THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. III, No. 115, 6th Waxing of Wagaung 1378 ME | www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com | Tuesday, 9 August, 2016

Detained Myanmar workers arrive Yangon from Malaysia PAGE 3

Myanma Railways to upgrade five train stations, improve services PAGE 2

Early struggle for democracy remembered in Yangon, Mandalay PAGE 3

STRIDING TOWARDS PEACE

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Senior General Min Aung Hlaing departing the meeting. PHOTO: MNA

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Senior General discuss ways to move peace process forward

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Commander-in-Chief of Defense Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing held talks yesterday on ways to push forward the country's peace process.

During the meeting at a hall of the President's Office in Nay Pyi Taw, they discussed matters related to ending armed conflicts in Kachin State and northern Shan State, national reconciliation, internal peace, stability and the rule of law and holding the Union Peace Conference—21st Century Panglong.

Also present were Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defense Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice Senior General Soe Win, Union Minister Lt-Gen Ye Aung, Attorney-General of the Union U Tun Tun Oo, Chairman of Peace Commission Dr Tin Myo Win, Lt-Gen Mya Tun Oo of the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army) and Judge Advocate-General Lt-Gen Soe Htut.

Before the meeting with General Min Aung Hlaing, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi announced that the 21st Century Union Peace Conference will kick off on 31 August. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is the chairperson of the Central Committee for holding the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong. Speaking on the occasion to the committee, she emphasized the need for continued coordination on preparatory works being carried out by the government side.

The meeting of the Central Committee was held at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw. During the meeting, those present reported on progress in preparations for holding the conference and work to be done by respective committees.

The meeting was attended by the Union ministers, central committee and working committee members and officials.

The Central Committee on holding the 21st Century Union Peace Conference was formed on 3 August with the release of Notification 57/2016 by the President's Office, comprising the State Counsellor as chairperson, Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe as vice chairman, the Union ministers and deputy ministers as members, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Tin as secretary and Retired Lt-Gen U Khin Zaw Oo and Director-General U Zaw Than Thin of the Union Government Office as joint secretaries.

Union Peace Conference — 21st Century Panglong set to kick off on 31 August

Under the Central Committee, Working Committees led by the Union ministers and deputy ministers were also formed with departmental officials.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Debate on flood mitigation and water scarcity continues

Amyotha Hluttaw

Daw Shwe Shwe Sein Latt. PHOTO: MNA

Daw Ei Ei Pyone. PHOTO: MNA

Dr Win Myint. PHOTO: MNA

AMYOTHA Hluttaw representatives continued a debate yesterday on a proposal calling for a comprehensive plan for flooding that occurs annually in the delta and coastal regions, a nationwide water shortage during the dry season and restoring the rivers that once benefited the people.

Daw Ei Ei Pyone of Ayeyawady Region Constituency 8 called for dredging operations as flooding is directly tied to dry creeks and rivers and stressed the need of a special fund to implement flood mitigation measures.

In his discussion, Dr Khun Win Thaung of Kachin State Constituency 11 emphasized the need to control logging and reforestation, calling for an initiative encouraging everyone to plant at least 10 trees a year as a bound duty of every citizen.

The MP stressed the need for punitive actions to be taken against the dumping of gold mine waste in rivers and streams and silt dredging for proper flow of water to reduce the risk of flooding.

Likewise, Daw Shwe Shwe Sein Latt of Bago Region Constituency 3 expressed her support for the proposal, suggesting an urgent need to focus on a national water law.

Dr Win Myint of Ayeyawady Region Constituency 10 said that deforestation is the root cause of landslides, flooding and dried-up rivers and streams, pointing out that Myanmar is ranked third-worst for deforestation in the world, after Brazil and Indonesia.

He highlighted the importance of strict adherence to the laws protecting the forests, international technology cooperation for development of rivers and water resources and increasing the durability of dams and reservoirs to prevent floods.

Moreover, the MP called for mobile water supply systems to relieve water scarcity in the dry season and improving the readiness of the ministry concerned for drought response. —*Myanmar News Agency*

Pyithu Hluttaw representatives query Union Minister on education matters

Pyithu Hluttaw

Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi. PHOTO: MNA

Daw Nan Htwe Thu. PHOTO: MNA

Daw Khin Hnin Thit. PHOTO: MNA

THE Pyithu Hluttaw session entered its tenth day, with parliamentarians asking the Union minister for education.

During yesterday's session, the Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi responded to the questions on promotion of the country's education sector.

On the opening of a technical high school or a training school in North Okkalapa Township, the Union minister replied that the ministry's Department of Technical and Vocational Education planned to conduct short-term vocational training courses at Handicraft School on Dhamma Thuka street in Waibargi Myothit ward in the township.

Training programs have been launched for course instructors under the assistance of the Asian Development Bank and Total E&P Myanmar, said the Union minister, adding that the short-term vocational training courses will be opened following the completion of major repair works for the building and installation of necessary equipment.

Regarding three schools in Phahsaung Township, the Union minister quoted geologists as saying that two primary schools and a middle school (branch) in three villages in the township were classified into a risk zone following a landslide last year.

He went to say that risk zone students of the three schools were moved to schools in other villages and new school buildings were built in the villages for better convenience to the students.

As villages at risk of landslide were relocated to safer places and new school buildings were built, reopening of the three schools needs the remark of the Kayah State government, added the Union minister.

Also during yesterday's session, a proposal calling on the Union government to allow budgets for construction of staff quarters at basic education schools in rural areas was put forward to the parliament in conjunction with submission of another proposal calling for a policy on assessment for learning and teaching at the basic education level. —*Myanmar News Agency*

Myanma Railways is planning to provide rail commuters with better services. PHOTO: PHO KHWA

Myanma Railways to upgrade five train stations, improve services

Ko Moe

MYANMA Railways will transform five train stations into model ones and provide rail commuters with better services, said MR's General Manager (Lower Myanmar) U Tun Aung Thin said yesterday.

According to the MR, the targeted five train stations are Yangon Central Railway Station and Insein, Bago, Mingaladon and Danyingone railway stations.

Railway staff have been given training to provide better service to the train passengers, said the general manager, adding that works are also underway to improve infrastructure along with a capacity building program.

Stressing the convenience of train travel, the MR organized a two-day training course at its office in Yangon yesterday in cooperation with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) following a similar course in Nay Pyi Taw on 3-5 August.

Mr. Mitsuo Higashi, policy adviser to the MR, expressed his view that better services are needed for passenger satisfaction, saying that it is required to ensure security in the railway yard and develop infrastructure and human resources for the railway transport service.

Yangon's circle line is 46km long and has 38 stations. More than 73,000 passengers depend on rail transport every day in Yangon.

Rakhine govt announces multi-sector development project

THE Rakhine State government has announced it has begun to draw up a project for social and economic development across six sectors within the state.

The decision to draw up such a multi-sector project for regional social and economical development comes from discussion on the issue during a multi-stakeholder workshop convened during the first week of August between the Rakhine State government, independent consultants, civil society organizations and bodies of the United Nations.

U Kyaw Aye Thein, Rakhine State Finance, Revenue, Planning and Commerce Minister, revealed the six sectors prioritized for inclusion in the project are agriculture and livestock industries, environmental sustainability; capacity development in education and healthcare; transportation and infrastructure; tourism; development of small and medium-enterprises and the emergence of industrial zones.

"Our Rakhine State government has selected six sectors for which development will be prioritized," said U Kyaw Aye Thein.

The drawing up of the project will reportedly be based upon three policy criteria: proportionate development of the entire region; accordance with existing union-level social and economic development policy; and the prohibition of technology or enterprises which could incite regional antagonism.

Concerted efforts to compile the aforementioned project will reportedly be made until the end of this October by the Rakhine State government, together with representatives of INGO Renaissance Institute and the Rakhine Thahaya Association.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

USDP to submit peace policy to upcoming Union Peace Conference

Thein Ko Lwin

THE Union Solidarity and Development Party will submit its peace policy to the upcoming government-led Union Peace Conference, said USDP Chairman U Thein Sein while addressing a workshop on National Reconciliation and Internal Peace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The USDP's stance on peace implementation is set to be announced at the Union Peace Conference following discussions among party members from regions and states, added the party leader, expressing hope that the peace policy will assist the country's peace process.

Also present at the workshop set to last for four days were central committee members, Hluttaw representatives and party members.

In his address, U Thein Sein stressed the need of taking balanced measures while building a federal Union, highlighting the importance of peace in the country.

According to the sources, peace initiatives that emerge from the workshop will seek approval at the USDP's third national convention on20 August.

People commemorate the 28th Anniversary '8888' Democracy Movement in Yangon. PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT

Early struggle for democracy remembered in Yangon, Mandalay

Ko Moe/Aung Thant Khaing

Commemorative ceremonies for the 28th Anniversary '8888' Democracy Movement took place at Mahabandoola Park in front of the City Hall in Yangon and Dhammasala Hall in Mandalay yesterday.

"We are here to honor all those who laid down their lives for the country's struggle for democracy, which is remembered today," said U Min Ko Naing of the Peace and Open Society.

Activists, student unions, civil society organizations and interfaith groups read out messages, shared accomplishments and laid wreaths at the entrance to Mahabandoola Park at the ceremony.

In the afternoon, cutouts of the number 8 were laid across the floor at the park in commemoration of the fallen heroes of the '8888' uprising. Likewise, a similar ceremony was held in Mandalay, with activists and various organizations offering provisions to the monks, reading out commemorative messages on the 28th Anniversary '8888' Democracy Movement and holding political talks.

Although full representative government has not been realized in Myanmar, democracy is on track, said U Min Htet Nyein Chan, who acted as MC at the commemorative ceremony in Mandalay.

Appointment of Turkish Ambassador agreed

THE Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr. Haydar Kerem Divanlioglu as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Turkey to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Mr. Haydar Kerem Divanlioglu was born on 21st March 1970 in Ankara. He received Undergraduate Degree in International Relations from Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences at Middle East Technical University in Turkey.

He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey in Ankara in 1991 and experienced Military service in 1993. From 1993 to 2013, he served as various capacities in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey and Turkish Embassies in Germany, Kyrgyzstan, UK and Belgium. Since 2013, he has been serving as Deputy Director-General for Multilateral Economic Affairs in Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey in Ankara.

Mr. Haydar Kerem Divanlioglu is married, with two children. He speaks English and Italian.—*Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Myanmar citizens arrive Yangon International Airport. PHOTO: THURA LWIN (ECO)

Detained Myanmar workers arrive Yangon from Malaysia

Thura Lwin (ECO)

THE first batch of detained Myanmar citizens in Malaysia returned to Yangon yesterday via chartered flight under arrangements of the Kanbawza's Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation-BFM.

The group comprising 138 Myanmar citizens were welcomed at the Yangon International Airport by officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, the Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation and their families.

The foundation also provided K100,000 to each migrant worker.

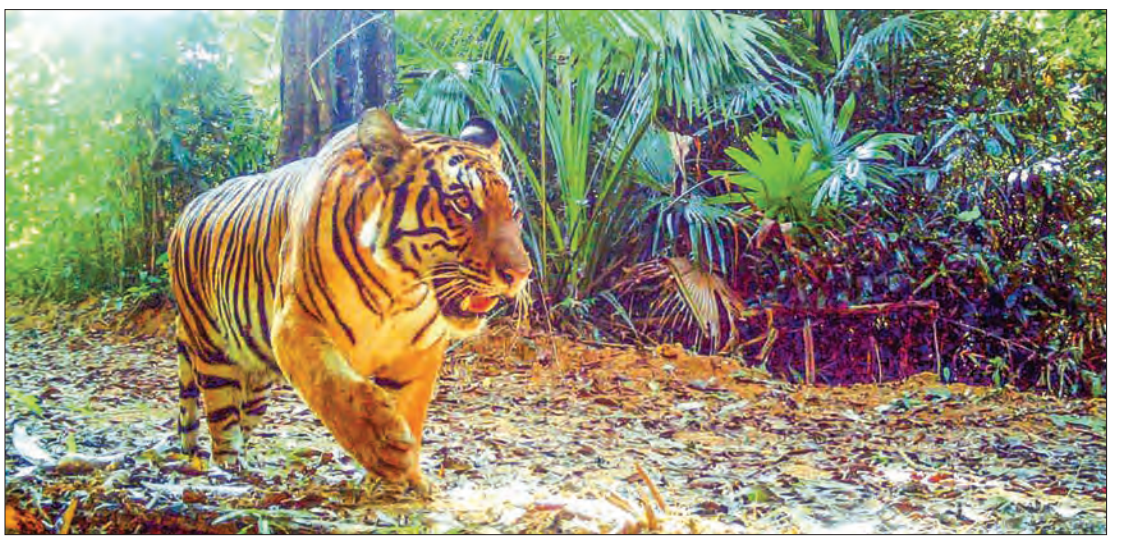
The remaining Myanmar citizens will also be brought back home by a chartered flight, according to BFM.

According to sources, 2,294 Myanmar citizens were detained for various reasons in 11 camps in Malaysia.

From 2013 to 2016, KBZ's BFM foundation also sponsored the return of more than 3,000 workers from Malaysia, more than 500 Myanmar fishermen from India and 510 trafficked Myanmar fishermen from Indonesia.

So far, a total of more than 4,200 Myanmar citizens have been brought back home by BFM.

Survey aims to record wildlife in Hukaung Valley Tiger Reserve



An endangered tiger in Hukaung Valley. PHOTO: WCS MYANMAR (TWITTER)

A survey will soon begin to observe and document tigers and gibbons in the Hukaung Valley Tiger Reserve this year by a local team working for conservation of wildlife in the sanctuary, a spokesperson of the team said.

With the assistance of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the systematic research programme will begin at the reserve areas located in Nanyuan Township in Kachin State, focusing on documenting the behavior of elephants, tigers and gibbons and other biodiversity with the use of modern techniques.

Under the new scheme, well-trained staff will carry out camera trapping activities once or twice a month, with plans to capture audio of gibbons by using a sound-recording system. According to 2013-2014 figures, between 72 and 82 tigers are at the 2494-square mile wide Hukaung Valley Tiger Reserve situated in Hukaung Valley near Tanai, a township in Myitkyina District of Kachin State.

It is the natural habitat for nearly 40 kinds of mammals including tigers, leopards, elephants, bears and different species of monkeys, seven species of snakes, six species of frogs, over 370 species of birds, 46 species of freshwater fish, turtles, butterflies and more than 13,000 species of plants. — *Zar Zar*

Hundreds of stimulant tablets seized on Panglaung-Nay Pyi Taw road

STIMULANT tablets worth about K2.4million were found in four packets containing 200 tablets each in a vehicle on Panglaung-Nay Pyi Taw road on Sunday, according to the Panglaung Township police.

Police said that six people, including Aung Kyaw Thant, the driver of the car, were arrested after an inspection of the vehicle revealed the seized stimulant tablets hidden under the seats.

Charges were filed against the driver and five others, police said. — *Thein Ko Lwin*

The stimulant tablets seized being seen. PHOTO: THEIN KO LWIN

Crime NEWS

Elephant hunter arrested by forest police

A 45-YEAR-OLD man on Saturday was arrested by the forest authorities in Ngaputaw Township in Ayeyawady Region when he and his colleagues were caught cutting up a dead elephant, apparently to sell to Chinese merchants.

After a tip-off, a police team raided a site in the Myittaya forest reserve where they discovered four people cutting up the dead wildlife.

Police collected skins, bones, ivory and meat of the elephant as well as two rifles and related equipment from the scene.

The elephant carcass being seen. PHOTO: PATHEIN HLA KYI

Apart from Soe Naing (aka Maung Pha), the rest of hunters escaped from the police. Police are still investigating the cases in an effort to arrest the three men—Zaw Myo, 27, Maung Maung, 33 and Maung Maw, 29, who are still on the run.

According to the investigators, the hunters mostly sell the elephant products to Chinese merchants in Mandalay, who export the wildlife products to China via Muse, a border town.

The hunters usually sell a viss of elephant ivory for between K600,000 and K2 million and a viss of skins for K30,000 to those buyers who wait for them on Pathein-Mawtin Road. — *Pathein Hla Kyi*

310 killed, 1,684 injured in traffic accidents in July nationwide

LAST month, 310 people were killed and 1,684 others were injured in traffic accidents across the country, according to official figures recently released by the Myanmar Police Force.

The figures show that the number of road accidents in July reached 1,106 cases nationwide.

Yangon Region had the most accidents with 218 cases. Mandalay Region was the next highest with 170 cases, followed by Bago Region with 154 cases, Sagaing Region with 121 cases, Ayeyawady Region with 117 cases, Magway Region with 107 cases and Mon State with 52 cases.

Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan states, Taninthayi Region and the capital Nay Pyi Taw all had fewer than 50 cases.

Among states and regions, Mandalay Region topped the chart with 64 deaths, followed by Yangon Region with 54 deaths and Sagaing Region with 36 deaths.—*Shwe Myint Oo (Shwepyitha)*

Nine people arrested for gambling

Nine people being seen with seized materials. PHOTO: KO YE

NINE people, including a woman and an elderly man, were arrested on Saturday while they were gambling in Hsakha Village in Myingyan, a township in Mandalay Region.

Police collected gambling-related accessories from the scene including nearly K300,000, 18 motorbikes and 12 mobile handsets. Nyan Aung, 48, Myo Nwe, 34, Aung Naing, 48, Than Tun, 70, Kyaw Min, Tun, 36, Shine Aung, 24, Myo Win Latt, 37, Win Maung, 56 and Khin Cho Myint, 47 were placed under arrest by members of Taungtha Myoma Police Station.—*Ko Ye*

Illegally harvested hardwood seized in Sagaing

OVER one tonne of hardwood was seized by local authorities on 6 August in Yinmabin Township in Sagaing Region.

Acting on a tip-off, a joint task force, including officials from the township forest department and police, began an investigation in the northern part of a creek near Panmahton Village in Tarwa Village-tract on Saturday evening.

They discovered ten illegally harvested Padauk logs weighing 1.2694 tonnes, which have been seized by the township forest department.

Police are still investigating the case to find and arrest the owner of the restricted forest products, who will face charges under the existing forest law. — *Tun Ko Ko (Yinmabin)*

LOCAL Business

While vegetables are in surplus in the country, Myanmar vegetable exporters have not yet earnd a good income.
PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Growers request relief on two per cent tax levied on vegetable exports

THE Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producers and Exporters Association (MFFVPEA) has requested the revision of a two per cent of advanced income tax levied on vegetable exports.

"We vegetable exporters have to pay two per cent of advanced income tax in the border areas. If we carry the vegetables with 17-tonne truck, we have to pay for 17 tonnes of loads although they are not 17 tonnes in weight. The vegetable merchants are also faced with losses of the vegetables. We have to pay advanced income tax even if we have not earned any money.

Therefore, we have submitted a request to relax the advanced income tax to the Ministry of Planning and Finance", said U Kyaw Thu, the secretary of Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producer- and Exporter Association.

"We have requested to pay income tax under the name of the growers. If it is not allowed to pay, we want the authorities to relax two per cent of advanced income tax and we want them to levy a tax depending on the actual income of the whole year."

Currently, the vegetable merchants have to pay two per cent of advanced income tax at the department concerned. When they pay income tax for the whole year, deducting a relief, two per cent of advanced income tax will be reimbursed.

The association organizes the vegetables expo and conducts technical awareness campaigns of the agriculture.

They also go on inspection tours to the farms, making the growers connect with the businessmen.

Winrock International has been providing agricultural awareness campaigns to the growers in Southern Shan State with the assistance of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). — *Zar Zar*

Trade value through Muse border trade camp on the decline this FY

TRADE value through the Muse border trade camps has been on the steep decline, it has been learnt from the statistics of the Ministry of Commerce.

Currently, the trade value via the 105th Mile Muse border gate has amounted to over US$13million. At the same period last year, about US$47million in trade value was attained, according to the statistics.

The decline in trade value is attributed to the confiscation of sugar and rice by Chinese authorities, who have recently begun enforcing the ban on the export of sugar and rice through border camps. Since then, the export of rice and sugar to China has been suspended. The action has dramatically slowed activity in Muse, where, in the past, long queues of trucks could be seen arriving and leaving. As a result of the suspended trade, the truck drivers, merchants and labourers have suffered financially. This is why trade value through the border areas has slumped this year, said a rice merchant from Muse commodity depot.

Trade value at the other border trade camps between Myanmar and China — Lweje, Chin Shwe Haw and Kanpike Tee — are over US$240million. The Muse border trade camp is one of the largest trade camps in Myanmar. —*GNLM*

Permits only for family use cars to be issued for locally produced cars

WHEN locally produced cars are deregistered at the Road Transportation Administration Department, slips or import permits only for family use cars will be given, said an official from the Road Transportation Administration Department. Some owners of locally manufactured cars are observing without making theirs deregister because they want to gain an import permit for their trucks.

Among locally produced Jeeps, Shan Star and Dagon Jeeps are in demand because of their reasonable price and quality. There are some dishonest owners who deregister their trucks and double cabs as damaged cars, and so, slips for commercially used vehicles were granted instead of slips for family use cars. The slip price has risen to over Ks1million.

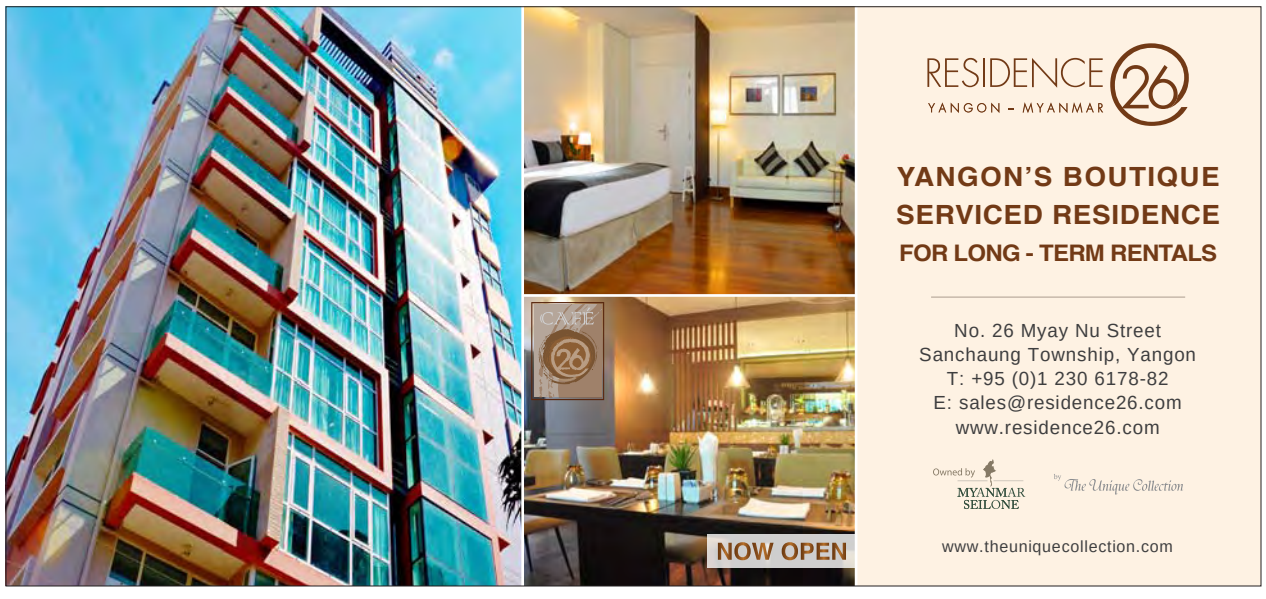
The slips for vehicles used for business purposes will be issued when the damaged cars are deregistered. Locally produced Jeeps, vans, station wagons and double cabs are entitled to be granted slips.—*200*

Plaspalum Atratum and Mombasa Guineu grass varieties to be imported from Thailand

TWO grass varieties, Plaspalum Atratum and Mombasa Guineu, will be imported from Thailand to help develop the dairy farming businesses, said U Khin Hlaing, the chairman of the Myanmar Dairy Association.

Plaspalum Atratum can be grown in a variety of soil, including well-or poorly-drained areas. Mombasa Guineu can be grown under the shady trees.

These grass varieties can produce more milk for milk cows, and result in a higher protein content. This is the reason why the grass seeds are imported. About five kilograms of grass seeds are required for an acre, but only a kilogram of grass seeds is required if these are systematically cultivated. A kilogram of grass seeds sells for Ks11,000, it is learnt from Myanmar Dairy Association.—*200*



Indonesian group behind Singapore plot has 'dozens of members'

JAKARTA — Indonesian authorities said on Monday several suspected Islamist radicals arrested last week on suspicion of plotting to attack neighbouring Singapore were part of a group that has "dozens of members" and has been active for two years.

Counter-terrorism forces arrested six men on Friday on Batam island, just to the south of Singapore. The arrests comes amid mounting concern about the spread of Islamist ideology in Indonesia, the world's largest Muslim-majority nation.

National police spokesman Boy Rafli Amar said the group mostly recruited members online and was taking instructions from Bahrun Naim, an Indonesian who has joined Islamic State (IS) in Syria.

"The GRD group has been in operation for two years and has dozens of members," Amar told a news conference in Jakarta, referring to the group named after its leader Gigih Rahmat Dewa.

"This group is an extension of Bahrum Naim's vision and mission. We cannot underestimate them."

Indonesia's National police spokesman Boy Rafli Amar speaks with journalists about the arrrest of six men on Friday on suspicion of planning a rocket attack on neighboring Singapore at police headquarters in Jakarta, Indonesia on 8 August, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Authorities in Indonesia say dozens of men have gone to join IS in the Middle East. Security officials fear that IS leaders are now asking supporters in Southeast Asia to launch attacks at home.

Counter-terrorism officers rounded up the six men after tracking them for months on social media. One of the suspects was later released, Amar said on Monday. Dewa, 31, and others in his group are believed to have been in direct contact with Naim via Facebook.

Police say Naim masterminded an attack in the capital, Jakarta, early this year that killed four people, and has since continued to instruct people online on how to mount attacks and assemble bombs and weapons. Authorities say they are working to block radical online content.

Following the arrests on Friday, Singapore's home affairs minister, K. Shanmugam, said the men had planned a rocket attack on Marina Bay, a central entertainment area with a waterfront promenade, giant ferris wheel and a swanky casino resort. Police seized bomb-making materials, guns and arrows from suspects' homes in Batam. But, police said, there were no signs that a rocket attack was anything more than a plan.

"There was no specific time frame for them to attack Singapore, but that was their target," Amar said. The vast majority of Indonesians practice a moderate form of Islam. The country saw a spate of attacks from homegrown militants in the 2000s, including a bombing at a nightclub on the holiday island of Bali that killed 202 people. —*Reuters*

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Chief Executive Officer -Nakagawa Kiyoshi
ceo@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Chief Editor - Khin Maung Aye
ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Deputy Chief Editor - Aye Min Soe
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Chief Proof Reader & Translator - Ye Myint
Expatriate Consultant Editors
Alec Wilmot
counsultanteditor2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Mark Angeles
markrangeles@gmail .com
Chief Translator & Editor
Kyaw Thura,
editor2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Editor
Ye Htut Tin (Local News)
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
International Editors
Tun Tun Naing (Editor)
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor)
Translators
Khaing Thanda Lwin,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Hay Mar Tin Win,
translator@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Ei Myat Mon, Tin Nwe Lynn
Chief Reporter
Tun Aung Kyaw, reporter2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Reporters
Soe Soe Yu, Thein Ko Lwin (Nay Pyi Taw Bureau),
Khin Mg Win (Mandalay Bureau)
Computer Team
Tun Zaw (Chief of Computer Team), Thein Ngwe,
Zaw Zaw Aung, Ye Naing Soe, Nyi Zaw Moe,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win, Sanda Hnin, Zu Zin Hnin
Circulation & Advertising
San Lwin (+95) (01) 8604532
Ads and subscription enquiries:
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

Dozens of Philippine officials surrender after being linked to drugs trade

MANILA — Dozens of Philippine government and police officials turned themselves in on Monday, a day after President Rodrigo Duterte linked them to the drugs trade, stepping up a war on narcotics that has killed hundreds since he took office in June.

More than 400 suspected drug dealers have been killed by police across the Philippines since Duterte took over, officials say. Broadcaster ABS-CNN put the number at over 800, though this includes executions by anonymous vigilantes.

On Monday, 27 mayors and 31 police officers, including a colonel, went to the national police office in the capital, Manila, to clear their names, fearing the president's order to hunt them down if they failed to surrender within 24 hours.

Several local officials reported to regional police offices to beat the deadline set by Duterte, who won the elections in May on a single platform of fighting crime and drugs.

On Sunday, he identified about 160 officials in a name-and-shame campaign.

"I want to change," a Cebu-based businessman tagged as a top-level drug trafficker told reporters after he met national police chief Ronald dela Rosa.

Nicknamed "the punisher" and "Duterte Harry" for his brutal fight on crime, Duterte has hit back at activists incensed by the surge in the killings of suspected drug traffickers.

Alarmed human rights groups have urged the United Nations to condemn the rise in extrajudicial killings. The Philippine Senate is to hold a legislative inquiry.

Dela Rosa reprimanded the police officers on Duterte's list, threatening to kill them if they continued to protect drug traders and resell seized drugs. At one point, he challenged them to a fistfight.

A drug user raises his ink smeared hand after he surrendered to local government officials to take part in a government campaign against drug in Tanauan Batangas, south of Manila, Philippines on 18 July, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

"I am mad with what is happening," Dela Rosa said in a speech to local officials and police. "I am ashamed. We should be the ones arresting these people, but we are protecting them. I will kill you if you will not change."

All police officers linked to the drug trade were disarmed, investigated and could face criminal and administrative cases if there was strong evidence, said national police spokesman Dionardo Carlos.

"They will be accorded due process," he added.

Besides local officials and police officers, Duterte's list included two retired police generals, soldiers, paramilitary members, judges and a former lawmaker.—*Reuters*

Suicide bomber kills at least 63 at Pakistan hospital

First responders and volunteers transport an injured man away from the scene of a bomb blast outside a hospital in Quetta, Pakistan on 8 August, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

QUETTA — A suicide bomber in Pakistan killed at least 63 people and wounded dozens more in an attack on mourners gathered at a hospital in Quetta, according to officials in the violence-plagued southwestern province of Baluchistan.

The bomber struck as more than 100 mourners, mostly lawyers and journalists, crowded into the emergency department to accompany the body of a prominent lawyer who had been shot and killed in the city earlier in the day, Faridullah, a journalist who was among the wounded, told Reuters.

Abdul Rehman Miankhel, a senior official at the government-run Civil Hospital, where the explosion occurred, told reporters that at least 63 people had been killed, with more than 50 wounded, as the casualty toll spiked from initial estimates.

"There are many wounded, so the death toll could rise," said Rehmat Saleh Baloch, the provincial health minister.

Television footage showed scenes of chaos, with panicked people fleeing through debris as smoke filled the hospital corridors.

The motive behind the attack was unclear and no group had yet claimed responsibility, but several lawyers have been targeted during a recent spate of killings in Quetta.

The latest victim, Bilal Anwar Kasi, was shot and killed while on his way to the city's main court complex, senior police official Nadeem Shah told Reuters.

He was the president of Baluchistan Bar Association.

The subsequent suicide attack appeared to target his mourners, Anwar ul Haq Kakar, a spokesman for the Baluchistan government, said.

"It seems it was a preplanned attack," he said. —*Reuters*

Japan's emperor speaks to public in remarks suggesting he wants to abdicate

TOKYO — Japanese Emperor Akihito, 82, in a rare video address to the public on Monday, said he worried that age may make it difficult for him to fully carry out his duties, remarks widely seen as suggesting he wants to abdicate.

Public broadcaster NHK reported last month that Akihito, who has had heart surgery and been treated for prostate cancer, wanted to step down in a few years — which would be unprecedented in modern Japan.

Once considered divine, the emperor is defined in the constitution as a symbol of the state and the unity of the people. He has no political power.

Akihito stopped short of saying outright that he wanted to abdicate, which could be interpreted as interfering in politics.

"When I consider that my fitness level is gradually declining, I am worried that it may become difficult for me to carry out my duties as the symbol of the state with my whole being, as I have done until now," he said.

Akihito took the throne after the death in 1989 of his father, Hirohito, in whose name Japan fought World War II. He has sought to soothe the wounds of the war in Asia during trips overseas and tried to bring the monarchy closer to the people.

Akihito feels strongly that an emperor's full performance of his duties is integral to his constitutional role, experts say.

Opinion polls show the vast majority of ordinary Japanese sympathize with the emperor's desire to retire, but such a step would need changes to the law.

Akihito has been cutting back on official duties, with his heir, 56-year-old Crown Prince Naruhito, taking his place. There were limits to how far that could go, he said on Monday.

The emperor also seemed to cast doubt on whether it was appropriate to use an existing system that would allow Naruhito to take over as regent if his father were incapacitated.

"Even in such cases (of a regency), however, it does not change the fact that the emperor continues to be emperor until the end of his life, even though he is unable to fully carry out his duties as the emperor," Akihito said.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe told reporters that, in view of the emperor's age and the burden of his official duties, it was necessary to consider what steps could be taken.

The idea of abdication has sparked opposition from Abe's conservative base, which worries debate of the imperial family's future could widen to the topic of letting women inherit and pass on the throne, anathema to traditionalists.—*Reuters*

Thailand, seeking stability, approves military constitution

BANGKOK — A democratically elected government will take power in Thailand at the earliest by December 2017, a senior Thai official said on Monday, after the country endorsed a military-backed constitution paving the way for a general election.

Thais handed the junta of Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha a convincing win in the referendum on Sunday, with preliminary results showing over 61 per cent voted in favour. Full results are due on Wednesday.

A desire to see greater political stability drove the yes vote, analysts said. Thailand has been rocked by more than a decade of political turmoil that has stunted growth, two military takeovers and several rounds of often deadly street protests.

"We think there will be an election at the earliest in September or October 2017 and a new government by December 2017," Chatchai Na Chiang Mai, spokesman for the Constitution Drafting Committee, told Reuters.

Deputy Prime Minister Wissanu Krea-ngam on Monday also said an election will take place in 2017, confirming the timeline Prayuth laid out ahead of the referendum.

Prior to the vote, Thailand's major political parties had criticised the draft constitution, saying it would constrict democracy, including one provision calling for an appointed Senate with seats reserved for military commanders.

Few countries have had more constitutions and drafters have historically failed to produce anything lasting. Thailand has issued 19 constitutions since a constitutional monarchy replaced an absolute one in 1932.

Members of the anti-junta opposition say they are biding their time until the 2017 election when, if a party they back takes power, they can try to scrap the military charter.

"We accept the result of the referendum and will wait and see what happens in the 2017 election," said Jatuporn Prompan, chairman of the United Front for Democracy Against Dictatorship.

"We will decide our next steps soon," he said.

Opposition to the junta was muted ahead of the vote in Thailand's northeast, once a hotbed of resistance.

A second ballot question that would allow the Senate to elect a prime minister jointly with the lower house was also winning by a wide margin.

"Although many suspected that the new charter could undermine their previously held democratic rights, the perceived risk of greater political uncertainty and economic instability, if the constitution had been voted down, was far less appealing," said John Marrett, Research Analyst Asia at the Economist Intelligence Unit. Interviews with military officers showed the military's ambition was to make future coups unnecessary by weakening political parties and obliging future governments to follow a 20-year national development plan set by the army. The referendum result would legitimise the junta's bid to extend its hold on power through the constitution said Sunai Phasuk, Thailand researcher at Human Rights Watch.— *Reuters*

A Thai electoral worker starts counting ballots at a polling station during a constitutional referendum vote in Bangkok, Thailand on 7 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Opinion

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.

Economic development versus good governance

Khin Maung Aye

A literature review of governance reveals that governance, which is widely defined as the traditions and institutions that determine how authority is exercised in a country, matters to economic development (Kaufmann et al: 2000). Several cross-national empirical studies have found a positive relationship between the quality of institutions and governance structures and economic growth. In this regard, it is worth recalling that economists, development experts and international policy-makers have reached a consensus that good governance is a pre-requisite for sustainable development.

According to their assumptions, if states can ensure efficient markets especially through enforcement of property rights, rule of law, reduction of corruption and commitment not to expropriate, private investors will drive the economic development. This approach implicitly stresses the priority to develop market-enhancing governance, and is nowadays a dominating paradigm supported by international development and financial agencies (North: 1990).

There is no doubt that market is important to foster and enable the economic development, which is likely to be faster if market that mediates allocation of resources becomes more efficient. Economists agree that governance is one of the major factors that explain the divergence in performance across the developing nations. The differences of view among economists when it comes to governance are to do first, with the types of state capacities that make up the significant governance capacities needed to accelerate the growth and secondly, with the importance of governance in relation to other factors in the earlier stages of development. On the first issue, the empirical support for this argument usually comes from cross sectional data on governance in developing countries that generally indicate that countries with better governance performed better (Khan: 2006). In contrast, institutional economists base their argument on case studies of rapid growth, which is associated with governance capacities.

Such being the case, it can be said that although good governance is one of the necessary conditions for economic development of a state, it is not the solitary and sufficient condition because there are many other factors which are equally important to promote economic development.

1945 Atomic bombings of two Japanese cities

Arakan Sein

EVERY year in the month of August people around the world get reminded of atomic bombings of two Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki during the final stage of the World War II. The second World War ended abruptly in August, 1945, killing nearly 130,000 people by means of dropping bombs which remain the only use of nuclear weapons for warfare in history.

On August 6, the United States dropped an atomic bomb by the name of Little Boy on the city of Hiroshima. The then President Harry S. Truman called for Japan's surrender 16 hours later; Japanese response to this ultimatum was to ignore it. Three days later, on August 9, the U.S dropped a second atomic bomb named Fat Man on the city of Nagasaki. On August 15, six days after the bombing of Nagasaki and the Soviet Union's declaration of war, Japan announced its surrender to the Allies.

The bombings' role in Japan's surrender and their ethical justification are still debated. Some critics argue most of the dead were civilian in both cities, although Hiroshima had a sizable garrison; others defend the Second World War ended suddenly, thereby saving millions of human lives and got a good lesson for future generations.

In 1953, the President of the United States, Dwight D Eisenhower, proposed the creation of the international body to both regulate and promote the peaceful use of atomic power in his address to the UN General Assembly. As a result, the International Atomic Energy Agency, which seeks to promote the peaceful use of nuclear energy, and to inhibit its use for any military purposes, was established as an autonomous organization on 29 July 1957.

At the dawn of the nuclear age, the United States hoped to maintain a monopoly on its new weapon, but the secrets and the technology for making nuclear weapons soon spread. After atomic bombings of two Japanese cities in 1945, the Soviet Union conducted its first nuclear test explosion three years later. The United Kingdom (1952), France (1960), and China (1964) followed. In October, 1962 the Cuban missile crisis emerged as a dangerous problem on the international stage with the Soviet Union building bases in Cuba capable of launching missiles carrying nuclear warheads. The United States said that it would impose a naval and air quarantine on shipments of offensive military equipment to Cuba. It was an eyeball-to-eyeball confrontation between the two superpowers. With clever intervention of the UN Secretary-General U Thant, the world was saved from coming close to a nuclear holocaust.

The United States and other like-minded states became nervous and negotiated the nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty (NPT) in 1968 and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty(CTBT) in 1996. The NPT recognizes five countries as nuclear weapon states: the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, France and China. Four other states are known or believed to possess nuclear weapons: India, Pakistan and North Korea have openly tested and declared that they possess nuclear weapons, while Israel is internationally ambiguous regarding its nuclear weapons program.

The regional organization ASEAN also focused on peace and stability in the Southeast Asia. On 15 December, 1995, the Southeast Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty was signed with the intention of turning the region into a nuclear-weapon-free zone. The SEANWFZ met in Vientiane, Laos to view the plans for the Treaty being implemented from 2013 to 2017 the agreements on disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and promotion of cooperation with International Atomic Energy Agency. The IAEA recognizes knowledge as the nuclear energy industry's most valuable asset and resource, without which the industry cannot operate safely and economically. Nuclear energy can be used for electricity and peaceful purposes. For example, China and India have well-considered policies to increase dramatically their use of nuclear power to make that electricity. Both see nuclear power as an important ingredient of sustainable development. The reason is their combined population represents almost half of the world's and is rapidly increasing their energy.

In conclusion, this article should remind us of tragic events way back in 1945 and those in the 1986 nuclear reactor explosion and disaster near Chernobyl, Ukraine and the 2011 Fukushima disaster in Japan. We should take a lesson from the above-mentioned major disasters by preventing the spread of nuclear weapons and weapons technology, promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and achieving complete nuclear disarmament.

****

"The bombings' role in Japan's surrender and their ethical justification are still debated. Some critics argue most of the dead were civilian in both cities, although Hiroshima had a sizable garrison; others defend the Second World War ended suddenly, thereby saving millions of human lives and got a good lesson for future generations."

Myanmar-Australia UN Peacekeeping Training Programme opened

Myanmar and Australia army personnel seen at the opening ceremony of UN peacekeeping training course. PHOTO: MNA

A United Nations Peacekeeping Training Course, a programme involving the Myanmar Tatmadaw (Defense Services) and Australia, was opened in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, with an address by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice Senior General Soe Win.

In his address, the Vice Senior General expressed thanks for cooperation extended by Australian officials to conduct the training programme and called on trainees to strive for producing beneficial results. The Australian Ambassador to Myanmar also spoke on the occasion.

The training programme is scheduled to last for 10 days until 18 August, with the aim of enabling Myanmar Tatmadaw's officers to learn about the UN peacekeeping processes, exchange views between trainees and trainers and strengthen bilateral relations between the two Defense Services.— *Myanmar News Agency*

MoHT hopeful tourism law will ease industry headaches

Tourists being seen taking the photos of a pagoda. PHOTO: THIHA KO KO

PLANS are being made to allow the Myanmar Hotel and Tourism Law to be enacted before the current year is out, according to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

"There should be laws [in place] for any place or job; sectors are weak without them. Since this law is for development of the tourism sector, it's a law that will be beneficial as it has been drawn up to safeguard entrepreneurs, hoteliers as well as the government," said U Myint Htway, official of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

The legislation was presented to the Attorney-General's Office in June and will continue to be submitted to the President's Office as well as government departments concerned. After this is complete, it will then reportedly be submitted through the ranks of the Hluttaw.

"The enacting of this law will allow for current irresolvable grievances to be resolved. Presently, there's nothing which can be used to resolve something that comes up with a foreigner or between Myanmar nationals [within the tourism sector]; we have no legal support to back us up. The passing of the law will allow us to take legal action. It's better to have [the law] than be without it," said U Nyi Nyi Naing, a tour guide.

Myanmar boasts 1,355 licensed hotels - comprising more than 52,600 rooms - together with 227 licensed domestic and foreign tour operators and 636 licensed tour guides, the records of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism have revealed.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

People's Forum

Letter to the Editor

I and other readers were attracted by the article titled" Ostracism does not work for re-integration of ex-inmates "written by Khin Maung Aye in the opinion column of the GNLM appeared on 03.08.2016.

Khin Maung Aye has pointed out the improved policy to the inmates and management in the correctional facility in Myanmar. He especially highlighted the news about the inmates who have passed the matriculation in 2015-2016 academic year and their teachers were honored on 30th July. It was a very striking news indeed. The writer also presented the present policy towards prisoners and the policy of punishment are totally different from the past. He also stressed the need to have the correct outlook towards the jail-returnees those who have completely served the terms.

Khin Maung Aye's constructive perspective and analysis on the inmates in prisons in Myanmar are rather agreeable and acceptable. He has urged the communities to welcome the re-integration of ex-inmates instead of ostracizing as even the incumbent government is helping and changing its policy towards the former inmates.

I am doubtless to agree to Khin Maung Aye's opinion because the inmates will have chance to get access to education (any further education), vocation and livelihood only after they have completely served the terms or they have been released on clemency .Even when they are still in the prison, they are allowed to learn or sit for the matriculation examinations conducted by the government and they can do their religious rituals that they profess. For examples, the inmates who profess Buddhism can meditate with the guidance of Buddhist monks in the prison. Actually these opportunities are given to them according to the present policy laid down by the present government. Thus, they would be able to reintegrate with their local communities or societies after their wrong behaviors were corrected during the terms they served. People from their communities should also welcome with helping hands and optimistic attitude towards them. Normally the people ostracize the ex-inmates for fearing that the ex-inmates might give them some trouble in the society. Therefore, the ex-inmates need to commit that they will serve for the interest of the community, people and their families in socially and morally acceptable manner and behavior so that the trust can be built between the community and the ex-inmates concerned. This is the best way for the ex-inmates to reintegrates with their communities concerned.

If an ex-inmate reverts to the previous type, he or she ought to pay for his or her sin. Nobody will excuse him or her again in the society concerned.

As we all know, poverty, misuse of drug and alchohol, ignorance of law, criminal behavior, making friends with thugs, extreme anger, inordinate greed, lust, stupidity, blunder and cruel-mindedness instigate the men and women to commit crimes or violate the laws in all societies. I firmly believe we humans should avoid or control all extreme emotions and behavior in life.

Truly
Tommy Pauk
A contributor to GNLM

Fisheries research plans to commence this November

FISHERIES research will be conducted in Myanmar's territorial waters in November and December of this year, said U Tun Win Myint, the head of the Yangon Region Fisheries Department.

With the assistance of a Norwegian research vessel, the scheme is likely to be commenced after the wet season in order to compile statistics of endangered fish species and to help reverse decreasing fish resources.

A similar survey was made in 2013 November along the Ayeyawady, Rakhine and Tanintharyi coastal areas with the help of the Norwegian government.

The study finds fish resources have declined 43 per cent, including 33 per cent of deep-sea fishes and 10 per cent of fish living below surface water, compared to past surveys made in 1979-1980.

During last year's open fishing season, the country extracted 2.8 million tonnes of sea fish.

The number exceeded the past maximum figures of fish production. The authorities allowed over 600 fishing vessels to operate in the closed season last year. Only 40 per cent of fishing vessel applications have been granted this year. The government has designated a closed season (between June and August) since 1993 to protect the country's fisheries resources from extinction.

According to suggestions made by the Food and Agriculture Organization, based on research conducted between 1979 and 2015, Myanmar should catch at most 100,000 tonnes of sea fish per year. — *Zar Zar*

Trump to outline economic policy as he seeks to regain momentum

Republican US presidential nominee Donald Trump attends campaign event at Windham High School in Windham, New Hampshire on 6 August 2016.
PHOTO: REUTERS

NEW YORK — Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump on Monday will outline an economic plan that includes tax help for working families in a major speech in Detroit as he tries to regain momentum lost from a series of self-inflicted wounds.

Trump is to speak at noon EDT (1600 GMT) to the Detroit Economic Club and advisers said he will focus on trade, taxes, immigration and regulation. The club, whose members are area business leaders, is a traditional venue for political candidates to discuss their economic vision.

The Detroit speech will be Trump's first on the economy since announcing a 13-man team of economic advisers last week. It also comes after he slogged through perhaps his worst week as a candidate, getting entangled in a fight with the Muslim parents of an American soldier slain in Iraq in 2004 and sparring with Republican Party leaders.

A Trump campaign aide, who asked not to be identified, said Trump's economic plan will lessen the tax burden on parents who pay for childcare because "we don't want it to be an economic disadvantage to have children."

Trump also will propose stronger protections for American intellectual property and a temporary moratorium on new regulations, the aide said. Trump's plans also include proposing a 15 per cent corporate tax rate, an idea that is on his website. The current federal rate is 35 per cent.

Members of Trump's advisory group shared their views on policy with senior Trump aides on Sunday in a conference call, said banker Stephen Calk, one of the members who took part.

Calk described Trump's vision for taxes as the biggest tax revolution since President Ronald Reagan in 1986. He said the plan was to lower the corporate tax burden and encourage US companies with operations abroad to repatriate profits at a reduced tax rate.

The current corporate rate is 35 per cent and Republicans have long sought to reduce it.

Trump's rough ride last week, plus a boost in support for Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton after she accepted her party's nomination at its Philadelphia convention, has taken its toll on him.

A Washington Post-ABC News poll released on Sunday gave Clinton an eight-point lead, 50 per cent to 42 per cent. A Reuters-Ipsos poll from last week had her in the lead with a smaller margin of three points.

Clinton will offer her own economic vision in a speech in Michigan on Thursday.

Trump's Detroit event gives him a chance to regain the initiative and outline some substantive policy proposals on the economy ahead of the 8 November election. The New York real estate developer prides himself on his economic expertise and job-creating ability and blames President Barack Obama for what he calls a weak recovery from the 2008-2009 recession.

Larry Kudlow, an informal Trump adviser and CNBC commentator, wrote on CNBC.com that Trump will pledge to lower marginal tax rates on both large and small businesses and on all income classes. He also will propose an increase in the standard deduction for families and special deductions for childcare and the elderly, Kudlow said.—*Reuters*

Election re-run in Spain would result in another hung parliament — poll

MADRID — A third election would do little to break Spain's political stalemate, with the People's Party (PP) of acting Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy seen winning the vote but coming far short of a parliamentary majority, an influential poll showed on Monday.

Spain is already eight months into a deadlock created by two inconclusive elections. Parties on the right and left have so far struggled to come to terms to form a government, hampered by old rivalries and disputes ranging from economic policy to leadership questions.

The PP was the only one of Spain's main four parties to win more seats in parliament on 26 June compared to 20 December, raking up 137, though that was still be short of the 176 needed for a majority in the 350-strong lower house.

If another election were held the PP would get 32.5 per cent of the vote, the survey by official pollster CIS showed, down slightly from the 33 per cent it scored in June. The poll did not give an estimate of parliamentary seats.

The Socialists, the main rivals of the PP for past four decades, would come second with a slightly better result, on 23.1 per cent versus 22.7 per cent at the last election. An alliance of far-left parties, Unidos Podemos ("Together We Can") would come third with 19.6 per cent of the vote, down from 21.1 per cent on 26 June, while liberal Ciudadanos ("Citizens") would come fourth with 12 per cent, down from 13 per cent.—*Reuters*

NEWS IN BRIEF

Zimbabwe's Mugabe says seeking measures to speed up public worker's pay

HARARE — Zimbabwe's government is working on measures to avoid delays in the payment of salaries for public workers, President Robert Mugabe said on Monday in a speech to mark the national heroes day.

Mugabe's government has struggled to pay public workers on time as it faces its biggest financial squeeze since it dumped its hyperinflation-hit currency in 2009 and adopted the United States dollar.

"Measures to avoid delays in the payment of salaries for civil servants are being developed," Mugabe said. —*Reuters*

Russia: Paralympics ban over doping is grave human rights abuse

MOSCOW — The head of the Russian Paralympic Committee said on Monday a decision to bar Russian athletes from taking part in next month's Rio Paralympics over doping allegations was a grave human rights abuse. Vladimir Lukin, president of the committee, told a news conference in Moscow most Russian paralympians were not guilty of doping and that he was ready to prove that the team had fulfilled all its anti-doping obligations.

"The overwhelming majority of sportspeople who were prevented from taking part in the Games were absolutely clean sportspeople," said Lukin, saying he was ready to provide evidence that the Russian team had run a tight anti-doping programme.—*Reuters*

Helicopter carrying 7 crashes in Nepal, no survivors found

KATHMANDU — A helicopter carrying seven people crashed in central Nepal on Monday afternoon, with no survivors found, according to authorities.

"Search-and-rescue teams from the police and the army that reached the crash site found no survivors," Home Ministry spokesman Yadav Koirala told Kyodo News.

The chopper was carrying a sick woman, her infant child, and relatives from western Nepal's Gorkha district to Kathmandu when it crashed in a forest in Nuwakot district, about 20 kilometres northeast of the capital, said police official Kaushal Budathoki.

Search-and-rescue teams from police and army were mobilised after villagers informed authorities about the crash site from where they heard a loud explosion and saw fire.—*Kyodo News*

Japan orders military to be ready for North Korea missile launch at any time

TOKYO — Japan ordered its military on Monday to be ready at any time to shoot down any North Korean missiles that threaten to strike Japan, putting its forces on a state of alert for at least three months, a defence ministry official and media said.

Up to now, Japan has issued temporary orders when it had indications of an imminent North Korean missile launch that it has canceled after a projectile had been launched.

However, because some test firings are hard to detect, it has decided to put its military on standby for a longer period. The order will be reviewed after three months, state broadcaster NHK said.—*Reuters*

Ten killed, 30 injured in road mishap in northern India

NEW DELHI — At least 10 people have been killed and more than 30 others injured in a road mishap in the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, a senior police official said Monday.

"The incident took place late Sunday evening when a tractor trolley in which the victims, mostly pilgrims, were travelling overturned in the state's Saharanpur district," he said.

The victims were travelling for a religious congregation in Sultanpur village from Sahajva area in Saharanour when the mishap took place, the official said.

While 10 people died on the spot, those injured have been admitted to a local hospital where the condition of a few are said to be serious, he said.

A probe has been ordered into the incident, the official added.—*Xinhua*

American, Australian kidnapped in Afghan capital: officials

KABUL — Afghan authorities are searching for an Australian and an American who were kidnapped by gunmen in the capital, Kabul, officials said on Monday.

The pair, believed to be affiliated with a Kabul university, was taken by four or five gunmen from a nearby road late on Sunday, said an official with the Ministry of Interior who spoke on condition of anonymity.

It was not immediately clear who was responsible for the abduction.

The Australian Embassy in Kabul confirmed one of its citizens had apparently been abducted but said it would not comment further due to privacy and safety considerations.

"We continue to advise Australians not to travel to Afghanistan because of the extremely dangerous security situation, including the serious threat of kidnapping," Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade said in a statement.

The US State Department said in a statement it was aware of reports an American had been kidnapped but had no other information to offer.

Kidnapping is a major problem in Afghanistan with Afghans the most affected, although a number of foreigners have also been abducted in recent years.

An Indian aid worker was abducted in Kabul in June and released the following month.

At least two other foreigners, from Germany and the Netherlands, were taken from the same neighbourhood in separate incidents last year.

Those two foreigners, both of them women, were eventually released unharmed, with police saying the kidnappings were most likely motivated by money.—*Reuters*

An Afghan policeman keeps watch at a checkpoint near the site of kidnapping in Kabul, Afghanistan on 8 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

A Free Syrian Army fighter looks out of a tank in Ramousah area southwest of Aleppo, Syria on 2 August. PHOTO: REUTERS

Syrian government delivers supplies to Aleppo via alternative route — monitors

BEIRUT (Aleppo) — Syrian government forces delivered food and fuel to neighbourhoods they control in the divided city of Aleppo on Monday, using an alternative road after rebels cut off the main supply route into those areas, a monitoring group said.

Insurgents effectively broke a month-long government siege of eastern, opposition-held Aleppo on Saturday, advancing against President Bashar al-Assad's forces and their allies and cutting off a strip of government-held territory to connect with fighters in the encircled sector.

That rebel advance severed the primary government supply corridor running into the city from the south, and raised the prospect that government-held western Aleppo might in turn become besieged by the insurgents.

The army and its allies made the aid delivery via the Castello Road, which extends into Aleppo from the north, the British-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

Castello Road was captured by government forces last month. It had been the main opposition supply route into the city.

A Syrian military statement confirmed Monday's delivery of supplies, although it did not specify the route used.

A western Aleppo resident said supplies had arrived. "Today fuel, food and petrol came in — the government opened up an alternative route," Tony Ishaq said via internet messenger.

Rebel sources and the Observatory said there were plans on the opposition side to bring humanitarian supplies into eastern Aleppo from insurgent-held territory further west, but that the route was not secure.

Syrian warplanes have been bombing the Ramousah area, where the rebels advanced and cut the road on Saturday, leaving no safe passage for civilians, the Observatory said.

The Syrian military statement said government forces were shelling rebel positions in the Ramousah area. The Observatory said rebels had bombarded areas of western Aleppo overnight.

Assad's forces are supported by Russian air power, Iranian militias and fighters from Lebanon's Hezbollah group who have sent reinforcements to shore up the army.

The multi-sided civil war in Syria, raging since 2011, has drawn in regional and global powers, caused the world's worst humanitarian emergency and attracted recruits to Islamist militancy from around the world.—*Reuters*

Saudi-led coalition air strike kills nine civilians in Yemen market: residents

DUBAI — A Saudi-led coalition air strike killed nine civilians outside the Yemeni capital Sanaa on Sunday night, residents said, as forces loyal to the exiled government stepped up an offensive in the area.

The strike hit Odhar village in the Nehm area, which has been at the center of renewed fighting between supporters of President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi's government and Iran-allied Houthi forces.

UN-backed peace talks to end Yemen's conflict broke down over the weekend, and pro-government forces said they had begun an offensive to retake Sanaa.

Two residents of the Nehm area reached by telephone said four people returning from a market were killed when their vehicle was hit as it passed a grocery store. Five people in the store also died in the air strike, they said.

Saba, the state news agency run by the dominant Houthi movement, said 12 people died including six members of the same family, and that some bodies were burnt beyond recognition. The agency said 17 others were wounded.

A spokesman for the Saudi-led coalition referred inquiries to the Yemeni government. A government military spokesman said he was checking the report.

At least 6,400 people have been killed in Yemen's 16-month war, half of them civilians, according to the United Nations.

The Saudi-led alliance has said it wants to avoid civilian casualties, and an internal investigation published last week largely exonerated eight mass-casualty strikes, citing the presence of Houthi fighters.

Comments to Reuters from rights groups and witnesses at the time of the attacks suggested they had together killed hundreds of civilians.—*Reuters*

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(10 / 2016)

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

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB-031(16-17)	Wild CAT 330(AMC) (4000) Litres	US$
(2)	IFB-032(16-17)	Spares for KB-150 Well Servicing Unit (1) Item	US$
(3)	IFB-033(16-17)	Spares for FLC 504 Derrick Shaker Units (6) Items	US$
(4)	IFB-034(16-17)	Spares for S-250 Series Shaker Screen Ex ZJ 70L SR I & II (6) Items	US$
(5)	IFB-035(16-17)	Spares for Derrick Shaker Units (Derrick FLC 2000) Ex ZJ 50D SR I & II (6) Items	US$
(6)	IFB-036(16-17)	2" & 3" ERW Steel Line Pipe, API 5L Grade A (2) Items	US$
(7)	IFB-037(16-17)	Spares for F-1600 Pump Ex ZJ 70L Drilling Rig (2) Items	US$
(8)	IFB-038(16-17)	Spares for EMSCO Rotating Equipment (6) Items	US$
(9)	DMP/L-011(16-17)	Mud Testing Equipments (7) Items	Ks

Tender Closing Date & Time - 1-9-2016, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 8TH August, 2016 at the Finance Department , Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph . +95 67 - 411097 / 411206

Japan urges China not to escalate East China Sea tension

TOKYO — Japan said on Monday it would respond firmly after Chinese government vessels had intruded into what Tokyo considers its territorial waters near disputed islands in the East China Sea 14 times at the weekend, stoking bilateral tensions.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said Tokyo would continue to urge China not to escalate the East China Sea dispute, while also responding firmly and calmly.

Suga told a news conference that a total of 14 Chinese government vessels had entered "contiguous waters", which can be policed for customs and immigration violations, in recent days and intruded into what Japan considers its territorial waters 14 times.

Twelve Chinese vessels remained in the area early on Monday, he said. Agencies including the coast guard would act together closely to deal with the situation, Suga said.

A Japanese government source, who asked not to be identified, said the Japan Coast Guard had stepped up its patrols in the region at the weekend but declined to give further details.

Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga (C) arrives at Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's official residence in Tokyo, Japan, on 2 July 2016, following news of an attack on a restaurant in the Bangladeshi capital by gunmen. PHOTO: REUTERS

Chinese activity near the islands, known as the Senkaku in Japan and the Diaoyu in China, has heated up since Friday, prompting repeated Japanese protests, including three on Sunday alone.

Some 230 Chinese fishing vessels were also in the area on Saturday, Japan's foreign ministry said.

The incidents come amid heightened tensions after an arbitration court in The Hague invalidated China's sweeping claims in the disputed South China Sea less than a month ago, in a case brought by the Philippines.

China has refused to recognize that ruling. Japan called on China to adhere to the verdict, which it said was binding. This prompted warnings from Beijing to Tokyo not to interfere.

On Saturday, China's foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said in a statement on the ministry's website China had indisputable sovereignty over the islands and nearby waters. China accused Japan's new defence minister, Tomomi Inada, on Friday of recklessly misrepresenting history after she declined to say whether Japanese troops had massacred civilians in China during World War II.

Inada echoed Suga's comments and said on Monday Japan's military would conduct air patrols to provide information to the coast guard.

Ties between China and Japan, the world's second and third largest economies, have been plagued by the territorial row, the legacy of Japan's wartime occupation of parts of China and regional rivalry.— *Reuters*

Murder of former leading N.Ireland militant sparks fresh fears

BELFAST — A leading member of a major Northern Ireland paramilitary group that said it got rid of all its weapons six years ago was shot dead in Belfast on Sunday, sparking fears of a fresh feud that could raise tensions in the British-controlled province.

Local media named the deceased as John Boreland, who was injured in a previous murder attempt two years ago. Boreland was a member of the Ulster Defence Association (UDA) whose scrapping of weapons in front of independent monitors in 2010 completed the disarming of Northern Ireland's main militant groups.

A 1998 peace deal largely ended three decades of bloodshed between Catholic Irish nationalists, seeking union with Ireland, and predominantly Protestant unionists who want to remain part of the United Kingdom, but pockets of violence remain.

A murder linked to former Irish nationalist militants led to a political crisis last year between the former foes who jointly run the power sharing executive when it raised questions about whether the province's ceasefire was being properly adhered to.

A report complied by Northern Ireland's police force and the British domestic intelligence agency MI5 following that episode found that all the main paramilitary groups, including the UDA, remained in existence but were not planning attacks.

It said groups on both sides of the divide were instead engaged in violence and other criminal activities, including fuel-laundering, drug dealing and extortion, and that members of all groups had carried out murders since the 1998 agreement.

On the UDA, the report concluded that while parts of its leadership were committed to steering it towards peaceful, community based activism, they had limited control over members who remained heavily involved in violence and crime and "act almost completely autonomously".

Sunday's murder was condemned by politicians on all sides, some of whom have expressed concern over the implications for the peace process from Britain's vote to leave the European Union, particularly if it leads to any hardening of the border between Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic.— *Reuters*

Indian PM advocates strong action against cow vigilantes

NEW DELHI — Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has condemned the recent attacks on the low-caste Dalit community and advocated strict action against cow vigilantes.

During his first visit to the southern state of Telangana Sunday, he asked people to protect Dalits, saying that they have "suffered for centuries" and that they "shouldn't suffer anymore."

"If you have a problem, if you feel like attacking someone, attack me, not my Dalit brothers. If you want to shoot anyone, shoot me, not my Dalit brothers," Modi said.

He added: "What is the reason we torture our Dalit brothers? What right do you have? The section which has suffered for centuries, will you force them to suffer more?"

Earlier that day, the prime minister came down heavily on "fake cow protectors," saying that they were "dividing the nation and should be isolated and punished."

This was his second statement in two days against such attacks. On Saturday, Modi advocated action against "anti-social elements who masquerade as cow protectors to save themselves."

The prime minister's statements came in the wake of recent attacks on Dalits, the most prominent being the public flogging of four Dalits by cow protectors last month in the western state of Gujarat.— *Xinhua*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV XETHA BHUM VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XETHA BHUM VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.8.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KORALIA VOY. NO (753)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KORALIA VOY NO (753) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.8.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT-3 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MERIDIAN SHIPPING AGENCIES PTE LTD.

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV PACAO VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PACAO VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.8.2016 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 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 YANG MING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

Canada seizing more suspect money from Chinese travellers

TORONTO — Canada has been seizing increasing amounts of undeclared or suspected criminal money from mainland Chinese travelers, border officials said, with the amount confiscated last year more than double that taken in 2013.

Capital flight in various forms has been a growing concern for China, with factors ranging from the depreciation of the yuan to an anti-corruption campaign launched by Chinese President Xi Jinping at the end of 2012.

Reuters obtained limited seizure figures from the Canada Border Services Agency under the country's access-to-information laws. The agency provided more comprehensive numbers in July.

The data showed seizures from Chinese citizens dipped by about one-quarter from 2012 to 2013, when they were at C$5.5 million ($4.22 million). Seizures jumped to nearly C$11.5 million last year.

At least C$6.5 million has been seized so far in 2016. By year end, that figure could eclipse 2015 levels, as the data consistently showed more seizures in the second half.

According to the agency, suspected criminal proceeds and undeclared money over C$10,000 could be seized. The former is forfeit, while the latter can be returned on payment of a C$250-to-C$5,000 fine.

The agency's numbers did not separate the two and did not indicate the exact origins of the seized money.

Canadian border service spokeswoman Esme Bailey said it is not unusual for the amounts seized to vary from year to year, and the agency does not base enforcement on nationality.

A spokesman for the Chinese embassy in Canada, Yang Yundong, said his government always urges citizens to "learn in detail and comply with" Canadian law. He said China's own law enforcement does not tolerate illegally carrying money abroad.

China said last year more than one-quarter of its 100 most-wanted corruption suspects had fled to Canada.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police declined to comment on the number of Chinese corruption suspects in the country. Canada's Department of Justice said it does not track those numbers.

In the United States, penalties for not declaring currency over $10,000 can include a fine of up to $500,000 and up to 10 years in prison.

The value of US seizures from Chinese citizens arriving by air, while roughly on par with Canada, consistently accounts for under 10 per cent of the total, the US border agency said.

Such seizures from Canada's three largest airports alone make up more than one-quarter, according to the country's data.—*Reuters*

Bridge installation work of Shangqiu-Hefei-Hangzhou railway starts

FEIDONG — Photo taken on 8 August, 2016 shows box girder installation site of Xishanyi Bridge of Shangqiu-Hefei-Hangzhou railway line in Dianbu Township of Feidong County, east China's Anhui Province. Installation work of 155 box girders of the 5,230.75-metre-long bridge started on Monday. Designed speed of the railway line linking Shangqiu of central China's Henan Province and Hangzhou of east China's Zhejiang Province is expected to reach 350 kilometres per hour. PHOTO: XINHUA

Burial of Philippine dictator Marcos in heroes' cemetery triggers debate

MANILA — The Philippines has begun preparations for the burial of late dictator Ferdinand Marcos at a cemetery for national heroes, a decision that drew criticism from the vice president and could polarise the country.

President Rodrigo Duterte said he was fulfilling a campaign promise to have Marcos, who ruled with an iron fist for two decades, interred at the heroes' cemetery as a former president and soldier.

On Sunday, Defence Secretary Delfin Lorenzana assigned armed forces chief of staff General Ricardo Visaya, to handle arrangements for the burial next month, in line with "the verbal order of the president to implement his campaign promise".

"I am just implementing a presidential directive, whatever I think is immaterial," Lorenzana told reporters on Monday.

"He deserved to be buried at the heroes' cemetery based on the criteria from the military regulations."

Marcos was a soldier and guerrilla leader during World War Two when the former US colony was occupied by Japanese forces.

As a dictator in the 1970s and '80s, Marcos, his family and cronies amassed an estimated $10 billion in ill-gotten wealth and thousands of suspected communist rebels and political foes were killed. His wife, Imelda, denies amassing wealth illegally.

Vice President Leni Robredo said she opposed Duterte's decision to transfer the strongman's remains from his home town of Batac in the northern Philippines to the cemetery.

"Mr Marcos is no hero," she said in a statement. "How can we allow a hero's burial for a man who has plundered our country and was responsible for the death and disappearance of many Filipinos?"

Robredo, a human rights advocate, defeated the dictator's son and namesake, Ferdinand Marcos, in a vote for the vice presidency in May.

She said Duterte's decision would not bring unity but would "deepen the unhealed wounds" of Marcos' victims.

Some Roman Catholic bishops and left-wing activists also opposed Marcos' burial.

"It is a great insult," said one prominent bishop, Arturo Bastes.

Duterte brushed off the criticism.—*Reuters*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MCC HA LONG VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCC HA LONG VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.8.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV IRRAWADDY STAR VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV IRRAWADDY STAR VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.8.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV FRISIA ILLER VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FRISIA ILLER VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.8.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.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 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

‘Suicide Squad’ smashes records with $135.1 million debut, ‘Nine Lives’ dies

Cast members (L-R) Viola Davis, Will Smith, Margot Robbie, Jared Leto and Joel Kinnaman attend the world premiere of “Suicide Squad” in Manhattan, New York, US, on 1 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

LOS ANGELES — “Suicide Squad” smashed records, scoring a colossal $135.1 million debut despite suffering some of the worst reviews of the year.

That sets a new high-water mark for an August launch, lapping “Guardians of the Galaxy’s” $94.3 million bow. It also ranks as a new personal best for star Will Smith, trumping “I Am Legend’s” $77.2 million debut in 2007.

The action spectacle is also resonating with foreign crowds. “Suicide Squad” earned $132 million overseas from 57 territories, bringing its global total to more than $267 million.

“It bested anything that we could have expected,” said Jeff Goldstein, Warner Bros. distribution executive vice president. “The marketing campaign was brilliant and the performances by the cast, starting with Will Smith, Margot Robbie, and Jared Leto were just extraordinary. They’re fun and wicked and fans enjoy it.”

“Suicide Squad” has been one of the most hotly anticipated films of the summer. Buzz on the film has built steadily since Warner Bros. released a teaser trailer at last year’s Comic-Con that highlighted Jared Leto’s grill-sporting Joker and Margot Robbie looking demented in pigtails as Harley Quinn. However, the studio was caught off guard by the fusillade of withering reviews and their were concerns that the poor reception would dampen the opening numbers.

And boy were those reviews awful. The Wall Street Journal’s Joe Morgenstern called the film “... an all-out attack on the whole idea of entertainment,” New York’s David Edelstein branded it “the worst of the worst,” and MTV’s Amy Nicholson dismissed the picture as “two hours of padding.”

Audiences appeared to like the film better than critics, handing the film a B+ CinemaScore. Younger consumers appear to like the film better than older moviegoers, with audiences under the age of 18 giving it an A rating. The question is will “Suicide Squad” show some endurance?

“There’s a major disconnect with between what the critics are saying and what audiences are seeing,” said Goldstein.

“Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice,” the previous entry in DC Comic’s series of interconnected superhero films, was also a critical piñata. It managed to overcome the bad notices to debut to $166 million, but the poor word-of-mouth caught up to the film in its second weekend, pushing receipts down by nearly 70%.

There are signs the hostile reviews are already hobbling “Suicide Squad.” The film dropped sharply on Saturday, falling 41% from its Friday numbers, although it should be said that those grosses include Thursday pre-show results.

The studio has a lot riding on “Suicide Squad.” It spent $175 million making the picture, including tens of millions on reshoots. But the cost isn’t the only concern. DC is struggling to generate the same level of excitement for its stable of Batman, Superman, and other Justice League fixtures that Marvel has managed to stoke for its movies about costumed avengers. It needs more of its films to be beloved as well as financially successful.

Production on the film was reportedly rushed with writer and director David Ayer having less than two months to turn a script around. The film centres on a team of super villains who are recruited for a black ops mission by the US government.

Men accounted for 54% of “Suicide Squad’s” opening weekend audience, with more than half of the audience clocking in under the age of 25. Warner Bros. released the film across 4,255 locations. Imax accounted for 381 of those venues, and the big screen company comprised $11 million of the first weekend gross.—*Reuters*

Jackie Chan wows Aussie audience on his first public talk in Sydney

Actor Jackie Chan poses for the cameras at the announcement of the beginning of production for the science fiction action film ‘Bleeding Steel’, as the biggest budget Chinese film ever shot in Australia, in Sydney, Australia on 28 July. PHOTO: REUTERS

SYDNEY — Hollywood ace Jackie Chan wowed hundreds of people at the Sydney Opera House on Saturday night with an honest take on how he got started in show business and the ups and downs he had to endure in achieving success.

Chan who is currently in Australia filming his latest flick “Bleeding Steel” was speaking to a packed audience at his first public Sydney talk titled “Jackie Chan in Conversation.”

“I came to Australia when I was 13. I think at that time there was only something like 13 million people in the whole country and this is a huge country, it’s very little compared to Hong Kong, but there (in Hong Kong) everywhere you go you see people, people, people but in Canberra when I walk out the street at 5pm there is nobody,” Chan said.

Chan also recalled how he had to resort to using hand gestures and facial expressions to communicate with the Australians during his early days in Canberra as he hardly spoke a word of English then.

“My father used to leave me at the shopping mall daily before heading off to work. He would also give me some money to buy food. As I couldn’t speak a word of English then, I had a hard time buying food with the money my father had left me.”

“When people spoke to me in English, I would just nod my head and walk away, because I didn’t know how to answer them back. In the end, I would stay hungry for hours and by the time my father came (to pick me), I would be starving. That’s when I decided that I could no longer go on (and that) I needed to learn English,” Chan said.

Chan’s father later made arrangements for him to attend a government school that was offering free English lessons. But by being the only Chinese student at the school, Chan revealed how his teacher had decided to give him an English name as his original name was hard to pronounce.

“At the school, the teacher asked me what my name was and I said Chan Kong-San, the teacher said nope your name is “Steven”, I said okay,” he said, sparking laughter among the audience.

But the name “Steven” did not last as Chan later took on another English name “Jack” which was first given to him by a Taiwanese man he had befriended in Canberra.

“This man had found me a job at the construction site. The owner of the firm asked him what my name was, and since his name was Jack, my name became Jack as well. This was also the first time I learned how to use the words like cement, and shovel,” Chan said.

Chan later decided to adopt the name “Jack” permanently but added the “ie” at the end, after a Feng Shui expert told him that it would bring him better luck. And Chan hasn’t looked back since, from a low-end stuntman, Chan soon worked his way up and became a worldwide sensation for his leading roles in Kung-Fu style movies. Today, at 62, Chan has starred in more than 250 films and invested close to 50 years of his life in the trade.—*Xinhua*

Dramatic volcano-themed light show opens Festival on Edinburgh’s Castle Rock

EDINBURGH — The volcanic rock on which Edinburgh Castle perches became the screen for a 3-D digital light show on Sunday night, turning the western facade into a kaleidoscope of its past for the opening ceremony of the 2016 Edinburgh Festival, the world’s biggest annual arts event.

The 350-million-year geology of the craggy Scottish capital was the inspiration for the show, bathing the rock in cascades of light to the delight of the 27,000-strong crowd watching live.

The animation focused on the idea of “deep time”, a geological concept pioneered by James Hutton in Scotland in the 18th century, which helps to explain the earth’s formation.

The show was created using architectural mapping technology and took almost 15 km of cable and 42 projectors to pull off. Set to an electronic soundtrack by Glasgow rock band Mogwai, it was billed by the organisers as “one of the largest and most unusual pieces of projection undertaken anywhere in the world”.—*Reuters*

Venezuelan art exhibition honours legacy of Frida Kahlo

CARACAS — An art gallery in the Venezuelan capital is honouring the late Mexican artist Frida Kahlo with an exposition featuring the works of 50 female Venezuelan artist.

The exhibit — entitled "Always Frida" — is being displayed at the Florida Art Gallery in Caracas marking the 109th anniversary of Kahlo's birth.

Kahlo, whose reputation has bloomed in Venezuela especially in the last decade, is famous mainly for self-portraits and her depiction of female experiences and forms.

"In this exhibition we are featuring art masters as well as amateur artists, all very representative of our country and, in fact, all female. I am really pleased that they all had a chance to work on their vision of Frida in the freest manner possible," Mirla Soto, the exhibition's curator told Reuters.

Kahlo, whose life was fraught with tumultuous affairs including with Leon Trotsky and Josephine Baker, died in 1954 at the age of 47. —*Reuters*

Uchimura hit with $5,000 roaming bill from playing Pokemon Go

Japanese gymnast Kohei Uchimura (L), the reigning Olympic and world champion, and teammate Kenzo Shirai relax together at the athletes' village in Rio de Janeiro on 29 July, 2016, ahead of the Summer Games beginning 5 August. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

RIO DE JANEIRO — For all-around gymnastics gold medal favourite Kohei Uchimura, Pokemon Go turned into Pokemon dough in Brazil.

The reigning Olympic and world champion confided on Sunday he was hit with a 500,000 yen ($5,000) data roaming bill after becoming hooked on Pokemon Go since arriving in Brazil for the Rio Games.

Uchimura said he downloaded the app when he touched down in Sao Paulo for pre-Olympic training camp and just like so many around the world, became instantly hooked — not knowing he didn't have a flat rate for overseas data usage.

When Uchimura checked his bill, he couldn't believe his eyes.

"500,000 yen..." sighed the defending six-time world champion.

Added teammate Kenzo Shirai, "He looked dead at the team meal that day."

Uchimura, though, was ultimately spared of the huge bill after contacting his phone company to explain the situation. In the end, he got away with the daily flat rate of 3,000 yen.

"I really lucked out," Uchimura said.—*Kyodo News*

Katie Ledecky (USA) of USA competes on her way to setting a new world record during 2016 Rio Olympics, Swimming Final, Women's 400m Freestyle Final at Olympic Aquatics Stadium in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 7 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

More records fall as Phelps collects 19th gold

RIO DE JANEIRO — Michael Phelps picked up his 19th gold medal on a second night of world records in the Olympic pool, with Katie Ledecky cruising to women's 400 metres freestyle victory and Britain's Adam Peaty running away with the men's 100 breaststroke.

Sweden's Sarah Sjostrom extended Saturday's record spree in winning the 100 metres butterfly, and Peaty and Ledecky followed suit in the next two finals before the US men's team, with Phelps swimming second, took the 4x100 freestyle relay.

Six swimming world records have now fallen in two days of competition, and the United States moved level with Australia on two gold medals each.

Phelps, the most decorated Olympian of all time, now has 19 golds, two silvers and two bronzes. For his relay team mates Caeleb Dressel and Ryan Held, it was their first Olympic medal.

London Olympics 100 freestyle champion Nathan Adrian swam the final leg for the Americans, touching first ahead of France and Australia.

"On the block I thought my heart was going to explode, I was so hyped, so excited," said Phelps, competing in his fifth Olympics.

Ledecky, the rising US swimming sensation, shaved 1.91 seconds off her own world record on the way to the 400m gold, the first stage of a rare treble she hopes to complete along with the 200m and 800m.

"It's pure happiness," the 19-year-old told reporters.

"I wanted the first 200 to hurt as little as possible and I really felt like I could build into it and really explode that last 50," she added after leading the race from start to finish.

Britain's Peaty set his second world record in consecutive days, and seemed surprised by the margin of his victory — 1.56 seconds — over defending champion Cameron van der Burgh of South Africa.

"I touched the wall and looked around and thought 'where is everybody?' Peaty told reporters. The last British man to win an Olympic swimming gold was Adrian Moorhouse in the same event in 1988, six years before Peaty was born. On a big night for the British team, Jazz Carlin won a silver medal behind Ledecky.

In the butterfly, Sjostrom became the first Swedish woman to win an Olympic gold medal, with Canada's 16-year-old Penny Oleksiak taking silver. American Dana Vollmer, the 2012 champion, clinched bronze.

"The feeling is totally crazy. I didn't realise it was a world record," Sjostrom said.

"I knew I was the big favorite. I was under pressure, so I tried to focus on no disasters. Before the start I said to myself: 'It's just a pool. It's nothing. I know what to do.'"

In a reminder of the doping controversies that dogged the build-up to the Olympics, there were loud boos for Russian breaststroker Yulia Efimova and the men's relay team.

Efimova, who has served two doping suspensions, succeeded in an appeal last week against being banned from Rio.

She was one of a number of Russians who argued successfully that excluding them from the Olympics would be punishing them again for the same offense. She qualified second for Monday's 100 breaststroke final, 0.02 seconds behind Lilly King of the United States.—*Reuters*

MRTV Entertainment Channel

(9-8-2016, Tuesday)

06 : 00 pm
- Weather Report
- Music Programme

06 : 15 pm
- Cartoon Programme "Ah My Goddess" (Part-2)

07 : 10 pm
- International Drama Series

07 : 50 pm
- International Drama Series

08 : 30 pm
- MRTV Entertainment Music

08 : 45 pm
- Taung Byone Nat Festival (Part-2)

09 : 10 pm
- International Movie Songs

09 : 25 pm
- Pyi Thu Ni Ti

09 : 45 pm
- Geographic Centre of Myanmar

10 : 05 pm
- Myanmar Video

From 9-8-2016 (Tuesday) 6:00 pm
To 10-8-2016 (Wednesday) 6:00 pm

mitv Myanmar International

(9-8-2016 07:00am ~ 10-8-2016 07:00am) MST

Today Fresh

07:03	Am	News
07:26	Am	Myanmar Game Changers (Ep- II)
07:52	Am	Sai Ye Kwan
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	Travelogue: A Tour in Korea (Ep-2)
08:40	Am	Sweet Delicacy of Pathein
08:48	Am	Today Myanmar: Suspension of High Rise Buildings
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	Life In Night ……..Art In Life (Ep-1)
10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	Yatana Theinga City and Shwe Bon Yatanamingalar Palace
10:44	Am	Toddy Palm Product Shop
10:55	Am	The Life of Photographer at Shwedagon Pagoda

(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-6)
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	A visit to Htam Hsan Cave A Miraculous Place
08:52	Pm	Crocodile Keeper

(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (09:00 Am ~ 11:00 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)

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

6th Waxing of Wagaung 1378 ME | Tuesday, 9 August, 2016

Late Ibrahimovic strike gives Mourinho first United trophy

LONDON — Manchester United's new striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic's struck late to ensure Jose Mourinho's reign got off to a winning start as the FA Cup holders beat champions Leicester City 2-1 in the Community Shield at Wembley on Sunday.

Ibrahimovic leapt above Foxes captain Wes Morgan in the 83rd minute to head Antonio Valencia's cross beyond goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel, the Swede marking his official debut with a decisive contribution and securing United a record 21st Shield.

Leicester's England forward Jamie Vardy had equalised early in the second half after capitalising on a hideous lapse from Marouane Fellaini following Jesse Lingard's superb solo opener for United just past the half-hour mark.

"It's an important victory but we have lots of work to do," Mourinho told BT Sport after the traditional curtain-raiser to the English season. "I wouldn't be ambitious if I said it was a fantastic performance. It wasn't."

"It's always important to start with a trophy."

United, who confirmed in an official statement before the match that Juventus have given midfielder Paul Pogba permission to have a medical with the club, started brightly, with Wayne Rooney and Ibrahimovic forming a lively forward pairing.

"It feels good," Ibrahimovic told BT Sport. "The first official game, we play for a trophy and we win."

Manchester United celebrate with the trophy after winning the FA Community Shield at Wembley Stadium on 7 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

"This is my 31st trophy. I'm super happy," added the former Juventus, Inter Milan, Barcelona and Paris St Germain striker. "Hopefully I can win much more than this."

Another of United's new signings, Eric Bailly, made an encouraging start, although he was regularly tested by Vardy.

Leicester threatened on the break, and Vardy's fine interplay with Shinji Okazaki saw the latter send a lofted shot just wide of David De Gea's goal in the 18th minute.

Okazaki was then denied by the crossbar a minute later when he met Marc Albrighton's corner with a powerful header as the Premier League champions threatened United's goal.

However, it was Lingard, whose sublime volley settled the FA Cup final against Crystal Palace in May, who opened the scoring when he slalomed past a quartet of attempted challenges before firing a low shot beyond Schmeichel.

"I thought the minimum we deserved was penalties but when you play against great champions, this can happen," said Leicester manager Claudio Ranieri.—*Reuters*

United's Mourinho relieved to finally get his hands on Pogba

LONDON — Jose Mourinho was delighted that Manchester United were on the brink of signing France midfielder Paul Pogba from Serie A champions Juventus, the Portuguese coach said on Sunday.

Mourinho was speaking after United had released a statement saying Juve had given the player permission to have a medical with the club ahead of a potential world record transfer.

"Finally, it's amazing that such a good player is with us," Mourinho told a news conference after United's 2-1 Community Shield victory over English champions Leicester City.

"Finally we have him. He comes to a winning side, a team who have (won) their last two matches, in the FA Cup and today," Mourinho added. "He has to work hard to come to the team."—*Reuters*

Oksana Chusovitina (UZB) of Uzbekistan competes during 2016 Rio Olympics, Artistic Gymnastics, Women's Qualification, Subdivisions at Rio Olympic Arena in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. PHOTO: REUTERS

Age is just a number for Chusovitina

RIO DE JANEIRO — If there was a gold medal on offer at every competition for the oldest gymnast on show, Oksana Chusovitina would have needed to hire Fort Knox to stockpile a hoard of precious metal.

In a sport overpopulated by tiny teenagers, 41-year-old Chusovitina has kept her body "lean and mean" for over four decades so that she can compete against rivals younger than her 17-year-old son Alisher.

"When I compete ... if they gave a few more marks for age it would have been great!" quipped Chusovitina, whose gamble to keep competing paid off as she put younger challengers to shame on Sunday by qualifying for the eight-woman vault final.

So long is her career that the majority of her Rio rivals were not even born when she was a member of the triumphant Unified Team, representing former Soviet republics, in 1992.

There was certainly a lot of love in the Rio Olympic Arena for the oldest ever gymnast to compete at a Games.

The cheers were loud and prolonged when the venue's MC introduced the Uzbek as "a living legend" and the volume went up a few notches as she sprinted down the runway before launching into her first vault — a layout front somersault with 1-1/2 twists.

A hop back on landing did little to dampen the mood and a score of 15.166 proved that she was not in Rio to simply celebrate competing at a record seventh Olympics for a gymnast.

Wearing a pink and white shimmering leotard, her toned arm muscles were in full display as she lifted off for her second vault — a double twisting Tsukahara — which earned her 14.833.

"I really love the sport, I love to give pleasure to the public. I love to come out and perform for the public and for the fans," said Chusovitina, who has competed under the Soviet Union, Unified Team, German and Uzbek flags during her career.

Asked how she rated her performance, she assessed: "I'm alive I'm well and that means everything's okay."

The Uzbek's gymnastics lifespan defies logic as the next oldest competitor in Rio after her is 32-year-old Vasiliki Millousi from Greece.

While Chusovitina does not think what she is doing is that remarkable, 1996 Olympic champion Kerri Strug said it was "unbelievable" that one of her contemporaries was still going strong.

"Kudos to her for being so disciplined with her diet, staying lean and mean at that age. It only gets harder to compete with these youngsters but she's doing it," the American told Reuters.—*Reuters*

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR
Editorial Section — (+95) (01)8604529, Fax — (01) 8604305
Advertisement & Circulation — (+95) (01) 8604532
gnlmdaily@gmail.com
www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
www.facebook.com/globalnewlightofmyanmar

"Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629."