A BRIEF MEETING

Preparatory subcommittee-1 gears up for 21st Century Panglong Union Peace Conference

THE preparatory subcommittee 1 held its second coordination meeting to prepare for the 21st Century Panglong Union Peace Conference that is believed to be held in the last week of August, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. Dr Tin Myo Win, chairman of the preparatory committee, Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, chairman of the subcommittee 1, and vice-chairman P’doh Saw Kweh Win spoke on the occasion.

During the second coordination meeting set to last for two days, those present held talks on political dialogue and negotiations set to be developed at the peace conference and matters related to citizens and CSO forums, topics for discussion and guidelines on political dialogue.

“A framework review process is to be held by the subcommittee 1 in cooperation with eight NCA signatories, while subcommittee 2 plans to hold talks with non-signatory groups,” said Dr Tin Myo Win.

Adding, “A meeting on policy guidelines between the State Counsellor and the two subcommittees is scheduled for 5 July.”

U Hla Maung Shwe, secretary of the preparatory committee, said that the meeting focused on timely completion of preparatory works for the Peace Conference, adding that policy guidelines are likely to come out following the talks between the State Counsellor and subcommittees.

“A review of political framework is set to be made in early August after a meeting between the State Counsellor and NCA non-signatory groups was slated for mid-July, said the secretary. U Khet Hein Nan, member of subcommittee 2, used the meeting for future works, saying that a political dialogue structure presented by the subcommittee 1 is quite similar to a structure approved by ethnic sides at Law Khee La conference.—Myo Myint

Over Ks56m Paid To 180 Employees

WORKERS of the Unipolar garment factory at Shwe Linpan Industrial Zone in Thing Tharyar received their monthly salary and compensation yesterday. Over Ks56m was paid out to the 180 employees from the Factories & General Labor Law Inspection Department under the Ministry of Labor, Immigration and Population.

The factory, which was opened two years ago, was closed suddenly in May after the owner Mr Richard Young from China (Taipei) disappeared.

In response to the request from workers the department settled the labour issue with authorities issuing a warrant and selling off the factory and its contents last month.

At the payment ceremony, the Rakhine Ethnic Affairs Minister of Yangon Region U Zaw Aye Maung urged employers and employees to obey the rules and regulations issued by concerned departments, adding that if anything like this happens, it will be solved in accordance with the law. 

See page 2 >>
Chairman of Leading Body of Danu Self-Administered Zone appointed

PRESIDENT U Htin Kyaw has appointed U Arkar Lin as the Chairman of the Leading Body of Danu Self-Administered Zone with the release of Order 47/2016 yesterday.

According to the Order, U Arkar Lin nominated by the Shan State Chief Minister under section 276 (1) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, section 19 (g) of the Union Government Law and section 9 (b) of the Leading Body of the Self-Administered Zone or Division Law has been appointed as the Chairman of the Leading Body of Danu Self-Administered Zone. — Myanmar News Agency

Deputy Minister appointed

PRESIDENT U Htin Kyaw has appointed U Khin Maung Tin as Deputy Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor with the release of Order 49/2016 yesterday.

According to the Order, U Khin Maung Tin has been appointed as Deputy Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor under section 234 (a) and (d) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and section 16 (b) (9) of the Union Government Law. — Myanmar News Agency

Nay Pyi Taw Council member appointed

PRESIDENT U Htin Kyaw has appointed U Min Thu as a member of Nay Pyi Taw Council with the release of Order 48/2016 yesterday.

According to the Order, U Min Thu has been appointed as the member of Nay Pyi Taw Council under section 285 (b) (2) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, section 22 of Union Government Law and section 4 of Nay Pyi Taw Council Law. — Myanmar News Agency

Kayin State provided Ks100m for disaster preparedness

CONSTRUCTION site workers being laid off due to the recent freeze in construction of high-rise buildings in Yangon. Buildings of height of eight or more stories have been ceased in order for Yangon City Development Committee to inspect the sites.

It is almost two months since the Yangon region government has ordered high-rise developers to suspend their under-construction projects as of May 14. Developers have said they would continue to struggle for their survival due to increasing buyers not paying monthly deposits and being unable to pay. Some construction companies have issued notices to their workers one month ahead to find a new job.

One developer said, “I would like to urge the government to help solve workers’ difficulties rather than creating more employment opportunities for the unemployed.”

Developers have suggested that the government draw a new law rather than adopting a new policy to reduce barriers caused by changing the policy.

“We usually implement a project between 5-8 years after getting the green light from the authorities,” said a contractor, who wishes the government to solve the current issue under the former policy. “We waited for the permission for our project nearly three years,” he added.

There are millions of workers in the country’s construction industry. About 80 per cent of developers operating in the local construction industry are youth workers. Some Myanmar repatriates have also been flown in from Singapore, under the long-term employment.

Developers say that the government’s order on suspension of high-rise buildings under construction in Yangon Region will affect the country’s economic development. “Government needs to encourage local entrepreneurs who will face competition with international companies,” a businessman said. — Pwint Thitsar

CHRONICAL

Kayin State Chief Minister Daw Nann Khin Hwe Htwin (left) and BFM's Lang Kham (right) at the facility.

KANBAWZA Bank's Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation donated Ks100m to Kayin State for disaster preparedness and regional development goals, according to a press release. It claims, much like it’s other donations, that the fund found it difficult to deliver aid last year during disasters due to poor infrastructure. This fund will help improve that. Learning from these situation, Chairperson Daw Nang Lang Khum of BFM arranged to establish such a fund in region and states for preparedness and quick response to disasters.

Chief Minister for Kayin State Daw Nann Khin Hwe Htwin accepted the donation handed over by U Bo Bo Wai Maung, an official from BFM. The foundation has also established such a fund in Rakhine, Chin and Kayah states and Magwe and Sagaing Regions.

It also donated Ks20m to the women and children hospital in Taunggyi for an oxygen generator. — Thura Linm

Head of service organization appointed

THE PRESIDENT of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed Deputy Director-General U Maung Maung Kyaw of the Bureau of Special Investigation under the Ministry of Home Affairs as Director-General of the same department on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

— Myanmar News Agency

High-rise developers to reduce their workers due to suspension of high-rise projects

CONSTRUCTION site workers are being laid off due to the recent freeze in construction of high-rise buildings in Yangon. Buildings of height of eight or more stories have been ceased in order for Yangon City Development Committee to inspect the sites.

It is almost two months since the Yangon region government has ordered high-rise developers to suspend their under-construction projects as of May 14. Developers have said they would continue to struggle for their survival due to increasing buyers not paying monthly deposits and being unable to pay. Some construction companies have issued notices to their workers one month ahead to find a new job.

One developer said, “I would like to urge the government to help solve workers’ difficulties rather than creating more employment opportunities for the unemployed.”

Developers have suggested that the government draw a new law rather than adopting a new policy to reduce barriers caused by changing the policy.

“We usually implement a project between 5-8 years after getting the green light from the authorities,” said a contractor, who wishes the government to solve the current issue under the former policy. “We waited for the permission for our project nearly three years,” he added.

There are millions of workers in the country’s construction industry. About 80 per cent of developers operating in the local construction industry are youth workers. Some Myanmar repatriates have also been flown in from Singapore, under the long-term employment.

Developers say that the government’s order on suspension of high-rise buildings under construction in Yangon Region will affect the country’s economic development. “Government needs to encourage local entrepreneurs who will face competition with international companies,” a businessman said. — Pwint Thitsar

Political changes augment migrant workers from Mandalay Region

Over 80,000 residents from Mandalay Region have left the country in search of work abroad, according to the records of the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population (MLIP) for Mandalay Region.

“Some people go abroad and work legally, but there are those who cross boarders into foreign countries under their own agency. The rights of Myanmar migrant workers abroad really need to be met. Migrant workers should be aware of the laws of the countries they seek employment in,” said U Aung Myo, permanent secretary of the MLIP.

The majority of Myanmar citizens from Mandalay Region who legally travelled abroad in search of employment travelled to Malaysia, making up 30,000. This is followed by 20,000 who ventured to neighbouring Thailand; 8,000 who travelled to China; 5,000 to Singapore; and a mere 2,000 who sought work as far away as South Korea. The remaining 15,000 migrant workers reportedly migrated abroad under their own steam, not through the conduit of any government agency. — Myimikha News Agency

Over Ks56m Paid To 180 Employees

>> From page 1

“Employees received from Ks200,000 to Ks1m depending on their positions but most of the employees are still unemployed,” said Aung Thu, an employee.

Workers have not received a paycheck for two months. — U Win Shein, Director, General of the Factories & General Labor Law Inspection Department under the Ministry of Labor, Immigration and Population urged workers to apply for jobs at the factories in the industrial zones as there is a demand for skilled workers.

He also urged them to sign employment contract with employers so that employees can enjoy their full rights. — Min Thit
Information Ministry, SBS Contents Hub discuss cooperation in broadcast industry

UNION Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint received Mr. Shin Dong Wook, chairman of Korean-based SBS Contents Hub, at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The two discussed implementation joint television programs between MRTV and SBS sharing technology and services on broadcasting and investment potential for development of the Myanmar’s broadcast industry.—Myanmar News Agency

Latest gems emporium fetches more than €53m in jade lots

Twenty-one lots of jade were sold for €35.09m through competitive biddings at the 53rd Myanmar Gems Emporium in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

According to sources, total sales reached €486.61m yesterday as 312 lots of pearl were bought for €3.12m, 63 lots of gems for €3.29m and 3,901 lots of jade for €480.20m on previous days.

More jade lots are set to go on sale with displays of 60 lots today and 46 on 6 July at auction, added the sources.

Myanmar uses the Euro at the jade emporium because of US sanctions against the industry.—Myanmar News Agency

Crime crackdown report in four townships to be released by mid-July

OFFICiATING Regional Police Commander, Police Col U Win Naing said that a report on the Yangon Region’s crime crackdown will be released by mid-July as it is still going through its review process. The crackdown is focused on South Dagon, Kamayut, Thanlyin and Hlaing Tharyar townships that started 14 June.

“We will decide if we will crack down on other townships after reviewing the report,” said the Regional Commander, adding that potential for crime cases and public participation in the plan will be reviewed.

According to the police, crime rates in the targeted four townships has been declining steadily as community-based policing was introduced to the townships.

During the period from 14 June to 4 July, five major cases and 84 minor cases occurred in Hlaing Tharya township and preventive measures were taken against 238 cases, said police.

There were one major case and 24 minor cases during the same period in South Dagon township and preventive measures were taken against 207 cases.

One major case and 27 minor cases were recorded in Thanlyin Township where preventive measures were taken against 124 cases.

Kamayut Township saw one major case, 23 minor cases and preventive measures were taken against 63 cases.

In his address, the Officiating Regional Commander called for mass participation in the Yangon Region government’s fight against drug and criminal cases. A report will be submitted to the regional government on 15 July, said the commander.—Aung Myo

Foreigners taking care committee has its first meeting

A supervisory committee for “taking care of foreign visitors” commissioned by the President’s office met in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. Vice-President U Myint Swe, chairman of the committee, spoke at the committee’s first meeting.

In his address, U Myint Swe said that Myanmar Police Force has established a 24/7 channel to connect the international organisations regarding matters related to scrutinising and protecting foreign visitors.

U Myint Swe stressed the need to provide safe and secure environments for foreigners who enter Myanmar in accord with the laws and developing security systems at border checkpoints as Myanmar is set to welcome around 5.5 million tourists this year, according to it’s own statistics.

U Myint Swe called for all-out efforts to achieve the functions of the committee, thereby ensuring sustainable tourism in the country.

“It is required to step up scrutiny of visitors for the security of the country, especially those blacklisted by the international governments and Myanmar’s government, but also to promote the tourism sector,” said U Myint Swe.

Next, Chief of Myanmar Police Force Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win who is also the secretary of the central committee, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, vice-chairman of the committee, and members from the Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population U Thein Swe, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Ohn Maung and officials reported on respective matters.—Myanmar News Agency

Ks3,695m needed to prevent erosion at seven villages in Mandalay Region

THE Mandalay Region water Resources and Improvement of River System Department has requested Ks3,695m from the Union government to help prevent soil erosion in seven villages in the region. The call comes after MPs and authorities inspected the seven villages located on the Ayeyawady River, Panlaung River and Myitnge River, all are facing erosion.

In his address, U Myint Swe called for all-out efforts to achieve the functions of the committee, thereby ensuring sustainable tourism in the country.

“The work is expected to start when the water level falls after the rainy season,” said U Kyaw Myint, Assistant Director of the Mandalay Region water Resources and Improvement of River System Department. Currently, the department is working on emergency prevention against the erosion spending Ks150m allocated by the Mandalay Region Government for the 2016-17 Fiscal Year, he added.

The seven villages are Ywathayar Village in Singu Township, Aidai Village in Madaya Township, Simkhon Village in Myintyan Township, Inn-wa on the Myitnge River, Zaye Mo Village in Tada-U Township and Ohoketan Village and Ukhups Village on the Panlaung River.—Aung Thant Khaing

The site of erosion is seen in Madaya Township. PHOTO: AUNG THANT KHAING
28th Telenor’s monthly industry event highlights online education

MORE than 500 students joined the monthly programme organised by telecom operator Telenor in Yangon on Monday to explore opportunities for youths to help develop their professional skills through online education.

This is the 28th time Telenor Myanmar has held the programme to promote a rich dialogue on topics relevant to the growing digital and online community in the country.

“Telenor Myanmar has seen accelerated growth in its telecommunications industry, and as a result more and more people are connected to the Internet. Young people today especially have tremendous opportunities at their fingertips to further develop their study and career,” said Joslin E Myrthong, Chief Marketing Officer at Telenor Myanmar.

“We encourage the youths in Myanmar to effectively utilize the Internet to help advance their lives”. During the event, future of online learning challenges and opportunities in Myanmar as well as how online and mobile internet development can help learning and career opportunities for young people were discussed by representatives from Khan Academy and Telenor Myanmar together with the rector of Hmawbi Technological University.

“With over 5700 sites Telenor Myanmar provides mobile and internet connectivity nationwide, and wider network coverage also offers youths in rural areas across Myanmar chances to tap and exploit a wealth of resources available online.” Myrthong said.

The last events were held in different towns across the country, including Magwe, Mawlamyine, Bago and Yangon.—GNLM

Legislation aims to protect Myanmar’s water resources

LEGISLATION concerning the distribution of water sources with in Myanmar, as part of a comprehensive water management initiative, will be definitively drawn up before the end of the year, according to the Ayeyawady Integrated River Basin Management Project (AIRBMP).

Work was reportedly undertaken to put such a legislation together back in 2013, but was put on the backburner after it ran into financial difficulties and the inability to obtain required information.

“The drawing up of water legislation requires a replete set of information. Money to finance public consultation meetings, in order to acquire such knowledge, was lacking in the past. We’ve faced delays, too, as we had to rely on money being sought for us by the Department of Water Sources and Rivers Development.” said Dr Khin Ni Ni Thein, section one director of AIRBMP.

The water legislation will reportedly be financed by the World Bank, while similar legislations of thirteen other countries will be studied in order to draw up a legislation that is compatible for the situation of Myanmar’s water resources.

“I don’t know what difficulties caused the delays. Policy books have been released, I know that much. We’ve made suggestions in the drawing up of water based legislation, and our submissions have included points on policy which guards against the rise of the illegal storage, and sale of water.” said U Maung Maung Oo, leader of the Sein Yaung Soe organization.

Crime

Heroin, yaba pills seized in Kachin, Shan states

POLICE units in Shan and Kachin states reported on the collection of 30,000 yaba pills, seven kilos of pure methamphetamines and 780g of heroin on 2 July.

Baranang was arrested after police found him in possession of 780 grams of heroin and 23,600 yaba pills in Nanthmaw Village in Hpakant, a township of Kachin State.

In Loilim Township, Shan State police seized nearly seven kilograms of methamphetamine from Banyu Aung on the road between Loilim and Nangsam townships.

Acting on a tip-off, police searched a motorcycle being driven by a man with another on board along Lashio-Mandalay Road near the University of Computer Studies (Lashio) and collected 7,800 yaba tablets from them.

Action is being taken against all suspects, who will be charged under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, where the people listed in this article are to face between 5-10 years in prison.—Police Information

The house seen after being devoured by the fire.

None injured in Mawlamyine home fire

A HOME fire broke out in Mawlamyine Township in Mon State on Friday morning, leaving no people and animals injured, according to a police report.

An elderly lady has accidentally set fire to her kitchen in Mawlamyine that injured no one. Locals assisted the lady in putting out the fire with 80 fire fighters assisting.

The fire was extinguished and police are charging the 73-year-old owner.—Township IPRD

Illegal gold miner arrested in eastern Shan State

A YOUNG man is being charged for illegal mining after he was found in possession of “mining-related apparatus” and prospecting in Eastern Shan State on Friday 30 June.

After a tip-off the police arrested U Alima, 24, while he was working at a gold mining at Nanglon Creek near Nankhantaung Village in Wunlon Village-tract.

A combined team also collected mining-related machinery in the creek near Htekchaung Village in Tawnya Village-tract on the same day.—Shwe Lu Mon (IPRD)

Man charged with smuggling prohibited wildlife products

A MAN has been caught with eight Gaur (Indian Bison) horns and 8kg of Gaur gull, 15 monkey paws, 40g of Porcupine quills on the Pathein-Monywa highway on 30 June. Salai Phal was arrested after they found him to be in possession of the illegal products and Ks347,700 (US$297).

—Kyaw Zya
Tiddim apples to be sent to Yangon

APPLES from Tiddim area have already ruled over the markets around Kalay and Monywa towns and they will be sent direct to Yangon market this year. Currently, apple growers from Tiddim area are receiving technical training from the agriculturalists from Japan and America so that Tiddim apples can enter the international market, it is learnt for an unknown source.

The apples are smaller in size when compared to those from China and India and they are sour. As a result, those apples cannot still fetch the market price. “Apples from farms in the Chin Hills are selling well with resale manoeuvres. But, they can only reach Mandalay markets and now will also be sent directly to Yangon in 59k lot,” said Ko Sein Aung, an apple seller from Kalay town. Aiswa and Ruby apples are standard amongst varities produced in Chin State. Tiddim apples are mainly produced from Bante, Phon-nom and Sozun areas but the number of apple growers and farms are on the decline. —200

JCB to open Yangon Branch

JCB International is cooperating with Myanmar Payment Union banks to issue JCB cards by the end of 2016 or as soon as next year, according to a press release from the group. As well as this partnership JCB is establishing a branch in Yangon under the subsidiary JCB International (Thailand) Co. Ltd.

JCB will be working with Ayeyawady Bank and Co-operative Bank, Naoya Michishima, Managing Director of JCB International (Thailand), said, “I am excited to have a new branch in Myanmar, which is one of the fastest growing countries in Asia. With this launch, now we will be able to build even closer relationships with our partners and develop our business in the Meikong region.”

Adding, “We have been making efforts to provide support to the expansion of the Myanmar payment market in cooperation with MPU. I am confident that the issuance of MPU/JCB card in summer 2016 will grow the market even further and will contribute to the financial inclusion promoted by the government.” 31 million merchants in 190 countries are in JCB’s network with more than 95 million card members; they have also formed partnerships with 350 world-leading banks and financial institutions. The company launched its card business in 1961 and began expanding in 1981 worldwide. —GNLM

Higher crab export renders price low

CRAB prices have dropped at the Muse border trade zone, according to crab dealers. Around 1 tonne of crabs are sent to Muse where the crabs fetch US$1,800 per tonne at the end of June, dropping from US$2,500 per tonne in previous months, according to an unspecified report.

The overwhelming supplies of crabs are from Ayeyawady Region and Rakhine State. About 1,000kgs of crabs are sent to Muse camp from crab packaging workplace in Sintkaling Township, Mandalay Region in the previous months. The volume of crabs has increased up to 3,000kgs per day at the end of June, said a crab depot owner.

MCDC to turn trash into electricity

CRAB exports earned over US$100 million in 2011-2012, and since has been on the decline. About US$40 million was earned from crab exports in 2014-2015 fiscal year while only US$20 million last financial year. —200

New Tachilek-Mae Sai bridge to be built

A NEW bridge connecting Thailand and Myanmar will be built at the Tachilek and Mae Sai borders, according to Thai Rath Thai. It is being built to develop trade and relations. The border is already used for trade but it will also help facilitate trade into China.

Preparations for constructing the new bridge are being made so that the construction of the new bridge can be completed as soon as possible. —200
New Zealand navy inspecting fishing vessels in southwest Pacific

WELLINGTON — The New Zealand navy has boarded 26 commercial fishing boats in waters around island nations as part of the effort to stop illegal fishing the southwest Pacific, the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) said on Monday.

Offshore patrol vessel HMNZS Otago began the operation in Fiji’s exclusive economic zone, making 18 boardings on 13–19 June.

The other inspections were carried out during patrols in Tuvalu, said HMNZS Otago Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Commander Andrew Sorenson.

“There were some breaches, but on many of the vessels all were compliant and allowed us to board,” Sorenson said. The navy was checking that fishing boats were following the rules and complying with reporting back to the Pacific.

Component Commander, Jim Gilmour, the Maritime Component Commander, said the patrols were carried out to help detect and deter illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activity on behalf of Pacific island nations.

“Vessels fishing for tuna are the current focus of our inspections,” Gil- mour said.—Xinhua

Thailand sets up security centres ahead of referendum

BANGKOK — Thailand’s military government has set up security centres around the country ahead of an August referendum on a new constitution, a spokesman for the government said on Monday.

The centres are the latest measure rolled out by the government as Thailand prepares to vote on a new constitution that critics fear will entrench the military’s influence.

The draft of Thailand’s 20th constitution is to replace one scrapped after a 2014 coup by generals who promised stability in Southeast Asia’s second-biggest economy.

The August referendum will be the first real test of the junta’s popularity since it took power.

“A Centre for Maintaining Peace and Order” has been set up in every one of Thailand’s 76 provinces, said Major General Sansern Kaewkamet, spokesman for the Thai prime minister’s office, in order to ensure “no cheating, no lobbying and no persuading people to vote one way or another.”

Provincial governors will be responsible for assembling teams to join the centre including police, troops and civilian volunteers.

“We need to ensure peace during the referendum so that people can decide how our country will move forward,” Sansern told Reuters.

Last month junta chief Prayuth Chan-ocha and opposition supporters of ousted populist premier Thaksin Shinawatra both contacted the United Nations after an upsurge in political tension, just a day after police shut down an electoral monitoring centre of the “red shirt” anti-government movement.

The red shirts say the centres are needed to prevent fraud. Thanawut Waidehat, a spokesman for the red shirt movement, accused the government of double standards.

“We weren’t able to set up our monitoring centre, why can’t the military government be allowed to set up their centres?” Thanawut told Reuters.

“The military government is blindfolding the electorate and leading their hand to vote in the manner they want.”

Under the proposed charter, a junta-appointed Senate with seats reserved for military commanders would check the powers of elected lawmakers for a five-year transitional period.—Reuters

A soldier is silhouetted against the wall of Dusit zoo as he provides security near the Parliament during the National Legislative Assembly meeting in Bangkok in January, 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

Far-right candidates emerge to fill vacuum after close Australia vote

SYDNEY — Independent candidates who likely determine a cliffhanger Australian election shot to prominence on Monday, one of them renewing anti-Islamic rhetoric first heard 20 years ago, with Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull under fire for a failed political gamble.

Pauline Hanson, founder of the controversial far right One Nation party, used the political limbo that has resulted from Saturday’s close vote to push her far-right agenda that first won her international notoriety in 1996, warning that Austral- ia was being “swamped by Asians”.

“A lot of Australians feel that Asians are buying up prime agricultural land, housing,” Hanson said at a fiery media conference in Brisbane on Monday, where she also restated her anti-Islam stance.

“Do you want to see terrorism on our streets here? Do you want to see our Australians mur- dered?” she said.

With the two major parties, the conservative Liberal-National coalition and centre-left Labour, sitting on the sidelines waiting for a result that could take days, it was left to another independent, centrist Nick Xenophon, to mount a defence of multicultural Australia.

The power vacuum that allowed Hanson to re-emerge showed just how badly Turnbull’s gamble of dissolving both houses of parliament, to clear out minor parties and independents so he could block his reformist agenda, had failed.

Saturday’s election was meant to end political turmoil that had seen four prime ministers in three years. Instead, it left Turnbull’s own leadership in question less than a year after he ousted then prime minister Nick Abbott in a leadership coup on 4 March.

“Consider how our country would have been divided if he has done the Liberal Party a service or a dis- service,” Corey Bernardi, a senator from Turnbull’s Liberal Party, said. Labor leader Bill Shorten also called on Turnbull to quit, likening his position to that of British Prime Minister David Cameron after last month’s “Brexit” vote.

Turnbull, acting as caretaker prime minister while vote counting continues, appeared to have underestimated the protest vote that stole support from both major parties and must now negotiate with minor parties and independents to retain power.

Labour had won 67 seats to the coalition’s 66 before counting was paused on the weekend, with the Greens picking up one seat and independents claiming four. The major parties need 76 seats to form a ma- jority government in the House of Representatives.

With the result of 13 seats still in doubt, political pundits were predicting one of two main scenarios: the coalition scraps across the line by picking up nine or more of the undecided seats, or it fails to reach 76 and has a hung parliament where neither side holds power.—Reuters
Bangladesh police try to confirm ID of cafe killers from FB posts

DHAKA — Bangladesh police are trying to confirm the names of Islamist militants who attacked a Dhaka restaurant, killing 20 people, checking whether the identification of some by friends on social media is correct, officials said on Monday.

Islamic State posted pictures of five fighters it said were involved in Friday’s killings in Dhaka’s diplomatic zone, most of them victims from Italy, Japan, India and the United States.

“The let the people of the crusader countries know that there is no safety for them as long as their aircraft are killing Muslims,” it said in a statement.

Posts on Facebook identified three of the five, whose grinning images appeared in front of a black flag, as Nibras Islam Rohan Imtiaz and Meer Saameh Mubashir.

Police have said at least six gunmen killed were locals and five were on a government militant watch-list. But they also said they were looking into other offenders still confirming their identities.

Whoever was responsible, Friday’s attack marked a major escalation in scale and brutality by militants demanding Islamic rule in Bangladesh, whose 160 million people are mostly Muslim.

Some of the men went to an elite public school in Dhaka, Scholastic, and then college at North South University in the capital and Monash University in Malaysia, according to the posts. Masadur Rahman, deputy police commissioner of Dhaka police, said officers were probing those links. “A majority of the boys who attacked the restaurant came from very good educational institutions. Some went to sophisticated schools. Their families are relatively well-to-do people,” Bangladesh Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu told India’s NDTV.

Police arrested a seventh man at the restaurant who they suspect played a role in the attack. He is currently in hospital.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan believes home-grown militants responsible for a wave of killings against minority groups in the past year and a half were to blame for Friday’s bloodshed.

The plan is to look for family members of the gunmen, conduct DNA tests and investigate their links to international groups, Rahman said.

Bangladesh’s $26 billion garment industry is braced for the fallout from the killings, fearing major retailers from Uniqlo to Marks and Spencer and Gap Inc could rethink their investment.

Japan’s Fast Retailing Co, owner of the Uniqlo casual-wear brand, will suspend all but critical travel to Bangladesh and has told staff there to stay home. US Secretary of State John Kerry has offered Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina help in the investigation.

“The Secretary (Kerry) encouraged the government of Bangladesh to conduct its investigation in accordance with the highest international standards and offered immediate assistance from US law enforcement, including the FBI,” US State Department spokesman John Kirby said in a statement.—Reuters

Malaysia’s police confirm IS link to nightclub grenade attack

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysian authorities on Monday confirmed that the Islamic State (IS) was responsible for a grenade attack on a nightspot last week, which is believed to be the first successful attempt in the country by the militant group.

Inspector-general of police Khalid Abu Bakar said two men have been arrested in connection to the attack, and that they received direct instructions from Muhammad Wanndy Mohamed Jedi, a known Malaysian IS fighter.

“The two of those arrested had received instructions from Muhammad Wanndy, who had commanded them to carry out attacks in Malaysia, on our government leaders, top police officials and judges. These three groups are considered as threatening to IS activities,” Khalid said at a news conference.—Reuters

Japan, US agree to review status of civilian base workers

TOKYO — The Japanese and US governments have agreed to narrow the extent to which American citizens can be granted preferential treatment under a bilateral pact governing jurisdiction over US military personnel and base workers, a Japanese government source said Monday.

The move comes amid heightened calls by Okinawan residents to swiftly compile effective measures, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Hagiuda told a press conference on Tuesday, the source said.

Okinawa, hosting about 75 per cent of all US military facilities in Japan in terms of land area, has said the pact, called the Japan-US Status of Forces Agreement, is one-sided and overly protective of Americans.

“Japan and the United States are currently reviewing the treatment of Americans subject to the (agreement). We are making final arrangements to swiftly compile effective measures,” US ambassador to Japan Caroline Kennedy and Lt. Gen. John Dolan, commander of the US military in Japan, are expected to announce the agreement at a joint press conference on Tuesday, the source said.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who is also the leader of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, is likely to highlight his government’s efforts to address Okinawa’s concerns ahead of the upcoming House of Councillors election on 10 July.

Under the pact, Japanese prosecutors cannot indict members of US forces or their “civilian component” if offenses are deemed to have been committed while on duty, giving US authorities, in principle, the primary right of jurisdiction over them in such cases.

Okinawa has argued that the applicable scope of “civilian component” defined in the agreement is unclear as it does not state the conditions of their employment or working arrangements.

The agreement merely defines it as “civilian persons of United States nationality who are in the employ of, serving with, or accompanying the United States armed forces in Japan.”—Kyodo News

Myanmar’s Long-running & Most widely circulated English Daily Newspaper

Available at All CITY MART & OCEAN

MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTION : 01 8604532, 09 5113264
Opinion

Eradicate the root cause

Khin Maung Aye

CRIME rates in Myanmar have risen significantly over the past four years, and the patterns of criminal acts have been found unusual and varied. Criminals have become rather bold and have committed crimes anytime, anywhere. This being so, there has emerged a question as to why the rate of crimes has increased; is it because of poverty? Or the lack of a rule of law, or a deterioration of peoples’ characters?

In this juncture, it is worth recalling our national leader General Aung San, who, during a heated debate with the Indian Civil Service (ICS) personnel just three days before his assassination, had a different perspective from the ICS officials in regard to the root cause of high crime rate. At a time when the high-ranking ICS officials attributed the higher crime rates to an absence in the rule of law, General Aung San blamed the high crime rates on poverty. In the opinion of the ICS officials, crime suppression was needed to enhance and restore law and order and reinforce the rule of law. Nevertheless, General Aung San insisted on poverty alleviation.

They had a very long heated debate but General Aung San could have convinced the ICS officials that the root cause of increased outbreak of crime was poverty, which was required to be reduced. When it comes to poverty, Myanmar has improved in terms of GDP growth, registering average seven per cent between 2011 and 2014. The growth rate is quite satisfactory. However, redistribution of wealth is an important factor to enable the most needy to enjoy the fruits of economic growth.

In this function, the World Bank, in a report released recently, has pointed out a very big gap between the rich and the poor, suggesting redistribution of wealth, effective management of state-owned enterprises, imposition of taxes to be able to raise the government revenue, effectuation of rural development and small and medium-size enterprises.

The Global New Light of Myanmar wants to highlight the root cause of increased crime rates, not downplaying the role of crime suppression squads in their attempt to restore law and order as well as to enforce the rule of law in co-operation with other law enforcement agencies.

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with your name and title.

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.

For the first time in Italy showcasing 10 contemporary painters from Myanmar

Mauro Salvemini

On June 29th in Milan –Italy has been inaugurated at XXI Triennale, one of the most prestigious event for design and art in the world, the exhibition Myanmar Art Italy 2016, designed and organised by the NGO CULTURE2ALL — Mauro Salvemini ( www.culture2all.com ), that, for the first time in Europe and in Italy, showed the works of ten contemporary Burmese artists. H.E. Myanmar Ambassador in Italy Mr. Myint Aung, the vice Consul Mr.Luca Saporiti and the president of Triennale Mr. Claudio De Albertis open the exhibition which has seen at the vermissage the participation of a great number of qualified guests representing both the Myanmar resident community and Italian community. “This is the way of showing how Italy and Myanmar are very close also in the culture and linked in the art contest. “ said Ambassador Myint Aung after thanking the NGO and professor Mauro Salvemini for his effort. The vice-consul Luca Saporiti emphasized the importance of building strong commercial relations based on solid cultural exchanges and the president of Triennale Mr. Claudio De Albertis recalled that the ongoing edition of Triennale wants to focus on emerging countries, such as Myanmar, and that according to the already achieved success this approach has to be considered for further developments. As president of NGO CULTURE2ALL and also as curator of the exhibition I said that “the exhibition demonstrates that the culture can be considered and play the role of a bridge connecting two societies ready to exchange not only physical goods but also ideas and ethical, societal and artistic issues”. Ms. Eugenia Battisti, a young and emerging art historian and art critic, which has been the other curator of exhibition highlighted the peculiarities of the different artists’ styles and how the staging of the exhibition is organised. The group of ten contemporary artists by using different styles deliver the message how Myanmar may contribute to the global discourse of contemporary art. The exhibition is showing the artworks in abstract style of the master Aung Myint, of artist Chan Nyen Kyaw which is using regular shapes and the colours of nature and of artist Tin Maung Oo which uses the cubism inspired forms extracting colours from every day life happenings. The colourful canvas of artist Kyaw Nyo homages the nature by stamped leaves, the amazing landscapes of Shan State portrayed by artist Khin Maung Zaw with transparencies and human presence give the deep feeling of the countryside, the impressive watercolours of Yangon city painted by artist Myint Naing interpret the rapid modifications occurring in the city space, the big faces of young boys and girls painted by artist Khan Zaw Latt dramatically represent the changing Burmese society, the ladies in traditional costumes of artist Mon Thet are anchored to the heritage while looking to the future, the amazing light going out from the paintings of artist Aung Sint hypnotizes the visitors and the essential red and black colored shapes of artist Saw Moe Zaw are showing ancient stories in new shape.
Civil Service Value

Dr. Khine Khine Win

AFTER attending consultative workshop for “Establishing the Myanmar Civil Services Academy”, many thoughts relating to civil service came into my mind.

What is civil service? What are the values of civil service? Why we need to strengthen human resources of civil service? What is relation between democracy and civil service?

Civil service has diverse meaning. My understanding is that civil service is one of the most important part of a government as it enables a country to function properly and to deliver public services. They are politically impartial employees who work for a department regardless of which political party is in power.

For the time being, in Myanmar, in order to create an efficient, effective, accountable, and transparent governance, we absolutely need civil service reform. As we are on the way to democratic society, we need to promote better delivery of public goods and services with increased accountability. All civil servants are needed to hone their ability on the whetstone to improve their performance. They should upgrade their knowledge and skills to keep themselves ready to perform the statutory duties impartially.

In any democracy, ministers are responsible to the people through parliament and therefore civil servants have to be accountable to the ministers. At the same time, implementing the policies of the duly elected government is a core function of civil servants.

Here we need to know the values of civil services. According to Gol-UNDP Project, “Strengthening Human Resources Management of Civil Services”, there are four pillars for good governance and citizen centric administration. They are Ethics, Equity and Efficiency (4Es). Being a civil servant, understanding the civil service value and act accordingly is important. And also they need to act ethically and behave in an open and transparent manner.

According to Gol-UNDP Project, “Strengthening Human Resources Management of Civil Services”, there are four pillars for good governance and citizen centric administration. They are Ethics, Equity, Efficiency and Transparency (4Es).

They have to be expressed and embodied in practical, visible ways, in behaviors and actions. It is important to help staff translate each value into expected or unacceptable behaviors, and to create awareness of these behaviors through different means. Here, we need to ensure that every level in departments and ministries not only understand the values, but are equipped to behave consistently with those values in every aspect of work.


In any democracy, ministers are responsible to bring about change in the country, as development cannot be effectuated just by the words correct perception is the key to changing mindsets. I totally agreed with him. Changing perception is critical to changing mindsets. In this regard Government needs to encourage and motivate civil servants to bring about change in the country, as development cannot be effectuated just by the words correct perception is the key to changing mindsets.

Let me highlight the role of mindset here. Dr. Win Thein, Chairman of the Union Civil Service Board, said in his speech at opening of management development course for heads of service organizations that “the need for Myanmar citizen to bring about change in the country, as development cannot be effectuated just by the words correct perception is the key to changing mindsets”. I totally agreed with him. Changing perception is critical to changing mindsets. And I think a good mindset will reflect reality and will help you in daily life. It is the time to change our mindsets as much as to build a peace and prosperous nation.

In order to nurture efficient civil service personnel, it is essential to train civil servants from all service organizations — both departments and enterprises. In this regard Government needs to encourage and motivate civil servants by giving them necessary training and exposure to be able to exert their almost effort. More training opportunities to civil servants could certainly help them to upgrade and seek higher positions within the service.

Civil service personnel are the bedrock of public administration and it has assumed more important role in democracy to ensure good governance. No government can exist without administrative machinery. As Myanmar is new to the democratic institution, it is only the stable and efficient civil service that can strengthen the democracy.
LONDON — Law firm Mishcon de Reya said it had started legal action to demand the British government win legislative approval from Parliament before triggering a formal divorce from the European Union.

Mishcon de Reya, a London-based law firm, said Britain would need an Act of Parliament — which would require approval votes by lawmakers in both houses of Parliament — before it invoked Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty, the trigger for formal negotiations on exiting the bloc Britain joined in 1973.

The law firm said in a statement on Sunday it was acting on behalf of a group of clients but did not identify them. The BBC said the clients were a group of business people and academics.

Mishcon de Reya disputed the government's suggestion that following the 52%-48% British referendum in favour of leaving the EU on 23 June, it has sufficient legal authority to trigger Article 50 without recourse to parliament.

"The outcome of the Referendum itself is not legally binding and for the current or future Prime Minister to invoke Article 50 without the approval of Parliament is unlawful," Kasra Nooroozi, a partner Mishcon de Reya, said in the statement.

"It has been in correspondence with government lawyers since 27 June to seek assurances for its clients that the government will respect the sovereignty of British parliament. Conservative Prime Minister David Cameron has said he will resign and that it will be up to his successor to decide when to trigger Article 50.“ Therese May, who is currently ahead in the Conservative Party’s leadership race, said that the will of the people had been clearly expressed and that "Brexit means Brexit." — Reuters

### Top US lawmakers confident in fairness of Clinton email probe

NEW YORK — Top lawmakers from both major US political parties said on Sunday they trusted the Justice Department to appropriately handle its probe of presidential candidate Hillary Clinton’s private email server, after a heavily criticized meeting between Clinton’s husband and the US attorney general.

Republican Senators Lindsey Graham and John McCain said on CBS show “Face the Nation” that they would respect Attorney General Loretta Lynch’s decision on whether to prosecute Clinton, the likely Democratic presidential nominee.

Congressman Adam Schiff, the top Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, also said he respected the process, though he acknowledged Lynch’s private meeting last week at an airport with former President Bill Clinton was unfortunate.

“I think both of them wish their airplanes had never come anywhere near each other,” Schiff said on “Face the Nation,” adding that he still had confidence in the DOJ and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to do a thorough investigation of Clinton’s email use.

“If they say they are going to conduct this investigation by the book, I believe that’s what’s going to happen,” said Schiff, who supports Clinton for the party’s nomination.

Lynch said on Friday that she would accept whatever recommendations the career prosecutors working on the case made about whether to prosecute Clinton.

The lawmakers’ endorsement for the process follows Clinton’s meeting Saturday with investigators at the FBI’s Washington headquarters, where she answered questions for three and a half hours as part of the probe into use of her private email server.

The FBI is investigating Clinton’s email use and whether laws were broken as a result of a personal email server kept in her Chappaqua, New York, home when she was secretary of state from 2009 to 2013.

Lawmakers and political strategists speculated on Sunday that the FBI’s interview of Clinton signalled its investigation could be nearing its end. But the FBI offered no information about the status of the probe or who its targets may be. Clinton has long insisted she is not a target.

Clinton herself said in comments to MSNBC on Saturday that she “was pleased to have the opportunity to assist the department in bringing its review to a conclusion.”

Her rival, presumptive Republican nominee Donald Trump, said it was “impossible” for the FBI not to recommend criminal charges against her. The two have already begun an acrimonious battle ahead of the presidential election on 8 November. — Reuters

### Restoring the economy’s ability to deliver prosperity

By Mukhisa Kituyi, Secretary General of the UNCTAD

Millions of people around the world have lost faith that the world economy can improve their lives. Instead of seeing value in open borders and the free exchange of information and ideas, they are facing uncertainty about their futures, growing inequalities and weak productivity gains. Too few people benefit from new technologies that connect us and make the world smaller, and too many face the spectre of terror and conflict, forced migration and rising xenophobia. With globalization in retreat, this dampened mood is holding back the potential of trade, finance, technology and investment to improve lives.

In the developed world, significant head winds now cloud growth prospects, threatening to undo hard fought development gains. In Asia, a weak external demand and rising commodity prices, many value chains are set to shorten and the gains from industrialization look more difficult to reap. Corporate and household debts are rising, and many previously fast-growing economies now face what some are calling the “middle-income trap.”

In Africa, we are seeing a sharp reversal of the frontier market “Africa rising” narrative amidst the end of the commodity super cycle, a drying up of capital inflows, and rising public and corporate debt. Security threats and failed states are adding to the complexity, and the largest wave of migrants in more than 70 years is being driven out of the continent.

In Latin America, the region’s dedication to inclusiveness is now confronted by the prospect of another lost decade; lower commodity prices, capital out flows and declining living standards for the middle class are forcing governments to re-assess the achievements of the last boom period and how to reignite industrialization.

In the developed world, globalization has left in its wake two related, major structural problems — increased inequalities and slowing productivity growth. Stagnating incomes has led to backlash against migration in Europe and explain the anti-trade tone dominating the US presidential election campaign. Many of the recent “Brexit” votes to leave the European Union were cast by voters who feel left behind by globalization.

Whistle blowers leaks — like “Panama Papers” — are also compounding the distrust that people have in political and economic institutions, revealing how international trade and investment can be riddled with illicit flows, hidden transactions and tax havens — at times even with the complicity of political leaders.

This dampened global mood gives substantial cause for international concern. At the United Nations, we contrast the current pessimism with the three major optimistic achievements of multilateralism agreed last year in 2015: the Addis Ababa Financing for Development Conference in July, the summit in New York on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in September, and the COP-21 climate change conference in Paris end-November. For us, implementing these agreements from last year as quickly as possible is the best way to confront the growing gloom that we are seeing.

We need to turn last year’s optimism towards restoring the economy’s ability to deliver prosperity with a shift in paradigm and approach. That is why the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agreed as a part of the 2030 Agenda last year are so important. The SDGs offer a blueprint for how our economy, our societies and our environment should look in 2030. And if we take the Goals seriously, the SDGs can become an effective yardstick for monitoring the inclusiveness of global prosperity.

The 14th UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD 14) in Nairobi in July will be critical for taking the 2030 Agenda forward. International cooperation in trade, finance, technology and investment are a major emphasis of the SDGs. At Nairobi, United Nations member States will agree collectively on their international engagement on these issues for the next four years. At Nairobi world leaders will address how to reboot global trade growth, including through services trade, e-commerce and regional agreements. They will also move toward more international cooperation in tackling tax evasion, reforming investment governance, and improving international governance of debt. CEOs, investors, and business leaders also have an important role at Nairobi. The UNCTAD World Investment Forum will rally more productive investment in the countries and sectors that need it most.

The first statistical report from a United Nations agency on the SDGs will also be launched by UNCTAD in Nairobi. UNCTAD’s Globalization Facts and Figures report will be the first United Nations assessment benchmarking the trade, finance, technology and investment gaps, which need to be closed by 2030.

The entire world is invited to join our efforts at Nairobi to help revive the constructive mood that will lead to prosperity for all and a better planet. Together we can reinvigorate trade, finance, technology and investment as positive forces to end poverty and leave no one behind. Our collective efforts in these areas can renew our spirit of international engagement. Let us put the SDGs to work monitoring the inclusiveness of global growth and restoring the hope for prosperity for all that globalization presents us. — UNCTAD/Tangon

A balloon floats towards the Big Ben clock tower in Parliament Square during a ‘March for Europe’ demonstration against Britain’s decision to leave the European Union, in central London, Britain, on 2 July 2016. — Reuters
Niger Delta Avengers group claims five attacks in Nigeria’s southern Delta

YENAGOA, (Nigeria) — The Niger Delta Avengers, a militant group that has been carrying out attacks on Nigerian oil facilities in the past few months, claimed responsibility on Sunday for five new attacks in the southern energy hub since Friday.

The group had previously not laid claim to any attacks in the Niger Delta — the source of most of the OPEC member’s oil — since 16 June.

Oil Ministry sources said in late June that a month-long truce had been agreed with militants. But the Avengers said they did not “remember” agreeing to a ceasefire.

Attacks in the Niger Delta have pushed Nigerian crude production to 30-year lows, although the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) said last week that output was rising because of repairs and a fall-off in attacks.

In messages posted on Twitter in the early hours of Sunday, the Avengers said they had attacked a pipeline connected to the Warri refinery operated by NNPC on Friday night.

They added that they blew up two lines on Saturday night close to Batain flow station in Delta state run by NNPC, a subsidiary of NNPC.

The militants also said two Chevron facilities close to Abiteye flow station, in Delta state, came under attack early on Sunday.

Residents in some of those areas reported hearing blasts.

“All five operations” were carried out by an Avengers “strike team”, the group said.

Garba Deen Muhammad, a spokesman for state oil company NNPC, whose managing director is the oil minister, confirmed that the crude facilities identified by the Avengers had been attacked.

“Government will not be deterred in its efforts to find a lasting solution to these attacks,” he said.

Chevron spokeswoman Isabel Ordonez said that “as a matter of long-standing policy,” the company did not comment on “the safety and security” of its personnel and operations.

The militants say they want a greater share of Nigeria’s oil wealth, which accounts for around 70 per cent of national income, to be passed on to communities in the impoverished region and for areas blighted by oil spills to be cleaned up.

On Thursday, President Muhammadu Buhari hosted a group of community leaders from the Delta and urged them to pacify people in the restive region where anger is widespread.

Eric Omare, of the Ijaw Youth Council (IYC), which represents the Delta’s biggest ethnic group, said the “resumption” of attacks was “worrisome”, adding that the government had failed to build on goodwill generated by the oil minister’s visit to the region in June.

“The federal government has not taken any practical step towards resolving the issues,” said Omare, adding that the IYC urged the Avengers not to carry out further attacks in order to “give room for constructive dialogue”.

—Reuters

Saudi Arabia intercepts ballistic missile from Yemen

DUBAI — The Saudi Arabian air force intercepted a ballistic missile fired from Yemen. Saudi state news agency SPA reported on Monday.

The missile was launched from Yemeni territory heading towards the capital of Abha, the capital of southwestern Asir province, and was intercepted at 6:10 am (0310 GMT), SPA reported.

Houthi forces in Yemen, in which Saudi Arabia has led a war against the Iran-backed group, have previously fired missiles towards Saudi Arabia.

Saudi-owned Al Arabiya TV reported earlier on Monday that a missile had been intercepted in the city of Khamees Mushait in the Kingdom’s southwest.

It did not identify from where the missile had been fired.

—Reuters

Israeli military says attacked two Syrian army targets

JERUSALEM — Israel attacked Syrian army targets after errant fire from fighting in Syria’s civil war struck the Israeli-controlled Golan Heights, the military said on Monday.

A spokesman said two targets belonging to the Syrian military were hit overnight after the fire damaged Israel’s security fence on the Golan, territory captured from Syria in a 1967 war.

She gave no further details about the targets that were struck or the weapons Israel used to attack them.

Two months ago, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel has launched dozens of strikes in Syria. Though formally neutral on the civil war, Israel has frequently pledged to prevent shipments of advanced weaponry to the Iranian-backed Hezbollah group, whose fighters have been allied with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

The Israeli military has also responded in the past with shellings and air strikes to mortar bombs that have landed in the Golan during battles in the Syrian conflict.

—Reuters

US-backed militias face second Islamic State counter attack

BEIRUT — Syrian militias backed by US-led air strikes have repelled a second Islamic State counter attack in 24 hours near a city being targeted in a major offensive against the jihadist group, an official and a monitoring group said on Monday.

The Syria Democratic Forces (SDF) alliance grouping Kurdish and Arab fighters launched an offensive last month to capture the city of Manbij from Islamic State, part of an operation aimed at dislodging the group from the border with Turkey.

Islamic State, seeking to break a siege on Manbij, counter attacked on three fronts around the city on Saturday, followed by a further counter attack over Sunday night and in the early hours of Monday, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights and an SDF official said.

Both assaults had been repelled, they said. “Dozens of air strikes repelled (Islamic State forces),” Rami Abdulrahman, director of the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, said.

“The SDF has made no progress in Manbij for 10 days,” he said, noting that progress had been slow in part because Islamic State fighters had heavily mined buildings in the city.

The US-backed campaign in northern Syria aims to drive Islamic State away from its last foothold at the border with Turkey. Syrian government forces, backed by Russia, are waging a separate campaign against the jihadists in the same area.

The United States has ruled out cooperating with Damascus in the war against Islamic State.

—Reuters

Israeli soldiers from the 605 Combat Engineering Corps battalion take part in a training session on the Israeli side of the border between Syria and the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, on 1 June 2016. Photo: Reuters
The global "New Light of Myanmar".

5 July 2016

World

5 July 2016

— A search vessel contracted by the Egyptian government has recovered the Airbus A320 that was crashed into the eastern Mediterranean, Egypt's investigation committee said on Sunday.

The plane is believed to have crashed in the deepest part of the Mediterranean. Investigators have started analysing one of its so-called black box flight recorders and are extracting information from the other.

Debris from the jet was brought to Cairo airport last week, where investigators were trying to reassemble part of the frame to help establish what might have caused the disaster. No explanation for the disaster has been ruled out. But current and former aviation officials increasingly believe the reason lies in the aircraft’s technical systems, rather than sabotage.—Reuters

New York’s Central Park blast likely caused by ‘experiment’ explosives: police

NEW YORK — The explosives that severely injured a young man on Sunday in New York’s Central Park was likely an “experiment with fireworks or explosives,” authorities said.

Commanding Officer of the NYPD Bomb Squad Mark Torre told a press conference that the Fourth of July holiday was a typical time of the year that the squad dealt with a lot of homemade explosives experiments.

Torre said the squad had not found anything consistent with a constructed IED in the explosion, adding that the explosives could be made by somebody with a knowledge with chemistry.

“There’s nothing to indicate that this was an explosive device that was placed in this area with a specific intend to harm any individuals,” said Torre.

“At this time, we have no evidence that this is related to terrorism,” said NYPD Deputy Chief John O’Connell.

“There’s no specific credible threat directed at New York or the July Fourth celebrations,” O’Connell added.

O’Connell said the police did not consider the victim and his two friends were part of the construction of the explosives.

The blast occurred when the 18-year-old man stepped on the explosives on a rock structure in the renowned Central Park, seriously injuring his left foot.

According to the police, the victim was undergoing surgery and his condition was stable. Officials said the police were checking the park for any more explosives by looking through video surveillance camera footage, sending many police detectives and bomb-sniffing dogs, including some specially trained vapor wake detection dogs.

The investigation was still underway.—Xinhua

Search vessel recovers human remains at EgyptAir MS804 crash site

CAIRO — A search vessel contracted by the Egyptian government has recovered all mapped human remains under water at the crash site of EgyptAir flight MS804 in the Mediterranean, Egypt’s aircraft accident investigation committee said on Sunday.

The John Lethbridge, belonging to Mauritius-based Deep Ocean Search, headed to Alexandria port to hand over the remains to coroners and prosecution officials, the committee said in a statement. It will return to the crash site to make further checks for any possible remains there, the statement said.

The Airbus A320 plunged into the eastern Mediterranean en route from Paris to Cairo on 19 May and all 66 people on board were killed. The cause of the crash remains unknown.

The plane is believed to have crashed in the deepest part of the Mediterranean. Investigators have started analysing one of its so-called black box flight recorders and are extracting information from the other.

Debris from the jet was brought to Cairo airport last week, where investigators were trying to reassemble part of the frame to help establish what might have caused the disaster. No explanation for the disaster has been ruled out. But current and former aviation officials increasingly believe the reason lies in the aircraft’s technical systems, rather than sabotage.—Reuters

Claims Day Notice

MV NINOS VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NINOS VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.7.2016 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.

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

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

MV VEGA LUPUS VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VEGA LU- PAS VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.7.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T/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.

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

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

Claims Day Notice

MV CS TINA VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CS TINA VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.7.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T/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.

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

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

Claims Day Notice

MV VEGA LUPUS VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VEGA LU- PAS VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.7.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T/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.

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

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Manila — Thirty “drug dealers” have been killed since Rodrigo Duterte was sworn in as Philippine president on Thursday, police said, announcing the seizure of nearly $20 million worth of narcotics but sparking anger from a lawyers’ group.

Duterte, who won the election in May on a platform of crushing crime, but his incendiary rhetoric and advocacy of extrajudicial killings have alarmed many who hear echoes of the country’s authoritarian past.

Oscar Albayalde, police chief for the Manila region, said five drug dealers were killed on Sunday in a gun battle with police in a shanty town near a mosque near the presidential palace.

“My men were about to serve arrest warrants when shots rang out from one of the houses in the area,” Albayalde told reporters, saying police returned fire and killed five men.

Four guns and 200 grams of crystal methamphetamine were recovered. Three others were killed in other areas in Manila on Sunday and 22 were killed in four areas outside the capital.

More than 100 people have died, mostly suspected drug dealers, rapists and car thieves in stepped up anti-crime police operations since the election on 9 May. Edde Olalia, secretary-general of the National Union of People’s Lawyers, said the killings must be halted.

“The drug menace must stop. Yet the apparent serial summary executions of alleged street drug users or petty drug lords which appear sudden, too contrived and predictable must also stop,” he said in a statement. “The two are not incompatible.”

In the north of the main island of Luzon, drug enforcement agents and police seized a shipment of 180 kg (400 lb) of “shabu” (methamphetamine) worth about $900 million pesos ($19.23 million) from either China or Taiwan, national police chief Ronald dela Rosa said.

The shipment was unloaded at sea and brought to shore by small fishing boats before delivery to Manila’s Chinatown, he said.

On Sunday, the Maoist-led New People’s Army rebels issued a statement supporting Duterte’s all-out war against drugs, saying it might conduct its own drug operations against soldiers, police and local officials.—Reuters

**Mitsubishi Motors resumes minicar output at factory hit by mileage scandal**

**OKAYAMA** — Mitsubishi Motors Corp. on Monday resumed production of four minicar models hit by its fuel data manipulation scandal at a plant in western Japan, following a two-and-a-half-month suspension.

Some 1,300 employees who were told to stay home will go back to work at the Mizushima plant in Kurashiki, Okayama Prefecture, although production is not expected to return to pre-scandal levels until October or later, Mitsubishi Motors said.

Workers conducted checks on the plant’s production lines that had been online since late April, with five cars expected to be built during the day. Mitsubishi Motors plans to increase the number step by step so the plant becomes fully operational and shipments from the factory will be resumed around 20 July.

Mitsubishi Motors suspended production of the four models in question after admitting on 20 April that it had manipulated data to make them look more efficient after admitting on 20 April that it had manipulated data to make them look more fuel efficient than they actually are.

The four are the eK Wagon and eK Space, along with the Dayz and Dayz Wagon and eK Space, along with the Dayz and Dayz Wagon and eK Space, all models to be produced at the Mizushima plant.

The automaker built around 12,000 units a month on average a year earlier.

The plant suspension has prompted local suppliers to stop operations and one of its secondary subcontractors to file for bankruptcy, leaving a negative impact on the local economy and employment. “Mitsubishi Motors and its parts makers need to join forces and work hard to regain consumer trust,” said Shinzo Hiruta, who leads a group in Okayama of 12 parts makers doing business with Mitsubishi Motors.—Kyodo News

**Bomber killed, two police wounded in blast outside US consulate in Jeddah**

RIYADH — A suicide bomber was killed and two people were wounded in a blast near the US consulate in Saudi Arabia’s second city of Jeddah early on Monday, state TV said, the first bombing in years to attempt to target foreigners in the kingdom.

The attacker parked his car outside a hospital opposite the consulate at about 2:15 am and detonated his device after being approached by two security men, killing him and lightly wounding them, it said, quoting a security spokesman.

Three further blasts rocked the location of the bombing hours later, a witness told Reuters, as police carried out what appeared to be controlled explosions near the site. A video sent by the witness showed police taking cover behind vehicles and covering their ears before a blast.

In a statement, the US consulate said there were no casualties or injuries among its staff, adding that it and the US embassy were in contact with Saudi authorities investigating the incident.—Reuters

**Torrential rains suspend train operations in China**

CHANGSHA — Torrential rains in central China’s Hunan Province have disrupted train operations, a railway company said Monday. Since midnight on Sunday, when rain battered the province, more than 100 trains have been forced to stop, delay or detour along five railway lines, including one connecting Changsha and Kunming, capital of Yunnan Province, said a manager with Guangzhou Railway Group.

Up to 27 railway sections along the five lines were reported to have been affected by rain-triggered landslides or flooding on roads, beds, said the manager.

An expressway bridge under construction collapsed because of the rain around 3 am Monday morning in Yiyang City, Hunan, creating a barrier lake near a national-level road. The flooding has disrupted traffic along the road. Also in Yiyang City, around 3 tonnes of gasoline and diesel oil leaked out of a gas station before a blast. National police officials.—Reuters

**The Republic of the Union of Myanmar**

**Ministry of Electricity and Energy**

**MYANMAR OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE**

**INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER**

(9/2016)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No</th>
<th>Tender No</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>IFB-021(16-17)</td>
<td>Electrical Spares for USS Oil Well Rig (13) Items</td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>IFB-022(16-17)</td>
<td>Spares for 3rd Stage &amp; 4th Stage Atlas Copco Compressor (Intermech) (178) Items</td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3)</td>
<td>IFB-023(16-17)</td>
<td>2’7/8” &amp; 2’3/8” EUE Tubing (2) Items</td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4)</td>
<td>IFB-024(16-17)</td>
<td>2”, 3” &amp; 4” Flow Line Pipes (3) Items</td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5)</td>
<td>IFB-025(16-17)</td>
<td>Spares for P &amp; H Crawler Crane (19) Items</td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6)</td>
<td>IFB-026(16-17)</td>
<td>Handling &amp; Lifting Accessories (46) Items</td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7)</td>
<td>IFB-027(16-17)</td>
<td>Spares for L-Type &amp; ZW-Type Compressor (54) Items</td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8)</td>
<td>IFB-028(16-17)</td>
<td>Spares for Clean Energy Mother &amp; Daughter Compressors (BMW) (77) Items</td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(9)</td>
<td>IFB-029(16-17)</td>
<td>Rig Floor Handling &amp; Lifting Accessories (20) Items</td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10)</td>
<td>IFB-030(16-17)</td>
<td>Electrical Spares for ZJ 70L Rigs (22) Items</td>
<td>US$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(11)</td>
<td>DMP-010(16-17)</td>
<td>1” 0 Reinforcement Hose Pipe and 0 Union (2) Items</td>
<td>Ks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tender Closing Date & Time: 28-7-2016, 16:30 Hr
Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 5th July, 2016 at the Finance Department, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, No:44 Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph: +95 67 - 411097 / 411206
AUSTIN, (Texas) — It is an on again, occasionally off again American tradition from the 1970s that has filled football stadiums and sun-baked Texas ranches, with one constant - country music legend Willie Nelson celebrating Independence Day with a music-packed picnic.

Nelson’s first blowout picnic in 1973 was a combination of Woodstock hippy love and cowboy hoedown of more than 40,000 people in Dripping Springs outside of Austin that raised the ire of police, who received complaints about noise, nudity and dazed people wandering around.

As Nelson has aged, the event has mellowed. About 10,000 people are expected at this year’s version, which will feature 20 acts, including some Texas troubadours who appeared at the first picnic, and will be held at a race track in Austin, which is the only US stop for global Formula One racing.

Nelson said he got the idea for the picnics from the 1969 Woodstock music festival and wanted to bring that feeling to the Hill Country west of Austin.

“I was looking at (Woodstock) and was realizing the same thing might happen in Texas if it were promoted right and had the right talent,” Nelson said in an interview with Reuters.

“It is a national holiday for nation-wide independence and I felt like a lot of people would like to get together and celebrate. It was a no-brainer,” said Nelson, 83.

The early affairs were raucous events, drawing crowds of over 80,000. They often lasted for days, often at places not prepared for the onslaught.

“If we had arrested all the naked anduhn naughty people I saw, we’d have filled our jail and yours and all of the jails from here to Dallas,” a deputy in Williamson County, north of Austin, told the Austin American-Statesman, after the 1975 event, which attracted about 70,000.

The 1976 picnic in Gonzales, Texas, was marred by reports of trespasses, rampart drug use and snake bites.

After a raft of troubles, Nelson moved the picnic in 1979 to his country club in the Texas Hill Country, much to the annoyance of his neighbors, who complained of the noise and clogged roads.

— Reuters

‘Finding Dory’ Dominates ‘Tarzan,’ Spielberg’s ‘The BFG’ Bombs

LOS ANGELES — “Finding Dory” dominated the Independence Day box office, overcoming a trio of new releases to provide the weekend’s biggest fireworks.

The Pixar release swam to the top of the charts for the third consecutive weekend, picking up $41.9 million to bring its domestic total to $372.2 million. The follow-up to “Finding Nemo” should end the four-day holiday with another $50.5 million in receipts. It is on pace to surpass “Toy Story 3” and its $415 million haul as the highest-grossing Pixar film in history on a domestic basis.

“It’s showing no signs of slowing down,” said Dave Hollis, distribution chief at Disney, Pixar’s parent company. “As people are weighing what to see, it stands out as the only option that’s going to entertain everyone.”

The July 4 weekend is traditionally one of the movie business’ biggest, but this national holiday suffered from a weak summer season. The July 4 weekend is traditionally one of the movie business’ biggest, but this national holiday suffered from a weak summer season.

Despite the high costs, the film did better than projected, earning $38.1 million for the three-day weekend to take second place. It should make $44 million for the holiday, roughly $10 million more than analysts expected it would generate, but that may not be enough to cover the massive budget. David Yates, who directed several Harry Potter installments, was behind the camera on the film, with Alexander Skarsgard donning Tarzan’s loin-cloth and Margot Robbie serving as his Jane.

To make a profit, the film will have to resonate with foreign crowds.

Los Angeles — “Finding Dory” dominated the Independence Day box office, overcoming a trio of new releases to provide the weekend’s biggest fireworks. The Pixar release swam to the top of the charts for the third consecutive weekend, picking up $41.9 million to bring its domestic total to $372.2 million. The follow-up to “Finding Nemo” should end the four-day holiday with another $50.5 million in receipts. It is on pace to surpass “Toy Story 3” and its $415 million haul as the highest-grossing Pixar film in history on a domestic basis.

“It’s showing no signs of slowing down,” said Dave Hollis, distribution chief at Disney, Pixar’s parent company. “As people are weighing what to see, it stands out as the only option that’s going to entertain everyone.”

The July 4 weekend is traditionally one of the movie business’ biggest, but this national holiday suffered from a weak summer season. The July 4 weekend is traditionally one of the movie business’ biggest, but this national holiday suffered from a weak summer season.

Despite the high costs, the film did better than projected, earning $38.1 million for the three-day weekend to take second place. It should make $44 million for the holiday, roughly $10 million more than analysts expected it would generate, but that may not be enough to cover the massive budget. David Yates, who directed several Harry Potter installments, was behind the camera on the film, with Alexander Skarsgard donning Tarzan’s loin-cloth and Margot Robbie serving as his Jane.

To make a profit, the film will have to resonate with foreign crowds. In its first weekend of international release, “The Legend of Tarzan” pulled in $18.8 million from 19 markets, including South Korea and Russia.

“You have to look at the whole worldwide results,” said Jeff Goldstein, Warner Bros. distribution executive vice president, noting that the film has yet to open in major territories such as China.

“At the end of the day we always looked at this as a bigger play internationally,” he added.

The weekend’s biggest disaster was Disney’s “The BFG,” Steven Spielberg’s $140 million adaptation of Roald Dahl’s classic children’s book. The story of a friendly giant (Mark Rylance) who befriends an orphan (Ruby Barnhill), got solid reviews, but was overshadowed by “Finding Dory.” It collapsed at the box office, eking out $19.6 million over the weekend and should earn a paltry $23.6 million over the four-day holiday for a fourth place finish. It will rank as one of the biggest flops of the summer and of Spielberg’s career, raising questions about his drawing power after a decade spent making historical dramas such as “Lincoln” that are geared at older crowds.

Disney’s Hollis acknowledged the studio was disappointed with the results, but hopes that the film would get a lift in the coming weeks as families seek out entertainment options to keep children occupied during their summer vacations. — Reuters

Jeff Goldstein, Warner Bros. distribution executive vice president, noting that the film has yet to open in major territories such as China.

“At the end of the day we always looked at this as a bigger play internationally,” he added.

The weekend’s biggest disaster was Disney’s “The BFG,” Steven Spielberg’s $140 million adaptation of Roald Dahl’s classic children’s book. The story of a friendly giant (Mark Rylance) who befriends an orphan (Ruby Barnhill), got solid reviews, but was overshadowed by “Finding Dory.” It collapsed at the box office, eking out $19.6 million over the weekend and should earn a paltry $23.6 million over the four-day holiday for a fourth place finish. It will rank as one of the biggest flops of the summer and of Spielberg’s career, raising questions about his drawing power after a decade spent making historical dramas such as “Lincoln” that are geared at older crowds.

Disney’s Hollis acknowledged the studio was disappointed with the results, but hopes that the film would get a lift in the coming weeks as families seek out entertainment options to keep children occupied during their summer vacations.
The Olympic Games in Brazil, a country that welcomes the world with open arms

Michel Temer
Interim President of the Federative Republic of Brazil

TODAY, exactly thirty days before the world’s greatest sporting event is scheduled to begin, Brazil can say with confidence: we are ready to host the first Olympic and Paralympic Games to take place in South America.

The Olympic Village, housing more than 17,000 participating athletes in one of Rio de Janeiro’s most beautiful settings, has just been inaugurated. All sports facilities, especially those serving the Olympic Park in the Barra da Tijuca neighbourhood, are also up and ready. The country has put together a solid security program of 85,000 federal, state, and municipal government personnel to ensure that sporting events take place in an atmosphere of absolute peace and tranquility. This contingent of security personnel will work in an integrated fashion, overseeing the protection of athletes, coaching staffs, heads of state, government officials, local residents, and journalists.

This will not be Brazil’s first opportunity to show the world its capacity for organization, and to welcome visitors warmly to a secure environment. Over the past few years, our country has developed an expertise in hosting mega-events on an international scale. We hosted the World Cup, the Pan-American Games, the World Military Games, World Youth Day, and the Confederations Cup, all unanimous successes, which we conducted in a spirit of excellence, dedication and with the characteristic Brazilian joie de vivre.

And now, another success is on its way. The Games will show the world one of the major global economies at work in a mature democracy: a country with great business potential that at the same time has set the standard for policies to fight inequality. Rio de Janeiro is expected to receive approximately 500,000 visitors from Brazil and abroad during the Games, while the five “Soccer Cities” São Paulo, Salvador, Manaus, Brasilia and Belo Horizonte will also find themselves inundated with local and foreign fans. Hosting events on this scale represents both a momentous accomplishment for the Brazilian people and a source of immense national pride.

It should be emphasized that 60 percent, 7.07 billion reals, of the total investment in the Olympic facilities were financed by the private sector. These resources and efforts will remain as legacies to the entire country. For instance, the Games will disseminate throughout Brazil the hallmark values of competitive sports: cooperation, solidarity, discipline, and resilience. As a more concrete benefit, Brazilians throughout the country’s five geographic regions will also inherit a national prestige network of world-class facilities for both sports beginners and high-performance athletes.

Finally, in Rio de Janeiro, the Games have greatly influenced the implementation of public policy, causing the city to fast track expand and even initiate many municipal infrastructure and mobility projects. The direct, favourable impact of the Games on the quality of life of the city’s residents is evident.

Over the past few weeks, rumour of the possibility of an outbreak of tropical disease during the Games has circulated. We can assure you, as has the World Health Organization, that the risk of Zika infection during the Games is practically non-existent. Historically, an extremely low incidence of disease transmitted by the Aedes Aegypti has been recorded during the winter season in the Southern Hemisphere. Indeed, there has been a dramatic decline in cases of Zika infection in Rio de Janeiro and throughout Brazil in the past few weeks. I recall a similar prediction of epidemic during the 2014 World Cup tournament in Brazil, when we hosted 1.4 million foreign visitors. No epidemic occurred. Then as now, tourists can be assured of favourable health conditions during the Olympic Games.

Brazil is ready to receive all of the visitors who will be enjoying the pleasure of watching the world’s elite international sports athletes compete, and surely, we will have a great deal to show the five billion viewers from around the world who will be watching the Games as well.

Brazil awaits you with open arms.

---

Serving up a solution to Singapore’s retiring hawkers sellers

SINGAPORE — Singapore is cooking up new methods to find the next wave of hawker sellers amid fears the city’s state’s signature street-food delights could fall off the menu with chef retirees.

Singapore has more than 100 hawker centers and 6,000 stalls selling popular multi-ethnic meals for as little as $2.80 ($2), but enticing new chefs to the small basic kitchens is proving tricky against the riches offered by modern restaurants.

Chen Fu Yuan, a 72-year-old hawker that has been cooking Char Kway Teow (fried flat rice noodles) since 1969, is struggling to find anyone to take over his stall after his children and grandchildren took up other careers. “I will definitely be very heartbroken,” Chen said. “It is a waste that no one wants to take it over.”

In April the government set up an advisory Hawker Centre 3.0 Committee, charged with sustaining a trade that is a source of pride for locals and regularly draws visiting celebrities, like British chef Gordon Ramsay. The government will open 10 new hawker centers over the next 12 years but many of these venues come without the government subsidies that have kept some monthly stall rents as low as $532 ($238). New rates can be $51,800 a month.

“We can build hawker centres but who is going to man them?” Singapore food blogger, author and Hawker Center 3.0 Committee member Dr Leslie Tay asked.

Tay says most hawker stall owners were in their 50s and 60s with a wave of retirements expected in the near future but new initiatives to find replacements were showing signs of promise, such as pairing aspiring hawkers with experienced mentors.

“I was holding a pen and a laptop a year ago and a year later I’m holding on to this knife,” 30-year-old Derrick Lee said after giving up a career in oil and gas to learn alongside a hawker master.

“I believe there are still people out there who are interested to take over.”
—Reuters

---

Hawker Derrick Lee, 30, sells chicken rice in his stall at a hawker centre in Singapore on 30 June, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

---

Lifestyle 15

GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

5 July 2016

Entertainment Channel

06:00 pm Weather Report
07:00 pm Cartoon Programme “The Incredibles” (Part-2)
08:00 pm International Drama Series
09:00 pm Myanmar Traditional Music
09:00 pm Pyi Thu Ni Ti

09:20 pm International Movie Songs
10:00 pm Myanmar Traditional Instruments - Myanmar Harp (Episode-1)
10:25 pm Music Programme
10:45 pm Myanmar Video Midnight Case Down

From 5-7-2016 (Tuesday) 6:00 pm To 6-7-2016 (Wednesday) 6:00 pm

Myanmar International

07:03 Am News
07:26 Am Size Does Matter (Ep1) (“Human-Elephant Conflict”)
07:46 Am Myanmar Traditional Thatched Roofs: That Nge
08:03 Am News
08:25 Am Director: Kyi Phyu Shin
08:36 Am Memorable Year Region
08:53 Am Co-operator
09:03 Am News
09:26 Am The Struggles of Myanmar
09:51 Am Today Myanmar: First Hundred Days of the New Government
10:03 Am News
10:25 Am Adventurous Young Photographer
10:45 Am Sai Ye Kwan
10:54 Am Hip-Hop and Design

(11:00 Am – 03:00 Pm) - Monday Repeat (07:00 Am – 11:00 Am)
(03:00 Pm – 07:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am – 11:00 Am)

Prime Time

07:03 Pm News
07:27 Pm A Day Out With Sarah (EP-5)
07:53 Pm Ngapali Beach: Fishing Villages
08:05 Pm News
08:26 Pm Tread Of Kachin Dress
08:52 Pm Crocodile Keeper

(09:00 Pm – 11:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (09:00 Am – 03:00 Am)
(11:00 Pm – 03:00 Am) - Monday Repeat (07:00 Am – 11:00 Am)
(03:00 Am – 07:00 Am) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am – 11:00 Am)

(For Detailed Schedule – www.myanmaritv.com/schedule)
PARIS — France swept emphatically into the Euro 2016 semi-finals and brought Iceland’s fairytale run to a crushing halt as Olivier Giroud scored twice in a 5-2 win on Sunday to set up a mouth-watering last-four clash with Germany.

Paul Pogba, Dimitri Payet and Antoine Griezmann were also on target in a one-sided romp at the Stade de France that proved a nightmare end to war-weary Iceland’s improbable Euro dreams.

Having fairly comfortably eased past England into the quarter-finals, Iceland, the smallest nation ever to have qualified for the European Championship, with a population of 330,000, were 4-0 down inside the first half.

They tried to rally after the break with a goal from Kolbeinn Sigthorsson, and added a late consolation through Birikir Bjarnason, but the damage had already been done.

France, who had not been past the quarter-finals since they won the tournament in 2000, closed out and cruised home and will no doubt feel they are warming up nicely ahead of Thursday’s semi-final against world champions Germany in Marseille.

“I am delighted for the players as they deserve this, and for these fans who have been behind us for months,” said France coach Didier Deschamps.

“People have brought something to make them smile and feel happy and have another week in it — I’m delighted about that.”

The French boss will also have been happy to see midfield powerhouse Pogba finally stamp his authority on a match, having struggled in the early games, while striker Giroud silenced some of his critics with a man-of-the-match performance.

France’s Olivier Giroud celebrates after scoring their fifth goal against Iceland during EURO 2016 quarter-final at Stade de France, Saint-Denis near Paris, France on 3 July. Photo: Reuters

PORTUGAL — Portugal defender Pepe missed a training session on Monday as a precaution after suffering a problem with his thigh, a team spokesman told reporters.

“Pepe has a muscle pain in his thigh and is not going to train today as a precaution,” the spokesman said. The 33-year-old Brazilian-born defender has had an excellent tournament and his absence from Wednesday’s Euro 2016 semi-final against Wales would be a significant blow.—Reuters

EU orders Real Madrid, other Spanish clubs to repay state aid

BRUSSELS — EU competition regulators ordered Real Madrid, Valencia and five other Spanish football clubs on Monday to repay millions of euros in illegal state aid.

The European Commission said the public support measures granted by Spain to seven professional football clubs gave those clubs an unfair advantage over other clubs in breach of EU state aid rules. Real Madrid was ordered to pay back 18.4 million euros ($20.5 million) in one case for an overvalued land transfer and Valencia 20.4 million euros in another case.—Reuters

EVIAN — Holding midfielder Sami Khedira will miss Germany’s Euro 2016 semi-final against hosts France after he sustained an adductor muscle injury in the quarter-final victory over Italy, coach Joachim Loew said on Monday.

Khedira, who had played in all of Germany’s matches at the tournament, was withdrawn early in Saturday’s game after over-stretching during a challenge for the ball.

“Sami Khedira won’t play for us on Thursday. We will do everything for him to be available for a potential final,” Loew told reporters of the 29-year-old Juventus player.

“I will have to bring in new names. There will be personnel changes in the lineup.”

Germany’s Khedira out of France semi-final

Three hundred up and counting as Serena powers through

LONDON — World number one Serena Williams kept her Wimbeldon title defense on track on Sunday, downing Germany’s Annika Beck 6-3, 6-0 with a crushing display of power and serving to chalk up her 300th grand slam victory.

Williams looked in no mood to follow men’s top seed Novak Djokovic out of tournament after his shock defeat on Saturday and treated the middle Sunday party crowd to an imperious 51-minute performance. Warning her last-16 opponent, Russian Svetlana Kuznetsova, that there is more to come, she said: “I thought it was good, I still want to get out to a little bit of a faster start but I was really focused and calm today.”

Williams was broken by unseeded Beck in her second service game but then stepped it up and never looked back.

She thundereous down the biggest women’s serve of the grass-court major so far at 123 mph (198 kph), followed by an ace, to seal the first set against the 22-year-old.

The 34-year-old American, who said she had been helped by suffering a scare in round two against compatriot Chrisina McHale, romped through the second set in 20 minutes as Beck’s resistance crumbled.

The match brought her 300th grand slam win - something that seemed to take her by surprise.

“No? Was it? Cool, nice one. I had no idea, that’s awesome, right? I think that is a lot of matches,” she said as she came off court. The statistic, just one of dizzying array for the six times Wimbledon champion, takes her past Chris Evert on 299 and leaves her behind Martina Navratilova on 306 after what, by Williams’s standards, has been a disappointing spell.—Reuters