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Vol. III, No. 297, 11th Waxing of Tabodwe 1378 ME www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com Tuesday, 7 February 2017

State Counsellor: Different visions solved in peaceful ways

Nyi Nyi Tun,
Aung Ye Thwin (MNA)

THE State Counsellor said the name change last year from the Myanmar Peace Center to the National Reconciliation and Peace Center was made so that there could be a real, as well as a symbolic change in the way peace is achieved.

"The basic reason for changing MPC to NRPC is that national reconciliation and peace cannot be separated in any way. National reconciliation is not only meant for building peace with groups that fought with arms, but more than that. Different views and visions not only exist between armed organizations and the government, but also exist in different forms across the nation. Difference varies depending on political outlooks, racial, religious and social attitudes and visions. If we really want democracy, we need to believe that different visions can be solved in a peaceful way," the State Counsellor said yesterday during her welcoming address to the Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee, of which she is the chairperson.

> "National reconciliation and peace cannot be separated in any way.

She went on to say that violence should never be the means to attain peace.

"Any kind of terrorism or any kind of forced attack was never ever conceived in our minds. The force we use is none other than spiritual forces. We relied upon the support of our people with this spiritual force. We want our Union to be really peaceful. If asked why we want peace, we will answer that we want it for our citizens to ensure that their minds are free from fear. Without their minds feeling safe, they cannot get mental happiness. Peace is needed for security in our minds, as is development because it is impossible to bring about real happiness and security, if we are not sufficient in our needs," she said. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi also said yesterday that it was important for all participants in the peace process to strive for unity, instead of calculating how an advantage can be gained by a certain group.

"We are not making efforts for the interest of a group. What we are doing here is not for the benefit of NLD nor for the government, but only for the emergence of the Union. I myself keep this in my mind, as will the representatives present at the meeting, I believe. We urge all to consider what we can give on our side and how we can support the effort in attending such dialogues. It is impossible to approach the dialogues with the spirit of how much we can exploit from here for ourselves. All will have desires and aspirations. First of all, we need to venture to give so that we will be well convinced that our giving will result in a fruitful end. Giving with good will is beneficial, provided that we will do with the spirit of giving as much as we can, without hoping for getting something. I hereby urge you all to discuss with positive visions."

Afterward, Pado Saw Kwei Htoo Win and U Thu Wai, Vice-Chairmen of the UPDJC, gave welcoming speeches, followed by the agenda of the meeting. In yesterday's meeting, the designation of the Union Peace Conference—21st Century Panglong Agreement, matters on the number of representatives, dates and basic principles were discussed, it was learnt.

"We all agreed to hold the UPC—21st Century Panglong Agreement's 2nd meeting, on 28 February. Secondly, we decided to hold the meeting with 700 representatives as described in the framework. We agreed to carry out the process with Union Spirit and to encourage groups that have not yet signed the agreement to sign in the conference," said U Zaw Htay, Acting Director-General of the Ministry of the State Counsellor's Office.

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State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi arrives to attend the meeting of Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee. PHOTO: MNA

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivers a welcoming address at the meeting of the Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, of which she is chairman. PHOTO: MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw

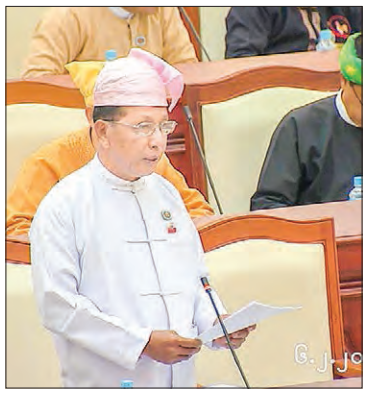
News Media discussed in Pyithu Hluttaw

THE development of the news media was discussed in the Pyithu Hluttaw yesterday.

In response to a question from U Pe Than, Hluttaw representative of Myaybon constituency, Dr Pe Myint, Union Minister for Information said the status of the media was healthy and diverse.

"Our government, chosen by the people, is describing the policies and performance of the government daily to make known to the public in state-owned newspapers which are standing as the dailies representing the people. Under the printing and publishing work law enacted in 2014, there are 39 newspapers, including three Chin Dailies, published in the Chin language. And 476 journals, including 40 national language versions, 370 magazines, including seven national language versions, were allowed. Of the 3,431 applications for certificates to run the enterprises of newspapers, journals, magazines and general publishing and news agencies, 3,429 have already been issued. Starting in August, 2012, the system of censorship of stories was been abolished in Myanmar. After that, freedom of publication was granted. With a view to the appearance of free and independent media and development of the Myanmar media world, conferences, seminars, workshops and dialogues were held in cooperation with the Ministry of Information, UNDP, UNESCO, IMS, DW Akademic, Action, Aid, Article 19, USAID, Myanmar News Media Council, Myanmar Journalists Association, Myanmar Journalist Network, Myanmar Journalist Union and national ethnic media. Through these dialogues and seminars, solutions for problems and challenges encountered in various media spheres on finance, management and human resources were discovered."

The Union Minister added:



U Pe Than, Hluttaw representative of Myaybon constituency. PHOTO: MNA

Dr Pe Myint, Union Minister for Information. PHOTO: MNA

"As for the development of national ethnics media, BNI (Burmese News International) helped for leasing rights to run media in the country and for holding ethnic media conferences. For the development of ethnic media, in a typical press branch (Mawlamyaing), news on development of socio economy of the national people, photos, articles are published every weekend on four pages in Mon, Sakaw Kayin, Po Kayin and PaO languages. The Ministry of Information is holding political paper readings, book-fair festivals, children literature festivals, contemporary historical paper readings for the development of Myanmar language and survival of private media. One-hundred sixty-six representatives from Literary Central and ethnic literature and cultural committees attended the 1st coordination meeting held on 10 November 2016, at the Theinbyu road, Yangon.

In other words, the newspapers are reporting how the government is implementing government policies for the benefit of the people through newspapers. During the reign of the new government, types of presentation of the news are not the forms of sending propaganda, and it is performing as a mean of communicating people and the government. In doing so, newspapers are conducting its routines in accord with media ethics. It can be seen in the Mirror dailies, a new sector describing the opinions of outsiders, a platform for people's opinion has been opened. A platform for the new generation is designed for the emergence of young enthusiasts for literature and future literary workers and for children to read widely."

—Myanmar News Agency

Speaker U Win Myint discussing educational matters with faculty members and students of Monywa Universities. PHOTO: MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives faculty members and students of Monywa Universities

PYITHU HLUTTAW Speaker U Win Myint met faculty members and students from the botanical department of Monywa University and Monywa Economic University yesterday afternoon at the Pyithu Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw and discussed educational matters. The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker separately received 40 faculty members and students led by Professor Daw Khin Than Htay, dean of botanical department, Monywa University and 40 faculty members and students led by Rector Dr Daw Khin Khin Htway from Monywa Economic University.

The two teams visited the 4th day session of 2nd Pyithu Hluttaw 4th regular meeting during their excursion trip and met the speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw.

—Myanmar News Agency

Amyotha Hluttaw

Amyotha Hluttaw MPs discuss corruption, transparency issues

AMYOTHA HLUTTAW held its regular meeting focusing free from corruption and transparency issues.

Eleven MPs discussed in support of the proposal submitted by MP Naw Christ Tun (a) Dr Akar Moe of Constituency-7 from Kayin State, complaining that Myanmar International Cooperation Agency has not been established in accordance with the law and has managed the state-owned assets and factories since its establishment.

They suggested to abolish the agency and to operate it under the Union Government in order to promote the country's economy.

When MP Naw Christ Tun put forward the issue to the parliament in December last year, she called for ensuring greater transparency of ways of doing the business and profits of Myanmar International Cooperation Agency.

She also suggested abolition of MICA, whose stated aim is to boost fish and meat production and to assist in food sufficiency for the country, as it has not brought benefits to the people.

She also called for transparency in its management of the state-owned factories, firms and lands without permission of the Union Government and urged the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation to make the agency's financial management transparent.

The agency was established with 34 officials and 70 strong staff according to the meeting resolution 13/2014 of the Union Government on 3 July 2014.

According to the debate at the parliament in December last year, the MICA had taken over 48 farms owned by the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, 64.54 acres in Danyingon, 17 fisheries-related property and more than 90 acres owned by the Insein Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department.

The role of livestock and the fishery business, which has been taken over by the MICA, is disappearing in Myanmar because MICA has carried out businesses such as development which are not related to the livestock and fishery sector, she said.

"There are challenges and needs for the veterinary sector, treatment, food supply, small and medium livestock and fishery businesses and job opportunities, and (due to MICA), the country's economy has been crippled, causing losses of public fund," she said

During the yesterday's meeting, MPs also raised free from corruption in appointment, transfer and promotion of state service personnel, the Rural Development Department to hand over Road Department under the Ministry of Construction in building roads in TheGon, Bago Region, and gravelling of village-to-village roads in KyaukTaw of Rakhine State during 2017-2018 fiscal years.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee clarified 3rd amendment of bill for Myanma Gems Law.

— Myanmar News Agency

Myanmar to host international triathlon

MYANMAR will host a triathlon, a multi-stage competition involving swimming, cycling and running, on 12 February in Yangon, with 50 participants from 14 countries.

The contest will take place between Hlegu and Hmawby townships, 50 miles from the northern tip of Yangon.

Twenty-three athletes will represent Myanmar at the international event, together with competitors from Australia, Denmark, Norway, France, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, South Africa, Switzerland, England, the U.S. and Germany. The competition will consist of a 41-kilometer mountain bike race, an 800-meter swimming event and a 10-kilometer road running race. The first prize winner will be awarded US$150, while $75 will go to the second prize winner and $35 to the third prize winner.—*200*

UEC to submit bill for recalling parliamentary representatives

THE Union Election Commission is preparing to submit a bill to Parliament to recall representatives, U Aung Myint, member of the UEC, said yesterday.

The Election Commission is currently drafting the bill together with the two parliaments and the bill will be submitted to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw when it is ready, he said in his answer to the question raised by MP U Thaung Aung of Pyawbwe Constituency at the Pyithu Hluttaw meeting yesterday.

The bill was discussed twice in previous sessions of the parliament in 2012 and 2015, but was suspended for further process.

According to the 2008 constitution, a citizen has the right to contest an election, to vote in an election and to remove an elected member of parliament.

The issue is dealt with in sections 396 and 397. Section 396 states that a representative can be "recalled" for one of a number of reasons: high treason; breach of any provision of the constitution; misbehaviour; disqualification prescribed in this constitution; and inefficient discharge of duties.

— GNLM

State Counsellor: Different visions solved in peaceful ways

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The head of a major ethnic organization then gave an update on the negotiations of the Kayin.

"As regards race-orientated discussions, the Kayin side has come to an end. We heard that all were satisfied with our efforts for all to accept the result which came out from the Kayin side. Very soon, in PaO and Shan, discussions will be made. There has been progress and there was co-operation and discussions were favourable. I want to say that I think it is very easy to implement the task if we aspire. Kayins have been fighting for over 60 years, finding no solution. During a three-year period we have been in round-table peace talks, race-orientated discussions were successfully held. Peace is only in the round-table political dialogue," said Pado Mahn Nyein Maung of the Kayin National Organization.

Pado Saw Kwei Htoo Win. PHOTO: MNA

Khun Myint Tun of the PaO National Liberation Organization added: "Our PaO national level political dialogue will be held from February 16 to February 20 in Hopone, it was approved."

An official of the UPJDC then confirmed the dates and the frequency of meetings, as well as who would be in attendance.

"Union Peace Conference will be held twice a year, so the present conference is designated to be held on 28 February. It will be round about the designated date as we need to consult for all to take part in the meeting. Conference representatives are to be from those who signed the agreement and they must decide as well. As the State Counsellor has said, to exert efforts for those who have not signed the agreement yet to sign and take part, the Peace Commission will perform the task to the completion," said U Hla Maung Shwe of the Secretary of UPDJC.—*MNA*

President U Htin Kyaw and wife conclude visit to Cambodia

PRESIDENT U Htin Kyaw and Daw Su Su Lwin arrived back Nay Pyi Taw yesterday after concluding their visit to Cambodia.

They were welcomed back at the Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Vice President U Myint Swe, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice- Senior General Soe Win and officials.

Before leaving for Myanmar, the delegation led by President U Htin Kyaw and wife visited Banteay Srei, a 10th-century Cambodian temple and producing traditional hand-made products in rural areas.

Banteay Srei is built largely of red sandstone, a medium that lends itself to the elaborate decorative wall carvings which are still observable today. The buildings themselves are miniature in scale, unusually so when measured by the standards of Angkorian construction.

President U Htin Kyaw and wife visit Banteay Srei, a 10th-century Cambodian temple before leaving for Myanmar. PHOTO: MNA

Consecrated on 22 April 967 A.D., Bantāy Srīi was the only major temple at Angkor not built by a monarch.

The temple consists of low walls surrounding peaked structures of deep red sandstone. Banteay Srei means "Citadel of Women," and it is said that the reliefs on this temple are so delicate that they could only have been carved by the hand of a woman. The well-preserved relief carvings on the central buildings depict scenes from ancient Hindu tales.—*Myanmar News Agency*

JMC-U to discuss SOP, budget

The meeting of The Union Joint Ceasefire Monitoring Committee being processed in in Yangon. PHOTO: MNA

Ye Khaung Nyunt

THE Union Joint Ceasefire Monitoring Committee (JMC-U) will discuss Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and budget at its ninth meeting at the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre in Yangon.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman of JMC-U Lt-Gen Yar Pyai has called for preventing clashes between troops as the leaders are planning to hold the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong for building a federal democratic nation.

He also stressed the need for the JMC-U to follow the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement as part of its efforts for assisting in peace building in the country.

Saw Isaac Po, Vice-Chairman-1 of JMC-U, urged troops from both sides to avoid actions which could collapse the trust between them, stressing the need to seek ways for building trust between the troops at the negotiation table.

During the three-day meeting, the members of the JMC-U will also discuss matters on arrangements for a visit to the Philippines, conducting mine clearance trainings and demarcation for the troops.

Vice President U Myint Swe addresses at the coordination meeting of conferring religious titles and donation ceremony

Vice President U MYINT SWE, attended the coordination meeting of the patrons and leading committee of conferring religious titles and donating dry ration, addressing, "In offering early morning and morning"soon" (meal) to the Reverend Sayadaws, it is necessary to coordinate in advance for offering hygienic and fresh meals and not to delay."

In the speech, the Vice President said about arrangement for medical check-up of the Sayadaws, putting traditional medicines and modernized drugs in the rooms of the Sayadaws, having ambulance in the nearby area, spraying mosquito and fly repellents in the surrounding area, transportation of Sayadaws to Nay Pyi Taw by air, the convenience in the air voyage, easy and comfortable accommodation.

The Vice President advised over the submissions of Lt General Kyaw Swe, Union Minister for Home Affairs concerning security arrangements, and sub-committees for arrangement and preparation for the ceremony, soon offering and catering arrangement subcommittee, invitation subcommittee, accommodation subcommittee.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Vice President U Myint Swe addresses the coordination meeting of conferring religious titles and donation ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

Vice President U Henry Van Thio tours Haka, Htantalan

Vice President U Henry Van Thio inspects new housing in Haka. PHOTO: MNA

VICE PRESIDENT U Henry Van Thio has assisted in development tasks in Haka and Htantalan in Chin State yesterday.

At the meeting with the Vice President, local people in Haka discussed several issues including disaster preparedness, transport, health and infrastructure.

U Henry Van Thio presented K10 million to authorities to spend on education and health sectors in Haka Township while union ministers, who toured the town along with the Vice President, handed over solar panels, environmental friendly stoves, blankets and cash for disaster preparedness.

Following the meeting, the Vice President and party visited the Htantalan No. 1 Basic Education High School.

At the meeting with local people, he assisted in supply power and water and building infrastructures in Htantalan.

Vice President U Henry Van Thio also clarified the incumbent government's efforts for achieving eternal peace in the country and building a federal democratic nation.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Immunisation efforts to be renewed in Buthidaung and Maungtaw

IMMUNISATION efforts that became unpopular due to rumours in Maungtaw township, Rakhine State, will begin again, officials said.

Immunisations for jaundice, whooping cough, tetanus, H Influenza type-B, polio, measles and German measles are being carried out, it was learnt in a meeting with authorities.

"On 24 and 26 December in 2016, immunisation work was carried out in Magyichaung village of Maungtaw. A rumour happened that a child was dead due to the wrong immunisation. After careful investigation, it was determined that the child died of diarrhea, not from the wrong immunisation. Due to that information, the immunisation program lost momentum in Buthidaung and Maungtaw townships. People did not come out to be immunised," said Dr Chan Thar, minister for social affairs in Rakhine State said.

Dr Chan Thar. PHOTO: MAUNG MIN

"For the success of the task, it is necessary to educate villagers on the medical benefits. And it needs to cooperate with NGOs and INGOs more than ever. Mainly, it needs to organise the people. In Buthitaung, immunisation was restarted. In doing so, medical doctors, health staff, health assistants are visiting villages with medicines. Women, children and expectant mothers who needed to be vaccinated were injected. And the effects of immunisation and the need to trust medicines were discussed for them to accept." —*Maung Zaw (Kalay)*

Crime NEWS

Over 4 million stimulant pills, ammunition seized in Maungtaw

Three suspects and seized drugs in Maungtaw. PHOTO: MAUNG PHOE ZAW

AN-anti narcotic suppression squad led by Police Lt-Col Kyaw Kyaw Min searched a vehicle en route from Alethankyaw village to Maungtaw near the Bawdigon inspection gate in Maungtaw on Sunday night and discovered 390,000 WY-stimulant tablets together with two monks on board.

Interrogation of the two monks led police to search the Shwe Baho monastery later on the same evening, where police found 3,734,250 WY-stimulant tablets in the room of a layperson, Maung Lin Aung Shwe, who was staying at the monastery. Police also discovered 94 bullets, 91 hand grenades and a fuse in Maung Lin Aung Shwe's room.

Police detained the two monks for further questioning and are still in pursuit of Maung Lin Aung Shwe.—*Min Min Zaw (MNA),*

Brown opium powder, heroin and yaba pills seized in Laukkai

AN anti-narcotic suppression squad from Laukkai and members of Tatmadaw searched a vehicle driven by Tha Hone with Yan Le Tone aboard at the entrance to Si Aw village, Htin Par Kyaing village-tract in Laukkai on 5 February while conducting an area clearance operation. Police seized 5.95 kilos of heroin, 9.5 kilos of brown opium powder and 3,500 yaba pills.

Similarly, members of Tatmadaw and anti-narcotic suppression squad from Kunlon searched a passenger-vehicle en route from Laukkai to Chin Shwehaw at the entrance to Chin Shwehaw on Laukkai-Chin Shwehaw road. Police arrested a passenger called Shan Shauk El in possession of 0.35 kilos of heroin and 11,505 yaba pills.

Tha Hone and Yan Le Tone. PHOTO: MPF

Police have taken action against them under the Anti-narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—*Myanmar Police Force*

One killed, 23 injured as vehicle overturns

A Summer Asia express en route from Yangon to Pathein turned over near Kankalay village between mileposts 79/6 and 79/7 on the Yangon-Pathein road in Kyaunggon Township in Ayeyawady Region at 1:00 am on 5 February when the driver named Saw Nga Man alias Thant Zin Oo, 27, from Thanlyin lost control.

As the express overturned, a passenger named Ko Kyaw The Phar, 22, from Lashio, Shan State succumbed to the injures while twenty three others were injured including Ko Win Myo Kyaw, 33, living at Ward 9 in Thakayta. The injured victims were taken to Kyaunggon Public Hospital.

Police have taken action against the reckless driver Saw Nga Man alias Thant Zin Oo under section 304-A/338/337/279/202 of the Penal Code.—*Myanmar Police Force*

Summer Asia express overturns on Yangon-Pathein Road in Kyaunggon Township. PHOTO: MPF

Fisherman found dead in Kyaukpyu Township

THE decomposed body of a man was found on Sunday in a creek in Kyaukpyu Township, Rakhine State, township police confirmed.

Police were called to the scene after the body was spotted in the creek.

According to the investigation, the body was that of U Maung Tun Kyi, 46, of Lawtay Village in Mingan Village-tract, a fisherman for the Ngwepinle Fishing Company, said Police Inspector Ye Tun.

The death of U Maung Tun Kyi is believed to be suspicious, as injuries were found on his face, according to his family. Relatives said it was their belief that U Maung Tun Kyi was killed as a result of an argument on a fishing boat. No arrest have been made, but enquiries continue, police said.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

LOCAL Business

Watermelon, muskmelon income accounted for 80 per cent of fruit and vegetables exports

WATERMELON and muskmelon made up 80 per cent of the income earned from fruits and vegetables exported to foreign countries, according to the Commerce Ministry.

During the 2015-2016 fiscal year, fruit and vegetable exports accounted for about US$93million in income, with export values of about US$60milllion from watermelon and about 20 million form muskmelon, said U Myo Thu, the director of the Trade Promotion Department.

The market is largely dependent on the Chinese market, however. Therefore, efforts are being exerted to penetrate more international markets, he added.

In addition to watermelons and muskmelons, the country exports grapes, pineapples, bananas, dragon fruit (pitaya) and mangoes. About US$60million was earned from the export of watermelon and muskmelon so far in this fiscal year.

A farmer works on a muskmelon organic farm, in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

"Currently, Myanmar's fruits and vegetables are flowing into Singapore and Taiwan, in addition to China. And we are making efforts for the fruits and vegetables market to get access to Russia and the UAE (United Arab Emirates)," said U Soe Than Mindin, the chairperson of Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producer and Exporter Association.

The prevailing price of watermelon and muskmelon at Muse 105th mile commodity depot is from 2,500 to 4,200 yuan, with an exchange rate of Ks191 per yuan.

Watermelon and muskmelon are mostly cultivated in Shan State, Mandalay and Sagaing regions. The growers plant crops in September. Around 300 truckloads of watermelon and muskmelons are reportedly entering Muse border trade camp a day, it is learnt.

In a bid to penetrate more international markets and to produce value-added products, a public company is being established, according to the Myanmar Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producer and Exporter Association.—*Phyo Lwin Aung (AMIA)*

Domestic gold price tops Ks880,000 per tical

WITH the rise in the global gold price, the domestic gold price reached over Ks880,000 per tical, according to the local gold and jewellery shops.

The domestic gold price jumped to Ks881,000 per tical on 5th February whereas local gold fetched over Ks870,000 per tical on 31st January.

The global gold price rose to a high of US$1,220 per ounce on 3rd February. The price was US$1,189 per ounce on 30th January and up to US$1,214 on 31st January. In keeping with the high price of gold in global market, the domestic gold price was up by Ks20,000 in the last week of January. The gap between the highest and lowest rates of domestic gold price is Ks30,000 to Ks40,000 per tical, it is learnt.

The high price of domestic gold makes gold buyers hesitate, and the sale is dropping a bit, said the owners of gold shops.

The gold price hit the recorded high of Ks900,000 per tical in 2016 in the domestic market.—*Ko Htet*

80 tonnes of Myanmar coffee to ship to America and China (Taipei) this year

ABOUT 80 tonnes of Myanmar's coffee is planned to be exported to the US and China (Taipei) this year, according to the Myanmar Coffee Association.

In 2016, about 40 tonnes of Arabica produced from Ywangan were exported to these markets. The export volume is is being boosted this year, said U Win Aung Kyaw, the vice chairman of Myanmar Coffee Association.

To meet the expected target, coffee growers have been asked to cooperate with the Myanmar Coffee Association in order to produce high-quality, exportable coffee.

"We are encouraging them to systematically cultivate and harvest in the proper production process," U Aung Kyaw said.

Members of the Specialty Coffee Association of America previously visited coffee plantations in Shan State to evaluate the coffee quality and conduct training in coffee growing in order to penetrate the international market. With the recommendations from this association, Ywangan's coffee was introduced to the American market in 2016.

Myanmar specialty coffee makes its debut in the United States during a private tasting with specialty industry professionals at La Colombe Coffee Roasters in Washington, DC, US on 23 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

The American market offers a higher price for coffee, depending on the quality of the coffee from other foreign markets. Only coffee of fair quality is exported to China (Taipei), U Aung Kyaw said.

High-quality coffee exported to America fetched about US$7,000 per tonne, whereas the export price of coffee to China (Taipei) is about US$3,800 per tonne.

About 7,000 tonnes of coffee are produced in Myanmar per year, but only about 50 per cent of coffee production goes to foreign countries, according to the Myanmar Coffee Association. —*Phyo Lwin Aung (AMIA)*

1.4 million metric tonnes of peas to be exported

FROM 1.2 to 1.4 million metric tonnes of various types of peas are expected to be export in the next fiscal year, said U Khin Maung Lwin, the assistant secretary of the Ministry of Commerce.

Pea exports from April to the third week of January in the current fiscal year were up by nearly 170,000 tonnes compared to last year, earning over US$300 million.

Bean sprouts produced from green grams are also being exported to European Union. The green grams from Yangon and Bago regions are in demand from the EU, but there is an export restraint on the products that can flow into the EU, said U Khin Maung Lwin.

The cultivation of Myanmar's peas accounted for 21 per cent of all vegetables produced in Myanmar. A total of 18 varieties of peas are planted in the country, including mung beans, green grams, pigeon peas and chick peas, which constitute 52 per cent of all agricultural exports, it is learnt.

Pea exports placed second in the agricultural export sector after rice and paddy. From 1st April to 27th January in this fiscal year, the export of agricultural products hit US$2.25 trillion, which is up by US$225.08 million compared to last year, according to statistics of the Commerce Ministry.—*Ko Khant*

Chick peas.

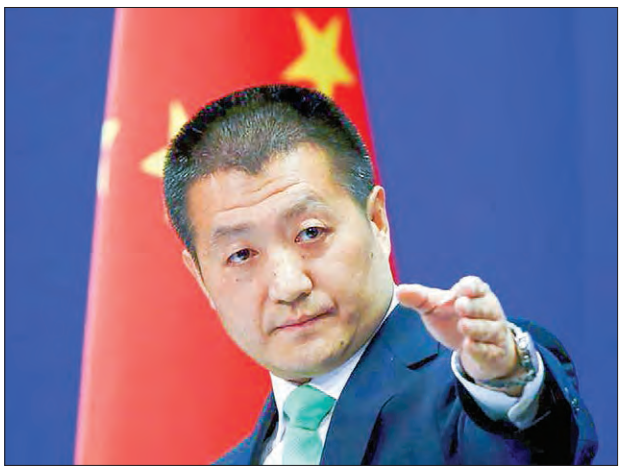
China welcomes Mattis' emphasis on South China Sea diplomacy

BEIJING — China on Monday welcomed US Defence Secretary Jim Mattis' suggestion that diplomacy should be the priority in the South China Sea, and that major US military action was not being considered to contend with China's assertive behaviour there.

Mattis, speaking in Tokyo on Saturday, blamed China for "shredding the trust of nations in the region", but also played down any need for US military manoeuvres in the disputed waters of the South China Sea and instead called for open lines of communication.

The comments, his most complete on the issue to date, came after analysts had said other remarks made by President Donald Trump's administration had suggested the possibility of US military action, or even a naval blockade.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang told reporters at a regular briefing that Mattis' emphasis on using diplomatic means of resolving disputes in the South China Sea was "worthy of affirmation" and that the situation there was normalising.



Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang.
PHOTO: REUTERS

"This accords with the common interests of China and all countries in the region, and we hope that countries outside of the region can respect the joint interests and wishes of countries in the region," Lu said.

China claims most of the South China Sea, while Taiwan, Malaysia, Viet Nam, the Philippines and Brunei claim parts of the waters that command strategic sea lanes and have rich fishing grounds along with oil and gas deposits.

In his Senate confirmation hearing, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said China should not be allowed access to islands it has built in the contested South China Sea. The White House also vowed to defend "international territories" in the waterway.

Such action would risk an armed confrontation with China, an increasingly formidable nuclear-armed military power.

Chinese state media said at the time that the United States would need to "wage war" to bar China's access to the artificial islands built up on reefs, where it has constructed military-length air strips and installed weapons systems.

Pronouncements by China's state-run news outlets do not equate to government policy, but can reflect official thinking.

The official English-language China Daily newspaper said in an editorial on Monday that Mattis' comments were a "mind-soothing pill" that had "dispersed the clouds of war that many feared were gathering over the South China Sea".

"Mattis has inspired optimism here that things may not be as bad as previously portrayed," the newspaper said.—*Reuters*

Japanese naval vessels to visit Cambodia next week

PHNOM PENH — Three vessels of the Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force is scheduled to visit Cambodia from 13 to 16 February during their training cruise, the Japanese Embassy in Cambodia said in a press release on Monday.

The vessels, namely Makinami, Asayuki, and Shimayuki, are led by Captain Masahiko Kawakubo, commander of the Escort Division 13 of the Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force.

The vessels will dock at the Sihanoukville Autonomous Port in southwestern Preah Sihanouk province and the cadets will visit the Ream Naval Base in the province.

During the visit, Captain Masahiko plans to visit Phnom Penh to pay a courtesy call on Admiral Tea Vinh, commander of the Royal Cambodian Navy on 14 February, the press release said.—*Xinhua*

Vietnamese city to offer public bicycle service

HO CHI MINH CITY— Vietnam's southern Can Tho city will offer public bicycle services on a trial basis to help minimize traffic congestion and protect environment.

First public bicycle services will be provided at sites which attract many visitors, including parks and islets, the municipal Transport Department said on Monday.

To use the services, people put money into machines, take GPS-enabled bicycles and later give them back at any parking lots. The department will create road corridors for cyclists. —*Xinhua*

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Acting Chief Editor - Aye Min Soe
dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Expatriate Consultant Editor
Mark Angeles
markrangeles@gmail .com
Senior Translators
Khin Maung Oo, Myint Win Thein
editor2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
International News Editor
Ye Htut Tin
editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Local News Editors
Tun Tun Naing (Editor)
intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor)
Translators
Khaing Thanda Lwin,
reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Hay Mar Tin Win,
translator@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Ei Myat Mon
Chief Reporter
Tun Aung Kyaw,
reporter2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
Computer Team
Tun Zaw (Chief of Computer Team), Thein Ngwe,
Zaw Zaw Aung, Ye Naing Soe, Nyi Zaw Moe,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win, Sanda Hnin, Zu Zin Hnin
Circulation
San Lwin (+95) (01) 8604532, Hotline - 09 974424114
Advertising inquiry
01 8604530, Hotline - 09 974424848
marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com
subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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

Indonesia, S Korea initiate high-profile bilateral strategic dialogue meeting

JAKARTA — The first High Working Level Strategic Dialogue (HWLSD) meeting between Indonesia and South Korean was held on Monday here.

The meeting was jointly co-chaired by Indonesia Foreign Affairs Deputy Minister AM Fachir and South Korea First Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Lim Sung-nam.

The meeting discussed ways to expand cooperation in consular, labour and social culture cooperation.

Following suit President Joko Widodo's visit to South Korea in May last year, the meeting served as a forum to create implementation framework from the state visit to further strengthen relations between the two countries. Indonesia and South Korea have upgraded their bilateral ties into strategic partnership. South Korea is Indonesia's 6th largest trade partner and 9th largest foreign investor nation.

The second HWLSD meeting was scheduled to be held in South Korea in 2019.—*Xinhua*

Philippine army arrests communist rebel leader after peace bid collapses

MANILA — Philippine soldiers arrested on Monday a communist rebel leader, days after President Rodrigo Duterte scrapped a ceasefire with the insurgents and as clashes between them and the army erupted in several places.

Duterte announced on Friday the government was scrapping the ceasefire with the New People's Army (NPA) and he ordered soldiers to prepare to fight, saying the rebels were making "huge", unacceptable demands despite government concessions.

The rebel leader arrested on Monday, Ariel Arbitrario, was among dozens of guerrillas freed last year when the government and the rebels resumed peace talks.

He was intercepted at an army checkpoint in Davao City, in the southern Philippines, a military spokesman said.

"He was taken in based on President Duterte's pronouncement to re-arrest all those who were freed temporarily to take part in the peace talks," the spokesman, Captain Rhyan Batchar, told reporters.

"He and a companion will be brought back to prison." The conflict between the government and the NPA, the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, began in 1969 and more than 40,000 people have been killed.

Duterte, who won an election last year on a vow to wipe out the illegal drug trade, had raised hopes of bringing an end to a communist insurgency that has stunted development for years, especially in central parts of the Philippines.

Last month, the government asked the US State Department to remove the rebel movement's founder and leader, Jose Ma Sison, from its terrorist blacklist to move negotiations forward.

But both sides later traded accusations of truce violations and negotiating in bad faith. "Let's go to war," Duterte said in a speech on Monday, calling rebels "spoiled brats" demanding too much from the government. He now calls the NPAs as a terrorist group.

Another military spokesman said there was a spike in skirmishes between the army and the rebels in central and southern parts of the country over the past 48 hours. Three other rebels were captured and one was killed in one clash, said military spokesman Colonel Edgard Arevalo.

Separately on Sunday, soldiers killed a guerrilla in a 30-minute firefight on the central island of Mindoro while skirmishes also occurred in Iloilo and Masbate, also in the central Philippines, Arevalo said.

At the peak of the Maoist rebellion, there were 25,000 NPA fighters but its strength has fallen to about 3,000 members. The army said the rebels are concentrated in the country's eastern seaboard where there are many plantations and mines, main sources of rebel funding. —*Reuters*

Thailand says royal insult suspects in Laos made death threats against PM

BANGKOK — Thai people wanted for breaking a law on insulting the monarchy have issued death threats against the Thai prime minister, from Laos where they have fled to avoid arrest, Thailand's top security officer said on Monday.

Last month, Thailand pressed Laos over the extradition of Thai fugitives accused of lese majeste, or royal insult, which carries a jail term of up to 15 years for each offence.

Thailand's military government says there are up to six Thai suspects in Laos who it is seeking.

General Thawip Netniyom, the head of Thailand's National Security Council, told reporters the suspects last week posted death threats against Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha and Defence Minister Prawit Wongsuwan on Facebook.

"As we're pushing Laos for their arrest, they're reacting, saying that if they had a chance they would hurt them," Thawip told reporters.

"Death threats against important people could lead to another criminal charge."

Thailand's Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha arrives at a weekly cabinet meeting at Government House in Bangkok, Thailand, on 10 January, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Since taking power in a 2014 coup, Thailand's junta has taken a tough stance on dissenters.

It stepped up prosecutions of perceived insults to the country's revered monarchy following the death of King Bhumibol Adulyadej in October last year.

Last week, Prayuth, a former army chief who led the 2014 coup, said he cared more about the country than his life.

Prawit told reporters on Monday he was not worried about the threats and did not need more bodyguards.

A Thai political analyst said the dissidents in Laos appeared to be frustrated and powerless to do anything.

"It's all talk. It's all they can do to vent," Kan Yuenyong, executive director of Siam Intelligence Unit think-tank, told Reuters, referring to the threats.

"I doubt they can do much at all in the current situation."

The Thai government has asked seven countries, including Laos, to extradite a total of 19 suspects accused of lese majeste.

Thawip plans to visit Laos to follow up on the government's extradition request and said on Monday he was awaiting Lao confirmation of his travel plan.

Communist Laos has made no public comment on the case.

The landlocked country has only a tenth of Thailand's population of more than 65 million and its economy is barely one fortieth the size.

Thailand thanked Laos for blocking a social media channel critical of the monarchy late last year, but the channel has since resumed.—*Reuters*

Offshore construction work begins for moving US base in Okinawa

NAHA — The Japanese government on Monday launched offshore construction work to build a replacement facility for a US Marine base in Okinawa amid strong local opposition.

The work began after US Defence Secretary Jim Mattis and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe agreed last week to go ahead with the base relocation.

The work is part of the central government's plan to relocate the US Marine Corps' Air Station Futenma from a densely populated area of Ginowan to the Henoko coastal area in Nago, both in the southern island prefecture.

Okinawa Governor Takeshi Onaga returned on Sunday evening from a US trip to relay local opposition to the relocation plan to the administration of President Donald Trump.

He is likely to seek to thwart the project by such steps as refusing to give permission for moving coral reefs in the land reclamation area.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshide Suga said, "Based on relevant law, the government will pay as much consideration as possible to the natural environment and the livelihoods of local people as we move forward with work to relocate (the base to) Henoko."

Tokyo has argued that the base relocation plan under an accord with Washington is "the only solution" for eliminating the dangers posed by the Futenma base without undermining the deterrence provided by the Japan-US security alliance.

The Okinawa prefectural government, however, is seeking for the base to be moved out of the prefecture altogether.

The offshore construction work will place more than 200 concrete blocks to act as a screen to prevent debris and sediment generated from coastal revetment work from spreading. The central government will also conduct an undersea survey.

Ahead of the construction work, a group of vessels carrying the concrete blocks arrived Sunday near the site. The ships will also be used to carry out the survey.

After starting relocation work in Henoko in October 2015, the central government suspended it in March last year following an agreement with Okinawa under court mediation as part of efforts to break the impasse on the issue.

But Tokyo resumed land construction work on 27 December at the US Marines' Camp Schwab neighboring the relocation site after the Supreme Court ruled against Okinawa's opposition in a case brought by the central government in July.

"This is a country ruled by law, and we feel that both the state and Okinawa Prefecture will cooperate and act sincerely in continuing with the reclamation work, in line with the Supreme Court ruling," Suga said at a press conference Monday.—*Kyodo News*

Police officers remove those who stage a sit-in in front of the US Marines' Camp Schwab in Nago, Okinawa, on 6 February, 2017, to protest against the Japanese government's launch of offshore construction work to build a replacement facility for a US Marine base at the Henoko coastal area. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Dhaka cafe attack plotter put on 15-day remand

DHAKA — An extremist accused of being a mastermind of Bangladesh's Dhaka cafe attack that killed 22 hostages last July has been placed in physical remand for 15 days.

Police got 15 days to quiz Jahangir Alam alias Rajib Gandhi after he was produced before the court of Bogra's senior judicial magistrate in two separate cases on Monday.

One case in Bogra district, some 197 km northwest of Dhaka, implicates Alam with a blast on 3 April, 2016 which killed two people. The other case implicates him with the recovery of lethal weapons and explosives in June last year.

Bangladeshi police arrested Alam in January from the country's central Tangail district, some 97 km away from capital Dhaka.

A police officer said Alam was wanted in 20 to 22 cases filed in connection with terrorist attacks in recent years.

Alam maintained close connections with many already arrested and killed cafe attacker designers, the officer added.

Bangladesh police have reportedly so far hunted down and killed at least 40 militants linked to the cafe attack, including mastermind Tamim Chowdhury who was killed in a police raid on 27 August.—*Xinhua*

China protests US sanction list on Iran that hits Chinese firms

BEIJING — China on Monday said it had "lodged representations" with the United States over Washington's new sanctions list targeting Iran, which includes Chinese companies and individuals.

The sanctions on 25 people and entities imposed on Friday by President Donald Trump's administration, and came two days it had put Iran 'on notice' following a ballistic missile test.

Those affected by the sanctions cannot access the US financial system or deal with US companies, and are subject to secondary sanctions, meaning foreign companies and individuals are prohibited from dealing with them or risk being blacklisted by the United States.

The list includes two Chinese companies and three Chinese people, only one of whom the US Treasury Department explicitly said was a Chinese citizen, a person called Qin Xianhua.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang said that Beijing had lodged a protest with Washington, and that such sanctions, particularly when they harmed the interests of a third party, were "not helpful" in promoting mutual trust.—*Reuters*

Opinion

Write for us

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

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

Time for Our Teachers to Get Ready For Facing Challenges of the Time

Khin Maung Oo

VERY soon 2016-2017 academic year, is going to come to an end. Likewise students, parents are exerting their efforts for their offspring's education. Students are now vying for passing their exams with high scores. Under the current situation, students and parents cannot get rid of their minds and imaginations yet that higher educational attainment can only bring about success and wealth for their future. Taken at face value, their outlooks look true. Experiences faced and environment nearby which they were brought about, indoctrinated the above-said sprits into our minds. To be frank, we cannot deny the deep-rooted thought, "Money makes everything," is still occupying our minds. For this, we would not like to blame anyone, because we all like the best and want to reach the climax. But, situations are starting to change, unlike those in several years ago. Now, in our society, we have our selected governing body and philanthropist institutions and youths. These are signs of goodness for all of us, especially for younger generations. Presently, we need to bear a conception that wealth of a group cannot build a better future world.

After the exams, our students will have much free time, but since now their parents may have arranged to have their children enrolled in summer courses in preparation for the new academic year. Similarly, our teachers will have more leisure hours in summer. During the long vacation, our teachers should be well equipped with abilities to produce leaders-to-be for future.

In dictionaries, a teacher is defined as a person whose job is teaching (a subject), especially in a school. In this sense, we may misconstrue a teacher as an ordinary salary man. Such a thought has never come into our pure minds. Instead, we deeply love and admire our teachers. According to our religion as well, we rank our teachers as the same as our Lord Buddha, Dhamma[His Teachings], Sanghas[His Followers], and our parents. A teacher is called in Myanmar, "Sayar" which seems to be a corrupted Pali word, "saryar" which means shade. Shade gives us a shelter that protects from direct sunlight, wherein we get a cool feeling. Likewise, we can get many kinds of virtue under our teachers' guidance and control. But I want to say deeply that a teacher is a man of nobility and learning. So much had been written and said about teachers and their devotion to their pupils. It is needless to say again about our respected and devoted teachers in the past. Throughout our generations, teachers play an important role in our society.

Unlike other service-men, what makes a teacher special? Who had ever known pupils that went uncared and unattended by our teachers during their schooling days? We spent most of the first phase of our lives under the surveillance of our respected teachers. So we were mostly in touch with them, seeing our teachers as well spend their leisure hours reading a book or something, listening to them reprimanding us for our wrong-doing and stupidity. Schools always aim at producing well-adjusted members of the society. As such, a teacher is not a perfect man but he needs to be endowed with many qualifications and responsibilities. Who will deny it? They are sculptors who train all-round development of future leaders. A teacher-to-be needs a professional training and skill. Here let's imagine what responsibilities and performances we must carry out as a teacher. Here let me point out some facts about a teacher in the book titled, "A teacher is many things," by Earl V Pullias and James D. Young.

"1/ A teacher is a guide on the journey of learning, 2/ a teacher, 3/ a modernizer, 4/ an example, 5/ a searcher, 6/ a counselor, 7/ a creator, 8/ an authority, 9/ an inspirer of vision and 10/ a doer of routine for pupils.

Suffice it to say that the teachers' role is of great importance in nurturing future's leaders. We firmly believe that we owe it to train and retain the service of good and able teachers, as promptly as possible.

Welcoming the resumption of the Myanma Encyclopaedia publication

Tommy Pauk

WE all citizens of Myanmar were greatly delighted at the news of the meeting for discussing about the resumption of Myanma Encyclopedia publication held at the office of Printing and Publishing Enterprise in Yangon. The news said it was attended by the Union Minister for Information Dr.Pe Myint, responsible personnel from Ministry of Information, intellectuals from Myanma Encyclopedia compilation Board and literati. It also stated that they discussed about the resumption of the Myanma Encyclopedia publication as a joint venture between Sar-Pay-Beik-Man (Palace of Literature) and Htun Foundation.

Undeniably, all Myanmar scholars, learners, intellectuals and intelligentsia have to rely on Myanma Encyclopedia whenever they need to look for or find facts about certain general knowledge or precise knowledge. We usually look some knowledge up in Myanma Encyclopedia books despite the availability of on line Wikipedia nowadays. Since we understand an encyclopedia is a bank of knowledge, it is essential to publish a constant and continuous series of Myanma Encyclopedia books with reliable and concise contents. The readers of Myanmar will be able to acquire knowledge and information and the series of Myanma Encyclopedia books should be available in the libraries across the country. Myanma Encyclopedia books still attract much wider readership in Myanmar. Even then the entire readers of Myanmar expect to read new volumes to be published with a variety of genre and updated information in the contents.

The writer of this article too has to rely on learning things or acquiring knowledge from Myanma Encyclopedia books written in Myanmar language. Myanma Encyclopedia is still attractive and helpful to those who want to acquire a variety of knowledge such as history, science, the biographies of world prominent persons etc. In Myanmar, most parents urge or guide their offspring to read Myanma Encyclopedia in order to widen their general knowledge. In fact, Myanma Encyclopaedia is as helpful as the modern on line free encyclopedia called Wikipedia. There is no educated person who does not read Myanma Encyclopedia books in Myanmar. This shows that Myanma Encyclopedia provides and helps the Myanmar scholars, learners, intellectuals, and intelligentsia in acquiring specific knowledge. Before the internet connection was introduced in Myanmar, we Myanmar citizens had to entirely rely on Myanma Encyclopedia books for acquiring general knowledge. Myanma encyclopedia books were merely reliable sources which disseminate us some knowledge related to science, arts, culture, biography of famous people etc. They are the reliable reference books for teachers, students, learners and those who are going to sit for the general knowledge test conducted by the Public Services Commission or by the governmental department recruiting staff to fill the vacancies. In other words, Myanma Encyclopedia books are very helpful for the candidates to win the general knowledge tests as well as viva voce conducted by the Public Services Commission or by the governmental departments in Myanmar.

We should be grateful to those who founded the BURMA TRANSLATION SOCIETY or SAR-PAY-BEIK-Mann in 1947. In addition, and their goodwill, wisdom and efforts in disseminating worldwide knowledge toward their citizens through translation work should be collectively recorded as a noble milestone in the country's history. Consequently, the citizens were able to read the translated books in mother language. It was a good chance given to the citizens to learn knowledge and gain information in mother tongue. Afterwards, BURMA TRANSLATION SOCIETY or SAR-PAY-BEIK-Mann gave birth to Myanma Encyclopedia. Next, in 1954, the first volume of Myanma Encyclopedia was published in Myanmar. Continuously, SAR-PAY-BEIK-Mann kept on publishing Myanma Encyclopedia with updates and new contents up to 1977. In that year, the fifteenth volume of Myanma Encyclopedia (the last volume) was published. The last volume of the first edition was followed by yearly updates. However, SAR-PAY-BEIK-Mann does not bring out new volumes of Myanma Encyclopedia continuously. Until now, there has been a halt for publishing new volumes of Myanma Encyclopedia book. We hope that the resumption of Myanma Encyclopedia publication could be done with the help of information technology and we Myanmar would have options to get information from on line Wikipedia in English language or from new volumes of Myanma Encyclopedia books in Myanmar language in the years to come. No matter how helpful the Wikipedia is, we never ever ignore Myanma Encyclopedia books and their priceless contribution to our life and education as well. Myanmar readers keep a series of Myanma Encyclopedia books at home as their cherished treasure carefully. The regular readers of Myanma Encyclopedia books become knowledgeable persons. N.B. Even the erudite Myanmar scholars have to read Myanma Encyclopedia books in Myanmar indeed.

For the aforesaid reasons and true wishes, we the readers of Myanmar welcome the news of the meeting for discussing about the resumption of Myanma Encyclopedia publication. We are looking forward to hearing the success of a joint venture between Sar-Pay-Beik-Man (Palace of Literature)and Htun Foundation for the resumption of Myanma Encyclopedia publication in very near future!

Reference ; PPE

News: Phalon Sawor Democratic Party presents policy and programs

U Saw Khin Maung Myint, Chairman of the Phalon Sawor Democratic Party

CHAIRMAN of the Phalon Sawor Democratic Party U Saw Khin Maung Myint presented the philosophy, political outlook and program of his party on 6 February 2017, in the evening from Radio and TV programs.

The full text of his presentation is given below:

As I have been given the opportunity to present the philosophy, political outlook and programs our Phalon Sawor Democratic Party on the occasion of the By-elections of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, I wish to first of all send my introductory greetings for auspiciousness, physical and mental well-being and to be safe from harm and all kinds of dangers, for all monks, people and ethnic national races living in the whole of Myanmar

Introduction

Our country Myanmar has suffered from the invasion and the rule of Feudalism, Colonialism, Fascism and Socialism. Thus we lost our independence, equality, peace, in other words our political rights. During that time all ethnic nationals fought against colonialism, national freedom and peace and sacrificed countless lives. On 4th January 1948 we got the rights for all our ethnic nationals. In other words we became a sovereign country, and we were able to stand tall in the world.

In this world, we need give importance to human rights, which concerns all human beings. We should not act with disdain. We should value and cherish human dignity by respecting human rights and reforming ourselves. Our rights should not be destroyed there should not be ruthlessness and brutality. There should be the right to express our views, the right to profess beliefs freely and the right to have a vocation. There should be freedom from fear and oppression. There should be no acts of unlawful brutal oppression. Our Phalon Sawor Democratic Party has bravely declared with good intentions that we need peace for the fulfilment of the peoples' desire and the emergence of a Federal Republic.

We have always placed a high regard for unity and stability. For the preservation of the fundamental principles for the preservation of society (Lawka Pala Tayar) namely justice, freedom and equality, our Phalon Sawor Democratic Party have bravely stepped up to contest in the By-elections for representation in the Hluttaw.

Our party will:

(a) International Peace

(b) The principle of being on good terms with everyone.

(c) Our party is a party which has been established based on principles such as the Peaceful Co-existence principle. Furthermore, we abhor acts of brutality and terror and we are free from governing with terror and brutality. We practice a political philosophy based on the above principles.

Our party also abides by the following five humane principles: -

(1) Not to oppress

(2) To be truthful

(3) Not to steal

(4) Righteous living (Brahma Sariya)

(5) Not to confiscate

Our party is also giving guidance on how to build a life of virtue and value by adhering to a life of good moral character. Our party members are trying to make sacrifices for the country, people and for the masses.

Basic principles

The basic principles of our party are as follows:

(1) We will preserve and protect the traditions and culture which includes literature, language, and traditional customs of the Kayin nationals.

(2) We will work for rights relating to freedom, right of self-determination, other rights and democratic rights. We will work to ensure that these rights are enjoyed not only by the Kayin nationals but also by the larger community and also for these rights to thrive and prosper therein.

(3) Will work to the best of our ability to ensure that we can achieve the unity of all ethnic national races, equality, fairness, justice, and peace, when we establish a genuine federal republic.

(4) We will work for the emergence of a life where the big will not oppress the small, where there is freedom, peace and prosperity for all the Kayin nationals.

(5) We will work in accordance with the law for the prosperity, peace, interests and development of all Kayin nationals as long as we do not infringe upon the interests of others.

(6) We will work to the best of our ability for the protection of all Kayin nationals from policies that may be harmful and all acts and efforts that will harm their interests in accordance with the law.

(7) We will work for the political, economic and social development of all Kayin nationals in accordance with the times.

Our Aims

These days, all types of organizations have their own point of view. They are in the habit of assessing everything based on their stand. If we look at any community in the world today, lack of knowledge, prevalence of diseases, the need to work very hard to earn a living, are the result of wrong political policies and incorrectly formulated development programs. It would be difficult to argue against such an assessment. That is the reason why we are witnessing more conflicts and problems in human society. In other words, it means the breaking down of unity in human society. To prevent this from happening, our party has the lofty aims such as "equality for all Kayin nationals together with all other ethnic nationals, justice, freedom, prosperity and development. Based on this we will work for the perpetuation national sovereignty and unity among all national races. Our party has such lofty aims.

Objectives and programs

The Phalon Sawor Democratic Party will work for: -

(1) The rights of the Kayin race in accordance with the Constitution, through the Kayin State government that will come to power.

(2) The "Phonlon Sawor Democratic Party" will work not only the Kayin Nationals who are living in the Kayin State but for the interest of all Kayin nationals living in various other areas in accordance with the law.

Party Logo.

(3) We contest in the free and fair elections to be able to work for the cause of all Kayin nationals.

(4) The "Phalon Sawor Democratic Party will be formed and organized based on the Kayin State but will also do organizational work in other areas such as Mon State, Taninthayi Region, Bago Region, Yangon Region and Irrawaddy Region and work for the interests of Kayin nationals.

(5) We will find ways and means so that the Kayin nationals living in Kayin State will be able to unify and cooperate with all other Kayin nationals living in other places to work for the interest of Kayin nationals.

(6) We will help and guide the people so that they would be able to work for the development of economic and social areas in accordance with the law.

(7) Our party has laid down aims and programs by adopting a political ideology which espouses "without hatred and violence". That is how we will build national unity.

The political outlook of the Phalon Sawor Democratic Party (Conclusion)

(1) We will respect human rights.

(2) We will respect non-violence, truth and Justice.

(3) We will abide by the principles of cooperation with justice and friendly relations and world peace.

(4) We will abide by the principle of solving all kinds of injustices using peaceful means.

(5) We will work for the preservation and protection of the cultural traditions and customs of all nationals of Myanmar without fail.

(6) We will work with the people for the fostering and development of Truth and Ahimsa so that everyone can live without fear.

(7) We will work in cooperation with the people to oppose any attempt to do injustice to Myanmar, to exploit, to dominate, to use power, or to oppress. We will use non-violent methods to achieve success.

(8) We will refrain from the practice of the big bullying the small. We will avoid inhumane ways of discrimination.

(9) We will face all things with respect and justice.

(10) We will build our society by strengthening our inner contentment and work for the elimination of human poverty by using three principles of knowledge namely to reason, to assess and to analyse.

(11) We will overcome oppression with sacrifice and perseverance.

(12) We will work for the preservation and protection of traditions and cultures of the Kayin nationals and work with the rest of the ethnic nationals living in the Union for the perpetuation of the Union, peace and prosperity, unity, equality and development. We will work to foster these principles.

(13) We will fight against and protect our people from any political ideology, belief, or wrong political views, that will harm our national interest, our people, or engulf us.

(14) We will work for the development of our national politics, economy and social affairs in line with the advances in the world.

(15) We will work for a genuine federal republic without any self-interest using non-violent means for the good of all.

Our "Phalon Sawor Democratic Party" will promise to make it our duty to see that in building the Federal Republic, good democratic practices will flourish. We will also cooperate so that we will be able to enjoy and use all the benefits that this world could offer us with freedom. We will work so that all of us can enjoy the benefits and so that the community can work for the attainment of: -

(a) Freedom

(b) Unity

(c) Equality

Without going against any law.

We give this promise to all monks, people and all the Union nationals and pray for their physical and mental well-being.—*(Unofficial Translation)*

U Hau Do Suan concurrently appointed as Ambassador of United Mexican States

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Hau Do Suan, Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations, New York, concurrently as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Mexican States.—*Myanmar News Agency*

U Win Naing appointed as Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines

THE President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Win Naing, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Republic of the Philippines.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Trump agrees to meet NATO leaders in Europe in May

US President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump greet a marching band as they arrive at Trump International Golf club to watch the Super Bowl LI between New England Patriots and Atlanta Falcons in West Palm Beach, Florida, US, on 5 February, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

WEST PALM BEACH — President Donald Trump agreed to meet alliance leaders in Europe in May in a phone call on Sunday with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg that also touched on the separatist conflict in eastern Ukraine, the White House said.

Trump was elected on a pledge to push NATO members to increase their funding to the western alliance to ease the financial burden on the United States.

This proposal has drawn opposition from both his fellow Republicans as well as Democrats and the idea has worried European allies who fear Russian President Vladimir Putin might take advantage.

A White House statement said Trump and Stoltenberg "discussed how to encourage all NATO allies to meet their defence spending commitments."

"President Trump agreed to join in a meeting of NATO leaders in Europe in May," the statement said. Trump and Stoltenberg also "discussed the potential for a peaceful resolution of the conflict along the Ukrainian border."

Over the past week a flare-up in hostilities has erupted between the Ukrainian military and Russia-backed separatists, with each accusing the other of a new wave of shelling. More than 40 people have been killed in both government- and rebel-held areas.

Trump has drawn fire at home for wanting to warm up ties with Putin. In an interview broadcast on Sunday during Fox Channel's Super Bowl pre-game show, Trump waved off concern from interviewer Bill O'Reilly that "Putin's a killer."

"We've got a lot of killers... You think our country's so innocent? You think our country's so innocent?" Trump said, citing the 2003 war in Iraq.

US Senator Marco Rubio of Florida, who had lost to Trump in the Republican presidential primary battle last year, tweeted that it would be a mistake to lift US sanctions on Russia, a step Trump has been considering.

"Only reason we should ever lift sanctions on #Putin is if he meets conditions of sanctions & ends violations of #ukraine sovereignty," he said. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, a Kentucky Republican, told CNN's "State of the Union" he was not going to critique everything Trump says but on Russia, "I obviously don't see this issue the same way he does."—*Reuters*

German conservatives agree on Merkel as chancellor candidate for September election

German Chancellor Angela Merkel arrives for a meeting with Bavarian state premier and CSU leader Horst Seehofer to discuss their differences over refugee policy in Munich, southern Germany on 6 February, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

MUNICH — Germany's conservative parties agreed on Monday to nominate Angela Merkel as their candidate for chancellor in a 24 September election despite their long feud over how to tackle the migrant influx, participants at a conservative meeting told Reuters. The Christian Social Union (CSU) — the Bavarian sister party to Merkel's Christian Democrats (CDU) — has long criticised Merkel for allowing more than a million refugees into Germany over the last two years.

The CDU and CSU are meeting in Munich to discuss how to defeat a resurgent Social Democratic Party (SPD) in September's federal election. Merkel and CSU leader Horst Seehofer are due to present their joint election strategy later on Monday.—*Reuters*

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kremlin says it wants apology from Fox News over Putin comments

MOSCOW — The Kremlin said on Monday it wanted an apology from Fox News over what it said were "unacceptable" comments one of the channel's presenters made about President Vladimir Putin in an interview with US President Donald Trump.

Fox News host Bill O'Reilly described Putin as "a killer" in the interview with Trump as he tried to press the US president to explain more fully why he respected his Russian counterpart. O'Reilly did not say who he thought Putin had killed.

"We consider such words from the Fox TV company to be unacceptable and insulting, and honestly speaking, we would prefer to get an apology from such a respected TV company," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters on a conference call.—*Reuters*

France's Fillon to launch counter-offensive -sources

PARIS — French conservative presidential candidate Francois Fillon will launch a counter-attack on Monday to defend himself after more than a week of damaging allegations that he paid large sums of public money his wife for work she did not do, sources close to him said.

The 62-year-old former prime minister is under pressure from some in his own camp to drop out of the race and his rating in polls is sliding. Alain Juppe, another ex-prime minister, ruled himself out of a possible stand-in role, saying in a tweet "no is no".—*Reuters*

Russia, Turkey, Iran discuss Syria ceasefire implementation in Astana

ASTANA — Experts from Russia, Turkey, Iran and the United Nations have started a technical meeting in Kazakhstan's capital, Astana, to discuss in detail the implementation of the Syrian ceasefire agreement, Kazakhstan's Foreign Ministry said on Monday.

"Representatives of Jordan are expected to take part for the first time," a ministry spokesman said of the talks.

He said the agenda included reviewing the implementation of the cessation of hostilities, discussing a proposal from the Syrian armed opposition about the ceasefire, and determining options about how to implement it.

"This is about creating a mechanism to control the implementation of the ceasefire," the ministry spokesman said.

The ministry gave no information about the line-up of the delegations, who were meeting behind closed doors.—*Reuters*

China to improve permanent residence permit system for foreigners

BEIJING — China will optimize the rules for issuing certificates of permanent residence to foreigners and improve the information system.

The reform serves the nation's talent development strategy and responds to social concerns, according to a meeting of the Central Leading Group for Deepening Overall Reform, chaired by Chinese President Xi Jinping, on Monday.—*Xinhua*

Egyptian army kills 14 militants in central Sinai raid: spokesman

CAIRO — Egyptian soldiers killed 14 militants and arrested ten others in a raid in central Sinai, the military said on Monday.

The operation over the past five days destroyed three car bombs and 10 other explosive devices and seized weapons, communication devices and military clothing, the army spokesman added.

An Islamist insurgency in the Sinai Peninsula has gained pace since the military toppled President Mohamed Mursi of the Muslim Brotherhood, Egypt's oldest Islamist movement, in 2013 following mass protests against him.

Sinai Province, the militant group behind the insurgency, pledged allegiance to Islamic State in 2014 and has been accused of killing hundreds of soldiers and police since then.

Militant activity in central Sinai is less frequent than in its more restive north, where Islamic State attacks on military and police checkpoints are common.—*Reuters*

Iran's missile test 'not a message' to Trump

TEHRAN—Iran said on Monday a recent missile trial launch was not intended to send a message to new US President Donald Trump and to test him, since after a series of policy statements Iranian officials already "know him quite well".

Iran test-fired a new ballistic missile last week, prompting Washington to impose some new sanctions on Tehran. Trump tweeted that Tehran, which has cut back its nuclear programme under a 2015 deal with world powers easing economic sanctions, was "playing with fire".

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qasemi was quoted by Tasnim news agency as saying: "Iran's missile test was not a message to the new US government.

"There is no need to test Mr Trump as we have heard his views on different issues in recent days... We know him quite well."

Iran has test-fired several ballistic missiles since the 2015 deal, but the latest test on January 29 was the first since Trump entered the White House. Trump said during his election campaign that he would stop Iran's missile programme.

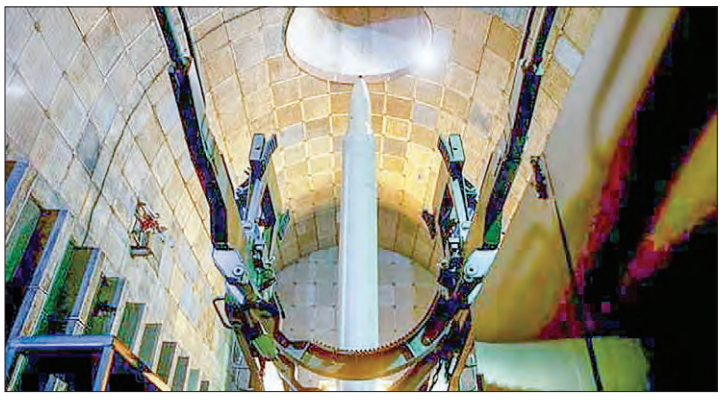
Qasemi said The US government was "still in an unstable stage" and Trump's comments were "contradictory".

"We are waiting to see how the US government will act in different international issues to evaluate their approach."

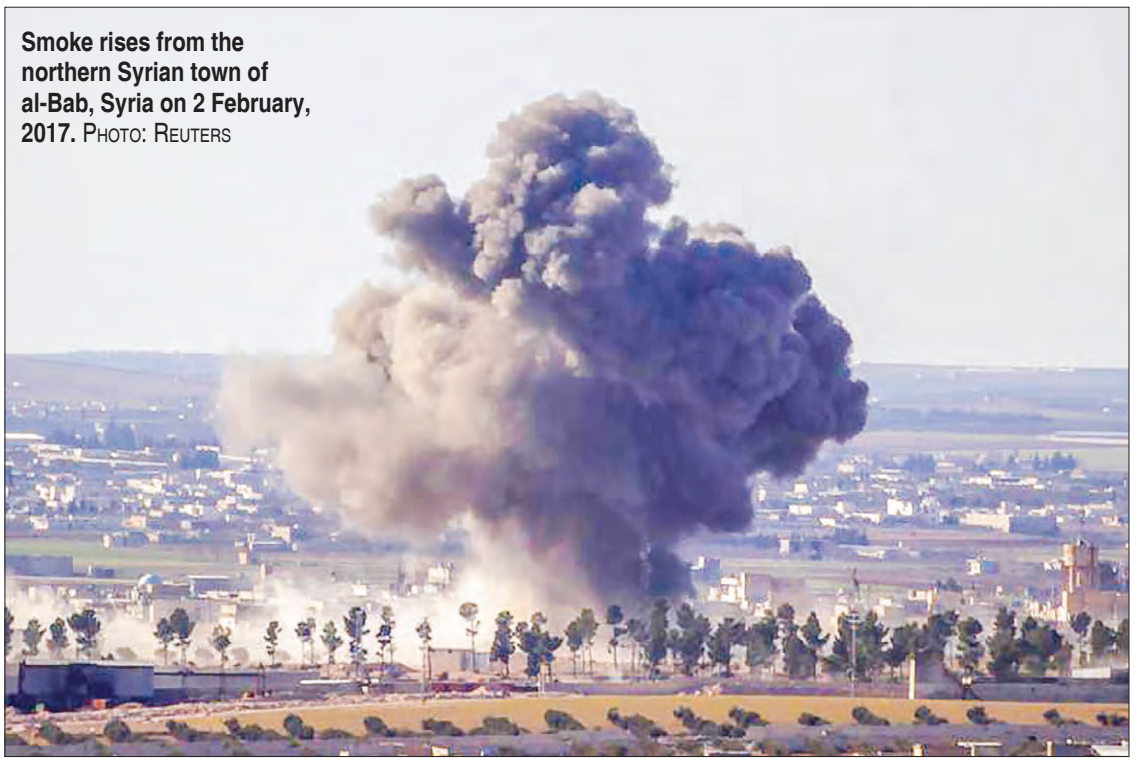
Despite heated words between Tehran and Washington, US Defence Secretary Jim Mattis said on Saturday he was not considering strengthening US forces in the Middle East to address Iran's "misbehaviour".

Hamid Aboutalebi, deputy chief of staff of Iran's President Hassan Rouhani, tweeted on Monday that the US government "should de-escalate regional tension not adding to it", and Washington should "interact with Iran" rather than challenging it.

Iran announced on Saturday that it will issue visas for a US wrestling team to attend the Freestyle World Cup competition, reversing a decision to ban visas for the team in retaliation for an executive order by Trump banning visas for Iranians.—*Reuters*



A missile is seen inside an underground depot in an undisclosed location, Iran, in this handout photo released by the official website of Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) on 8 March, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS



Smoke rises from the northern Syrian town of al-Bab, Syria on 2 February, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Syrian army, allies cut off Islamic State supply route near al-Bab — monitor

BEIRUT — Syria's army and its allies advanced towards the northern Islamic-State held city of al-Bab on Monday, cutting off the last main supply route that connects to militant strongholds further east towards Iraq, a monitor said.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a British-based group monitoring the war, said the army and the Lebanese Hezbollah group made gains southeast of al-Bab overnight.

Backed by air strikes, government forces and their allies severed the main road that links the city near the Turkish border to other IS-held territory in Raqqa and Deir al-Zor provinces.

Islamic State militants are now effectively besieged in the area, by the army from the south and by Turkish-backed rebels from the north, as Damascus and Ankara race to capture the largest IS stronghold in Aleppo province.

The Syrian army's advance towards al-Bab risks triggering a confrontation with the Turkish military and its allies, groups fighting under the Free Syria Army banner, which have been waging their own campaign to take the city.

In less than three weeks, Syrian army units moved to within 5 km (3 miles) of al-Bab, as Damascus seeks to stop its neighbour, Turkey, penetrating deeper into a strategic area of northern Syria.

Northern Syria is one of the most complicated battlefields of the multi-sided Syrian war, with Islamic State now being fought there by the Syrian army, Turkey and its rebel allies, and an alliance of US-backed Syrian militias.

Turkey launched its campaign in August in Syria, "Euphrates Shield", in order to secure its frontier from Islamic State and halt the advance of the powerful Kurdish YPG militia.

Turkish troops and FSA rebels clashed heavily with IS militants around the town of Bazaa, east of al-Bab, in recent days, the Observatory said. Turkish-backed forces had briefly captured the town before Islamic State suicide bombers pushed them out on Saturday.

The Observatory also reported fighting south of al-Bab on Monday between government forces and Islamic State.

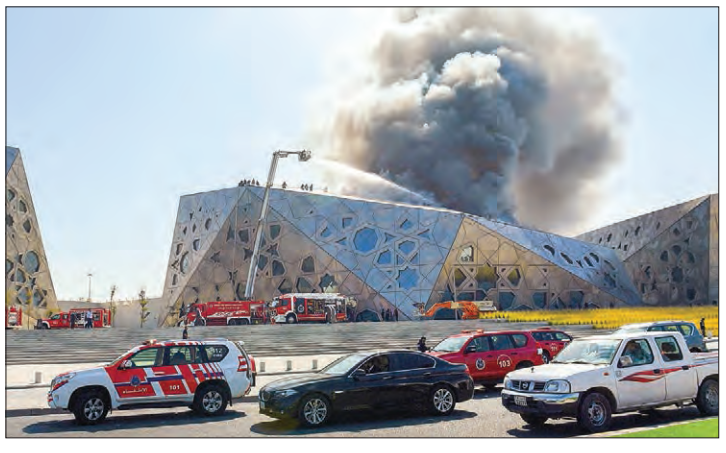
Al-Bab sits 40 km (25 miles) northeast of Aleppo, where the government defeated rebels in December, its most important gain of the nearly six-year-old war.—*Reuters*

Kuwait's new opera house catches fire

KUWAIT — Flames ripped through Kuwait's new opera house on Monday, just three months after the futuristic $770-million venue opened to the public.

A thick plume of black smoke rose from the waterfront Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Cultural Centre, television footage showed. Firefighters on a crane sprayed water onto the building, a structure covered with geometric Islamic patterns.

Broadway musical "Cats" was due to open there on Thursday, according to the centre's website.—*Reuters*



Firefighters work to contain a large fire at Jaber Al Ahmad Cultural Centre in Kuwait City, Kuwait on 6 February, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Afghan diplomat shot dead at consulate in Pakistan's Karachi

KARACHI — An Afghan diplomat was shot dead on Monday in the Afghan consulate in Pakistan's southern city of Karachi in what was described as a personal dispute, Pakistani officials said.

The consulate's third secretary was killed by a private guard, who had been arrested, police official Saqib Ismail told Reuters.

"The guard used his automatic weapon, firing multiple bullets," Ismail said, adding that the guard was also an Afghan national.

Another police official, Deputy Inspector General Azad Khan, told reporters the shooting appeared to be the result of a personal dispute.

Afghan ambassador to Pakistan Omar Zakhilwal confirmed the shooting on his official Facebook account.—*Reuters*

A policeman walks past a police vehicle parked to cordon a street leading to the Afghan consulate in Karachi, after an Afghan diplomat was shot dead on Monday in the consulate, Pakistan on 6 February, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY
NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT
Invitation for Bids

Date: 6th February, 2017
SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE
IDA Credit No. : 5727-MM
Contract Title: Steel Poles for National Electrification Project
Reference No. : C1-G3

1. The Ministry of Electricity and Energy has received financing from the World Bank towards the cost of the National Electrification Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds towards payments under the contract for Steel Poles for National Electrification Project.
2. The Ministry of Electricity and Energy now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for supply of steel pole 10 meter and 12 meter, for the total quantities of 11,484 poles to be delivered in 2017 and 2018 to multiple destinations in all Regions and States of Myanmar. Domestic preference with the margin of 15% will apply. The goods will be grouped into 10 lots and bidders may submit bid for any one or more lots.
3. Bidding will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement of Goods, Works and Non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers [edition of January 2011 revised in July 2014] ("Procurement Guidelines"), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Guidelines. In addition, please refer to the paragraphs 1.6 and 1.7 setting for the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Project Manager, Project Management Office, Office No.(27), Ministry of Electricity and Energy, nep.pmo moep@gmail.com and inspect the bidding documents during office hours 10:00 to 16:00 hours at the address given below.
5. A complete set of bidding documents in CD with English language may be purchased by interested eligible bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of Myanmar Kyats 100,000. The method of payment will be transferred to the following account:

Electricity Supply Enterprise, account no. SEE 10316 at Myanma Economic Bank in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. The transferred slip shall be submitted with the above application. Once the application and the transferred slip received, the bidding documents will be provided in the CD.

In case of any difficulty in purchasing the bidding documents, interested parties may contact in writing:

1. Director General
   Department of Electric Power Planning
   Ministry of Electricity and Energy
   City: Nay Pyi Taw
   Country: The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
   Email: dep.pssp.info@gmail.com
2. Ms. Xiaoping Wang, Task Team Leader
   The World Bank
   Address: 30th Floor, Siam Tower.
   989 Rama I Road, Pathumwan Bangkok
   10330, Thailand
   Email: xwang3@worldbank.org

6. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 10:00 am, 4th April, 2017. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the bidders' designated representatives at the address below at 10:00 am, 4th April, 2017.

Director General Office, Department of Electric Power Planning
Office No (27), Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Nay Pyi Taw
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

7. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security as described in the bidding document.
8. The address referred to above para 4 and 5 are :

Attention : Director General Office, Department of Electric Power Planning
Office No(27), Ministry of Electricity and Energy, Nay Pyi Taw
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Telephone : +95 67 410203
Facsimile : +95 67 410077
E-mail : nep.pmomoep@gmail.com
Web site : http://www.moep.gov.mm

China's C919 jet expects first flight within first half of 2017: state media

SHANGHAI — China's C919 passenger jet expects to make its maiden flight within the first half of this year as it has completed almost all major tests, state media reported on Monday, in a boost for Beijing's ambitions to compete with global aircraft makers.

The People's Daily newspaper said the plane had started preparation for its much-delayed first flight and had nearly finished the installation of onboard systems.

The C919's maiden flight has been delayed at least twice since 2014 due to production issues. China first gave the world a glimpse of the plane in November 2015 at a roll-out ceremony in Shanghai.

The narrow-body aircraft, which will be able to carry 156-168 passengers and aims to compete with the Boeing 737 and Airbus A320, is a key symbol of China's ambitions to establish itself as a global supplier of aircraft.

"We tested the whole aircraft, its key components and connecting parts," the Xinhua news agency quoted Li Qiang, an expert at planemaker Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China's (COMAC) [CMAFC.UL] design and research Center, as saying.

China Eastern Airlines is the launch customer for the plane. COMAC previously said that it had received 570 orders for the C919 passenger jet from 23 customers.—*Reuters*

Japan transport firms using big data to improve safety

TOKYO — More Japanese transportation firms are tapping into big data to enhance the safety of their services, analyzing the massive volumes of information they collect and detecting in advance small signs of mechanical problems.

Big data have been increasingly used in areas such as analyzing consumers' tastes or predicting people's movements when forced to evacuate at the time of a disaster. Experts say utilizing big data in the transportation sector is meaningful, and they propose developing a system to collect more data.

Japan Airlines Co launched in December a new system it has developed with IBM Japan Ltd. that analyzes such things as engine temperature and the pressure on components in order to predict instrument anomalies.

The company previously held regular checks and additional maintenance of its aircraft when data were found exceeding the standard and it canceled about 200 flights annually due to mechanical problems.

The new system has allowed the airline to predict technical hitches by detecting "minor shifts" in big data, a JAL official said, adding that the carrier hopes this will help prevent flight cancellations and delays.

Photo taken on 20 January, 2017, shows a Japan Airlines Co aircraft under maintenance at Tokyo's Haneda Airport. Including JAL, more Japanese transportation firms are tapping into big data to enhance the safety of their services, analyzing the massive volumes of information they collect and detecting in advance small signs of mechanical problems. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

A similar move is seen in the maritime industry.

ClassNK, a non-profit organization for ship classification, set up a unit in April to collect thermometer and pressure indicator data from vessels at sea. It introduced a system to detect mechanical problems at an early stage by checking whether the data remain at normal levels.

"We used to depend on crews' experiences and instincts (to detect problems). But we are now able to quantify and analyze," ClassNK, known as Nippon Kaiji Kyokai in Japan, said.

It currently collects the data from a limited number of vessels but plans to increase the number and also utilize various other data.

In the railway business, East Japan Railway Co has equipped its new carriages on the JR Yamanote Line in Tokyo with a system to monitor equipment as well as a device that uses lasers and sensors to check any misalignment and abrasions of the overhead power wire.

The operator will continue to collect data and is planning to develop a system to detect signs of abnormalities, in order to enable efficient maintenance.

"We hope to work towards the ultimate safety by uncovering risks that we cannot find with our experiences," said JR East President Tetsuro Tomita.

The use of big data has spread in the transportation field in recent years with advances in information and communication technologies to collect and analyze data, experts said. It was also aided by the development of sensors to detect various movements in each part of a complex structure such as an aircraft.

"Using big data has helped increase subjects that we can analyze and this will help us to prevent accidents better than before," said aviation critic Yoshitomo Aoki. "In the aviation sector, for example, we should consider creating a system for further improving safety by gathering data held by each international organization or airline in one place and analyzing it," Aoki said.—*Kyodo News*

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV MCC JAVA VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCC JAVA VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.2.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Russian army may start receiving 5th-generation T-50 fighter jets in 2018

BUDAPEST — The deliveries of the fifth-generation T-50 (PAK FA) fighter jet to the Russian Armed Forces may start after 2018, Deputy Defense Minister of Russia Yuri Borisov said on Thursday 2 February.

"Most likely, this will be already the next state armament programme, ie 2018-2025," he said in response to a question about the possible timeframe of delivering the fifth-generation fighter jet to the troops. It is first necessary to complete the fighter jet's trials, the deputy defense minister said. "We are not in a hurry," Borisov said. As long as the existing analogs meet the requirements of the Armed Forces, there is no need spending money on the purchase of expensive new military hardware, he said. "We are holding an operational evaluation and have purchased limited batches. We'll see how they will operate in practice. We are now revealing all drawbacks and making changes to ensure that we purchase practically proven examples when time comes," the deputy defence minister said.—*TASS*

Philippine agency running drugs war says army to play only support role

MANILA — Philippine troops will only provide back-up in the war on drugs and not patrol the streets or play any kind of leading role, the head of an anti-narcotics agency that has been given charge of the campaign said on Monday.

Last week, President Rodrigo Duterte suspended the national police from the anti-drugs war that has killed over 7,600 people in seven months after a South Korean businessman was kidnapped and killed by members of a police drugs squad.

He said the army would be inducted into the drugs war, creating unease in a country that endured a decade of martial law from the early 1970s and where memories of campaigns to restore democracy and protect human rights are fresh in the minds of many people. However, Duterte handed charge of the anti-drugs campaign to the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA).

"They (troops) will be in support of PDEA agents," the agency's director general, Isidro Lapena, said in an interview. "For example, if the target is in an area where there are armed groups, then we will be needing the armed forces." Lapena stressed the military would not be on patrol duty or lead their own operations. Troops selected for a joint task force with the PDEA would attend orientation programmes and would likely only be on stand-by for drug operations when needed.

Of the people killed in the war on drugs, about 2,500 died during police operations and the remainder are in dispute. The authorities say many deaths were caused by inter-gang violence or vigilantes, while human rights groups say there is a pattern of extra-judicial killings. The government strongly rejects that.

Asked if a drugs war run by PDEA would see fewer killings than those seen under the police, Lapena said it was up to the criminal gangs to decide whether to surrender quietly, or put up a fight.

"There are firefights that result in death...we cannot avoid that," he said.

EVILapena said most previous operations led by the PDEA had resulted in arrests, not killings. Bloodshed was inevitable during a drugs war, he said, because dealers and corrupt police would kill others to cover their tracks.

"We don't have control over other elements who do the killings. The other killings are perpetrated, I would say, by drug syndicates themselves," Lapena said.

"That is why, I cannot say this will lower, or this will rise."

The remit and structure of the new joint task force between the PDEA and the armed forces could be finalised within this week, Lapena said.

PDEA has a major challenge in keeping up the intensity of a drugs war that was being waged primarily by the 160,000-strong Philippine National Police (PNP).

PDEA has a tiny fraction of that, with only 1,800 personnel. Lapena said PDEA had approval to recruit 900 more. The new task force would operate nationwide, but its size and number of operations was yet to be decided. Lapena said PDEA would make up for the manpower shortage by strengthening links to local communities, setting up anti-drugs councils to identify those in need of rehabilitation, or "neutralisation", which he said meant arrests and prosecution, and was not a euphemism for killing.—*Reuters*

UK's May to tell Israeli PM Netanyahu that settlements undermine trust

LONDON — Britain's Theresa May will tell Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday that continued settlement activity undermines trust in the region, her spokeswoman said on Monday.

"Of course I would expect the Middle East peace process to come up, and in that context the PM to reiterate our long-standing position ... that we see the continued increase in settlement activity undermining trust," the spokeswoman told reporters. "But also (to put forward) the very clear position that we have taken of needing to pursue a twin-track approach, recognising the right of Israel to live safe from terrorism."—*Reuters*

Greek bailout programme would end if IMF pulled out — German FinMin

BERLIN — Germany believes the International Monetary Fund (IMF) will remain on board with Greece's bailout, a finance ministry spokesman reiterated on Monday, but said that a IMF decision to pull out would mean the end of the current programme.

Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble has already made clear that if the IMF were not to participate, "then the programme is over", spokesman Juerg Weissgerber said during a news conference when asked about an expected decision by the IMF board on Greece.

Germany, Europe's largest economy, wants the IMF to have a stake in Greece's bailout to give the rescue plan greater credibility, but opposes granting Athens the significant debt relief that the IMF is demanding.—*Reuters*

Aerial photos of rural scenery in SW China's Yunnan

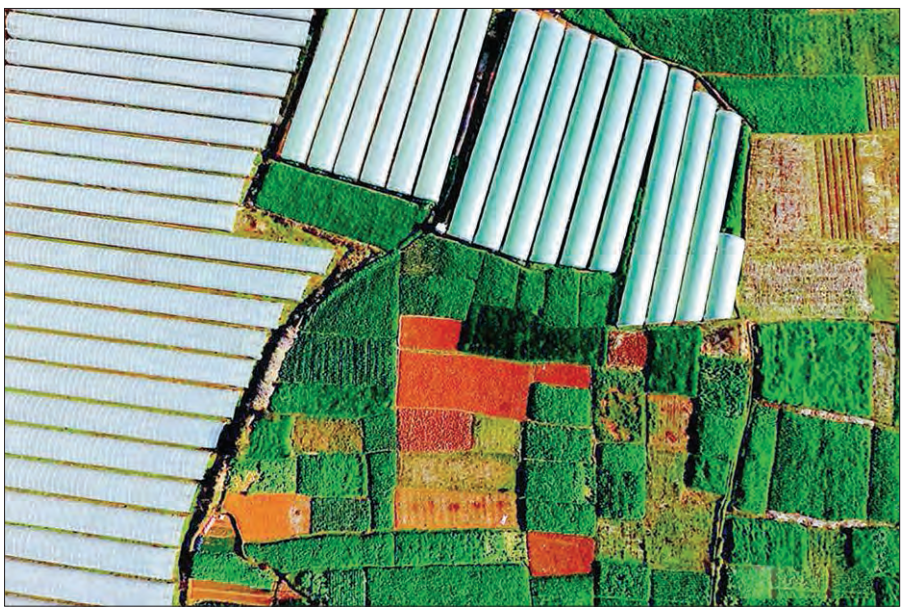


Photo taken on 6 February, 2017 shows the rural scenery of Yangjie Village of Xundian Hui and Yi Autonomous County, southwest China's Yunnan Province. PHOTO: XINHUA

China to try former secret police official for bribery

BEIJING — China will prosecute a former high ranking official in its secret police for suspected bribery, the state prosecutor said on Monday, taking a step that will almost certainly result in a conviction.

Ma Jian, once a vice minister at China's Ministry of State Security, is the most senior security official to be investigated since former domestic security tsar Zhou Yongkang was ensnared in a graft scandal and jailed for life in 2015.

Ma, who was put under investigation in January 2015, was expelled from the party in December after it accused him of abuse of power, taking bribes and interfering in unspecified law enforcement activities.

In a brief statement, the state prosecutor said that Ma was suspected of taking bribes and it had formally started proceedings against him. It has also approved "coercive measures", a Chinese legal term that generally means detention.

It gave no other details.

As the party controls the legal system the courts will not challenge its accusations, giving Ma little chance of acquittal.

It was not possible to reach Ma for comment and unclear if he has been allowed to retain legal representations.—*Reuters*

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS
MYANMAR RAILWAYS
INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

1. Open Tender is invited for supply of the following items in Euro:

Sr No	Tender No	Description
1.	12(T)22/MR (M) 16-17	(i) Under Floor Wheel Lathe Machine (Single)-(1) No (ii) Car Wheel Lathe Machine-(1) No

Closing Date & Time-23.3.2017(Thursday)(14:30)Hrs

2. Tender documents are available at our office starting from 8.2.2017 during office hours and for further detail please contact: Deputy General Manager Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of 51th Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon. Phone:95-1-291985,291994

CALL FOR PROPOSAL

The Myanmar Health Sector Coordinating Committee (M-HSCC) is hereby announcing the **"Call for Global Fund (GFATM) Sub-Recipient (SR) Proposals for Myanmar HIV, TB and Malaria Grants 2018-2020".**

Submission deadline: 28 February 2017
More Information available: http://myanmarhscc.org/ and all relevant documents https://goo.gl/0QLRA0 (Dropbox folder)

Secret to winning an Oscar decoded

MELBOURNE — For those who aspire to win an Oscar, it is best to be a US actor in a film that portrays the American culture, according to a new study.

Researchers at University of Queensland in Australia conducted a large-scale analysis of the distribution of the Academy Awards for best actor and actress in a leading role by the Los Angeles-based Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (Oscars) as well as by the London-based British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTAs) since 1968.

They covered a total of 908 merit prize winners, comprising 97 winners and 383 (unsuccessful) nominees for the Oscars and 97 winners and 331 (unsuccessful) nominees for the BAFTAs.

Both awards state that they aim to recognise best performances in films from all over the world.

The results show that US actors dominated the awards, winning more than 50 per cent of all prizes across Oscars and BAFTAs. Nevertheless, actors were more likely to win if they shared social group membership with the judges.

This meant that American actors won 52 per cent of all BAFTAs but 69 per cent of all Oscars, while British actors won 18 per cent of all Oscars but 34 per cent of all BAFTAs.

"We know a lot about the factors that increase people's capacity to show exceptional performances," said Niklas K Steffens from the School of Psychology.

"However, a somewhat different question is what makes a given creative performance likely to be seen as exceptional. This was the question we addressed in this research," Steffens said.

"These results show that whether we see a given performance as extraordinary is not just a function of the objective quality of that performance. For perceivers are much more likely to recognise a performance as truly brilliant when perceivers and performers share membership in a social group," said Steffens. The data also showed that nationality made a difference to actually winning an award.

For the Oscars, American actors received 67 per cent of all nominations but 78 per cent of all awards. The same held true for the BAFTAs, where British actors won 31 per cent of all nominations but 42 per cent of all awards.

"Shared social group membership becomes even more important when the diagnostic value of a quality indicator increases - that is, when we establish whether something is not just excellent but outstanding," Steffens said. "In this case, American actors win two out of three of all Oscar nominations but almost four out of five of all Oscar awards," he said.

Another important determinant of success was the subject matter of the film. In the Oscars, American artists accounted for 26 per cent of award winners whose performance was in films about non-US culture but for 88 per cent of award winners whose performance was in films about American culture. "There is a widespread belief that our perception of makes a creation original and outstanding is given by its objective qualities, but in fact it is heavily influenced by the social groups we are members of, and which provide the basis for making sense of the world," Steffens added.—*Reuters*

Ryan Reynolds gives a lap dance at Hasty Pudding ceremony

LOS ANGELES — Actor Ryan Reynolds surprised everyone at Harvard Universitys Hasty Pudding Theatricals group festivities, when he gave a lap dance to one of the performers.

The 40-year-old actor was honoured as Man of the Year by the renowned varsity and set the humorous side of his personality free at the event, reported E! Online. Reynolds also donned a bra inspired by his film "Deadpool".

He even appeared as the guest of honour at the events celebratory roast. Hasty Pudding is the oldest theatrical organisation in America.—*PTI*

Amanda Seyfried. PHOTO: REUTERS

Amanda Seyfried is already an incredible mom: Thomas Sadoski

LOS ANGELES — Amanda Seyfried's fiance Thomas Sadoski says he is proud of the actress for being an "incredible" mother to their unborn baby.

The couple is expecting their first child together and Sadoski is in awe of his bride-to-be, reported Entertainment Tonight.

"I'm more excited to be a father with Amanda as my partner than I've ever been about anything in my entire life. I couldn't be more proud of her for who she is as a mom already.

"I spend a lot my time looking at this bump that's growing inside of her. And talking to that child, going, 'You have no idea how lucky you are to have a mom like this.' She's incredible," the 40-year-old actor said.

Seyfried and Sadoski began their relationship in early 2016, before confirming their engagement last September.

The couple revealed in November that they were expecting a child.—*PTI*

Lady Gaga soars over Super Bowl stage with bow to inclusion

HOUSTON, Texas — Standing atop the roof of Houston's NRG Stadium with drones illuminating an American flag in the night sky behind her, Lady Gaga kicked off her Super Bowl halftime set on Sunday by singing "God Bless America" as a subtle message of inclusion and unity in a deeply divided United States.

As many speculated about whether the outspoken singer would use her spotlight to address women's rights, immigration or President Donald Trump, Gaga recited part of the American Pledge of Allegiance, "one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all," in her opening song.

She then swung down from the roof to a stage suspended on cables and embarked on a meticulously choreographed 13-minute set of her greatest hits during the National Football League championship game between the New England Patriots and the Atlanta Falcons.

This year's Super Bowl followed a fierce presidential election campaign that Trump won in November but which left the country at least as fractured afterwards as before it began. Trump was greeted with massive protests just after taking office on 20 January, and his policy moves have sparked further protests and controversy in the first weeks of his presidency.

Ahead of her high-profile performance, watched by more than 100 million US viewers, Gaga, 30, said in a post on the Instagram social media network that she planned to headline the slot entirely on her own, eschewing a tradition of halftime main acts bringing on special guests.

Dressed in a silver, sequined bodysuit and matching heeled boots, Gaga sang her dance hits "Poker Face" and "Born This Way" — an anthem for self-confidence and inclusion — as she performed aerial acrobatics while suspended in the air.

She then descended onto the stage to dance through "Telephone" and "Just Dance" before running through the crowd to a piano, where she sang her new song, "Million Reasons," giving a shout-out to her parents while she performed. After joining her diverse cadre of dancers for "Bad Romance," the singer, known for her flair for the dramatic, ended her set by dropping her microphone, catching a football and jumping off a set of stairs onto the field. While Gaga avoided making explicit political statements during her set, it was Renee Elise Goldsberry, Phillipa Soo, and Jasmine Cephas Jones, the Schuyler sisters on hit Broadway musical "Hamilton," who caused a stir with a subtle statement of support for women. As the trio sang "America the Beautiful" before the start of the game, they added the words "and sisterhood," in the first verse that contained the words "And crown thy good with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea."—*Reuters*

Singer Lady Gaga. PHOTO: REUTERS

Britain's Queen Elizabeth arrives to view an exhibition on Fiji at the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, University of East Anglia in Norwich, eastern England, on 27 January, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Queen marks 65 years on British throne

LONDON — The Queen, the world's longest-reigning living monarch, celebrates her Sapphire Jubilee on Monday, commemorating 65 years since she took the British throne.

A 41-gun royal salute will take place in central London to mark the occasion. The queen's office released a 2014 portrait showing her wearing a suite of sapphire jewellery she received from King George VI as a wedding gift in 1947.

The Queen, 90, has cut back on international tours but still regularly performs official duties around Britain. In December she said she would reduce the number of her patronages, passing on her role at dozens of charities, academic institutions and sporting groups to other members of the royal family.

She will spend the day at her residence in Sandringham, eastern England, as is usual, her office said.—*Reuters*

Sapporo snow festival opens, featuring Trump sculpture among others

SAPPORO — The annual Sapporo snow festival began on Monday in the Hokkaido capital, featuring 200 sculptures made from snow and ice, including one of new US President Donald Trump.

Over 2 million people are expected to visit the weeklong 68th Sapporo Snow Festival, which is held at three sites in the city and runs through 12 February. Among the larger attractions, which are illuminated at night, are sculptures of "Star Wars" characters to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the movie's release as well as the Arc de Triomphe in Paris.

There is also a sculpture of the Central Golden Hall at Kofukuji, one of the most prestigious Buddhist temples in the country located in the western Japan city of Nara, ahead of its scheduled completion of reconstruction in 2018.

Among other exhibits are smaller statues created by local citizens, including one featuring Japanese comedian Piko Taro, whose song "Pen-Pine-apple-Apple-Pen," now holds the Guinness World Record as the shortest song to enter the Billboard Hot 100 chart. "I had always wanted to visit here and was surprised that (the statues are) are made with such detail," said Chieko Tsuyuzaki, a 47-year-old from Chiba Prefecture, east of Tokyo, who visited the festival sites with her daughter.—*Kyodo News*

Tourists gather in front of a snow statue of characters from popular movie "Star Wars" in Sapporo on Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido at the start of the Snow Festival on 6 February, 2017. Around 2 million tourists are expected to visit the city through 12 February to see 200 statues. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Nestle unveils sushi-shaped KitKats in Japan

TOKYO — Nestle unveiled sushi-shaped versions of its KitKat chocolate biscuit bar in Tokyo on Thursday.

The 3-piece sets are modeled on tuna, sea urchin and omelet sushis, but are actually raspberry, mascarpone cheese, and pumpkin pudding KitKats atop sugar-coated puffed rice.

Nestle Japan's KitKat marketing manager Ryoji Maki said the idea was to create a fun variation of the traditional chocolate bar in the run-up to Valentine's Day.

"I hope our customers have fun with the look of this 'sushi' KitKat," Maki told Reuters Television.

The "sushi" KitKats are not for sale, but customers who spend more than 3,000 yen ($26)in Nestle's new KitKat store in Tokyo's Ginza shopping district will receive a pack as a gift from Friday.

"It's the Valentine's season, so I hope these 'sushi' chocolates can be an additional item to the chocolate gifts to make it more surprising and fun," Maki said.

Japan is home to many exotic KitKat flavors including sake rice wine, baked potato and soy sauce. Japanese women buy chocolates for their partners and colleagues on Valentine's Day, while men return the favour a month later on White Day.—*Reuters*

Nestle Japan's sushi-shaped KitKats for the upcoming Valentine's Day celebration are pictured at its Ginza store in Tokyo, Japan, on 2 February, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

mitv Myanmar International

Programme Schedule

(7-2-2017 07:00am ~ 8-2-2017 07:00am) MST

07:03	Am	News
07:26	Am	Five Hair Relic Enshrined Pagodas
07:40	Am	Adventurous Young Photographer
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	Discovering Tribes- Gaybar Kayin
08:48	Am	Capable Though Disabled
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	A Night Of Dancing With Phoe Chit
09:50	Am	Today Myanmar: CBT in Kampetlet Township
10:03	Am	News
10:25	Am	History And Mystery Behind The Caves
10:50	Am	Designer Ya Tu

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

Prime Time

07:03	Pm	New
07:26	Pm	A Day Out With Sarah (EP-7)
07:54	Pm	Colonial Buildings and a New Yangon
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	Taste Of Myanmar (Shan - Flat-Rice-Noodle Soup)
08:43	Pm	Up Against The Tide

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

(For Detailed Schedule – www.myanmaritv.com/schedule)

MRTV

Programme Schedule (7-2-2017, Tuesday)

6:00 Am
- Paritta by Venerable Missionary Sayadaw

7:00 Am
- Breakfast News

7:30 Am
- Socio Economic Scenes

8:30 Am
- Law Affairs

9:30 Am
- MRTV' Youth Programme

10:30 Am
- MRTV' Youth Programme

11:15 Am
- 70th Anniversary Union Day Programme

11:35 Pm
- MCN Debate

12:35 Pm
- TV Drama Series

1:50 Pm
- Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions

2:00 Pm
- Real Story Real Movies

3:00 Pm
- Yes or No Talk Show "Emploee or Entrepreneur"

3:15 Pm
- TV Drama Series

4:35 Pm
- Mono Classical Songs

4:50 Pm
- Documentary

5:15 Pm
- Cathch Talk Myanmar (Myanmar Investment Out Look Seminar) (Part-2)

6:15 Pm
- Football Magazine

6:35 Pm
- Kyae Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than

6:45 Pm
- 70th Anniversary Union Day Programme

7:15 Pm
- TV Drama Series

7:45 Pm
- Documentary

8:00 Pm
- News/International News/ Weather Report

8:35 Pm
- Political Parties Compaisn Speeches

9:00 Pm
- News/ Weather Report
- TV Drama Series
- Documentary (Song of Union Day)

Note/ Hourly News Bulletins (Local + International)

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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United extend long unbeaten run with 3-0 Leicester win

LONDON — Manchester United continued their push for a top-four finish with a comfortable 3-0 victory at champions Leicester City on Sunday, extending their unbeaten Premier League run to 15 games.

Henrikh Mkhitaryan open the scoring with a cool finish after he galloped onto Chris Smalling's header in the 42nd minute and, with Leicester's defence still recovering, Zlatan Ibrahimovic added a second two minutes later.

Juan Mata stroked home their third goal after some delightful link up play with Mkhitaryan in the 49th and United easily closed out the game against a Leicester side who have yet to score a league goal in 2017.

United stay sixth on 45 points but have cut the gap to Liverpool and Arsenal, one and two points above them in fifth and fourth respectively, while Leicester are 16th — one point above the relegation zone.

"It's easy to play anywhere," Mkhitaryan told Sky Sports, after manager Jose Mourinho's tactical shift to deploy him behind Ibrahimovic saw United take control.

Manchester United's Antonio Valencia in action with Leicester City's Christian Fuchs during the Premier League at King Power Stadium on 5 February, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

"When we are playing football, one-two passes are very easy no matter which position. We tried to change the formation during the game and that's not something that is new for us.

"In this game the manager thought it was better I play behind the striker. It was his decision and I agreed and I was trying to do my best."

Although United arrived at the King Power Stadium unbeaten in 14 league games, three straight draws had halted their momentum. Having seen Arsenal and Liverpool lose on Saturday, United were keen to increase the pressure on their rivals for a top-four place but they did not have it all their own way in a passionate, full-blooded opening.

A committed Leicester had the better of the first 30 minutes but eventually, after the tactical reshuffle, United's class told with Mkhitaryan surging clear to score a superb opener.

United were in the ascendancy and doubled their lead when Ibrahimovic wrong-footed goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel to slide home his 15th league goal this season.

The halftime break did nothing to halt United's momentum and, with Mkhitaryan dictating proceedings, they added a third when Mata finished off a silky move having collected the Armenian's precise return pass.

Leicester avoided the ignominy of conceding any more goals but it was another miserable performance and their fourth successive league defeat. The champions have now won just two of their last 15 league matches and sit precariously close to the drop zone.—*Reuters*

Seol joins South Korea national team as assistant coach

SEOUL — The Korea Football Association have appointed former Fulham forward Seol Ki-hyeon as assistant coach to national team manager Uli Stielike, the KFA said on Monday.

Seol was part of the 2002 World Cup squad that reached the semi-finals on home soil, scoring the equalizer against Italy in the last 16 before Ahn Jung-hwan gave the Koreans a stunning 2-1 win with a 'golden goal'.

South Korea's qualification campaign for the 2018 World Cup finals under German Stielike has been far from plain sailing, and while they are second in Group A behind Iran they are just a point ahead of Uzbekistan in third.

The top two from Groups A and B qualify automatically for the World Cup in Russia while the third-placed teams will meet to decide who goes into a CONCACAF-Asian Zone playoff for a place at the finals.

KFA technical director Lee Yong-soo said they had been looking for a coach from Europe to fill the vacancy left by Shin Tae-yong, who took over the under-20 squad late last year, but were unable to find a suitable replacement.

"We contacted several coaches from Europe but couldn't agree conditions and since we couldn't afford to spend more time looking we chose from a pool of domestic coaches," Lee said in a statement.

"Having spent much of his career in Europe, Seol will be able to understand how a foreign manager works.

He also brings a lot of football knowledge and experience to the table and this will be a big help to Stielike."

Seol spent the early part of his career in Belgium with Royal Antwerp and Anderlecht before moving to England, where he played for Wolves, Reading and Fulham. He played for the national team for 10 years, winning more than 80 caps. —*Reuters*

Aguero role in doubt as Jesus saves Man City

LONDON — Gabriel Jesus underlined his impressive early form at Manchester City with two goals in a 2-1 win over Swansea City on Sunday but his sparkling emergence has cast doubt over the starting role of talismanic forward Sergio Aguero.

The 19-year-old Brazilian again started ahead of the Argentine and turned in another eye-catching performance full of vim and vigour that culminated with a stoppage-time winner.

His double took his tally to three goals and two assists in four league and cup games since arriving at the Etihad from Brazilian side Palmeiras last month.

Both Sunday's goals came after he was the quickest to react to loose balls and it is his instinctive ability to take up consistently impressive positions that has caused the opposition so many problems during his embryonic City career.

"I am very happy to score two goals," Jesus told Sky Sports with team mate Fernandinho acting as translator.

"I got into the team so quickly. Everyone at the club is helping me to get better every day but of course when things like this happen it is much easier."

Manchester City's Sergio Aguero in action with Swansea City's Federico Fernandez during the EPL at Etihad Stadium on 5 February, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

His goals were the highlights of a superb all-round performance full of dangerous movement, smart link-up play, searing pace and a series of silky touches.

"Gabriel Jesus is strong, fast and has really good movement," City manager Pep Guardiola told the BBC after his side climbed to third.

"He has arrived really, really, well. He is Gabriel Jesus. We are happy to have him."

Aguero, long considered one of City's most important players, has had to be content with a place on the bench in recent weeks.

Manager Guardiola deployed Jesus as his leading man on Sunday in an attacking quintet also including David Silva, Kevin De Bruyne, Raheem Sterling and Leroy Sane.

They were irresistible in the first half against Swansea having also terrorised West Ham United during a 4-0 midweek victory.

With City pushing for a late winner, Aguero was eventually summoned, to rapturous applause inside the Etihad, and he headed narrowly over after Jesus's winner.

As ever Aguero has been in prolific form this season netting 18 times in 25 appearances in all competitions and will no doubt play an important role for the remainder of the season.—*Reuters*

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

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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