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# THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IV, No. 165, 9<sup>th</sup> Waxing of Thadingyut 1379 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Friday, 29 September 2017



Members of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) meet ethnic Mro people in Aungthabyay Village in Maungtau Township, Rakhine State yesterday. **(NEWS ARTICLE ON PAGE 3) PHOTO: MNA**

## 45 Hindu corpses cremated

THE BODIES OF 45 SLAIN Hindu villagers were cremated in keeping with Hindu custom yesterday afternoon at the base of the mountain west of Ye Baw Kya village, near where they were found in mass graves.

Twenty-eight corpses of Hindus allegedly killed by ARSA extremist terrorists were discovered in two pits located 1,500 meters to the north-west of Ye Baw Kya village. Seventeen more bodies were found in another mass grave 200 meters away.

Present at the cremation ceremony were local authorities, 77 relatives, 40 Mro ethnic people and 30 Rakhine ethnics.

"The cremation was made at the request of the relatives of the victims, and it is not related to the cancellation of the UN officials' and diplomats' trip to northern Rakhine. The trip was arranged before the discovery of the bodies of Hindus," said Dr Win Myat Aye, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

Meanwhile, the government is working through diplomatic channels to bring back eight Hindus women and children who were abducted by terrorists to Bangladesh.

"We will carry out the National Verification Process with added momentum soon for those who wish to return Rakhine," said the Union Minister. —Myanmar News Agency ■

## UN, diplomats' visit to Rakhine postponed

Diplomats request to make the trip on 2 Oct after bad weather

A PLANNED visit by UN agencies and diplomats to northern Rakhine was postponed due to weather following a request from the dean of the Myanmar diplomatic corps yesterday.

The trip will instead be made on Monday, according to

the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The decision was made while the diplomats and UN agency members were assembled at Yangon International Airport, where their flight to Sittway was delayed due to bad weather in Rakhine State.

The scheduled flight for the UN officials and the diplomats had already been delayed for two hours before the decision was reached to postpone the trip until 2 October. "We asked all UN officials and diplomats about their desire at the airport

after two hours delay behind the departure. We decided to postpone the trip to Monday by majority votes," U Min Thein, Deputy Director-General of the International Organisations and Economic Department. —Myanmar News Agency ■



**BEST BANK IN MYANMAR**

Awarded by EUROMONEY 2017

# Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye holds talks with Danish ambassador, WFP and World Bank Country Director separately

UNION Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye received Denmark Ambassador to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Peter Lysholt Hansen on Wednesday in Maykhalar Hall of the ministry.

Matters relating to implementing works in Rakhine State, conducting widespread educational work on the national verification process, the process of resettling displaced persons to their places of origin, providing security for Rakhine State, international assistance in implementing suggestions of the advisory commission, UN/INGO cooperation to provide assistance and assistance provided by ASEAN countries were discussed.

The Union Minister said returning persons will be processed systematically using the National Verification Process and in accord with the 1993 Myanmar-Bangladesh bilateral agreement. Education, health, electric power and transportation will be given priority,



Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye meets with Danish Ambassador Mr. Peter Lysholt Hansen at the Ministry's Office. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

socio-economic development programmes are being undertaken, lists of terrorists are being sent to relevant countries and organisations, and assistance in spreading true news were also discussed.

Next, the Union Minister received World Food Programme (WFP) Country Director and Representative Deputy Human-

itarian Coordinator Mr. Dom Scalpelli. The Country Director discussed WFP works in central Rakhine State and expressed hopes of expansion into northern Rakhine State, working together with the government in implementing social protection works, and finding ways to work together with the Red Cross Movement to conduct humanitarian assis-

tance works and assistance provided by ASEAN countries. The Union Minister said the government is emphasising Rakhine State affairs and is providing effective humanitarian assistance in places where it is required.

The Union Minister then received World Bank's country director for Myanmar, Cambodia and Lao PDR Ms. Ellen Gold-

stein. Ms. Goldstein said children and mothers having adequate nutrition are important and would like to work together with the ministry in implementing nutritional matters. The Union Minister said the government is putting its efforts for the establishment of a society that has basic human rights, in accord with democratic norms and with full human dignity and would like to know details about World Bank's nutritional projects. The government would like to give priority to works in under-developed Naga, Chin and Rakhine regions. Nutritional works are an important part of the government's social protection strategy and would like to increase works in health, education, nutrition, personal hygiene and family-related projects. The Union Minister explained about the terrorist attacks in Rakhine State, international assistance on Rakhine affairs, beginning the receiving works of displaced people and cooperation with Bangladesh. —Myanmar News Agency ■

## 11<sup>th</sup> World Rabies Day ceremony

THE 11<sup>th</sup> World Rabies Day ceremony organised by the Ministry for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department was held yesterday morning at the meeting hall of ministry in Nay Pyi Taw.

At the ceremony, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw delivered an opening speech about rabies being known by all as one of the main diseases of animal origin transmitted to human, but despite it being easily preventable and controllable, for many reasons there is one human fatality from this disease every fifteen minutes in the world and annually there are about 55,000 to 70,000 fatalities from rabies, according to a statement from the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) are attempting to prevent rabies under the concept of "One World, One Health" and with the



Veterinary doctor giving vaccination injection to dog at 11<sup>th</sup> World Rabies Day ceremony. **PHOTO: MNA**

assistance of technical experts from international organisations such as the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department have drawn up a strategic framework to control rabies, said the Deputy Minister.

The Myanmar Veterinary Association and the Department of Public Health then explained how to controlling rabies and the role of Myanmar veterinarians.

Dr. Min Thein Maw, Deputy Director of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department then spoke of the work done on controlling and preventing rabies. The heads of Lewe and NyaungU townships Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department Dr. Aung Soe Moe and Dr. Tun Tun Oo explained the status of setting up pilot areas to control rabies in Lewe

and NyaungU townships. Myanmar is among 150 countries where rabies occurs and is considered a "rabies commutable risk country", where there were about half a million victims of dog bites and a thousand fatalities from rabies according to data from WHO. The theme of the 11th World Rabies Day is "Rabies: Zero by 30" it is learnt. —Myanmar News Agency ■

## UEC rejects by-election complaint in Pyithu Hluttaw race

The Union Election Commission accepted a 2017 by-election electoral complaint case number 2017/6 filed by Pyithu Hluttaw Representative candidate Dr. Win Myint Aung (Union Solidarity and Development Party) who contested the results of the Sagaing Region Monywa Township Constituency race that saw Representative U Nyunt Aung (National League for Democracy) elected to the Pyithu Hluttaw.

The UEC Tribunal 2, made up of UEC member U Hla Tint as Chairman with U Mya Win and U Win Swe as members, heard the case and gave a decision (order) confirming the election of U Nyunt Aung as Pyithu Hluttaw Representative of Sagaing Region Monywa Township constituency and rejected the complaint of Dr. Win Myint Aung and ordered Dr. Win Myint Aung to pay a court fee of Ks100,000. —Myanmar News Agency ■

## Vice President U Myint Swe attends meeting to organize Kahtina ceremony

THE organizing committee for the Union of Myanmar KahtinaThingan (robe) offering ceremony, or Kahtina ceremony, met yesterday morning in the meeting hall of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture in Nay Pyi Taw with steering committee patron and Vice President U Myint Swe in attendance.

The Vice President said the day's meeting was held to ensure the successful holding of the 7th Kahtina ceremony led by the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

The President's office had issued Notice No. 78/2017 on 22 September to form the organizing steering committee and sub-committees for the 7th Kahtina ceremony. In order to complete the tasks systematically, 11 sub-committees have been formed.

As the Kahtina ceremony is an annual, government-level cer-



Vice President U Myint Swe addresses the meeting for Kathina ceremony in the hall of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

emony, arrangements must be made to conduct the ceremony systematically. Based on the experience of the related committee members and departmental officials and works to be done by committees, sub-committees need to be coordinated and systematically managed. The ceremony will be held at Sasana

Beikmantaw in the compound of Uppatasanti Pagoda and all arrangements for the Sayadaws attending the ceremony will have to be made jointly by the relevant committees. Discussions and suggestions are also invited for the successful holding of the ceremony, added the Vice President.

Kahtina ceremony organizing steering committee Chairman Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko explained yesterday about the forming of sub-committees, arrangements made for the sanghas, coordination with other ministries and arrangements made for the successful

holding of the ceremony.

Next, ceremony organizing steering committee member and Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr. Myo Aung gave a briefing about the work of the various sub-committees.

Those attending the meeting discussed and provided suggestions and the meeting was concluded after the Vice President delivered a closing speech.

The meeting was attended by Union Minister for Religious Affairs and Culture Thura U Aung Ko, Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Dr Myo Aung, Deputy Ministers Maj-Gen Aung Soe, Dr Tun Naing, U Maung Maung Win, Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Aung Myin Tun, Nay Pyi Taw Command Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Maung Maung, Permanent Secretaries, departmental heads, sub-committee chairmen and officials. — Myanmar News Agency ■

## MNHRC members meet two societies

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) team led by MNHRC member U Yu Lwin Aung met with ethnic Mro national Ma Oo Khin of Runkhazedi village, Aungthabyay village tract, yesterday morning in Maungdaw District General Administrative Department meeting hall to learn details of her experience and provided assistance. During the recent terrorist attacks, Ma Oo Khin was attacked without any reason with machete by ARAS extremist terrorist and was hospitalized for the wounds she received and was recently discharged from the hospital.

Ma Oo Khin's two years old child was killed in the attack while she was severely wounded and was treated in Buthidaung Hospital. After this meeting, MNHRC members accompanied by Maungdaw District General Administrative Department head



MNHRC members present cash assistance to a villager in Maungdaw Region, Rakhine State. **PHOTO: DISTRICT IPRD**

U Ye Htut went to a beach near Alethanyaw village, southern Maungdaw region and met with Bengalis from Duothema and Pyinetaung village tracts who were leaving to Bangladesh on their own accord.

MNHRC members explained to them of the government providing aids to both societies, security and stability measures

for the region conducted by the government, asked them to return to their homes, work and live peacefully and explained further on how the difficulties will be resolved together. The Bengalis from Duothema and Pyinetaung village tracts numbering 800 on the beach near Alethanyaw village wanted to leave for Bangladesh.—Min Thit ■

## Department of Social Welfare provides aids to displaced people

DEPARTMENT of Social Welfare, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement provided aids to displaced people in temporary rescue camps in Sittway Township yesterday.

Department of Social Welfare went and provided Ks360, 000 to 18 pregnant women, Ks680,

000 to 68 children aged under 2, Ks940, 000 to 47 elder people aged 60 over, Ks 600,000 to 30 disabled people, Ks50, 000 to a patient under treatment, Ks200, 000 to two feeble people in the temporary rescue camps of Zay Ya Wati monastery, Aung Myay Gone monastery, Yadana Beik-

man monastery, Thana Yaung Gyi monastery and Danya Wati playground in Sittway Township.

Psychological encouragements were also given to the children in the rescue camps and amusement places for them were also created. —Win Min Soe (IPRD) ■

## Healing the Country, Moving Forward in Peace, Justice and Reconciliation

Following the excerpts from the Statement  
By Cardinal Charles Maung Bo.

THE recent sad tragic events in our country affecting thousands of Muslims, Rakhines, Hindus and others have brought the concerned attention of the world.

We feel with great compassion at the flight of thousands of Muslims, Hindus, Rakhine, Mro and many others who were scattered, especially the children. This is a tragedy that should not have happened.

As Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has expressed her concern over all forms of violence in her recent speech, we strongly advocate that aggressive responses without any embedded long-term peaceful policies would be counterproductive.

Much has been said by the western media on the role of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. Many feel that the sentiments and principles she expressed so strongly in her latest address should have come earlier. But to lay all

blame on her, stigmatising her response is a very counterproductive measure.

Her assurance in her speech about rights in Rakhine state, the return of refugees and development of the state is to be welcomed. Those who have lived in this country for a long time need justice and the Kofi Annan Commission took a step in the right direction in suggesting constructive measures. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has formed a working committee to implement the recommendations of the Kofi Annan Commission. These are positive initiatives that need the appreciation and collaboration of all stakeholders and the international community.

All of us need to move from a wounded past towards a healing future.

Let the lessons of the past enlighten our future. Peace based on justice is possible. Peace is the only way. ■

GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.comPrinted and published at the **Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory** at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the **Global New Light of Myanmar Daily** under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.gnlmdaily@gmail.com  
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Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

Fishes are caught to be bred at a farm in Yangon. **PHOTO : THET OO (THATON)**

## Short-term fish breeding to be conducted to fulfill local consumption needs

Ko Moe

The Myanmar Fisheries Federation will arrange for short-term breeding of fish in order to fulfill the local consumption needs, as well as to export some of the fish, said an officer from the federation.

The federation is planning to breed catfish, striped snakehead, climbing perch and eel for the sustainable development of the fisheries enterprises.

"These fish which are bred in Myanmar can fetch a high price. Previously, most of the local people were breeding catfish. But now we can find only a few catfish in local markets. The catfish and climbing

perch can be bred in only in four months. Eel have to be bred in eight months for export. After breeding these fish, we can fulfill the local consumption needs first, then, we can export them", said Dr. Toe Nandar Tin, the vice chairperson of the Myanmar Fisheries Federation.

"Initially, the breeding of the fish will be conducted only in the Yangon region. Only when the breeding in Yangon is deemed successful will we share the fish breeding technology with other states and regions".

"We need to obtain quality feed for the fish and provide technical assistance for the lo-

cal fish breeders to be able to develop the fishing enterprises, said Dr. Toe Nandar Tin, the vice chairperson of the Myanmar Fisheries Federation.

The Myanmar Fisheries Federation will import fingerlings from Viet Nam. Moreover, the Myanmar Fisheries Federation and Viet Nam have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to provide technical assistance for breeding the four types of fish. Myanmar exported 568,970.89 metric tons of aquatic products in fiscal year 2015-2016 and earned US\$502.63 million. In fiscal 2016-2017, Myanmar exported 438,706.505 metric tons and earned US\$605.819 million. ■

## Wastewater treatment plant being built at Shwepyitha Industrial Zone

A wastewater treatment plant is being constructed at Shwepyitha Industrial Zone Phase-1 to be able to treat and dispose of the wastewater from breweries at a cost of Ks3 billion, according to the businessmen from the breweries.

The wastewater recycling plant is being constructed on a 5-acre plot of land, which is next to the Shwe Oh brewery.

Upon completion of the construction, about 3.6 million gallons of wastewater can be treated. If other breweries would like to have their waste water recycled, they have to pay Ks16 per gallon.

Construction of the plant was started on 6th March and will be completed in December. The wastewater treatment plant will use up-flow anaerobic sludge blanket (UASB) technology, officials said

Wastewater is any water that has been adversely affected in quality by anthropogenic influence. Some of the wastewater has a good impact upon the environment. Some can be used as the fertilizer. Some can have bad effect upon the environment.

The black wastewater disposed of by certain factories are needed to be treated, said Prof Sein Sein Thein, the chairman of Ever Green Environmental Group.—GNLM ■

## Heroin, stimulant tablets seized

An anti-narcotic squad from Yangon (East) searched a vehicle driven by Sai Pyae Kyaw and Than Aung aboard in front of the Galaxy Star Motel on Thiri Mon 10th Road near Thiri Mon Plaza in Ward 1, Mayangone Township on Wednesday morning and confiscated 132,000 stimulant tablets and two handsets from the vehicle.

Likewise, an anti-narcotic suppression squad from Bamaw searched a house owned by Myint Aung at Si Thaw village, Shweku Township on Wednesday morning and seized 0.2 grams of hero-

in and a gun. The police also searched a house owned by Thaug Lwin in the same village and found 0.2 grams of heroin.

The anti-narcotic suppression squad also searched Tun Tin Shwe's house and discovered 0.15 grams of heroin and 198 stimulant tablets at Latesin village in Shweku Township. Police also searched and found 0.2 grams of heroin in the home of Phoe Thay, also known as Phoe Htway.

On Wednesday afternoon, members of the Mohnyin police force seized 33 soap-box-

Than Aung and Sai Pyae Kyaw are seen with drugs. **PHOTO: MPF**

es containing heroin weighing 0.396 grams and 3,900 stimulant tablets from Min Naing's house at Mongnaung village, Mohnyin Township. In the evening, Muse police searched and found 110,484 stimulant tablets from

Cho Yin Yone's house at No. 6, Pan Lon Haung Ward, Muse Township. Police have taken action against them under the Anti-narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—Myanmar Police Force ■

## More than 1 million tickets priced from US\$0.00 to welcome Lunar New Year 2018

TO welcome the Lunar New Year 2018, Vietjet has offered 1,220,000 tickets priced from US\$0.00 from September 27th to September 29th, 2017.

Myanmar travelers can take advantage of the promotion to plan a trip on a budget to experience the biggest festival in Viet Nam during the Lunar New Year.

The promotion applies to Vietjet's international routes from Yangon to Ho Chi Minh City and to Hanoi which operate with one flight per day, 7 days a week. Besides Yangon, the promotion can be applied to all Vietjet's domestic and international routes to Seoul, Busan (South Korea); Hong Kong; Kaohsiung, Taipei, Taichung, Tainan

(Taiwan); Singapore; Bangkok (Thailand); Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) and Siem Reap (Cambodia) with the flight dates being from 1 November to 31 March 31st, 2018. The traditional Vietnamese Lunar New Year (Tet) is the biggest and oldest festival in Viet Nam, bringing the cities, especially Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh at its most colorful.— GNLM ■



Executive VP of Taipei World Trade Centre Fang-Miao Lin delivers a speech at the opening ceremony of the Auto EXPO and Power Myanmar at the Tatmadaw Exhibition Hall in Yangon. **PHOTO: SUPPLIED**

## Auto parts, electronics expo kicks off in Yangon

THE AUTO EXPO Myanmar (Myanmar International Auto Parts & Accessories Exhibition) and POWER EXPO Myanmar (Myanmar International Electrical, Electronics & Electric Power Equipment Fair) shows began yesterday at the Tatmadaw Exhibition Hall in Yangon.

The two shows will be held through October 1 offering Myanmar with high quality, reasonably priced options in these industries.

Fang-Miao Lin, Executive VP of show organizer Taipei

World Trade Centre-TWTC, welcomed guests to the shows during the opening ceremony.

This year showcases the most diverse and complete choice of auto parts and electronics expecting to attract more than 5,500 visitors from Yangon and other areas of Myanmar. These events will also facilitate a projected 1,000+ one-on-one trade meetings, expected to generate more than US\$25 million in parts and power deals. Also, the "Taiwan Excellence Pavilion" will showcase 60 award-winning prod-

ucts from 30 Taiwanese brands which have been awarded the Taiwan Excellence Award.

At the same time, another 12 Taiwanese enterprises coming from various industries will showcase their products ranging from the silent dry vacuum cleaner, power tools, steam cleaners, motors, blenders, smart computer temperature control iron, feed additive, potential inspiring blocks, cereal, geogrid, geotextile tube, water treatment and purifier, water bottle equipment and many others.—GNLM ■

## Telenor marks 3rd anniversary: celebrating with most affordable voice tariff

TELENOR Myanmar has introduced "Telenor Thar Thar Yar Yar," the most affordable on-net voice tariff ever in Myanmar to mark its third-year anniversary.

"With 'Telenor Thar Thar Yar Yar', customers may call for 10 Kyat per minute, and subscribing for the new tariff is easy. If you are already Telenor customer, you simply dial

\*979\*10# and you will almost immediately benefit from the new rate. If you are not a Telenor customer, the new tariff will be available at 100,000 retailers across the country," said the statement from Telenor.

"We know that all people in Myanmar still rely on making calls to arrange practicalities in their daily lives or to stay in

touch with friends and family. With new rates as low at 10 kyats per minute, we are offering our customers significantly more talk-time for their money," said Lars Erik Tellmann, CEO of Telenor Myanmar.

With 8,000 mobile sites in operation, Telenor is now active in all states and most townships across the country.—GNLM ■

## Yangon Region Investment Committee holds 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting

THE Yangon Region Investment Committee held its 3rd meeting of the year at the Yangon regional government office on Wednesday.

Present at the meeting were: U Phyo Min Thein, the Chief Minister for the Yangon Region Government and the Chairman of the Yangon Region Investment Committee, and the members of the Committee.

The committee chairman chief minister U Phyo Min Thein discussed the future process for facilitation of business investments.

The meeting approved three investment proposals including two foreign direct investments (FDIs) and one foreign joint venture.

The three FDIs amounted to US\$5.9 million, creating 187 employment opportunities for locals.

The Yangon Region Investment Committee has issued approval letters to Singapore in the industrial sector, and the People's Republic of China (PRC) and Hong Kong in five other sectors.

The total amount of FDIs in the country amounted to US\$8.7 million, creating 937 employment opportunities for locals.

Yangon Regional Head Office of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration has announced to investors who want to open a business which does not exceed US\$5 million or Ks6 million in the Yangon region that their applications must be submitted to Yangon Region head office at No.1 Thitsar road, Yankin Township, Yangon, or call 01-657892 in order to make inquiries.— GNLM ■

### THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

သတင်းစာများကို ဤဆိုင်များတွင်ဝယ်ယူဖတ်ရှုနိုင်ပါပြီ

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Market Place by City Mart (6.5 Mile)</li><li>Market Place by City Mart (Damasidi Road)</li><li>Market Place by City Mart (Junction City)</li><li>City Mart (Aung San Stadium)</li><li>City Mart (47th street)</li><li>City Mart (Yankin)</li><li>City Mart (China Town)</li><li>City Mart (Myay Ni Gone)</li><li>City Mart (FMI)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>City Mart (Junction Square)</li><li>City Mart (Junction Maw Tin)</li><li>City Mart (Sule Square)</li><li>City Mart (Star City - Thanlyin)</li><li>City Mart (Waizayandar)</li><li>City Mart (Hledan)</li><li>City Mart (Myanmar Plaza)</li><li>City Mart (Junction 8)</li><li>City Mart (St. John)</li><li>Ocean North Point (9 mile)</li><li>Ocean Shwegonedine</li></ul>
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# We will perform our duties in accord with the law, putting the rule of law forward: Dr Win Myat Aye

*Following is the interview with Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye*

Ye Khaung Nyut

**Q. Let me know how measures will be made for the villages which were burnt down in Maungdaw region.**

**A.** This is concerned with rehabilitation. And, there used to be the law that the government has the authority to rehabilitate in places which were burnt down. But we had consulted with the Union Attorney General Office, directly concerned with laws, assuming that we need to implement in accord with the law. So, we have had their legal advice. For the time being,

Natural Disaster Management Law, 2013 complies with the situations on the ground. And we have had rules and regulations, 2015. There, it implies with the definition of the wording—disaster. Accordingly, we will proceed according to that law.

**Q. What else do you want to add concerning Rakhine State Affair?**

**A.** The affairs happening in Rakhine State started from many years ago. Since the time taking office, the incumbent government repeatedly says that it will prioritize bringing about the internal peace and affairs of the



Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Win Myat Aye.

national people.

Places to be prioritized depending upon the least developed regions, among the regions where ethnic people are living, were chosen. They are Chin State and Rakhine State. Being

full of conflicts in the region, Rakhine State was prioritized. Next time we will continue to perform in Chin State. Just at the time the new government started to take the office, the State Counsellor herself formed a committee for peace, stability and development of Rakhine State.

Afterward, the advisory committee on Rakhine State led by Mr Kofi Annan was formed, with a view to be able to implement in the long term. And again, due to the events which took place on 9 October 2016, Maungdaw Region Investigation Committee led by Vice-President U Myint Swe.

If we implement the recommendations of those commissions, there will be beneficial for the region in the long run. We will effectively perform for the benefit of the people.

Now we are performing concerning Rakhine State, with genuine heartfelt minds.

We are trying our best for the regional development in every way. So we would like to say that people need to cooperate.

We will perform our duties in accord with the law, putting the rule of law forward. So, it is of great importance to take part in peace and stability. ■

## Swift action taken against lawbreakers after extremist terrorist attacks

MAINTAINING stability and rule of law became the top priorities in northern Rakhine State after the extremist terrorist attacks of 25 August that were allegedly perpetrated by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA), officials said.

Immediately after the attacks, law enforcement measures were conducted and legal actions were taken against those who broke laws that included looting and arson, officials said.

On receiving news of some people looting and burning villages that were deserted after villagers were displaced, the head of Maungdaw district and Yathedaung Township General Administrative Department instituted a curfew according to section 144 and prohibited people from entering restricted areas.

An investigation was conducted to find those who had burnt down two houses in Pabe North Village, Maungdaw Township and a case was opened at Alethanyaw area police station.

On the afternoon of 13 September, security personnel were conducting law enforcement measures in Thatkeypin Village when they found Saw Thein Maung and one other man acting suspiciously. Upon investigation, they were found to be

in possession of fish/prawn and nets from fish/prawn ponds near the village. They were investigated and a case was opened against them in Pynphyu area police station.

On 15 September afternoon, security personnel received news of a fire in Nyaungchaung Village tract, Maungdaw Township. Upon inspection, 60 houses in Nyaungchaung Village and 100 houses in Pantawpyin Village with an estimated value of about Ks3.2 million were found burnt and a case was opened in Magyichaung area police station. The investigation is underway to apprehend the perpetrators.

On the afternoon of 16 September, security personnel inspected Pabe North Village, Maungdaw Township upon receiving a report of a fire burning and found 15 houses with an estimated value of about Ks1.5 million being burnt down.

A case was opened in Alethanyaw area police station and an investigation is underway to apprehend the offenders.

Arson attacks also occurred in Ywathit K ward, Kalaba Village and Dipara Village in Maungdaw town and cases were opened in Maungdaw police station. Investigations are ongoing.— Myanmar News Agency ■

## Myanmar Inter-Faith group reacts to State Counsellor's speech

IN reaction to the national speech by the State Counsellor on 19 September, the Myanmar Interfaith Friendship and Unity Group released a statement on Wednesday.

The following is the full text of the statement.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor, clarified the government's efforts to hinder terrorist attacks which happened in Rakhine State and to bring about peace, stability and harmony in Rakhine State, in explaining to the diplomats on September 19. In doing so, the State Counsellor said that the government felt great sorrow for those who suffered in the attacks of extremist terrorists, denouncing violations of human rights and terrorism that

are against the law. Simultaneously, the State Counsellor asserted that those who violated the law would have legal action taken against them. She also disclosed that she would not like the country to be split into pieces due to different races, religions and political beliefs, urging the whole populace to collectively cooperate in building up a nation where every individual can enjoy equality in unity and move throughout their lives according to their faiths standing firmly on their own stance, based on these differences.

We, the Myanmar Interfaith Friendship and Unity Group, felt great sorrow for innocent people who were killed by terrorists in Rakhine

State, together with the bereaved families, concurrently feeling sadness for all the displaced people. Similarly, MIFUG strongly denounces the ARSA extremist terrorist group which committed the terrorist attacks. No religion would ever allow such terrorist attacks, which cause the depredation of the public. We deeply assume that their actions are not concerned with religion.

MIFUG wholeheartedly welcomes and supports the national address made by the State Counsellor and the Government's effort to bring about the national reconciliation and peace process, pledging to actively participate from the corner to which we are assigned.— Myanmar News Agency ■

## Authorities promise to provide food, security to Muslim villagers in Buthidaung

LOCAL authorities negotiated a group of Muslim villagers who were on their way to Bangladesh on 27th September, pledging to provide food and security to them if they wish to stay in their villages.

The villagers from three Muslim villages in Buthidaung

Township told the authorities that they fled their villages as the region is unstable and the villagers from their neighbour villages also fled to Bangladesh to live together with their same nationalities.

They are also facing challenges for their livelihood at

their villages and feeling that they are insecure from dangers, said the villagers.

The authorities also promised to take actions against any threats to them and offered to provide transportation to them to return their villages.— Myanmar News Agency ■

# US yet to announce exact troop number deployment in Afghanistan

KABUL — The visiting US Defence Secretary James Mattis said Wednesday that the exact number of additional US troops to be deployed in Afghanistan was not still clear.

"Afghan security forces continue to take the lead but we are going to give them more advantages," Mattis responded to a query when asked to comment on the number of US troops expected to arrive in Afghanistan.

At the moment, according to media reports, there are 11,000 US troops in Afghanistan and Pentagon, reportedly would send some 3,500 additional forces to the militancy-battered country.

Mattis who attended a joint press conference with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg and Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, told reporters that he would not reveal the "exact number of additional troops to the enemy."

Nevertheless, the Pentagon chief added that the Afghan security forces would take the lead in the fight against Taliban and other insurgents.

Talking to reporters at the press conference, Stoltenberg stated that NATO had welcomed



Afghan President Ashraf Ghani (L) shakes hands with visiting US Defence Secretary James Mattis during a joint press conference in Kabul, capital of Afghanistan, 27 September 2017. The visiting US Defence Secretary James Mattis said Wednesday that the exact number of additional US troops to be deployed in Afghanistan was not still clear. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

the new United States' Afghan approach, saying "I welcome that many nations have pledged further troop contribution and the US conditions-based approach" to Afghanistan.

"Our presence together in Afghanistan reflects our continuing commitment to bringing stability and peace," NATO

chief said.

"The Taliban must understand that they cannot win on the battlefield and there is much more to gain around the negotiating table," he asserted.

According to Stoltenberg, around 13,000-strong troops from 39 countries are currently serving in Afghani-

stan within the framework of NATO-led Resolute Support to help Afghan forces with training efforts, advising and backing them in the war on insurgents.

He said that NATO will provide 1 billion US dollars to fund the Afghan forces year by year throughout 2020.— Xinhua ■

## Russia denies Syrian opposition allegation over civilian deaths

MOSCOW — The Russian Defence Ministry on Thursday denied allegations that Russian and Syrian jets had killed at least 150 civilians in over a week of bombing, saying it had been careful not to hit civilians.

The ministry was responding to comments made on Wednesday by opposition rescue workers who accused Moscow and Damascus of killing at least 150 civilians and of injuring dozens in air strikes in Idlib Province. Major-General Igor Konashenkov said in a statement that the opposition-run Civil Defence group which made the allegations was made up of "charlatans" who could not be regarded as objective sources of reliable information. "Russian air force planes do not strike residential districts in populated areas in order to avoid casualties," Konashenkov said.

"Targets are terrorist bases, armored vehicles and ammunition stores which are always identified by drones and always confirmed by other channels beforehand." He said Russian planes operating in Idlib Province had only targeted militant fighters and their equipment in the last week.— Reuters ■

## Russia completes chemical weapons destruction

MOSCOW — The last chemical munition from Russian arsenals of chemical weapons were liquidated in the Volga Federal District in the southwest of Russia, the Russian government said Wednesday.

Mikhail Babich, chairman of the State Commission on Chemical Disarmament, reported to Russian President Vladimir Putin that the elimination process was completed ahead of schedule.

"We can say without any unnecessary pathos that this is indeed a historical event, given the enormous volume of munitions we have inherited from Soviet times," Putin said during a teleconference in Udmurtia, where the destruction was completed.

Experts said the arsenal of

chemical weapons could destroy all life on earth several times, according to the president.

"This is a huge step towards making the modern world more balanced and more secure," Putin said.

Recalling that Russia was among the first to sign the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), Putin stressed that Moscow strictly fulfills its international obligations, including in the field of disarmament and the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

He also underlined the key role of Russia in solving the problem of chemical weapons in Syria, adding that it is always open for "meaningful dialogue on global security issues, strengthening confidence-building measures."— Xinhua

## Israel charges two Israeli Arabs for planning attack in E Jerusalem's holy site

JERUSALEM — Two Arab citizens of Israel were indicted Thursday for planning to carry out a shooting attack in East Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, said Israel's Shin Bet security service.

The Shin Bet identified them as Said Gasub Mahmoud Jabarin, 26, and a 16-year-old minor, whose name was not disclosed. They are both residents of Umm al-Fahm, an Arab city in central Israel, from which three gunmen killed two Israeli policemen on 14 July outside the Al-Aqsa compound.

The two suspects had obtained weapons for the attack and they were supporters of the Islamic State (IS), according to the Shin Bet.

"They turned in two pistols and ammunition that were to

use in the attack," the statement read, "the two support the murderous ideology of IS, which was the background to their planned attack."

Together with them, the security forces arrested Faris Salah Mahmoud Mahajna, who was identified as an IS supporter. He was accused of illegal possession of weapons.

A senior security official, who spoke on terms of anonymity, said that Jabarin and the other teenager wanted to copycat the deadly July attack.

In the wake of the attack, Israel installed metal detectors at the gates of the flashpoint compound, triggering clashes between worshipers and Israeli police during which at least two Palestinians died. Following pressures

by the Palestinians and Arab countries, Israel removed the detectors.

Over the past years, dozens of Arab citizens of Israel were arrested for supporting the IS. "The Shin Bet views Israelis who support the terrorist Islamic State organization, especially those who are in contact with its operatives and who work on its behalf inside the State of Israel, as a serious security threat," the official said.

"The Shin Bet will continue to take determined action and use the necessary enforcement measures to prevent the dissemination of the Islamic State ideology in Israel and to thwart any activity that harms the security of the state," he added.— Xinhua ■

## We invite unbiased views and objective help for peace

Khin Maung Oo

GENERALLY, we would like to say that the UN and its agencies are the ones which negotiate and settle disputes after assessing conflicts, difficulties and global problems objectively. It is therefore a great disappointment to have seen some agencies saying things with one-sided views, by wearing green glasses.

We must conclude that organisations such as human rights organisations and institutions for refugees writing and shouting in a one-sided manner on behalf of refugee affairs and human rights do not represent the view of the people of the world. So, I wish to make a very serious statement that they should view and criticise objectively before they criticise an individual, a country or an organisation

because of the fact that they are intergovernmental organisations.

What the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights said to foreign-based news media after meeting with refugees at the refugee camps along the Bangladesh border recently are very biased statements.

He said to the effect that the exodus of people into Bangladesh has reached the highest stage of emergency and that these people needed protection from the international community and that violence against them by the Myanmar security forces should stop immediately.

The high-ranking official's sayings are excessively one-sided, biased views made with a view to focus attention on the plight of one community while totally ignoring the sufferings of other victims of

the extremist terrorists. In fact he has turned the whole situation upside down by failing to mention why these tragic events really started in the first place. Without analysing the cause and effect objectively, he has portrayed the whole situation as though it was the Myanmar security forces who initiated violence on the Muslim community without any reason.

The fact of the matter is that the Myanmar security forces were responding to the terrorist attacks by the ARSA extremist terrorists who attacked the border police outposts on 25th August this year. We are still unclear why the exodus started.

All over the world, there are lots and lots of real refugees and so-called ones. In Myanmar as well are many refugees

in bordering areas of the country. Yet, the assertion that refugees along the Bangladesh border are the most sorrowful and severely harmed ones out of all refugees seem to be a bit far-fetched, unfair and one-sided.

He made biased claims without disclosing correctly by whose attacks those victims were in great trouble. Presently, they are deliberately neglecting displaced people taking shelter in local refugee camps for fear of their lives.

The mass graves of 45 Hindu villagers are a somber testimony of the atrocities committed by the ARSA terrorists. We strongly oppose the above-said statements. To sum it up, as for the person representing an intergovernmental organisation, we wish to remind him that he should be just and fair, without any bias. ■

## The Role of Education in Relation to Peace Building in Myanmar

Maung Mye Moe

MYANMAR'S situation is historical on many accounts and we are trying to have peaceful consolidation of culture and structure. Moreover we are all in good time to set out the foundations for our state and society based on peace, human rights, democracy, social justice and freedom. The Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (2008) aims at ensuring the right of equality, the right of liberty and the right of justice for every citizen who is responsible for public peace and tranquility and prevalence of law and order. It is believed that schools, universities and education institutions are the most important centres of providing knowledge, cultivating good attitude and introducing practices on democracy, peace education and human rights for peace building of Myanmar.

The National Education Law also aims to set out the fundamental democratic values through education. In Chapter 2 of the National Education Law describes the objectives of national education as follows:-

- To train physically, mentally, morally, socially and psychologically well-developed good citizens with critical thinking skills;
- To nurture and produce citizens who respect and follow the law by practicing their civics and democratic duties and upholding standards of human rights;
- To develop union spirit and to nurture citizens who respect, value, preserve and develop the ethnic groups' languages, literatures, culture, arts, traditions, and historical heritage of all the nationalities and who value and conserve the natural environment

and pass these things on to the new generations;

On the 19th September, 2017, State Counsellor, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivered a historic public speech on Myanmar government's efforts at reconciliation and peace and she said, "Peace and stability was something that we had to achieve after nearly 70 years of internal conflict that started on the day of our independence back in 1948. And development has to be achieved within the context of the first two – nurturing democratic values, establishing peace and stability, and achieving the kind of sustainable development that would be seen as equitable by all our people".

The democratic values stemming from the Constitution, National Education Law and State Counsellor's speech should form the basis of the education system. The fundamental democratic values related to educational implications include democracy, social justice and equity, equality, non-sexism and non-racism, human dignity, open society, accountability, rule of law, respect and reconciliation.

For **democracy**, the education strongly implies the empowerment of population to exercise democratic rights, provision of skills to participate and cultivation of the practice to think critically and act responsibly.

**Social justice and equity** is very essential to peace and reconciliation. The access to education is the most important resource in addressing poverty – only then will liberty be achieved. Reconciliation requires social justice to address past injustices – education for all is an essential element of social justice.

**Equality** that represents the inclusiveness of the education takes part as the vital role and it is the access for all to an educational provision that does not dis-

criminate on any grounds. Equality in the treatment of all must be achieved by all.

**Non-sexism and non-racism** are important to make the right to education becomes a reality for each and every child in Myanmar; regardless of ethnicity, citizen status of the parents, gender and geographic location or levels of income. In this way, the learners will afford the same opportunities and the same degree of security.

For **human dignity**, the education importantly provides mutual understanding and active appreciation of the value of human differences such as racial, cultural, religious, etc.

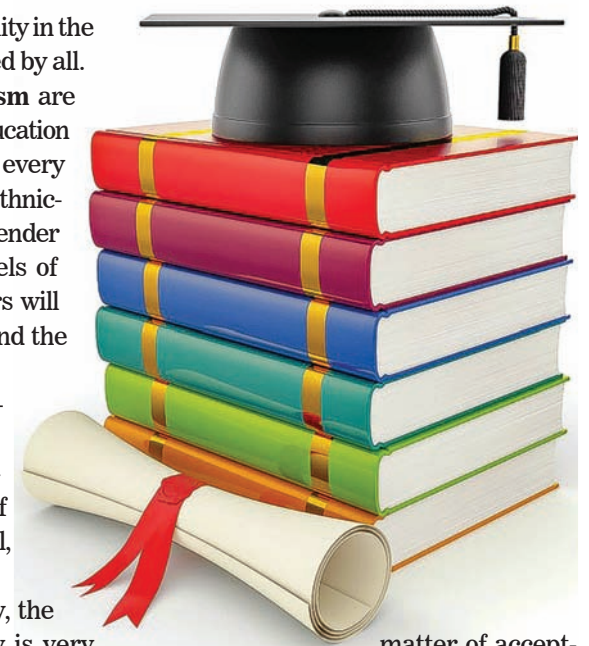
To develop an **open society**, the involvement of the community is very important and it must be participation rather than observation. As a result, the community will achieve the empowerment to think and act through a culture of dialogues and debates.

**Accountability** is very important agenda in democracy and all the education stakeholders have to take the power and responsibility for all involved in education and these will include learners, teachers, parents, educators, education managers and the communities.

**Rule of law** is vital in human society and it must be learned, trained and practiced from the schools, universities and education institutions and they are centres of importance to comprehend and obey the rules within which learners, educators, managers, parents, etc. operate.

**Respect** is the precondition for communication and teamwork and schools require the training to have mutual respect between all the partners and among the learners.

**Reconciliation** is very essential practice for all learners and it is a



matter of acceptance of all individuals through learning about each other, valuing differences and diversity.

The above fundamental values need to be built in parallel to already functioning schools.

To promote the peace development and democracy practices in schools, there will be two essential works- the development of peace education curriculum and providing training courses to teachers, school principals, staff, interested parents, and other community members in support of the collective effort.

As our country, Myanmar is expecting profound changes from the education sector due to the emergence of the People's Government; all the stakeholders should join hands to make the necessary contributions for the uplift of education sector, including the development of peace education and democracy practices in schools. In doing so, our education can definitely help to build a more inclusive, more tolerant and more peaceful Myanmar in the near future. ■

## Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin attends 72<sup>nd</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly and related meetings in New York

MINISTER of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin, a member of the Myanmar delegation to the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly held in New York City arrived back in Yangon on Wednesday.

While in New York, on 18 September, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs attended a working breakfast meeting on "The Role of Enhanced South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Capacity Building in Support of Peace Building" organised by Indonesia and Norway at the Permanent Mission of Indonesia and shared the experience of Myanmar in its efforts in national reconciliation and peace process.

On 19 September, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs attended the high-level event "Towards Implementation of the International Decade of Action 'Water for Sustainable Development' 2018-2028". Afterwards, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs deposited the instruments of ratification on the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and acceptance of the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol to the Chief of the Treaty Section of the United Nations.

On 20 September, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs met with Mr. Mark Field, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Office of Britain and exchanged views on the true situation of northern Rakhine State. On 21 September, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs met with Mrs. Maria Angela Holguin Cuellar, Minister for Foreign Af-



Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin presents the instruments of ratification on the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and acceptance of the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol to the Chief of the Treaty Section of the United Nations. **PHOTO: MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

fairs of the Republic of Colombia to discuss matters of bilateral cooperation and signed the Memorandum on Political Consultations between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Colombia. Afterwards, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs attended the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) Foreign Ministers' Meeting.

On 22 September, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs met separately with Mr. Anders Samuelsen, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, Mrs. Anni Soder, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden, and Mr. Jean-Christophe Belliard, Deputy Secretary-General for Political Affairs of the European

External Action Service of the European Union and exchanged views on the ground situation in northern Rakhine State.

On 23 September, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs met with ASEAN Foreign Ministers in an informal setting. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs apprised the ASEAN Ministers of the true situation in the northern Rakhine State, the progress on implementation of the recommendations made by the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State by forming a Ministerial level Committee and the Government's efforts for humanitarian assistance to the displaced communities. At the informal meeting, ASEAN Foreign Ministers also discussed possible ways to support Myanmar in its human-

itarian assistance programme.

The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs also attended the launching event of the ASEAN My World Survey organized by UNDP and ASEAN at the United Nations Headquarters together with the ASEAN Foreign Ministers and the UNDP Administrator Mr. Achim Steiner.

In the afternoon, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs attended the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of the 72nd United Nations General Assembly. At the meeting, under the agenda of counter-terrorism, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs apprised the meeting of the terrorist attacks in the northern Rakhine State, the displacement

and suffering of Rakhine people and other minority ethnic people and the Government's plan of action to address the Rakhine issue. In the evening, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs attended the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Dinner hosted by Mr. Alan Peter Cayetano, Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Republic of the Philippines.

At the end of the dinner, the ASEAN Chair's Statement on the humanitarian situation in Rakhine State was issued acknowledging that the situation in Rakhine State was a complex inter-community issue with deep historical roots. It was also agreed to support Myanmar's humanitarian relief programme and to work together with the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA) with the Myanmar Government-led mechanism.

On 25 September, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs received Ms. Debra Eisenman, Executive Director of Asia Society Policy Institute at the Office of the Permanent Representative of Myanmar to the United Nations and briefed on the Government's efforts on democratic transition, national reconciliation and peace and true situation in Rakhine State.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs also held a coordination meeting with Myanmar delegates attending the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly and discussed on the agendas before the Main Committees of the General Assembly. —Ministry of Foreign Affairs ■

## Snub-nosed monkeys of Myanmar face extinction

Of the three species of snub-nosed monkey (*Rhinopithecus* strykeri) native to Myanmar -- the white eyebrow eastern monkey, the white eyebrow western monkey and the white hand monkey -- the first is considered a vulnerable species while the last two are an endangered species, according to the Wildlife Conservation Society (Myanmar).

Experts have said if these monkeys are not protected, they will become extinct within 50 years. In an effort to prevent this, the Nature and Wildlife Conservation Division of the Forest Department, together with the

Wildlife Conservation Society (Myanmar) are conducting conservation and research on monkeys in the Mahamyaing, Hukawng Valley, Tamanthi and Ponkanrazi wildlife reserve areas, it is learnt. U Hla Naing of the Wildlife Conservation Society (Myanmar) said these monkeys are an important part of the ecosystem "Monkeys eat ripe fruit and excrete or spit out seeds that they cannot eat or digest. Because of this, plants grow more easily and thus monkeys were considered planters of natural forests", said U Hla Naing.

"Monkeys were hunted ag-

gressively while also facing the danger of a shrinking habitat. They lived in groups and there are usually three or four in a group. As they are becoming endangered and vulnerable and facing extinction, systematic conservation works need to be done. We will continue to conduct conservation education works."

The Myanmar snub-nosed monkey lives only in the remote high forests of northeast Myanmar and across the border in China's Gaoligong Mountain Natural Preserve. There are as few as 260 to 330 left in the wild, according to conservationists.—Shin Min ■



An endangered species of snub-nosed monkey. **PHOTO: WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY (MYANMAR)**

# Macron's EU vision faces reality check at Estonia dinner

TALLINN — French President Emmanuel Macron can expound his ambitious new vision for the European Union when he meets his fellow EU leaders over dinner in Estonia on Thursday, but is likely to receive only a cautious hearing.

The informal get-together in Tallinn, arranged on the fly before a “digital summit” on issues ranging from data and cybersecurity to taxing online businesses, has no set agenda and could range widely, even allowing for Prime Minister Theresa May to pitch her ideas on Britain's looming exit from the EU.

But four days after a German election that has raised the prospect of months of tough coalition talks for Chancellor Angela Merkel, the most influential EU leader, and two days after Macron's rallying cry for deeper integration of national economies, the focus will rather be on the fizz of new initiatives, diplomats say. “Macron has stolen the show,” one senior EU official said of the dinner debate and which all of the 28 national leaders bar Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy are expected to attend. Many admire the youthful new French president's energy and oratory after years in which Paris, long a driving force



French President Emmanuel Macron delivers a speech to set out plans for reforming the European Union at the Sorbonne in Paris, France, on 26 September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

of the EU, has appeared bereft of self-confidence.

However, Macron is likely to face polite but firm resistance at the dinner to his calls for a substantial pooling of national budgets and a possible break-away by the wealthy, western states into a deeper monetary union.

Eastern European leaders may caution about the risk of new cleavages on the continent

leaving them behind, while there are plenty, like Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte, a moving spirit behind the Tallinn dinner, who will sound skeptical about more financial burden-sharing before southern neighbours — including France — put their own national budgets on a sounder footing.

Merkel will arrive in Tallinn having lost her veteran finance minister, austerity hawk Wolf-

gang Schaeuble, who is now set to preside over a German parliament packed with far-right radicals.

Though she welcomed Macron's Europe speech in Paris — and had discussed it with him beforehand — Merkel will be unable to commit Berlin to much as she has barely started the process of building what is likely to be a three-way coalition government.—Reuters ■

## At odds, German conservatives to discuss coalition lines on 8 October

MUNICH, (Germany) — Leaders of German Chancellor Angela Merkel's Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and its Bavarian sister party will meet on 8 October to discuss a future coalition with other parties following Sunday's election, conservative sources said.

Months of uncertainty loom in Germany, Europe's biggest economy, after Merkel's conservatives won a fourth term in the election but bled support to the far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD).

Bavaria's Christian Social Union (CSU) has signalled it wants a rightward shift to focus on security and immigration curbs to dampen the appeal of the AfD to its voters.

This could complicate Merkel's hopes of building an already-awkward three-way coalition between her conservatives, the pro-business Free Democrats (FDP) and environmentalist Greens.

The Greens are firmly pro-immigration and Merkel herself has also resisted so far

capping the number of migrants entering Germany.

Little movement on a coalition is expected before an 15 October vote in the western state of Lower Saxony, currently ruled by the Social Democrats (SPD) — who have said they will go into opposition at a national level — and Greens. The CDU/CSU bloc will aim at their meeting to agree common positions before any exploratory talks take place with the FDP and Greens, the conservative sources told Reuters.

Any indication of progress

will be welcomed by investors.

With Merkel at the initial round of talks will be the head of her parliamentary party, Volker Kauder, and the head of the chancellor's office Peter Altmaier. CSU leader and Bavarian state premier Horst Seehofer will lead the CSU side. Leading economic institutes said on Thursday that the next government can count on record budget surpluses over the next two years due to a solid upswing, potentially facilitating Merkel's task of building a coalition.—Reuters ■

## WORLD BRIEFS

### China's C919 jet completes 2<sup>nd</sup> test flight with doubled airspace

SHANGHAI — China's large passenger aircraft, the C919, completed its second test flight after two hours and 46 minutes in the air Thursday.

The jet, coded 10101, took off from Shanghai Pudong International Airport and reached an altitude of 10,000 feet. Flight time was twice that of its maiden flight in May. Next the aircraft will be taken to Xi'an for further test flights.—Xinhua ■

### One killed, two injured in army helicopter crash in NW Iran

TEHRAN — One person was killed and two others injured in an army helicopter crash in the northwest of the country on Thursday, Tasnim news agency reported.

The helicopter faced a problem during a test flight and crashed in Urmia city, the report quoted Colonel Karim Hossein Nejad as saying.—Xinhua ■

### Mongolian parliament to vote on prime minister candidate

ULAN BATOR — Mongolian President Khaltmaa Battulga on Thursday sent an official letter to the country's parliament, the State Great Khural, for approval of Khurelsukh Ukhnaa as the country's new prime minister.

In the letter, he asked the parliament to “urgently solve the issue related to Khurelsukh's appointment to the post of head of the new government.” The ruling People's Party of Mongolia on Tuesday chose acting Deputy Prime Minister Khurelsukh Ukhnaa as candidate for new prime minister. Earlier this month, lawmakers demanded that former Prime Minister Jargaltulga Erdenebat resign for allegedly violating parliamentary procedures through the granting of contracts worth the equivalent of 328 million US dollars to companies linked to three cabinet members.—Xinhua ■



Ukrainian activist Mykola Podrezan crosses a street in his wheelchair in Tokyo on 27 September 2017, during his first visit to Japan. Podrezan started visiting cities around the world in 2011 to promote barrier-free infrastructure in his country. Japan is the 23<sup>rd</sup> country to which he has traveled. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

## Wheelchair-bound Ukrainian in Japan to report on barrier-free access

TOKYO — A wheelchair-bound Ukrainian social worker on a multi-year mission to report to his compatriots about barrier-free access in other countries arrived in Japan for the first time on Wednesday.

After spending some time in central Tokyo in his wheelchair, Mykola Podrezan, 64, said he was “moved by the few bumps and many street signs on the roads,”

adding, “I felt the Japanese city and people are very friendly.”

He said he intends to tell young people in Ukraine about what he has learned in Japan.

Japan is the 23<sup>rd</sup> country visited by Podrezan since he started the project in 2011. He is slated to stay in Japan until Sunday. Podrezan, who became disabled in an auto accident in 1991, said he came up with the idea of travel-

ling around the world with his wheelchair after being picked for a torch relay in Ukraine for the 2004 Athens Olympics.

Podrezan said barrier-free access in Ukraine has improved since the Soviet era but remains limited. He plans to visit more countries, including Mexico, and end his journey in the Ukrainian capital Kiev in 2018. —Kyodo News ■

## Progress on Brexit, but not enough to open trade talk

BRUSSELS — The European Union and Britain made progress in the latest round of divorce talks, but not enough to move to the next phase of discussions on a transition period after Brexit or a future trade deal, top negotiators said on Thursday.

“We have had a constructive week, yes, but we are not yet there in terms of achieving sufficient progress. Further work is needed in the coming weeks and months,” chief EU negotiator Michel Barnier told reporters, praising a “new dynamic” created by concessions made last week by Prime Minister Theresa May.

She had hoped that a speech she made at Florence on Friday would unblock the three-month-

old talks and paving the way for the EU to open discussions on a post-Brexit free trade deal by allowing Barnier to tell EU leaders that there is “sufficient progress” on three key “divorce” issues — rights for expatriate citizens, the Northern Irish border and how much Britain owes.

Barnier’s British counterpart, Brexit Secretary David Davis, said they had made “considerable progress” in four days of talks in Brussels and repeated his eagerness to move on to discuss what happens after Brexit in March 2019.

Barnier highlighted two key areas of disagreement.

First, on citizens’ rights, he welcomed a confirmation from Davis that the withdrawal treat-

ty guaranteeing the rights of 3 million EU citizens in Britain should have “direct effect” in British law — effectively, Britain cannot change them via new legislation. But the Union continues to demand that people also have the right to pursue grievances at the EU’s own court.

Second, Barnier said Britain had clarified that an offer by May that the other 27 states should not lose out financially from Brexit during the current EU budget period ending at the end of 2020 would cover payments only in 2019 and 2020. That, he said, was not enough. Commitments agreed in the current budget also lead to outward payments in subsequent years. —Reuters ■

## Fugitive Yingluck Shinawatra currently in Dubai: Thai PM

BANGKOK — Thailand’s fugitive former Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, to whom a five-year jail term has been delivered by court on Wednesday, is currently hiding out in Dubai, Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha confirmed on Thursday.

He said the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had unofficially confirmed that Yingluck is currently hiding out in the United Arab Emirates’ city of Dubai following her escape from Thailand last month.

On Wednesday, the Supreme Court ruled the former lady leader guilty of duty negligence and misconduct and sentenced her to five years in prison.

A second arrest warrant was issued for the authorities to find and bring her to jail.

She had failed to appear in court to be delivered such a verdict last month and was believed to have slipped out of the country with the help of some police officers and finally made it to Dubai, where her own brother, former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra has been staying in self-exile since nearly a decade ago.

Prayut commented that it is the responsibility of the police to find and bring Yingluck back to this country and be put in prison. He said the Thai police may call on the Interpol for help.

Besides, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs may consider revoking Yingluck’s passport to mount pressure upon her travels overseas, according to Prayut.—Xinhua ■

## Japan PM Abe eager to visit China, vows to improve bilateral ties

TOKYO — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on Thursday expressed his eagerness to visit China in the near future, saying he will accelerate efforts to improve bilateral relations.

A day before the two countries mark 45 years of diplomatic ties, Abe also said at a ceremony to celebrate China’s founding day in Tokyo that he will start arrangements to hold a trilateral summit between Japan, China, and South Korea in the capital this year.

If the summit takes place, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang is expected to visit Japan.

Abe added that after he makes a trip to China, he would like Chinese President Xi Jinping to visit Japan.

It was Abe’s first participation in the annual events as prime minister, a Foreign Ministry official said. Abe served as prime minister for a year through September 2007 and returned to power in December 2012.

“By promoting reciprocal visits between political leaders of the two nations, we would like to drive Japan-China relations forward,” Abe said in a



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe gives a speech at a ceremony held in Tokyo on 28 September 2017, a day before Japan and China mark the 45th anniversary of their diplomatic ties. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

speech at the event.

Seoul was the previous host of the summit in 2015. Japan was scheduled to host one last year but it was dropped amid political turmoil in South Korea.

Tokyo, Beijing and Seoul have been rotating summit-hosting duties since 2008. The gatherings were not held in 2013 and 2014 after a chill in Japan-China relations over a territorial row.—Kyodo News ■

# Sony enhances audio headphone lineup for Thai youngsters



Sony Thai Co. marketing department head Tetsutaka Suda (2nd from R) and marketing manager for visual sound products Kessaree Marnee-in (2nd from L) display audio products lineup at a press conference in Bangkok on 26 September 2017. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

BANGKOK — Sony Corp. is expanding its range of mid-priced and high-end headphones to tap demand for audio accessories in Thailand, particularly among smartphone users.

Sony Thai Co., a local sales unit of the major Japanese electronics and entertainment group, is rolling out three high-resolution wireless headphone models with noise cancellation technology as part of its 1000X series, at prices ranging from 7,990 to 14,990 baht (\$240-\$451).

The launch comes as Sony is enjoying growing popularity for its MDR-1000X flagship model, released a year ago in the Asia-Pacific region, Tetsutaka Suda, head of the Thai local arm's marketing department, said at a press conference in Bangkok on Tuesday.

Sony, Apple Inc. and its audio products subsidiary Beats Electronics LLC together command roughly half the Thai headphone market, worth some 700 million to 800 million baht, and have been in a neck and neck race for top spot, according to Kessaree Marnee-in, Sony Thai's marketing manager for visual and sound products.

The market is growing at an average annual rate of 10 percent and is expected to reach 1 billion baht in the next three years, thanks to the increasing number of new smartphones, Kessaree said.

Sony, which holds the biggest share of the mid-priced and high-end headphone market, has been widening its customer base from those aged over 30 to people aged 15-30.

In early October, Sony plans to start selling five headphone models including wireless types under the "h.ear" series for young users, with prices ranging from 2,990 to 11,990 baht. —Kyodo News ■

## Yosemite rock fall kills at least one person, hurts another

LOS ANGELES — At least one person was killed and another hurt on Wednesday when a rockslide from the famed El Capitan granite monolith in Yosemite National Park in California rained boulders onto a popular hiking trail, a park spokesman said. Search and rescue teams responded to the scene following the incident shortly before 2 pm pacific time and were assessing the situation, along with a park helicopter, Yosemite spokesman Scott Gediman said in a statement. Gediman said crews were working to transport the injured person to a hospital. He said no further details were immediately available. The rocks appeared to have fallen from an area near the popular "Waterfall Route" climbing trail on the east buttress of El Capitan during an active time for hiking in the popular national park. Yosemite remained open and visitor services were not affected, Gediman said. El Capitan is one of the best-known landmarks in Yosemite and a world-class challenge for rock-climbers.—Reuters ■

## From cyber unit to troops, South Korea adds extra layer of Olympics security amid tensions



An ice sculpture of the Olympic rings is illuminated during the Pyeongchang Winter Festival, near the venue for the opening and closing ceremony of the PyeongChang 2018 Winter Olympic Games in Pyeongchang, South Korea, on 10 February 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

SEOUL — Rattled by rising tensions with North Korea, South Korea is taking extra measures to try to ensure the safety of the 2018 Winter Games, including setting up a crack cyber defence team and doubling the number of troops, according to officials and documents reviewed by Reuters.

The Games take place next February in the mountainous resort town of Pyeongchang, just 80 km (50 miles) from the heavily fortified border with North Korea. They come after a series of missile and nuclear tests show the North making rapid advances in its weapons programme and as inflammatory rhetoric between Pyongyang and Washington stirs up concerns about another conflict on the Korean peninsula.

South Korea's Defence Ministry will deploy some 5,000 armed forces personnel at the Games, double the 2,400 on duty during the 2002 World Cup, which South Korea co-hosted with Japan, according to government officials and documents reviewed by Reuters.

Pyeongchang's organizing committee for the 2018 Games (POCOG) is also selecting a private cyber security company to guard against a hacking attack from the North, tender documents show.

The committee is seeking to fast-track the selection as tensions rise in the wake of South Korea's controversial deployment of the US THAAD anti-missile system, and as North Korean leader Kim Jong Un tests weapons at an unprecedented rate.

"Cyber threats have increased due to external factors such as the THAAD deployment and recent North Korean missile launches," the committee said in the document.

The committee will make all-out efforts to ensure the Pyeongchang Olympics are the safest ever, it said.—Reuters ■

### Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 4<sup>th</sup> October to 6<sup>th</sup> October 2017 “END OF BUDDHIST LENT HOLIDAYS”, under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

#### THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE ( INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER ) ( 16/ 2017 )

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in Myanmar Kyats.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	DMP/L-065(17-18)	Spares for SJS Serva (TPB 600)Cementing Unit (1) Item	Ks
(2)	DMP/L-066(17-18)	Spares for Retest Factory (54) Items	Ks
(3)	DMP/L-067(17-18)	PAC-R (50) MT	Ks
(4)	DMP/L-068(17-18)	Spare Tools for Drilling Equipment (17) Items	Ks
(5)	DMP/L-069(17-18)	Spares for Dispenser (SAFE) (16) Items	Ks
(6)	DMP/L-070(17-18)	Spares for Dispenser (China) (19) Items	Ks

Tender Closing Date & Time- 30-10-2017, 16:30 pm

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 28 September 2017 at the Finance Department , Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise  
Ph . +95 67 - 411206

# Vanuatu orders full evacuation of Ambae island as volcano threatens to erupt

SYDNEY — Vanuatu on Thursday ordered the full evacuation of the South Pacific nation's northern island of Ambae as a volcano there threatened to erupt.

The volcano, known as Manaro Voui, began emitting ash and volcanic gas last weekend, triggering concerns of an imminent eruption and forcing Vanuatu to move more than half of Ambae's population to emergency shelters on the island.

While volcanic activity has not intensified in recent days, Vanuatu's government has ordered the evacuation of all 10,000 residents to the nearby islands of Maewo, Pentecost and Santo amid the threat of an eruption and a strain on water supplies.

"The evacuation of every family out of Am-



Smoke emanates from the Manaro Voui volcano located on Vanuatu's northern island Ambae in the South Pacific, in this aerial photo taken on 26 September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

bae is a must," Vanuatu's Council of Ministers said in a statement.

The government hopes to have completely evacuated the island by 6 October. Aid workers said Vanuatu will use government vessels and commercial fishing boats to transfer Ambae's residents.

Although Ambae's volcano has been active since 2005, the government has never previously needed to evacuate the island.

Even if Manaro Voui does not erupt, aid workers fear the spread of volcanic ash across the island will cause long-term harm to locals, who are almost

entirely reliant on locally grown produce for food.

Vanuatu is an economically developing nation of more than 80 islands and home to 260,000 people. It sits on the geologically active Pacific Ring of Fire and its Tana island active volcano is a major tourist attraction.—Reuters ■

# Cash demand soars in Puerto Rico after hurricane hit ATMs, card systems

NEW YORK/SAN JUAN, (Puerto Rico) — Demand for cash in hurricane-ravaged Puerto Rico is "extraordinarily high" after power outages knocked out electronic transactions and ATMs but needs were being met for now, a Federal Reserve branch said on Wednesday.

Residents and tourists were counting their dwindling banknotes in the wake of Hurricane Maria, which crippled the electrical grid and communications network, turning the Caribbean island into a largely cash-based economy. The New York branch of the US central bank, which oversees and makes funds available to Puerto Rico's financial institutions, said it was prepared for another surge in cash demand and could

rush more banknotes to the island if necessary.

ATMs are slowly re-opening a week after Maria, the most powerful hurricane to hit Puerto Rico in 90 years, caused widespread flooding and badly damaged homes, roads and other infrastructure on the island of 3.4 million. The New York Fed's cash distribution operations were working and it had adequate stocks to meet the needs of lenders and other firms on the US territory, a spokeswoman told Reuters. "Demand for cash is extraordinarily high right now, and will evolve as depository institutions regain power; armored car services are able to reach branches, and ATMs are once again active," the spokeswoman said.—Reuters ■

## CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV HUNSA BHUM VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HUNSA BHUM VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/A.I.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV SINAR BALI VOY. NO (038)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BALI VOY. NO (038) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 SILKAGO LOGISTICS  
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV PATHEIN STAR VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PATHEIN STAR VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MIP where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S CONTINENTAL SHIP-  
PING LINE PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV EVER ABLE VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EVER ABLE VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV HAN ZHANG VOY. NO (1737E)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HAN ZHANG VOY. NO (1737E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.9.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AIPT-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 HANSSY SHIPPING  
LTD.**

Phone No: 2301928

**Bank of India (Yangon Representative Office)**

[ In closing down ]

**Notice of Completion of Closing Down**

**Bank of India (Yangon Representative Office)** has completely carried out liquidation proceedings and has been fully closed down with effect from 25th September 2017.

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## What intimidates Steven Spielberg? Being subject of a documentary



Director Steven Spielberg, his wife Kate Capshaw (L) and stepdaughter Jessica Capshaw pose at the premiere of the HBO documentary film "Spielberg" in Los Angeles, California, US, on 26 September 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

LOS ANGELES — Steven Spielberg has directed dozens of award-winning movies in a 40-year career, but when it came to turning the cameras on himself he found the attention pretty uncomfortable.

The double Oscar winner, who has directed films like "Schindler's List," "Jaws" and "Saving Private Ryan," is the subject of a documentary for HBO television based on more than 30 hours of interviews with Spielberg, his family and friends.

"It's a very interesting experience being the subject of a film when I have spent my entire career seeking subjects for my films. And to be suddenly be in that hot seat - for me it was both intimidating and daunting," Spielberg told reporters at the documentary's Los Angeles

premiere on Tuesday.

Spielberg, 70, said director Susan Lacy got him to open up about what inspires his films, although it's not a subject he spends much energy on himself.

"I don't spend a lot of time in any kind of self-analysis. In a way, I let the films do that. And I let you figure out me through those films.

"I just spend time looking for good stories and just going out and telling them," he added.

The documentary also features interviews with many of those who have worked with Spielberg or been influenced by his work, including Tom Hanks, Oprah Winfrey, Harrison Ford, Leonardo DiCaprio, Martin Scorsese and Cate Blanchett.

"Spielberg" will be shown on HBO on 7 October. —Reuters ■

## JJ Abrams teams up Paramount for sci-fi love story 'Your Name'

LOS ANGELES — JJ Abrams is collaborating with Paramount Studios for the Hollywood adaptation of "Your Name", an anime film that is one of the biggest hits of all time in Japan.

Written and directed by Makoto Shinkai, "Your Name" is sci-fi love story, which revolves around a teenage boy and girl belonging to different parts of Japan who discover they can swap bodies.

Shinkai said he hopes that recreating the film in Hollywood will open more avenues in the world of filmmaking.

"Your Name" is a film created with the innate imaginations of a Japanese team and put together in a domestic medium.

"When such a work is imbued with Hollywood filmmaking, we may see new possibilities that we had been completely unaware of. I am looking

forward to the live-action film with excited anticipation," he said.

"Arrival"-fame writer Eric Heisserer will pen the script for the live-action adaptation.

Abrams will back the film through his Bad Robot Productions, along with Lindsey Weber.

The producer of the original 2016 film, Genki Kawamura, will also serve as producer on the new venture.—PTI ■

## Aerosmith's Steven Tyler experiencing medical problem, band cancels shows



Musician Steven Tyler arrives at the Elton John AIDS Foundation Academy Awards Viewing Party in West Hollywood, California in 2016. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

LOS ANGELES — Aerosmith lead singer Steven Tyler is dealing with an "unexpected medical issue" that has forced the band to cancel four shows in South America, the group said in a statement on Tuesday.

Tyler is expected to make a full recovery, the band said.

The band has cancelled the following dates on their Latin American tour: Curitiba, Brazil, on Wednesday; Santiago, Chile, on Saturday; Rosario, Argentina, on 3 October; and Monterrey, Mexico on 7 October.

"Unfortunately, due to unexpected medical issues, lead singer Steven Tyler is seeking immediate care and has been advised by his doctors that he

cannot travel or perform at this time," the band said in a statement. The statement did not say what medical issues have affected Tyler. A spokeswoman for the singer did not immediately return a phone call or email.

"I am not in a life threatening condition, but I need to deal with this right away, and get some rest and medical care immediately in order to sustain and maintain my future performances," Tyler said in a statement accompanying the band's message about the cancellations. Aerosmith earlier this month played shows in Rio and São Paulo, Brazil. Tyler in 2006 underwent vocal chord surgery.—Reuters ■

## Playboy magazine founder Hugh Hefner dies at 91

LOS ANGELES — Playboy magazine founder Hugh Hefner died at his Playboy Mansion home in Beverly Hills in California at the age of 91, his company said Wednesday.

Hefner, known for his "playboy" lifestyle, founded the men's magazine in 1953 and built it into a multimillion-dollar entertainment empire, which includes casinos, nightclubs and TV shows.

The first edition of the magazine featured a set of nude photos of Marilyn Monroe. Hefner wanted to be buried next to her.

In the 1960s, he was charged with obscenity but a jury acquitted him after a trial. Besides pictures of nude "playmates," the magazine is also known for quality writing. Civil rights leader

Playboy magazine founder Hugh Hefner poses for a portrait at his Playboy mansion in Los Angeles, California in 2010. **PHOTO: REUTERS**



Martin Luther King Jr. was one of its high-profile interviewees. Hefner claimed to have slept with more than 1,000 women. In 2012, the 86-year-old married his third wife Crystal Harris, who was a Playboy "playmate" in her 20s.

His "bachelor lifestyle" inevitably created widespread controversy. Some accused him of treating women as sex objects while others lauded his efforts in sexual revolution and the civil rights movement.—Xinhua ■

# Risk of Plastic Jobs that should be Taken Care Prior to Utilization

## Advertorial

ONCE in a few years ago, some people and children were found collecting recyclable plastic bags and condensed milk tin plate old bottles and glue bottles by picking with sharp-pointed sticks in the back-alleys of Yangon Housing Estate Pattern for their livelihood.

But, nowadays that kind of livelihood stopped because those kinds of containers were replaced by disposable plastic bags. This kind of plastic bag cannot be recycled repeatedly like glass bottles, glue bottles and tin plate bottles. Once in olden days, plastic bags were not used by us for purchasing sugar cane juice and other kinds of liquids and soft drinks. Instead, we went to buy in a jar or glass. Then, for packing food, fish and meat we used banana leaves and other similar ones. And, for shampooing we used traditional shampoo, so we did not use plastic bags at that time. But in later years, shoppers substituted disposable plastic bags and people increasingly came to use that kind of plastic bags, which can be thrown away easily. Habits of throwing these bags away recklessly caused piles of rubbish in back-alleys.

By seeing this, we can notice that Yangon city dwellers got accustomed to the habit of throwing rubbish away easily in back-alleys.

Long before now, people could manage to earn their living by collecting these tin plate bottles, glass ones and glue containers whereas people threw away disposable plastic bags, heaped piles of plastic bags not only in back-alleys but also blocked in drainage and sewage pipes. They are eyesores for us to see. People abandoned collecting these plastic bags as they could not be recycled. These unrecyclable plastic was found since in 1907, by Leo Baekeland in New York. It was called Bekelight once in the past. Production of plastic was registered in Europe and USA since 1950, but it could not be produced in large numbers. In 1960, StenGust afThulin, a Swedish engineer started to invent light and usable bags. Later in 1965, Celloplas Company had it registered worldwide to produce a lot to go around the world.

Since before the outbreak of the World War 2, plastic jobs started to have been used in Myanmar in making combs and fountain and other commodities. Later,



PHOTO: REUTERS

plaster powder and moulds had been imported for the production of other utensils. Utilization of plastic jobs increased so much so that plastic jobs were found to have been found to have been used in foodstuff and car industries. With the increasing amount of plastic jobs uses, its side-effects were amounting to much, being nicknamed a silent killer.

Heaping piles of rubbish everywhere in the city is the current disadvantage of using plastic jobs. As it took over 400 years for these materials to fall into decay and destruction, they came to heap disappointing piles in back-alleys of Yangon City. Simultaneously, amount of utilization is increasing more and more and it cannot be destroyed easily. So, these blocked drainage channels and pitches, causing over-floods in Yangon area. All the city dwellers are suffering from these bad situations. According to records, over-floods in Bangladesh in 1988 and in 1998 were attributed to such a kind of blockage of plastic bags, it was learnt.

Use of plastic bags causes present disadvantages as well as consecutive side-effects. People are using plastic jobs ranging from potteries, lunch boxes, water jars and milk bottles without the knowledge of health risks. Little was known about its evil effects. One remarkable example of evil effects was that BPA compound called Bisphenol A harmed pregnant women and their children. BPA is none other than a compound which is used for making items clear or transparent in producing plastic goods. According to the data of European Food Security Authority, it can

destroy health of adults, babies, expectant mothers and embryos. In 2012, United State Food and Drug Administration, made a restriction of utilization of baby milk bottles made of plastic with BPA compound.

BPA can increase the early maturity of puberty in girls, and it can cause abnormal growth of males' genitals, according to medical records. And, it can cause malformation of embryos in mothers' wombs. Besides, researchers found out that it could cause Attention Deficient Hyperactivity Disorder and Autism diseases. Moreover, it can cause harms to the process of hormone production, outbreaks of breast cancers, food allergy in children. BPA can cause evil effects not only humans but also animals.

So as to prevent pregnant women and infants from danger, now BPA free items are being produced and put on sale on markets. All goods contaminated with BPA are not easily to be destroyed. Due to undisciplined disposal of rubbish, powders of plastic are spreading about on the ground, in water, in the air, causing air and water pollution nearly everywhere. Human beings can avoid touching these things, but according to food supply chains, humans can indirectly get diseases from the consumption of animals infected with BPA-related disease. Evil effects of plastic items are regarded as dangerous item for people's daily lives by environmental organizations, and efforts are being found to reduce the plastic uses. The way of 4 Rs—Refuse, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle is being used across the world. The international coun-

tries accept it as the nice system and some abide by it and some neglect it. Therefore, in some countries the governments are making efforts concerning this to restrict by laws and rules.

In Kenya, to reduce environmental pollution the use, production and imports of plastic and plastic jobs are restricted by laying down rules and regulations. If the violation of the law is committed, the one who makes this offence will be fined up to US\$ 38000 and sentenced to 4 years imprisonment together; it was announced in August 2017. United Nations Environmental Program also recommended it as a good action.

In Myanmar as well, the program for reducing plastic uses is being initiated in a small scale. Starting from 2014, in City Marts and Supermarkets, Plastic-Free-Day is designated once a month.

Every 5 of the month in City Marts and Supermarkets and every last Monday or Tuesday of the month in marketplace by City Mart (branches) are designated as No Plastic Bag Day, with a view to reducing plastic uses which cause evil effects to

the natural environment. They design customers to develop the habit of shopping in their own bags, said by Daw Hnin Le Wai, Marketing Executive, who took the responsibility of Corporate Comms PR and CSR of City Mart Holding Co, Ltd.

City Mart said it can reduce 3.8 million pieces of bags in FY 2015-2016. International countries, customers are cooperating reduction of plastic bag uses by taking reusable bags from their homes. In Myanmar, it will take time to develop the habit of co-operating.

At the time "No Plastic Bag Day" program commenced to be launched, customers were organized to cooperate in the campaign. Then, reusable bags were sold out for customers who failed to bring shopping bags from homes. At that time some people were not well convinced of it, but now cooperation increased much, reducing uses of 10 million plastic bags in total, according to City Mart's data.

The government must educate the public that the use of plastic bags is the danger for the people and the earth. If it is not successful, it must be strictly restricted with rules and laws. In fact, the most important thing is the judgement of people who are practically using these plastic bags.

Plastic jobs and disposable plastic bags are briefly useful for people. But, when time goes past, it can harm humans and their environment greatly. So, we need to organize for every individual not to use plastic bags and disposable plastic bags which can cause great destruction to our environment.

Only if we are well convinced of side-effects of utilization of plastic bags, can we realize and create a sanitary and better environment, by struggling out of the habits of using and disposing things easily. —Translated by Khin Maung Oo (Tada-U)



PHOTO: REUTERS

## Radwanska, Cibulcova out on another tumultuous day at WTA Wuhan Open



Agnieszka Radwanska (L) of Poland shakes hands with Ashleigh Barty of Australia after their singles third round match at 2017 WTA Wuhan Open in Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, on 27 September 2017. Agnieszka Radwanska lost 1-2. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

WUHAN, (China) — Round three of action here at the Dongfeng Motors Wuhan Open started out with yet another major upset in what has become a jungle of a stop on the WTA tour.

The day's action began with Polish 9th seed Agnieszka Radwanska crashing out in a stunning 4-6, 6-0, 6-4 loss to No. 37 Australian Ashleigh Barty.

Barty has been playing breakthrough tennis on the tour this year, and she demonstrated an ability to get into her opponent's head even as Radwanska more or less controlled the proceedings on the court during the first set, bringing her to deuce six times in one game and storming to a two point lead before the Pole managed to get things back on track to take the set 6-4.

But the second set was a different story entirely. Barty's massive hits and full court play proved too much for Radwanska and allowed her to dominate the set without allowing the Pole a single point.

Radwanska was able to fight back in the third set, but not convincingly enough to change the course of the match.

Barty will meet Czech third-seed Karolina Pliskova in the quarterfinals, who needed only 48 minutes to clobber China's Wang Qiang to move into the last eight in this afternoon's action on court.

Unlike Barty's win over Radwanska, there was never any doubt in Pliskova's match, with the Czech breaking Wang's service game 4 times on the way to a domineering 6-2, 6-1 victory.

"I felt great today, I think it was the perfect match from the first point. I'm really happy," Pliskova beamed on court after the match.

Pliskova goes on to meet Barty in the quarterfinals, and says she expects a tough match against the player who ousted powerhouse Radwanska earlier in the day.

"I think tough. I saw little bit how she was playing today. I think she was playing very well...She's enjoying the tennis more. You could see on the court. She's having some good matches behind her, so it's going to be tough," Pliskova predicted.

Wang, for her part, said that the combined fatigue of taking out Sloane Stephens and playing again in a doubles match took a toll on her today. —Xinhua ■

## Myanmar selects team for friendly against Thailand

Kyaw Zin Lin

Officials announced the Myanmar National Team football squad for an international friendly match against Thailand on 5 October at the Mandalay Thiri Stadium in Mandalay.

There were a total of 25 Myanmar players selected for the friendly match, according to Myanmar Football Federation.

The selected players are from seven well-known Myanmar National League clubs, eight each from Shan United and Yangon United.

The players selected are: Thiha Sithu, Win Min Htut, Hein Thiha Zaw, Htike Htike Aung, Yan Naing Oo, Tin Win

Aung, Dwe Ko Ko Chit and Zin Min Tun from Shan United FC; Kyaw Zin Htet, Sann Sat Naing, David Htan, Zaw Min Tun, Yan Aung Kyaw, Kaung Sat Naing, Thann Paing and Kyaw Ko Ko from Yangon United FC; Hlaing Bo Bo, Si Thu Aung, Aung Thu, Thein Thann Win and Thet Naing from Yadana-bon FC; Kyaw Zin Lwin from Magwe FC Thiha Htet Aung from Chin United FC; Min Min Thu from Ayeyawady United FC and Maung Maung Lwin from Hanthawaddy United FC.

Tickets for the 5 October match will be available at Myanmar Football Academy in Mandalay on 1 October. ■

## China, South Korea play today in AFF U-16 Group action

China's U-16 national football team will play South Korea this afternoon at Thuwunna Stadium in Yangon to decide the Group H winner of the AFF U-16 Championship Qualification.

The winners of each of the 10 groups will enter the AFF U-16 Championship, while the best five teams among the 10 runners-up will also advance to the AFF U-16 Championship that will be played in Malaysia from 20

September to 7 October 2018.

China needs the win to step up to the AFF U-16 Championship, while South Korea with the goal differences only needs

a draw to qualify for the Championship tournament.

The Group H winner South Korea or China will join Australia, North Korea, Japan, Jordan, Iraq, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Tajikistan, Yemen and host Malaysia in the upcoming Championship.

The second-place team will go into a pool with the runners-up from the other nine groups who have already concluded their campaign.

The Myanmar U-16 team will play the Philippines today at 6 pm at the Thuwunna Stadium in an inconsequential match, as neither team qualified for the championship. —Kyaw Zin Lin ■



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