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Monday, 11 September 2017

President U Htin Kyaw's colon surgery successful

NAY PYI TAW — 10 September, President U Hti Kyaw left for Bangkok on 8th September 2017 to take necessary medical check-up. A colonic polyp was

discovered in the check-up and underwent surgical operation as required. It was reported that the operation was successful.—Myanmar News Agency



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Local Order issued in Yathedaung Township



Ready to render assitance



"It is a natural that things left behind in the aftermath of the outbreak of fire are taken away by passers-by or people around the place. Every conflict-area usually has some people who breach the law."

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သဒ္ဓါထက်သန် မြန်မာအားမာန် ကမ္ဘောဇဘဏ်

Security personnel and locals provided with cash and food Local Order issued in Yathedaung Township

THE displaced people, security personnel and departmental staff were provided with cash, food and personal goods in Sittway.

The Chairperson of Myanmar Women Affairs Federation and party presented Ks 2 million and relief supplies for the security personnel, departmental staff and local people in Maungtaw Region at the hall of Regional Command in Sittway on 8 September through the commander of Regional Command.

They also provided food, clothes and Ks 500,000 for 313 ethnic people from 96 households sheltering at Mani Yadana Monastery in Sittway and Ks 500,000 for the widows, the two girls who survived the attacks in which their family members were killed and a mother who lost her two sons. Next, they donated cash and food items for the displaced ethnic people at a temporary relief camp in Buthidaung Township today. As many as 234 houses in Thapyaytaw Village were being



burnt down and the villagers fled while security personnel from Region-10 Cedipyin, Buthidaung Township were on the way to the

village for clearance operations at 2:30 pm on 9 September. At least Ks 12 million worth of property lost in the fire. Regarding the violent attacks, General Administration Department in Yathedaung Township released the local order (1/2017) signed by Township Administrator on 10 September.

The local order requested the local people not to hold sticks, swords, arms and explosive devices, not to carry out attack, not to commit arsons and looting and not to circulate false news that could lead to unrests, with the intention of staging violent attacks in Yathedaung Township and to come forward with information to the GAD and security personnel concerned if they found any suspicious activity. Those who are in breach of the existing order shall be taken action in accord with the existing laws. 255 students and 7 teachers from Nantthataung philanthropic center, three staff from Ministry of Education and 101 villagers totaling 366 people from Taungpyo Letwe Township were transported to Maungtaw by six military vehicles and one civilian vehicle. The evacuees arrived at Myoma monastery in Maungtaw at 5:30 pm today. -Information Committee ■

All Myanmar Islamic Religious Organization strongly condemns ARSA terrorist group, urges Muslims to cooperate with authorities concerned for peace and stability

THE All Myanmar Islamic Religious Organization on 9 September announced its stance towards terrorist acts in northern Rakhine and issued special request to Muslims.

In its announcement, it is stated that the AMIRO has never ever accepted terrorism and is totally against it; that the Islamic teachings prevent terrorist acts which are detrimental to innocent people; that it is deeply touched by the plight of families of victims who died due to violence in Rakhine State. The announcement also added that the organization felt very sorry for innocent people who have been displaced and condemned strongly the ARSA extremist terrorist group that committed the violent acts, expressing grave concerns over the government's announcement that the ARSA was preparing for terrorist acts in major cities including Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay.

The government also needs to prevent the online incitements to cause racial and religious conflicts circulated by Facebook and SMA to both communities across the country, said the statement.

In prevention of terrorist acts, the organizations pledged



collaboration with the government, interfaith groups and the public. The statement called for people not to share, believe nor react emotionally to those online instigations and to come forwards with information to authorities concerned if they found any suspicious activities.

The All Myanmar Islam-



ic Religious Organization is comprised of Jamiat Ulama-al Islam (H.Q), The Islamic Religious Affairs Council, The All Myanmar Mawlawi Federation (Central), The Myanmar Muslim Youth (Religious Affairs) Organization and Myanmar Muslim Nation Affairs Organization. —Information Committee ■

Police taking action against perpetrators in Taungdwingyi

ABOUT 50 youths (still under investigation) threw stones at the home of Ko Jenna, goat butchery businessman on Magway-Taungdwingyi road, in Taungdwingyi, Magway Region yesterday late evening. After singing the national anthem, the mob went to the place in Shwekyain Ward 1 where a mosque is located. Police members acting on information guarded the mosques at 8:05 pm.

At about 9 pm, about 70 people holding catapults and stones were at north of the mosque. In addition, about 400 onlookers arrived at the place southeast of the mosque. Security personnel using loudspeakers asked them to disperse again and again. As they did not disperse the security forces broke them up with shields. They left the place at

Police arrested a 30-year-

old stone-thrower of the town. Investigation is under way to expose the other suspects.

At 9:40 pm, Tatmadawmen joined forces with police in conducting security. Police also made reinforcements. Police will take action against those who made agitation to cause disturbances, people are urged to live in peace within the legal framework.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung being welcomed by officials. PHOTO: MNA

Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung returns from Czech Republic

AMYOTHA Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Aye Tha Aung and party who paid a visit to Czech Republic at the invitation of the embassy of Czech Republic, re-

The Deputy Speaker and party were welcomed at Yangon International Airport by Yangon

turned Yangon yesterday at 2:30 Region Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Lin Naing Myint and officials from the Amyotha Hluttaw office.--Myanmar News

Opening Ceremony of Lotte Hotel and Course-Completion Ceremony of the Basic Training **Course for Tourist Guide**

THE Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism, U Ohn Maung attended the opening ceremony of Lotte Hotel, cut the ribbon and opened the hotel at 5:30 pm of 8th September: The hotel consists of 658 rooms and it is the 24th hotel of the Lotte Chain in the world.

On 9 September, the Union Minister attended the course-completion ceremony of tourist guide basic training course and delivered a speech in which he stressed that human resource development is important as the tourism in Myanmar has seen a very rapid development and the tourist guides not to be complacent with the knowledge imparted in the course and continue study for further advanced knowledge as they are supposed to be the ambassador of tourism who are in close relation with the tourists.

Training School for Tourism has been opened since 1992 and 53 training courses has been

completed and produces 9178 tourist guides so far.

Then, the Union Minister proceeded to the Training School for Tourism in Yatha Condominium of Pabedan Township and discussed about human resource development project in Myanmar with representatives of Luxemburg Development (Lux Dev). Afterwards, he continued to Kempinski Hotel Project in Yangon implemented by Prime Residence Co., Ltd and gave some instructions to preserve the original handiworks as much as possible in renovating the existing building which is an ancient edifice. The Union Minister, then attended the 6th Coordination Meeting for successful setting of the Myanmar booth in Jata Tourism Expo 2017 held at the Sule Shangri-La, Yangon and discussed about the matters in relation with the display of Myanmar Tourism elements. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Certificates are presented to trainees. PHOTO: MNA



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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

Yangon Zoo to celebrate 64th birthday of pachyderm Mo Mo next month

YANGON Zoological Garden will hold a birthday celebration for Mo Mo the elephant on 21-22 October to celebrate the animal's 64th, according to yesterday's edition of Myawady Daily.

The celebration will include music performances, animal dance, games and magic shows plus comedy show, said U Myo Kyaw Thu.

Mo Mo was donated to the zoo by U Khoon Sandah from Loikaw of Kayah State in 1961. She has been entertaining her visitors with dances for many years at the zoo. Her special trick is playing the harmonica and shaking her hips to the

U Myo Kyaw Thu said that the zoo hosted nine elephants in the past, including three males and six females. Under an agreement with the Forest Department, three male elephants will be transferred to Yangon's Hlawga Wildlife Park.—GNLM ■



Mo Mo, 64, being seen at Yangon Zoological Garden. **PHOTO:**

Most traffic accidents occur in Yangon's Mingaladon Township

TRAFFIC authorities say that road accident cases have mostly been reported from Mingaladon Township in northernmost part of Yangon because of different reasons, according to the Myawady Daily's Saturday

According to the official fig-

ures of traffic police, Mingaladon Township was ranked first on the list of 1,614 traffic accident cases in Yangon with over 100 cases, followed by Thanlyin Township with over 90 cases.

Traffic authorities are now accelerating road safety activities especially in the areas with highest cases with the hopes to decrease the number of accidents, said one of police member clarified that the deaths and injuries were due to failure to abide by traffic safety rules and regulations by both drivers and

Drivers are urged to follow

the rules to fasten seat belts that prevent ejection from the vehicle during a crash.

Public awareness on traffic rules through educative talks have also been continued in the target areas, sharing road safety knowledge mostly in crowded places in the city.—GNLM ■



Foreigners take part in mountain bike race in Yangon. PHOTO: SIT HMU

Foreigners invited to take part in mountain bike race in Yangon

THE MYANMAR Cycling Federation will organize a mountain bike race in Hlegu Township, northeast of Yangon, on 17 September, a federation spokesperson said

Local and foreign cyclists will compete in a 50-kilometre mountain race starting at 9 a.m. from a basic education

high school in Kyain Ward in Ngasutaung Village. The race will circle back to the starting line after a route that passes Kalihtaw Dam.

The race is open to the public. Successful teams and individuals will be eligible for prices ranging from Ks50,000 to Ks200,000.—Tun Aung Shein ■

Power production of Thakayta gas-fired power plant to launch next year

THE Ministry of Electricity and Energy said it is now implementing the Thakayta power plant in Yangon and the project is expected to be finalised next year, according to the Myawady Daily issued on September 9.

The 106 megawatt gasfired combined cycle power plant is currently being constructed by SEPCO III Electric Power Construction Corp. The ministry made partnership with Union Resources and Engineering Co Ltd (UREC) and Yunnan Energy Investment (YEIG) for the project to fulfill the growing demand of power consumption in Yangon.

According to the estimation, the electricity consumption of the country is likely to

raise three-fold within a decade. Yangon consumes around 50 per cent of total energy produced from entire nation. The city's electricity consumption has reached to 1,300 MW this year. The number is expected to increase to 1,700 MW in 2018.

The ministry concerned is putting up concerted efforts to generate 5,000 MW

by 2021. Other projects being implementing in the country will produce 250 MW in 2018 and further 950 MW by 2021. The ministry and UREC laid a cornerstone to start building a 106 MW Thakayta gas-fired combined cycle power plant in the city last May and power production is expected to start in 2018.—GNLM ■

New school buildings planned in Meiktila

NEW school buildings are planned for Meiktila Township in Mandalay Region in FY 2017-18, according to a region parlia-

mentarian.

The majority of basic education schools are struggling to keep pace with student enrollment.

The new schools will be financed by the Union budget and will include 17 renovated

and new structures. Dangerous and dilapidated schools will be demolished under the plan.— Thein Myint Kyaw (Meiktila)■

BUSINESS



PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

Export value this FY increased by US\$433 million

MYANMAR'S exports so far this fiscal year were worth US\$5.41 billion, an increase of \$433 million compared to the same period last year, according to the Commerce Ministry.

The country's exports depended mainly on extractive industries, including gas, teak and marine products in past years. As natural gas exports have declined, Myanmar's export strategy has become more

dependent on agriculture.

This fiscal year, exports finished industrial goods, such as "cut-make-pack" garments were worth \$2.58 billion, an increase of \$360 million more than last fiscal year, according to the Commerce Ministry.

This sector also absorbed foreign investments of \$1.18 billion by the end of August.

Agriculture exports of \$1.3 billion was the second leading

export sector for Myanmar, including 1.2 million tons of rice and about 800,000 tons of various pulses.

Between 1 April and 1 September, values of import- capital goods, consumer goods and intermediate goods were \$7.67 billion, an increase of \$1.2 billion over last year.

In total, Myanmar has done \$13 billion in trade with a deficit of \$2.26 billion.—Mon Mon ■

Mining Licences for about 5,000 mining precious minerals and metals expires since April

NEARLY 5,000 mines shut down their operation as of end of August in current FY as the licences were due, according to a report of last Friday's edition of City News.

Mining licences for approximately 2,210 precious minerals and metals have expired between 1 April and the end of July. More than 2,560 jewellery mining blocks drew to an end for an expiry of licences, according to the Ministry of Natural Resources and

The aforementioned ministry has already announced no licences will be extended or renewed for mining operations. New licence to extract gemstones will not be granted until by-laws to the Myanmar Gemstones Law have been formulated.

The former mining blocks will be regarded as vacant land. Those mining blocks are located in Khamti in Sagaing Region, Mogok in Mandalay Region and Lonekhin, Environmental Conservation. Mohnyin, Nantyaseik, Mong- expire this month. —GNLM ■

shu and Hpakant in Kachin State.

The ministry has also announced an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for used mining blocks and EMP is to cover all mining sites (approximately 15,000) across the country.

Currently, EMP for mining sites in Lonekhin and Hpakant has been developed.

Licences for more than 300 mining blocks for precious minerals and metals are due to

Myanmar and Japan join hands to export rice snack

MYANMAR and Japan companies are exploring a deal to export rice snacks, according to a report of Myawady Daily, yesterday.

The Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF) and Nishimura Machine Works of Japan discussed the potential business on 8 September.

Nishimura of Japan's Nishimura Machine Works said they will introduce machines to local market to improve rice powder processing.

Rice powder is a com-President Mr. Matoki mon low cost replacement for more expensive wheat products found in prepared snack foods.—GNLM

Real estate agents say market is good

REAL estate professionals said they have seen more business lately, according to yesterday's report of Myawady Daily.

Last year, real estate market cooled down. Market is hoped to keep going in constant

Most of the dealers expect to have great transaction as

only the rental market has a constant stream of customers. The dealers have concern over real estate market which might cool down again, said Ko Maung Maung Naing, real estate agent

Plots of land with a square foot at a price of Ks130,000 are selling. —GNLM ■

GLOBALNEW LIGHTOF MYANMAR

တနစ်ငန္ဓငန္မတိုင်း "Sunday Special" အချစ်ဖို (၈) eາທົ່ງກ່າວໃດຮັດລາ The Global New Light of Myanmar နေ့စဉ်ထုတ် သတင်းစာကို အောက်ပါမြိုများတွင်မှာယူနိုင်ပါပြီ



ပြန်ကြားရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ ရုံးအမှတ်(၇) နေပြည်တော်၊

<mark>ဇေယျာသီရိမြို့န</mark>ယ်၊ စရေပင်လမ်းခွဲ၊ နေပြည်တော် - 0ල්ට පලා වෙර පිට වල

The Global New Light of Myanmar သတင်းဓာတိုက်၊ အမှတ် ၁၅ဝ၊ ငါးထပ်ကြီးဘုရားလမ်း၊ ဗဟန်းမြို့နယ်၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့ ဖုန်း - ၀၁ ၈၆၀၄၅၃၂၊ ၀၉၉၇၄၄၂၄၁၁၄

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အောင်ဇေယျရပ်ကွက်၊ မြို့နယ်အားကစားကွင်းအနီး၊ ကလေးမြူဖုန်း – ၀၇၃၂၂၁၃၃

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NATIONAL 11 SEPTEMBER 2017
THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Ready to render assitance

News Team

SOME houses of Bengali villages and ethnic villages were burnt and damaged by arson attacks of terrorists.

The following is presentation of the interview with Police Brigadier General Thura San Lwin and Maungtaw District Commissioner U Ye Htut.

Q: Please let me know how many villages are in Maungtaw, Buthidaung and Yathedaung areas.

A: Tatmadaw and Myanmar police forces are still clearing the area and it is difficult to get the precise information of the area. The exact list of the damage can be provided after ground survey on how many households in the village, how many houses were burnt and how many were left are made by General Administration Department, Land Record Department, Fire Brigade Department, City Development Department, Border guard police force and Immigration Department which usually collects 3 types of list annually.

Q: It was informed that the ARSA extremist terrorists and Bengalis are doing subversive activities in the burnt area with intent not to be able to put out the fire. Please explain about that information.

A: It is certain that ARSA extremist terrorists and Bengalis were colluding in burning the Bengali villages and ethnic villages. In those incidents improvised bombs exploded. So, we can conclude that the terrorists are resorting to subversive activities at the burnt villages.

Q: Is there still any arson cases up to now since the terrorist activities on 25th August?

A: We find the fire outbreaks everyday while area clearing operation is being carried out. It is found the fire outbreaks become less after the Bengalis have deserted their villages.

Q: Could you please make it clear whether the terrorists burnt the villages or the Bengali villagers burnt their house by themselves and fled?

A: We found in every instances that the terrorists and Bengalis were burning their houses by themselves and fled. According to security forces, when they went on clearing operation to villages the improvised bombs were set to explode and gunfire were heard. Then the houses were seen burning. Then, they fled. The sequence



Police Brig-Gen Thura San Lwin. **PHOTO: MNA**

of the incidents indicate clearly that the terrorists and the collaborators set the fires so as to give the false impression that the security forces were burning the Bengali villages.

Q. Could you explain how the border guard police forces are investigating and exposing the true perpetrators of arsons and how they will be taken action.

A. Concerning this case, we will take action according to the rules.

Q. While the local and foreign journalists are collecting the news at Ale Thankyaw on 7 September, some ethnic villagers were found bringing the materials near Gorduthara village. Please explain about that case.

A. The cases in this context are complicated. There has been no complaint concerning the fire cases. In all fire incidents Bengalis burnt their houses and fled to create the false impression on the fire cases. It can be assumed that the ethnic people having known that the villages had been deserted, went there and took things. We will investigate the cases and take actions seriously on those who breached the law.

Q. Is there any order or instruction not to burn the villages and not to take things from burnt villages. If there is any infringement how it will be dealt?

A. It has already been instructed not to burn the village and take things form the burnt villages. If any breach of law occurs the action will be taken under police Acts or Civil Laws.

Q. If there is anything you want to add, please let us know.

A. We want peace and tranquility as immediately as possible because we are taking security duty in this area. We consider the most important thing for the time being is to coordinate be-



UYe Htut. **PHOTO: MNA**

tween the security forces and the State government to bring the situation under control and back to normal so as to be able to bring the displaced persons including ethnic people and Bengalis who are not connected to terrorist's acts back to their original places and to take care the health and livelihood and to be able to open the schools for the children.

U Ye Htut (Maungtaw District Commissioner)

Q: Could you please let us know how many houses were burnt and damaged by terrorists in Maungtaw and Buthidaung?

A: About 10,000 houses were burnt according to the information collected from the security forces and district administrative offices.

Q: Are all the burnt-out houses owned by ethnics or by Bengalis?

A: Ethnic homes were also included, and so too, the homes of Hindus and Bengalis. Because

of the violence, public homes within the area were also burnt down.

Q: Were there fires in Maungtaw? How much was damaged? How did the fires break out?

A: There were also fires in Maungtaw. When shooting occurred in Maungtaw beginning 25 August, there were fires in Ward 4 and Ward 5. Roughly about 200 and 300 homes were damaged. The detailed list can be conformed only after combined teams conducted field investigation.

Q: We heard that in some incidents, fires could not be put out because of the disturbances of terrorists. In what way they were making disturbances?

A: Fires not just started in a single place. It broke out simultaneously in various places. So we could not cordon the burning areas to put down the fire. We could fight the fire with all available forces only in the accessible areas. It was not easy to fight fire in all places at the same time. As there were shootings, people were afraid to join forces with firefighters.

Q: Please make me clear whether village fires were caused by Bengalis or ethnics.

A: During the 2012 incident 12 ethnic villages were torched. In every incident, we only heard accusations, branding ethnics as the arsonists. Till now, we haven't heard or seen even a single proof. Bengalis terrorists torched the villages, and when security forces came in they ran away and putting the blame on the security personnel through

false information. Terrorists also burnt down homes of their fellow Bengalis who did not cooperate with them. We heard information about terrorist arson attacks against Shidar Ward in Myinlut. During the time there were no security patrols in the area, and even the police outpost there was under armed assault. The village was on fire. No security personnel had reached that point then. And there was not a single ethnic race in the area. There were only Bengalis. They torched the houses and ran away. They did the same thing in other villages. The same happened in the 2016 October crisis. We assume they were just attempting to materialize the biased global accusation on us as the ones who were persecuting the minority Bengalis and burning down their homes.

A: How are you going to expose and take action against the arsonists?

Q: Unfortunately, most of the Bengali villages made no contacts with us during the crisis. We heard fires in some places. Some villages informed about the attacks. In some cases we received information about the number of villages under arson attack though viber group and ward/village administrators. As we have not yet full information from those groups, it is difficult to say the number of villages burnt down. Depending on the security and peace of the respective regions, we will compile an accurate list. Currently, our list is just based on information we received from the villages and security forces.

SEE PAGE 10



Burnt-out homes and a bus seen after terrorists' arson attack. **PHOTO: MNA**

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Donations for displaced persons, fallen security members

SENIOR General Min Aung Hlaing, Commander-in Chief of Defence Services attended the ceremony for presenting 2nd time donation money for the displaced persons due to terrorist attacks, government service personnel, the security forces who were serving for security and defence of the State at the risk of their lives and for the building of border fence held at the Zeyar Thiri Beikman of Yangon Command and delivered a speech.

During the ceremony ks 3.1 billion was donated by Anargat Ahlintan Foundation, ks 633 million by Gate Ways Group of Company ltd, ks 30million by Tripitaka Yanbye Sayadaw and followers, ks 20 million by My-



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing accepting donations. PHOTO: MNA

anmar Economic Holding Ltd (headoffice), ks 18.2 million by Myanmar Economic Corporation and related companies and by two other individuals. Then, ks 100 million was donated by Kythar Co., Ltd, ks 150 million by Rakhine Society from Phakant

region, ks 70 million by Mandalay Rakhine Society, ks 50 million by Miyawin Co., Ltd, ks 15 million by Rakhine Disaster Relief Committee (Yangon) and ks 10 million by Asia World Foundation. Then, ks 10 million was donated by Mytel 4th Communication Co., Ltd, ks 6.3 million by Myanmar Economic Holding Co., Ltd and related 18 companies, ks 5 million each by military officers of 20th batch of Military Academy and families, by Hnalone Hla Myittarshinmyar Foundation, by Myawaddy Bank Ltd and by Copper Mine (Monywa). A total of ks 4.36 billion was received at the ceremony, it is reported.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Flood Bulletin

(Issued at 14:00 hr M.S.T on 10-9-2017)

Flood condition of Sittoung River

According to the (13:30) hrs M.S.T observation today, the water level of Sittoung River has exceeded by about (2) inches at Toungoo above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level during the next (1) day.

Advisiory

It is especially advised to the people who settle near the river bank and low lying areas at Toungoo Township of Sittoung River, to take precaution measure.—Department of Meteorology and Hydrology

Heartfelt voices of ethnic races heard

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye and Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu heard the voices of the minority ethnic races — Mro, Thet, Daingnet, Khamee, Rakhine — and Hindus at General Administration Department in Maungtaw yesterday.

"We are just the minority in Maungtaw region. We are terrorized by the murders of our kith and kin. We are farmers and we wish to return home when everything becomes normal. As we are a minority we want to live in groups. We want establishment of communal villages on the roads where we can live in unit with other ethnic races," said Mros.

"We are one of the minority races of the region. Our village had only over 100 residents. In the surrounding areas live Bengalis numbering in thousands. So we may return home only after security improves to the satisfactory degree," said a Daingnet.

A Thet said, "We will not dare living within the vicinity of terrorists as we are just a minority. That's the reason we left our homes. We hope better security, transport and healthcare. We will dare return home only if there is enough security."

"Of the 108 persons of the 23 households of Khamongseik Hindu village, 96 are still missing. Terrorists captured and took



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye and Chief Minister U Nyi Pu hear heartfelt voices of minority ethnic races. **PHOTO: MNA**

six women and three children to Bangladesh. While on the way Hindu women were raped. The terrorists threatened the women's Hindu husbands into telling at video interview that their wives were killed by Rakhines. The video clip is posted on the social network. Now, they are saved by a Hindu religious leader in Bangladesh. We knew this through the telephone conversation with him. Of the over 600 Hindus of Ohhtaing village, 495 are taking refuge in Kutupalong village in Bangladesh. We know this from a phone conversation with them. But 144 are missing.

So we like to ask necessary action to save the missing Hindus,"

Ethnic Rakhines said, "Terrorist plant mines along the roads. We have witnessed arson attacks in Maungtaw. The town security must be tightened. As minority ethnic races are afraig to live in their villages their left their home. No one wants to leave the native land. So, sufficient security is required."

Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye thanked the ethnic peoples for their heartfelt voices. He said "the Union government and the state government are doing their best. The government is applying practical efforts in prioritizing the internal peace and the affairs of the national races. The government is providing humanitarian aids equally to every victim without any discrimination. We are now coordinating with minority races for the security of Maungtaw region. The government continues prioritizing long-term progress of health, education and transport of the ethnic peoples."

He then presented K 7.1 million to 3586 displaced minority races living at the gathering points in Maungtaw. At the No 2 post primary school, he con-

soled the displaced Hindus and presented snacks and toys for children.

In Buthidaung in the afternoon, the Union minister, the chief minister and party heard the voices of minority ethnic Khamee, Mro, Daingnet, Rakhine races and Hindus who fled their homes due to ARSA terrorist attacks.

Most of the ethnics said, "Local natives and Daingnets, Thets, Mros, Khamees and Kayins and Hindus are minorities. We all are facing the terrorists attacks of the majority Bengalis of the area. We are terribly frightened by the terrorists' brutal attacks and murders on us. We are now troubling with fear. Although there is security we are still worried."

The Union minister and party presented K 4.6 million to 2329 minority races living in Buthidaung. In the evening they sought counsel from the abbot monk of Maniyadana monastery in Sittway. After consoling the displaced persons there, they observed mental healthcare for the victims and child parks and child mental healing measures of the Social Welfare Department. They also provided aids for the expected mothers, mothers, the disabled and children under two.

They also provided K 10.7 million for 5365 displaced ethnic races.—Myanmar News Agency ■

OPINION

Every individual can become a grain of sand in Nation Building!

Khin Maung Oo

NOBODY hesitates to give his personal possession of little value or a tiny part of a relatively small amount of expensive things to others. Yet, when it comes to sharing a valuable thing or knowledge, they act contrariwise. This can be said to be ambivalent attitudes existing in man. In other words, contradictions are always fighting inside us. Even a stingy person has a modicum of generosity in him but he becomes a mean one as he cannot get rid of his stinginess. As said above, something shared may be a thing or knowledge or idea.

As regards sharing, Ashin Canda Dika (Shwe Paramitawya) highlighted the meaning and benefits of sharing in the sermon he delivered at the Suvana Bhumi Sasana Bimman, Thaton on 6 August 2017. At the merit sharing ceremony, he said "Sharing is the Spirit of the Buddha-to-be, Sumeda the Hermit. Though He could have gained Nivirna in a moment for His own sake only, He made a solemn vow to attain Buddhahood to save uncountable numbers of beings, by fulfilling the paramis for many, many eons. After becoming the Enlightened Buddha, He preached sermons for 45 years, with the spirit of sharing."

In the opening address at the ceremony, Mahn Win Khaing Than, Patron of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw said, "Sharing can get rid of the vicious circle. Donation is not performed out of poverty and failure to donate begets poverty." It is quite right in saying so. Many people are reluctant to share their possessions or knowledge with others for fear that their belongings will be reduced or some who will receive

their knowledge or advice will supersede them if they share. Had every one had such an attitude, we would not be living under the current situations.

Our country is a country which abounds with needy persons. Some lack food, some clothing, some employment, some advice, some peace and stability, some education, some technology, some health and some loving-kindness. Provided that these necessities can be fulfilled, our environment will be peaceful and we will be very pleased at the sight of them. It is necessary for all of us to develop

the attitude already conceived in our minds. We will never ever go bankrupt by sharing our wealth with others. And we need not abandon all our properties. The Sayadaw guides us how to cultivate the practice of sharing and with whom we must share. If we need help we must take assistance and aid from others, on one condition that we are required to share wealth and possessions with other when we have wealth and things in our possession. By doing so, every individual can become a block of brick or a grain of sand in building up our nation. ■

Hurricanes & Storms: Effects of Irreversible Climate Change

Sea, Harvey began to weaken

By San Shwe Aung

(Continued from 4-9-2017)

Facts about 2005 Hurricane **Katrina**

- 1. Hurricane Katrina was the largest and 3rd strongest hurricane ever recorded to make landfall in the US.
- In New Orleans, Katrina peaked at a Category 5 hurricane, with winds up to 175 mph.
- The final death toll was at 1,836, primarily from Louisiana (1,577) and Mississippi (238). More than half of these victims were senior citizens.
- The storm surge from Katrina was 20-ft (six meters) high.
- 705 people are reported as still missing as a result of Hurricane Katrina.
- Hurricane Katrina affected over 15 million people in different ways varying from having to evacuate their homes, rising gas prices, and the economy suffering.
- An estimated 80% of New Orleans was under water, up to 20 ft deep in places.
- Hurricane Katrina caused \$81 billion in property damages, but it is estimated that the total economic impact in Louisiana and Mississippi may exceed \$150 billion, earning the title of costliest hurricane ever in US history.
- Hurricane Katrina impacted about 90,000 square miles.
- 10. The region affected by the storm supported roughly 1 million non-farm jobs, and still, hundreds of thousands

- of local residents were left unemployed by the hurricane.
- 11. More than 70 countries pledged monetary donations or other assistance after the hurricane. Kuwait made the largest single pledge of \$500 million, but Qatar, India, China, Pakistan and Bangladesh made very large donations as well.

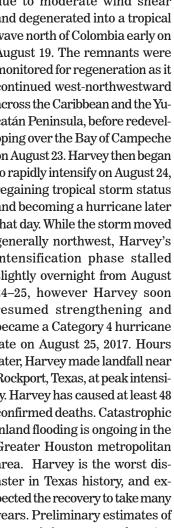
Hurricane Harvey (2017)

Hurricane Harvey was the first major hurricane to make landfall in the United States since Hurricane Katrina in 2005, ending a record 12-year period with no hurricanes of Category 3 intensity or higher making landfall in the United States. In a four-day period, many areas received more than 40 inches (1,000 mm) of rain as the system moved from here and there over eastern Texas and adjacent waters, causing catastrophic flooding. With peak accumulations of 51.88 in (1,318 mm), Harvey is the wettest tropical cyclone on record in the United States. The resulting floods inundated hundreds of thousands of homes, displaced more than 30,000 people, and prompted more than 13,000 rescues. Harvey is the first major hurricane of the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season. Harvey developed from a tropical wave to the east of the Lesser Antilles, reaching tropical storm status on August 17. The storm crossed through the Windward Islands on the following day, passing just south of Barbados and later near Saint Vincent. Upon entering the Caribbean

due to moderate wind shear and degenerated into a tropical wave north of Colombia early on August 19. The remnants were monitored for regeneration as it continued west-northwestward across the Caribbean and the Yucatán Peninsula, before redeveloping over the Bay of Campeche on August 23. Harvey then began to rapidly intensify on August 24, regaining tropical storm status and becoming a hurricane later that day. While the storm moved generally northwest, Harvey's intensification phase stalled slightly overnight from August 24-25, however Harvey soon resumed strengthening and became a Category 4 hurricane late on August 25, 2017. Hours later, Harvey made landfall near Rockport, Texas, at peak intensity. Harvey has caused at least 48 confirmed deaths. Catastrophic inland flooding is ongoing in the Greater Houston metropolitan area. Harvey is the worst disaster in Texas history, and expected the recovery to take many years. Preliminary estimates of economic losses range from \$10 billion to \$160 billion.

Texas & Louisiana

Throughout Texas, more than 300,000 people were left without electricity and billions of dollars of property damage was sustained. By August 29, approximately 13,000 people had been rescued across the state while an estimated 30,000 were displaced. More than 48,700 homes were affected by Harvey throughout the state, including over 1,000 that were completely



Safety stated more than 185,000 homes were damaged and 9,000 destroyed. Heavy rainfall extended eastward into Louisiana, with the state recording up to 14.88 in (37.8 cm) of precipitation, water reached 4 ft (1.2 m) in height, with homes flooded and hundreds of people forced to evacuate in one neighborhood alone. The Louisiana National Guard prepared about 500,000 sandbags and emergency boats and high-water-rescue vehicles were placed on standby should flooding occur. Many locations in the Houston metropolitan area observed at least 30 in (76 cm) of precipitation. This makes Harvey the wettest tropical cy-

Effects of Climate change

the United States.

The Gulf of Mexico is known for hurricanes in August, so their incidence alone cannot be at-

clone on record for Texas, and

tributed to global warming, but the warming climate does influence certain attributes of storms. Studies in this regard show that storms tend to intensify rapidly prior to landfall. Weather events are due to multiple factors, and so cannot be said to be caused by one precondition, but climate change affects aspects of extreme events, and very likely worsened some of the impacts of Harvey. The World Meteorological Organization stated that the quantity of rainfall from Harvey had very likely been increased by climate change. The relationship between climate change and the frequency of hurricanes (or tropical cyclones) is still unclear, and is the subject of continuing research. Harvey approached Houston over sea-surface waters which were significantly above average temperatures. Warm waters provide the main source of energy for hurricanes, and increased ocean heat can result in storms being larger, more intense and longer lasting, in particular bringing greatly in-

creased rainfall.



Hurricane Harvey (2017).

destroyed and more than 17,000

that sustained major damage;

approximately 32,000 sustained

minor damage. Nearly 700 busi-

nesses were damaged as well.

Texas Department of Public

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Five more small airports planned to build in Chin State after Falam Airport project

CHIN State government plans to construct five more small-sized airports in towns of Chin State after completion of the current implementing Falam Airport project, according to the Myawady Daily.

With the use of not only the region's development funds but the assistance of non-governmental organisations, the state authorities have an idea to develop those airports in Hakha, Htantalan, Tedim, Paletwa plus one other for the purpose of promoting the state's smokeless industry by increasing transportation facilities.

At the present time, the five-year project on constructing an airport near Falam Town has been implemented since early this year and it is estimated to be completed by 2020-2021 fiscal year. Upon completion of the project, a runway 6,000 feet long and 100 feet wide will be constructed to be able to accondate aircraft of ART-72 size.

The government estimated to spend Ks25 billion for the project, in which, Ks2.9 billion were spent so far. Chin State lags behind other states because of poor access and it was off-limits to international tour-

ists in the past. After the project is completed, people can easily visit to northern towns of the state as well as Kalay Town of Sagaing Region and Gangaw Town of Magway Region.

Chin State, a mountainous region with limited transport options, is situated in the west part of the country that shares borders with Rakhine State in the south, Sagaing Division and Magway Division in the east, the Indian state of Manipur in the north, the Indian state of Mizoram in the west and Bangladesh in the southwest.—GNLM ■

Municipal markets to be built in three different towns in Chin State

MUNICIPAL markets are planned to be built in three different towns in Chin State with plans to open them in early 2018, according to the state's development committee.

According to the Myawady Daily issued on Saturday, the municipal authorities will spend Ks1.5 billion on constructing those markets in those towns, planning to spend Ks6 billion for market in Hakha Town, Ks5 billion for Mindat market and Ks4 billon for Paletwa town.

The new scheme was approved after the meeting with 50 shop owners and officials from the Chin State Development Committee. An invitation to tender will officially be announced very soon and the tender winner has to start the project within this month. The implementing of new and big markets in the state is a part of development plan of the state government to increase urban facilities for the growing populations in the towns, an official of

the aforementioned committee said

For the time being, Mindat Myoma Market has been built in the target area with the use of the special funds of the President while arrangements are being made to upgrade the existing Myoma Market in Pyidawtha Ward in Hakha. Plans are underway to move shopkeepers to new place near a sport ground to operate their businesses during the project.—GNLM

Watermelon prices rise in domestic market



Farmers loading a bullock cart with watermelons. **PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE**

WATERMELONS are being sold, according to a report of the Myawady Daily issued on Sunday.

A Taiwan watermelon is currently worth between Ks1,500 and 3,500, said Nyein Nyein Phyo, a wholesaler from Yangon's Thirimingala Market.

Trade at Muse, Myanmar's main land port of entry into China, drives watermelon demand.

Domestic demand is focused on Thirimingala Market, which sells watermelons shipped from Meiktila and Thazi.

Watermelons are cultivated throughout the country, except in Kayah and Chin states. The country commercially cultivates non-native species of watermelon including Taiwan and Thailand varieties.

—GNLM ■

Hurricanes&Storms:Effects of Irreversible Climate Change

FROM PAGE 8

The recent increases in activity are linked, in part, to higher sea surface temperatures in the region that Atlantic hurricanes form in and move through. Numerous factors have been shown to influence these local sea surface temperatures, including natural variability, human-induced emissions of heat-trapping gases, and pollution. Warmer air can hold more water vapour, in accordance with the Clausius-Clapeyron relation, and there has been a global increase of daily rainfall records. Regional sea surface temperatures

around Houston have risen around 0.5° C (0.9° F) in recent decades, which caused a 3–5% increase in moisture in the atmosphere. This had the effect of allowing Harvey to strengthen more than expected. The water temperature of the Gulf of Mexico was above average for this time of the year, and likely to be a factor in Harvey's impact. The slow movement of Harvey over Texas allowed the storm to drop prolonged heavy rains on the state, as has also happened with earlier storms. Harvey's stalled position was due to weak prevailing winds linked to a greatly expanded subtropical high pressure sys-

tem over much of the US at the time, which had pushed the jet stream to the north. Research and model simulations have indicated an association between this pattern and human-caused climate change. Another human-caused effect is due to oil extractions in-land and off shore too. In addition ground water extraction for human use for drinking and economic purposes has caused ground subsiding. Sea level rise along the coast has combined the effects of global warming with subsidence mainly caused by extraction of oil and groundwater for water supplies, resulting in a sea level rise of 6 inches (15

cm) in recent decade.

Political Will

There are several high level international conferences being held in recent years among the countries to deliberate to curb the negative effects & impact on the climate change. Some climate change meetings were attended by many heads of governments & states. Scientists' warnings & advice on global warming and climate change are theoretically and generally accepted by world leaders but the universal agreement to curb CO2 emission, for example, are hard to materialize. Unless all world leaders have strong political will and commitment to save the world from severe weather patterns, storms, hurricanes, flooding, sea level rise, we people of the world will continue to encounter and suffer from grave impact of Irreversible Global Climate Change. Therefore one of the most important preparations in current time is "Planning for Disaster Risk Reduction", which must be an integral component of all socio-economic sectors of all nations in the world.

Reference: https://en.wiki-pedia.org/

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

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

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Officials pose for documentary photo. PHOTO: MNA

Opening ceremony of Taunggyi power station held

OPENING ceremony of Taunggyi power station was held yesterday morning supervised by Ministry of Electricity and En-

At the ceremony, U Win Khaing, Union Minister for Construction and Electricity and Energy said that to distribute enough power supply to the townships in Taunggyi District, Taunggyi power station, 132/66/11KV, (2x50) MVA was constructed in November, 2015 and Kalaw-Pin Pat 132KV power station was constructed in October, 2016. After constructed the power stations, Taunggyi power station distributed electricity to the townships of the district in April 2017. Kalaw-Pin Pat 132KV power station also distributed to the townships of Taunggyi District. Development

of Small and Medium enterprises (SME), development of tourism and development of social economy of local people are expected to grow as the enough power supply is distributed in Taunggyi District.

Government is implementing short terms and long terms plans to distribute 5000 MW electricity supply in 2021, generating from various energy sources, hydropower, natural gas, wind energy, solar energy and coal energy.

Government used substantial amount of budgets to maintain operating power supply projects and to finish ongoing projects of constructing power stations and power lines. Ministry of Electricity and Energy is also trying to finish ongoing projects in time. Public are also expected to cooperate in maintaining projects of the power station.

Shan State Chief Minister Dr Lin Htut explained that the aim of opening Taunggyi power station is for the development of Shan State. Then, a representative of local residents gave words of thank.

Union Minister U Win Khaing, State Minister Dr Lin Htut, U Swe Thein, member of Shan State government and State Minister of Electricity and Energy, Deputy Commander of Eastern Command Brigadier-General Win Zaw Moe, Shan State Attorney General U Kyal Kyal and Pyithu Hluttaw representative Dr Daw Than Ngwe opened the Taunggyi power station by cutting ribbon.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Ministry provides financial assistance for displaced persons

A MINISTRY of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement official presented aid yesterday for education and food for displaced people from Maungtaw, Rakhine State currently staying at relief camps in Yathedaung Township.

At a relief camp in a converted high school Yathedaung, Ministry Director General Dr. Ko Ko Naing consoling families staying there and provided elderly people with cash and other assistance. "We are providing financial aid from the public donated funds for students to buy school uniforms and exercise books. As for the food provisions, we used our own funds," he said.

"There are over 800 displaced persons who fled Maungtaw region for Yathedaung. Most of them are Daingnets living in Taungpaw, Nyaungchaung and Theintaungpyin village," said a Yathedaung Township administrator. "We are providing full assistance for the daily food and health requirements. We are now making plans for their children to pursue education."

"I fled from Theintaungpyin village," said Daingnet Daw Phyu Tha Nu, a displaced person taking refuge at Zaytitaung monastery. "We get enough food, accommodation and security here. I dispense metta for all those who are helping us. But I long for my home. Please restore peace and stability soonest as we wish a family reunion." —Min Htet Aung ■



An official presents cash to a victim. **PHOTO: MAUNG THWIN**

Ready to render assitance

FROM PAGE 6

Q: Are fires still blazing across the area since terrorist attacks broke out on 25 August?

A: The international media is accusing us in connection with the issue. As there are continuous actions we are trying to put the area under security control, put down the fires and collect data through the help of security personnel. Terrorists are committing arson attacks in tricking the international community into putting the blame on security forces. The terrorists were trying to put the blame on security forces operating in the area.

Q: Some foreign media quoted internal and international media as witnessing the taking away of property by ethnics from some burning houses while gathering news in Gawduthara village on 7 September: Please elaborate.

A: In trying to stabilize the security situation, on 26 August the district police officer announced the abandonment of the area where fires are still taking place. The announcement has been relayed to the villages through the viber group. As a government staff discharging duties this is the first time I have heard that Internal and international media were collecting news at the village. BBC had made this accusation on its news post. Without any firm proof you can't accuse anyone of arson attack. When the media groups came back they told us that they heard gunfire and arson attacks at Gawduthara village while collecting information in Alethankyaw village. But they got near Gawduthara village only two hours after the sound of gunfire came out. So, we draw conclusion that

the people they met with in the village cannot be the arsonists. It could be that some nearby people or some passersby took some items from the abandoned burning homes.

Every crisis comes together with lawless actions. We will take action if the accusation presented to us has firm evidence. Some media gave us photos. We will look into the matter. We are trying to stabilize the area so that we can be able to investigate the accusations closely. When there is the rule of law and normal administrative machinery there will be effective legal actions.

Q: What is your resettlement plan in connection with the firehit homes? When can you start your resettlement program?

A: Currently we are at the stage of putting the regional security under control. We have been setting up gathering points within the security zones where food safety is prioritized. If everything becomes normal again, we will implement the resettlement program though the combine teams formed with district and township level officials and the public.

Q: Anything more to explain? A: Of the crises in Maungtaw in 2012, 2016 and 2017, 2016 is an internationally known crisis. But the incident on 25 August this year is more severe than it. In fact, this incident is based on the one happened in 2012. In 2016, sovereignty was threatened. The attack on the forces taking security duties in this area cannot be carried out without an advanced plan. The synchronized attacks on 30 outposts which are graver than the 2016 incident are an extraordinary issue. The State after denouncing them as a terrorist group should decisively crush them. Security forces and regional officials are making co-

operative efforts daily in connec-

tion with the matter. As for legal actions, directives have already been issued. As we have already distributed all necessary information in all the rank and file we believe that all the security members are doing their work within the legal framework. Local people must stay away from getting involved with or abetting terrorists by cooperating with us. Regional peace, stability and security cannot be restored by the security forces alone. The quickest way is through the involvement of the entire regional people. I would request the people to contact the security forces and take all the contact numbers. There are nearby hotlines where people can ask help in connection with security or food requirements in their areas. We are trying to govern the region to the best of our ability within the legal framework. We are ready to render assistance if there is any difficulty. ■

REGIONAL



India's Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan speaks on phone during an interview with Reuters in New Delhi, India, on 5 May 2016. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

India renegotiates LNG deal with Exxon — oil minister

NEW DELHI — India has renegotiated the pricing of liquefied natural gas (LNG) imported from Australia's Gorgon project to make the imported fuel affordable to price-sensitive domestic customers, oil minister Dharmendra Pradhan said on Saturday.

India has been trying to leverage its position as one of the biggest energy consumers to strike better bargains for its companies. In 2015 it renegotiated the LNG pricing formula with Qatar's Rasgas to buy the gas at half the original price.

"Indian customers will receive (Gorgon) LNG volumes at an amicable price soon. This is done in a similar way to what we did with LNG from Qatar,"

Pradhan said in a tweet.

India's top gas importer Petronet LNG signed a deal in 2009 with Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM.N) to buy 1.5 million tonnes of LNG annually from Gorgon for 20 years. At that time Petronet agreed to buy LNG at a cost equivalent to 14.5 per cent of the oil price and to pay for the shipping freight as well.

Supplies under the deal began from January 2017, with the landed price of gas costing about \$11-\$13 per million British thermal units (mmBtu), almost double that of Asian spot LNG prices.

The Gorgon gas prices are now linked to about 13-13.5 per cent of the global oil price on a delivered basis, two sources with knowledge of the negotiation said.

Renegotiation of the deal also shows how softening oil prices and a global supply glut are forcing LNG exporters to offer better deals to retain their share in global energy markets.

India wants to gradually move to a gas-based economy and aims to double the cleaner fuel's share in its energy mix to 15 per cent in the next few years.

Petronet's managing director Prabhat Singh declined comment and Pradhan did not specify changes in the pricing formula.

"Happy to share good news that India has, yet again, been able to address the long-term price issue of LNG from Gorgon to suit Indian market," Pradhan said in a tweet.— Reuters ■

North Korean leader calls for stronger nuclear deterrence

BEIJING — North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has attended a special banquet for the scientists involved in what he called the "perfect success" of a hydrogen bomb test a week ago and ordered them to further help strengthen the country's nuclear deterrence, its official media said Sunday.

At the event in Pyongyang, Kim instructed them to advance "scientific researches for bolstering up the nuclear deterrence of self-defense," according to the Korean Central News Agency.

It is unknown when the banquet was organized.

Kim is also quoted as saying the sixth nuclear test is "the great victory won by the Korean people at the cost of their blood while tightening their belts in the arduous period."

His remarks, suggesting North Korea has no plans to halt its arms development, come as the international community is ramping up pressure in the wake of the country's 3 September nuclear test, its most powerful ever.

On Monday, the UN Security Council is scheduled to vote on a resolution toughening sanctions on North Korea.

For congratulating the nuclear scientists and technicians, North Korea separately organized a large-scale concert, which was also attended by Kim, as well as his wife Ri Sol Ju and numerous senior officials, according to KCNA.

—Kyodo News

Mumbai airport evacuated in mock drill

MUMBAI — Terminal 2 of Mumbai Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport was evacuated due to "security reasons" in a mock drill on Sunday.

"All passengers including those have boarded are required to go through security check again. Shuttle buses are lining up on parking apron, taking them back to the terminal building. Massive flights are delayed hence," a passenger at the airport told Xinhua.

A picture tweeted shows a

screen at one check-in counter, reading "due to security reasons, terminal building requires evacuation. Passengers and staff members are requested to follow directions and reach respective safe assembly."

An anonymous member of an airline told Xinhua that "it's just a mock drill rehearsal they are carrying out and that's why they have closed the airport."

But the reason for the drill has not been disclosed yet.

— Xinhua ■



Passengers gesture, as a cat sits near a window, in a train cat cafe, held on a local train to bring awareness to the culling of stray cats, in Ogaki, Gifu Prefecture, Japan, on 10 September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Cats on a train! Japan railway lets felines roam to raise awareness of strays

OGAKI, (Japan) — A Japanese civic group teamed up with a railway operator on Sunday to let some 30 cats roam on a local train at an event, hoping it will raise awareness of the culling of stray cats.

Passengers on a local train in Ogaki, in central Japan, were greeted by meowing companions on a moving train, where some passengers mingled with the felines while others enjoyed lunch.

"I think it's great more people are aware about stray kittens through events like this," said Mikiko Hayashi, a passenger from western Japan, who owns two cats that were strays. The event was hosted by Yoro Railway Co Ltd and a non-governmental organization called Kitten Cafe Sanctuary.

The number of cats in Japan admitted to shelters has dropped by around 70 per cent to 72,624 in 2016 from 237,246 in 2004. That has reduced the number of cats culled from 238,929 in 2004 to 45,574 in 2016. The cat population in Japan is around 9.8 million.

— Reuters

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Women hug while standing next to a destroyed house after an earthquake struck the southern coast of Mexico late on Thursday, in Union Hidalgo, Mexico, on 9 September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Mexican quake death toll rises to 90 as Oaxaca reports more fatalities

MEXICO CITY — The death toll from the massive earthquake that struck Mexico on Thursday night has risen to at least 90 after emergency services in the southern state of Oaxaca said late on Saturday there had been 71 confirmed fatalities in the state alone.

"It's 71 (dead). Just for Oaxaca," said Jesus Gonzalez, a spokesman for the state civil protection authority.

At least 15 people died in the neighboring state of Chiapas, according to local authorities, while another four deaths have also been confirmed in the state of Tabasco to the north.

The 8.1 magnitude quake that struck off the coast of Chiapas on Thursday was stronger than a devastating 1985 temblor that flattened swathes of Mexico City and killed thousands.

Relief efforts in the south continued through Saturday, with many of the people worst affected still wary of returning indoors to weakened buildings, fearing they could be brought down by ongoing aftershocks.—Reuters

NATO's Stoltenberg says North Korea's 'reckless behaviour' requires global response

LONDON — North Korea's "reckless behaviour" is a global threat and requires a global response, the head of the NATO military alliance said on Sunday.

NATO has not been directly involved in the crisis, which saw Pyongyang carry out its sixth and most powerful nuclear test a week ago, but has repeatedly called on North Korea to abandon its nuclear and ballistic missile programmes.

"The reckless behaviour of North Korea is a global threat and requires a global response and that of course also includes NATO," NATO head Jens Stoltenberg said in an interview with BBC television.

Asked whether an attack on the US Pacific territory of Guam

would trigger NATO's Article 5, which requires each member of the alliance to come to the defence of any other, Stoltenberg said: "I will not speculate about whether Article 5 will be applied in such a situation."

"We are now totally focused on how can we contribute to a peaceful solution of the conflict," he said.

"There is no easy way out of this difficult situation, but at the same time we have to ... continue to work for political solution, continue to press also the economic sanctions."

The United States and its allies had been bracing for another long-range missile launch in time for the 69th anniversary of North Korea's founding on Saturday, but no fresh provocations were spotted while the North held numerous events to mark the holiday.

Throughout last week, South Korean officials had warned the North could launch another intercontinental ballistic missile in defiance of UN sanctions and amid escalating tensions with the United States.

British defence minister Michael Fallon also told the BBC he was very concerned about the situation.

"We are doing now what we can to bring about a diplomatic solution, what we have to avoid at all costs is this spilling over in to any kind of military conflict," he said.

"The US is fully entitled to



NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg listens to French NATO eFP battle group soldiers in Tapa military base, Estonia, on 6 September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

defend its own territory, to defend its bases and to look after its people but this involves us, London is closer to North Korea and its missiles than Los Angeles."

Fallon said he did not believe North Korea currently had a missile capable of hitting London but said the missile programme was accelerating and their range was getting "longer and longer".

"We have to get this programme halted because the dangers now of miscalculation, of some accident triggering a response are extremely great," he said.—Reuters ■

Philippine leader says 'no way' he'll do deal with Islamist rebels

MANILA — Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte on Saturday ruled out the possibility of allowing Islamic State-linked militants to flee a southern city in exchange for the release of dozens of hostages.

The militants seized large parts of Marawi City on the island of Mindanao in May, and a hardcore of fighters has held out through more than 100 days of air strikes and ground attacks by troops.

"No way," Duterte told reporters when asked about a rumor that one rebel leader, Omarkhayam Maute, had proposed releasing hostages in exchange for the safe exit of the militants.

Pockets of fighters remain in the ruins of the heart of a city devastated by artillery and bombings, in an occupation that has alarmed the region about the possibility of Islamic State, on the back foot in Iraq and Syria, making a new home in the southern Philippines.

The military has launched its final push to retake Marawi, and is coming under heavy fire from gunmen as troops try to secure buildings and navigate through mines and booby-traps.

The military estimates about 20 to 30 hostages are being held, some of whom it says were forced to take up arms against government troops.

"If I can save one life there, I am willing to wait one year (to retake the city)" Duterte said of the hostages, after visiting wounded soldiers in Cagayan de Oro, a few hours away from Marawi.

Martial law has been imposed in Mindanao, an island of 22 million people, until the end of the year, to allow the military to break up an alliance of pro-Islamic State militant groups.

On another front, the mil-

itary is also fighting communist rebels of the New People's Army following a breakdown in peace talks with the government. Duterte on Saturday threatened to expand martial law to other areas of the Philippines to crack down on the insurgents.

Some 655 militants, 45 civilians and 145 soldiers and policemen have been killed in Marawi, according to the military, which says it has rescued 1,728 civilians. At least 400,000 have been displaced.

Army spokesman Colonal Edgard Arevalo said saving hostages was the priority of the military's mission.

"We are still very mindful of the presence of civilians -guns against their heads - who were made human shields or ordered to wield firearms and ammunition, were converted to become fighters and shoot at our troops," he said in a statement.

The United States has provided technical support to the Philippines military in Marawi. Visiting Manila on Friday, Australian Defence Minister Marise Payne offered a small detachment of soldiers to provide training to Philippine forces.—Reuters

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'Pray for us' — Millions hunker down as deadly Irma slams into Florida

MIAMI/FORT MYERS, (Fla) — Millions of people huddled in shelters or battened-down homes in Florida on Sunday morning as Hurricane Irma, one of the most powerful storms ever recorded in the Atlantic, hit the state with 130-mph (210 kph) winds.

The National Hurricane Center forecast potentially deadly storm surges — water driven ashore by the winds — of up to 15 feet (4.6 m) along some parts of the coast. As the storm made landfall on the Florida Keys archipelago off the tip of southern Florida, torrential rains and lashing winds knocked out power to nearly 800,000 homes and businesses on the mainland, according to utilities.

"Pray for us," Florida Governor Rick Scott said in an ABC News interview as his state braced for the massive storm, which has already left a trail of destruction through the Caribbean.

Irma, which prompted one of the largest evacuations in US history, is expected to cause billions of dollars in damage to the third-most-populous US state, a major tourism hub, with an economy compris-



Dark clouds are seen over Miami's skyline before the arrival of Hurricane Irma to south Florida, US, on 9 September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

ing about 5 per cent of US gross domestic product.

Irma was a Category 4 hurricane raging in the lower Florida Keys as of 9 am EDT (1300 GMT), on a path that will take it up Florida's Gulf of Mexico coast near population centres including Tampa and St. Petersburg, the NHC reported. Forecasters also warned tornadoes could form in large portions of the state. Irma, which killed at least 22 people as it tore through Caribbean islands towards Florida, has already claimed at least one life in the state. Emergency responders in the Florida Keys said they pulled a man's body from his pickup truck, which had crashed into a tree in high winds. But officials say it is the water and not the winds that people should fear most.

"Storm surge has the highest potential to kill the most amount of people and to cause the most amount of damage," Brock Long, administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency told "Fox News Sunday."

The time to evacuate the Keys had passed, he said, "It's too late for folks in Monroe County, the Florida Keys. Maximum radius winds and the eye are moving over as we speak."

One woman in Miami's Little Haiti neighbourhood delivered her own baby, with medical personnel coaching her on the phone because emergency responders were not able to reach her, the city of Miami said on Twitter. The two are now at the hospital, it said. Ahead of the storm, officials in Florida had ordered a total of 6.3 million people, or about a third of the state's population, to evacuate. —Reuters ■

Global shipper Maersk sees trade growth among BRICS nations

BEIJING — Containerized trade among BRICS nations saw robust growth in the first half of this year, according to the world's largest container shipping company Maersk Line.

Demand has improved as most of the world's major economies started to recover this year, and the growth among BRICS countries continued to outpace the global average, said Mike Fang, managing director for Maersk Line's Greater China Cluster.

"There is much potential to enable trade among BRICS nations and we will definitely look into it," he said in a statement.

Maersk's exports from China to India increased 26.2 per cent year on year in the first half, those to Brazil and South Africa both rose 8.7 per cent, while Maersk's imports from South Africa to China surged 43.9 per cent, according to Fang.

The company's statistics showed customers

in other BRICS countries were most attracted to Chinese textiles and clothing, consumer electronics and furniture.

While China's imports still focused on raw materials and resources, Maersk saw increases in the imports of meat from Brazil as well as fruit and nuts from South Africa.

E-commerce developed very fast with other BRICS countries' products gaining traction on the Chinese market, Fang said.

Customs data showed a 37.7-per cent year-onyear growth in China's imports from other BRICS countries in the first seven months of this year, faster than the 28.7-per cent increase in exports to those countries.

Grouping Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, BRICS accounted for 23 per cent of the 2016 global economy, almost double their share in 2006, and contributed to more than half of global growth.— Xinhua

UK doesn't need Brexit to curb EU immigration, says former PM Blair

LONDON — Britain could bring in tough new controls on immigration from the European Union without actually having to leave the bloc, former prime minister Tony Blair said on Sunday.

Concerns over the impact of high levels of immigration on public services and housing were cited as a factor by many who voted to leave the EU in last year's referendum.

Prime Minister Theresa May's Conservative government has said free movement of EU citizens coming to Britain must end.

Many Brexit supporters blame Blair's government, which allowed citizens of former communist states to settle immediately in Britain despite a long transition period implemented by other EU countries, for a big influx of EU migrants from 2004.

"There is no diversion possible from Brexit without addressing the grievances that gave rise to it. Paradoxically, we have to respect the referendum vote to change it," Blair, who has said Brexit can and should be stopped, wrote in the Sunday Times newspaper.

"We can curtail the things that people feel are damaging about European immigration, both by domestic policy change and by agreeing change within Europe to the freedom of movement principle," added Blair, who led a Labour government for a decade from 1997.

Asked about Blair's proposals, defence minister Michael Fallon said the government had to get on with delivering Brexit.

"The country has taken its decision, we are leaving the European Union now and that means freedom of movement has to end ... there have got to be restrictions on those coming here," he told BBC Television.

A leaked government document last week said Britain was considering measures to restrict immigration for all but the highest-skilled EU workers, plans some companies called alarming.

A paper published on Sunday by Blair's Institute for Global Change said the government could take steps including registering EU migrants when they arrive to keep track of whether they meet EU rules about finding work.

EU migrants could also be forced to show evidence of a job offer before being allowed to enter Britain, and those without permission to reside could be banned from renting, opening a bank account or accessing welfare benefits, it said. The paper also proposes seeking an 'emergency brake' to implement temporary controls on migration when services are stretched — a strengthened version of a deal offered to former Prime Minister David Cameron ahead of the referendum. —Reuters ■

INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

Sealed tenders are invited by the Department of Public Health & Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Health and Sports for the supply of Non Control Items, Transportation Equipment, Office Equipment, Furniture, Machinery & Equipment in the (2017-2018) Budget year.

Tender documents are available during office hours at the Procurement and Supplying Division Office No(4), Ministry of Health and Sports Commencing from (15.9.2017).

Sealed bids are to be submitted to the office. not late than (16-10-2017) 14:00 hour, after which no bid will be accepted. No telegraph/telex proposal will be accepted.

For detail information please contact the Phone No.067-3411510,067-3411544, Procurement and Supply Division Office, Ministry of Health and Sports.

Procurement and Supply Division Ministry of Health and Sports

Gyllenhaal taps courage of Boston bombing survivor for 'Stronger'

TORONTO — Jake Gyllenhaal put his "heart and soul" into "Stronger", a film about Jeff Bauman, who lost his legs in the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing, and in the process found inspiration and a special kinship with Bauman.

Based on Bauman's memoir by the same name, the film directed by David Gordon Green centers around his difficult journey toward walking again, his struggle with post traumatic stress, and his bewilderment and reluctance to being called a "hero".

"No matter what you've been through in your life, Jeff shows you that can get through it," Gyllenhaal said after the film's premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival on Friday.

"To me, I couldn't think of a better movie to put my heart and soul into."

Gyllenhaal, whose production company Nine Stories chose "Stronger" as its first film, said he was faced every day with the fact that he probably could not do what Bauman did and called him one of the strongest people he knew. Gyllenhaal admitted to being intimidated when he first met Bauman, knowing the impossibility of matching the reality of Bauman's experience. But



Actor Jake Gyllenhaal and author Jeff Bauman attend a press conference to promote the film "Stronger" at the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) in Toronto, Canada, on 9 September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

as they spent time together, he quickly saw a connection and why Green cast him for the part.

"We have a lot of similarities," said Gyllenhaal, but "the friendship came from asking the hard questions. And we continue to do that together."

A simple query about what shoes Bauman wore the day of the bombing led to an explanation of how he saw his feet and shoes lying on the ground after the explosion.

"That was the moment where I realized how brave he

was," said Gyllenhaal. "To face that - again, talking about what strength is? It's in those little moments." Gyllenhaal said he is often asked when he will play a super hero. "I finally kind of have. To me, that's how I feel about him." —Reuters ■

Motherhood is harder than I thought: Evan Rachel Wood

LONDON — Actor Evan Rachel Wood says motherhood is a lot harder than she thought it would be.

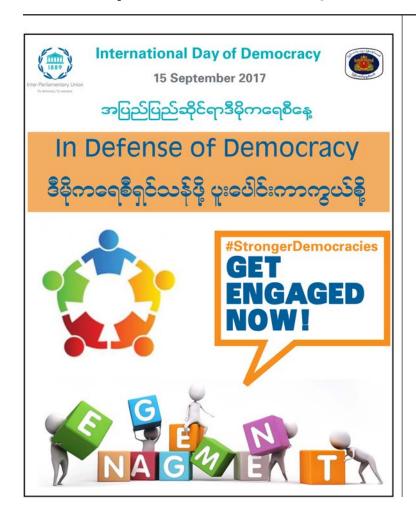
The 30-year-old "West-world" star, who has three-year-old son with ex-husband Jamie Bell, however, says it is the best thing she has ever done, reported Femalefirst.

"Becoming a mom is the best thing I ever did with my life, but it's not for everyone. It's harder than you think and you are never ready, but it will open up your heart in ways you never thought possible," Wood says.

The actor says it was difficult to learn and accept that love was not enough to save her marriage with Bell.

"The hardest thing I had to learn and accept was that sometimes, despite what we have been told, love is not enough.

But when I look at my life now and imagine how things would have been different had I stayed married, I can't say I would have the heart to change anything. I rest easy knowing that I had love, real love, for a short while.—PTI



Del Toro's fairy tale wins top prize at Venice Film Festival

VENICE — Mexican director Guillermo del Toro's "The Shape of Water", a dark fairy tale in which a mute cleaning lady falls in love with an aquatic creature, won the Golden Lion award for best film at the Venice Film Festival on Saturday.

The film beat contenders including George Clooney's "Suburbicon" and Alexander Payne's "Downsizing" at the end of a 10-day, high-quality and star-studded movie marathon that critics said showed Venice was now on an equal footing with the widely revered Cannes film festival.

"As a Mexican, I want to say this is a first for a Mexican storyteller so I want to dedicate and give the prize to every young Mexican film-maker or Latin American film-maker that is dreaming to do something in the fantastic genre, as a fairytale, as a parable, and is faced with a lot of people saying it can't be done. It can," del Toro said.

The runner-up Grand Jury prize went to family tragedy "Foxtrot" by Israel's Samuel Maoz, while France's Xavier Legrand was picked as best director for his divorce drama "Jusqu'a la Garde" (Custody).

Charlotte Rampling received the best actress award for her performance in Italian film "Hannah", while Palestinian Kamel El Basha took the best actor prize for his role in "The Insult".

The award ceremony brings down the curtain on the Venice

festival, the world's oldest, which is seen as a launching pad for the industry's award season. Movie-makers will be hoping for a replay of the success of films such as musical "La La Land", clergy sex-abuse drama "Spotlight", space movie "Gravity" and backstage comedy "Birdman", which all won Academy Awards after premiering in Venice.

"This is an incredible day for Mexican film, for Mexican storytellers.

wwThe three amigos have now conquered the Lido, with Alfonso Cuaron (Gravity) and Alejandro Inarritu (Birdman) both going on to Oscar gold after dominating Venice," said Ariston Anderson, a film critic at Hollywood Reporter.—Reuters ■

Sponsor of monk and donor of pagoda, ordination hall and monastery **Teacher Daw Swe Swe Win (ET)**

Age (58) years

Daughter of U Win Maung Tin and Daw Than Aye residing at No. 1, Thiri Haymar Street, Zawana Housing, Thingyangun Township, Yangon, younger sister of late U Han Tun and Daw Aye Aye Win, elder sister of U Tun Aung and Daw Thi Thi Win, Colonel Soe Win Naing and Daw Aye Myat Myat Maw, beloved aunt of Daw Lin Lin Han Tun, Daw Kyu Wai Han Tun, Daw Phyo Wai Han Tun, Se Phyo (actor), Mg Pyae Phyo Aung and Ma Swe Zin Naing (Sweet), Daw Swe Swe Win (ET) passed away at 4:20 am on Sunday, 10 September 2017. Relatives and friends far and near are informed that the cremation ceremony will be held at Yeway Cemetery at 2:00 pm on Tuesday, 12 September 2017.

Buses will leave home at 12:00pm.

The memorial service will be held at the above resident on Saturday, 16 September 2017 from 7:00 am to 11:00 am.

Bereaved Family

Computer classes start

A 15-day vocational computer class organized by the rural development department of Shwe Taung Township started in Nwar Mayan Village, Shwe Taung Township, Pyay District, Bago Region on Friday.

The opening ceremony included speeches by U Than Naing Oo, the head of district rural development department,

Pyay District and U Nay Myo Naing, deputy head of Shwe Taung Township **General Administration** Department.

U Myo Thu Township's head of rural development explained the purpose of opening class.

Thirty trainees from eight villages of Nwar Mayan village tract are registered for the class. — Shwe Win (Pyay) ■



The deputy commissioner of rural development department, Pyay District delivers speech at the ceremony. PHOTO: SHWE WIN (PYAY)

"Hara ga kore nande/ Mitsuko Delivers" to be shown in Japan Culture house

"Hara ga kore nande/ Mitsuko Delivers," a film directed by Mr. Yuya Ishii will be shown free at 6pm on Friday, September 15 at the Japan Culture House, Pearl Condo, Kabaye Pagoda road, Bahan Township.

Hara ga kore nande/ Mitsuko Delivers" aJapanese comedy that focuses on an eponymous maincharacter who is pregnant, broke, but feisty and who follows a wafting cloud to whatever awaits

Starring Riisa Naka, Yûya Ishii's fable follows Mitsuko as she returnsto the little apartment she



PHOTO: SUPPLY

briefly lived in as a child, and sets out to inspire its forlorn, morose inhabit-

The film runs for 109 minutes in Japanese language with English subtitles.—GNLM ■

Egypt archaeologists unearth goldsmith's tomb near Luxor

LUXOR, (Egypt) Egyptian archaeologists have discovered a tomb of a prominent goldsmith who lived more than 3,000 years ago, unearthing statues, mummies and jewellery in the latest major find near the Nile city of Luxor.

Egypt's Minister of Antiquities Khaled Al-Anani said on Saturday the tomb dated back to Egypt's 18th dynasty New Kingdom era — around 15th century B C.

"The work did not finish yet and we're continuing and working to find more objects and more tombs," he told Reuters at the site. The site includes a courtyard and niche where a statue of the goldsmith Amenemhat and his wife and one of his sons, as well as two burial shafts, the ministry said in a statement.

Earlier this year, authorities announced they had discovered another New Kingdom tomb in Luxor belonging to a judge, and Swedish archaeologists discovered 12 ancient cemeteries near the southern city of Aswan that date back almost 3,500 years.

Egypt's ancient relics are a draw for tourists and

authorities hope new finds can also help attract more

Tourism in Egypt suffered in the aftermath of the mass protests that toppled former president Hosni Mubarak in 2011. Militant bomb attacks have also deterred foreign visitors.

Egypt's tourism revenues jumped by 170 per cent in the first seven months of 2017, reaching \$3.5 billion, authorities said, in welcome news for an economy heavily reliant on the sector for foreign currency and jobs. —Reuters ■



(11-9-2017 07:00am ~12-9-2017 07:00am) MST

07:03	Am	News
07:27	Am	Myanmar Delicate Artistic Creations
		- Gem Stone Painting
07:45	Am	MONASTERY (Bargayar Kyaung)
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	The World's Largest Book
08:51	Am	A Star for Great Achievement
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	Myanmar Traditional Instruments
		(MYANMA OBOE)
09:51	Am	Philatelic Pleasure
10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	School For the Blind

(Kyee Myin Dine) 10:52 Kindhearted Pet Lovers

 $(11:00\,Am\sim03:00\,Pm)\text{-}\,Sunday\,Repeat\,(07:00\,Am\sim11:00\,Am)$ (03:00 Pm \sim 07:00 Pm)-Today Repeat (07:00 Am \sim 11:00 Am)

Prime Time

07:03

Food Trip (Ep-9) (Part-1) 07:27 07:55 Now in Yangon Discovering Tribes: Zahau 08:26 Pm (Their Life and Customs) Yangon Markets: Da Nyin 08:49Pm Gone Market

(09:00 Pm \sim 11:00 Pm) -Today Repeat ~ (09:00 Am \sim 11:00 Am) $(11:00 \, Pm \sim 03:00 \, Am)$ - Sunday Repeat $(07:00 \, Am \sim 11:00 \, Am)$ (03:00 Am \sim 07:00 Am) -Today Repeat $\,$ (07:00 Am \sim 11:00 Am)

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

Programme Schedule (11-9-2017, Monday)

6:00 Am

- Paritta by Venerable
- Breakfast News
- 7:35 Am MRTV Travelogue
- Women in Myanmar Society
- Documentary
- 9:20 Am
- Documentary (Weather)
- 9:40 Am World Heritage" Epidaurus,
- Greece' 10:30 Am
- Solution for Agriclture 11:00 An
- Analysis for Myanmar Movie
- AESAN Programme 11;:35 Am MRTV Youth's Programme
- 12:30 Pm Teleplay (Part-1)

- 1:00 Pm
- 3:00 Pm Peace Music Festival (Mandalay) (Part-1)
- University of Distance Educatopn (TV Lecture) First Years (Philosophy)
- 4:35 Pm
- Interest
- 5:05 Pm Yes or No Talks Show 6:45 Pm
- " AFF U-18 Championship 2017 (LIVÉ Broadcast)
- (Phillipines Vs Myanmar) 8:00 Pm News/ International News
- Weather Report 8:35 Pm Documentary (Mandalay
- Palace)
- TV Drama Series MCN Debate
- TV Drama Series

Hazard needs time to get back to his best, says Conte

LONDON — Chelsea manager Antonio Conte has welcomed the return of Eden Hazard from injury during their Premier League win over Leicester City on Saturday but said the Belgian playmaker needs time to get back to 100 per cent.

Hazard, who recovered from an ankle fracture sustained in June, played for the final 12 minutes as Chelsea ground out a 2-1 win with goals from striker Alvaro Morata and midfielder N'Golo Kante to go third in the table.

"This is good news for us," Conte told the club's website (www.chelseafc.com). "For sure he needs time to be 100 percent but for us his recovery is very important."

Chelsea are back in Champions League action on Tuesday, where they face Azerbaijan's Qarabag at Stamford Bridge and Conte said he would be patient with Hazard.

"We all know very well the importance of this player for us," the Italian manager said.

"Now we must have patience to give him the possibility to improve his form, but I am pleased for him because after a bad injury it's great to see him with us."

Chelsea must continue to work on integrating new signings into the squad after winning three games in a row since their opening day defeat, Conte said.

—Reuters ■



Timor Leste football player(left) shooting the ball forward at yesterday's match in Aung San Stadium. **PHOTO: MFF**

Malaysia beat Cambodia, Timor Leste won Laos

Malaysia secured their place in the semi-finals of the AFF Under-18 Championship by beating Cambodia 2-0 in a Group A tie at the Thuwunna Stadium yesterday.

The win over the Cambodians were Malaysia's fourth win of the tourney.

Timor Leste had a late goal

from Joao Soares to create their first win in the group.

It took the Malaysians 22 minutes to break the deadlock when Shafizi Iqmal Khirudin scored an opening goal across from Saiful Iskandar Adha Saiful

During the first half, both teams played responsively and

got more opportunities than the other half. Seven minutes in, the Malaysians then blasted in their second goal through Muhammad Syafiq Danial Romzi stinging shot from some 20metres to put them comfortably in front.

Meanwhile, Timor Leste beat Laos 3-2 at Aung San Stadium. After the first half, the game stood with 2-2 result with Chanthachone Thinolath in 15 minute and Lektoxa Thongsavath 16 minute goals for Laos being cancelled out by Soares in 30 minute and Lourenco Ximenes in 41 minute.

Timor Leste got the winner from Soares's score in the 68 minute.—Kyaw Zin Lin ■

Thailand secures semifinal at AFF U-18 Championship

Thailand secured the semi-finals of the AFF Under-18 Championship yesterday when they overcame a tough Singapore with 2-0 result to take their fourth win in Group A.

The three points of yesterday match has placed Thailand on level terms with Malaysia in the group.

Singapore was so good

enough at the start where they defended brilliantly and hardly give the Thai the chance for a clear shot at goal.

Their tactic paid off attractively for Singapore to upset the Thais in the first half.

But the persistent pestering of the Singapore backline would lead to one mistake in 67 minute where off a cross from Chaiwat Weerakijphanich on the right, Yuthapichai Lertlum headed the ball in to give the Thais the lead.

And the Thai bench would once again explode into celebration just eight minutes later where the mistake of the Singapore defence to make a clearance allowed Chokanan Saima-in to stab the ball in from close range.—Kyaw Zin Lin ■



Singapore player tries to clear the ball with Thailand striker's following at yesterday match in Thuwunna Stadium. **PHOTO: AFF**