President receives Ambassadors from France, Switzerland separately

PRESIDENT U Win Myint separately received Mr. Olivier Richard, the outgoing Ambassador of France, and Mr. Paul Rene Seger, the outgoing Ambassador of Switzerland, at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting with Mr. Olivier Richard, they discussed matters related to promoting friendship and cooperation between Myanmar and France, cooperation in the civic development, health and energy sectors and promoting economic investment. At the meeting with Mr. Paul Rene Seger, they discussed matters related to democratic transition and the peace process, health and vocational training issues, bilateral friendship and cooperation.

Also present at the meetings were Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin, Deputy Minister for the Office of the President U Min Thu and other officials.—MNA

State Counsellor receives LPDR’s Foreign Minister

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi yesterday received H.E. Mr. Saleumxay Kommasith, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 10 am yesterday.

At the meeting, they cordially discussed ways to enhance the existing friendly bilateral relations and multifaceted cooperation.—Myanmar News Agency

Last survivor of Brazil tribe under threat: NGO

INSIDE TODAY
2nd Pyithu Hluttaw’s 9th regular session holds 2nd day meeting

THE second Pyithu Hluttaw’s ninth regular session held its second-day meeting at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday, where asterisk-marked questions were answered by Deputy Minister for Education U Win Maw Tun and a motion was debated over by the Hluttaw representatives.

Q&A session

The first question at the session was raised by U Sai Sam of Mongyan constituency. He asked if there was a plan to fill vacant posts of high school teachers in Mongyan Township Basic Education High School. The deputy minister replied that in the forthcoming education year, a selection would be made from among teachers who had applied for transfers and they would fill up the vacant positions, according to the duration of their service and subjects taught.

Next, Dr. Daw Kyi Moh Moh Lwin of Singaing constituency raised questions on a plan to construct a new teaching hall in Basic Education High School Branch Monpin and to appoint teachers. The deputy minister answered that three primary school teachers were appointed on 21 June 2018 but there were still some positions lying vacant. Construction of a 140x30 ft. single storey teaching hall in the school will be completed only when funds are allocated in the fiscal year 2019-2020, said the deputy minister.

Similarly, questions raised by U Nyai Hein of Thanbyuzayat constituency, U Khun Than Htoo of Hsathit constituency, Daw Ni Hlyan of Thanlwin constituency, urging the government to expand the export of elephant foot yam, said the deputy minister.

Debating and deciding over travel motion

Afterwards, Hluttaw representatives debated over a motion tabled by U Myint Oo of Thanatpin constituency, urging the state/region government for the convenience of foreign travelers would save time and speed up the work, rather than seeking permission from the union government.

In addition to this, tour destinations should be advertised through local media and international media; local products should be upgraded, creating more job opportunities for the locals; food and handicraft schools should be opened; and emphasis should be placed on developing small and medium enterprises. She supported the motion as it could increase the economic development of the country through the travel business. Tatmadaw Representative Maj. Thein Tun said that for Myanmar’s travel sector development, the Myanmar travel sector human resources development strategy and work plan 2017-2020 was established and implemented and ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan 2016-2023 was also implemented.

Myanmar Tourism Law (draft) was also seen to be prepared. But Myanmar’s travel sector hasn’t developed as much as it should. This is due to weaknesses in the prevailing policies and laws, challenges in politics, economics and security, weakness in cooperation among related ministries, weakness in management and all these are hindering the development of the travel sector. The low number of visitors is due to markets being small, an insufficient number of airlines, low attraction of the travel destinations, high cost of travel, insufficient travel services and lack of news and information. These weaknesses and requirements are suggested to be reviewed. In addition to this, a law supporting the development of the travel business needs to be enacted as soon as possible.

Myanmar’s travel sector can achieve growth and sustainability. It is a time when cooperation is required among the government, private businesses, investors, and local people of civil society organisations. He said that while the Myanmar travel sector is facing many challenges for development, it will develop only through the creation of jobs through sustainable tourism and pro-poor tourism, and thus develop related works and increase the country’s income.

Similarly, U Aung Naing @ U Naing Nga Kyaw of Mogok constituency, U Soe Paing Htay of Myeik constituency, U Kyaw Aung Lwin of Sedeikara constituency, U Aung Kyaw Oo of Hlaing constituency, U Yan Lin of Kyauktat constituency, Daw Nan Than Than Lwin of Hpa-an constituency, Daw Khin Hnin Thit of Paduang constituency, Daw Mya Khwa Nyo Oo of Shweleung constituency, U Khan Mnaung Thaung of Pinaung constituency and U Saw Thalay Saw of Shwegyin constituency debated over the motion.

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2nd Amyotha Hluttaw’s 9th regular session holds 2nd day meeting

THE ninth regular session of the second Amyotha Hluttaw held its second-day meeting at the Amyotha Hluttaw meeting hall yesterday morning, where asterisk-marked questions were answered, a report read and a bill approved.

Asterisk-marked questions

At the meeting, Daw Khin Swe Lwin of Chin State constituency posed a question on plans to help export elephant foot yam from Chin State, as it is in high demand in Japan and China. Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo said dried elephant foot yam was exported to Japan, South Korea and Singapore by sea, elephant foot yam in powder form to Japan, Malaysia and the UAE, and elephant foot yam in powder form, natural and dried forms to the People’s Republic of China through border trade.

The deputy minister said 100 businesspersons were provided with technical support on drying and producing elephant foot yam in Chin State, Haka town. At the trade fairs in China, as well as at local trade fairs, it was displayed and promoted as a product of Chin State.

The Ministry of Commerce is contacting and negotiating with China through diplomatic channels to allow it as a legally permitted export item from Myanmar. At the same time, contacts with machinery makers to process elephant foot yam and potential buyers were made and linked with local businesses, and elephant foot yam is expected to become a quality export product, said the deputy minister.

Replying to a question raised by U Mahn Law Moung of Chin State constituency on whether the Ministry of Construction, Department of Urban & Housing Development, had any plans to urbanise M’kuimin town in Mindat Township, Chin State, Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin said that of the 17 towns in Chin State, urban development plans were drawn for Haka, Matupi, Mindat, Palam and Palewta, and plans for 12 towns, including M’kuimin, remained to be drawn. As M’kuimin covered an area of 17,211 acres and had a population of only 1,182, it is a priority (e) level town and there is no plan to draw up an urban development plan for it, said the deputy minister.
Union Minister U Kyaw Tin holds talks with LPDR’s Foreign Minister

UNION Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic H.E. Mr. Saleumxay Kommasith held bilateral talk at the Chindwin Hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw.

At the bilateral talks, both sides cordially discussed a wide range of issues on promotion of bilateral relations and multi-faceted cooperation, including the implementation of bilateral MoUs and Agreements which were signed between the two countries that includes Electric Power Cooperation and Myanmar-Laos Friendship Bridge, promotion of trade and investment and tourism. Both sides also cordially exchanged views on regional and international matters of mutual interests.

Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Electricity and Energy, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Construction and the members of Laos delegation were present at the bilateral talks. Then, the Union Minister for International Cooperation hosted a luncheon in honour of the Laos delegation led by the Minister of Foreign Affairs at the Hilton Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw in the afternoon.—Myanmar News Agency

Laos Foreign Affairs Minister tours Nay Pyi Taw

MR. Saleumxay Kommasith, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lao People’s Democratic Republic, and his delegation visited the National Museum in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

First, the Laos Foreign Affairs Minister and his delegation listened to a presentation about the museum and its exhibits by curator, Daw Aye Aye Thin. They then toured the primate and stone age exhibit, prehistoric exhibit, the Myanmar fine arts exhibit, and other historical exhibits.

Next, the Laos Minister and his delegation arrived at Upatassanti Pagoda and presented offerings to the Buddha image enshrined inside. They then viewed the religious artworks and visited the white elephants residing in the pagoda’s compound.

The Laos Minister and his delegation left Myanmar from Nay Pyi Taw’s International Airport at night. They were seen off by U Thant Sin, Director General of the Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Deputy Director General U Aung Kyaw Oo, Laos Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Lying Sayaxang and other officials.—Thura Zaw

Laos Foreign Minister Mr Saleumxay Kommasith and his delegation visit the National Museum in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

U Tha Aung Nyun presents Credentials to President of the Marshall Islands

U THA AUNG NYUN, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, presented his credentials to Her Excellency Dr. Hilda C. Heine, Ed.D., President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, on 17 July 2018 in Majuro.—Myanmar News Agency

The third day meeting of the second Pyithu Hluttaw held on 30 July, it is learnt. — Aye Aye Thant (MNA)

2nd Pyithu Hluttaw...

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In his discussion, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Ohn Maung said the ministry is promoting the natural beauty of Myanmar, cultural traditions and handicrafts to develop the socio-economic situation of the people and create job opportunities through CBT since the start of the ministry’s first 100 days work programme.

More CBT sites were being developed and nine villages in Shan State, Mandalay, Sagaing and Taninthayi regions were being set up to be developed into six CBT sites. More CBT sites that directly benefit the local people will be developed, said the union minister.

Due to the various stages of reform, the development and momentum of the travel sector is growing. However, if the travel year is to be promoted, regional peace and funds, arrangements for better services and easing of restrictions are required. Systematic arrangements are to be made and more cooperation and coordination with state and region governments need to be done. As the ministry is doing this, Hluttaw representatives are requested to put the motion on record, explained the union minister.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker then announced that the Hluttaw had put the motion on record and to keep it under observation, after obtaining the decision of the Hluttaw.

The third day meeting of the second Pyithu Hluttaw’s ninth regular session is scheduled to be held on 30 July; it is learnt.—Aye Aye Thant (MNA)
THE number of Chinese tourists arriving in Mandalay, one of the culturally-rich destinations in Myanmar, significantly increased this year, according to the region’s Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

U San Yu, assistant director of the department, said that Chinese tourists ranked first among the list of foreigners visiting Mandalay during the first half of this year, followed by French and Thai tourists. During the six-month period, a total of 89,096 Chinese visitors entered the region. Despite an increase in the number of Chinese visitors, this year saw a decline in the number of European visitors in the region.

He also said that the growth of Chinese visitors to Mandalay may be linked to the operation of a new airline and the government’s efforts to offer visa-free entry to Myanmar for citizens of Japan and South Korea. Authorities on tourism are making concerted efforts to offer better services to international visitors.

According to the department’s data, a total of 231,002 foreigners visited Mandalay between January and June this year, which is a decrease of 5,040 from this time last year, when 236,042 foreigners visited the region. International tourist arrivals are expected to increase in the second half of this year.

U San Yu added that the government’s attempts to develop the country’s smokescreen industry include the issuance of new licences relating to the tourism sector, reducing the fee rate of services by half and implementation of the online licensing system. Tourism is a service business, and to provide better services, hotel- and tourism-related service training has been given to all employees to improve their capacity.

Chinese tourists seen at a pagoda in Mandalay.

In addition, arrangements are being made to open new information counters at Mandalay International Airport. Currently, three information counters have been opened at the region’s Directorate of Hotels and Tourism, Mandalay Railway Station and the Mandalay International Airport. The government expects tourist arrivals in Mandalay to reach around 500,000 this year. Last year, the arrival of international visitors surpassed the government’s expectation of 450,000.—Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)

A TOTAL of 5,477 flood victims in Taninthayi Township, Myeik District in Taninthayi Region, are in need of water and food, said the flood victims.

Taninthayi Township was flooded as monsoon rains led the water level of the local river rise above the danger level, affecting many homes, lakes and wells in the villages and towns. Wards within the town have access to water and food, while far-dung villages are urgently in need of water and food, said the flood victims.

Despite a slight drop in water levels of the Taninthayi River, it was still 25 feet on the morning of 22 July, according to Taninthayi Township Department of Meteorology and Hydrology. This region is prone to floods, with high and low tides at the end of this month. The old houses are in danger of collapsing. Flooded areas, which are far from the town, are in need of aid such as food and water, said the villagers. A total of 5,477 victims from over 1,000 households have been provided shelter at monasteries, their relatives’ homes, temporary shelters and schools with the help of related departments, local police, firefighters and philanthropic groups.

Schools have been temporarily shut down due to floods. Local police and firefighters are ensuring that locals have smooth transportation with the use of bamboo rafts and motorboats in areas where the floods swept away roads in some villages.

Daw Khin Kyi Foundation has donated 663 rice bags to the flood victims on the morning of 21 July. In the evening, Taninthayi Region Minister for Social and City Development Affairs U Hopin, Dr Ko Ko Naing, Director-General of the Disaster Management Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, and officials provided rice and canned fish to the flood victims.—Myint Oo (Myeik)
Forum to be held towards emergence of feed industry

By May Thet Hnin

MYANMAR Aqua Feed Association under the Myanmar Fisheries Federation and Livestock Feed Association under the Myanmar Livestock Federation are exerting efforts towards the emergence of the feed industry in the country.

In a bid to formulate this plan, the two associations will hold a forum today (25 August). Feed processing factories, feed manufacturers, exporters and importers, rice traders, edible oil businessmen and livestock entrepreneurs have been invited to attend this forum. “We aim to form the Feed Industry Federation from the stage of emergence of the feed industry,” said Dr. Thet Hmu, Chair of Myanmar Aqua Feed Association.

“If the Feed Federation emerges, those stakeholders engaged in the livestock industry will be organised. They can undertake group orders at the right price. Also, they can order the quality they want. Hopefully, it will bring all-round success,” she maintained. All feed manufacturers from the poultry, pig, fisheries and prawn farming industry will unite and join ASEAN Feed associations. Neighbouring countries—the Philippines, Thailand and China—have their respective Feed Industry Federation. The International Feed Industry Federation (IFIF) represents the global feed industry. Myanmar needs the feed industry to link with international federations.

“It is good for us if Feed Industry Federation will be formed. We purchase 10,000 tons of soybeans from the United States. A group purchase will result in a fair price and ensure the quality. We can also figure out solutions to possible problems faced in the feed industry,” said U Zaw Lin, treasurer from Myanmar Fisheries Association.

At present, the prices of feedstuff such as broken rice, corn and bran hit a record high compared with previous years. The livestock businessmen are facing difficulties, such as shortage and inferior quality of feedstuff. To tackle these problems, a feed industry federation will be formed.

Sea trade worth $7.8 billion reported over three months

TRADE through sea routes fetched US$7.8 billion from 1 April to 13 July in the interim period prior to the 2018-2019 fiscal year, which is an increase of $1.1 billion compared with the similar period last year.

Exports through sea routes were worth over $3 billion, whereas the import value was recorded at $4.8 billion. Unlike sea routes, exports performed better than imports at border gates. Border trade during the same time totalled $2.28 billion, comprising $1.48 billion worth of exports and $802 million worth of imports.

Rice, various peas, sesame seeds, corn, vegetables, fruits, dried tea leaves, fishery products, rubber, minerals and animal products are exported to foreign countries, whereas machinery, agricultural equipment, trucks, plastic raw materials, consumer products, cosmetics, and electronic tools enter the domestic market. Myanmar’s external trade value as of 13 July was registered at $10.16 billion, with exports worth $4.5 billion and imports valued at $5.64 billion. The total trade value this year narrowed down the trade deficit to $1.1 billion compared with $1.6 billion during the similar period of the last fiscal year.—Ko Khant

A cargo ship loading containers at a shipping container port in Yangon. PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAR

China-Myanmar border trade through Chinshwehaw drops by $66m

THE China-Myanmar bilateral border trade through the Chinshwehaw gate in the current fiscal year down went down by US$66.8 million compared with the same period last year, the Ministry of Commerce reported.

Border trade with China through the Chinshwehaw gate totalled $94.957 million from 1 April to 13 July this year, covering $79.632 million in exports and $15.325 million in imports. During the same period last year, Myanmar exported goods amounting to $145.4 million to China from the Chinshwehaw point of entry and imported commodities worth $16.3 million.

According to the ministry’s annual statistical report, the cross-border trade through the Chinshwehaw station was valued at $64.4 million in the 2012-13 FY, $246.9 million in the 2013-14 FY, $423.9 million in the 2014-15 FY, $385.8 million in the 2015-16 FY, $573.2 million in the 2016-17 FY and $572 million in the 2017-18 FY.

China, the largest trade partner for Myanmar, conducts cross-border trade with Myanmar through the Muse, Lwejel, Kankpaze, Chinshwehaw and Kengtung trade camps. Among them, the Muse border sees the highest volume and value of total border trade.

Myanmar continues to export agricultural products, manufactured goods, marine and forest products, minerals and other marketable items chiefly to neighbouring countries. Its imports from trade partners include consumer products, intermediate goods, construction equipment, electronic devices, automobiles and medicines, mainly from China, Thailand, Japan, India, Indonesia, Germany, France and Hong Kong.

Over the first 104 days of this FY, the trade value of all border trade camps reached $2.25 billion, an increase in value by $256 million from this time last FY.—Swe Nyein
**Statistical bulletin on more drug seizures, acting on tip-offs given by the people**

1. In order to prevent and eradicate the dangers of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, the Office of the President has formed the Drug Activity Special Complaint Department, publicized on 26 June 2018, to systematically accept and respond to reports on drug abuses and other related cases from the general public.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Information</th>
<th>Details on seizure and legal action taken</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Information received of Nga Pi (a) Zin Wai Htun from Settyone Kvet Thit (2) Street, Aunglan, illegally selling tablets and marijuana since April 2018; youths coming to purchase every day.</td>
<td>On 16-7-2018, Nga Pi (a) Zin Wai Htun from Settyone Kvet Thit (2) Street, Aunglan, was arrested in possession of illegal drugs. A case has been opened against her with MaMaSa (Aunglan) MaYa(Pa) 5/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Information received of illegal drug trade in the vicinity of Thirmingalar Market, Hline Township.</td>
<td>On 18-7-2018, local police arrested Ma Sandar Khine, 41, caretaker of restrooms at the Shwe Padauk Fish Market on Bayinnanau Road, Ward 4, Hline Township, in possession of illegal drugs. A case has been opened against her with NaMaSa (Padukachau) MaYa(Pa) 6/2018, under Section 19-A/20-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Information received of prolonged large-scale distribution of illegal drugs in Anheittaw Ward, Area 48, between 57th and 58th streets and 21st and 22nd streets, Aungmyethazan Township, Mandalay Region.</td>
<td>On 19-7-2018, local police staked out Good Time Hotel located between 57th and 58th streets and 21st and 22nd streets, and arrested Nyi Kyi Zin (a) Nyi Zin, 35, residing in Room 210, together with drugs. A case has been opened against him with NaMaSa (Aungmyethazan) MaYa(Pa) 6/2018, under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Information received of illegal drug sales at Nmay kaun Village, Innwa Gyi region, Mohnin Township, Kachin State.</td>
<td>On 17-7-2018, local police acting on a tip-off entered the house of Aung Ko Win in Nmaykaun Village, Hepu Village-Tract, Mohnin Township. Aung Ko Win was not present but another man named Poe Pyae, 56, was arrested together with illegal drugs. A case was opened against him in accordance with NaMaSa(Lone Tone) MaYa(Pa) 38/2018, under Section 19-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Information received of illegal tablets and marijuana being sold in plain view on a motorcycle in Sanywa (3) Street, Thamada Kanchay Ward, Dala Township, Yangon Region, and local youths were found purchasing them.</td>
<td>On 16-7-2018, local police on surveillance in front of B.E.H.S (4) Branch School on Padauk Street, (11/14) area, Thamada Kanchay Ward, Dala Township, arrested Aung Wunna Tun, 46, and Myo Min Myat (a) Poe Kywe, 44, together with illegal drugs. A case was opened against them in accordance with MaMaSa(Dala) MaYa(Pa) 23/2018 under Section 16-D/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law. Further investigation led to a search of Hla Myo Oo’s house in Padauk Street. Hla Myo Oo was not present but a drug stash was found under the house. A case has been opened against him in accordance with MaMaSa(Dala) MaYa(Pa) 28/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Information received of large-scale sale of illegal drugs by Min Tun in between Bo Ba Htoo Street and Aung San Street, 56th x 57th Street, Thaman Gone Ward, NyaNya(19), Pygyiadiung Township, Mandalay Region.</td>
<td>On 19-7-2018 local police entered Min Tun (a) Min Tun (a) Pyaung Gyi’s house on NyaNya(19), No.63, between Bo Ba Htoo Street and Aung San Street, 57th Street, Thapyi Gone Ward, Pygyiadiung Township and arrested along with him Aung Phyo Wai Lin, Okkar Kyaw, Tun Tun Naung (a) Kalar, and Zin Phyo Zaw (a) Poe Tar together with illegal drugs. A case has been opened against them in accordance with MaMaSa(Pygyiadiung) MaYa(Pa) 12/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Information received of U Maung Oo selling illegal drugs in Pahotegyi Village, Homalin Township.</td>
<td>Maung Oo (a) Win Naing Oo of Pahotegyi Village, Homalin, was arrested together with illegal drugs and further investigation led to the arrest of Barbu, 29, and Min Min Naing, 38, together with illegal drugs in Ngayawlaw, Namunsin region on 17-7-2018. A case has been opened against them in accordance with MaMaSa (Khanty) MaYa(Pa) 55/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Information received of Ko Maung Maung, 35, with long hair, living in a rented place in South Dagon and hiring various vehicles to go sell illegal drugs.</td>
<td>On 17-7-2018, local police arrested Maung Maung (a) Tun Tun Win, 39, together with illegal drugs near Kabaraya Pagoda Bus Stop, Ward 9, Mayangon Township. A case was opened against him in accordance with MaMaSa (Mayangon) MaYa(Pa) 16/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Information received of patrons and waiters of the San Francisco Club, Tamway Plaza, Thameinbayan Road, Tamway Township, Yangon Region, and taxi drivers in front of the club selling stimulant tablets at Ks 5,000 apiece.</td>
<td>On 17-7-2018, local police staked out Sakura Restaurant on top of San Francisco Club, Tamway Township, and arrested Ma San San Myint Aung (a) Ma Phyu, 37, Min Thwin, 20, William Myint Aung, 26, and Wai Lin Htet, 27, together with illegal drugs. A case has been opened against them in accordance with MaMaSa(Tamway) MaYa(Pa) 26/2018 under Section 19-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Information received of sales and use of illegal drugs in villages of Htgyaw and Katha townships in Sagaing Region from Shwe Li, Kyaekau Village, Homalin Township.</td>
<td>On 20-7-2018, local police on surveillance in Katha Township inspected a motorboat from Palatwa Village and arrested Nga Htwe (a) Tot Tae, 26, and Ma Khin San Yi, 48, together with illegal drugs. A case has been opened against them in accordance with MaMaSa(Katha) MaYa(Pa) 40/2018 under Section 19-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Information received of Kyar Min, Zaw Oo, Aung Thu Min and Ma Minzaw selling illegal drugs in Tayetgone Ward, Mawlite Village-Tract, Phuangpyin Township, Sagaing Region.</td>
<td>On 15-7-2018, local police arrested Ma Thuzaar, 30, and Zaw Myint Than, 27, in Tayetgone Village-Tract, Phuangpyin Township, together with illegal drugs. A case was opened against them in accordance with MaMaSa(Phuangpyin) MaYa(Pa) 47/2018 under Section 19-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law. Further investigation led to a search of Kyar Min’s house in Min Zaw’s house in Tayetgone Village. The suspect was absent but his wife Ma Khin Shwe Than, 45, Kyaw Lin Oo, 39, Myo Myint, 37, and Tint San, 45, were arrested together with illegal drugs. A case has been opened against them in accordance with MaMaSa(Phuangpyin) MaYa(Pa) 49/2018 under Section 16-C/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.</td>
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</table>
Information received of Tun Yi and Ko Kyaw Shwe of Tanngar Village, Phaungyin Township, Sagaing Region illegally selling drugs.

On 14-7-2018, local police arrested Kyaw Shwe, 56, in Tanngar Village, Phaungyin Township together with illegal drugs. A case has been opened against him in accordance with Ma Ma Sa(Phaungyin) MaYa(Pa) 45/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law. Further inspection led to the arrest of Tun Yi, 51, in the same village, and a case has been opened against him in accordance with MaMaSa(Phaungyin) MaYa(Pa) 46/2018 under Section 16-C of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Information received of U Maung Saing in Mhankin Village, Pankar Village-tract, Inndawgyi region, Mohnyn Township, Kachin State, illegally selling drugs.

On 15-7-2018, local police entered U Maung Saing’s house in Mhankin Village, Mohnyn Township and arrested the 57-year old and his wife Daw Win Kyi, 50, together with illegal drugs. A case has been opened against them in accordance with NaMaSa(Lone Tone) MaYa(Pa) 20/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Information received of U Aung Yin selling alcohol and illegal drugs in his home at Twarnc Village, Ywaung Village-tract, YeO Township, Sagaing Region, with regular users in the evening.

On 15-7-2018, local police arrested Aung Yin, 52, in Ywaung Village, YeO Township, together with illegal drugs. A case has been opened against him in accordance with MaMaSa(YeO) MaYa(Pa) 2/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Information received of the entire Hlwatin Village, located near Mandalay Region and Magway Region’s borders, using and distributing illegal drugs, led by Ye Lay and Ko Min. Nearby villages of Kaung swe, Ywartaw, Kyunzaw, and Nyaunggone were also found selling illegal drugs.

Over 200 police officials simultaneously entered the villages and on 16-7-2018 arrested Ye Lay (a) Zaw Gi, 24, of Hlwatin Village, Yamethin Township, together with illegal drugs. A case has been opened against him in accordance with YaKaSa(Nyaunggone) MaYa(Pa) 1/2018 under Section 16-C/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Further investigation led to the arrest of Phero (a) Kyaw Lin, 33, of ShwePyiYannaing, Pyawbwe Town, together with illegal drugs. A case has been opened against him in accordance with MaMaSa(P-yawbwe) MaYa(Pa) 3/2018 under 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law. Further investigation led to the arrest of Arkar (a) Arvis, 18, of ShwePyiYannaing, Pyawbwe Town, and case opened against him in accordance with MaMaSa(Tatkon) MaYa(Pa) 15/2018 under Section 16-C/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Further investigation led to local police entering the house of U Kyaw Nyan, 65, of Ayetharyar Village, Tartkon Township, together with illegal drugs. A case has been opened against him in accordance with MaMaSa(Tartkon) MaYa(Pa) 4/2018 under 16-C/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Further investigation led to the search of the house of Than Lwin, 44, of the same village, and his wife Ma Win Aye, 37. The two suspects had fled their home but police seized a drug stash. A case has been opened against them in accordance with MaMaSa(Tartkon) MaYa(Pa) 10/2018 under Section 16-C/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Further inspection led to the arrest of Htay Aung, 48, of Taunggyi Village, Hlwatin Village-tract, together with illegal drugs. A case has been opened against him in accordance with MaMaSa(Tatkon) MaYa(Pa) 10/2018 under Section 16-C/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Information received of brothers Ko Nyo Nyo and Ko Ar Giy using illegal drugs from their home in the veteran’s residence located behind Nanthidar Garrison (1), Nanthidar Village, Shwenyaung Township and Betsone Village, Taunglaylone Village-tract, Taunggyi Township.

On 19-7-2018, local police entered veteran’s residence in Betsone Village, Taunglaylone Village-tract and arrested Ko Nyo Nyo (a) Kyaw San Win, 34, Phyo Htet Zaw, 25, Ye Min Aung, 23, Kyaw Aung (a) San Shar, 28, together with illegal drugs. A case has been opened against them in accordance with NaMaSa(Nyaungshwe) MaYa(Pa) 15/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Information received of Ko Ar Gyi using illegal drugs from his veteran’s residence. Ywartaw, Kyuntaw, and Betsone Village, Yamethin Township, together with illegal drugs. A case has been opened against him in accordance with YaKaSa(Ywardan) MaYa(Pa) 46/2018 under Section 19-A/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Information received of Ko Nyo Nyo, 18, of ShwePyiYannaing, Pyawbwe Township, and case opened against him in accordance with MaMaSa(P-yawbwe) MaYa(Pa) 4/2018 under Section 16-C/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Further investigation led to the arrest of Than Lwin, 44, of Taunggyi Township, together with illegal drugs. A case has been opened against him in accordance with YaKaSa(Ywardan) MaYa(Pa) 46/2018 under Section 16-C/20-A/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Deputy Information Minister receives Chinese delegation led by CPG President

Deputy Information Minister meets with a delegation led by CPG President Mr. Tan Yue. PHOTO: MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives President of China Publishing Group

Present at the meeting were Pyithu Hluttaw Depute Speaker U Tun Tun Hein, Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee Chairman U Zaw Thein, Secretary U Bo Bo Oo and officials from the Pyithu Hluttaw Office.

Afterwards, Mr. Tan Yue donated books at a book donation ceremony for the Pyithu Hluttaw Library. Depute Speaker U Tun Tun Hein accepted the donation and presented an honorary certificate to the CPG President.

—Myanmar News Agency

Minister for Information, received a Chinese delegation led by Mr. Tan Yue, President of China Publishing Group (CPG), at the Information Ministry in Nay Pyi Taw at 10am on Tuesday.

The two sides cordially discussed the situation of printing and publishing industry in Myanmar, publishing classical and contemporary Chinese novels into Myanmar language, establishing a mutual translation programme for translating and publishing each other’s literatures, sending a Myanmar delegation to Beijing International Book Fair around end of August, training translators in Chinese and Myanmar languages in the long term for further promoting mutual understanding between the peoples of the two countries.—Myanmar News Agency
In defence of democracy, respect the judiciary

M YANMAR is going through a critical period of transition. The government is dealing with social, economic, legal and judicial challenges. To ensure this process is smooth and successful, it is very important to respect the judiciary system, and indeed to strengthen it with our support and lead.

Judicial power is distributed to the Union Supreme Court, State/Region High Courts and Courts of Self-Administered Divisions and Zones, along with the Justices, Judges and Law Officers assigned to those courts to provide justice and court administration. All those in the judiciary sector are responsible for the establishment of a free, fair, trusted and beneficial judiciary system for the people.

But it has been found that when prominent politicians or journalists are arrested in Myanmar, criticisms come internally and externally, and the country is accused of being undemocratic. In a democracy, no one has the right to interfere in the proceedings and whether or not they are in accordance with due process and everyone is free to follow the court proceedings to find out whether or not they are fair, and whether or not they are in accordance with the rule of law.

T he country follows due process and everyone is free to follow the court proceedings to find out whether or not they are fair, and whether or not they are in accordance with the rule of law.

According to the times and due to changes in spending habits, we no longer issue some small currency coins, but we still issue 50-kyat, 100-kyat and 200-kyat currency notes.

Q. Are these currency notes issued only by the Myanma Economic Banks?
A. Not at all. Our yearly distribution of small currency notes amounts to 40 billion kyats. It was 42.3 billion kyats in 2013-2014 fiscal year. 42.71 billion kyats in 2014-2015, 31.35 billion kyats in 2015-2016, 38.05 billion kyats in 2016-2017 and 38.03 billion kyats in 2017-2018, respectively.

Q. What is the benefit of the CBM issuing small currency notes?
A. To be able to make smaller transactions, for example at the market and at the airport.

Q. If you say that the CBM is issuing small currency notes, what kind of currency notes are you referring to?
A. We usually issue small currency notes such as 10-kyat, 20-kyat, 50-kyat, 100-kyat, 150-kyat, 200-kyat and 500-kyat denomination notes for the public through the banks. In order for the small notes to reach the hands of the people, we will include 1-kyat, 5-kyat, 10-kyat, 20-kyat, 25-kyat, 50-kyat and 1-kyat coins, and 1-kyat, 5-kyat, 10-kyat, 20-kyat, 50-kyat, 100-kyat, 200-kyat and 500-kyat notes since the time these currency notes and coins were issued in Myanmar, according to the times and due to changes in spending habits, we no longer issue some small currency coins, but we still issue 50-kyat, 100-kyat and 200-kyat currency notes.

Q. Can you explain how you distribute these small currency notes to the people?
A. We have already directed the Myanma Economic Banks and other private banks to exchange old, worn-out, or otherwise unusable currency notes with new ones. We have opened several money exchange counters in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Yangon, aiming to accept time-worn, torn and damaged currency notes from market areas, bank services and businesses. In return, they can also draw small currency notes from their relevant banks, if needed. Although the CBM has quicker and easier for them, so that in the long run, we can alleviate the shortage of small notes in some extent.

Q. Could you tell us the banks’ arrangements regarding these small currency notes?
A. As for the state-run and private banks, efforts are being made to facilitate payment processes, and the CBM has sent them directives to change damaged currency notes for the convenience of the people.

As mentioned above, all banks are being informed of how to have an easy access to companies, banks, services, stores and shopping centers to draw and save small denomination currency notes. We will feel that these arrangements include drawing out small currency notes, such as 10-kyat, 20-kyat, 50-kyat and 100-kyat, by using an ATM card. The small currency notes in circulation become worn out due to various reasons and, accordingly, the CBM has arranged to open easy access to companies, banks, services and shopping centers at the ATM card.

Q. According to the times and due to changes in spending habits, we no longer issue some small currency coins, but we still issue 50-kyat, 100-kyat and 200-kyat currency notes.
A. We also distribute proportionately 10-kyat, 20-kyat, 50-kyat and 100-kyat small currency notes every month to state-run and private-owned banks. This way, people can exchange these small denomination currency notes to smaller ones at the CBM currency exchange counters in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay.

Q. Could you explain how you dispense these small currency notes to the people?
A. We have already directed the Myanma Economic Banks and other private banks to exchange old, worn-out, or otherwise unusable currency notes with new ones. We have opened several money exchange counters in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay and Yangon, aiming to accept time-worn, torn and damaged currency notes from market areas, bank services and businesses. In return, they can also draw small currency notes from their relevant banks, if needed. Although the CBM has quicker and easier for them, so that in the long run, we can alleviate the shortage of small notes in some extent.

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Small denomination currency exchange

The country is going through a critical period of transition. The government is dealing with social, economic, legal and judicial challenges. To ensure this process is smooth and successful, it is very important to respect the judiciary system, and indeed to strengthen it with our support and lead.

In defence of democracy, respect the judiciary

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Authorities, public donate Waso robes to Sangha members

THE Border Area and National Races Development Implementation Central Committee held its 21st Waso Robes Offering ceremony at the 31 Abodes Monastery in Hopang in Shan State (North) on Monday.

At the ceremony, officials of the committee, the Shan State Government and the North East Command donated robes to 1,066 members of the Sangha and 5,003 novices in Tangyan, Panghsan, Weinkuang, Narphant, Manphant, Manmanhsai, Narwi, Matman, Mongmao, Nagtig areas in eastern region of the Thanlwin River.

The ceremony was attended by Deputy Director-General U Aung Kyaw of the central committee, member of the Executive Committee of the Wa Self-Administrated Division Leading Committee U Yan Kyaw, Chairman of Kokant Self-Administrated Zone U Kyauk Htwe Chan, Col Ye Yint Aung of Kunlong area, employees of the Ministry of Border Affairs, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture and local people.

Buddhist devotees offer robes to Buddhist monks and nuns ahead of the Vassa, the three-month annual rains retreat of the Theravada Buddhist tradition. The period starts on the Full Moon of Waso, which falls in July or August of rainy season in Myanmar. —Myanmar News Agency

Youth development festival to be held in Mandalay

UNION Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint attended a meeting in the Mandalay Region government’s meeting hall yesterday to conduct an all-round youth development festival in Mandalay.

Present at the meeting with the Union Minister were Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung and other region ministers and officials.

In his opening speech, Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint said this second meeting was held to successfully convene an all-round youth development festival in Mandalay. The all-round youth development festival (Mandalay) will be unique because of a roundtable talk between the State Counsellor and Mandalay-based university students. Attendees of yesterday’s meeting were urged to suggest and discuss the subjects or topics of exhibitions could be shown at the festival.

In his remark made to the meeting, Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung said the all-round youth development festival (Mandalay) will be held with an aim to produce youths with five strengths and full cooperation and participation will be provided as a host. A historical image will be retained for the all-round youth development festival (Mandalay) to be held at Mandalay University. Next, Information and Public Relations Department Director General U Ye Naing explained the work processes to hold the all-round youth development festival.

Inclusion of literature, sports, arts and IT activities, entertainment and education programmes and a job fair in the all-round youth development festival (Mandalay) was also discussed in the meeting.

Afterwards the Union Minister and officials inspected the Mandalay University compound, where the all-round youth development festival will be held. The all-round youth development festival (Yangon) was held at Yangon University from 1 to 3 December 2017. The all-round youth development festival (Mandalay) will be held at Mandalay University from 11 to 13 August 2018.—Mandalay Sub-Printing House

Media delegation visits Maungtaw

A MEDIA delegation arrived in Sittway by air yesterday to report on the stability, security, development and repatriation there.

The 17-member media delegation comprised journalists from Biju TV, Sky News TV, New York Times, Myanmar News Agency, MRTV and MIFTV.—Tin Tun/IRPD

FROM PAGE 2

U Sai San Aung of Shan State Constituency 12 asked if there were plans to upgrade two roads in Shan State, Wa Self-Administrated Division, Hopang Township. Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin answered that the mentioned roads were not included in the list of roads under the Department of Rural Road Development. The Shan State government had submitted to the Union Government office to transfer the two roads onto the list of roads under the Department of Rural Road Development, according to procedures. Once they are included in this list, necessary upgrades will be conducted, said the deputy minister.

Similarly, questions raised by U Aung Myo of Sagaing Region constituency 2 and U Khin Win of Magway Region constituency 2 were answered by Deputy Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lin.

Bill Committee report read

Next, Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee member U Lal Min Htun read the committee’s report on the 2nd Bill amending the Myanmar Pearl Law approved and sent with amendments by the Pyithu Hluttaw, after which Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khairn Than announced that Hluttaw representatives who wanted to discuss the bill should enrol their names.

Hluttaw decides on bill to amend the Myanmar Accountancy Council Law

Later, the Amyotha Hluttaw speaker took the decision and approval of the Hluttaw over the bill to amend the Myanmar Accountancy Council Law, paragraph by paragraph.

A motion to approve the bill was tabled by Union Auditor General U Maw Than and the motion was supported by U Kyaw Toke of Mandalay Region constituency 7.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker then announced that the bill was approved after obtaining the Hluttaw’s decision to approve it.

The third day meeting of the ninth regular session of the second Amyotha Hluttaw will be held on 30 July, it is learnt. —Aung Ye Thwin

2nd Amyotha Hluttaw’s 9th regular session holds 2nd day meeting

U Sai San Aung, Shan State Constituency 12. PHOTO: MNA
Taking aim at critics, White House seeks to revoke clearances

WASHINGTON — The White House said on Monday it was looking into revoking the security clearances of former CIA director John Brennan, a prominent critic of President Donald Trump, and several other top former US officials.

“The president is looking to take away Brennan’s security clearance,” White House spokeswoman Sarah Sanders said at a press briefing.

“He’s also looking into the clearances of Comey, Clapper, Hayden, Rice, and McCabe,” she said. Sanders was referring to former FBI director James Comey, former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, former CIA chief Michael Hayden, former Obama National Security Advisor Susan Rice, and former FBI deputy director Andrew McCabe.

Brennan, Comey, Clapper and Hayden, in particular, have been harsh critics of Trump since he took office. Following the president’s summit last week with Russia’s Vladimir Putin, Brennan described Trump’s behavior as “nothing short of treasonous.”

Sanders said the White House was exploring taking away the security clearances of the former officials because “they’ve politicized and in some cases monetized their clearances.”

“It’s extremely inappropriate, and the fact that people with security clearances are making baseless charges provides inappropriate legitimacy to accusations with zero evidence,” she said. A spokeswoman for McCabe, Melissa Schwartz, tweeted that his “security clearance was deactivated when he was terminated (in March), according to what we were told was FBI policy.”

Clapper, interviewed by CNN, described the move as a “very, very petty thing to do.” Asked if the move was political, he said “I don’t know how you present it any other way.”

“This is kind of a petty way for retribution, I suppose, for speaking out against the president,” Clapper said.—AFP

Last survivor of Brazil tribe under threat: NGO

SAO PAULO (Brazil) — Tribal rights group Survival International has asked authorities in Brazil to do more to protect isolated Amazon communities after images surfaced of a man believed to be one group’s lone survivor.

The video, which has gone viral, shows a tribesman in a loincloth cutting down trees in the forest with an ax.

The images were made public by Brazil’s National Indian Foundation (FUNAI), a government agency under the justice ministry that is tasked with handling indigenous affairs.

Although the footage dates back to 2011, the agency says it has been tracking the man and has recent evidence that he is still alive.

“It is impossible to know what the ‘Homem do Buraco’ feels, having witnessed the murder of his whole community, and living in a patch of rainforest surrounded by hostile ranchers and their gunmen,” Survival’s research director Fiona Watson told AFP.

The footage “proves he exists, and is a response to some politicians and some in agribusiness who accuse FUNAI of inventing uncontacted Indians,” she said.

According to FUNAI, the man lives on Tanaru territory in Rondonia state, near the border with Bolivia.

Experts believe that the man has lived alone for 22 years, after the other members of his tribe were slain by powerful land owners.

“Since the last attack in late 1995, the group, which was probably already very limited in numbers, was reduced to just one individual,” says FUNAI, which monitors 107 isolated indigenous groups living on Brazilian soil.

To survive, the man hunts and grows manioc, corn, bananas and papayas, says the agency, whose workers observe him. The man has so far refused all contact with others.

“FUNAI has suffered big budget cuts recently, and earlier this year closed some protection posts in areas where uncontacted indigenous people live, yet FUNAI is upping the numbers of possible uncontacted tribes,” said Watson.

“Never have these posts been more vital as the pressure mounts from agribusiness and mining interests.”

According to the most recent government data, there are some 800,000 indigenous people belonging to more than 300 distinct groups living in Brazil, a country of 209 million.—AFP

Last survivor of Brazil tribe under threat: NGO

PUERTO VALLARTA, Mexico — A return to trade protectionism led by the United States could cause serious risks for the global economy, Latin American trade ministers attending the fifth Business Meeting of the Pacific Alliance in Mexico on Monday said.

Mexico’s Minister of Economy Ildefonso Guajardo said the “profound change” coming from Washington obliges other countries to assume new responsibilities for ensuring free trade. “We always expect that these swings in strategy are temporary, but we would be fooling ourselves,” he added.

Otherwise, there could be serious consequences for the most vulnerable populations. “No one suffers more from closed economies than the poor,” Guajardo said.

Colombian Minister of Trade, Industry and Tourism Maria Lorena Gutierrez said the world is facing “the most complicated moment in its trade history.” “There is a clear protectionist trend mixed with a certain populism,” she added.

The consequences, if this trend continued, would be more conflict, not only in trade but also in economic and social matters, including vital aspects like security, she said.

Gutierrez also expressed concern that the efforts made to create multilateral organizations like the World Trade Organization and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development could be lost.

However, Peru’s Minister of Foreign Trade and Tourism, Roger Valencia, suggested the current trade conflict begun by the United States could be temporary. He underscored the importance of the bloc to make joint efforts under such circumstances.

“The Pacific Alliance was born out of necessity and the discovery that the power we have is in working together and integrating ourselves,” he said.

Chile’s Director General of International Economic Relations, Rodrigo Yanez, said it is important for the Pacific Alliance nations to look toward other zones, including the Asia-Pacific region, an obligatory step in consolidating trade with this region.

The Pacific Alliance, created in April 2011, is made up of Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru, and has more than 50 observer states. The Latin American trade bloc represents the fifth most populated subregion in the world with approximately 223 million people, and contributes 38 percent of the Latin American and Caribbean gross domestic product.—Xinhua
Pressure on Macron as disgraced aide defends ‘leading police a hand’

PARIS — French President Emmanuel Macron was under mounting pressure on Monday over a scandal sparked by his former top security aide, who has insisted he was trying to help police when he was filmed manhandling demonstrators at a violent Paris protest.

France’s interior minister and the Paris police chief both defended their handling of the burgeoning scandal, telling a parliamentary commission on Monday it was up to Macron’s office to respond after videos emerged of Alexandre Benalla hitting a protester.

Dubbed “Benal-lagante”, the affair has prompted opposition claims of an attempted cover-up and paralysed parliamentary debate.

Benalla, 26, was charged Sunday with assault and impersonating a police officer over the videos of him wrestling with two protestors on 1 May while wearing a riot officer’s helmet and police armband.

It is unclear how Benalla obtained the equipment, since he was only supposed to be attending the protest as an observer.

On Monday Benalla said the young man and woman he was filmed scuffling with were “particular virulent individuals” whom he had been trying to “bring under control” while “leading a hand” to police.

“This personal initiative... is obviously being used to tarnish the president in circumstances that defy comprehension,” his lawyers said in a statement.

Benalla insisted that his action was “vigorous but without violence and caused no injury”. But the director of public order, Alain GibeLIN, told lawmakers that Benalla didn’t have “any authorisation” from Paris police headquarters to be at the demonstration as an observer.

Macron knows everything

Speaking before a parliamentary commission, interior minister Gerard Collomb and Paris police chief Michel Delpeuch both said they learned of a video of Benalla circulating on social media on 2 May, the day after the protest.

Asked why he did not report the incident to prosecutors, Delpeuch said he considered it was up to Macron’s office to respond.

Collomb also said it was not to Benalla’s superiority in Macron’s office either to inform prosecutors or impose any punishment.

Benalla was suspended for two weeks without pay in May, but it was not clear why prosecutors were not informed of the video and alleged violence.

The government on Monday tried to distance Macron from the growing scandal, with government spokesman Benjamin Griveaux saying that Benalla was not “in charge of the security of the President of the Republic”.

“The people who ensure the security of the President of the Republic is the police, the gendarmerie,” he said.

Meanwhile GibeLIN also revealed under questioning from far-right leader Marine Le Pen that Benalla attended meetings between his services and the Elysée in May during the period when Benalla was suspended from his job. Lawmakers in both houses of parliament are investigating the affair, with Macron’s office director Patrick Strzoda due to appear at the Senate on Tuesday afternoon and his chief of staff Alexis Kohler on Thursday.

Political opponents have also called on the president himself to face a grilling. His former Socialist presidential rival Benoit Hamon said in a video on Twitter that Macron must appear before lawmakers because “all this revolves around him”.

“Macron knows everything. He must be questioned,” far-left firebrand Jean-Luc Melenchon added in a tweet.

“This is a political tribunal,” Griveaux told LCI channel of the parliamentary hearings.

Macron has yet to speak publicly on the most damaging scandal since he was elected last year on a promise to restore integrity in government.

He has called off a scheduled appearance on Wednesday at the Tour de France cycling race, though aides insist the cancellation was unrelating to the Benalla case.

—AFP

Marriage Announcement

Both Parents are pleased to announce the marriage of Mr. Neal Thai Young, only son of Mr. David Anku Young & Mrs. Brenda Aik Kyain Aye Ho Young, 2062 32nd AVE. San Francisco, CA 94116, USA.

Dr. Yon Mon Lin, first daughter of U Shwin Pyone & Daw Mu Mu San, 278, U Aung Hla Street, Hinthada Township, Ayeyawaddy, Myanmar, in the presence of both parents, relatives and elders on Tuesday, the 17th of July, 2018, in Yangon.

Parents From Both Sides and Neal Thai Young & Yon Mon Lin.

Public Notice of Charity-Oriented Myanmar

In exercise of the power conferred by our client Daw Nway Nway Tun, (12/YaKaNa (Naing) 068974, Executive Director of the Charity – Oriented Myanmar, we hereby announce the following public announcement.

1. Since in foundation in 2005, Charity-Oriented Myanmar has been working for the development of communities and contributing philanthropic services to the people in accordance with the existing laws. They, Charity-Oriented Myanmar, has been working to enforce strong ethics and disciplines in employees and related activities.

2. It is found that some people have posted accusations without evidence on social network against Charity-Oriented Myanmar, which is working for the public interest with the use of registered brands. Some media also covered the groundless accusations against Charity-Oriented Myanmar, which is working for the public interest with the use of registered brands. Some media also covered the groundless accusations against Charity-Oriented Myanmar, which is working for the public interest with the use of registered brands. Some media also covered the groundless accusations against Charity-Oriented Myanmar, which is working for the public interest with the use of registered brands. Some media also covered the groundless accusations against Charity-Oriented Myanmar, which is working for the public interest with the use of registered brands. Some media also covered the groundless accusations against Charity-Oriented Myanmar, which is working for the public interest with the use of registered brands. Some media also covered the groundless accusations against Charity-Oriented Myanmar, which is working for the public interest with the use of registered brands. Some media also covered the groundless accusations against Charity-Oriented Myanmar, which is working for the public interest with the use of registered brands. Some media also covered the groundless accusations against Charity-Oriented Myanmar, which is working for the public interest with the use of registered brands. Some media also covered the groundless accusations against Charity-Oriented Myanmar, which is working for the public interest with the use of registered brands. Some media also covered the groundless accusations against Charity-Oriented Myanmar, which is working for the public interest with the use of registered brands. Some media also covered the groundless accusations against Charity-Oriented Myanmar, which is working for the public interest with the use of registered brands. Some media also covered the groundless accusations against Charity-Oriented Myanmar, which is working for the public interest with the use of registered brands. Some media also covered the groundless accusations against Charity-Oriented Myanmar, which is working for the public interest with the use of registered brands. Some media also covered the groundless accusations against Charity-Oriented Myanmar, which is working for the public interest with the use of registered brands. Some media also covered

3. The false accusations have caused physical and mental sufferings of the organisation, responsible personnel and employees of the organisation and personnel and organisations related with Charity-Oriented Myanmar.

4. Hence, those who posted false accusations on social media and covered the groundless accusations making use of the name, the logo, photos, manuals, pamphlets, educational books, curriculum, flag and symbols, building, signboard and invitations of the Charity-Oriented Myanmar, are urged to delete or to abolish these posting within seven days from the time this notification is announced and to solve and to apologise to Charity-Oriented Myanmar. If they fail to follow our requests, we will file a lawsuit against them in accordance with the law.

Under the name of Executive Director Daw Nway Nway Tun, U Kyi Win (Labutta)

Robert San Aung
Advocate (15068/4-1976)
Office-173, First Floor, Thénybyu Road, Kan-Taung Ward, Mingalar Taungnyunt Township

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M/V SENTOSA STAR VOY. NO. (1804/N)

Consignees of cargo carried on M/V SENTOSA STAR VOY. NO. (1804/N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A P T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

M/V BOX EXPRESS VOY. NO. (1849-1850)

Consignees of cargo carried on M/V BOX EXPRESS VOY. NO. (1849-1850) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25-7-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.L.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

This serves as a general notice that by the resolution of the board of directors, Myanmar Voyages Group Company Limited, (Company Registration No. 699FC / 2017-2018) is withdrawing its application for registration filed with the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration, under the Ministry of Planning and Finance. Any objections must be sent to Mr. Maung Aung Htn at Tel. No 094 016 005 01 within seven (7) days from today.

Mr. Maung Aung Htn
Director of Myanmar Voyages Global Tourism Co., Ltd.
Registration No. 896FC / 2017-2018

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Mr. Maung Aung Htn
Director of Myanmar Voyages Group Co., Ltd.
Registration No. 699FC / 2017-2018
Abe says Japan wants to accept more foreign workers from April

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (2nd from L) speaks during a ministerial meeting in Tokyo on 24 July, 2018, about a plan to accept more foreign workers from April. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

TOYOLO — Japan wants to start accepting more foreign workers from April next year, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said on Tuesday, as the country faces a serious labour crunch across many of its industries.

In a meeting with Cabinet members, Abe instructed them to speed up the necessary preparations for the plan to be implement- ed in line with the targeted starting point, which will effectively open the door to blue-collar labourers in addition to currently accepted highly skilled foreigners.

With this plan, the government is considering reorganizing the Immigration Bureau and setting up an affiliated agency that will solely be in charge of handling unskilled foreign workers. “To create an environment in which foreigners can live smoothly is an important issue,” Abe said during the meeting that was convened after the Cabinet approved last month the plan to increase the foreign labor force. The government wants to submit a bill to revise the nation’s immigration law to an extraordinary Diet session expected to be convened in the autumn. Before introducing the new system, the government still needs to specify which industries will be eligible to offer foreign nationals menial jobs and beef up measures against potential abuse of the framework.

Under the plan, a new visa status will solely be in charge of handling unskilled foreign workers. “To create an environment in which foreigners can live smoothly is an important issue,” Abe said during the meeting that was convened after the Cabinet approved last month the plan to increase the foreign labor force. The government wants to submit a bill to revise the nation’s immigration law to an extraordinary Diet session expected to be convened in the autumn. Before introducing the new system, the government still needs to specify which industries will be eligible to offer foreign nationals menial jobs and beef up measures against potential abuse of the framework. Under the plan, a new visa status will solely be in charge of handling unskilled foreign workers. “To create an environment in which foreigners can live smoothly is an important issue,” Abe said during the meeting that was convened after the Cabinet approved last month the plan to increase the foreign labor force. The government wants to submit a bill to revise the nation’s immigration law to an extraordinary Diet session expected to be convened in the autumn. Before introducing the new system, the government still needs to specify which industries will be eligible to offer foreign nationals menial jobs and beef up measures against potential abuse of the framework.
Deepika Padukone to join Madame Tussauds London, Delhi

MUMBAI — Deepika Padukone is the newest addition at Madame Tussauds with her wax figure set for attractions in London and Delhi.

The team of Madame Tussauds expert artistes met Deepika in London for the setting for her figures, where they took over 200 specific measurements, photographs to create an authentic likeness.

“I am so delighted. The sitting with the team of experts was a special experience and I look forward to the incredible figure at the attraction,” the actor said in a statement.

The first figure will launch in London early 2019, while the Delhi figure will follow a few months later.

Deepika Padukone. PHOTO: PTI

R Kelly hits back and reveals abuse in 19-minute song

NEW YORK — Singer R Kelly, the target of a boycott campaign over his treatment of women, hit back on Monday in a 19-minute song in which he reveals he was abused himself.

Entitled “I Admit,” the marathon song nonetheless is heavier on denials than acknowledgement as the “I Believe I Can Fly” star vents frustration over the stream of allegations against him.

“I never thought it would come to this, to be the most disrespected artist,” he sings over a mid-tempo R&B beat.

“So I had to write a song about this, ’cause they always take my words and twist it.”

Halfway through the song, Kelly says that a family member touched him sexually from a young age until he was 14.

“So afraid to say something / So I just put the blame on me / No here I am, and I’m trying my best to be honest.”

The Time’s Up movement for gender equality has urged the music industry to part ways with Kelly in the wake of Bill Cosby’s conviction, calling for a world in which women “can pursue their dreams free from sexual assault, abuse and predatory behaviour”.

Kelly was acquitted in 2008 of charges of child pornography after a video allegedly showed him in sexual acts with an underage girl.

More recently, a woman in Dallas complained to police that Kelly knowingly gave her a sexually transmitted disease and BuzzFeed News published an expose in which it said that the singer was keeping six women in virtual slavery with control over their diets, clothing and sex lives.

Kelly, 51, in the song suggests racial bias and draws a contrast with positive portrayals of late Playboy founder Hugh Hefner, known for his multiple relationships with younger women.

Kelly admits sex with “both older and young ladies” but adds: “Really, am I supposed to go to jail or lose my career because of your opinions?”

He also chides celebrities who have turned on him including singer John Legend as well as top streaming service Spotify, which briefly removed him from playlists as part of a crackdown.

“I’m not convicted / Not arrested / Dragged my name in the dirt,” he sings.—AFP

U2 top-paid musicians in US last year: survey

NEW YORK — U2 may not be the freshest faces in music but the Irish rockers were the industry’s top earners in the United States last year, Billboard said in an annual survey on Monday.

U2 earned $54.4 million last year — more than 95 per cent of it from touring as Bono and company packed stadiums for concerts to mark 30 years since their seminal album “The Joshua Tree.”

Veteran country star Garth Brooks was a close second at $52.2 million as he kept up the massive tour launched in 2014 when he came out of retirement, while metal legends Metallica ranked third at $43.2 million.

Lady Gaga was the top-ranking woman at number six, while

PHOTO: AFP

Singer Robert Sylvester Kelly, seen here in a 2013 file picture, has released a 19-minute song venting frustration over a boycott campaign over his treatment of women. PHOTO: AFP

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Astrobiologists find possibilities of Moon life

WASHINGTON — American and British scientists suggested that there may have been two early windows of habitability for the Moon, though it is uninhabitable today.

A new study published on Monday in the journal Astrobiology showed that conditions on the lunar surface were sufficient to support simple lifeforms shortly after the Moon formed from a debris disk four billion years ago and again during a peak in lunar volcanic activity around 3.5 billion years ago.

Schulze-Makuch, an astrobiologist at Washington State University and Ian Crawford, a professor of planetary science and astrobiology at the University of London said during both periods, the Moon was spewing out large quantities of superheated volatile gases, including water vapor, from its interior.

The outgassing could have formed pools of liquid water on the lunar surface and an atmosphere dense enough to keep it there for millions of years, according to the study. “If a liquid water and a significant atmosphere were present on the early Moon for long periods of time, we think the lunar surface would have been at least transiently habitable,” Schulze-Makuch said.

In 2009 and 2010, an international team of scientists discovered hundreds of millions of metric tons of water ice on the Moon. Additionally, there is strong evidence of a large amount of water in the lunar mantle that is thought to have been deposited very early on in the Moon’s formation.

The early Moon is also likely to have been protected by a magnetic field that could have shielded lifeforms on the surface from deadly solar winds, according to the researchers.

Life on the Moon, if any, could have originated much as it did on Earth but the more likely scenario is that it would have been brought in by a meteorite, Schulze-Makuch said. The earliest evidence for life on Earth comes from fossilized cyanobacteria that are between 3.5 and 3.8 billion years old.

During this time, the solar system was dominated by frequent and giant meteorite impacts.

It is possible that meteorites containing simple organisms like cyanobacteria could have been blasted off the surface of the Earth and landed on the Moon, according to the researchers.

“There could have actually been microbes thriving in water pools on the Moon until the surface became dry and dead,” Schulze-Makuch said. —Xinhua

MIT researchers create world’s smallest robot for medical, industrial application

SAN FRANCISCO — Researchers at US Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have created the world’s smallest robots that can be used for medical diagnosis or industrial application such as detection of oil or gas leakage, a study said on Monday.

According to the study published in the journal Nature Nanotechnology, the tiny robots are devices about the size of a human egg cell, which consist of tiny electronic circuits made of two-dimensional materials, piggybacking on minuscule particles called colloids. They are insoluble particles or molecules anywhere from a billionth to a millionth of a meter across, and they can stay aloft indefinitely in a liquid or in air. The self-powered cell-size robots don’t need any external power source or even internal batteries.

Their circuits get the trickle of electricity from a photodiode to power their computation and memory circuits. That’s powerful enough for the tiny robots to sense information about their environment, store data in their memories, and make it possible to retrieve data upon mission completed. MIT scientists hope their efforts can lay the groundwork for the tiny robotic devices to be used in the medical sector like the diagnosis in human digestive system, where they pass through the digestive tract searching for signs of inflammation or disease indicators. —Xinhua

Israel’s new discovery likely to help detect genetic diseases

JERUSALEM — A new discovery by Israeli researchers about inner structure of cells will likely help detect genetic diseases, according to a report published Saturday on the Hebrew-language science site “Hayadan”.

Based on a study of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel, the organelles structures inside the living cells are connected by tiny strips, not separated from each other as previously thought.

The discovery can significantly contribute to detecting the causes of serious genetic diseases and pave the way for finding appropriate treatments, said the report. Organelles are biological structures in the intracellular fluid, surrounded by a membrane. Each organelle has a unique function.

The study, based on yeast cells, showed that each organelle has its own location in the cell, which is determined by a network of ligaments, which also transfer substances in physical contact. Moreover, the connection appears to be an efficient way to deliver material or messages, which could be harmful if they reach the wrong place, added the report. —Xinhua

Bee scent could repel elephants, prevent conflict with humans

TAMPA (Florida) — Elephants never forget a bee sting.

Their eyes and the sensitive, soft tissue inside their trunks are particularly vulnerable to painful stings, and experts believe African elephants (Loxodonta africana) have learned over the centuries to recognize the scents bees give off when they are scared and ready to swarm.

Now, researchers say this well-honed fear of bees could be used to help repel the majestic beasts in places where they risk conflicts with humans.

In a three-month field test at South Africa’s Greater Kruger National Park, scientists hung white socks filled with bee pheromones, which are chemical clues that honeybees release from their bodies when they perceive a threat to their hive.

A total of 25 of 29 elephants that approached the “showed typical signs of increased alertness, signs of uncertainty, and finally calmly moved away,” said the report in the journal Current Biology. To make sure it wasn’t simply the socks but the odor emanating from them, researchers hung similar socks that did not contain the pheromones, and found that elephants were curious about the socks, would pick them up and even taste them at times.

Since some farmers in Africa already place commercial bee hives along their fence lines to protect their crops from elephants, the results suggest there may be a cheaper way to ward off conflicts.

“Our results complement previous studies that have demonstrated that active bee hives can deter elephants from crops for example but may be difficult to implement on a large scale,” said lead author Mark West, a professor of entomology at the Department of Plant and Environmental Protection Sciences at the University of Hawaii at Manou.

“We hope to expand this work to develop additional tools for sustainable passive management of elephant movements, to augment the current approaches used.”—AFP

Condolences

Mr. George Nicholas Foster
M.Sc. Agricultural Engineering (Soil and Water) (61 years)

Husband of Ms Helen Mary Devaney at Warrington, England, father of Mr. Patrick Foster Devaney, Ms. Rachael Foster Devaney and Ms. Laura Foster Devaney, Mr. George Nicholas Foster, Team Leader of SOFRECO consultant team for the rehabilitation of Myinkun and Kanni Pump Irrigation Projects funded by French Development Agency (AFD) for Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation

Foster, Team Leader of SOFRECO consultant team for the rehabilitation of Myinkun and Kanni Pump Irrigation Projects funded by French Development Agency (AFD) for Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation

Devaney and Ms. Laura Foster Devaney, Mr. George Nicholas Foster, Team Leader of SOFRECO consultant team for the rehabilitation of Myinkun and Kanni Pump Irrigation Projects funded by French Development Agency (AFD) for Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation

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May he rest in peace. With Deepest and Heartfelt Condolences.

Director General and Service Personnel

Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation

The Farmers, Families, and People of Myinkun and Kanni Pump Irrigation Areas, Myanmar.

May he rest in peace. With Deepest and Heartfelt Condolences.
Bordeaux block Malcom move to Roma after late Barcelona bid

PARIS — Bordeaux have blocked the transfer of Brazilian winger Malcom to Roma after a last-minute bid for the player from Barcelona, said a source from the French club on Monday.

“Malcom was Bordeaux’s leading scorer in the French league last season with 12 goals. PHOTO: AFP

Malcom had been a reported target for several European clubs including Premier League sides Arsenal and Tottenham, but English clubs may have been put off from making a bid as he needed a UK work permit to play in the Premier League.

Malcom scored 12 goals in 35 league games for Bordeaux last season. Roma finished third in Serie A behind champions Juventus and Napoli to qualify for the 2018/19 Champions League group stage, having reached the semi-finals of the competition last term.—AFP ■

Swiss star Federer withdraws from Rogers Cup

LOS ANGELES — Eight-time Wimbledon champion Roger Federer has pulled out of next month’s ATP Rogers Cup tournament in Toronto due to scheduling concerns.

The 36-year-old Federer said he needs to be prudent about how many tournaments he plays in a season.

“I’m so disappointed not to play at the Rogers Cup this summer,” said world number two Federer. “I had a fantastic time in Montreal last year and always enjoy playing in front of the Canadian fans. “But unfortunately with scheduling being the key to my longevity moving forward, I have regretfully decided to withdraw from Toronto this year.”

Jeremy Chardy of France will take Federer’s place in the main draw. Organizers said the event, which takes place on 4-12 August at Toronto’s York University, will feature 19 of the top 20 players in the world including reigning Wimbledon champion Novak Djokovic and world number one Rafael Nadal.

“It’s unfortunate that we won’t have Roger in Toronto this summer,” said tournament spokesman Karl Hale.—AFP ■

Football redraw for Asian Games to take place on Wednesday

KUALA LUMPUR — A redraw for the men’s football tournament at Asian Games in Indonesia will be held on Wednesday, after organizers left out two countries in the first draw earlier this month.

The new draw will take place on Wednesday afternoon at the headquarters of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

In the first draw held on 5 August, there were six groups of four nations, with the top two nations from those six groups, plus the four best third-seeded teams, set to reach the round of 16.

But the AFC ordered Indonesian organizers to conduct a redraw after learning that the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Palestine were not included in the original draw.

This will raise the number of participating teams to 26. Groups A, C, D and F will have four nations each, and Groups B and E will each have five countries.

The Asian Games run from 18 August to 2 September, but group play in football will begin a few days ahead. The men’s football tournament at the Asian Games is limited to players 23 or younger, though countries are each permitted to name up to three players over that age limit.—AFP ■

Parma docked five points as striker banned for match-fixing

ROME (Italy) — Parma will begin the Serie A season with a five-point deduction after striker Emanuele Calaio’s alleged attempt to fix the match that sealed their promotion, the Italian football federation (FIGC) said on Monday.

A 2-0 win at Spezia on May 18 saw two-time UEFA Cup winners Parma promoted to the top division just three years after a financial meltdown led to relegation from Serie A and rebirth in the semi-professional Serie D, Italian football’s fourth tier.

Calaio, 36, has been handed a two-year ban for match-fixing after he sent text messages to a former team-mate that appeared to ask Spezia players not to try too hard.

Spezia fans reacted furiously to their team’s display after the match, directing particular anger toward former Italian international and ex-Parma player Alberto Gilardino, who smashed a penalty for Spezia high and wide with the hosts still only a goal down. “The tribunal (Italy’s National Federal Court) considers proven that Calaio, by sending the messages in question...tried to commit an illegal act,” the FIGC said in a statement.

Parma said they had taken note of the decision “with great bitterness” and announced they would contest the ruling at the Italian federation’s Court of Appeal.—AFP ■