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Tuesday, 19 September 2017



in
Picture

Aid delivered to Muslims in Northern Rakhine State

Muslim people carry aid including rice bags and food at Barizar Village, Buthidaung Township, Northern Rakhine State, recently. Aid are provided to both communities by authorities and Myanmar Red Cross Society. **PHOTO: MNA**

Survey on recommendations for Rakhine State launched

A committee on implementing recommendations on Rakhine State launched a survey trip yesterday to Rakhine State and met displaced persons from conflict areas in Maung-taw Township sheltering in

Kyauktaw.

At the meeting, the IDPs who fled from Maung-taw, Buthidaung and Yathedaung reported on the challenges for security, job opportunities and obstacles for their livelihoods

to the members of the committee.

In the trip, the officials delivered aid including school uniforms and text books to the displaced people from 254 families.

Before the trip, the delegation held talks with U Nyi Pu, Rakhine State Chief Minister at the government office in Sittway, over resettlement and future plans for the IDPs.

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MOI and FES jointly organize Event Planning Management workshop

MINISTRY of Information (MOI) and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) jointly organized a Workshop on Event Planning Management yesterday morning in meeting hall of Ministry of Information, Nay Pyi Taw.

The workshop was attended by 30 officials from departments and enterprises under Ministry of Information and the workshop will be held until 19 September it is learnt. — Myanmar News Agency ■



Ministry of Information and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung jointly workshop held in progress. **PHOTO: MNA**



Vice Senior General attends the welcoming party at Grand Ballroom in Grand Hyatt in the evening **PHOTO: MNA**

Vice Senior General Soe Win attends 10th Pacific Armies Chiefs Conference

Vice Senior General Soe Win, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) and Myanmar Military delegation who were in Republic of Korea attended the opening ceremony of the 10th Pacific Armies Chiefs Conference held at Grand Hyatt Hotel, Seoul on the morning of 18 September.

In the afternoon, the Vice Senior General participated in the first discussion session under the title of "Land Forces Pacific: Cooperation in Civil-Military Operations During Crisis". Later,

the Vice Senior General met with US Army Pacific Commander General Robert B. Brown at Grand Hyatt Hotel and cordially discussed matters on friendship and cooperation between the two military and true situations in Rakhine State.

The Vice Senior General, in the evening, attended the welcoming dinner party at Grand Ballroom in Grand Hyatt Hotel, Seoul, together with Chiefs of Army from Asia-Pacific region countries. — Myanmar News Agency ■

State level coordination and information meeting on MMFC Survey in Haka

STATE level coordination and information meeting on Myanmar Micronutrient and Food Consumption (MMFC) Survey was held on the morning of 18 September in the meeting hall of State Department of Public Health, Haka and the meeting was attended by State Minister for Social Affairs U Paung Loon Min Htan, State Minister for Planning and Finance U Wi Kaw, heads of state level departments and health personnel.

In his address to the meeting, State Minister for Social Affairs U Paung Loon Min Htan said in order to prepare and draw up programs to effectively prevent and treat problems of nutrient deficiency and nutrient profusion.

In his address to the meeting, State Minister for Social Affairs U Paung Loon Min Htan said arrangements were made to conduct MMFC Survey to prepare and draw up programs that effectively prevents and treats problems of nutrient de-

ciency and nutrient profusion, upgrade the people's nutrition level by enabling the people to consume adequate and balanced nutrients and review the effectiveness of presently conducted nutrition development works.

Next head of Chin State Department of Public Health Dr. Hnin Pa Pa Khine gave a

Power Point presentation on conducting MMFC Survey and questions by meeting attendees were answered by responsible officials.

According to State Department of Public Health, MMFC Survey will be conducted in 30 wards and villages in districts and townships of Chin States it is learnt. —State IPRD ■



State Minister for Social Affairs U Paung Loon Min Htan delivers speech at the state level coordination and information meeting on MMFC. **PHOTO: MNA**



Members of MMCWA (Central) provide cash and commodities to displaced persons in Ponnagyun in Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MNA**

MMCWA and RS MMCWA donate money and commodities to displaced people

Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Central) gave medical check-up to pre-primary school aged children, feeding up nutritious glutinous rice yesterday at Myothit Quarter, Ponnagyun in Rakhine State, in combination with Rakhine State MMCWA.

Afterward, 21 kinds of utensils used in house-holds and monetary aids were given out to 64 house-holds taking shelter at rescue camps

opened in Lawka Marajein Pagoda campus in Ponnagyun.

Then similar donations were made to provide 21 kinds of utensils and monetary aids to 85 house-holds at the conventional rescue camp in Kyauktaw Sasana Beikman, and 77 house-holds at Maha Kangyishin Pagoda rescue camp.

In the evening, 21 kinds of utensils and monetary aids were donated respectively to

65 house-holds at Lawka Man-naung rescue camp, to 8 families at Phayarpaw rescue camp and to 40 expectant mothers, necessary items to be used during delivery.

MMCWA (Central) will support aids to displaced people at rescue camps in Minbya on 19 September and at Yathedaung on 20 September, according to Professor Dr San San Myint Aung, chairwoman of MMCWA. —Win Min Soe (IPRD) ■



Chief of Defence Forces of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Surapong Suwana-adth calls on Vice President U Myint Swe in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

VP U Myint Swe receives Chief of Defence Forces of RTAF

Vice President U Myint Swe received a delegation led by Chief of Defence Forces of the Royal Thai Armed Forces (RTAF) General Surapong Suwana-adth, in the Hall for Envoys of the Presidential Palace, Nay Pyi Taw in the after-

noon of 18 September. During the meeting, matters relating to peace and stability in the Myanmar-Thai border area, promoting cooperation and friendship between the two Armed Forces, bilateral relations and collaboration were

discussed.

Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Sein Win, Permanent Secretary U Kyaw Zeya of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and officials attended the meeting. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Terrorist attacks cause loss amounting to US \$ 0.6 million to Maungtaw border trade within 20 Days

By Min Htet Aung & Tin Maung Lwin

U Aung Myint Thein, chairman of Maungtaw border trade's merchant association said, "Till over 20 days after out-break of terrorist attacks in Maungtaw region, Maungtaw border trade could not be resumed, losing approximately at US \$ 30000 as daily income from Myanmar-Bangladesh Border Trade."

The suspended Maungtaw region border trade will be operated again as soon as possible, in consultation with responsible officials from Rakhine State government, depending upon regional stability, it was learnt.

Due to the suspension, some of the exports which can be easily transported through border gates had to be transferred via Sittway border trade gate. And, some exports to be urgently exported are piling up at the border gate. As some goods did not last long they lost qualities, causing a great loss to the business.

He added, "For now, on our side frozen "Ngamyitchin" fish were left to be exported. It was the worst thing for us. As they cannot be exported through this gate, they have been sent back to Sittway by linking with authorities

concerned. Via Sittway, they were exported to Bangladesh. But due to their nearly-half-deteriorating qualities, exporters had suffered a lot. The other item is ginger. When they are kept long, sprouts easily grow up. So, we would like to export them for a few days. Another one is the rice. Compared to rice and ginger, they can last long, approximately 3 or 4 months at the utmost. Dried fish followed them. These items will be exported if allowed depending upon security of the area the exports will be stopped afterwards. Arrangements are being made to let them be exported for some extent with State Cabinet and respective departments."

For the time being, ginger, rice and fried fish to be urgently

exported will be sent to Sittway. But, there is also shortage of labourers, it was learnt.

He went on saying that many goods to be sent to Bangladesh are piling up and more than 12 motor boats loaded with commodities to be exported to Bangladesh were finding it difficult to be unloaded. They left for Bangladesh prior to the terrorist attacks.

Due to the stoppage of border trade, banks, departments and some shops were operating, regional income dropped remarkably. Respective officials are making arrangements to reopen Kanyinchaung border trade zone being built as Maungtaw border trade zone, as soon as possible, they still find it difficult under the current situations. ■



Workers load sacks of rice into a boat at Maungtaw Border Trade Station in August. **PHOTO: A ONE SOE**

Live broadcast of State Counsellor speech

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is delivering a speech in Myanmar International Convention Center 2 at 10 a.m. 19 September on Government's efforts with regard to National Reconciliation and Peace. The event will be broadcasted live in MRTV, MITV, Myanma Radio and FM radio programmes starting from 9:55 a.m. it is learnt.—Myanmar News Agency



Vice President U Henry Van Thio welcomed at John F Kennedy International Airport in New York. **PHOTO: MNA**

Vice President U Henry Van Thio arrives in New York

A Myanmar delegation led by Vice President U Henry Van Thio left Yangon on 16 September to attend the 72nd session of the United Nations General Assembly general debate. The delegation arrived in New York by Korea Airlines on 17 September at 10:45 a.m. local standard time.

The Vice President and delegation were welcomed at the

John F Kennedy International Airport by the Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the United Nations H.E. U Hau Do Suan and staff from the Myanmar Permanent Mission. The Vice President will deliver a speech on 20 September at the 72nd session of the United Nations General Assembly at the UN Headquarters —MNA ■

300 rice bags and monetary aids supported to displaced people

Mandalay-based "May May Foundation" donated 300 bags of rice and monetary aids to local nationals who were displaced by ARSA extremist terrorists, from their locations to Sittway rescue camps, yesterday morning.

U Soe Moe Naing, chairman of Mandalay-based May May Foundation said, "Today, we came here to support rice and money donation to displaced people gathering currently at Sittway out of consideration, in accord with the principles laid down by our foundation, not depending upon the amount we donated. Our foundation will continue to support provisions and commodities to the rescue camps and villages in Maungtaw again, transporta-

tion permitting. "

May May Foundation now in Sittway is contributing the subsidies to displaced people at the rescue camp with their wages. The foundation is making various kinds of donations—blood donation, providing humanitarian aids, supporting aids for education and offering "Soon," to Sanghas weekly, it was learnt.

Now that rescue camps for displaced people from Maungtaw area amounted to 30, the State Cabinet, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and local donors from private sectors, social organizations and foundation are providing food and subsidies.—Myanmar News Agency ■

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Fisheries research projects to be conducted for five years

WORLD Fish Myanmar will conduct fisheries research from 2017 to 2021 for the development of the aquaculture sector, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

World Fish Myanmar is a new INGO program which is providing technical assistance to conduct the fisheries research for the development of the aquaculture sector with the support of the Australian Center for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) and European Union.

World Fish Myanmar has supported the development of the small-scale fishery business since 2012-2016.

ness since 2012-2016.

Myanmar fisheries enterprise will provide assistance in cooperation with small and medium fish breeding enterprises and rice producers in conducting the research with an aim to start a family managed mixed fisheries and paddy farming and upgrade to commercial scale businesses. Moreover, the fisheries research will be conducted to be able to submit a suggestion for the development of the small-scale fishery business and the weakness of the fishery management law to the government.—GNLM ■



Workers unload fish from a boat at San Pya fish market in Yangon. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Development of pomelo and promotion of export sectors workshop to be held

MYANMAR Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producer and Exporter Association (MFVP) will hold the development of pomelo sector and promotion of export sector workshop in Taikkyi Township in Yangon Region on 23 September, according to a

report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

At the workshop, the pomelo agricultural experts, pomelo growers, pomelo brokers and other interested persons will discuss the pomelo agricultural issue.

“Our MFVP will discuss with local growers from the northern part of the Taikkyi in Yangon Region and west of Bago Region. The workshop will be conducted with an aim to grow the pedigree pomelo and to export the pomelo,” said U

Kyi Lin, the vice chairman of the pomelo team.

The workshop was conducted to learn to grow pedigree pomelo, get good yield, use fertilizer and insecticide. The workshop will also show ways to export the pomelo.—GNLM ■

Private companies soon to be permitted 20 types of insurance

THE private insurance companies will be permitted to provide 20 types of insurance very soon for the development of the local insurances, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

Initially, Myanmar Insurance has permitted private companies only six types of insurance out of 46.

Later on, the private companies were permitted to provide the 11 types of insurance

services.

Now, the government will soon grant the private companies to engage in selling 20 types of insurance services.

The best selling types of insurances at the private companies are: travel insurance; comprehensive vehicle insurance; fire insurance; and life insurance.

The private companies are planning to introduce the new type of insurance services

which were not provided yet by the state-run Myanma Insurance in the insurance market.

To be able provide the crops insurance for the local farmers, Global World Insurance company is planning to conduct the pilot project for two years.

There are about 48 types of insurance policies available in Myanma Insurance whereas 11 local private insurance companies are now offering

nine types of insurance: life insurance, fire insurance, comprehensive motor insurance, cash-in-safe insurance, goods insurance, highway traffic insurance, health insurance and integrity insurance.

Starting from July, private companies have been providing insurance services for four new categories: Travel insurance; vessel insurance; life insurance for farmers and disability insurance.—GNLM ■

Myanmar to attend International Housing and Home Warranty Conference

MYANMAR will attend International Housing and Home Warranty Conference for the first time for the development of Myanmar Housing and Construction sector, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

“We join International

Housing Association recently. Therefore, we will attend the conference and will also participate in discussion for development of Myanmar Housing and construction sector,” said U Thar Htay, the chairman of Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Association.

The International Housing and Home Warranty Conference will be held in Tokyo, Japan on 5 November. The seven members from Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Association will attend the conference.

The conference will discuss the activities, challenges,

international activities and suggestion for the development of Myanmar Housing and construction sector.

Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Association is implementing the housing project for the local government employees.—GNLM ■

Hotels and tourism Union Minister checks CIQ and Bagan Information Centre

A delegation led by Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Ohn Maung visited Bagan Information Centre handed over from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to Hotels and Tourism Ministry last Saturday.

This centre is situated west of Shwe Nandaw, Taungbi village tract, Bagan-NyaungU Township and was set up with an aim to enhance tourism in Bagan area.

Union Minister told officials from branch office to maintain this building, give tourism information to tourists and local travellers, exhibit Bagan's cultural goods, conduct courses, awareness campaigns and meeting for tourism under the guidance of the ministry which will lead to regional development, maintain heritage sites.

On 17 September, the delegation arrived Bagan-NyaungU airport and inspected Customs, Immigration and Quarantine



Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Ohn Maung and party visit Bagan Information Centre on 16 September. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

(CIQ) counters and places where other facilities are provided, installation of equipments for baggage claims and hotels and tourism department requirements of skilled staff and other needs.

Afterwards, the Union Min-

ister received suggestion from officials from related departments and explained efforts to fly direct between Cambodia's Siem Reap and Nyaung U airport and discussed about Pre-Arranged Visa on Arrival for Package Tour Only. —GNLM ■

Trade with South Asian countries hit over \$753 million this FY

TRADE between Myanmar and South Asian countries amounted to more than US\$753 million in the current fiscal year, comprising about \$430 million from exports and over \$323 million from imports, according to the latest report of the Ministry of Commerce.

From April to July of this year, India, one of the largest neighbouring countries of Myanmar, has ranked first on the list of top trading partners in South Asian countries, followed by Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

In the first four months of this FY, trade with India exceeded \$640 million, including \$623 million through sea routes and \$22.796 million from the borders. Myanmar

exported \$372 million worth of goods to India, while its imports from the neighbouring country was \$274 million.

Bilateral trade with Pakistan totalled \$66.903 million, while trade with Sri Lanka was only over \$11 million in total. The value of Myanmar-Bangladesh trade amounted to over \$29 million this FY. The majority of trade with the neighbouring country was conducted through shipping.

Trade between Myanmar and South Asian nations was \$1.487 billion in the 2011-2012 FY, \$1.396 billion in FY2012-13, \$1.744 billion in FY2013-14, \$1.412 billion in FY2014-15, \$1.792 billion in FY2015-16 and \$2.091 billion in FY201617.— Khine Khant ■

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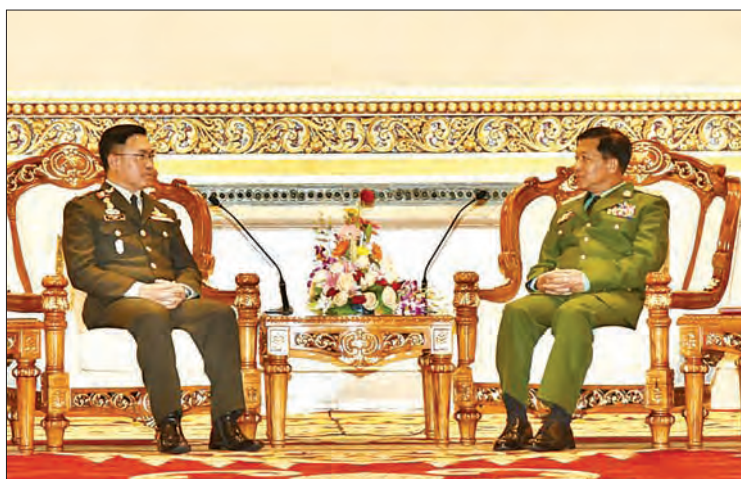
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Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets with Chief of Defence Forces of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Surapong Suwana-adth. **PHOTO: MNA**

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing welcomes Chief of Defence Forces of Royal Thai Armed Forces

Defence Services Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing welcomed Chief of Defence Forces of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Surapong Suwana-adth at Zeyathiri Beikman hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon with a ceremonial guard of honour.

After the welcoming ceremony, General Surapong Suwana-adth and Senior General Min Aung Hlaing held talks in the meeting hall. In the evening, the Senior General and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla hosted a dinner for Chief of Defence Forces of Royal Thai

Armed Forces and wife.

Earlier in the day, Chief of Defence Forces of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Surapong Suwana-adth and party paid tribute to the martyrs and laid floral baskets at Mausoleum for Heroes in Nay Pyi Taw.

Then, Chief of Defence Forces of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Surapong Suwana-adth, wife Mrs. Vanvimol Suwana-adth and party paid homage to Shwedagon Pagoda and Botahtaung Pagoda and donated cash to pagoda trustees on 18 September morning.— Myanmar News Agency ■

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar Office of the President Press Release (No 5/2017)

13th Waning of Tawthalin 1379 ME (18 September 2017)

Currently some people are concerned about the Myanmar-Bangladesh border fence and this Press Release has been issued to allay the concerns of the people by informing the status of arrangements made to date and future programs on border fencing.

After the incumbent government took over the country's responsibility a Central Committee for the Implementation of Peace and Development in Rakhine State was formed on 30 May 2016 with State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi as chairperson.

In the coordination meetings held by the central committee in 2016 and 2017 and Security, Peace and Stability and the Rule of Law Working Committee meetings, fencing of the border was decided to be given a priority and guidelines were laid down to conduct this as a special priority work.

In a briefing given to the President on 6 September 2017 about Rakhine State affairs and rule of laws matters, the State Counsellor said repairing the damaged portion of the border fence and constructing an up to standard secure border fence in the remaining areas to be fenced were to be conducted without delay and the government would make available the additional budget required. From fiscal year 2009-2010 to fiscal year 2017-2018 annual budget estimate and revised estimate allocated a total of more than Ks. 190 billion to Ministry of Home Affairs for Myanmar-Bangladesh border fencing work and Ministry of Home Affairs had assigned works to Ministry of Defence, Directorate of Military Engineers.

In fiscal year 2017-2018 more than Ks 6 billion was permitted for border fencing and related works and Ministry of Home Affairs had assigned works to Ministry of Defence. Furthermore, arrangements were made to allocate more than Ks. 2 billion as additional allocation.

Currently, as a first step toward the immediate fencing of the border, the Union Government is allocating an additional Ks. 20 billion and as done previously, the Ministry of Home Affairs will submit requisition and assign works to the Ministry of Defence.

Moreover, the Ministry of Construction was assigned to urgently construct the Mayu Mountain range road network consisting of 2 main roads running parallel to Mayu Mountain range and 2 roads going across Mayu Mountain range, which is very important in Rakhine State and is being implemented.

The Union Government is taking the responsibility of acquiring necessary funds required for border fencing work and Mayu Mountain range road network programme as a priority and it is believed that border security in Rakhine State and security in the Maungtau region will become much more effective and improved.—(Unofficial Translation)

Survey on recommendations for Rakhine State launched

FROM PAGE-1

A committee on implementing recommendations on Rakhine State announced recently that it will complete its ministries-wide survey about the situation on the ground in Rakhine State within two weeks.

“On the advice of the Advisory Commission’s recommendations and the Investigation Commission on Maungtau region, the committee is obliged to implement the advice which ensure benefits to the people and which are acceptable to the actual ground situation, setting priority levels to the outcomes of the survey,” Dr. Win Myat Aye, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, said in his capacity as the chairman of the committee at the meeting.

The meeting becomes the first discussion of the committee which formed on 12 September by the President. U Nyi Pu, Rakhine State Chief Minister and co-chairman of the committee, stressed the need to find “pos-

sible things” and “pragmatic works for the long-run in order to bring change to the works”. “Security and the rule of law should also be considered when implementing the advices,” said U Nyi Pu. Members of the implementation committee on recommendations on Rakhine State are permanent secretaries of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Information, Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Sports and acting directors-general of the Office of the President and Ministry of Planning and Finance.

The final report of the Advisory Commission released on 24th August puts forward recommendations to surmount the political, socio-economic and humanitarian challenges that currently face Rakhine State.—MNA ■



People stage protest against ARSA terrorists, foreign interference in Rakhine. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH**

People protests against ARSA terrorists, foreign interference in Rakhine issue



People staged a protest in downtown Yangon yesterday against ARSA extremist terrorists and interference of foreign countries in Rakhine issue.

Holding placards and State

flags, the protesters gathered near the City Hall at 3 pm.

They also released a 8-point statement following the protest.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Duterte invites UN rights body to open Philippine office as drug killings climb



Philippine's President Rodrigo Duterte meets parents of 19-year-old Carl Angelo Arnaiz, accused of robbery and shot dead by police in Manila, Philippines on 6 September, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

MANILA — Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte on Monday invited the United Nations' human rights monitor to set up office in the country and join all anti-narcotic operations, amid growing public and global criticism of his bloody war on drugs. "I will personally through an official channel invite the human rights commission to set up a satellite office here," Duterte told reporters after attending the wake of a slain policeman, referring to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

"I will tell police station commanders, do not operate without a representa-

tive of the UN human rights commission and everybody must wear a camera so it will all be transparent." The comments were a marked change from Duterte's usual disdain for the United Nations, which he once threatened to withdraw from after UN human rights experts and rapporteurs expressed concern about the huge death toll in his signature war on drugs.

Thousands of people, mostly poor urban Filipinos, have been killed since he took office in June 2016. The OHCHR had no immediate comment on Duterte's remarks. Duterte has also made a public debate with UN envoys a prerequisite for any visit

or investigation related to the anti-drug campaign. His outreach to the United Nations comes as the Philippine National Police (PNP) comes under heavy criticism over the deaths in August of two teenagers. Police say they were killed in self defence, but activists and political opponents have said it was cold-blooded murder. Duterte and his allies were chided last week after lawmakers allied with Duterte supported giving the Philippines Commission on Human Rights an annual budget of just 1,000 pesos (\$19.55), which critics at home and abroad said would be tantamount to destroying a constitutional body.—Reuters ■

US stealth jets, bombers fly near inter-Korean border: Yonhap

SEOUL — Four US F-35B stealth jets and two B-1B strategic bombers flew near the tense inter-Korean border on Monday during training with four South Korean fighters, Yonhap News Agency reported, citing a South Korean government source.

"They dropped inert bombs onto the Pilseung shooting range in Taebaek,

Gangwon Province, during the exercise held from noon until 2:30 pm and returned to their bases," the source was quoted as saying.

It was the first time for F-35B stealth jets to come so close to North Korea, the report added.

The show of force is seen as meant to send a strong warning to North

Korea following its recent provocative actions that further escalated tensions in the region.

Later Monday, the South Korean Defence Ministry released a statement briefly confirming there had been a joint exercise involving military aircraft. "The exercise was held as part of regular exercises aimed at bolstering

capability of extended deterrence," the statement said. Through the exercise, the two sides demonstrated their deterrent power against North Korea's nuclear and missile threats, and also boosted the ability of rapid deployment by improving inter-operability and capability of combined operations, the statement said.—Kyodo News ■

Nepal's restive south votes in historic local elections

KATHMANDU — Voting started Monday morning in Nepal's restive Province 2, also known as Madhes province, to elect local representatives in the third and final phase of the Himalayan nation's first local elections in two decades.

Over 2.6 million voters are eligible to elect representatives to run 136 local bodies, including a metropolis, three sub-metropolises, 73 municipalities and 59 village councils. Over 37,000 candidates are vying for 6,627 posts.

Significantly, the Ras-triya Janata Party Nepal, formed in April following the merger of six Madhesi political parties that have rejected the nation's new Constitution adopted in September 2015, is participating for the first time in elections held un-



A man casts his vote into a ballot box during the final round of local election of municipalities and villages representatives in Janakpur on 18 September, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

der the new supreme law. They boycotted the previous two phases of local elections.

The party's main demand — revision to provincial boundaries to include more districts in the province — remains unmet. Monday's elections will test popular support

for this demand.

Madhesi parties led violent anti-Constitution protests for months from September 2015 to February 2016, alleging the new Constitution discriminates against the Madhesis, who are dwellers of Nepal's lowlands bordering India. The protests left 58,

including security personnel, dead. The first phase of local elections was held on 14 May in three provinces, and on 28 June in another three provinces. The new Constitution has federated the nation into seven provinces.

Nepal's last local elections were held in 1997, after which the nation got mired in a Maoist insurgency and then a political transition from monarchy to a federal democratic republic. Elections for parliament and provincial assemblies are slated for 26 November and 7 December. Earlier, the government had announced that elections for the assemblies would be held on 26 November, but it later decided to hold the elections in two phases citing logistical challenges.—Kyodo News ■

INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER (4/2017) [TENDER NO. MPPE / HSD / T / 1 (2017 – 2018)]

1. Open Tender is invited for the Myanmar Petroleum Products Enterprise, Ministry of Electricity and Energy for the supply of High Speed Diesel (658,000 ± 10% Barrels)
2. Tender Closing Date & Time - 12 - 10 - 2017, 12:00 Hrs
3. Tender Opening Date & Time - 12 - 10 - 2017, 13:00 Hrs
4. Delivery Time - November 2017 to March 2018
5. Tender documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanmar Petroleum Products Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during our office hours commencing 15 - 9 - 2017 on payment of Myanmar Kyat One Hundred Thousand (Kyats 100,000.) per set.
6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from Myanmar Petroleum Products Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director
Myanmar Petroleum Products Enterprise
Ministry of Electricity and Energy
No(6) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw

Contact Phone No.
067-411487/411486/411280

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Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC),
Corner of Mahabandoola Road & Thein Phyu Road,
Botahtaung Tsp, Yangan,

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Dated 19th September 2017 lmm@kcyangan.com

Humanitarianism should be developed in humans

Khin Maung Oo

IT is virtuous of us to give humanitarian aid to people who are suffering from difficulties and hardships. At such a deteriorating period of meeting with a myriad of destruction and hardships, there can be more and more people found to have become victims due to natural disasters and man-made events, suffering a lot.

Those victims have to be provided with humanitarian aid, regardless of race, religion and their status. In Myanmar, whose citizens hold the four cardinal virtues—Metta, Karuna, Mudita and Up-ekkha, the Union Government as well as the whole populace are always ready and willing to give aid and assistance as much as they can, of their own accord.

It can be said to be attributed to the

teachings of the religion—holding the four cardinal virtues in our minds that the government and the people are willingly and energetically helping those who are suffering without depending upon others. Though not being a country of great wealth, Myanmar is at the top of the list when it comes to making charitable donations.

Yet, wonderfully enough, we recently heard voices in regard to Rakhine State affairs that Myanmar has been void of humanitarianism. Generosity of our Myanmar people is born out of our heart-felt feelings, so we are ready and willing to help anyone actually in trouble, regardless of race, religion and their status. It is typical of Myanmar, not to give any help to fake victims.

Due to the attacks of ARSA extremist

terrorists in Rakhine State, as known by all, local Rakhine ethnic people, Hindus and many Bengalis became victims. The government and various organizations are giving help and subsidies to those victims, without racial and religious discrimination, by holding on to the four cardinal virtues.

But, regarding the terrorist attacks in Buthidaung, Maungtaw and Yathedaung townships, all those from 176 villages and some from 34 villages out of 471 Bengali villages in those areas fled to the neighboring country, it was learnt. They have a very good reason for fleeing under the name of refugees. In fact, they created this situation on purpose. They themselves know best why and how they created this current situation.

The Bengalis that remained in the

villages without fleeing will be given protection in accord with the law, and provided with food and necessary relief assistance though being different in race and religion. And, security measures will be made for them to live in peace. There is not one iota of truth in the allegations made by some in the international community based on fake news that appear in the social media and Youtube. Some newspapers have unfortunately fallen prey to the machinations of ARSA sympathizers. Only Myanmar people know the best themselves about Myanmar. 295 Bengali villages that never intended to flee prove the fact to be true. Those who fled will also be received after careful scrutiny in accord with the existing laws. I hereby want to claim that Myanmar is at its best in humanitarianism. ■

The Mask has fallen

Khin Maung Myint

ALL along, I have thought that journalists are well educated, intelligent and well informed, know their jobs thoroughly, and credible people, until lately. I couldn't understand why, not everyone, but some international media persons want to deceive the readers with fake stories that only gullible and naive persons would believe, but not me. Some may be doing them purposely for reasons they only would know, but I suspect that some are not doing their homeworks thoroughly and thus are publishing such misinformations and meaningless reports. Such fabricated news can do great damage to a country.

Here, I don't want to mention the names, but many of the well known TV channels in the world including those in the West, are frequently airing fabricated fake news about the plights of minority people in Rakhine. They had been persistently advocating for the cause of the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA), using false and fabricated news and depicting irrelevant photos, which I presumed were fed to them by the international lobbyist groups.

The most conspicuous and the blunderous mistake they made was, airing repeatedly a video clip of an ethnic Rakhine teenage girl purported to be a Rohingya girl, whose security and safety is being threatened. Anyone who is familiar of the differences in features, dresses and lifestyles of the Rakhine and those people, realized straight away that it was faked and fabricated. That was a very irresponsible and unethical act committed by a media. I would like to suggest to them to conduct some research about those

people who are claiming to belong to an ethnic race of Myanmar, which they are definitely not and are thus, naturally, not being recognized as such and also were being denied citizenships because they are not entitled.

Our authorities had denied, time and again, that they are in fact illegal migrants, and had also rejected every accusations by human rights groups from around the world that the government is persecuting them. Those organizations didn't have concrete evidence to prove they are our nationals. However, although they are shouting at the top of their voices so as to be heard around the world to get the attentions and sympathies of the gullible people, I doubt that some of those people even know where the Rakhine Region is, let alone where Maungtaw, Buthidaung, and Rathetaung are.

To clear the confusions created by the lobbyists and unscrupulous international media, I deemed it necessary to explain about the ethnicity and races of Myanmar. We can take pride in the fact that a small country like ours', with a meager population of around fifty four millions is made up of a diversity of ethnicity. The officially recognized number of ethnic races being 135 in total, is an indication of our generosity and open mindedness to recognize even the smallest group of people with unique ethnicity of their own as one ethnic race. This figure is quite a large number compared to those of China, the most populous country with over a billion people, where there are only about 55 recognized ethnic races apart from the majority Han race. Likewise our figure far exceeds proportionately to that of India, the second most

populous country with also over a billion people, where there are only about 2000 different ethnic races.

The 135 ethnic races are grouped under 8 main national races as follows:-

- **KACHIN.** Comprises 12 different ethnic races.
- **KAYAH.** Has 9 different ethnic races.
- **KAYIN.** Is made up of 11 different ethnic races.
- **CHIN.** It has the largest number at 53 different ethnic races.
- **BAMAR.** Consists 9 different ethnic races.
- **MON.** Only 1 ethnic race.
- **RAKHINE.** Has 7 different ethnic races.
- **SHAN.** It stands at second with 33 different ethnic races.

As those people claimed that they are an ethnic race from the Rakhine Region, I'll be mentioning the different ethnic races of Rakhine only, while omitting those of the other national races as those would take up much space unnecessarily. The different ethnic races belonging to the Rakhine are:-

1. Rakhine,
2. Kamein,
3. Kwemyi,
4. Daingnet,
5. Maramargyi,
6. Mro,
7. Thet.

If someone wants to check for the people, who are claiming they belonged to Myanmar as they had dwelt here for centuries, in the list of 135 different officially recognized ethnic races, they can search in the Wikipedia on the Internet. But will certainly not find it, as they didn't belong to our country at any time in our

history and thus weren't listed there. That name never was in existence before our Independence during the British colonial days and there was never any record either, that such a group existed. In fact they are illegal migrants posing as natives of Myanmar to deceive the international community to get settled in other countries outside of their own.

Those international organizations, the international media, INGOs, human rights groups, and countries advocating for them should be aware and be knowledgeable that recognition as an ethnic race is one thing, and granting of citizenship is another. I will clarify this statement. In our country, we have Panthay, Bamar Chinese, Bamar Indian, Bamar Muslim, Anglo Burman, Anglo Indian, Bengali Muslim, Bengali Hindus, Bengali Buddhist, Gurkha, and even a few Tibetan, whose ancestors had dwelt on our soil for many generations before our Independence, but are not recognized as ethnic races. Though they are not recognized as ethnic races, those who are entitled and their genuine descendants are being granted citizenships. As for the illegal migrants there is no reason or precedence to grant them those rights.

I had written quite a few articles in which, I had time and again explained with concrete historical evidences that those people who are claiming to belong to an ethnic race of Myanmar are in fact illegal immigrants or descendants of the illegal immigrants who had been sneaking into our country since our Independence. Thus they cannot be recognized as an ethnic race or granted citizenships by any means.

SEE PAGE 9

World Bamboo Day event in Yangon

A World Bamboo Day event was held in Excel River View Hotel, Thanlyin Township, Yangon Region yesterday where Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Ohn Win and Head of Department for International Development, Myanmar, Gail Marzetti attended and delivered a speech.

Before the event, the Union Minister viewed the handmade bamboo utensils displayed in the booths by 19 companies.

A similar World Bamboo Day event was held in Forest Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Nay Pyi Taw where papers titled "Bamboo resources and sustainable de-



Union Minister U Ohn Win views handmade bamboo utensils at World Bamboo Day event. **PHOTO: KHIN MAUNG WIN**

velopment aims" and "Conserving bamboo resources in Myanmar" were read by Director Dr Than Naing Oo and

Research Officer U Aung Zaw Moe of forest research department it is learnt.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Foreigners get involved in illicit sale and purchase in Myanmar fishery

Ko Moe

ACCORDING to Myanmar Fishery Products Processors and Exporters Association, foreigners got involved in illicit sale and purchase in Myanmar fishery business.

U Myo Nyunt, secretary of Myanmar fishery products processors and exporters association said, "There are many foreigners getting involved in fishery business."

They did not purchase the products themselves. Instead they made Myanmar buy for them.

If prawns sell for K 6000 or 7000 per viss in reality, they outbid more than the current prices. No one can compete

with them, on prices, in out-bidding."

At present, fish and prawns are very rare in markets and due to such illicit sale and purchase, local fishery businessmen are suffering loss, it was learnt.

U Myo Nyunt added, "To put it simply, they should compete with honesty, that is, they should officially register.

Now, they export the products without paying license fees."

And, he noted that Myanmar should apply modernized breeding methods for the adequate acquisition of the products, adding "Fish breeding entrepreneurs are breeding tiny amounts of fish

in a large fish breeding bond, so they cannot produce to the full capacity. Nowadays a large amount of fishes are being produced in a small area of fish breeding pond to the full capacity. Compared to foreign income from fishery of foreign countries, Myanmar's income is only one third.

In addition, it needs to produce it as value-added products instead of exporting as raw materials."

Myanmar fishery products fetched US \$ 502.63 million from 568970.89 metric ton in FY 2015-2016. In FY 2016-2017 Myanmar fishery products fetched US \$ 605.819 million from 438706.505 metric ton export, it was learnt. ■

The Mask has fallen

FROM PAGE 8

During the British colonial days they were unheard of. However, that name came into existence only in the late 1960s, after a clandestine underground movement group called the "Rohingya Muslim Independence Revolutionary Front" (RMIRF) was uncovered in Sittway. Today, that

name has become world renowned with the help of some international media, human rights groups and INGOs.

In my opinion the present ARSA armed terrorists have the same objectives as the RMIRF, which was to carve out a chunk of our land to establish a state of their own. Today, as the truths are emerg-

ing, their true intentions and the identities of those who are masterminding, abetting, and aiding them are gradually being exposed. The masks behind which, they are hiding as the sympathetic innocent minorities of Myanmar, who are being unfairly persecuted, had at last been peeled off. ■

54th Malaysia Independence Day held in Yangon

DEPUTY Minister for Education U Win Maw attended a reception to mark the Independence Day of Malaysia in Yangon yesterday. He was welcomed by Malaysian

Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Mohd Haniff Bin Abd Rahman and wife when he arrives at the ceremony held at Melia Hotel. —Myanmar News Agency ■



Illegal precious wood seized

AUTHORITIES seized illegal timbers at Yaypu check-point on 17 September.

Acting on a tip-off, they stopped and searched a 22-wheel vehicle and found 56 illegal Padauk swan timbers weighing 6.614 tons, 14 Padauk logs weighing 2.948 tons totalling 9.562 tons.

The timbers including the vehicle worth K 77.212 million

were seized.

On 17 September, the authorities confiscated various species of illegal woods worth about Ks 77.212 million at Yaypu Check-point in two cases, various species of illegal woods worth about Ks 24.612 million at Mayanchaung permanent inspection gate in eight cases totalling worth about Ks 101.824 million.—001 ■



Illegal timber seized in Yaypu and Mayanchaung checkpoints. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

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

Lavrov-Tillerson meeting sends positive signal, Russian senator says

NEW YORK — The latest meeting between Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson could be used for coordinating positions ahead of the UN General Assembly, Russian Senator Konstantin Kosachev said on Monday.

The meeting between Lav-

rov and Tillerson took place at the office of Russia's mission to the United Nations in New York on Monday and lasted for less than an hour. The top diplomats focused on Ukraine and Syria.

"I see a positive signal in today's meeting," said Kosachev, who chairs Russia's Federation Council (upper house of par-

liament) International Affairs Committee.

"No doubt, the two countries, which are permanent UN Security Council members, should coordinate their steps ahead of the upcoming General Assembly," Kosachev stressed.

"This is a good sign," he said.

The 72nd regular session of the UN General Assembly convened at UN headquarters on 12 September.

The general debate is due to open on Tuesday on the theme, "Focusing on People: Striving for Peace and a Decent Life for All on a Sustainable Planet."

— Tass ■



Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson. PHOTO: TASS

Britain proposes new security treaty with EU after Brexit

LONDON — Britain will propose on Monday signing a new security treaty with the European Union after Brexit to maintain and intensify cooperation to thwart "ever-growing and increasingly cross-border threats".

In its sixth policy paper setting out its vision for ties with the EU after it quits the bloc in March 2019, the government will say the new treaty "would be underpinned by our shared principles and should make sure our partnership has the agility to respond to the ever-changing threats we face".

The proposal comes just days after a blast on a packed commuter underground train injured 30 people in west London, the fifth major attack this year.

"We already have a deep level of collaboration with the EU on security matters and it is in both our interests to find ways to maintain it," Brexit minister David Davis said in a statement.

"A new security treaty with the EU would be underpinned by our shared principles, and should make sure our partnership has the agility to respond to the ever-changing threats we face."

Britain has published a series of "future partnership" policy papers to try to nudge talks with the EU forward, after they have stalled over the divorce settlement, especially over the so called Brexit bill.

Security cooperation is seen by government officials as one of their strongest arguments to gain leverage in the complicated talks to unravel more than 40 years of union.

Amber Rudd, the interior minister, said Britain was one of the leading EU contributors to a range of measures, such as data and evidence sharing,

extradition measures and to the EU's policy agency Europol.

"Recent events in the UK and across Europe have shown the criminal and terrorist threats we face are varied and increasingly international. The long-standing collaboration we have with our European partners allows us to jointly address these threats and keep our citizens safe," she said.

"As we prepare to leave the EU it is therefore vital that we agree a new way to ensure continued security, law enforcement and criminal justice cooperation." —Reuters ■

WORLD BRIEFS

Top official moves from UK's Brexit ministry to PM May's office — report

LONDON — Oliver Robbins, the top official at Britain's Brexit ministry, has quit his job and will take up a new co-ordinating role at Prime Minister Theresa May's Downing Street office, the Evening Standard newspaper reported on Monday.

The Brexit ministry had no immediate comment on the report. The Evening Standard reported that the move by Robbins followed disagreements between the influential official and Brexit minister David Davis, Britain's chief negotiator in talks with the European Union. —Reuters ■

American tourists attacked with acid at French train station

MARSEILLE — A woman threw acid at four female American tourists at a train station in the French city of Marseille on Sunday, an attack police said they did not believe was terrorism-related.

Two of the women, in their early twenties, were treated in hospital for burns to their faces, police said. The tourists were on their way from the southern city to Paris. The attacker, a woman in her 40s, was arrested at the scene. —Reuters ■

Lebanese woman shot dead by 4-year-old son in gun accident

BEIRUT — A woman in south Lebanon was killed on Monday after her four-year-old son accidentally shot her with a hunting rifle, a security source and the state news agency NNA said.

The incident followed another accidental death in which an 11-year-old boy shot his 8-year-old relative last week in another town in southern Lebanon, NNA said. Gun control is not strict in Lebanon. People have regularly been killed by stray bullets shot during celebrations political events. Lebanese officials have often called for restraint of gun use and celebratory gunfire. —Reuters ■



Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi. PHOTO: REUTERS

Iraqi PM Abadi formally demands suspension of Kurdistan independence vote

BAGHDAD — Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi has formally demanded that the Kurdistan region suspend its plan to hold a referendum on independence, planned for 25 September, his office said on Monday. The Iraqi Supreme Federal Court approved Abadi's demand to consider "the breakaway of

any region or province from Iraq as unconstitutional", his office said in a statement. The court is in charge of settling disputes between the central government and the regions, including Kurdistan, but it has no means to implement its orders in the Kurdish region, which has its own police. —Reuters ■

US and Iran argue over inspections at nuclear watchdog meeting

VIENNA — The United States and Iran quarreled over how Tehran's nuclear activities should be policed at a meeting of the UN nuclear watchdog on Monday, in a row sparked last month by Washington's call for wider inspections.

Key US allies are worried by the possibility of Washington pulling out of a 2015 landmark nuclear deal under which Iran agreed to curb its nuclear programme in exchange for sanctions against it being lifted.

US Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley last month called for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to inspect a wider range of sites in Iran, including military ones, to verify it is not breaching its nuclear deal with world powers. Her remarks were rejected by a furious Tehran.

"We will not accept a weakly enforced or inadequately monitored deal," US Energy Secretary Rick Perry told the IAEA General Conference, an annual meeting of the agency's member states that began on Monday.

He did not say whether he thought the deal was currently weakly enforced.

"The United States ... strongly encourages the IAEA to exercise its full authorities to verify Iran's adherence to each and every nuclear-related commitment under the JCPOA," Perry added, referring to the deal by its official name -- the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

Perry was speaking shortly after the General Conference formally approved the appointment of Yukiya Amano, a 70-year-old career diplomat from Japan, to a third term as IAEA director general.

US President Donald Trump has called the accord "the worst deal ever negotiated" and has until mid-October to make a decision that could lead to Washington reimposing sanctions on Iran.

Iran's nuclear chief, Ali Akbar Salehi, told the meeting in Vienna that Washington had made "a host of unjustifiable peculiar demands with regard to the verification of our strictly peaceful nuclear programme".

"We remain confident that the (IAEA) will resist such unacceptable demands and continue to execute the agency's ... role with strict objectivity, fairness and impartiality," he said. Salehi also criticised what he called "the American administration's overtly hostile attitude".

The IAEA has the authority to request access to facilities in Iran, including military ones, if there are new and credible indications of banned nuclear activities there, but diplomats say Washington has yet to provide such indications.

Amano often describes his agency's work as technical rather than political and has declined to comment on Haley's remarks about inspections.

In a speech on Monday, however, he defended the deal as an important step forward.

"The nuclear-related commitments undertaken by Iran under the JCPOA are being implemented," Amano said. "Iran is now subject to the world's most robust nuclear verification regime." —Reuters ■

Turkey holds military drill on Iraqi border before Kurdish vote: army

ANKARA — Turkish armed forces carried out military exercises at the Iraqi border on Monday, the army said, a week ahead of a referendum on Kurdish independence in northern Iraq which Turkey wants canceled.

Around 100 military vehicles, mostly tanks, took part in the drill near the Habur border gate, a crossing point into Iraq, the private Dogan news agency said. Vehicles carrying missiles and howitzers also participated.

Prime Minister Binali Yildirim has said the planned on 25 September referendum is an issue of national security, and warned that Turkey will take any necessary steps in response.

Turkey, the United States and other Western powers have urged authorities in the semi-autonomous region to cancel the vote, concerned that it could create tensions and distract from the war on Islamic State in Iraq and Syria.

With the largest Kurdish



Turkish army tanks are seen during a military exercise near the Turkish-Iraqi border in Silopi, Turkey on 18 September, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

population in the region, Turkey fears that a "Yes" vote would fuel separatism in its southeast, where militants of the outlawed Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) have waged an insurgency for three decades.

Turkey has not spelt out what response it might take if the referendum goes ahead. It has brought forward meetings of the cabinet and its national security council to Friday, three days ahead of the vote, to look

again at the situation.

President Tayyip Erdogan said on Sunday that he will meet Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi this week in New York to discuss concerns about the referendum. —Reuters ■

Afghan forces kill 77 insurgents within 24 hrs

KABUL — Up to 77 insurgents have been killed and 73 other wounded during the Afghan security forces operations across the country over the past 24 hours, the Afghan defense ministry said in a statement released here on Monday.

"Afghan defense and security forces conducted 16 clean up operations and 14 special operations in 14 provinces in the past 24 hours, as a result, 77 armed militants have been killed, 73 injured and six others arrested," the statement said. During the operations, some weapons and ammunitions have also been discovered and 29 motorbikes used by militants were destroyed by security forces, the statement added. Taliban militants who have intensified their activities in the restive provinces have yet to make comment. —Xinhua ■

Hurricane Maria seen strengthening into major hurricane in next two days

MIAMI — A second powerful storm in as many weeks was bearing down on a string of battered Caribbean islands, with forecasters saying Maria would strengthen rapidly into a major hurricane as it ripped into the Leeward Islands on Monday night.

Maria's strength was building as it approached the Lesser Antilles, the US National Hurricane Centre said, estimating its winds near 90 miles per hour (145 kph).

"Maria is expected to become a major hurricane as it moves through the Leeward Islands," the forecaster said, marked by "rapid strengthening" during the next 48 hours.

Maria is approaching the eastern Caribbean less than two weeks after Irma hammered the region be-



Army soldiers from the 602nd Area Support Medical Company gather on a beach as they await transport on a Navy landing craft while evacuating in advance of Hurricane Maria, in Charlotte Amalie, St Thomas, US Virgin Islands on 17 September, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

fore overrunning Florida.

That storm, one of the most powerful ever recorded in the Atlantic with winds up to 185 miles per hour (298 kph), killed at least 84 people, more than half of them in the

Caribbean.

As of 2 am (0600 GMT Monday), the centre of the storm was about 90 miles (145 km) north-northeast of Barbados and about 170 miles (270 km) east-southeast of the Leeward island

of Dominica, moving to the west-northwest at about 13 mph (20 kph).

Hurricane conditions were expected for Guadalupe, Dominica, Martinique and St Kitts, Nevis and Montserrat, and the hurricane centre warned Puerto Rico to monitor the storm.

The British Virgin Islands and St Martin, which was devastated by Hurricane Irma, were under a hurricane watch, as were the US Virgin Islands and Anguilla.

More than 1,700 residents of Barbuda, where Irma damaged nearly every building, braced for Maria on neighbouring Antigua, now under a tropical storm watch, said Ronald Sanders, the country's ambassador to the United States.—Reuters ■

Bangladesh to import 100,000 tons of non-parboiled rice from Myanmar

DHAKA — Despite strained relations with Myanmar over the Rohingya refugee crisis, the Bangladeshi government said Monday that it will import 100,000 tons of rice from its southeastern neighbour.

Bangladeshi Food Minister Qamrul Islam made the announcement in a press briefing in the capital of Dhaka.

The purchase will be made at 442 US dollars per ton, he said. Bangladesh last month decided to cut import duty on rice further to 2 per cent in a bid to rein the instability in prices of the staple food item amid flash floods.

Hundreds of thousands of Rohingyas have entered Bangladesh since a renewed violence erupted on 25 August after dozens of police and border outposts in Myanmar's Rakhine state allegedly came under attack by armed groups. Bangladeshi Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu on

Monday said that Dhaka will continue normal relationship with neighbouring Myanmar until they cut the diplomatic ties. "Regular bilateral trade and commerce relations will be continued until Myanmar cut the diplomatic ties," he said.

Price hike of food items particularly staple rice is a key concern for the Bangladeshi government as nearly 31.5 per cent of its around 160 million population still live below the national poverty line and spend a large part of their incomes on food purchase.

Flash Flood struck the country's northeastern region in March, causing huge loss of boro (winter) rice.

Apart from this, rice blast disease has also affected boro rice production elsewhere in the country. Against such circumstances, prices are seen rising in the short term on a supply shortage.—Xinhua ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV MAERSK WARSAW VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MAERSK WARSAW VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.9.2017 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 KORALIA VOY. NO (775)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KORALIA VOY. NO (775) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT-5 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
AGENCIES PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV CORESHIP OL VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CORESHIP OL VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.9.2017 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 CHUN AN SHIPPING PTE
LTD**

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV NINOS VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NINOS VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 19.9.2017 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 NEW GLODEN SEA LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

China hopes concerned parties support normal exchanges between DPRK, ROK

BEIJING — China hopes that concerned parties can understand and respect the emotions of the people and support normal exchanges between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the Republic of Korea (ROK), Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lu Kang said on Monday.

Lu's comment came after ROK President Moon Jae-in suggested that his country could go ahead with humanitarian aid to the DPRK "regardless of political situations," despite Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's request for consideration of the timing of the

proposed aid.

"All the UN Security Council resolutions that imposed sanctions on the DPRK, including the newly adopted Resolution 2375, have stated clearly that they are not intended to have a negative effect on the livelihoods and humanitarian needs of the people there," Lu said at a daily press briefing.

People from the DPRK and the ROK belong to the same ethnic group, and China has always supported the two countries in strengthening exchanges, improving ties and promoting reconciliation, he said.—Xinhua ■

Malaysia scraps beer festival following Islamists' objections

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysian authorities scrapped an annual beer festival on Monday after an Islamist party objected to the event that had been planned for the first weekend of October in the country's capital. Though there are plenty of beer drinkers among the sizable Chinese and Indian minorities, protests against events deemed to be "western" and unIslamic — such as concerts and festivals involving alcohol — are common in Muslim-majority Malaysia and are usually led by the Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party (PAS). Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) said in a short statement on Monday that it has rejected the application for a permit by the organizers of the "Better Beer Festival 2017" to host the event, which would have entered its sixth year.

"If the organizers continue with the event

without DBKL's approval, action will be taken in accordance to existing laws," city hall said.

Mybeer (M) Sdn Bhd, the company organizing the event, said in a separate statement that they were informed by DBKL officials that the decision was made "due to the political sensitivity surrounding the event". A member of PAS' central committee, Riduan Mohd Nor, said in a statement on 10 September: 10 that there is no guarantee that such events would not lead to criminal acts, rape and free sex. Opponents of the beer festival also launched a campaign on Facebook to block the event. Around 6,000 people had been expected to attend the two-day festival, which would have featured craft beers from at least 11 countries, according to Facebook posts by the organizers and local news reports. —Reuters ■

Typhoon makes landfall on Hokkaido after leaving two dead, three missing

TOKYO — A large typhoon made landfall on Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido on Monday after heavy rain and a mudslide killed two people on the western main island of Shikoku the previous day.

Three men, meanwhile, are missing in Kochi and Oita prefectures in western Japan after Typhoon Talim swept across and caused flooding in rivers. It landed on Hokkaido just after 10 am after passing over the Sea of Japan, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

The weather agency is warning of heavy rain and stormy winds even in areas far from the center of the typhoon, as areas affected by strong winds widen when it approaches an extratropical depression.

As of 11 am, the typhoon was moving at a speed of 65 kilometres per hour around 120 km south-southwest of Sapporo, Hokkaido. With an atmospheric pressure of



Scaffolding is seen collapsed in Tokyo's Shinagawa Ward on 18 September, 2017, due to strong winds brought by Typhoon Talim. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

975 hectopascals, it was packing winds of up to 162 kph.

The typhoon is expected to weaken to an extratropical depression Monday night as it heads toward Sakhalin, but heavy rain and strong wind are expected to remain in place.

In Kagawa Prefecture, an 86-year-old woman was found dead in her house crushed in a mudslide, while the body of a 60-year-old man was also found in a sunken car in a river in Kochi.

In Kochi and Oita, three men went missing

after they went outside to respectively check a ship and rice fields, prompting local police to conduct searches.

In Yamagata Prefecture in northeastern Japan, a bullet train hit a fallen tree and briefly suspended service. —Kyodo News ■

China, Russia to boost cooperation in space, aviation sectors

MOSCOW — China and Russia plan to boost cooperation in aviation and space sectors, Chinese Ambassador to Russia Li Hui said at the Russian-Chinese forum dubbed Moscow and Beijing: Trade, Economic and Cultural Cooperation on Silk Road.

"A Chinese-Russian joint company for cooperation in developing wide-body long-range aircraft has been established officially," the ambassador said. "Perhaps, this year, the implementation of the Chinese-Russian project for creating a heavy helicopter will begin," he pointed out adding that "China and Russia have been expanding cooperation in aviation and space sectors."

According to Li Hui,

in the past two years, significant achievements were made in harmonizing the two countries' national strategies. "As for trade and economic cooperation, bilateral trade has grown, exceeding \$46 billion in the first seven months of the current year, which is 24.96% more compared with the same period last year," the Chinese ambassador said.

Li Hui went on to say that China and Russia were also advancing infrastructure and energy projects.

"The eastern route project of the Chinese-Russian gas pipeline is being implemented. The first part of the Yamal LNG project will be implemented this year," he noted. "A cross-border

railway bridge, which will connect Northeast China and Russia's Far East, is under construction, as well as the Primorye-1 and Primorye-2 transport corridors," the Chinese ambassador added.

Moscow and Beijing signed an agreement on creating a heavy civil helicopter in June 2016, during Russian president Vladimir Putin's official visit to China. In late August, International Cooperation and Regional Policy Director at Russia's state hi-tech corporation Rostec Viktor Kladoy said that a contract concerning the joint project to create a heavy helicopter could be signed before the end of the year, while the total output may reach at least 200 helicopters. —Tass ■

Transferring Distributor for Registered Products

We, Sweet Trading Co., Ltd. would like to change distributor of the following products, (registered by Shandong Binnong Technology Co., Ltd. to Pesticide Registration Board, Myanmar), to Aka Yarzar Co., Ltd. If any object or enquiry, please contact to Pesticide registration Board, Department of Agriculture from here to next 7 days.

No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Type	Registration No.
1	BNS Aba 5	Abamectin 5% EW	Provisional	2015-2637
2	BNS Cyper 25	Cypermethrin 25% EC	Provisional	P2017-3649
3	BNS Lambda 5	Lambda Cyhalothrin 5% EC	Provisional	P2017-3662
4	BNS Aceta 20	Acetamiprid 20% SP	Provisional	2015-2639
5	BNS Chlor	Chlorpyrifos 48% EC	Provisional	2015-2638

Sweet Trading Co., Ltd.

Transferring Distributor for Registered Products

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No	Trade Name	Active Ingredient	Registration Type	Registration No.
1	BNS Quat	Parquat 25% SL	Provisional	P2017-3645
2	BNS Imida	Imidacloprid 70% WDG	Provisional	2015-2641
3	BNS Amine	2,4 D Amine Salt 72% SL	Provisional	P2017-3642
4	BNS Bispyri 10	Bispyribac-Sodium 10% SC	Provisional	P2017-3657
5	BNS Quizalo	Quizalofop-P-ethyl 10.8% EC	Provisional	P2017-3666
6	BNS Buta A	Butachlor 60% EC	Provisional	P2017-3659
7	BNS Azoxy	Azoxystrobin 25% SC	Provisional	P2017-3656
8	BNS Difeno	Difenoconazole 25% EC	Provisional	P2017-3661
9	BNS Dimorph	Dimethomorph 50% WP	Provisional	P2017-3646
10	BNS Propi	Propiconazole 25% EC	Provisional	P2017-3648
11	BNS Manco	Mancozeb 80% WP	Provisional	P2017-3647
12	BNS Atra 50	Atrazine 50% SC	Provisional	P2017-3652

Sweet Trading Co., Ltd.

Diverse shapes, sizes, colours dominate Emmys red carpet

LOS ANGELES — The Emmy awards red carpet challenged the traditional ideals of Hollywood beauty on Sunday with diversity in race, body shape and sexual identity reinventing television's biggest runway.

That variety infused the fashion, making this year's red carpet one of the more eclectic in recent memory. Looks ranged from gowns in vibrant primary colours to more bohemian looks in glistening metallic hues, chosen from among the world's most famous designers and lesser-known talent.

The tuxedo also found a creative outlet on several men and women.

"The diversity is amazing," said Joyann King, executive editor of Harper's Bazaar.com "I love to see all the skin colours and shapes and sizes. It feels like we've come so far from the blond Barbie."

This season's carpet, King said, was "more variety, a range of ages in the woman walking the carpet, and a range of body shapes. It really feels like a celebration."

That meant "Orange is the New Black"'s Laverne Cox poured into a liquid silver gown, Lily Tomlin sported a classic black suit, and Priyanka Chopra wore a form-fitting white gown embossed with silver.

The California sun emerged just before the red carpet opened for television's top honours, making the metallics sparkle and the looks

in vibrant emerald, daffodil and scarlet pop.

"This felt magical, fairy-like" said Zoe Kravitz ("Big Little Lies") of her Dior gown decorated with rain-bow-coloured ribbons, while Tessa Thompson opted for multi-coloured pleated halter dress by New York designer Rosie Assoulin.

Donald Glover wore a purple tuxedo, while Anthony Anderson ("black-ish")

sported an Armani white tuxedo jacket. His co-star Tracee Ellis Ross opted for silver sequins and a feather hem from Chanel.

"The feathers were dipped, the crystals were sewn," said the nominee, extolling the work involved in the couture gown.

Crimson was the choice for a bevy of actresses, including Nicole Kidman,

Heidi Klum, and Edie Falco, as well as Yvonne Strahovski ("The Handmaid's Tale"), and presenter Issa Rae in a one-shoulder Vera Wang.

Comedian Samantha Bee wore emerald satin and Angela Sarafyan ("Westworld") sported a bright, sunny yellow gown by designer Elizabeth Kennedy.

Sofia Vergara ("Modern Family") wore a vampy white strapless gown from Los Angeles designer Mark Zunino, cooling herself with a little fan attached to an iPhone, as Felicity Huffman from "American Crime" entertained photographers, flipping around the long train on her blue lace dress.

Metallic silver was the choice for a host of stars, including the actresses Uzo Aduba ("Orange is the New Black") and Anna Chlumsky ("Veep").

"I wanted something in the precious metal, could-be-mined-from-the-earth vein," exclaimed Chlumsky of her Sachin & Babi gown.

Of course, elegant black is always a red carpet classic, and was the Emmys choice of Susan Sarandon and Judith Light.

"I'm playing dress-up," said presenter Rachel Bloom, who purchased her black Gucci lace dress herself. "I can re-sell it!" — Reuters ■



Nicole Kidman poses with the Emmys for Outstanding Limited Series and Outstanding Lead Actress in Limited Series for Big Little Lies during the 69th Primetime Emmy Awards, Los Angeles, California, US, on 17 September. PHOTO: REUTERS

'Three Billboards Outside Ebbing' wins at Toronto film festival

TORONTO — Director Martin McDonagh's comic drama, "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri," won the award for audience favorite at the Toronto International Film Festival on Sunday, giving the film a boost ahead of the upcoming awards season.

Frances McDormand plays a grieving mother frustrated with the police's lack of progress in finding her daughter's killer. The film, which screened in Venice earlier and is set for wide release later this year, won the Grolsch People's Choice Award.

Craig Gillespie's "I, Tonya," about US figure skater Tonya Harding, and Luca Guadagnino's "Call Me By Your Name," a coming-of-age romance about forbidden love, were the runners-up.

Past audience winners and runners-up in Toronto have gone on to win or become best-picture Oscar nominees, solidifying the Toronto festival's reputation as a launching pad for films that go on to receive critical acclaim.

Past winners and runners-up include "Spotlight," "12 Years A Slave," "The King's Speech" and "La La Land." Other winners at this year's festival included "Faces Places" for the audience's favorite documentary. Warwick Thornton's "Sweet Country" won the festival's Platform prize, selected by a panel of filmmakers.—Reuters ■

Rolling Stone, iconic music magazine, looks for buyer



Rolling Stone / 50 Years special exhibition at Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland, Ohio on 30 August, 2017. PHOTO: PTI

NEW YORK — Rolling Stone, the iconic 50-year-old magazine of music and counterculture, is putting itself up for sale amid an increasingly uncertain outlook, its founder said.

Jann Wenner — who started Rolling Stone in 1967 as a hippie student in Berkeley, California and now runs it with his son Gus — told The New York Times that the future looked tough for a family-run publisher.

"There's a level of ambition that we can't achieve alone," Gus Wenner told the newspaper in an interview published late yes-

terday. "So we are being proactive and want to get ahead of the curve," he said.

One of the most influential magazines covering rock music, Rolling Stone has also been a home for experimental writers such as the gonzo journalist Hunter S Thompson. But the magazine's reputation — and finances — were badly damaged when it retracted a 2014 story about an alleged gang rape at the University of Virginia, with a review finding that Rolling Stone did not undertake basic journalistic procedures to verify the facts.

Rolling Stone last year sold a 49 per cent stake to a Singaporean music and technology start-up, BandLab Technologies, which is headed by Kuok Meng Ru, the scion of one of Asia's richest families. It was not immediately known if Kuok would want to take a controlling stake in Rolling Stone. The Wenner family earlier this year sold its other two titles — celebrity magazine US Weekly and lifestyle monthly Men's Journal — to American Media, Inc, a publisher of supermarket tabloids including The National Enquirer.—PTI ■



Artistees perform in honour of Myanmar Democracy Festival at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street, Yangon on Monday. **PHOTO: ZAW GYI (PANITA)**

Opening ceremony of Myanmar Democracy Festival contests for film, music, fine arts, concerts and anyeint held

By Zaw Gyi (Panita)

A CEREMONY to open the Myanmar democracy festival contests for film, music, fine arts, concerts and anyeint was held at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street, Yangon at 6 pm yesterday.

The opening ceremony was opened by U Myint Htwe, Director-General of MRTV, U Lin Naing Myint, deputy speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw, U Lu Min, chairman of Myanmar Motion Picture Association, U Tin Oo Lay, chairman of Myanmar Music Association and U Pho Chit, chairman of Myanmar Fine Arts Association, by cutting ribbon.

Afterwards, curtain for Myanmar democracy festival's concert was raised, with presentations of varieties played. The concert included songs in

honour of democracy, a short play of humor, democracy opera marionette, democracy play named "Neither Me Nor Grandpa Know," with Academy Lu Min, Phyo Ngwe Soe, Thu Htoo San and many other casts, directed by Kyaw Zaw Lin, modern music sung by R Zarni, Phyo Gyi, Corny, She, Phyu Phyu Kyaw Thein, Chan Chan and famous vocalists and Myanmar Pianissimo Classic Music by Cho Pyone, Soe Sandar Tun, Poe Ei San, Haymar Ne Win, Banyar Han and famous singers. The concert attracted the attention of audience very much, it was learnt. Daw Nwe Nwe, who came from Kamayut township, to enjoy the festival concert said, "Being a concert, Myanmar Democracy Festival is extraordinary, so I came to see it. Play and opera also are very good. I like vocalists and singers who performed. I gained much knowledge from this.



Myanmar Democracy Festival concert will be presented on 19 September, for the second day. This is the first time concert with brethren from film, music and fine arts worlds participating. Extraordinary programs are included. Especially the opera is the

one that depicts the democracy at the time of Vesali Era, with play describing current situations in the modern outlook, disclosed by Maung Thi, vice-chairman of Padetha Concert Convening Committee.

On 20 and 21 September, 8

troupes of Anyeint will contest for championship.

Anyeint contest will be shown to public free of charge and Yangon Region Cabinet has made arrangement for audience to provide free ferry service to Anyeint free of charge.



MFF says goodbye to Myanmar U-18 Coach Rabah Benlabiz

Kyaw Zin Lin

Officials from Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) said goodbye to Myanmar Under-18 national football team's Head Coach Rabah Benlabiz yesterday morning according to the Myanmar Football Federation official website.

MFF has decided to part way with him goodbye at the federation's meeting held yesterday morning that was attended by officials and football players at-

tended. Although Benlabiz could not bring the expected success for Myanmar U-18, he did managed the team to some extent. He handled Myanmar U-18 for about five month.

His contract with the team until is upcoming December but resigned from the team with mutual understanding between him and MFF. It is known that he will be paid the left two month salary on the termination of contract.



Myanmar Coach Rabah Benlabiz of U-18 talks to media during the press conference. **PHOTO: MFF**

Myanmar U-18 national football team will next be handled by local board of coaches and the team has to play 2018 AFC

U-19 Championship qualification Group G matches that will host in Cambodia from 4 to 8 November. ■

AFC U16 Championship qualification to be played in Myanmar

Kyaw Zin Lin

Myanmar will host the AFC Under 16 Championship qualification Group H matches that will play from 25 to 29 September at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon. The 2018 AFC U-16 Championship qualification is an international men's under-16 football competition which will decide the participating teams for the 2018 AFC U-16 Championship.

Host Myanmar is falling in the Group H together with South Korea, China and the Philippines.

Myanmar U-16 will play China on 25 September; South Korea on 27 September and the Philippines on 29 September.

In the group matches the teams will get 3 points for a win, 1 point for a draw, 0 points for a loss. A total of 16 teams from ten Groups, Group A to Group J, will qualify to play in the final tournament. Malaysia, as final tournament hosts, automatically qualified regardless of qualification results. The five best runners-up and ten winners across all groups will qualify for the final tournament. ■

Wolfsburg sack coach who saved them from relegation

BERLIN — Bundesliga club VfL Wolfsburg parted company with coach Andries Jonker on Monday, less than four months after he helped save them from relegation.

The Dutchman, appointed at the end of February, took charge of 19 competitive games including the two-legged relegation playoff against Eintra-

cht Braunschweig in May which Wolfsburg won 2-0 on aggregate to secure their top-flight status.

Jonker's overall record was eight wins, four draws and seven defeats.

The Wolves, beaten 1-0 by promoted VfB Stuttgart on Saturday, have made an indifferent start to the new season, lying 14th in the table with four points

from as many games.

The club said in a statement that the two parties had gone "separate ways" and that Jonker was "no longer head coach."

"The decision to change coach so early in the season was not taken lightly," said general manager Tim Schumacher. "We were finally convinced by our

internal advisers that we must undertake this task with a new coaching staff."

Wolfgang Hotze, spokesman for the board of directors, said the decision was not just based on the Stuttgart match but "on the noticeable stagnation in the development of our... team in recent weeks." —Reuters ■

Madrid ease past Sociedad to overcome league blip

MADRID — Real Madrid put their title defence back on track with a comfortable 3-1 win over Real Sociedad at Anoeta on Sunday, despite missing several key players.

Sociedad defender Kevin Rodrigues scored at both ends and Borja Mayoral and Gareth Bale netted Madrid's other goals to help them equal the consecutive scoring record of 73 games set by Pele's Santos between 1961 and 1963.

Madrid faced a tricky clash against an in-form side with Cristiano Ronaldo and Marcelo suspended and Karim Benzema and Toni Kroos injured but after disappointing consecutive league draws they made light work of Eusebio Sacristan's men.

The champions ended Sociedad's unbeaten start to the season and moved up to fourth place, cutting table-topping Barcelona's lead on them to four points.

Real Sociedad are third, on nine points, one ahead of Madrid and one behind Sevilla, who beat Girona 1-0 away to move second.—Reuters ■



Real Madrid's Luka Modric in action with Real Sociedad's Sergio Canales at Anoeta Stadium, San Sebastian, Spain on 17 September, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

'Everton top four? No way Jose,' says Koeman

LONDON — Jose Mourinho has suggested Everton should be targeting a top-four finish after spending 145 million pounds in the summer but the Merseyside club's manager, Ronald Koeman, says his Manchester United counterpart's claims are unrealistic. Mourinho's comments came in his programme notes ahead of United's 4-0 thumping of Everton in the Premier League on Sunday. Koeman, however, said his targets were unchanged from his debut season at the club when Everton finished seventh and that he needed more time before they could push for a top-four place. "Is there anybody who sees this as realistic for Everton? Please, come on. Fans, press - we need time," Koeman told British media. —Reuters ■