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STATE COUNSELLOR WRAPS UP VISIT TO CHINA

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi returned to Myanmar yesterday after wrapping up her five-day visit to China.

During a stopover at Kunming on the way back to Yangon, she held talks with Mr Li Jiheng, Secretary of Yunnan Provincial Committee of Communist Party of China, and Mr Chen Hao, Governor of Yunnan Province, at the Best Yuechang Hotel near the Kunming International Airport.

During the meeting, they discussed special bilateral cooperation, the rule of law in border areas, peace-making in Myanmar and close cooperation between the two parties.

Following the meeting, Mr Li Jiheng hosted a dinner in honour of the State Counsellor

and members of the Myanmar delegation.

The Myanmar delegation was welcomed at the Yangon International Airport by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein and officials.

"China is the first non-ASEAN country the State Counsellor visited since taking office this April. So, China thanks her so much. This trip is also considered paying attention to the friendship between the two neighbours. We also found that the Chinese government is very willing to work for further improvement of the bilateral relations after the new government took office," said Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin, who is also member of the delegation. —Myanmar News Agency



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is welcomed by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein and officials on her arrival at the Yangon International Airport. PHOTO: MNA

Tripartite meeting focuses on preparation for Union Peace Conference

Despite acknowledging that the framework for political dialogue is a priority, a tripartite meeting comprised of representatives from the government, ethnic armed organizations and political parties today cited time restraints and focused on preparation matters for the Union Peace Conference-21st century Panglong.

The Delegation for Political Negotiation (DPN) representing non-signatories to the Nation-

wide Ceasefire Agreement proposed the meeting to change the agenda.

"The time for reviewing the political dialogue framework is too tight for us. Some parts need to be reviewed thoroughly. So, I proposed the meeting to focus the peace conference today so that we can get time for the framework," said U Khu U Rae, leader of the DPN.

At the meeting today, the

preparation committee for the Union Peace Conference-21st century Panglong, ethnic armed organizations and the Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee discussed agreements for the political dialogue framework and preparation for the Union Peace Conference.

The tripartite meeting will discuss the political dialogue framework tomorrow in the morning session, said U Hla

Maung Shwe, Secretary of the preparation committee for the Union Peace Conference, adding that the preparation for the Union Peace Conference will be discussed in the afternoon session with participation of eight representatives from the non-signatories to the NCA.

The three armed groups in northern Myanmar, namely the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDA),

the Arakan Army (AA) and the Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA), are expected to be invited again by the government to the Union Peace Conference and they have said they are willing to attend, said U Khu U Rae.

Participating in today's meeting were 18 representatives from the government, 23 representatives from the ethnic armed organizations and 10 from UPD-JC.—Ye Khaung Nyunt

We would like to give good news that those who come to Okkala Golf Resort and play ten times and above monthly will be granted free Green Fees once and that in the event of Hole In One, the golfer will be given a KENBO-125-motorcycle.

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Myanmar needs to break into the European markets, say jade dealers

MORE than the sole reliance on the Chinese jade market, efforts are required to break into European markets as well in order to protect Myanmar's jade market, say sources in the jade trading industry.

In order to revive the domestic jade market by breaking into European markets, jade dealers exclaim that more needs to be done to clamp down on illegal jade exports and highlight a lack any technology within the country to produce finished jade products.

"If we could cut jade like the Chinese, it would probably secure a market with foreign tourists who come on holiday to Myanmar. But, it's still very difficult to procure such technology in the country which would allow for this to become a reality," said U Kyaw Thu, a jade dealer from Mandalay.

He added that if Myanmar could produce cut, finished jade products, it would allow jade produced domestically to secure trade with European markets, while the primary buyers of jade around the world are reportedly Chinese tourists.

"Since we only have the capacity domestically to produce uncut jade, it's all exported to China. China then cuts the jade



Traders evaluate jade stones during an emporium in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

into finished products which it sells across the world. Those who want to purchase jade also travel to buy it in China, so their jade market is booming," said U Myo Myint Naing, a jade trader.

Talks have previously been held with Chinese cut-jade pro-

ducers on establishing such enterprises within Myanmar, but expensive land rental prices and an erratic electricity supply has hindered any such ventures from coming to fruition, say jade dealers.

The Southeast Asian nations

of Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, together with China, all possess natural jade deposits, but the majority of the world's highest quality jade is reportedly found in Myanmar's northern Kachin State region of Hpa Kant. —Myitmakha News Agency

Indonesia, Myanmar organise joint cultural show in Yangon

Indonesia and Myanmar organised a joint cultural show at the National Theatre in Yangon yesterday, with the aim of promoting cultural ties between the two countries.

Ambassador of Indonesia to Myanmar Dr Ito Sumardi and Rector of the University of National Culture and Fine Arts U Aung Naing Myint addressed the show.

Legong Bali Dance entertained the audience with Balinese dance, while students from the Indonesian International School Yangon staged Ramayana epics and performed Indonesian traditional music.

Students from the University of National Culture and Fine Arts presented five forms of dance from Pyu, Bagan, Inwa, Konbaung and contemporary. The dancers also entertained the audience with puppetry. —Zaw Gyi (Panita)

Fish farmers advocate breeding catfish in tarpaulin lined ponds

IN order to mitigate fatalities, crossbred catfish should be farmed in clear, tarpaulin-lined ponds in lieu of the conventional earth-dug ponds, say those in the fish farming industry.

Despite a quicker growth rate from the freedom to move around, rendering less time required before the fish are ready for sale, these attributes to breeding catfish in earthen ponds are negated by the murky waters of such ponds which make monitoring the size of the fish, and how much feed they require, a tricky task, resulting in many fatalities from unequal growth rates.

"The DNA of crossbred catfish is a little rough; the large ones have a tendency eat the smaller ones. Tarpaulin lined ponds make it easy to assess the catfish and keep them under control. It's also less strenuous to make sure they stay healthy - we can always keep an eye on them. Less feed goes to waste and it's not troublesome to estimate their weight. The plastic lined ponds also require less water, which makes things convenient. It's a method of breeding which can be practiced at home, opening up a source of revenue for homeowners," explained Moe Ye Win, a fish farmer from Yangon's

Khayan Township.

As both catfish and banded snakehead species of fish both possess two sets of gills, they can reportedly be bred in tarpaulin-lined ponds on in large indoor fish tanks.

Tarpaulin-lined ponds can also reportedly be built with just bamboo and wooden poles for support, allowing fish breeding enterprises to be setup in narrow spaces, such as rooftops.

"Dependent upon the type of fed, it's best to change the tank's water at least once a day. As for times when the fish give birth, or need re-hydration salts, 800 grams of course salt should be added to the tank. It doesn't need to be added all the time, though. The narrowness of the tarpaulin ponds, however, doesn't make them suitable for breeding carp," said Zeyar Gyi, a crossbred catfish farmer from Sagaing Region's Ye-U Township.

Approximately 5,000 crossbred catfish measuring one-and-a-half inches in size can be bred in a 225 square feet tarpaulin lined tank, before they must reportedly be moved to a larger tank when they grow to between two and three inches in size, say fish farmers. —Myitmakha News Agency

Talks held by Ministry of Commerce over exportation of gold

THE Ministry of Commerce has made it known talks are being held with government departments concerned in allowing gold and some gemstones to be exported to foreign countries.

The ministry reportedly released a statement on August 16 which revealed five of the 12 types of goods which are now permitted to be exported to foreign countries.

"For now, the primarily focus of the current talks is gold and diamonds. The first phase of dialogue is over. The body, which has been formed of associations and gov-

ernment ministries, will continue to discuss the procurement of export permits," said U Khin Maung Lwin, assistant secretary of the Ministry of Commerce.

A number of stakeholders including the Myanmar Gold Entrepreneurs Association, Myanmar Gems and Jewelry Entrepreneurs Association, Myanmar Federation of Mining Association are reportedly working together with the Ministry of Mines and Ministry of Commerce on an initiative to import gold and gemstones into Myanmar from foreign countries, produce finished products domes-

tically, before then exporting them back to international markets.

Sesame oil, mustard seeds and oil, together with sunflower seeds and oil are the first five types of goods exempt from the foreign export ban.

The list of products banned from export to foreign countries has reportedly been amended based on the current requirements of the domestic market, while restrictions are still in place on the export of items such as ivory, endangered animals, un-refined crude oil, gun powder and items of antiquity. —Myitmakha News Agency

Chinese business delegation observes investment opportunities in Myanmar

A Chinese business delegation has recently observed several projects in Myanmar following meetings with members of the Myanmar tax services association in Yangon.

The 13-member delegation comprised of businessmen from Beijing, Shanghai, Taiwan, Hong-kong and Malaysia expressed their willingness for investing in construction, real estate, hotel, human resources for labour and communications sectors through cooperation with partners in Myanmar.

At the meeting on 17 August

at the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, U Nyi Nyi Aung, the

chairman of the association, clarified taxation and investment matters in Myanmar. —Aung Thura



PHOTO: AUNG THURA



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi holds talks with Mr Li Jiheng, Secretary of Yunnan Provincial Committee of Communist Party of China, in Kunming, on 21 August, 2016. PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY

Voices of members of Myanmar's China delegation



U Kyaw Tin. PHOTO: MNA



U Htein Lwin. PHOTO: MNA



Mr Hong Liang. PHOTO: MNA

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs

"THE two significant achievements of the this trip are: an agreement on making a survey on feasibility for construction of Kunlong Bridge was signed. Another one is, the Chinese government will grant one billion yuan of assistance as a gesture of appreciating the achievements in Myanmar and the bilateral relations.

The cash assistance is agreed to be spent on sectors which can benefit Myanmar people, such as bilateral coop-

eration in cultural, agricultural and cultural sectors, especially in maintaining the river system."

U Htein Lwin, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Electric Power and Energy

"The Chinese government has acknowledged the commission we formed for the Myitstone dam project. We also discussed bilateral cooperation in the energy sector, which can bring a quick win for both peoples of the two countries. I believe that this trip is successful and the bilateral friendship will be further strengthened."

Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Hong Liang

"During the visit, the two leaders of both sides agreed to promote China-Myanmar co-operation and relations and to strengthen the Pauk Phaw friendship. The Chinese government would keep up its support of the peace-making efforts of the Myanmar government and would take a more active and constructive role in the peace-making process in Myanmar. We really believe that the 21st Century Panglong will meet with success.—Myanmar News Agency

Tatmadaw denies clash between Indian army and NSCN-K on Myanmar soil

THE Tatmadaw has denied there was a recent exchange of gunfire on Myanmar soil between India's army and an ethnic armed group.

Some 30 Indian soldiers were reported to have exchanged fire with the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Khaplang) (NSCN-K) inside Myanmar territory on 19 August, local internet sources and some of India's media quoted the NSCN-K as saying.

Reports said the fighting lasted three hours, with the Indian troops suffering heavy losses. The Indian army's 12 paratroopers entered the country first and were then followed by ground troops.

Witnesses reported that the gun battle between the NSC-

N(K) and the NSCN(IM) began at 6.30am and went on till 9am inside India, one mile west of the Myanmar-India border on 19 August. Myanmar's military columns active on the border were on full alert to ward off foreign troops from entering the country.

The Tatmadaw's correct information dissemination centre said the country would neither accept nor encourage any armed groups to be stationed on its soil to potentially terrorise the government, which the top brass of the two countries have solemnly pledged in previous meetings.

The Tatmadaw is working in tandem with India's army, rendering cooperation in patrolling the border and exchanging information.—Myanmar News Agency

Censorship Board meets to address challenges



Union Minister Dr Pe Myint speaks at meeting with the film censorship board in Yangon. PHOTO: MNA

INFORMATION Union Minister Dr Pe Myint met the film censorship board in Yangon yesterday to find out solutions to the challenges and complaints in their work, urging the censors to raise their voices.

Dr Pe Myint described the call for freedom of expression as the nature of political reform, stressing that they need to take into account the cultural context in exercising their rights granted in the existing censorship law.

"As time passes, so do perspectives. We must consider the values and norms of the society in deciding to censor what is contrary to our tradition and culture," he said. The union minister urged the censorship board to try to understand their rights and follow the 1996 censorship law.

The union minister pointed out the need for relaxations in censorship, calling for concerted efforts to enact a new law. —Yi Yi Myint and Ohnmar Thant



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Over K7 billion agricultural loan disbursed to farmers in Mandalay

BETWEEN April and 17 August, the Myanmar Agriculture Development Bank (Mandalay Branch) has lent over K7 billion in loans to farmers across Mandalay Region to grow monsoon crops, said its manager U Win Myint.

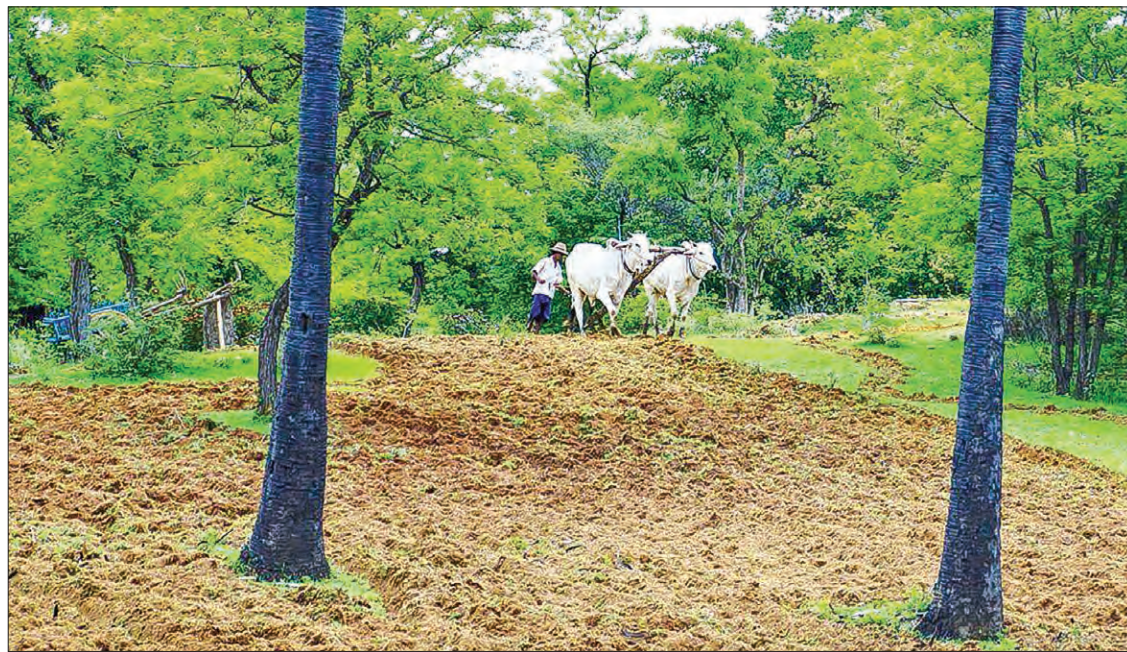
This year, the bank provided a total of K7.3088 billion in loans for over 1 million acres of farmland in 23 townships in Mandalay.

The majority of agricultural loans went to Wundwin Township, which has about 70,000 acres of farmland, followed by Kyaukse Township with 57,600 acres.

The MADB granted nearly K1 billion to farmers in Wundwin Township and over K740 million to those in Kyaukse Township.

The bank granted K150,000 per acre of rice plantation and K20,000 per acre of other crops including beans and pulses, cotton and maize with an interest of under one kyat.

"Growers wish to take out loans for every acre of farmland



A farmer working at a farm. PHOTO: AUNG THANT KHAING

they own. However, the bank grants agricultural loans no more than 10 acres per farmer under its lending rules," said U Myint Zaw, a bean grower from Thabeikgyin Township.

Farmers have to return the seasonal agricultural loans no later than 15 April next year. Action will be taken against those who fail to return the loans within the set time frame to the bank under

the existing laws and bylaws.

"Farmers wishing to obtain the loan needs to open a saving account at the nearest branches of the MADB," U Win Myint said.—Aung Thant Khaing

Myanmar National Human Rights Commission releases statement on Katha Jail

U ZAW WIN and Dr Nyan Zaw of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission inspected Katha Jail and met 39 inmates there on 15 and 16 August, according to a statement issued by the MNHRC on Friday.

In its statement, the MNHRC called for the improvement of dormitories, kitchen and prison walls, water supply, toilets, appointment of staff, substitution of doctors and nurses, actions taken against inmates who tried to escape the jail, increased funds for the extension of projects and preventive measures against infectious diseases.

It came after MP U Myint Kyi of Katha Township raised concerns over the conditions at Katha Jail at the session of the Union parliament on 28 July.— Myanmar News Agency

Crime NEWS

Fatal road accident in Nay Pyi Taw

A HEAD-ON-COLLISION on Friday occurred between a 12-wheel truck and a motorbike on the road between Yangon and Mandalay in Tatkhon Township in the capital Nay Pyi Taw, resulting

in the death of the motorbike rider. The 12-wheel vehicle driven by Hsan Htwe Lwin, 41, en route from Pinyinana to Tatkhon, collided with the motorbike driven by Ye Aung between mile post Nos.

274/0 and 274/1 on the highway road. The 20-year-old motorcyclist died instantly as a result of the collision.

Action is being taken against the truck driver.—Tin Tun Tar

Illegal bags of ammonium nitrate seized in Mohnyin

POLICE seized more than 2,000 50-kilogram bags of ammonium nitrate on Thursday

in Mohnyin Township in Kachin State. Ammonium nitrate, the nitrate salt of the ammonium cation,

is predominantly used in agriculture as a high-nitrogen fertilizer. Its other major use is as an explosive in mining, quarrying, and construction.

Acting on a tip-off, local authorities searched several 12-wheel trucks stopped beside Shwebo-Myitkyina Road near Kanthag-on Village and found nearly 1,500 bags of ammonium nitrate. They also discovered 714 bags of Yunan Top Brand ammonium nitrate on another 12-wheel vehicle.

Police are still investigating the case in an effort to arrest the owners of the illegal bags of ammonium nitrate, who fled the scene.—067



Ammonium nitrate bags seized being seen. PHOTO: 067

Over 17,000 tonnes of illegally harvested wood seized under 100-day plan

AUTHORITIES seized more than 17,000 tonnes of illegally harvested wood nationwide under the current government's 100-day plan, arresting over 2,500 smugglers, according to figures released by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental

Conservation.

Between April and August, a total of 17,304.33 tonnes and 785 related machinery were collected from 2,565 traffickers by local authorities.

As part of its effort to implement sustainable forest man-

agement, the ministry has made concerted efforts to amend the loopholes of the existing forest law.

The local authorities seized over 40,000 tonnes of illegal teak and hardwood last year.—GNLM

Gold, silver wares collected from armed smuggler

A 39-YEAR-OLD man on Thursday was arrested by police after he was found in possession of a cache of gold and silver wares as well as illegal weapons.

After a tip-off to police from a member of the public, a combined team, including members of the armed forces, raided a house of Aung Khaing Oo (a) Gatone on Udaungkan Street-8 in Ward-2 in Phayathonesu

Township in Kayin State.

The authorities discovered a cache of several weapons including a rifle, a pistol, a sniper rifle, bullets and a hand grenade as well as 4,537 grams of different forms of gold and silver wares worth over K1.5 billion from the house owner.

The suspect is now facing legal charges.—Tun Tun Htwe (Hpa-an)



Aung Khaing Oo alias Gatone. PHOTO: TUN TUN HTWE (HPA-AN)

LOCAL Business

Number of flood insurance increases

THE number of those who have purchased flood insurance increased this year when compared to last year, it is learnt from U Aye Min Thein, the managing director of Myanma Insurance.

Besides flood insurance, locals have also purchased fire and comprehensive general liability insurance. The compensation for flood damage has been paid mostly in Yangon, Mandalay, Bago, Magwe and Ayeyawady regions.

If locals purchase fire insurance as well as comprehensive general liability insurance including flood insurance, they do not need to be that concerned, U Aye Min Thein said. The private com-

panies concerned will conduct a survey in those flood stricken areas and the locals who purchase the insurance will receive compensation. This helps to ease the burden of the nation, he added.

Additionally, the Insurance Business Regulatory Board has been planning compensation under crop insurance. But it takes a year or a year and half to formulate this. Myanma Insurance and private insurance businesses will jointly implement this, he continued. Myanma Insurance paid Ks1. billion in fire insurance compensation in the first six months of this year. Compensations have shot up this year compared to previous years. —200



A family rows their boat through a flooded road in Kyaung Kone in Ayeyarwady Region, August 12, 2016.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Inflation rate in July declines slightly

THE inflation rate in July shows a small decrease. The rate of inflation as of July was 12.12 per cent, whereas the inflation rate as of June was 12.14 per cent, it is learnt from the Consumer Price Index and inflation rate issued by the Central Statistical Organization under the Ministry of Planning and Finance.

The consumer price index (CPI) in July 2016 rose when compared to a similar period last year. The consumer price index in July is 224.68 points whereas the figure was 204.37 index points last year. The inflation rate based on CPI as of July 2016 was 12.12 per cent whereas the rate as of June, 2016 was 12.14 per cent. The inflation rate from July 2015 to July 2016 was 9.94 per cent.

Chin State had the highest inflation in July with a rate of 29.60 per cent, followed by Kaya State

with 21.33 per cent and Rakhine State with 21.32 per cent.

The highest rate of inflation in Hakha, Chin State in July stands at 31.86 per cent. The average inflation rate in Loikaw, Kaya State was 21.78 per cent whereas that in Sit-twe, Rakhine State was 21.12 per cent, it is learnt.

Myanmar's inflation rate is expected to reach 11.68 per cent this fiscal year, it is learnt from the statistics of the Budget Department. The inflation rate in first five-year plan from 2011-2012 FY to 2015-2016 FY rose.

To reduce the inflation rate, authorities are making an effort in the second five-year plan using the policies of finance, currency, trade and foreign currency control, according to the second five-year National Development plan. —GNLM

MIC grants permission for nine investments

MYANMAR Investment Commission (MIC) granted permission on 19th August for nine local and foreign investments, including a five-star hotel.

Pun Hlaing Lodge Hotel Management Co., Ltd has been given permission to operate a five-star hotel on 2.196 acres of land at Pan Hlaing Golf Estate, Hlaingthaya Township, Yangon, it is learnt from a meeting of the MIC.

The investment proposals to MIC will be approved by MIC on the basis of the scrutiny and the opinions of the state and regional government concerned and the ministries concerned, said an official from the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

MIC granted permission on Diamond Palace Hotels Co., Ltd as Myanmar citizen investment to run Myeikhtila Hotel which is

located on the Yangon-Mandalay road in Myeikhtila Township in Mandalay Region. As a 100 per cent foreign investment, Myanmar Gigi Leather Goods Manufactory Company has been approved to operate the a business manufacturing handbags, wallets and associated products under the Cutting, Manufacturing and Packing (CMP) system. The Runningtex Company was granted permission to be engaged in a textile enterprise under the CMP system.

Maxxcare Co., Ltd was granted a permit to make foreign investment from No 324 to 327 plots of land at the Yangon Industrial zone in Mingaladon Township, Yangon. Specialized Warehousing, a logistics, distribution and material handling service, has been granted permission to work at No. 458 B2/A, Damazayti Road, Bahan

Township, Yangon.

As a Myanmar citizen investment, Nyi Naung Oo Company Limited was approved to ensure the electric supply for the Myawady Economic Zone and the villages in this zone in Myawady Township, Kayin State. MIC gave a green light to Myanmar Ease Net Co., Ltd to operate an Online eVisa service at three international airports as well as Myawady, Kawthaung, Htee Khe and Tachilek border towns, it is learnt.

Also, MSL Industries Company was granted permission to undertake a fish and prawn processing business under that Contract Processing system and Normal system as well as logistic and commodity distribution services on 4.2 acres of land belonging to the Fishery Department in Insein Township, it is learnt. —GNLM



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Philippines' Duterte threatens to quit United Nations after drugs war censure

MANILA — Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte railed against the United Nations on Sunday after it called for an end to the wave of killings unleashed by his war on drugs, saying he might leave the organisation and invite China and others to form a new one.

Two UN human rights experts last week urged Manila to stop the extra-judicial executions and killings that have escalated since Duterte won the presidency on a promise to wipe out drugs.

About 900 suspected drug traffickers have been killed since he came to power after winning the election on 9 May.

Duterte on Friday denied that the government was responsible and in a middle-of-the-night news conference in his home town, Davao, said the deaths were not the work of the police and invited UN experts to investigate themselves.

The news conference was broadcast by local media and the full version was posted on Facebook by



Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte attends the 115th Police Service Anniversary at the Philippine National Police (PNP) headquarters in Quezon city, metro Manila, Philippines, on 17 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

GMA news.

"I will prove to the world that you are a very stupid expert," he said, urging them to count not just the number of drug-related deaths but also the innocent lives lost to drugs.

He then launched an attack on the United Nations and its members — including by inference Manila's traditionally close ally, Washington — saying, it could not fulfil its own mandate but was

"worrying about the bones of criminals piling up".

"I do not want to insult you. But maybe we'll just have to decide to separate from the United Nations," he said. "Why do you have to listen to this stupid?"

Criticising the UN for not doing enough to address hunger and terrorism and for not being able to do anything about Syria and Iraq and allowing big powers to bomb villages and kill innocent civilians, he said he would invite China and African nations to form another global organisation.

"You now, United Nations, if you can say one bad thing about me, I can give you 10 (about you). I tell you, you are an inutile. Because if you are really true to your mandate, you could have stopped all these wars and killing."

Asked about the possible consequences of his comments, he said: "What is ... repercussions? I don't give a shit to them."

He said the United Nations should have acted according to protocol by sending someone such as a rapporteur to talk to him.

"You do not just go out and give a shitting statement against a country," he said.—Reuters

Ten killed, five missing after boat capsizes in western Indonesia

JAKARTA — A boat carrying 17 people sank in western Indonesia on Sunday, leaving 10 people dead, two wounded and five others missing, navy spokesman said.

The incident took place after the vessel departed from a port in Tanjung Pinang of Riau Province, said Navy Spokesman Admiral Edi Sucipto, adding that bad weather was blamed for the disaster. Navy command in western Indonesia undertook the evacuation just after the incident, Sucipto told Xinhua by phone.

Two passengers are in critical condition and have been shifted to the navy hospital in the province, Sucipto added. Search and rescue operation for the missing passengers is underway now, led by the navy command, he said. Indonesia's 255 million people are spread across more than 17,000 islands and are heavily dependent on boats for transport, but the country has a poor maritime safety record.—Xinhua

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China's natural gas transmission tariffs proposals positive for industry

BEIJING — China's proposals on regulated transmission tariffs for inter-provincial natural gas pipelines will be credit positive for the natural gas transmission industry in the long run, according to a Moody's report.

If implemented, the proposals will enhance the transparency and predictability of the regulatory framework, said Moody's. The National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) on Tuesday released its proposals on regulated transmission tariffs for

public consultation.

The highlights of the proposal include that permitted revenue will consist of permitted costs, permitted returns and taxes. Permitted costs, which are audited and approved by the NDRC, will include depreciation and amortization expenses, together with operating and maintenance (O&M) expenses. "The enhanced transparency and predictability of the tariff mechanism — assuming the proposals are implemented — would promote the de-

velopment of the natural gas transmission industry over the long run," said Moody's Assistant Vice President and Analyst, Ivy Poon. "The proposed tariff setting would also improve the stability of national pipeline operators in terms of cost recovery and reducing volume risk in the future." Currently, there is no structured tariff adjustment mechanism for the natural gas midstream transmission in China. Tariff setting is basically driven by the pipeline length. The proposed regulations will regu-

late transmission operators based on a "cost-plus-reasonable return" approach compared with the current tariff settings for each individual transmission pipeline, according to Moody's. However, Moody's said that the proposals will have no immediate rating impact on national natural gas pipeline operators, such as Kunlun Energy Company Limited and Beijing Enterprises Holdings Limited, given the current limited visibility of potential tariff adjustments for their pipelines.—Xinhua

Indonesia investigates suspected militant plot to attack Bali

JAKARTA — Indonesian authorities are investigating whether a suspected militant arrested last week was plotting an attack on the resort island of Bali, police said. Bali, a popular tourist destination, saw a number of attacks by homegrown militants in the early 2000s, the deadliest being a nightclub bombing that killed 202 people, mostly Australians.

Police found a bomb

and "high (impact) explosive materials" during a raid on the suspect's house on the western island of Sumatra, media said.

The man, whom police have yet to identify, was arrested on suspicion of having links with extremist group Islamic State and of being involved in planning a suicide bombing at a police station in the central Java-nese city of Solo last month.

The Solo attack only killed the bomber himself and wounded one police official. Edy Hartono, chief of the counter-terrorism police unit, said police were looking into the suspected Bali plot. "It was still just a plan," he told Reuters, declining to elaborate.

The arrest in Lampung, Sumatra, was among a series of terrorism-related arrests across several cities in

Indonesia last week as authorities intensify a security crackdown in the world's largest Muslim-majority country.

Indonesia saw its first Islamic State-linked attack in January when four militants mounted a gun and bomb attack in a busy commercial district in the capital Jakarta. Eight people were killed, including the militants.—Reuters

Antinuclear activists' tents removed from economy ministry premises

TOKYO — Tokyo District Court officials on Sunday removed tents erected by two antinuclear campaigners and other activists after the 2011 Fukushima nuclear crisis from the premises of the economy ministry, which oversees the nuclear power industry.

The removal of the three tents came after the government asked the court to enforce its order for the tents' dismantlement.

The court's order, made in February 2015, was upheld by the Tokyo High Court last October. It became final after the Supreme Court in July turned down an appeal filed by the two antinuclear campaigners.

The three tents were set up in September 2011 on a plot of land of about 50 square metres. They have been used as a base to conduct antinuclear activities outside the ministry in the wake of the triple meltdowns at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant in March 2011, with activists uploading live video footage online, staging a hunger strike and forming human chains.

The forcible removal by the court officials took place in the early hours of Sunday. About 10 citizens including some who were staying in the tents overnight protested while the officials put fences around the encampment and blocked the road around the premises before disassembling the tents.



Tokyo District Court officials remove three tents, erected after the 2011 Fukushima nuclear crisis, from the premises of the economy ministry in Tokyo in the early morning of 21 August, 2016, amid strong opposition by antinuclear campaigners as a court order for their dismantlement was enforced. The first tent had stood there for more than 1,800 days. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

A 53-year-old company employee who had been staying in one of the tents on Saturdays since the first tent was erected nearly five years ago, said, "The government is pushing through the reactivation of nuclear power plants without taking responsibility (for the Fukushima disaster).

We will carry on with our protests." The Tokyo District Court in its ruling last year also ordered the activists to pay roughly 21,000 yen (\$209) per day in fees for using the land for as long as they remained. The unpaid amount exceeds 30 million yen.

The district court said that

while it "understands the campaigners' compelling motive to join antinuclear activities after the nuclear accident that inflicted severe damage on many people," they "do not have special rights to use the land" of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry in central Tokyo.—*Kyodo News*

Japan to train personnel to counter cyberattacks on infrastructure

TOKYO — The Japanese government will set up an institute during the next fiscal year to train specialists to counter cyberattacks on electricity distribution and other important infrastructure systems, a government source said on Sunday.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government plans to allocate funds for the programme in an extra budget soon to be

compiled as it seeks to prevent a large-scale blackout during the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics in 2020 or leaks of sensitive information on power plant designs, the source said.

Under the programme, around 100 employees of electric power and other firms would take lessons for up to one year from former hackers and other instructors at the industrial cybersecurity promo-

tion centre, which will be set up in Tokyo sometime during the year from next April.

The government-affiliated Information-technology Promotion Agency will operate the training centre, with an eye to conducting a joint exercise with cybersecurity engineers in the United States and other countries in the future, the source added.

It will be the first training

centre in Japan specialising in training personnel who deal with cyberattacks on electric power companies' control systems.

The government decided to launch the training facility in response to a massive power outage in Ukraine in December last year, which was attributed to hackers targeting the control systems of a power plant in the country.—*Kyodo News*

Jute factory collapses in central Bangladesh leaving 5 dead, scores of injured

DHAKA — At least five people have been killed and scores of others injured after roof of a tin-shed jute factory building collapsed during a storm in Bangladesh's central Faridpur district, some 101 km away from the capital Dhaka, on Sunday afternoon, official said.

A police officer told Xinhua by phone from Faridpur that "at least five workers died and 50 others were injured when the roof of the tin-shed factory fell upon them during the storm." He said some 400 people have been working in the jute factory.

Quoting officials involved in the rescue operation which is still underway, the police officer who declined to be named feared that the death toll may increase as more people are believed to be trapped under the debris.—*Xinhua*

Beijing gets 70 pct water from Yangtze River diversion

ZHENGZHOU — About 70 per cent of water used in Beijing comes from China's Yangtze River valley through a massive water diversion program, water authorities have said.

Over 1.5 billion cubic metres of water were diverted from the Danjiangkou Reservoir conjoining central China's Henan and Hubei provinces, as of 10 August, accounting for 70 per cent of Beijing's water demand.

Water from the Danjiangkou Reservoir began flowing to Beijing in December 2014, as one of the three branches of China's south-to-north water diversion programme, channeling water from the Yangtze River valley in southern China to address water shortages in the country's north and western regions.

To ensure water quality, Henan has made a 1,595 square km water protection zone near the reservoir and removed nearby factories and companies along the water diversion route to make room for forestry. The province has also put 181 water treatment and soil conservation projects in place to protect water sources.

In exchange for clean water from the south, Beijing has funded water protection and related programmes in Henan with 250 million yuan (37.69 million US dollars) per year since 2014. Over the past five years, Beijing has signed combined investment deals with Henan worth 1.08 trillion yuan, with 431.9 billion already invested. Henan is also slated to sign a number of deals with Beijing on Monday, for cooperation in education, technology and many other sectors, authorities said.—*Xinhua*

27 die in rains in three Indian states

NEW DELHI — At least 27 people have died in rain-related incidents in the three Indian states of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand in the past two days, a senior police official said on Sunday.

"While 15 people lost their lives in the central state of Madhya Pradesh since Friday evening, including seven

who were killed after their house collapsed in Sagar district, five deaths were reported from the western state of Rajasthan in another house collapse incident," he said.

In the northern state of Uttarakhand's Pauri district, seven persons of a family were killed when their house was razed to the ground by huge

boulders that rolled down the hill, following a cloudburst on Saturday, the official said.

The Indian military has pressed helicopters into rescue service and several people have been airlifted from various places across the three states, he said, adding rivers have also been flowing in the eastern state of Bihar and Ut-

tar Pradesh above the danger mark.

The weather office has predicted heavy rainfall in the three affected states in the next 24 hours and disaster management officials are on their toes there to cope with any kind of natural disaster, according to local TV channels.—*Xinhua*

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.

Interests of two peoples at the fore front

Tha Sein

MYANMAR and China are linked by geography, history, ethnicity, culture and economy. The very long history of coexistence and interaction between the two countries makes their bilateral relations highly complex. The two countries have enjoyed cordial relations since time immemorial. Myanmar's location on the tri-junction of South Asia, Southeast Asia and China is potentially important for China to achieve its strategic presence in the Indian Ocean and hence become a two-ocean power. Economically, too, Myanmar is

important for China as a trading outlet to the Indian Ocean for its landlocked inland provinces of Yunnan and other southern parts of China.

When Western governments began imposing sanctions on Myanmar after 1988 and 1990, China became the prime source of support and protection for the county in the international community, realizing that the country already matters to it as a crucial neighbour.

At the invitation of Premier Li Keqiang of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor

of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, paid an official visit to China from 17th to 21st August 2016. During the visit, both sides had a good discussion and exchanged views on various spheres with their reaffirmation to put the interests of the two peoples at the fore front high on the agenda.

Most importantly, both sides agreed to promote rule of law in the border areas, and to enhance trade, economic cooperation and various forms of friendly exchanges that would contribute to the well-being of the peoples, ushering in a period of prosperi-

ty. That's a major departure in the universal thinking as the country is on the receiving end of many internal complaints over Myitsone dam project currently being suspended.

With the new government in place, the international community is rather well disposed to provide necessary support and there is much less taste to exert pressure. At such a crucial juncture, the two countries have to be bold in promoting the need of realistic and pragmatic politics while remain relevant in all regional and international co-operation frameworks.

The Rights of Shareholders of a Public Company

Win Shein

Myanmar is now launching a large scale economic development for the whole country, so as she may catch up with her neighboring countries, who have had an early start many years ago in their reconstruction endeavor. For Myanmar she has encountered with the misfortune of hindering on her way to improve the improvised newly independent young country by the successive authoritarian regimes for almost 45- years, leaving the country as poor branded as the "least developed country" in the whole wide world.

Now, with the influx of developed countries and the United Nations promising aids to our country after she has adopted the democratic political ideology for governing the country, a change in all spheres for a much desired social, political and economic reformist government, turning a new leave to create a better country for her citizens in Myanmar. But the country has been after a standstill in progress received from the previous regimes suffered a drawback of lagging behind in infrastructure facilities, so much so, resulted in a chaotic condition in which to accommodate all foreign investors scrambling to get a better share of the Myanmar investment opportunity pie.

Myanmar has carefully charted the best area of land in Myanmar for setting up economic zones for development of the country. Relying on this favorable attrac-

tion of allure Myanmar citizen companies as well as foreign companies are taking up places in these zones to start operating in the various industrial, services and food production sectors. Judging from this perspective of a crowded condition of various companies to outdoing each other, we can imagine the tremendous task for the Directorate of Companies Management Department to settle the big pile of problems with the only help from the out of date book "Myanmar Companies Act--1914". Whereas countries like U K, India, Singapore and Malaysia have had their Companies Act revised, amended and rewritten to bring it update already.

"Every member shall have one vote in respect of each share held by him."

A person who has purchased shares of a public company shall be entitled to receive a certificate from such company, where in the certificate held by the member shall be prima-facie evidence of the title of the member to the shares therein specified the name, address, nationality and occupation of the shareholder shall be entered into the Register of Members of the company. As a member of a public company, it is obvious that a shareholder, would like to know all about the activities of the company in which he

has invested his money, so that a shareholder shall have the statutory rights conferred on him as a shareholder. He shall have the rights to:

- Appoint directors
- Attend and vote at General Meeting.
- Receive a copy of Memorandum and Articles of Association of the company.
- Inspect the statutory Registers and Minutes books.
- Receive copies of financial statements.
- Initiate winding up of the company.

As a shareholder of a public company, it is most important for each and every shareholder to get hold of a copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the company. [Section 25 {1} of the Myanmar Companies Act] In other words, this book contains the constitution of the company. In which the operation and management of the company is run in accordance with the regulations listed as Articles in such Memorandum and Articles. These Articles are based and derived from the Myanmar Companies Act when first drafted in the manner of serial order during the time of formation of the company. However these regulations can be added and deducted, substituted and deleted and amended from time to time during the operation of the company when they think that needed to change on them. Thereby the company shall have to hold a General Meeting, discussing the matter at first or if required to get

the final resolution by show of hands or if otherwise by holding a poll with casting of votes. Once the resolution is settled, a copy of the resolution should be filed with the Registrar of Companies Administration Office for approval. Until and unless the resolution of the company has been approved by the Registrar, then the rewritten regulations or Articles shall have effect to be enforced as an Article in the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the company finally

Another distinctive aspect for the shareholders to keep in mind is the rights of shareholders to appoint directors in the General Meeting and in rotation of directors [Section 83 B {2} of Myanmar Companies Act] stipulated "not less than two-third of the whole member of directors shall be persons whose period of office is liable to determination at any time by retirement of directors in rotation." However many companies have constituted this Article with the statement from the First Schedule, Table A of regulation 78 of Myanmar Companies Act, as [At the first ordinary meeting, the whole of the directors shall retire from office and at the ordinary meeting in every subsequent year. One-third of the directors for the time being or if their number is not three or a multiple of three, the number nearest to one-third shall retire from office]

Take for instance, the voting rights of shareholders have been stipulated in Article 60 of the The First Schedule of Table A of Myanmar Companies Act as "On a show of hands every member

present in person shall have one vote. On poll. Every member shall have one vote in respect of each share held by him." Looking from this point, if a company has resorted to polling on a problem, it would surely give an upper hands for the majority shareholders group over the minority shareholders group in contest of the matter concerned. Because more votes would be gathered in the hands of the majority shareholders. We often heard a lot of shareholders of public company came back from their companies' Annual General Meeting recently reluctantly confided among themselves, that their companies have already nominated and appointed the new Boards of Directors without even a single shareholder casting a single vote at all.

As now, Myanmar has enjoyed the luxury of more foreign investors and local investors establishing private and public companies, that sprout up inside every corner of Myanmar doing all sorts of business in Myanmar would create a difficult situation for the Directorate of Companies Administration Department to keep a tight rein on the crowded companies big and small which hardly can be considered as under control with the old Myanmar Companies Act alone. Until a rewritten Myanmar Companies Act is coming out fast in time to curb the increasing number of companies who are operating daily not in conformity with the old Myanmar Companies Act or otherwise the situation would be flared up with such magnitude beyond control.



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and his wife offering Waso robe to Presiding Bamo Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa. PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY

Commander-in-Chief presents monastic offertories to Sayadaws in Mandalay and Sagaing

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla offered Waso robes and monastic items to prominent Sayadaws in Mandalay and Sagaing yesterday.

At the Bamo monastery of Maha Aungmyay township in Mandalay, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received words of advice from Presiding Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa.

The commander-in-chief presented Waso robes and offertories to the Sayadaw. He also handed over the cash assistance contributed by families of the army, navy and air forces through the board of trustees.

In Sagaing, the commander-in-chief visited the Sitagu International Vipassana Academy, where paid homage to Sitagu Sayadaw Dr Nyanissara, who is also Chancellor of Sitagu In-

ternational Buddhist Academy. The Sayadaw led the commander-in-chief on the tour of the Shwesigon pagoda in the compound of the monastery.

At the Sitagu International Buddhist Academy, the commander-in-chief offered Waso robes and monastic items to the Sayadaw. He also handed over the money donated by families of the army, navy and air forces through the board of trustees.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Blacksmith industry disappears in Mon State

AN increase in the utilization of modern electrical equipment in the farming sector of Mon State's Paung Township has seen a decline in income for blacksmiths who engage in forging traditional farming paraphernalia, according to those involved in the industry.

Nay Lin Htoo, a local blacksmith, explains how the rainy season is usually a busy time of year for his trade, with orders being placed for farming implements needed in the fields. But things have changed. These days, increasing numbers of farmers are swapping their traditional iron and steel tools for electric ones, resulting in a slow decline in the number of

farmers patronizing blacksmith workshops.

"Nowadays, farmers harrow their lands with tractors; the number of customers putting in orders for metal spokes for their ox-driven ploughs has waned," he said. "The planting of rubber in place of what used to be forest where timber and bamboo were sourced, has seen a depletion in the areas, leading to a dearth of the numbers of machetes I've had to forge. It's subsequently taken a toll on my earnings."

Blacksmiths also exclaim how they are confronted with a situation whereby their industry could disappear, as the majority of those involved with sourcing

timber and bamboo have migrated abroad in search of more fruitful employment opportunities, effectively abating the number of orders placed with local blacksmiths.

"It wasn't an easy task to rent or purchase electric machinery in the past; since it's a family tradition we also only used what we were used to. These days, though, and the increasing presence of electrical machinery has made it more affordable. What's more, knives, sickles and harrow forks can be used for a long time without the need to keep placing orders for new ones," said U Htun Pe, a local farmer.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

Workshop on Civil Service Reform to be held

THE Union Civil Service Board (UCSB) with support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is organising a Consultative Workshop on Civil Service Reform Strategic Action Plan from 24-25 August in Nay Pyi Taw at the Myanmar International Convention Centre (MICC II), it has been learned.

The consultative workshop is being organised with the aim of developing the Civil Service Reform Strategic Action Plan which will reportedly serve as

a blueprint for establishing a modern and competent civil service.

The event will be officially opened by U Myint Swe, Vice President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Dr. Win Thein, Chairperson of the Union Civil Service Board and Ms. Renata Dessallien, UNDP Resident Representative and UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator.

The two -day consultative workshop offers a mix of ple-

nary and group discussions and will be attended by a broad range of government and non-government stakeholders, including Members of Parliament, Parliament staff, Union ministries and government institutions, State and Region Governments, civil society organisations, academia and think tanks, the Union Civil Service Board (UCSB) and Central Institutes of the

Civil Service (CICS), donors and development partners and the media.—*GNLM*

POEM:

Youths and Rural Development

Myanmar is witnessing rural migration, the youths from the rural areas are often seen migrating for work providing income enough to support their families at home.

Perhaps it's time to assess the situation regarding increasing rural youth migration. It's due to the low average incomes surely in the rural areas due to low productivity of agricultural and farming occupations, being under-employed during off seasons causing the rural youth to become aware of better opportunities and work elsewhere to increase family income and their situation, resorting to internal and external migration.

Hence it is imperative to increase rural incomes not only through 'loans' but through programs of 'grass root' rural development comprising use of agricultural machines and better 'farming,' including poultry and livestock breeding on a commercial basis and marketing.

Providing out-of-school youth opportunities, for 'job' skills training in centres or as apprentices in accessible public and private enterprises thus enabling them to learn and earn and support themselves and family in return at the same time serving their community helping to enhance overall productivity.

Perhaps some dedicated Civil Societies working with rural youth and the 'authorities' can undertake such 'rural development' activities at the 'grass root' level in rural societies.

Lokethar

Healthcare services provided to Kayin State residents

A military mobile medical team from the Southeast Command helped provide healthcare services to people in Kayin State on Saturday 20 August.

The mobile medical team treated 190 people Maungma and its surrounding villages in Kawkarait Township, Kayin State, some in need of surgery and some with infections and/or diseases.

The medical team helped arrange further treatment for some at the local military hospital.

The Commander and of-

ficers of the Southeast Command presented books and gifts and exercise books to students of a monastic education school in Kawkarait Township.

The Commander paid respects and presented offertories to the presiding Sayardaw of Myoma monastery.

Similarly, Tatmadaw members of Kyaikh-to Station of Southeast Command carried out collaborative sanitation work inside and outside of the Kyaikh-to General Hospital, it is learnt.

—*C-in-C's Office*



Military mobile medical team providing healthcare services to residents of Kayin State. PHOTO: C-IN-C'S OFFICE

German minister wants facial recognition systems at airports, train stations

BERLIN — Germany's Interior Minister wants to introduce facial recognition software at train stations and airports to help identify terror suspects following two Islamist attacks in the country last month.

Speaking to the *Bild am Sonntag* newspaper, Thomas de Maiziere said internet software was able to determine whether persons shown in photographs were celebrities or politicians.

"I would like to use this kind of facial recognition technology in video cameras at airports and train stations. Then, if a suspect appears and is recognised, it will show up in the system," he told the paper.

He said a similar system was already being tested for unattended luggage, which the camera reports after a certain number of minutes.

Other countries are also looking at such technology, but Germans have traditionally been skeptical of surveillance due to abuses by the Stasi secret police in East Germany and the Gestapo under the Nazis.

Germans are on edge after



German Interior Minister Thomas de Maiziere attends the cabinet meeting at the Chancellery in Berlin, Germany, on 17 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

jihadi militant group Islamic State claimed two attacks in July, one on a train near Wuerzburg and one at a music festival in Ansbach, in which asylum-seekers injured 20 people.

As a result, organisers of the world's biggest beer festival, Munich's Oktoberfest, have raised security, including banning rucksacks, introducing security checks at all entrances and erecting fencing.

De Maiziere said a ban on rucksacks at large-scale events could also be useful, adding that it would be up to on-site security officials to take that decision.

"We will have to get used to increased security measures, such as longer queues, stricter checks or personal entry cards. This is tedious, uncomfortable and costs time but I don't think it's a limitation of personal freedom," he said.—Reuters

Turkey asks Germany for help with Gulen crackdown — report

BERLIN — Turkey's government has sent German authorities requests for 40 searches and three extraditions linked to supporters of Fethullah Gulen, the US-based Muslim cleric it blames for last month's attempted coup, magazine *Der Spiegel* reported on Saturday.

Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan accuses a network of schools, charities and businesses led by Gulen, and built up in Turkey and abroad over decades, of infiltrating state institutions and orchestrating the failed coup.

Authorities in Turkey have arrested or suspended tens of thousands of police, troops, officials, judges and civil servants because of their alleged links to Gulen's

movement.

Citing classified documents, *Spiegel* said Turkey's secret service had asked Germany's foreign intelligence agency (BND) for help in rounding up Gulen supporters in Germany.

The magazine said the Turkish secret service wanted the BND to use its influence to spur German lawmakers into taking action against Gulen supporters and extraditing them to Turkey.

A spokesman for the BND said the agency only reported on the operative aspects of its work to the German government and the responsible authorities in the lower house of parliament.

A Turkish presidency official said: "It's not our policy to com-

ment on intelligence operations. However, we expect all our friends and allies to assist Turkey's efforts to hold FETO operatives accountable for their crimes." FETO is an abbreviation standing for the "Gulenist Terror Group" which is how Ankara refers to Gulen's movement. Germany is home to a three-million strong Turkish community and concern is growing that tensions between Erdogan backers and Gulen supporters are spilling over onto German soil.

Erdogan backers have demonstrated in several German cities since July's attempted putsch, shops have been boycotted by political rivals and hate mail has been sent to anti-Erdogan politicians.—Reuters

About dozen trapped as fire sweeps through Bangladesh's largest shopping complex

DHAKA — The raging fire that swept through Bangladesh's largest Bashundhara shopping complex has left up to 12 feared trapped inside.

"We've come to know that 10-12 people were trapped on the roof," said a Dhaka Metropolitan Police officer who declined to be named, adding that fire fighters are discussing how to safely rescue them.

He said onlookers initially heard people screaming and

shouting.

The blaze broke out on Sunday at about 11:30 am local time in the market's 5th floor, which is packed with scores of local and foreign mobile shops, sending huge thick black smoke into the air visible for at least several kilometres.

About 18 teams of firefighters have been sent to the spot trying to put out the blaze.

The fire continued for more than three hours.

The cause of the fire has not been ascertained so far with the security officials yet to comment on the incident.

Bashundhara is 19 stories tall, of which eight are used for the mall, which accommodates some 2,500 shops as well as a cinema and cafes, and the remainder as the corporate headquarters of the Bashundhara Group, one of the largest industrial conglomerates of Bangladesh.—Xinhua

NEWS IN BRIEF

London mayor calls for Labour to ditch Corbyn as leader

LONDON — London's mayor has called on fellow members of Britain's opposition Labour Party to replace leader Jeremy Corbyn, saying his failure to drum up support for Britain remaining in the EU showed he could not command the backing of voters.

"Jeremy has already proved that he is unable to organise an effective team and has failed to win the trust and respect of the British people," Sadiq Khan said in an article he wrote for Britain's *Observer* newspaper.

"I am afraid we simply cannot afford to go on like this."

The Labour Party has been in turmoil since Britain's 23 June vote to leave the European Union and Corbyn, a veteran left-wing member of parliament, has been challenged for the leadership by fellow lawmaker Owen Smith.—Reuters

Seven killed, two missing in Typhoon Dianmu in northern Viet Nam

HANOI — Typhoon Dianmu has killed seven, leaving two others missing in northern Viet Nam as of Sunday morning, said the Central Steering Committee on Natural Disaster Prevention and Control.

After making landfall in northern Viet Nam on Friday afternoon, Typhoon Dianmu weakened into a tropical depression.

At the same time, the typhoon has left 44 houses collapsed, 651 unroofed and damaged, 1,511 flooded while as many as 2,154 houses are in urgent need of evacuation. Around 8,843 hectares of rice and 1,189 hectares of crop are seriously flooded. Some 61 cattle and 1,895 poultry are killed or washed away, said the committee.—Xinhua

At least four killed in suicide bomb attack in Cameroon

YAOUNDE — At least four people were killed and several others injured in a suicide bomb attack Sunday morning in Mora, a town of the Far North Region of Cameroon near the border with Nigeria, security sources told Xinhua by phone.

The attack was committed by an unidentified man who ran into a group of people at the entrance of a local market and detonated the bomb fastened on his belt, the sources said.

The sources said, "on site at least four people including the bomber himself were killed and several others injured."

Sunday is a regular market day in Mora, a base of the multinational joint force created in 2015 by Lake Chad Basin Commission to fight against Boko Haram.—Xinhua

23 killed by landmines, UXOs in Cambodia in 7 months

PHNOM PENH — Twenty-three Cambodians were killed by landmines and unexploded ordnances (UXOs) during the first seven months of 2016, remarkably up from only 12 deaths over the same period last year, according to a government report on Sunday.

However, the number of people wounded or limb-amputated declined 43 per cent to 36 during the January-July period this year from 63 over the same period last year, said the report from the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority. Some 50 accidents were recorded in the seven months of this year, representing a decrease of 11 per cent compared to the same period a year earlier, it said. "Sixty-six per cent of the victims were men, 24 per cent were boys, and the rest were women and girls," the report said.—Xinhua

Five parks in New York City's less wealthy area to receive upgrade financing

NEW YORK — Five parks in New York City's less wealthy neighbourhoods will receive 150 million US dollars for upgrades, announced Mayor Bill de Blasio in a recent news conference.

The funding will go to major improvements like new soccer fields, running tracks and hiking trails to the five parks, one in each of the city's five boroughs. The parks include Saint Mary's Park in the Bronx, Highbridge Park in Manhattan, Betsy Head Park in Brooklyn, Astoria Park in Queens and Freshkills Park on State Island, and were selected based on historical underinvestment, high surrounding population and potential for park development, according to city officials.—Xinhua

Kurds versus Syrian army battle intensifies, complicating multi-fronted war

BEIRUT — Fighting between the Syrian army and Kurdish forces intensified late on Friday and into Saturday, creating the risk of yet another front opening in the multi-sided civil war.

The two sides have mostly avoided confrontation during the five-year conflict, with the government focusing its efforts against Sunni Arab rebels in the west, and the Kurds mainly fighting Islamic State in northern Syria.

In an indication of their reluctance to escalate further, pro-government media said on Saturday they had held preliminary peace talks.

After the fighting broke out this week, government warplanes bombed Kurdish-held areas of Hasaka,

one of two cities in the largely Kurdish-held northeast where the government has maintained enclaves.

Fighting there could complicate the battle against Islamic State because of the Kurds' pivotal role in the US-backed Syrian Democratic Forces' (SDF) fight against the group.

On Friday, warplanes from the US-led coalition flew what the Pentagon called protective patrols around Hasaka to prevent Syrian jets from targeting US special forces, who are operating on the ground with the SDF, the first sorties of their kind in the war.

Ground fighting intensified late on Friday when Kurdish YPG fighters battled Syrian forces, whose



Residents flee a site after an air strike on the rebel-held besieged town of Douma, eastern Damascus suburb of Ghouta, Syria on 20 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

air force flew sorties over the city, Kurds and monitors said. "The clashes continue in areas inside the city today. There were military operations," a Kurdish official said.

Many inhabitants of

Kurdish areas fled on Friday and at least 41 people have been killed, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a UK-based war monitoring group, said. "There are efforts to cool things between the army and the Asayish

(YPG-affiliated forces), and a first meeting was held aimed at a ceasefire," Sham FM, a pro-government radio station, reported.

As well as complicating the war against Islamic State, fighting in Hasaka

could create problems for the government's campaign in the city of Aleppo, where Kurdish forces have been accused of coordinating with the Syrian army against rebels backed by Turkey. —Reuters

Bombing at wedding in southern Turkey kills at least 50

GAZIANTEP, (Turkey) — At least 50 people were killed on Saturday when a suspected suicide bomber detonated his explosives among people dancing on the street at a wedding party in the southern Turkish city of Gaziantep, the local governor's office said.

President Tayyip Erdogan said it was likely that Islamic State militants had carried out the late-night attack, the deadliest bombing this year in Turkey, which faces threats from militants

at home and across the border with neighbouring Syria.

The local governor's office said in a statement 50 people were killed in the bombing, and more wounded were still being treated in hospitals around the province.

"The celebrations were coming to an end and there was a big explosion among people dancing," said 25-year-old Veli Can. "There was blood and body parts everywhere." Blood

stains and burns marked the walls of the narrow lane where the wedding party was attacked while women in white and checkered scarves cried sitting crosslegged and waiting outside the morgue for word on missing relatives. At least 12 people were buried on Sunday, but other funerals would have to wait because many of the victims were blown to pieces and DNA forensics tests would be needed to identify them, security sources said. The pro-Kurdish Peoples'

Democratic Party, or HDP, said in a statement that the wedding was for one of its members, and women and children had been among those killed.

Mahmut Togrul, an HDP lawmaker from Gaziantep, around 40 km (25 miles) north of the border with Syria, told Reuters it was a Kurdish wedding. Islamic State has been blamed for suicide bombings on Kurdish gatherings in the past as militants try to stir ethnic tensions.

"It was carried out like an atrocity," witness Ibrahim Ozdemir said. "We want to end these massacres. We are in pain, especially the women and children."

Turkey is still tense after an attempted coup on 15 July which Ankara blames on US-based preacher Fethullah Gulen. He has denied the charge.

Three suspected Islamic State suicide bombers killed 44 people at Istanbul's main airport in June, then the deadliest in a string of at-

tacks in Turkey this year.

In October last year, suicide bombers killed at least 95 people when they attacked a rally of pro-Kurdish and labour activists outside Ankara's main train station.

Violence flared up again this week in the largely Kurdish southeast, with bomb attacks leaving 10 people dead in separate attacks, mostly police and soldiers, in an escalation that officials blamed on the PKK, Kurdish separatist militants. —Reuters

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Dated 22 August 2016 Imm@kcyangon.com

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The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
Dated 22nd August 2016 kmma@kcyangon.com

Invitation of Expression of Interest (EOI) for Cooperation Joint Venture in No.35 Heavy Industry (High Voltage Ceramic Insulator Factory - (Chauk) under No.2 Heavy Industries Enterprise, Ministry of Industry

No.35 Heavy Industry (High Voltage Ceramic Insulator Factory - (Chauk)) under the No.2 Heavy Industries Enterprise of Ministry of Industry are intended to cooperate with Local and Foreign entrepreneurs as JV in it.

As a first step, Companies who interested in those co-operation are required to submit their Expression of Interest (EOI) not later than 03:00 pm (Myanmar Standard Time), on 22 September 2016 to Technical Development Department, No.2 Heavy Industries Enterprise, Ministry of Industry, Office No.41, Naypyitaw, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Interested entities can take over the EOI Form and other indications at above office commencing from (23.8.2016) by presenting the document of company profile.

Document of Company Profile

- Valid Certificate of Incorporation
 - Record and Regulation of Company
 - Name of Foreign's Technical Cooperator
- (For more information: 067 408160, 067 408208)

marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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Anger in the Delta keeps oil majors quiet — and Nigeria's crude offline

LONDON/LAGOS — Oil companies and even Nigerian officials are losing faith in a deal anytime soon with militants who have slashed the nation's oil output, casting doubt on a production recovery in what is typically Africa's largest oil exporter.

In the six months since the first major attack on Nigeria's oil — a sophisticated bombing of the subsea Forcados pipeline — dozens of attacks have pushed outages to more than 700,000 barrels per day (bpd), the highest in seven years.

Talk in the country has shifted from ceasefire optimism, and oil companies' assurances that repairs were underway, to hedged comments from the government and radio silence from oil majors.

"People are giving up in the short term," one oil industry source told Reuters of a resumption in exports of key Nigerian grades such as Forcados or Qua Iboe, adding that you "can't get anything" out of the majors, including Shell (RDSA.L),



An oil slick clots the bottom of mangroves in Bodo creek in Ogoniland, near Nigeria's oil hub city of Port Harcourt in 2012.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Chevron (CVX.N), ExxonMobil (XOM.N) or ENI (ENI.MI), about when the oil might come back.

Shell declined to com-

ment, while the other companies did not immediately responded to a request for comment.

In June, Nigerian gov-

ernment officials said privately it had a ceasefire with militants. But pessimism crept in, with even Oil Minister Emmanuel Ibe Kachik-

wu telling journalists this week "we are talking but (it) is not an easy thing," and "we need a ceasefire" — a contrast to the belief that a

ceasefire was underway.

The problems reflect deep-seated issues in the Niger Delta, which produces the bulk of oil but whose local communities complain of pollution, a lack of opportunities and what they say is an insufficient share of petro dollars. These problems are compounded by an economic crisis and a government battle with Boko Haram militants in the north.

"This is likely the beginning," said Elizabeth Donnelly, deputy head and research fellow of London think-tank Chatham House's Africa Programme said of the unrest, adding that "the resolution that will come will not come quickly."

The government this month resumed cash payments to militant groups that it stopped in February, just before the launch of the worst violence since the payments began under a 2009 amnesty. But attacks continued anyway. —Reuters

Debris piles mark the start of long road to recovery in flooded Louisiana

BATON ROUGE, (La.) — Renee Deal still hopes to salvage the wedding photo album placed out to dry on Saturday in the carport of her flood-ravaged house in southern Louisiana.

Inside the single-story residence, pink insulation peeked out of a wall stripped down to the nail studs in what she once called her "Mardi Gras" room, filled with memorabilia from the region's famed festivals.

Ruined furniture, bedding and appliances formed a towering pile at her curb, and at the other houses on her block. It gives her small relief that her neighbourhood will be among the first to see debris picked up next week, as the hard-hit capital city

of Baton Rouge switches from search-and-recovery to rebuilding.

"I'd like it to be picked up as soon as possible," said Deal, 53, pointing to a few boxes on the muddy cement floors in her formerly carpeted living room. "Here's my life, right here."

Some 102,000 Louisiana residents have registered for federal emergency assistance over the state's record floods, called the worst natural disaster in the United States since Superstorm Sandy in 2012. Homeowners already are approved for \$30 million in federal aid, Richard Carbo, the governor's communications chief, said on Twitter on Saturday.

Yet more than 3,500

people were still sleeping in shelters on Friday, he said, about a week after parts of the state were deluged with more than 2-1/2 feet (76 cm) of rainfall.

The floods killed at least 13 people and damaged some 60,000 homes, according to state figures. US President Barack Obama plans to visit Baton Rouge on Tuesday to see the damage first-hand.

As entire communities now gut out their homes, weather forecasters warned that the weekend could see more rainfall through Monday, which could trigger some localized flooding.

"Some places could get some heavier downpours of rain," said Mike Shields, a meteorologist at the National Weather Service in New Orleans, which was not devastated like much of the southern state.

"And it wouldn't take a lot of rain to cause some flooding because the ground is so saturated, he noted.

The National Weather Service reported that nearly 26 inches (66 cm) of rain have fallen at the Baton Rouge airport this month, making August the wettest on record since 1893.—Reuters



A man wades through flood waters in Sorrento, Louisiana, US, on 20 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

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kmma@kcyangan.com
Dated 22nd August 2016

Gulf tourism frenzy in Bosnia delights business, polarizes locals

SARAJEVO — Abdullah Al Sanousi enjoys the breeze in the lush resort outside Sarajevo where his family bought a flat to escape the summer heat at home in Kuwait, one of thousands of new Gulf buyers whose investment has polarized local opinion.

They discovered mountainous Bosnia, where half the population is Muslim, after the Arab Spring which destabilized many traditional holiday destinations such as Libya, Tunisia and Egypt. The trend has picked up with more direct flights, new resorts and the end of visa restrictions.

Estate agents and local businesses have welcomed the economic boost. But in a secular country where many Muslims drink alcohol and wear European-style clothing, the ar-

rival of a Saudi-built mall where no alcohol is sold and the sight of burqas and traditional Arab robes is worrying for some.

"People from the Middle East come here because of the nature and good weather, and very cheap prices for property and other goods," said 28-year old Sanousi, who works in the media industry in Kuwait.

"Many Muslims feel it's a good place for them, they feel they are with their people, they feel comfortable here," he said in the gated resort that is inhabited mostly by Gulf visitors. It was built by a Kuwaiti investor and opened last year.

The number of visitors from the United Arab Emirates surged to 13,000 in the first seven months of this year from 7,265 last year, according to ho-



Tourists from the Middle East enjoy along the Prokosko Lake near Fojnica, Bosnia and Herzegovina, on 20 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

tel data from the Sarajevo tourist board. In 2010, there were only 65 visitors from the UAE.

Bosnia does not have a national tourism authority and data on land purchases is patchy in the Balkan

country which has a fragmented government system.

Unofficial estimates

put the total number of Arab tourists at between 50,000-60,000 a year, with about a quarter buying property.

The visitors bring much needed cash to the economy which has not recovered from the 1990s war.

But many local Muslims, who pray only at mosques or at home, were shocked when a group of Arab men dressed in traditional robes prayed outdoors at a popular weekend resort near Sarajevo last year. Others have been upset by a Saudi-funded mall that serves no alcohol or pork.

"I'm not glad that they are coming," said Amina, a Muslim pharmacist from Sarajevo in her 50s. "I'm worried about what influence they can have on our children if they stayed here."—Reuters

Japanese journalist, antiwar activist Takeji Muno dies at 101



Centenarian journalist and antiwar activist Takeji Muno. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

TOKYO — Centenarian journalist and antiwar activist Takeji Muno died Sunday at his home in the city of Saitama, just northwest of Tokyo, due to senility, his family said. He was 101.

He was known as the publisher of a weekly local newspaper named "Taimatsu" (Torch), and wrote anti-

war articles including those revealing his regret that he had been unable to report the truth during World War II and instead had participated in activities to boost morale by writing false reports of victories.

Hailing from Akita Prefecture in northern Japan, he graduated from the predecessor of Tokyo University of Foreign Studies majoring in Spanish. He began working as a reporter during the Pacific War and joined the *Asahi Shimbun* newspaper in 1940. After spending several years reporting from the battlefields as an *Asahi Shimbun* foreign correspondent in China and Southeast Asia, he resigned from his position on 15 August, 1945, the day the war ended, to take responsibility for his coverage of the war.

After leaving the *Asahi Shimbun*, he returned to

Yokote, Akita Prefecture, where he started to issue the weekly newspaper in 1948 to publish his articles on antiwar and peace issues, problems surrounding farm villages and matters concerning education. He issued the newspaper until 1978 and thereafter continued to work as a journalist by writing articles and books and giving lectures.

He had remained active until recently, criticising in a press conference Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's administration for pushing security-related laws through the Diet last September.

In May, Muno, in a wheelchair, appeared at a rally where some 50,000 people gathered at a Tokyo park to call for the preservation of Japan's pacifist Constitution and the scrapping of the security laws. —Kyodo News

Indian PM's garment sets Guinness World Record as most expensive suit ever sold

NEW DELHI — A suit of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi sold at an auction for astounding 700,000 US dollars has been recognised as "the most expensive suit (clothing) sold" by the Guinness Book of World Records, India's news agency ANI reported on Saturday.

The suit, with Modi's name woven into it in gold pinstripes, became globally known after being worn by the Indian leader in his

meeting with visiting US President Barack Obama in January of last year.

The monogrammed garment, mocked by many opposition parliament members as a "gimmick" only to prove the prime minister was "self-obsessed" and "narcissist," was auctioned later in February of 2015 along with 400 other gifts Modi had received since becoming prime minister to collect money for a Ganges River-cleaning fund.

Laljiibhai Patel, a diamond baron and private airline owner from the Indian state of Gujarat, bought the suit for 43,131,311 rupees, or 693,174 US dollars.

The 62-year-old bidder said he would display the suit at his factory, noting "it's a matter of pride that a suit worn by Narendra Modi will now be mine."

The suit was reportedly a gift of Indian businessman Ramesh Virani to Modi on his son's wedding. —Xinhua

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3.	12(T)4/MR(YUG)	Spare Parts for DEL&DHL (Engine, Cooling, Auxiliary, Diesel Electric) (62) Items

Closing Date & Time-22.9.2016(Thursday)(14:30)Hrs

2. Tender documents are available at our office starting from 22.8.2016 during office hours and for further detail please contact: Deputy General Manager Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of 51st Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon. Phone: 95-1-291985, 291994

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Canada celebrates, mourns as rockers Tragically Hip say good-bye



Tragically Hip lead singer Gord Downie performs with band members Paul Langlois, Gord Sinclair, Johnny Fay and Rob Baker at the Save-on-Foods Memorial Centre to kick off the band's latest "Man Machine Poem" tour in light of Downie's brain cancer diagnosis, in Victoria, B.C., Canada on 22 July 2016.

PHOTO: REUTERS

OTTAWA — The Tragically Hip, the Canadian rock band beloved for songs about local culture, small towns and hockey, wrapped up an emotional tour with a hometown concert on Saturday, giving fans a chance to bid farewell to lead singer Gord Downie, who has been diagnosed with terminal brain cancer.

Known in Canada as simply "The Hip," the band is on what is expected to be its final tour with Downie, 52, who announced his illness in May.

Downie is considered one of

Canada's greatest songwriters, and news of his illness prompted an outpouring of shock and support. Towns across the country declared Tragically Hip days.

"Farewell to Canada's greatest rock band," *The Toronto Star* newspaper said in a headline on Friday. The band's last hometown show in Kingston, Ontario, has been billed as a national celebration. It was broadcast live, with bars and outdoor venues across the country hosting public viewings.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who has said

Downie had "been writing Canada's soundtrack for more than 30 years," was at the show.

Trudeau told the Canadian Broadcasting Corp at the event he became a fan of the band in university and called it "an inevitable and essential part of what we are and who we are as a country."

Downie, known for his frenetic stage presence and telling long stories in the middle of songs, has maintained his pace during the tour, clad in custom-made bright metallic suits.

The tour sold out stadiums

across the country in minutes, prompting controversy about ticket resellers. Tickets for Saturday's show went for upwards of \$1,000 on ticket reseller StubHub on Friday. Trudeau was offered tickets by the band and will pay for them, his spokesman said. Formed in the 1980s with roots in blues and rock, the Tragically Hip found radio popularity on both classic and alternative rock stations. A slew of singles became radio fixtures, while the band's 14 albums nabbed numerous awards.

The band's well-known lyrics often make intrinsically Canadian references, such as to the 1972 hockey series between Canada and the Soviet Union. "There is a Canadianness that runs through them to the point where new citizens should be given a Tragically Hip CD after they take the oath," said Alan Cross, a radio show host and music historian who called Downie "the rock and roll poet laureate of Canada." —Reuters

Turkish movie wins best film at Sarajevo Film Festival

SARAJEVO — Turkish movie "Album", directed by Mehmet Can Mertoglu, on Saturday won the Heart of Sarajevo for the best film at the 22nd Sarajevo Film Festival (SFF).

The SFF concluded Saturday night after announcement of awards at the closing ceremony at the National Theater.

Heart of Sarajevo for best actress went to Irena Ivanova for her role in the "Godless", a movie that also won Special Jury Prize. Heart of Sarajevo for best actor went to Gheorghe Visu for his role in "Dogs".

Meanwhile, Heart of Sarajevo for best short film was given to "Transition", directed by Milica Tomovic from Serbia. The award for best documentary was given to "A Mere Breath", directed by Monica Lazurean-Gorgan from Romania. —Xinhua

Fukushima students debut original compositions with New York Phil



Eight young music students from Japan's Fukushima Prefecture perform their original compositions with members of the New York Philharmonic in New York on 20 August 2016. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

NEW YORK — Eight young music students from Japan's Fukushima Prefecture performed their original compositions with members of the New York Philharmonic on Saturday as the culmination of a programme that brought them to New York City for six days of cultural exchange and mentorship.

The 16- and 17-year-old Japanese students, whose home re-

gion in their country's northeast was devastated by the massive 2011 earthquake and tsunami, used their time on the Very Young Composers programme to finish new arrangements of the traditional song "Furusato" (Hometown).

They also explored the city and studied with six American participants aged 12-16 who composed pieces in response to the

Jay-Z produced hit "Empire State of Mind."

In Saturday's concert at the Lincoln Centre in Manhattan, the Japanese students and New York Philharmonic musicians played four student arrangements of "Furusato," presented together as a single piece with theme and variations.

The Japanese youths also joined the pros in performing a separate version of the traditional song as interpreted by Takehito Shimazu, the professor emeritus of Fukushima University who began mentoring the students in Japan and accompanied them on the trip. Before the presentation, the students spoke about their experiences in Fukushima and the importance of music in sharing experience, expressing hope that, through the arranged piece, people would be able to understand the sorrow of the people of Fukushima who are unable to return to their hometowns. Another student said that many things were lost in the disaster but it had also led to new encounters.

Shimazu said, "I strongly believe that this experience of trying

hard to convey the reality of Fukushima to others will benefit children in the future."

Issei Endo, 16, who was forced to evacuate from his home in the town of Tomioka in Fukushima Prefecture to live in another city in the prefecture due to radioactive contamination, said about the programme, "It's been a valuable opportunity for me to play with such distinguished players."

In addition to Endo, the Very Young Composers from Fukushima are Hiromu Akimoto, Miho Haranaka, Masataka Ishizaki, Eri-no Nagahashi, Mika Naito, Erika Oura and Katsumi Tadano.

The program, established by the New York Philharmonic in 1995, was created to give students in grades 4-8 a chance to compose original music and hear it performed by professional orchestra musicians. Starting in the 2014-15 season, it has partnered with the Japan-US public-private "Tomodachi" (Friends) initiative, which supports recovery from the 2011 earthquake and tsunami, to welcome young composers from Japan's Tohoku region into the programme. —Kyodo News



Gold medalist Mo Farah (GBR) of Britain reacts during Men's 5000m Victory Ceremony at Olympic Stadium in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 20 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Farah does the double, US clean up

RIO DE JANEIRO — Briton Mo Farah joined the ranks of the all-time distance greats on Saturday by becoming just the second man to retain both Olympic track long distance titles after adding a brilliant 5,000m gold to his 10,000 at the Rio Games.

On a sparkling final night of athletics, Matthew Centrowitz won a shock 1,500m gold for the United States, their first in the event since 1908.

The nation also won both 4x400m relays to stretch their winning margin in the track and field medal count.

Caster Semanya cruised to victory in the women's 800m, Germany's Thomas Roehler won the javelin and 37-year-old high jumper Ruth Beitia won Spain's first Olympic gold in women's athletics.

The Rio athletics programme closes with the men's marathon on Sunday.

With Usain Bolt finally moving aside after his triple-triple heroics had dominated the first nine days of action, Farah took center stage for his double-double to emulate Finland's Lasse Viren (1972 and 1976).

Having also done the double twice at the world championships,

Farah proved he is up there with the best endurance performers of all time.

He never looked like being beaten on Saturday, winning gold with a consummate display of control and finishing power.

"To do it again is incredible," said Farah. "I have that drive, it's just me.

"I can't quite believe it. I wished for just one medal as a junior. It has been a long journey but if you dream of something, have ambitions and are willing to work hard then you can get your dreams."

Centrowitz might have been dreaming of a minor medal but found himself in the box seat with a brilliant tactical run in the 1,500 and had too much finishing speed for defending champion Taoufik Makhoulfi of Algeria.

"Doing my victory lap, I literally kept screaming to everyone I know, 'Are you kidding me?'" Centrowitz said.

There was no shock in the women's 800m where Semanya delivered gold, the first Olympic athletics title for a South African woman in 64 years, having looked unbeatable all year and having to deal with the pressure of questions over her gender.—Reuters

Kerber in Cincy final, one win from top spot

CINCINNATI — Australian Open champion Angelique Kerber cooled off red-hot Simona Halep in straight sets on Saturday to reach the final of the Southern & Western Open in Cincinnati and move one win away from taking over as world number one.

Second seed Kerber beat the third-seeded Romanian, winner of 13 successive matches, 6-3, 6-4 to set up a Sunday final against Karolina Pliskova.

The German needs to beat Pliskova to end Serena Williams' 183 successive weeks as world number one.

The American is three weeks short of Steffi Graf's all-time record, but the 28-year-old German can make her own history with a win on Sunday.

"I have still, one match to go," said left-hander Kerber, fresh off winning the Olympic silver and the Wimbledon runner-up to Williams last month.

"I would not think about this the whole week. Every-

body's asking me about that. If it happens, it will be amazing, but still I have to focus on the next match against a real tough opponent, Pliskova."

The big-serving Pliskova, the 17th-seeded Czech, swept past French Open champion Garbine Muguruza of Spain in a dominant performance, winning 6-1, 6-3 in the earlier semi-final.

Kerber leads her head-to-head against Pliskova 4-2, with the Czech's last win coming in last year's semi-finals in Sydney.

Kerber was locked in a tight first set in breezy conditions against Halep when rain forced a 30-minute delay.

Once they resumed, with Halep serving at 3-4, the Romanian was ice-cold, particularly off the backhand, and Kerber dominated.

The German broke Halep when a backhand sailed wide, held serve to finish the first set, then swept to a 4-0 lead in the

second.

Halep, with her back to the wall, cut loose and began finding her range with aggressive swings from both wings and won the next three games.

The Romanian was within a point of taking the 10th game to deuce in her quest to bring the set back on serve, when Kerber broke a string on her racquet and a startled Halep mis-hit her backhand return wide to end the match.

Pliskova, who has won five WTA titles, was in full command in her semi-final, belting 17 winners and five aces. She needed just an hour to clinch victory.

"I know I beat (Muguruza) in the last two matches, so I knew it's going to be tough for her to beat me if I play well or if I play solid," Pliskova said in a courtside interview.

"I was not thinking about that she's a French Open champion. This you cannot take on the court."—Reuters



Angelique Kerber (GER) returns a shot against Simona Halep (ROU) in the semifinals during the Western and Southern tennis tournament at Linder Family Tennis Centre, Mason, OH, USA, on 20 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Entertainment Channel

(22-8-2016, Monday)

<p>06 : 00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weather Report Music Programme <p>06 : 20 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Myanmar Master Class "Still Life (Fruit)" <p>06 : 30 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cartoon "Open Season 2" (Part-1) <p>07 : 05 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Drama Series <p>08 : 25 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRTV Entertainment Music <p>08 : 40 pm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travelogue "To the coastal region (Myeik - Kawthoung)" (Part-1) <p>09 : 10 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Movie Songs <p>09 : 20 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pyi Thu Ni Ti <p>09 : 45 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unique Pattern of Myanmar...A Trend of Chin Traditional Dress <p>10 : 15 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dances <p>10 : 30 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Myanmar Video
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To 23-8-2016 (Tuesday) 6:00 pm

Myanmar International

(22-8-2016 07:00am ~ 23-8-2016 07:00am) MST

Today Fresh		
<p>07:03 Am News</p> <p>07:26 Am Myanmar Sculpture-Work of Art</p> <p>07:42 Am Development Momentum of Sittway</p> <p>08:03 Am News</p> <p>08:26 Am Myanmar Traditional Thatched Roofs: IN-LEAF</p> <p>08:43 Am Cultural Show: Theatrical Make Up</p> <p>08:51 Am A Precious gift from waste</p> <p>09:03 Am News</p> <p>09:26 Am Caves of Myanmar</p> <p>09:51 Am Cartoonist & Graphic Designer Myint Lwin Oo</p> <p>10:03 Am News</p>	<p>10:26 Am Farming: Duck Breeder</p> <p>10:36 Am A Historic Town: 9 Pagodas</p> <p>10:49 Am Amazing: Sayargyi Nyein Chan Aung</p>	<p>(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm) - Sunday Repeat(07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am) (03:00 Pm ~ 07:00 Pm) - Today Repeat(07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)</p> <p>Prime Time</p> <p>07:03 Pm News</p> <p>07:27 Pm Food Trip (EP-4) (Part-2)</p> <p>07:50 Pm Fantastic Orchid Garden From The Flower City</p> <p>08:03 Pm News</p> <p>08:26 Pm Taste of Myanmar (Papaya Salad)</p> <p>08:45 Pm Distinguished Myanmar Lady "Kyin Po"</p> <p>08:52 Pm Snake Dancer</p> <p>(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am) (11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am) - Sunday 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)</p>

Neymar hands Brazil precious football gold medal

RIO DE JANEIRO — Neymar shed tears of joy after delivering Brazil's first men's football gold medal with the winning penalty in a 5-4 shootout triumph over Germany after a thrilling final ended in a draw following extra-time on Saturday. Brazil had lost the Olympic final three times — in 1984, 1988 and 2012 — but they finally got the gold they craved on a dramatic night at the Maracana stadium in which they outplayed the Germans but were saved three times by the woodwork.

Neymar had put the hosts ahead with a superb free kick after 27 minutes but Germany captain Maximilian Meyer equalised just before the hour to take the

game into the extra period at 1-1.

There were no more goals so the match went to penalties with Nils Petersen missing Germany's fifth spot kick leaving Neymar, who appeared to injure himself late in the game, to limp up and coolly score from the spot to send the capacity crowd wild.

The victory gave Brazil a measure of revenge for their humiliating 7-1 defeat by eventual World Cup winners Germany in the semi-finals on home soil in 2014 — a game the frustrated Neymar had to watch from the sidelines due to injury.

"Yesterday we were criticised," the 24-year-old Barcelona forward said in reference to

Brazil's poor start to the Olympic tournament in which the home side drew 0-0 with South Africa and Iraq. "We have replied with good football."

Brazil coach Rogerio Micalé added: "We had players who were extremely dedicated, professional and with great technical skill. I'll leave here with the sensation of having done my duty."

The win means a unified Germany are now the only World Cup winners never to have won the Olympic gold medal and the loss robbed them of a chance to complete the male and female double after their women's team beat Sweden 2-1 on Friday.

With a passionate crowd be-



Neymar (BRA) of Brazil kisses his gold medal during Men's Football Tournament Victory Ceremony at Maracana in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 20 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

hind them, Brazil took the game to their opponents and dominated possession and territory.

However, they struggled to make chances and it was the Germans who almost opened the scoring after 10 minutes when Ju-

lian Brandt smacked the bar with a lovely curling shot from outside the box.

Brazil kept pushing forward and just before the half-hour mark they got the goal that their play deserved.—Reuters

Liverpool stunned by Burnley, Chelsea rally to win

LONDON — Liverpool were sent spinning to a 2-0 defeat at promoted Burnley in the Premier League on Saturday while Chelsea came from behind to win 2-1 at Watford thanks to late goals from Michy Batshuayi and Diego Costa.

Elsewhere, Sergio Aguero and Nolito scored twice apiece as Manchester City won 4-1 at Stoke City to give Pep Guardiola's men their second straight victory while champions Leicester City were held to a 0-0 home draw by Arsenal.

Sam Vokes and Andre Gray scored first-half goals to put Burnley in command against Liverpool who were a pale shadow of the team that beat Arsenal 4-3 in their opening game of the season last weekend.

"How can I be happy with this?", said Liverpool manager Juergen Klopp. "Everybody needs to be more clinical."

"Burnley deserved to win with a very passionate performance. We have to say it wasn't enough today."

Vokes netted with a rasping

shot in the second minute before Gray bagged his first top-flight goal with a crisp low strike from 18 metres.

Etienne Capoue gave Watford a 55th-minute lead against Chelsea after smashing a swerving shot into the top corner of the net.

Substitute Batshuayi equalised in the 80th minute with his first goal for the club before Costa, who scored a late winner against West Ham United on Monday, finished calmly three minutes from time after being found by another sub, Cesc Fabregas.

"I'm pleased to see a reaction from my players,"

said Chelsea manager Antonio Conte. "This win's very important for us as it gives everyone confidence."

Manchester City

were arguably flattered by the 4-1 scoreline at Stoke.

Aguero, who missed two penalties in City's 5-0 Champions League playoff first-leg victory at Steaua Bucharest in midweek, opened the scoring from the spot after Ryan Shawcross impeded Nicolas

Otamendi.

The Argentine then doubled his tally after 36 minutes, meeting a sumptuous Kevin De Bruyne free kick to send a fine header into the far corner of the goal.

Stoke fought back when Span-

ish forward Bojan beat keeper Willy Caballero from the spot but substitute Nolito struck twice late on for Manchester City.

"I am really impressed with the players as human beings and with their performance," said Guardiola.

Leicester were left fuming after they had two strong penalty appeals denied against Arsenal.

A staid first half came to life in the final minutes when Danny Drinkwater was felled by Laurent Koscielny but referee Mark Clattenburg waved away frantic appeals from Jamie Vardy and Riyad Mahrez, prompting a cacophony of boos from the home fans. Substitute Ahmed Musa was then brought down by Hector Bellerin in the 88th minute as Leicester's counter-attacking pace put Arsenal under pressure, only for Clattenburg to again wave play on.

"I don't want to talk about the decisions," said City boss Claudio Ranieri. "The managers make mistakes, the referees make mistakes, the players make mistakes."—Reuters



Burnley's George Boyd in action with Liverpool's Jordan Henderson during Premier League at Turf Moor on 20 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS