in the Bagan era. The film took more than five years to complete. A 3-D version of the film will be shown to Myanmar audiences, while foreigners will see a 2-D version. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**



Ledwinthar Saw Chit.



Kyaw Htet Aung.



Aye Myat Thu.

Kyaw Htet Aung (male lead character)

I was greatly pleased and proud to take part in the film. The story was so excellent that it made me shed tears. At the time when males seldom choose teaching career until now, the film highlights teachers' dedication to the job, with their hobby, Cetana and spirit of sacrifice.

Aye Myat Thu (female lead character)

I like this kind of story featuring the simplicity of actual life. Being a well-known story by the writer Ledwinthar Saw Chit, it put much pressure on me to play as the main character. I never put on makeup during filming, to ensure that I looked like a typical villager, that is, to add verisimilitude.—Khine Zarli ■

"Glittering with Gold in the Sunlight"

The Myanmar Festival held in honour of Democracy Day on 15 September will present special shows on films, music and Myanmar traditional performance troupes called "Anyeint", under the arrangement of the Ministry of Information.

The festival is designed for developing spirits and habits of the democratic society in youths. Among them, the special film "Glittering With Gold in the Sunlight," was shown at the Thamada Cinema at 7 am yesterday.

The film was based on the story "The Gardener the Flower" written by National Literary Award winner Ledwinthar Saw Chit. It was made into a film by director Zaw Myint Oo, as-

sistant director Aung Aw Bar, and script writer Hsu Myet Chai. The production company Mingalar Film Production cast Kyaw Htet Aung and Aye Myat Thu as the main characters.

Here are the thoughts of the original writer, the director and the main characters on the film.

Ledwinthar Saw Chit (original writer of the story)

I created the story based on my personal experience while devoting myself to teaching as a junior assistant teacher. I won then Sarpay Beikman literary award and the National literary award. After translating it into

English in 2005, it was given the ASEAN Literary Award under the name of the "The Gardener the Flower." In the country, the teaching world was dominated by females. Initially, its Myanmar name was "Pan Myaing Le Ga U Yin Hmu," but was renamed "Nay Chi Hma Shwe Yi Laung." The film presents the collective efforts of teachers, students and the people to develop education."

Director Zaw Myint Oo

Apart from some changes to be adapted to changing time, the story similar to the original. It is mainly designed for the sake of the people.

International Day of Democracy
15 September 2017

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(Hluttaw, Nay Pyi Taw 15-9-2017)

Wild bear watching attracts hikers to Hokkaido national park

ASAHIKAWA (Japan) — Hiking through the hills of a national park in Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido has become popular for the opportunity it presents to see wild brown bears in their natural environment.

The hiking route in the Daisetsuzan National Park is open only from late June to early October — and closed when the park's brown bear information center judges conditions too dangerous.

Hikers are allowed to walk the trail without a guide after hearing a lecture about brown bears, including prohibited behaviors such as cooking in the forest, locations where visitors should not eat, and never to leave waste behind.

The 7-kilometer route that takes visitors to ponds in the mountainous area in Kamikawa boasts a high chance of seeing bears in the distance. Since the opening of a supervisory office in 1994, no trouble between human beings and bears has occurred.

"If we keep an adequate distance, we can coexist with them," the center says.

The number of foreign tourists has increased in recent years



Photo taken 3 August 2017, in Kamikawa, Hokkaido, shows foreign tourists watching wild brown bears in their natural environment while hiking through the hills of a national park in Japan's northernmost main island. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

after the route, called Daisetsu Kougen Onsen Spa Numameguri, was introduced by a Lonely Planet travel guidebook.

On one early morning in August, a couple from Germany were excited to see one adult brown bear with a cub eating grass about 200 meters away. Using telescopes, the couple observed the bears which appear to be around 1 to 1.5 meters tall.

"Many of the bears here are gentle in nature and run away soon when being approached," said Hitoshi Yanagisawa, 43, a brown bear information center official.

The area is a popular feeding spot for brown bears because of its moist-

ness and rich vegetation, and around 30 bears are seen there every summer.

Visitors can walk the route from 7 am to 3 pm during the open period. Information center officials patrol the route every day and post information on a notice board in the center about where bears were recently spotted or their footprints found.

According to the Hokkaido prefectural government, 14 incidents involving brown bears were reported throughout the prefecture over the five years through March 2016. In some cases, people were attacked by bears when they entered a forest to collect edible wild plants.

The center plans to analyze its accumulated data on the biology of wild bears and launch an eco tour for visitors seeking to see the animals in the wild.

"I had been thinking bears are scary, but they were so cute when I saw them from a distance. My image of bears has changed," said one visitor. Yanagisawa said, "Bears are smart, and they may understand when and where humans are present and thus do not come forward."

"We can sneak a look at bears' natural behaviors, like sliding down snow-covered hills and swimming in ponds," he smiled.—Kyodo News ■

Nibha Rani Dutta @ Nora Sen Age 74 Years

Mrs. Nibha Rani Dutta @ Nora Sen beloved wife of Mr. B. B Dutta @ U Hla Myint, retired DGM (Finance) of Myanma Sugar Cane Industries, Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation, daughter of late Mr. A.N Sen and Late Mrs. Parul Sen of Mandalay and eldest sister of M/S Sen Brothers' Family of Yangon, Mandalay and Kolkata, India, mother of Ms. Lippy Oliver (USA), U Myint Aung @ Mr. Gautam Dutta, Ms. Moushumi Dutta @ Ma Marlar, mother-in-law of Daw Aye Thida Khin, sister-in-law of Mr. P.K Dutta @ Mr. Buddha Dutta (retired Head Master), Ms. Anjali Dutta and Mr. Milan Dutta of Barasat, Kolkata, India, grand mother of Ms. Brinda Oliver (USA) and Ms. Joya Dutta @ Ma Khin Kyawt Kyawt Aung expired at Alexandria, Virginia, USA at local time: 4:35 am on Sunday 3rd September 2017 and cremated at Alexandria at local time: 1:30 pm on Wednesday, 6th September 2017. Sardh Ceremony shall be performed at Yangon, Myanmar on 15th September 2017 according to the Hindu Religious rites.

Bereaved Family

Six Australian universities ranked in world's top 100

CANBERRA — An international survey has ranked six Australian universities in the world's top 100.

The Times Higher Education (THE) rankings for 2017, released on Wednesday, rated 1,000 institutions from 77 countries and regions on teaching, research, citations, outlook and income.

The University of Melbourne was rated Australia's best - and the 32nd best university in the world - followed by the Australian National University (48), the University of Sydney (61), University of Queensland (65), Monash University (80) and University of New South Wales (85).

All of the Australian universities within the top 100 fell between one and

seven places from last year's ranking with the exception of the University of Melbourne which moved up one place.

China was the biggest-improving nation with two institutions in the top 30 for the first time.

"There are, however, Western nations that appear to be keeping pace with the improvements seen in Asia," Simon Baker, THE's data editor, said on Wednesday.

"Australia, for instance, has recorded an impressive change in average overall score, fuelled by a solid citations and research productivity performance. The country seems to have been held back only by falling reputation scores for its universities." — Xinhua ■



Myanmar International Programme Schedule

(8-9-2017 07:00am -9-9-2017 07:00am) MST

07:03	Am	News
07:26	Am	Unique Pattern Of Myanma Ethnic Group: A Trend Of Chin Traditional Dress
08:03	Am	News
08:27	Am	Kyauk Gu Umin Cave Gu Pha Ya
08:43	Am	Myanmar Masterclass: ARTIST SOE HNIN AUNG
08:53	Am	Ngapali Beach: Fishing Villages
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	A Bike Ride in pursuit of Mural Art (Episode-1)
09:44	Am	Myanmar Traditional Thatched Roofs: Nipa Plam
09:50	Am	The Youth & Library

10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	The Green Corner (Epi-1) Jellyfish
10:34	Am	Creative Hands
10:55	Am	Trishaw Man

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

Prime Time

07:03	Pm	News
07:26	Pm	Tourism development of Bagan
07:42	Pm	Betel Nut Farmer
07:55	Pm	Now in Yangon
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	The Great Po Sein
07:51	Pm	Beach Food Delivery

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

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



Programme Schedule (8-9-2017, Friday)

6:00 Am	◆ Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw	3:15 Pm	◆ Myanmar Series
7:00 Am	◆ Breakfast News	4:35 Pm	◆ World of Innovations
7:35 Am	◆ MRTV Travelogue	5:05 Pm	◆ Health Magazine
8:35 Am	◆ Current Affairs	5:30 Pm	◆ Weekly Sport Info
9:10 Am	◆ Documentary	6:20 Pm	◆ Documentary
9:35 Am	◆ MRTV Worker's Programme	6:45 Pm	◆ Documentary
10:30 Am	◆ Socio Economic Scenes	7:15 Pm	◆ TV Drama Series
11:20 Am	◆ Pyi Thu Ni Ti	7:45 Pm	◆ CHOICE (Part- 8)
12:30 Pm	◆ TV Drama Series	7:50 Pm	◆ Teleplay (YBS)
1:00 Pm	◆ Myanmar Movie (Part-2)	8:00 Pm	◆ News/ International News/ Weather Report
2:10 Pm	◆ TV Drama Series		◆ Documentary
			◆ TV Drama Series

Viet Nam, Indonesia notch dominant wins in U-18 Championships

KyawZin Lin

Viet Nam had a big opening victory in Group B action yesterday when they trounced Brunei by a score of 8-1 on the fourth match day of the AFF Under-18 Championships in Yangon at Thuwunna Stadium.

Viet Nam scored three goals in the first half before adding a flurry of goals after the breather for the lopsided win.

Xuan Tu scored the opening goal for Viet Nam by heading the ball across from Truong Tien Anh at the 15-minute mark.

Viet Nam got its second goal two minutes later from Nguyen Hong Son. Tien Anh scored the third goal for Viet Nam at 24 minutes.

Brunei managed to score a lone goal when Muhammad Nur Asyrafahmi Norsamri capitalised on a defensive mistake at 44 minutes. Tran Van Cong then restored order for Viet Nam, enabling them to take a 3-1 lead going into the second half.

Viet Nam took full control of the game after the break as they pushed Brunei back into their own half before scoring seemingly at will, with goals by



Viet Nam and Brunei players vie for the ball at yesterday's match in Thuwunna Stadium. **PHOTO MFF**

Xuan Tu at 74 minutes, Dang Van Toi at 77 minutes, Nguyen Khac Khiem at 78 minutes and

90 and Mai Hoang at the 89-minute mark.

Indonesia also had a big win

yesterday in Group B, blasting the Philippines 9-0 in the late game at Thuwunna Stadium. ■

MFF negotiates Myanmar-Kyrgyzstan match to be played in Thailand

The Myanmar Football Federation is arranging for the Myanmar-Kyrgyzstan AFC Asian Cup 2019 Final Round Group (A) qualifying match to be played in Thailand, according to a federation official.

"We want to have the match in Thailand. We are also making agreements with officials from Kyrgyzstan Football Federation. But we need to discuss with officials from the Football Association of Thailand to secure the plan", said an official from the MFF.

If the plan goes through, it will make the Myanmar football fans in Thailand happy because there are many Myanmar in Thailand", said one Myanmar fan from Yangon.

The AFC Asian Cup qualifier between Kyrgyzstan and Myanmar in Group A has been postponed, the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) announced on Monday, because of security concerns. —Kyaw Zin Lin ■

Liverpool out to make title statement at Manchester City

LONDON — Liverpool could hardly be in higher spirits as they set out on the short trip to Manchester City on Saturday hoping to make a strong case for their Premier League title prospects.

Pep Guardiola's City and neighbours Manchester United, together with champions Chelsea, have already been installed as the trio most likely to contest the title, but optimism is surging on Merseyside after a free-scoring August.

A 4-0 thrashing of a compliant Arsenal side before the international break means Juergen Klopp's side have seven points from nine during an opening period in which they also safely negotiated a Champions League playoff against Hoffenheim.

What is more, Liverpool's

transfer window business has been hailed as some of the best amongst the leading clubs.

Egyptian forward Mohamed Salah was rated by number-crunchers at the CIES Football Observatory as the bargain of the summer after arriving in a deal worth a reported 36 million pounds (\$47.01 million) from Roma and a goal on his debut plus strikes against Hoffenheim and Arsenal have quickly endeared him to Anfield's faithful.

The deadline-day signing from Arsenal of Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain — a player Klopp believes can become a Liverpool great — adds more firepower to an attack already boasting Sadio Mane and Roberto Firmino and which will soon be further boosted by the

return from injury of Adam Lallana.

The rising stock of midfielder Jordan Henderson, who has captained England twice in the past week, and a superb goal for teenager Ben Woodburn on his Wales debut means the continued uncertainty surrounding Philippe Coutinho and his desire to join Barcelona is a manageable distraction.

No wonder pundits are taking Liverpool seriously.

"I didn't fancy Liverpool before the season started but they've made some decent buys and kept Coutinho which is a boost for them," former Manchester United great Ryan Giggs conceded this week. "After the business they've done I've probably changed my mind and they will be in the mix."

—Reuters ■



Liverpool manager Juergen Klopp. **PHOTO: REUTERS**