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Ethnic Rakhine begin the journey back to their villages yesterday from Sittway after violence in northern Rakhine subsided. **PHOTO: MNA**

163 killed, 91 missing from 9 Oct to 26 Sept in N-Rakhine

THE death toll of civilians by terrorist attacks in northern Rakhine from 9 October to 26 September has reached 163, with 91 still missing, according to data released by authorities yesterday.

Data collection teams started conducting ground surveys on 23 September to determine the losses and damages from the terrorist attacks in northern Rakhine.

From 25 August, the day ARSA extremist terrorists launched attacks to dozens of police posts and civilians, to 26 September, 84 people, including Hindus, ethnic Rakhine, Daingnet and Mro villagers, civil servants and security forces were killed by ARSA terrorists. Fifty-four are still missing, according to the data.

The terrorists attacks from 9 October to 24 August—the day before the latest terrorist attacks—killed 79 people including villagers who are cooperating with authorities, civil servants, security forces, leaving 37 missing.

The main data is collected first and other required data will also be collected, officials said. It is estimated to take a month to complete the work, said U Ye Htut, Deputy Commissioner of Maungtau District General Administration Department.—Myanmar News Agency ■

No ethnic cleansing in N-Rakhine

Myanmar at UN: Term 'genocide' must not be used without solid evidence

MYANMAR objected in the strongest terms to the use of words and terms such as "atrocities", "ethnic cleansing" and "genocide" by several UN delegations in reference to the situation in Myanmar.

Myanmar diplomats and government officials said it is

dangerous and irresponsible to use such damning words without solid evidence.

Ambassador U Hau Do Suan, Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations, expressed his concerns in exercising the right

of reply against those allegations during the final session of the general debate at the UN General Assembly in New York on Monday.

"It is deeply regrettable that unsubstantiated allegations have been repeated in those chambers likening the situa-

tion in Rakhine State to 'ethnic cleansing', he said.

He said that terms such as "atrocities", "ethnic cleansing", and "genocide" must not be used lightly, and the use of such terms should be considered only after there is solid evidence.

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VP U Myint Swe attends reception to mark 68th Founding Anniversary of PRC

Vice President U Myint Swe attended a grand reception to mark the 68th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The ceremony opened with greetings by Ambassador of China to Myanmar Mr Hong Liang and Vice President U Myint Swe.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vice President appreciated the two neighbouring countries' close cooperation which has ever been existed in the regional and international arena, expressing his thanks to China for its support to Myanmar's peace process and current constructive assistance for socio economic development of Myanmar people.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries 67 years ago, Myanmar and China have seen friendly relations of good

neighbours and both have practiced the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence laid down by Myanmar, China and India, he said.

The visits of Myanmar President and the State Counsellor to China in April and May have promoted the mutual trust and friendship between the leaders of the two countries and the further close relations, he added.

The Vice President also appreciated the China's achievement in successful holding of the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, calling it "China's achievement for building a milestone in modern history".

In conclusion, Vice President U Myint Swe pledged that Myanmar would make efforts for strengthening bilateral relations between Myanmar and China.

The ceremony was also at-



Vice President U Myint Swe looks at documentary photos at the grand reception to mark the 68th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China. **PHOTO: MNA**

tended by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army)

Vice-Senior General Soe Win, deputy speakers of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw,

Union ministers, deputy ministers, MPs and diplomats.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Judicial Review in Federal System held in Nay Pyi Taw



Members of Constitutional Tribunal of the Union and participants pose for a documentary photo after the discussion on Judicial Review in Federal System in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

The Constitutional Tribunal of the Union and International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) conducted "Interpretation of a Constitution and Statutes: Judicial Review in Federal System" at Park Royal Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The discussion aims to support Constitutional Tribunal of the Union conducting research and to increase

awareness and knowledge on constitutional law.

In the opening ceremony of the discussion, U Kyaw Hsan, member of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, gave an opening speech and Ms. Anamari Salonen, Programme Manager of International IDEA spoke words of greeting.

Later in the first day discussion programme, Professor Cheryl Saunders discussed un-

der the title of "Potential Issues for Judicial Review in Federal Systems".

Members of Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, acting director-general, deputy director-general, personnel from the Board of Tribunal research group and responsible personnel from IDEA attended the discussion and it will continue until 27 September. — Myanmar News Agency ■

1,180 patients hospitalized, 400 diagnosed with H1N1, 38 fatalities to date

THIRTY patients were confirmed with H1N1 infection among 116 suspected patients who received laboratory test from 2 to 13 September, with a single fatality, according to Ministry of Health and Sports.

Meanwhile, from 2 p.m. 13 September to 2 p.m. 26 September 35 patients received laboratory test, out of which only one was diagnosed with H1N1 and there were no fatality.

From 21 July to 2 p.m. 26 September, there were 1,180 patients hospitalized, out of which 400 were diagnosed with H1N1 and 38 fatalities. The fatalities were 13 in Ayeyawady Region, 8 in Yangon Region, 6 in Bago Region and 11 from other states and regions according to a statement made yesterday by Ministry of Health and Sports.

According to yesterday's statement of the Ministry of Health and Sports, 22 of the fatalities were not from the direct effects of H1N1 but due to complication from other existing health problems.

As of 2 p.m. yester-

day, there were no H1N1 in-patients in Waibagi Specialist Hospital while only 3 in-patients were being treated in states and regions hospitals. 318 in-patients were discharged and only 19 out-patients were getting treatment while number of in-patients had improved significantly.

Cumulative Incidence of influenza like illness symptoms had also declined in schools, work places, hotels and crowded area.

If people detect symptom of seasonal influenza or suspect to have seasonal influenza, they should take timely and effective treatment at the nearest health stations, clinics and hospitals and prevent spreading the illness by following health guideline and notice on seasonal influenza published by Ministry of Health and Sports.

Ministry of Health and Sports will continue to make occasional statement for the people on the occurrence of Seasonal Influenza A (H1N1) pdm09 it is learnt.— Myanmar News Agency ■

Interview with bereaved families of Hindus killed by ARSA terrorists

By Min Thit (MNA)

UPON receiving information about the location of dozens of dead Hindus in northern Rakhine State, the bodies of the people allegedly killed by extremist terrorists from the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) were unearthed by security forces near the village of Yebawkya in Maungtaw. Twenty-eight bodies were discovered on Sunday, and 17 more on Monday. The following are the accounts of surviving family members interviewed by Myanmar News Agency reporters at the site in Maungtaw where the bodies were found.

Ronni, Maungtaw Township, Thittone-nar Khwa-Sone Village tract, Oh-Htein Village

Among 28 bodies dug firstly is my elder brother, named Hannu. He lived with his family at the village Thittone-nar Khwa-Sone village. When examined, I ascertained that it was my own brother, by seeing his frequently-dressed shirt. He visited his daughter at Khamaungseik village to stay for a night. On the day when the terrorist attacks happened, terrorists came to Khamaungseik to abduct Hindus, in which my brother was one of the victims. All were inhumanely killed on the way, with eight Hindu women and children abducted to



Arshee Kumar, Maungtaw 4 ward.



Ronni, Oh-Htein Village.

Bangladesh. Women were raped. I had a contact with those women. I did not yet know whether my brother's wife and children have not been accounted and have been killed. We heard most of them killed by terrorists. Our village Khamaungseik, where Hindus mostly lived, was surrounded by Bengali villages.

Arshee Kumar, 4 ward Maungtaw

I lived with my family in Maungtaw. My daughter, my parents-in-law and my brother-in-law were among the victims. My daughter



Salmon Barlar, Kyeinchaung Village. PHOTO: NAY LINLINTET

lived with my parents-in-law in Khamaungseik village (south). Dead bodies dug out included corpses of my mother-in-law and brother-in-law. The bodies of my daughter, only 8 years old, and my father-in-law have not been found yet. My spouse has suffered from a mental disorder since the brutal slaughter of the people. All were killed by throat slitting. Some were found to have been decapitated and limbs amputated. We want to find our daughter as soon as possible. I will not stop looking for my daughter even if she is

found dead and it is only her skeleton. I pray for my daughter not to experience such a worse situation. Terrorists not only killed Hindus, including the cruel killing of children, but also raped the women.

Salmon Barlar, Kyeinchaung Village

My husband's two brothers were among the dead bodies dug up. Their names are Bisnia and Han Montie. Their wives and children were also killed. A mother and her two children and another mother and her three children have not been accounted for. We



Mardoori, Khamaungseik Village (south).



Orno Barlar, Khamaungseik Village.



Minu, Maungtaw ward 4.

overheard that one was abducted to Bangladesh. I live now in Kyeinchaung village. My husband's two brothers earned their living in Khamaungseik as blacksmiths.

Mardoori, Khamaungseik Village (south)

My sister, her spouse and her two sons were among the killed. Prior to the event, I fortunately missed being killed as I had been in Thamanthar village. Among the corpses dug out, there was the body of my sister. My sister wore her usual bangles on her wrist. By seeing these, I

identified that it was her. The bodies of her husband and her sons have not yet been found.

Orno Barlar, Khamaungseik Village

Among the corpses dug up were my husband and two sons. I could identify them as I well remembered their clothing. On the bodies were cuttings on their throats with limbs amputated. Some legs were almost completely cut. I survived because I had been in Maungtaw at an event. Fifteen of my relatives have not yet been found. Terrorists killed our Hindus in Khamaungseik.

Minu, ward 4 Maungtaw

I live in Maungtaw. My two sons and my daughter lived in Khamaungseik. My elder son was married, as was my daughter. One son was still single. My sons were eking out a living as goldsmiths. Yesterday, my two sons were found among the dead bodies dug up yesterday. His daughter and child, including my daughter and her son, were abducted to Bangladesh. Over there, our Hindus found them and brought them, it was learnt. I had phone contacts with my daughter and daughter-in-law. It has been learnt that gold from their shop was robbed. ■

25 bodies of Hindu villagers identified

Of the 93 missing Hindus from Yebawkya Village in northern Rakhine State, the remains of 45 were discovered in a mass grave and 25 were identified by the leader of a Hindu assistance group and Yebawkya villagers.

The search continues to recover the remaining missing Hindus.

Starting on Sunday

morning, security personnel, Hindu religious leader U Ni Maul and six other Hindus searched for 93 Hindus from Yebawkya Village, area 2 in Maungtaw Township who were allegedly killed by ARSA extremist terrorists.

They found the remains of 28 villagers buried in two mass graves

1,500 meters northwest of Yebawkya Village.

When the search was resumed on Monday, two more mass graves containing the remains of 17 Hindu villagers were found 200 meters from the other graves. The search continued yesterday, but no remains were found. Officials said the search will continue.

The leader of the Hindu assistance group and Hindus from Yebawkya village identified 25 people out of the remains of the 45 people found.

Those identified were: Mat Ralaung, 18, Arshi Kuma, 20, Daw Aungdu Balar, 50, Daw Bikyuni, 45, Ma Gawyal, 35, Ma Me Naw Balar, 32,

Ma Bijaw Banlar, 30, Ma Dogal Naw Balar, 25, Ma Biruna, 25, Ma Sulani, 22, Aungzu Bala, 50, Myint Hlaing, 19, B Rawbala (30 years), B Juli, 45, Bunani, 20, Naw Balar, 35, Rorani, 35, Metawbalar, 30, Mel-aung, 18, Akhwe Kumar, 20, Biruna, 25, Zaw Tein Draw, 55, L Maungtaw, 25, and Birunia, 35, from Yebawkya village and

Raju, 22, from Tamatha village.

The remains of the 45 villagers were inspected by Maungtaw People's Hospital Superintendent Dr. Kyaw Maung Maung Thein, Township Judge U Zaw Zaw Than, and criminal investigative department Police Major Ye Aung. — Information Committee ■

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Price of rice increases in domestic market because of low stock

THE price of low-quality rice has increased because of low stock in the local market, while that of the good-quality rice has also risen, according to traders from the Bayint-naung and Wahdan wholesale rice markets.

The price of low-quality rice has risen by Ks500 to Ks2,300 per bag depending upon the brand, while that of good-quality rice rose by Ks500 to Ks2,000 per bag compared to last week.

"The price of rice is still increasing because Myanmar is exporting the rice from sea routes. The main problem is that, despite high demand, there is low stock in the local market," said U Aung Myint, a rice merchant.

"These days, Myanmar is exporting rice from sea routes; therefore, the price of rice is likely to increase. Although the rice stock is low in the local market, the rice will be enough until the new paddy arrives the market", he added.

New shipments of low-quality rice to local mar-



Workers unloading sacks of rice from a ship at a jetty in Yangon. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

kets will come from the western part of Bago Region. In mid October, new low-quality rice will reach markets across the nation. Good-quality rice will arrive in local markets by the end of October, according to local paddy cultivators.

Currently, Pyapon Pawsan rice is selling for between

Ks33,000 and 35,000 per bag, while Dedaye Pawsan costs between Ks33,500 and Ks35,000 per bag. The price of Pathein Pawsan is between Ks34,000 and Ks37,000, while Pawsan from across the nation is selling for between Ks32,000 and Ks 34,000. Ehmata (Monsoon) costs between Ks21,500 and

Ks22,500 whereas Ehmata (25 per cent) costs between Ks21,000 and Ks21,500. The rice grown with the summer multiple cropping method sells for Ks23,000 and Ks23,300 and summer rice (harvested within 90 days) costs between Ks24,000 and Ks24,500, according to the rice market.—Zwe ■

Air quality assessment to be completed in October

Ko Moe

MEASUREMENT of the air quality index (AQI) in Yangon will be completed in October, according to the Pollution Control & Cleansing Department of the Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC).

"Currently, we cannot complete the measurement of AQI because of heavy rains. We still need to measure some

areas. We hope that the measurement will be completed in the second week of September," said Dr Aung Myint Maw, the Assistant Head of the Pollution Control & Cleansing Department.

The YCDC conducted measurements of air pollution for the first time in 67 Yangon Region townships between April 2015 and April 2016. According to the AQIs measured, there were no criti-

cal conditions discovered.

"The YCDC also measured pollution in the Yangon Region in March 2016 to make sure that the first results were correct," he added.

Dr Aung Myint Maw said polluted areas will be announced, if any are found after the data is compiled and have been adjusted to the results of the first and second measurements.

The YCDC has installed

four pollution monitoring apparatuses in the Yangon Region.

Three of these apparatuses were installed in front of Yangon City Hall and in Hledan and Mingaladon townships.

The fourth pollution monitoring apparatus is taking the measurements with a mobile system, according to the Pollution Control & Cleansing Department (YCDC). ■

Two new elephant camps to be opened

TWO new elephant camps will be opened in the coming tourism season to strengthen elephant conservation and promote eco-tourism across the nation, according to an official from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation.

One new elephant camp is

located at Shan Yoma elephant camp on the Meiktila-Taunggyi Highway Road, and the other camp is the Sakhan Thar Elephant Camp on the Mandalay-PyinOoLwin Highway Road. Initially, the elephant camps will be opened with six elephants each.

There are about 18 govern-

ment-owned elephant camps and two privately owned elephant camps in Myanmar.

Among these elephant camps, the Nga Lite Thar Elephant Camp in Nay Pyi Taw and Wingabaw Elephant Camp at 39th mile on the Yangon-Mandalay Highway attracts the most

tourists, according to the ministry.

"Tourists are interested in our elephant camps because they can watch the elephants dancing, watch them bathe and see orphan calves being fed milk," said an official from Wingabaw Elephant Camp.—Min Thu ■

Tomato sells well at markets

TOMATO fruits produced in villages in Salingyi Township, Yinmabin District, Sagaing Region, have been sold well in domestic markets, local growers say.

“Small-scale growers reaped a handsome profit from tomato sale this season. A viss of tomato, which is equivalent to 3.6 pounds, is currently sold in the market for Ks1,200-Ks1,300 based on size and freshness,” one of growers from Yinmabin



PHOTO: REUTERS

said. “This year, farmers saw a good harvest of seasonal crop,” he added. Local growers use

quality strains of tomato such as Bamar, Shan and Taiwan, applying a range of agricultural techniques to boost production.

Tomato, a popular kitchen crop, is widely used as the most ubiquitous ingredient in Myanmar cookery.

The crop is famous for its tons of health benefits. According to a world study, tomato can kill most kind of toxins in human body.—Shwe Khine■

Border trade with ITCs reaches Ks 18 billion as of 15th September

THE value of border trade using the Individual Trading Card (ITC) amounted to Ks18 billion as of 15th September in this fiscal year, which includes the export value of Ks1.4 billion and the import value of Ks16.5 billion, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

Myawady border trade is reported to have the largest volume of trade with a value of more than Ks12 billion. According to Ministry statistics, export value with the ITC was Ks6.8 million as of 15th September, while import value with the ITC was Ks12.8 billion.

The trade value via ITCs at border points was: Ks847 million at Tamu trade camp; Ks11 million at Muse border gate; Ks669 million at Tachilek trade camp; Ks56

million at Lwejel trade camp; Ks4 million at Chinshwehaw border gate; Ks928 million at Kanpikete; Ks328 million at Kawthoung border town; Ks314 million at Reed border trade camp, Ks759 million at Mawtaung gate, and Ks78 million at Kengtung border trade camp.

The total trade value with ITCs was Ks18.97 billion in fiscal 2016-2017.

The Ministry of Commerce has permitted 292 ITCs in 2012-2013 FY; 261 cards in 2013-2014 FY; 317 cards in 2014-2015 FY; 146 cards in 2015-2016 FY; 248 cards in 2016-2017 FY and 86 cards in this fiscal as of 15th September.

Since its introduction to date, the ministry has issued a total of 1,350 ITCs.—Zwe■

Marine exports increase by \$42 million

THE marine export as of 15 September valued over US\$260 million, an increase of \$42 million than that of the same point of last year, according to the Ministry of Commerce's report.

The same period of last year, the country sold \$218.277 million worth of fisheries products mainly to neighbouring countries.

Between 1 April and 15 Sep-

tember of this FY, the private sector sent marine products amounting to \$260.341 million to the international trade partners while the government made no trade deal for this kind of product.

Freshwater fishes, mud crabs, seafood, shrimps and prawns as well as dried fish are mostly exported to ASEAN member countries, East Asian states

and some European nations through border points of entry as well as sea routes. The country's marine export reached its peak in 2011-12 FY, earning \$705 million. It decreased to \$624 million in 2012-13 FY. The export value continued to decline in three consecutive financial years beginning in 2013-14 FY. It rebounded to more than \$580 in 2016-17 FY.—Kyu Kyu■

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It's the many impacts of business on the environment which are of most concern: Mrs. Vicky Bowman

By May Thet Hnin

FOLLOWING is the exclusive interview with Mrs. Vicky Bowman, Director of the Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business.

Q. What does 'responsible business' mean? Why is it important?

A. MCRB believes that responsible business is business which is good for all of the people of Myanmar, and is both profitable and sustainable.

Q. Is the Myanmar business sector transparent and accountable?

A. The situation in Myanmar is changing. Previously business was done in a very closed way, under the military government. Now there is market pressure on Myanmar companies to reform in order to attract foreign investors and business partners. This trend is good for the country. We found that some of the Myanmar companies we have studied in our Pwint-thit-sa (Transparency in Myanmar Enterprises) report are starting to adopt international standards of corporate governance and transparency. That is paying off in terms of getting more partners, and foreign investor interest. It is also important that companies seek out feedback and learn and improve. For example, we find some Myanmar companies have started to do that through developing a complaint/feedback mechanism, and through being more accountable to their stakeholders.

Q. What is the interest from companies in the training that MCRB offers?

A. MCRB offers free workshops on different areas like human rights policy, anticorruption, and environmental impact assessment (EIA) and also discussion of specific sectors, such as tourism. A particular area for companies to improve their practices is environmental management. While Myanmar has introduced an EIA requirement, what we have seen is that many Myanmar companies do not really understand the purpose of this, how complex it is, how much it costs to have it done professionally, but how useful it can be if done properly. Managing environmental impacts costs money

but it is essential for sustainable business. The government needs to rethink the costs it imposes on business, with a rebalancing from the corporate tax rate, which is 25%, which is high compared to other countries in the region, and many companies evade it, to requiring more companies to invest in reducing their environmental impact, for example water use, dust, waste water, and energy use. At the moment, we see companies spending a lot of money on so-called donations – which is some cases amount to corruption – but not much on good environmental and social practices. That's not responsible business.

“At the moment, we see companies spending a lot of money on so-called donations – which is some cases amount to corruption – but not much on good environmental and social practices. That's not responsible business.”

Q. What role does a 'third party expert' play in EIA?

A. All companies who have to conduct EIAs are legally required to use a qualified third party expert. It's not a choice. But at the moment the problem is that many of the people who are now offering third party EIA services are not experienced and don't have the necessary qualifications, but the Myanmar company using their services doesn't know that. We recommend to companies that they should consider international EIA consultancies for complex projects but we also recommend that international EIA consultancies have a duty to transfer skills. In the end, there should be a common interest amongst EIA consultancies in seeing standards rise.

Q. Why does MCRB publish reports on certain sectors as well as Briefings on issues such as Business and Child Right, Discrimination etc?

A. For our sectoral reports, we focussed on the sectors of growing importance to the economy and where there was



Mrs. Vicky Bowman, Director of the Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business.

increased Myanmar and foreign investment and the potential for significant human rights impacts. Our first sectoral report was oil and gas. We've also looked at tourism, ICT and mining and we are currently studying the oil palm sector. What we are looking there is to study the positive and negative human rights impact of the sectors, how policy and legal frameworks support or prevent positive impacts, and what are the international standards and good practices. For our Briefing Papers, like the one we recently issued on combatting discrimination in the workplace we draw on our field research findings from the sectors, but also raise awareness of good international practice. For example companies may not be giving much thought to the different aspects of children's rights which their business can have a positive or negative impact on. It is not only about child labour. It's also about how a businesses could have an impact on safety of children – for example by marketing a product that's dangerous for children, or in an irresponsible way, such as marketing of milk powder instead of breast milk, or marketing of cigarettes.

Q. I heard that your reports are sent to respective ministries and parliament. So how is the cooperation with them?

A. Our sector-wide impact assessments have recommendations to government on policy and legal issues, and as the government makes its reforms, we feed in our ideas and reports. We've done a lot of followup work on sustainable tourism with the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and other stakeholders including regional government, MPs, businesses and civil society groups. In Taninthayi we are working

with Fauna&Flora International which has environment expertise and has mapped the sensitive environmental areas. We hope that collaboration will lead to a master plan for sustainable tourism development in Taninthayi, including the Myeik Archipelago. If tourism is developed in a way to protect the environment, it will benefit all stakeholders and result in a successful tourism industry, with opportunities like dive tourism and adventure tourism. If tourism is not properly managed, for example by failure to manage waste, hotel construction, or the impact of tourists on coral, it will destroy the thing that tourists want to visit. So it's really important that the government manages and regulates how tourism is developed based on a good understanding of the environment and the market.

Q. In your view, where are the worst impacts from business in Myanmar?

A. It's the many impacts of business on the environment which are of most concern. This is worrying because impacts on the environment also cause social impacts. They cause impacts on people, on their livelihoods if their land is poisoned or their fish stocks depleted by industrial pollution, on their health and safety if the hillsides are eroded. For example poorly controlled jade mining in Hpakant leads to dangerous waste tips accessed by scavengers, with hundreds of deaths each year when those waste tips collapse. It leads to sediment pouring into Uru Chaung and damage the health and livelihoods of those downstream.

That's why we need the full implementation of the Environment Management Plan for Hpakant which was commissioned by

the Ministry, and recently submitted by Coffey, an Australian consultancy. It is very solid piece of work which raises some key questions about sustainable mining practices, and gives practical answers. Deforestation is also a business impact of concern, for example by shrimp farms or tourism destroying mangrove areas, or oil palm plantations in southern Taninthayi, or roads to mines which cause deforestation directly and indirectly, by encouraging loggers to enter. So environmental impacts have big impacts on people's lives, and can even kill them. This is not just about saving the tiger, it's about saving farmers lives and the lives of their children.

Q. What are the challenges for your work?

A. The biggest challenge is that the government lacks capacity and knowledge, so their ability to enforce laws is weak, even where those laws are clear and enforceable. There are three pillars for responsible business and human rights. The first is the government's 'duty to protect' human rights, through laws and their enforcement. Second is business' 'responsibility to respect human rights' through understanding their impacts, and reducing the negative effect. The third pillar is 'remedy' – the government, and/or the business, should end and made good any breaches of human rights. Take for example, the minimum wage. It's an essential piece of government law to protect human rights, and protect workers from being exploited. But the problem is that government doesn't enforce it, then businesses say they won't implement it because their competitors are not doing it. If they pay the minimum wage, they won't win business – unless they are working for another responsible business who insists on their suppliers being fully compliant with the law. Lack of law enforcement is a big challenge. But it also requires better laws in the first place. So an equally big challenge is poor quality, contradictory, and unclear laws, particularly as they are adopted without any systematic business input. My biggest wish is for better regulation. If you have better regulations, you have better enforcement, less corruption, and you'll have better more responsible business. This

is the most important thing the government can do to encourage business.

Better regulation happens when a government gets feedback from business, and when it publicly consults business, and other stakeholders too. MCRB always encourages Ministries to do this, and on the few occasions that they do, we always submit a response with specific suggestions if there's any issue relating to responsible business. We did that with the new Myanmar Investment Law, which was a model for consultation process. DICA was very open to all input. As a result this is generally viewed as being the best business-related law that has been adopted recently. There's a Private Sector Development Committee, chaired by the first Vice-President U Myint Swe. I hope that it could instruct all Ministries that no laws which have an effect on business should be submitted to Cabinet without three months public consultation first, in which the impact of that regulation could be examined from all angles. Regulation is essential. But too much regulation is almost worse than no regulation. At the moment we have too much red tape but no effective regulation.

Q. What do you think of current labour laws and regulations?

A: We'd like to see a whole-sale reform of what is a very fragmented set of labour laws. There are labours laws for factories, and laws for shops and establishments, but nothing for construction or agriculture. There are news laws on dispute settlement, and the minimum wage, but these have weaknesses that need fixing. And in most cases, we find that businesses, particularly SMEs, don't even know what the law says. In some cases it's not even fully available to the public. There is a proposal from the International Labour Organisation and several other development partners to help the government create a unified, consistent and clear Labour Code. This is welcome, as if such a Code is in place, employers will find it easier to follow and government should find it easier to enforce.

Another important law which is now with parliament in draft is on occupational health and safety. Again, there was no systematic consultation with business or trade unions or other stakeholders. We are concerned that its approach is unrealistic. It seeks to control, rather than adopting a risk-based approach. It also

seeks to make health and safety officers personally accountable rather than the leadership of the business. No-one will want to be a health and safety officer in that case. Health and safety should be the top priority for the CEO and owners of a company. The right to life is a fundamental human right, and if you get it wrong, and someone is killed by your company's unsafe operations, you can't reverse it.

Another aspect of labour law that we are working on is to bring together different stakeholders to discuss how businesses should include people with disabilities, as workers and as customers of the products of business, such as banking services, or tourism. There was a good law adopted in 2015 which made it illegal for government and business to discriminate against people with disabilities. But one of the remaining issues to decide in the bye-laws which have not yet been adopted, is whether there should be mandatory 'quota' for the percentage of people with disabilities that a company should be required to employ, or be fined if they don't do so. We think this approach needs further discussion by government, business and disability groups, because it can't just be simply implemented, particularly when people with disabilities are discriminated in education and in public transport, as well as in society, and where there is little in the way of medical and social support networks. So MCRB is promoting more discussion about how businesses can be more inclusive for people with disabilities.

Q. What is your Pwint Thit Sa project trying to achieve?

A. The aim of Pwint Thit Sa is to encourage companies to be more transparent by publishing more information about their business on a website. If they are more transparent, their stakeholders will have more information to hold them to account, and to build trust. Those stakeholders might be workers, might be local communities, they might be consumers. For example, if you have a complaint about a company and its actions or its services, you should be able to contact that company, and get a response.

Q. What suggestions do you like to give about consumer protection rights?

A. There is a Consumer Rights Law, but there is low awareness of it. Food safety is a particularly major public con-

cern. We have worked a little with some of the international standards organisation like Global GAP and FSSC22000, which is food safety certification system that is intended to encourage safer food production not just for the export market place but also for Myanmar consumers. For example there needs to be control of pesticides and 'foreign bodies' like stones in food products. Myanma consumer organisations are not strong yet either. They are mostly focussed on food safety. However consumer rights also relate to new products like telecoms.

Telecoms and mobile connectivity offer great opportunities for consumers. But there are also threats, like privacy of personal data, or being overcharged by phone companies.

Q. How about the land rights and land tenure and what is being done to hold land grabbers accountable?

A. Land rights are very, very complex here because of the lack of good paperwork about land ownership. We always encourage investors to do a lot of due diligence before they pursue an investment involving

land, such as mining licenses, or building or leasing a factory or a hotel. Businesses need to be legal, and they also need to ensure that they do not leave current users of the land worse off as a result of the investment. Ideally they should be better off. This is something that you can't just achieve by giving farmers a bundle of money. It requires a lot more prior assessment, a lot more planning and a lot more follow up to support people particularly the most vulnerable, and those who find it difficult to make the transition from a farming livelihood to a worker livelihood. ■

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Join us in launching anti-terrorism campaign

Khin Maung Oo

IN the PTI news titled, “Global countries need to prevent terrorist use of internet,” an Indian high-ranking official disclosed that the global community needs to co-operate on a world-wide scale to protect religious extremist terrorists from using the internet for radicalization and terror financing so as to launch terrorist attacks.

The said warning is a timely call for action considering today’s situations. At the present time, terrorists with evil motives are using Youtube, Facebook and Twitter and internet websites to create terror and hatred and misunderstand-

ing among different communities and even different countries. Evidently enough, it has been found out that these kinds of people in many countries are using these effective internet tools. With more and more utilization of such tools, terrorist attacks and destructive events are on the increase in the world. Destructive elements are making efforts propagate extremist doctrines, agitation to wage terrorist attacks, recruitment for terrorist attacks and terror financing through the use of websites which can be used to accept donations.

The people of the world can never accept terrorists. We are trying our best to protect our

communities from their danger, to fight them and to denounce their deeds. Yet, those who like terrorism, the ones involved with terrorists and people who would like to benefit from these attacks, economically or politically have been found to have encouraged and supported by using the internet. Accordingly, many countries are joining the call for fighting against the imminent dangers of terrorists and their use of the internet to promote their evil ends.

In Singapore and China use of the internet is being controlled by using cutting-edge technology whereas other nations permit free use of internet normally, with checks and

searches made only if needed. Responses to terrorism may differ from one country to another geographically and culturally. Until now, the world cannot effectively eradicate terrorists and their supporters involved in crimes, which are on the move all over the world.

Therefore, at the session entitled, “Preventing terrorist use of internet,” held at the United Nations General Assembly on September 20, it was discussed that there should be a unified response to terrorists. Indian Foreign Secretary S. Jaishankar said “internet backbone, critical internet resources and data centres should be dispersed and redundant

to mitigate impact of major terror attacks”. At such a time when our country is building up a democratic nation, we all have an access to unrestricted use of the internet. Now, we have found some people abusing these rights to create agitations, hate-speeches, rumors and fabricated stories. With regard to the Rakhine State affairs which happened recently, ample evidence has been found that terrorists and abettors used internet websites and other internet tools. We firmly believe that Myanmar will also join with other countries to prevent terrorists from using the internet for their evil purposes. ■

Facets to disaster preparedness

Dr Yansie Rolston

SO far for 2017, the world has seen a plethora of disasters such as the floods in South Sudan, Myanmar and Guinea; earthquakes in Mexico, Philippines and China; drought in Somalia, South Sudan and Nigeria; hurricanes in British Virgin Islands and the Caribbean; dengue outbreaks in Pakistan and Sri Lanka; landslide and mudslides in Democratic Republic of Congo and Sierra Leone; bombings in France and Spain; trucks used as weapons of murder in Stockholm and Germany and fires in India and UK.

All of which have devastated many communities and profoundly affected large numbers of people. Yet, in many instances the psychological and mental health responses within disaster preparedness strategies are inadequate.

When sudden and unexpected tragedies occur, the immediate humanitarian reaction is to focus on the physical needs of those affected. While that is important, it must not be forgotten that disasters also significantly impact psychological well-being, and therefore mental health requires equal attention.

The shock and disbelief that such a devastating situation has occurred, and the hopes and wishes that it would



Villagers injured in terrorist attacks in northern Rakhine are seen on their way to Sittway for medical treatment. **PHOTO: THEIN ZAW**

somehow just be an unpleasant nightmare that will eventually disappear; the feelings of powerlessness, the guilt and frustration of not being able to prevent the situation or help others; and the enduring fears that something equally disastrous could happen again, and in some circumstances the intuitive need to apportion blame, and show hostility towards others, are just some of the feelings that often emerge.

In addition to which, on any given day there are many people struggling with emotional and mental health challenges such as depression, bipolar disorder or addiction. The World

Health Organisation estimates that “one in four people in the world will be affected by mental or neurological disorders at some point in their lives”. So, when disasters strike it is not only the trauma of the situation that they will have to contend with.

Anyone who has been in close proximity to a disaster will tell you that often the shock of the situation shakes you to the core and makes you aware of their own vulnerability. It also presents a greater perspective on coping abilities and resilience, and provides an opportunity for a truer display of humanity and community

comradery.

In the wake of a disaster it is great to see that despite negative/positive emotions and cognitions, people will mobilise themselves and come together to deal with whatever crisis has befallen their community. That new engagements and interactions will be made, thereby strengthening and fostering community cohesion. But at the heart of it all, is a reminder that there are individuals and families struggling to come to terms with their individual losses of loved ones, possessions, memories, home and community support networks.

There will be groups and

organisations suddenly working outside of their area of expertise, navigating and fitting into changing environments, and that the members of those groups are also individuals experiencing their losses and emotional discomforts. The wider community – locally, nationally and internationally will also be affected in some shape or form, whether it is because they have relatives, friends, or kindred connections.

Disasters can have far-reaching effects, and while there are so many unknowns that suddenly emerge when tragedy strikes, making it difficult to prepare for every eventuality, in the immediate aftermath of any tragedy there will always be panic and chaos. But, mental and emotional well-being and community healing should not be left to chance, instead, a well thought-out, co-ordinated psychological response ought to be one of the facets of effective disaster preparedness. ■

Dr Yansie Rolston FRSA is a UK-based disability and mental health specialist advisor. She is a social strategist and trainer who works internationally at various levels of government, business and civil society. She writes a weekly column for Newsday. Contact her at yr@efficacyeva.com

Redevelopment of Maungtaw region as per Disaster Management Law – Dr Win Myat Aye

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye said after the damages and losses caused by ARSA extremist terrorists, redevelopment of Maungtaw region will be implemented according to Natural Disaster Management Law.

The Union Minister said this in a National Natural Disaster Management Committee's Coordination meeting held yesterday afternoon at

state guest house, Sittway, Rakhine State. The meeting was attended by Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, state ministers and departmental officials.

At the meeting, Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye said, "There is a need to follow a law in managing the redevelopment works for terrorist acts that had occurred. In some

places, it became a burnt land. According to the law, burnt lands become a government managed lands. The law that governs burnt land is national disaster management law. Although the name of the law is natural disaster management law, according to the definition in the law, disaster covers all (disasters) and therefore this law will be used. The area will be defined as a land facing disaster caused by terrorist act.

Redevelopment works will be according to the enacted rules. If the redevelopment works were conducted as prescribed by the rule, it will be very effective.

That is why it will be implemented according to Natural Disaster Management Law and Natural Disaster Management Rule."

The Natural Disaster Management Law was enacted in 2013 and Natural Disaster

Management Rule was enacted in 2015. Based on Natural Disaster Management Law, National Natural Disaster Management Committee was formed with Vice President U Henry Van Thio as Committee Chairman, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye as Vice Chairman and union level ministers as committee members it is learnt.—Maung Sein Lwin (Myanma Alin) ■

Meeting for implementation of assistance by Red Cross Movement

A coordination meeting on effective and systematic implementation by the Red Cross Movement in providing humanitarian assistance to all people who were affected by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) extremist terrorist attacks in northern Rakhine State was held in a state guest house in Sittway, Rakhine State

on Monday evening.

The meeting was attended by the Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, state government officials, officials from the Red Cross Movement that includes Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS), International Com-

mittee of Red Cross (ICRC) and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) and departmental officials.

In the coordination meeting, a draft on the Standard Operation Procedure (SOP) of the Red Cross Movement was discussed.—Myanmar News Agency ■



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye and Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu attend the meeting on effective implementation by Red Cross Movement in Sittway, Rakhine State. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar at UN: Term 'genocide' must not be used without solid evidence

FROM PAGE-1

He urged those delegations and the international community to view the situation in northern Rakhine objectively and in an unbiased manner. He stated that there was no ethnic cleansing and there was no genocide in northern Rakhine.

Nigeria, France, Turkey, Afghanistan, Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates, Malaysia, Maldives, Chad and Bangladesh accused Myanmar of committing "atrocities" and "ethnic cleansing" during the general debate of the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly held at the United Nations headquarters in New York.

Myanmar says its forces are fighting terrorists responsible for attacking the police and the army, killing civilians and torching villages.

The International Criminal Court defines crimes against humanity as acts including murder, torture, rape and deportation "when committed as part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against any civilian population, with knowledge of the



Ambassador U Hau Do Suan, Permanent Representative of Myanmar to UN speaks at the UN General Assembly in New York. **PHOTO: MNA**

attack".

Government spokesman U Zaw Htay said no Myanmar government had ever been as committed to the promotion of rights as the current one.

"Accusations without any strong evidence are dangerous," he told Reuters. "It makes it difficult for the government to handle things."

Ambassador U Hau Do Suan urged all concerned to consider the facts. He pointed out that, within hours of the release of the report of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State, a series of coordinated attacks were carried out on 30 police outposts in

Northern Rakhine State on 25 August. The so-called Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) had claimed responsibility for the attacks. Subsequently, ARSA was declared as a terrorist group. Those vicious attacks had resulted in the loss of life and property and displacement of peoples. Those who had to abandon their hearth and home were many – not just Muslim and Rakhine, but also small minority groups such as Daingnet, Mro, Thet, Mramagyi and Hindus. Most of the world had been unaware of the existence and plight of those small groups.

The ambassador also said

that in the affected area of northern Rakhine, the Muslim community was not a minority, as was widely reported. In reality, they were a majority whose population had grown. They constitute 95 per cent of the total population in the area. The Government is now striving to restore normalcy. At present, humanitarian assistance is the top priority. The Government is committed to ensuring that aid will be received by all those in need, without discrimination, he said.

He reiterated that refugees who had fled to Bangladesh would be repatriated to Myanmar based on the experience of 1993, and that a working group for verification would be set up expeditiously to conduct a systematic verification process.

The ambassador's remarks came one day after authorities discovered 45 bodies of Hindu villagers allegedly killed by ARSA extremist terrorists in northern Rakhine.

The discovery was made after following up on information given by Hindu villagers who managed to escape from the mas-

sacre in northern Rakhine and fled to Sittway and Bangladesh.

"The bodies were found with their throats slit while they were blindfolded and their hands were tied. Some bodies had cuts to their hands and feet," said Dr. Kyaw Maung Maung Thein, Maungtaw People's Hospital Superintendent, who conducted the autopsies yesterday.

"The evidences pointed to a massacre by ARSA terrorists," he said. Hindu villagers from Khamaungseik Village told journalists who visited the conflict areas last week that Muslim terrorists stormed into their communities on 25 August, killing many, looting their properties, and abducting men, women and children and fleeing into the forest.

Following the discovery of the dead bodies, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye flew to the site by helicopter and consoled the families of the victims, pledging that the remains of Hindu villagers would be given a proper Hindu traditional burial.—GNLM

K 20000 Each and Family Utensils Given to Home-Returners



U Kyaw Min (Director, Rakhine State Relief and Resettlement Department)



U Maung Soe (Shwe Baho Model Village, southern Maungtaung)



U San Hla Phu (Ngwe Taung village, northern Maungtaung)



Daw Pale Nyo (Mawrawady, Maungtaung south)



Ma Mya Mya Thein (Lay Mile, Magyigone village)

News: Maung Sein Lwin (Myanma Alin)
Photo: Min Htet

DUE to the ARSA extremist terrorists' attacks in Maungtaung region, Rakhine State later in August, many people were displaced to the conventional rescue camps in Sittway for taking shelter. Now that the region regained peace and tranquility, they started to return homes of their own accords. The Rakhine State Government has supported them K 20000 and a ticket for the journey by vessel each and family utensils.

Today's initial amount of people who returned home is the largest in families and a few days ago some people left for their original places sporadically, according to the state Government.

Concerning the return trip of displaced people from the rescue camps in Sittway, here are accounts of local people who will leave for Maungtaung of their own

will and responsible officials in the interview made by the news team.

U Kyaw Min (Director, Rakhine State Relief and Resettlement Department)

Now that there amounted to 40 families consisting of 114 people who would like to go back home in Buthidaung and Maungtaung, the department will provide them with a family kit box each, with each of them to be given out K 20000 and a ticket for the journey by vessel each by the Rakhine State Government. As for returning home in groups or in families, today's amount is the largest. Before now, one or two persons returned separately. As the region started to regain peace and stability, today many returned. Under the arrangement of the Rakhine State Government, people from several rescue camps returned to their places. Depending upon the amounts of families willing to return home in collecting data

by the camp-in-charges, in the following days, the Rakhine State Government has arranged to hire chartered vessels to send them back. And, regular subsidies will be provided to them.

U Maung Soe (Shwe Baho Model Village, southern Maungtaung)

My family reached here for over 20 days to stay at the rescue camp at North Kyaungsu Ward, Lanmadaw. Now we, all of five will go back. In my village, I eked out my living by farming. Sometimes, I had to do errand jobs. As we heard the news that the area became peaceful and stable again, we had our names registered to return. We were very glad and thankful to the authorities concerned to have received K 20000 and a ticket each. We ran short of our own money. At the village, we have to spend the present monetary aid. We will know exactly actual situations of our farming only when we arrive at the village.

U San Hla Phu (Ngwe Taung village, northern Maungtaung)

My family of 8 family members will return home. It was convenient for us to take shelter at the Ceitta Thukha Kyaungsu rescue camp, Sittway for nearly half a month. In my village I earned my living by fishing, sometimes going to woods to dig bamboo shoots. Now we had a contact with my fellow villagers. According to their recount that the area regained stability, we decided to go back. Responsible officials supported us with commodities and money. Being a family of 8 members, we had got over K 100000, plus a family kit box. Thanks a lot to all, for every help.

Daw Pale Nyo (Mawrawady, southern Maungtaung)

We took shelter at the meditation monastery in Sittway for over 20 days. In the village, my living abode was not burnt down. But we found it difficult in earning living. The village is in a safe state

in security, being adjacent to the police outpost. In response to the relatives' recount, we will go back home. Here, it is convenient for us in everything during our stay. We need not worry about provisions and medical care. We are very happy to get expenditure money, travelling fare and all subsidies.

Ma Mya Mya Thein (Lay Mile, Magyigone village)

Just at the day after the terrorist attack, we moved to this place in Sittway. We are 8 in all, taking shelter at the Ceitta Thukha meditation monastery. Our original work is farming. Now, it was completely destroyed.

Poultry kept in my house may have been lost. We will have to survive with the subsidies now we got, for the time being. And, we dare not go up hills yet.

We pray for the tranquility of the area, as soon as possible. We would like to express our thanks to authorities concerned for their helps.

Aid from Indonesia flows into Yathedaung Township



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye and Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu present foods and cash donated from Indonesia in Yathedaung Township on 26 September. PHOTO: MNA

Foods and aid donated by Indonesia delivered to people in Zaytipyin, Thayagone and Anautpyin villages in Yathedaung Township yesterday.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye, Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu and officials went by helicopter from Sittway to villages in Yathedaung Township on 26 September morning to distribute foods donated from Indonesia. In his meeting with villagers from Anautpyin village, the Union Minister said "The government and all never accept terrorism. Terrorism brings more disadvantages than advantages. Stability and peace of a region depends upon all the people in the region and he urges all to cooperate with responsible officials. The government also

had the responsibility to care for people who were not involved in terrorism and thus it is providing food required by the people. The recent donation is from Indonesia for all who lived peacefully." People from the village replied to the Union Minister that no one is involved with terrorists, they don't want terrorism and want to live peacefully.

Afterwards, the Union Minister and party arrived in Zaytipyin and Thayagone villages and encouraged people in the villages. Moreover 707 households in the villages were provided Ks 14.11 million. There are 2,770 people in 615 households in Anautpyin villages and 3,721 people in 707 households in Zaytipyin and Thayagone villages where local nationals and Hindus lived.—Myanmar News Agency

Palestinian gunman kills three Israeli guards at West Bank settlement

HAR ADAR, West Bank — A Palestinian man with security clearance to work at a Jewish settlement in the occupied West Bank opened fire at a checkpoint on Tuesday, killing two Israeli security guards and a paramilitary policeman.

The assailant, who was armed with a pistol and also seriously wounded a fourth Israeli, was shot dead, police said.

The incident was unusual in that the 37-year-old man had been issued an Israeli work permit — a process that entails security vetting — unlike most of the Palestinians involved in a wave of street attacks that began two years ago. A police spokeswoman said the gunman approached Har Adar among a group of Palestinians who work at the settlement, and aroused the suspicion of guards at the entrance checkpoint. Challenged to halt, the Palestinian “opened his shirt, drew a pistol and fired at the security staff

and troopers at close range,” the spokeswoman said.

Residents of the settlement told Israeli media the man worked as a cleaner. One of them, Moish Berdichev, said he had domestic problems — his wife had left him — and speculated he may have carried out the attack knowing he would not survive.

“He was a guy with a good head on his shoulders. It’s a shame. Very sad,” Berdichev told Army Radio.

The Shin Bet internal security service identified the man as Nimr Jamal and said he had “severe personal and family issues, including domestic violence”.

The man lived in the nearby Palestinian village of Beit Suriq, the police said. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in public remarks to his cabinet that the man’s house would be demolished and any work permits issued to his relatives would be revoked. —Reuters ■



Israeli security personnel work at the scene where a policewoman said a Palestinian gunman killed three Israeli guards and wounded a fourth in an attack on a Jewish settlement in the occupied West Bank before himself shooting dead on 26 September, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**



Kurds celebrate to show their support for the independence referendum in Erbil, Iraq on 25 September, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Turkey threatens retaliation after Iraqi Kurdish independence vote

ERBIL, Iraq — The Iraqi government ruled out talks on possible secession for Kurdish-held northern Iraq on Tuesday and Turkey threatened to choke it off, after a referendum on independence there showed strong support for a split. Initial results of Monday’s vote indicated 72 per cent of eligible voters had taken part and an overwhelming majority, possibly over 90 per cent, had said “yes”, Erbil-based Rudaw TV said. Final results are expected by Wednesday. Celebrations continued until the early hours of Tuesday in Erbil, capital of the Kurdish region, which was lit by fireworks and adorned with Kurdish red-white-green flags. People danced in the squares as convoys of cars drove

around honking their horns. In ethnically-mixed Kirkuk, where Arabs and Turkmen opposed the vote, local Kurdish-led authorities lifted an overnight curfew imposed to maintain control.

The referendum has fuelled fears of a new regional conflict; on Tuesday Turkey, which has fought a Kurdish insurgency within its borders for decades, reiterated threats of economic and military retaliation. Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) President Masoud Barzani says the vote is not binding, but meant to provide a mandate for negotiations with Baghdad and neighbouring countries over the peaceful secession of the region from Iraq. —Reuters ■

Iranian Kurds march in support of independence vote in northern Iraq

LONDON — Thousands of Iranian Kurds marched in the streets to show their support for an independence referendum staged by Kurdish authorities in neighbouring Iraq, defying a show of power by Tehran which flew fighter jets over their areas.

Iranian officials and media have denounced Monday’s vote as a threat to regional stability, adding to pressure from Baghdad, threats from Iran and Turkey, and international warnings that it may ignite yet more conflict in the Mideast.

Undaunted by years of official suppression of dissent, residents in a number of mainly Kurdish cities in northwestern Iran danced in circles as night fell on Monday, chanting slogans praising Kurdish nationalist movements.

Videos posted on social media showed drivers beeping their car horns in celebration and people clapping in the cities of Marivan and Baneh. Many wore masks so as not to be identified by the security forces.

About 30 million ethnic Kurds are scattered across the region but have no country of their own. With 8 to 10 million living in Iran, Tehran fears pressure for secession will grow

among a minority which has a long history of struggle for its political rights.

A strong police presence tried to control the celebrating crowd. There were reports of clashes between the demonstrators and security forces in the cities of Mahabad and Sanandaj.

In Sanandaj the crowd waved the flag of Kurdistan, a banned symbol for the Kurds’ desire for independence.

“This referendum will encourage Iranian Kurds to be more determined to seek their rights,” said Zaribar, a Marivan resident and member of the Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan, a secular armed group which launches periodic attacks in Iran.

“This referendum was not a threat to Iraq’s neighbours, but it’s a starting point to resolve the issues of Kurds, especially in Iran,” added Zaribar, who declined to give his full name. Tehran announced a ban on direct flights to and from Iraqi Kurdistan on Sunday at the request of the central government in Baghdad and called for a land blockade of the autonomous region by all neighbouring countries. The fighter jets of the Iranian army flew over western provinces of

Iran as part of a military drill, including the Kurdish cities of Sardasht and Oshnavieh.

Although many Iranian Kurds would like to copy the referendum model, the road to autonomy or independence would be more difficult under the Islamic Republic’s theocratic rule and its military might.

The Revolutionary Guards have put down unrest in Kurdish areas for decades, and the hardline judiciary has sentenced many activists to long jail terms or death.

Iran sent Guards Commander Qassem Soleimani to northern Iraq last week in a failed final effort to persuade the Kurdistan regional government from holding the referendum.

The result has yet to be announced but is expected to be a resounding “yes” to independence. One Kurd from Baneh, who gave his name as Arbaba, said he was exhilarated “from the bottom of my heart for victory in the referendum”. However, he was worried it would increase pressure on Iranian Kurds to prevent them from going down the same path. “The Iranian regime will militarise the Kurdish areas even more,” Arbaba said. —Reuters ■

Russian army to get bulk of Terminator armoured vehicles in 2018

MOSCOW — The majority of the Terminator tank support combat vehicles will be delivered to the Russian army in 2018, Uralvagonzavod's Director General Alexander Potapov said on Tuesday. "We intend to send the bulk of the vehicles (the Terminators — TASS) in 2018," he stated.

The Russian Defence Ministry's Tank-Automation Commander Alexander Shevchenko said earlier that the Terminator combat vehicles would be put into service in the Russian army this year. He noted that this is "a vehicle of a brand-new class" that "has already attracted many countries, chiefly Israel and Syria." The tank support fighting vehicle has successfully passed all types of tests, the general speci-



The vehicle is equipped with two 30mm-caliber 2A42 autocannons and a 7.62mm-caliber PKTM twin-mount machine gun. **PHOTO: TASS**

fied. The Russian Defence Ministry inked a contract to deliver the Terminators at the Army 2017 forum. The total sum of the agreements sealed between the

Defence Ministry and Uralvagonzavod back then had surpassed 24 bln rubles (\$417 mln). The Terminator's combat weight is 44 tonnes, according to the

producer's website. The vehicle is equipped with two 30mm-caliber 2A42 autocannons and a 7.62mm-caliber PKTM twin-mount machine gun.—Tass ■

Indonesia's economic growth to reach 5.1 pct this year: ADB

JAKARTA — The Asian Development Bank (ADB) estimated that Indonesia may see a 5.1 per cent economic growth this year with a positive economic outlook in the future thanks to current massive infrastructure development.

"With higher allocation for public infrastructure, coupled with improving investments in private sector, Indonesia's economic expansion would continue next year," Head of ADB Indonesia Representative Office Winfried Wicklein said in his office on Tuesday.

Against the back of improving private and

foreign investments resulted from government's economic reform programmes, ADB estimated that the nation may see 5.3 per cent growth next year.

The ADB's estimations on Indonesia's growth were lower than 5.17 per cent targeted by the government this year and between 5.5 and 6.1 per cent for next year.

He added that Indonesia's growth in the second half this year would ultimately be propelled by intensifying government spending after investments and exports fueled the growth in the first half that reached 5.01 per cent.—Xinhua ■

Cambodia confirms outbreak of Trichinellosis in central Kampong Thom province

PHNOM PENH — The Cambodia's Ministry of Health confirmed on Tuesday an outbreak of Trichinellosis in an area in central Kampong Thom province that has left eight people dead and 25 others hospitalized.

Trichinellosis is a disease that people can get by eating raw or undercooked meat from animals infected with the microscopic parasite Trichinella.

In its statement, the ministry said 33 villagers living in Prey Long (forest) area in Sandan district had fallen ill earlier this month, about three weeks after they ate contaminated wild meat that was undercooked, and eight of them had subsequently died in recent weeks.

"The samples of 3 patients' muscle tissue were tested by the Calmette Hospital's laboratory and the result confirmed that there were Trichinella larvae in their muscle tis-

sue," the statement said.

It added that another test on the blood samples from other nine patients by a Vietnamese hospital's laboratory confirmed that "there were eggs of Trichinella worms" in their blood.

According to the statement, the first symptoms of Trichinellosis include nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, fatigue, fever, and abdominal discomfort. Abdominal pains can occur one to two days after infection, and further symptoms such as headaches, fevers, chills, cough, swelling of the face and eyes, aching joints and muscle pains, itchy skin, diarrhea, or constipation usually start two to eight weeks after eating contaminated meat.

If the infection is heavy, patients may experience difficulty in coordinating movements, and have heart and breathing problems, it said, adding that in severe cases, death can occur.—Xinhua ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV WEST SCENT VOY. NO (155)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY. NO (155) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV IDM DOODLE VOY. NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV IDM DOODLE VOY. NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of BSW-2 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 R.K SHIPPING &
TRADING PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV KANG YU VOY. NO (703)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KANG YU VOY. NO (703) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT-S 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 CAPE FLORES VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CAPE FLORES VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of HPT where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S NEW GOLDEN SEA LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

Thai junta says knows whereabouts of former PM Yingluck

BANGKOK — Thailand's junta leader said on Tuesday that he knows where ousted former prime minister Yingluck Shinawatra is but will not disclose her location until after a verdict is delivered later this week in her negligence trial.

Yingluck disappeared from Thailand shortly before a Supreme Court verdict scheduled on 25 August. Her lawyer said she was ill with an ear problem and could not appear in court.

"I know, but I won't say yet," Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, a then-army chief who toppled Yingluck's government in a May 2014 coup, told reporters after a weekly cabinet meeting.

"I'll tell you where she is after 27 September. I have spies," he said, adding that to his knowledge Yingluck has not sought asylum abroad.

A verdict is to be delivered on Wednesday, 27 September. Yingluck faces up

to 10 years in prison if found guilty of negligence over a costly rice subsidy scheme that helped to bring her to power in a 2011 general election.

Yingluck, who was ac-

tive on social media, has not commented publicly since disappearing from public view last month.

Her Puea Thai Party has said that the party does not know where Yingluck

is. Reuters reported last month that she had fled to Dubai where her brother and former prime minister Thaksin has a home and lives in self-imposed exile to avoid a 2008 jail sentence

for corruption. Thai authorities investigating how she escaped said last week they have questioned three police officers who admitted to helping Yingluck flee.-- Reuters ■



Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha.
PHOTO: REUTERS

North Korea accuses US of declaring war, says can take countermeasures

PYONGYANG — North Korea's foreign minister said on Monday that US President Donald Trump had declared war on North Korea and that Pyongyang reserves the right to take countermeasures, including shooting down US strategic bombers even if they are not in the country's air space.

"The whole world should clearly remember it was the US who first declared war on our country," Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho told reporters in New York.

"Since the United States declared war on our country, we will have every right to make countermeasures, including the right to shoot down United States strategic bombers even when they are not inside the airspace border of our country."

Ri, who made the remarks before leaving New York where he had

attended last week's UN General Assembly, made the statement then returned from his car to the press microphones to add: "In light of the declaration of war by Trump, all options will be on the operations table of the supreme leadership of the DPRK (Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea)."

His words echoed warnings from the Trump administration that all options were on the table in dealing with North Korea's nuclear and missile development and its threats to have a weapon capable of reaching the continental United States.

On Saturday, Ri told the UN General Assembly that targeting the US mainland with its rockets was inevitable after "Mr Evil President" Trump called Pyongyang's leader a "rocket man" on a suicide mission.—Reuters ■

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR MYINT & ASSOCIATES OFFSHORE SUPPLY BASE, AYEYARWADDY REGION

Myint & Associates Offshore Supply Base Ltd. (M&AOSB) is proposing to construct an Offshore Supply Base (OSB) near Nga Yoke Kaung Bay in Ayeeyarwaddy Region, which is located approximately 40 km south of the town of Ngwe Saung. The facilities will initially include a jetty with a platform of about 0.6 ha and 30.4 acre for the onshore base plus 1.1 acre of access road. There is currently no infrastructure at the proposed Project. An access road will be included in the Project to connect to the nearest road within the village. The construction phase is estimated to take from 1.5 to 2 years to complete; commencing around 2018.

Under the Environmental Conservation Law and Environmental Conservation Rules of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, M&AOSB are required to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in order to obtain an Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) for the proposed activity. Environmental Resources Management (ERM), on behalf of M&AOSB, is currently undertaking an EIA Study, which includes stakeholder engagement in Nga Yoke Kaung. The EIA will be conducted in accordance with the Myanmar EIA Procedure (2015).

Any Information requests, or queries, comments and suggestions on the Project can be provided to esiafeedback@myintassociatesosb.com or 09-7949-31009. Information on the proponents of the project and this announcement are also available on the Myint & Associates Offshore Supply Base Ltd. website at www.myintassociatesosb.com.

Symposium on "Environmental Microbes and the Impact on Health; the Good, the Bad and the Ugly" on 30 September

The Microbiology Society of Myanmar Medical Association will hold a Symposium On "Environmental Microbes and the Impact on Health; the Good, the Bad and the Ugly". The Speakers include Prof. Kyi Kyi Thinn (Emeritus Professor, UM1), Prof. David Dance (LOMWRU) and Prof. Khin Maung Lwin (National Water Resources Committee). The symposium will be held on 30 September (Saturday) (9:30am to 12:00 noon) at Myanmar Medical Registration can be done at Microbiology Department, University of Medicine (1), (2) and Defense Services Medical Academy during office hours.

Microbiology Society
(Myanmar Medical Association)

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TRADEMARK CAUTION

NOTICE is hereby given that **AMERICAN BEVERAGE COMPANY PTE LTD.**, a company incorporated in Singapore and having its principal office at 10 Anson Road #26-04 International Plaza Singapore (079903) is the owner and sole proprietor of the following trademark:-

ABCAMERICAN

(Reg: No. IV/4432/2017)

in respect of: "Beers; mineral and aerated waters and other non-alcoholic drinks; fruit drinks, non-alcoholic; fruit juices; syrups and other preparations for making beverages" in Class 32.

Any fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said trademark or other infringements whatsoever will be dealt with according to law.

U Kyi Win Associates
for **AMERICAN BEVERAGE COMPANY PTE LTD.**

BY ITS ATTORNEY
ACTIP IP LIMITED

P.O. Box No. 26, Yangon.

Phone: 372416

Dated: 27th September, 2017

Invitation for Market Sounding Meeting

It is invited that Market Sounding Meeting, for the Heho airport, Kawthaung airport and Mawlamying airport to be implemented by (PPP) Scheme, will be held on the following agenda:

Date : 29 September 2017 (Friday)
Time : 10:00AM
(Registration Start on 09:30AM)
Place : Civil Aviation Training Institute, Auditorium Hall.
Airport Road Mingalardon Township.
Note : Maximum 3 seats available for each EOI document purchased company only.

Department of Civil Aviation
Ministry of Transport and Communications

Pretty Woman musical headed to Broadway

LOS ANGELES — The musical adaptation of the blockbuster 1990 romantic comedy “Pretty Woman” is going to Broadway.

The creative team will include musician Bryan Adams and Garry Marshall, the director of the film, as well as a cast led by Samantha Barks, one of the stars of the film version of “Les Misérables,” and Tony winner Steve Kazee, reported Deadline.

The musical will play a try-out run at Chicagos Oriental Theater early next year. It plans to open at the Broadway next year in autumn.

“Pretty Woman” will have a score by Adams and frequent collaborator Jim Vallance.

Banks will make her Broadway debut with the musical and Kazee will be returning to Broadway for the first time since “Once,” the 2012 musical that

won him a Tony for lead actor in a musical. No other casting has yet been set.

The hit movie “Pretty Woman” starred Julia Roberts opposite Richard Gere. The storyline follows the unexpected romance that develops between a prostitute and the businessman who hires her.

The design team will include David Rockwell (sets), Gregg Barnes (costumes), Kenneth Posner and Philip S Rosenberg (lights) and John Shivers (sound).—PTI ■

Julianne Hough to play fitness pioneer Betty Weider

LOS ANGELES — Actor Julianne Hough has been roped in to portray female fitness pioneer Betty Weider in George Gallo’s upcoming movie “Bigger”.

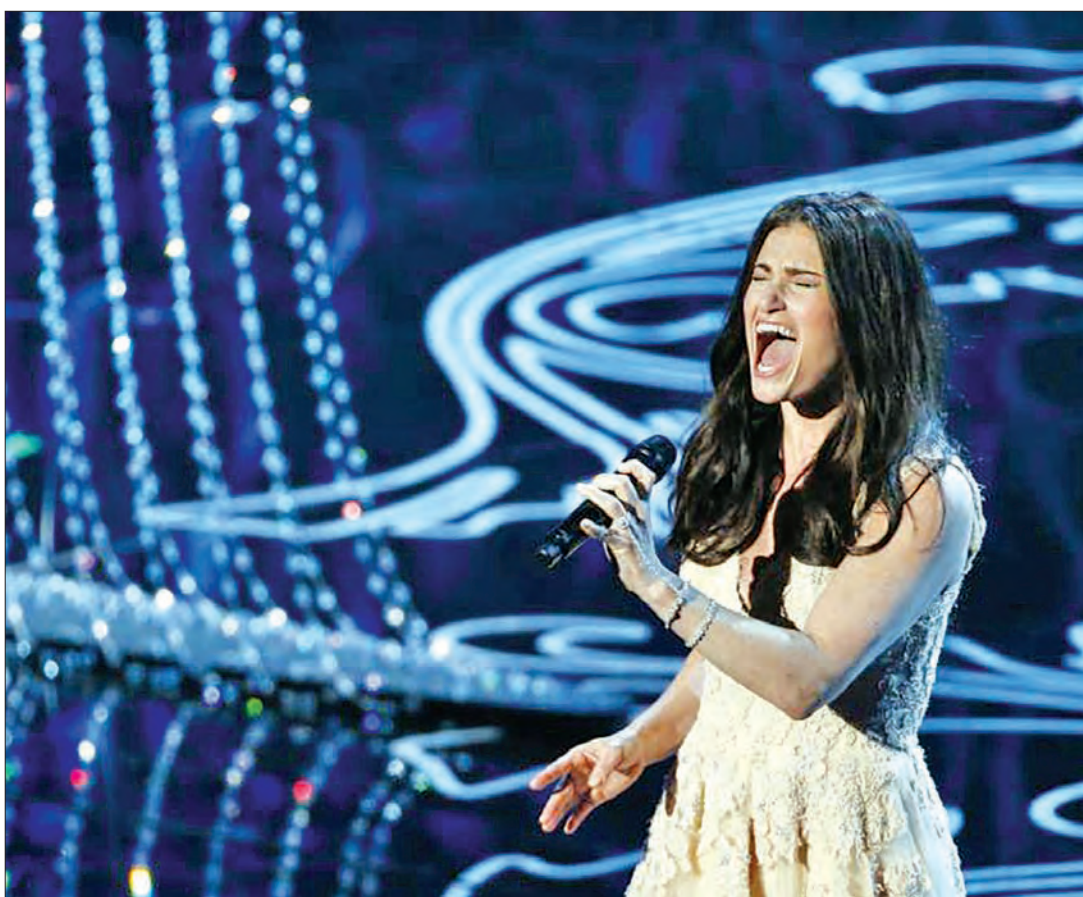
A pin-up model who became a leading role model for women in diet and fitness, Betty was the wife of Joe Weider, and together they co founded Shape magazine, which remains the most successful women’s health and fitness publication today.

“Bigger” tells the story of the Weider brothers, who rose from poverty to create the Mr Olympia competition, forever changing the face of professional bodybuilding. They would go on to build an empire of equipment and nutrition supplement, reported Deadline. Hough, 29, joins Tyler Hoechlin, Aneurin Barnard and Kevin Durand.

Gallo is helming from a script he wrote with Andy Weiss, from an original script written by Brad and Ellen Furman. Shooting starts next month.—PTI ■



Julianne Hough.
PHOTO: REUTERS



Broadway actress and “Frozen” star Idina Menzel. PHOTO: REUTERS

Idina Menzel marries Aaron Lohr

LOS ANGELES — Broadway actress and “Frozen” star Idina Menzel has tied the knot with her “Rent” co-star Aaron Lohr.

The two have been dating since 2015 and got engaged a year ago.

Menzel, 46, shared the news on Twitter, calling the ceremony “magical” and Lohr, 41, “the love of my life.”

“Wanted to let you know... Married the love of my life #aaronlohr this weekend @ our home. Dad and son walked me down aisle. It was magical,”

she wrote.

The happy couple moved in together 2015 after purchasing a house in Encino, California.

Menzel was previously married to fellow Broadway star Taye Diggs from 2003 until December 2013. They share a son, Walker, 7.—PTI ■

El Gouna Film Festival bids to revive Egypt’s leading role in Mideast cinema industry: co-founder

CAIRO — The ongoing first edition of El Gouna Film Festival (GFF) is one of the means to revive Egypt’s leading role in the Middle East cinema industry and to show the world the country’s filmmaking capabilities, said Egyptian business tycoon and GFF co-founder Samih Sawiris in an interview with Xinhua.

Sawiris is the founder of the Red Sea town of El Gouna north of world famous Hurghada resort city, which hosts the GFF co-founded by him and his brother Naguib Sawiris.

“The cinema is among the oldest industries that entered Egypt, at the same time when Hollywood started its black-and-white cinema. So, my brother and I have always had the desire to revive such a heritage and return Egypt to

its filmmaking leading role in the Middle East,” Sawiris said.

Scheduled for 22-29 September, the newly-born gala screens about 69 films from around 40 countries, including 16 feature films, 18 short films and 12 long documentaries, in addition to 19 films outside the official competition and four in a special program.

“The GFF is a means to highlight to the world Egypt’s filmmaking capabilities, remind the world of Egypt’s cinema history and introduce to the world El Gouna resort town that hosts such a gala,” the Egyptian billionaire told Xinhua, adding that “it’s like hitting several birds with one stone.”

The new festival gathers Egyptian, Arab and international stars and moviemak-

ers including top Egyptian comedian Adel Imam, veteran Egyptian actress Yousra, Arab stars Hend Sabry and Hiam Abbass and Hollywood stars Forest Whitaker and Dylan McDermott, besides dozens of others.

Although mainly funded by private sector sponsors, the Egyptian Ministry of Tourism partly helped in the finance due to the event’s assistance in refreshing the country’s tourism sector that has been ailing over the past few years.

Some world superstars and filmmakers think twice about visiting Egypt due to what they hear about the country’s security conditions after going through political stability followed by a wave of terrorist activities over the past few years.—Xinhua ■

Canada's Lucara sells world's largest uncut diamond for \$53 million

VANCOUVER — A tennis ball-sized rough diamond unearthed nearly two years ago by Canada's Lucara Diamond Corp has been sold for \$53 million, the Vancouver-based company said on Monday.

The 1,109-carat stone, which is the world's largest uncut diamond, was bought by high-profile British diamond dealer Graff Diamonds for \$47,777 per carat, and will now be cut and polished, Lucara said in a statement.

The price paid was an "improvement" on the highest bid received for the diamond at a Sotheby's



The 1109 carat "Lesedi La Rona" diamond is displayed in a case at Sotheby's in the Manhattan borough of New York, US on 4 May, 2016. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

auction in June 2016, Lucara Chief Executive and President William Lamb said.

Lamb had gambled that ultra-rich collectors, who buy and sell precious art works for record-breaking sums at auction, would do the same with a diamond in the raw.

The unprecedented bet failed when bids did not meet the auction reserve price and the diamond was not sold.

Lamb said in July the unsold stone "weighs heavily" on the company's stock, which is down more than 40 per cent in the past year.

The stone, named "Lesedi La Rona," or "Our Light" in the national language of Botswana where it was mined at Lucara's Karowe mine in November 2015, is said to be 2.5 to 3 billion years old. The rough diamond is second in size only to the 3,106.75 carat Cullinan, which was cut into 105 diamonds, including several British Crown Jewels. The Lesedi will "dictate how it wants to be cut, and we will take the utmost care to respect its exceptional properties," Laurence Graff, founder of Graff Diamonds said in the statement.—Reuters ■

Moscow spices up the city with its spectacular 'Circle of Light' festival

MOSCOW — Spectacular 'Circle of light' festival opened with musical and multimedia show per-

formed on Moscow's Ostankino Pond and Tower. The event will be held on 23-27 September.

In 2017, large-scaled video projections and installations will be displayed at several city venues, in-

cluding Moscow's Theater Square, Tsaritsyno park and Strogino pond. —Tass ■

China, US to kick off first social, people-to-people dialogue

BEIJING — China and the United States will hold their first social and people-to-people dialogue on 28 September in Washington DC, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lu Kang said at a routine press briefing on Monday.

Chinese Vice Premier Liu Yandong will co-chair the dialogue with US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson. The two sides will have in-depth exchange of views on bilateral exchanges and co-operation in relevant areas, according to Lu.

"China would like to work with the United States

for a positive outcome from the dialogue," Lu said.

The meeting is one of the four high-level dialogues established during the Mar-a-Lago meeting between Chinese President Xi Jinping and US President Donald Trump in Florida in April. At that meeting, the two sides agreed to establish high-level dialogue mechanisms, including the diplomatic and security dialogue, the comprehensive economic dialogue, the law enforcement and cybersecurity dialogue, and the social and people-to-people dialogue.—Xinhua ■



Ostankino TV Tower seen during the 2017 Circle of Light International Festival. **PHOTO: TASS**

Christie's sells nearly \$15 million of art at Shanghai auction

SHANGHAI — Christie's sold nearly \$15 million worth of art at its autumn auction in Shanghai on Sunday, with a painting by abstract master Zao Wou-ki fetching more than \$5 million.

The combined 98.5 million yuan (\$14.8 million) sale was 35 per cent higher than the previous year, the company said. Zao's "24.12.2002 — Diptyque" sold for 33.6 million yuan, the most ex-

pensive work of art to be sold in Christie's Shanghai. The highest price for a Western work of art was 13.2 million yuan for Salvador Dali's sculpture "Elephant du triomphe". "We have presented both young

and established artists to an international audience and witnessed strong buying from Chinese and international clients," said Charlotte Liu, Managing Director of Christie's China. —Reuters ■

MRTV Programme Schedule (27-9-2017, Wednesday)	
6:00 Am ♦ Paritta By Venerable Min Gun Sayadaw	2:20 Pm ♦ TV Drma Series
7:00 Am ♦ Breakfast News	3:00 Pm ♦ Peace Music Festival (Sittway) (Part-2)
7:35 Am ♦ Money Talk in Myanmar	5:35 Pm ♦ RTV Travelogue
8:35 Am 1. Documentary (Agriculture)	6:20 Pm ♦ Football Magazine
9:10 Am ♦ Documentary (REDD+)	6:35 Pm ♦ Real Story Real Movies
9:20 Am ♦ Documentary	7:15 Pm ♦ TV Drama Series
9:40 Am ♦ Kyae Pwint Myae Yae Yin Khone Than	8:00 Pm ♦ News/ International News/ Weather Report
10:30 Am ♦ ASEAN Programme	8:35Pm ♦ Their Region, Their Life
12:30 Am ♦ TV Drama Series	♦ Documentary
1:00 Pm ♦ Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competition	♦ TV Drama Series
	♦ Fine Arts-Bosom of Dramatic Performance
	♦ TV Drama Series

Myanmar and South Korea football teams to play today at 2018 AFC U-16 Championship qualification

Kyaw Zin Tun

MYANMAR U-16 football team will play against South Korea U-16 football team at 6:00pm after the match of the Philippines U-16 football team and People's Republic of China football team at 3:00pm at Thuwanna Stadium, Yangon today.

It is the 18th AFC U-16 football championship since 1985, but Myanmar team entered only 11 times including 2018. Myanmar advanced four times to Group stage and didn't qualify six times as the competition experience of Myanmar U-16 football team is very low. Myanmar team's today opponent, South Korea U-16 football team entered every event since 1985. South Korea was two champions in 1986 and 2002 and runners-up in 2008 and 2014. Advanced four times to quarter finals, five times to Round 1 and didn't qualify four times.

South Korea U-16 football team had more experience than Myanmar U-16 football team in AFC U-16 Championship. Though the Philippines U-16 football team entered seven times since 1985, the Philippines team didn't qualify any time. The Philippines team's today opponent, People's Republic of China U-16 football team entered every event and took two champions and three bronzes. Eight times advanced to Round 1, one time advanced to quarter final and didn't qualify only three times. People's Republic of China U-16 football team had more experience than the Philippines U-16 football team in AFC U-16 Championship. Myanmar and the Philippines football teams had less experience than their opponents, South Korea and People's Republic of China football teams, but the results will be known later today. ■

Thitsar Arman FC beat ISPE FC 4-0 at round two of Myanmar Women's League 2016-2017

Kyaw Zin Tun

THITSAR Arman FC beat Institute of Sports and Physical Education (ISPE) FC 4-0 at the round two of Myanmar Women's League 2016-2017 at Padonmar Stadium yesterday evening.

In the first half, Thitsar Arman footballer Khin Moe Wai scored at 36 minutes mark. In the second half, Zar Chi Oo scored the second goal at 60 minutes mark, Thandar Moe scored the third goal at 72 minutes mark and Khin Moe Wai scored her second goal at 84 minutes mark.

In the first round of Myanmar Women's League 2016-2017, Thitsar Arman FC and Institute of Sport and Physical Education FC have tied.

The second round of Myanmar Women's League 2016-2017 began on 19 September with the match of Thitsar Arman beating



Thitsar Arman footballer (blue and white) and ISPE footballer (red and black) vie for ball at Padonmar Stadium yesterday. **PHOTO: MWL**

Gandamar 7-0.

So far Myawady FC is at the top with 19 points after playing seven games with six games won and one game drew. Thitsar Arman FC followed the second with 18 points after playing eight games with five games won and three games drew. Sports and

Physical Education FC is at the third place with 14 points after playing eight games with four games won, two games drew and two games lost. The match for today is Sports and Education FC playing against Gandamar FC in the evening at Aung San Stadium, Yangon. ■

Wenger praises Lacazette impact

LONDON — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger hailed Alexandre Lacazette for adapting to the Premier League so quickly and says the French striker has a lot more to offer than just goals.

Lacazette, who scored twice as Arsenal beat West Bromwich Albion 2-0 on Monday, now has four goals in six league games. He became the first Arsenal player to find the net in his opening three home games in the league since 1988.

"He's not only a goalscorer, his link up play is good," said Wenger. "He fights as well, he's not fazed by the physical challenges that West Brom gave us and overall he looks to adapt quickly and very well," he told the club's website (www.arsenal.com).

"I took him off because he was tired. He had an opportunity to score a hat-trick

but I gave him the penalty as well ... what you want is to win the game and not to take any gambles because if they come back to 2-1 it can be nervy," Wenger added.—Reuters



Arsenal's Alexandre Lacazette. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Enjoy it while Benitez is there, Carragher tells Newcastle

LONDON — Jamie Carragher does not expect Rafa Benitez to have a long stint at Newcastle United but backed the Spanish manager to keep the promoted side in the Premier League.

Former England international Carragher, who played under Benitez at Liverpool between 2004 and 2010, feels the manager could leave if he falls out with Newcastle owner Mike Ashley.

Benitez was unhappy with the club's business in the transfer market after failing to land their main targets despite Ashley promising him "every last penny" to improve the side.

"If I'm being totally honest, I don't expect to see Rafa Benitez at Newcastle over a sustained, long period of time," Carragher told Sky Sports.

"I think eventually some-

thing will happen with him and the owner and unfortunately for Newcastle this is not going to be a happy and long marriage.

"So enjoy it while he's here."

Carragher, who was part of the Liverpool side that won the Champions League in 2005, said Benitez will ensure Newcastle are not in the relegation fight.

"I don't think there's any chance of Newcastle going down, just because of the manager. He is very pragmatic and he'll make it very difficult," he said.

"In every game Newcastle have, you'll very rarely see them lose 4-0 or 5-0, as you might see teams in the bottom half of the table.

"I think that's where Newcastle will be, but I don't expect to see them in a relegation fight."

Newcastle, who have nine points from six games, will look to bounce back from their 1-0 defeat at Brighton and Hove Albion when they host Liverpool in the Premier League on Sunday. —Reuters ■

Newcastle United manager Rafael Benitez. **PHOTO: REUTERS**