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Over 3,000 workers march in honour of 127th May Day

U Phyto Min Thein, Yangon Region Chief Minister (centre), U Myo Aung, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population (right), U Zaw Aye Maung, Yangon Region Minister for Rakhine Ethnic Affairs and Labour Affairs (left) participated in the May Day march and celebration in Hlinethaya Industrial Zone in Yangon along with more than 3,000 workers. **(FULL STORY ON PAGE-3)**

PHOTO: GNLM/PHOE KHWAH

Rakhine to export 10,000 tonnes of matpe to India

Maung Sein Lwin
(Myanma Alin)

THIS year will be a good one for agriculture in Rakhine State, Rakhine State Minister for Planning, Finance, Revenue and Commerce U Kyaw Aye

Thein said yesterday, as it was reported 10,000 tonnes of matpe beans will be imported to India.

The encouraging news was revealed during a meeting of Dr. Than Myint, the Union Minister for Commerce and U Kyaw Aye Thein, Rakhine State

Minster for Planning, Finance, Revenue and Commerce with the Rakhine State people yesterday.

U Kyaw Aye Thein said arrangements are underway to plant matpe in Rakhine State during the coming rainy season

and to export in excess of 10,000 tonnes in 2017-2018 to India. In doing this, it will be exported directly to India from Sittway port, if possible, instead of via Yangon to increase trade in Rakhine State.

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သဒ္ဓါထက်သန် မြန်မာအားမန် ကမ္ဘောဇဘဏ်



Book shops at the summer book festival are crowded with book lovers. **PHOTO: YE HTUT**

Paper reading sessions, book festival comes to an end

The paper reading sessions on translated literature and a summer book festival has successfully completed its third and final day at the Printing and Publishing Department in the Central Press Building on Theinbyu Road in Yangon yesterday evening.

The morning session of the third day was chaired by Dr. Maung Maung San (Ky Min) and Daw Khin Phone Yi (Natmauk A Ni Cho), U Ye Htut (Thanlyin Maung Wint Wah) as resource person and U Maung Maung Oo (Hein Latt) reading the papers titled "English to Myanmar translated dramatic literature" and "Translation: Knowledge" and answering questions raised by participants.

The chairmen of the after-



U Tin Hlaing (Ledwintha Saw Chit) delivers speech at conclusion of the paper reading session at the Central Press Building. **PHOTO: YE HTUT**

noon session were U Maung Maung Oo (Hein Latt) and Daw San San Nwet (San San Nwet-Tharyarwaddy) and resource persons were U Ye Myint Kyaw (Ye Myint Kyaw), U Hla Myint (Dr. Hla Myint) and Dr. Sein Myint read three papers titled

"Political Philosophy needed in Myanmar Translation Literature," "Translating Pali or Myanmar Pariyatthi Literature into English" and "Influencing public literature interests of Translation team in Myanmar" and replied to questions raised by the participants.

Afterward, U Tin Hlaing (Ledwintha Saw Chit), Chairman of paper reading session organizing committee, gave his concluding address and successfully ended the reading sessions. While the paper reading sessions were conducted, a summer book festival was held on the ground and first floor of Central Press and were filled with monks, book lovers and shoppers. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Burmese-American man killed in front of his children

Stephen Kim, a Burmese-American immigrant killed in front of his three children, was able to spend his last day with them in a school activity.

The 41-year-old resident of Des Moines, Iowa, in the United States was shot to death during an attempted robbery last week. He was waiting in his car for his wife while his three children sat at the back. Sgt. Paul Parizek, a spokesman for the Des Moines Police, said four people were involved, one of whom fired the fatal shot. Kim's murder is the 11th homicide in the Iowa capital so far this year – last year, the city recorded 13 homicides.

"As he did what any parent would do, instinctually, and try to protect his children, they essentially executed him in front of his kids. These are innocent people who have done absolutely nothing wrong, and this type of terror is brought onto their family" Parizek told the Des Moines Register newspaper.

Kim came to America with his wife Esther as refugees in December 2008. Apparently, the grim incident occurred just hours after Holy Family Catholic

School celebrated its "Culture Day," where Kim's two older children, first- and second-graders, attend school.

Kim attended the event with his kids, including his youngest who is about to start preschool in the fall. Martin Flaherty, school principal, described him as "kind" and "hard-working."

"He was just so earnest, and he wanted to do what was best for his kids and his family. He worked so doggone hard."

Flaherty added, "He was absolutely determined to make sure his children had a good education. He was a committed father." Kim's death was easily mourned by loved ones, including the Burmese refugee community. Henny Ohr, executive director of the Ethnic Minorities of Burma Advocacy and Resource Center (EMBARC), said:

"I think it's unfathomable for the refugee community from Burma to come to any understanding of something this senseless."

A fund-raising effort has been set up to help with Kim's funeral costs and his children's education. —GNLM ■

Fire destroys roof of Maungdaw home

Police said yesterday that a drunken man named Phwey-orkzuyarman set fire to the roof of Marmatfaryu's house in Ywarthitkay ward, Maungdaw Township yesterday after Marmatfaryu refused to give

the man money to buy more liquor.

Police from Maungdaw Myoma Police Station have filed charges against Phwey-orkzuyarman under the law. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Water tanker donated to fight drought in Mandalay

A philanthropic association in Thazi Township has been provided with a water tanker to fight drought in the township.

The Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation donated the tanker to the Zayathuka Water Donation Team in a ceremony in Tharse Township on 29 April.

Deputy Administrator



of KBZ Ltd. and Director U Tin Htun and officials from the foundation donated the 3,000-gallon water tanker for distributing water to twenty-six villages

around Tharzi with scarcity of water. Chairman of the Zeyathuka Water Donation Team, U Han Khin and responsible officials accepted the donation. —010 ■

Sunday Pet Fish Market to be opened in Yangon's Zoo

A Friday market that sold pet fish in the Yangon Zoological Garden will be opened as a Sunday market starting 7 May, according to U Khin Maung Oo, Joint Secretary(1) of the Myanmar Pet Fish Enterprise.

Although the Friday market is currently attracting business in the summer holiday months, it will be shifted to Sunday, a public holiday, from 6am to 12noon to allow more people to visit.

Various pet fish and other

related accessories are sold in this market, with the price of domestic gold fishes ranging from Ks100 to Ks5,000 kyats per fish. Imported pet fish can fetch Ks50,000 to Ks100,000.

In this market, dealers from the Township of Hlaingthayar, Shwepyithar, Dagon Myothit (south), North Okkalapa, South Okkalapa and Mandalay came and sold domestic pet fishes and imported pet fishes from Thailand and Singapore.—200 ■

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi arrives in Europe

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and delegation arrived in Belgium yesterday morning and were welcomed at Brussels Airport by Myanmar Ambassador to Belgium U Paw Lwin Sein and officials.

The State Counsellor and her delegation then travelled by car to Steigenberger Wiltcher's Hotel in Brussels.

The State Counsellor and delegation left Yangon on Sunday to visit Italy, Britain and the European Union Headquarters in Belgium for official visits.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi also met with officials during stopovers at foreign airports while waiting for connecting flights.

The State Counsellor and

delegation were greeted at the Suvarnabhumi Airport Sunday evening in Bangkok, Thailand by Myanmar Embassy Charge d' Affaires a.i. U Hau Khan Sum, Embassy officials and Director General Mr. Singtong Lapisetpan of Thailand Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

At midnight local standard time, the State Counsellor left Thailand and arrived at the Charles De Gaulle International Airport in France at local standard time 7:20 a.m. on 1 May, where Myanmar Ambassador U Han Thu and officials met her. The State Counsellor then boarded a Brussels Airline flight and arrived in Belgium at 9:40 a.m. yesterday. — Myanmar News Agency ■



Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was welcomed by the Myanmar Ambassador to Belgium U Paw Lwin Sein at Brussels Airport. PHOTO: MNA

NEWS BRIEF

Myanmar migrant workers return to Thailand

OVER 20,000 migrant workers returned to Thailand from Myanmar on Sunday after they spent a two-week holiday in their home country, Xinhua reported on 1 May quoting a senior Thai official.

A large number of Myanmar migrants returned to Thailand via the Myawaddy - Mae Sot, checkpoint about 480 km northwest of Bangkok, as it was the last day for each of them to be given exemption from the 1,000-baht re-entry fee, said Pol. Col. Somchai Detpae, superintendent at Mae Sot immigration office.

An estimated 100,000 migrant workers had left for Myanmar to celebrate the Thingyan festival earlier this month. — Mizzima ■

Over 3,000 workers march in honour of May Day

Ko Moe

In honour of 127th May Day, over 3,000 workers in Hlinethaya Township marched in a celebration of workers' unions and job development yesterday.

Yesterday morning, more than 3,000 workers gathered at the Nawaday bus stand in Hlinethaya, marching to the amphitheatre where a ceremony celebrating international workers' day would be held, with workers holding their respective union flags.

"International investments are being invited for the development of industrial enterprises. Every industrial zone is an economic zone which is earning money for the national development. So, employers and employees are required to work hard for the development of both employers and employees. In doing so, it is needed to discuss openly and transparently", said U Phyto Min Thein, Chief Minister of the Yangon Region Cabinet.

A message sent by the President was read out by U Myo Aung, the permanent secretary of the Ministry of Labour, Im-

migration and Population, with an address made by U Zaw Aye Maung, minister for Rakhine Ethnic Affairs and Labour Affairs.

Ma Thinzar Htet, an attendee and chairman of the primary workers' union of Charming Brand Clothing in Hlinethaya township said, "Now, our country is more transparent than ever. There are many workers expecting for minimum wages more than now. We hope that workers' forces will be able to support the national economic development in one way or other."

At the ceremony, various matters such as protecting women from being forced into working as sex slaves, an educative programme on migrant workers, favourable occupations, eradication of forced labour, on-the-job safety, health and social security matters were presented with, matters of on-the-job affairs which employees wanted to discuss explained by legal consultant and an expert on solving labour disputes.

Film stars and members of labour unions entertained the gathering with songs.



Workers march to the gathering point to celebrate the 127th May Day in Hlinethaya Industrial Zone. PHOTO: ZAW GYI (PANITA)

In celebration of Int'l Workers' Day, government ensuring job opportunities

U Thein Swe Union Minister for Labour, Immigration and Population announced that they are collaborating with business and international organisations to create better job opportunities for workers.

The remark came at a ceremony to commemorate the 127th International Workers'

Day on 1 May at the Myanmar Convention Centre on Min Dhamma Road in Yangon.

"To ensure workers get access to better jobs and develop their skills, the government is working together with businesses and international organisations," he added.

He further stated they are carrying out discussions for continuous development of workers' skills at the national level, conducting seminars and

opening workshops for skill development in regions and states, and working closely with region and state governments, employers and workers to issue national-level verification certificates for workers.

"What they said at the ceremony is quite encouraging for the labour force and if they really carefully do as they planned it will foster greater trust between workers and employers. We have requested that they come carry out inspections to review workers' losses but no inspection team came immediately and the workers have already lost their jobs by the time they finish their procedures. I think conditions are better than before, though," said Ko Aung Ko Latt from Myaung Dagar Industrial Zone.

To ensure the safety of workers, to foster better relations between workers and with employers, and to ensure worker's unions can be freely organised, the Ministry has permitted the formation of a total of 2,443 unions since 2011. ■

Outstanding Youth honoured in Inle, Ngwehsaung and Bagan Recreation Camps

OUTSTANDING Youth's Recreation Camps were opened in Inle, Ngwehsaung and Bagan yesterday.

Afterwards, Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi said that the developing of healthy, honest and outstanding youths who have patriotism is one of the work programmes by the Ministry of Education.

There are 176 eighth standard students, 176 ninth standard students and 176 tenth standard students totalling 528 who have been chosen as the outstanding students of 2016-2017 academic year and who are participating in the recreation camps of Inle and Ngwehsaung separately and have also appeared 2-times and 3-times as outstanding students in this academic year.

He added that during their visit they will have a chance to share knowledge, experience and regional cultures with each other and will be overwhelmed with the cheerfulness.

He also encouraged them to have the national spirit and to serve the nation and nationality with their wisdom and efforts based on their well-trained leader skills.

After that, Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi conferred a badge to a representative from outstanding male students and Shan State Minister Dr. Lin Htut also presented a badge to a representative from outstanding female students and officials gave the presents to the students and concluded the opening ceremony.

The opening ceremony of Outstanding Youth's Recreation Camp in Ngwehsaung was opened with the students sing-



Outstanding students leave the Dhammayangyi Pagoda after observing the mural paintings and architectural designs at the pagoda. **Photo: MNA**

ing "Myanma's School" at Pale Ngwehsaung Hotel.

At the ceremony, Ayeyawady Region Minister, Mann Johnny said that all the outstanding students need to have their own ambition to be a good leader in the future and need to try not only for themselves but also for the country.

Afterwards, Union Minister for Ministry of Industry, U Khin Maung Cho shared his life experiences with the students and Deputy Minister for Ministry of Education U Win Maw Htun also explained about the selection process of the outstanding students in all Regions and States.

Then, Ayeyawady Region

Chief Minister Mann Johnny, Union Minister U Khin Maung Cho and Deputy Minister U Win Maw Htun rewarded the outstanding male students and Kayin Ethnic Affairs Minister, Bago and Taninthayi regional education officers also rewarded the outstanding female students respectively.

Next, the camp officers and senior outstanding students (Luyechun) conferred Mawgoon Medals commemorating the opening of the camp to the Ayeyawady Region Minister Mann Johnny and Deputy Minister U Win Maw Htun and Union Minister U Khin Maung Cho and 3-times outstanding student Ma Phyo Su

Han expressed her heartfelt thanks.

Later, students entertained with various educational songs.

The camp in Bagan was opened by three outstanding students, with an opening speech by Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myvint Maung.

Following the opening ceremony, the students visited the pagodas and observed the mural paintings and architectural arts there. In the evening, a dinner in honour of the students was held, with the attendance of the Chief Minister and Union Minister Dr. Myo Thein Gyi.—Hein Htet Zaw and Min Thit ■

NEWS BRIEFS

Yaba pills seized in Loilem

An anti-narcotic squad from Loilem searched a passenger vehicle named Shan Dagun on Loilem-Namhsam road in front of Pan Khauk Woe monastery in Pan Khauk Woe village on 29 April.

Police discovered 10,000 yaba pills from a passenger called Chit Hlaing, 23, on board the vehicle. Police have taken action against him under the Anti-narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—Myanmar Police Force ■

Pansodan-Dala jetty to be upgraded

THE Pansodan jetty will be upgraded for the convenience of vessels and passengers, with no plans to construct another jetty, according to the Yangon Region Cabinet.

Two buoys were previously installed for passengers to travel separately coming and going, but one of the jetties was removed due to the limited space for cruise ships upon arrival at the jetties. Rest areas, including seats and toilets at the remaining jetty, will be upgraded this year to provide passengers with comfortable facilities.

"The Myanmar Port Authority will seek a budget in the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year to upgrade the current bridge for the passengers", a spokesman for the Yangon Region Cabinet said.—200 ■

Acrylic works of artist Kyaw Thu Win to be exhibited

ARTIST Kyaw Thu Win, a young artist from Mandalay, will showcase his selected works through a solo exhibition this month in Yangon, according to an event organiser.

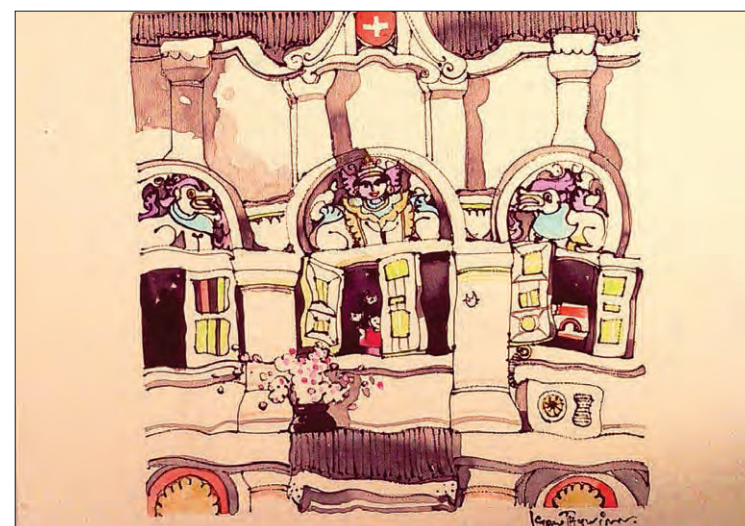
The exhibition, titled "The White Moments", will be from 6 May through 8 May at Cloud 31st Art Gallery on 31st Street in downtown Yangon and fea-

tures 25 acrylic handiworks for sale.

Subject matter may include landscapes and historic structures in both Mandalay and Yangon cities.

The 29-year-old artist, who studied his craft at the State School of Fine Arts in Mandalay, has become known for his trademark drawing and

painting style. Since his entering the art scene, Kyaw Thu Win has had several art exhibitions. His works can mostly be found through collective art exhibition. His first solo show was held at Thiri Gallery in Mandalay in 2014, with plans to stage his artworks at a 3rd solo show next year.—Khaing Thanda Lwin ■



Works by artist Kyaw Thu Win.



A trader evaluates jade stones at the Gems and Jade emporium in Nay Pyi Taw in March. PHOTO: MNA

1,000 tonnes of jade exported in first half of April

NEARLY 1,000 tonnes of jade were exported in the first 15 days of April in the 2017-2018 fiscal year, according to the Commerce Ministry.

Myanmar's raw jade stones were exported to China through the Muse border trade camp. During FY 2015-2016, 302.912 tonnes of raw jade stones worth

US\$62.276million were sent to China market whereas a total of 11,119.662 tonnes of jade stones worth US\$246.736million were exported in FY 2016-2017.

Similarly, 954.186 tonnes of raw jade stones worth US\$91.760million were sold through an emporium held in the middle of 2016, which were

sent to China market from 9th to 15th April.

Currently, precious stones produced in the country are mainly sold only at the emporiums organized by the State. Therefore, there is a plan to allow the private sector to officially run the precious jewellery market, it is learnt.—Ko Htet ■

Sein Ta Lone price rebounds from three-day decline

Aung Thant Khaing

THE price of Sein Ta Lone (Diamond Solitaire) mangoes on 29th April bounced back from a three-day skid, said Ko Aye Win, a mango exporter.

The Sein Ta Lone price slumped by about one third three days ago because of an excess volume of supply at China's Shweli market.

China merchants offer a reduced price when there is excess supply of mango in the market. They slashed the price from 140 to 100 Yuan. However, the price has now returned to normal. Myanmar merchants need to join together in exporting to control the price. The price differs between packed and unpacked mango, he added.

A box of packed Sein Ta Lone weighing 16 kilos fetched around 100 Yuan at China market on 26th April, whereas the price of an unpacked mango box was only 40 Yuan. On 29th April, the

price of packed mango was 140 Yuan per box while unpacked mango fetched about 70 Yuan.

Mango merchants suffered from the reduced price. The price is set too low when the mango is in surplus in the market. At the present, the price has risen back after export volume was under control. This means that the merchants reaped the benefits from their unity, said Ko Zaw, an owner of mango farm from Htonebo.

The prevailing price of a Sein Ta Lone mango in Mandalay market is around Ks500, whereas a ripe mango grown with the use of chemical fetched Ks3,500 for ten fruits in the retail market, it is learnt.

The marketable local mango varieties -- Sein Ta Lone, Shwehintha, Yingwe, Padamyar Ngamauk are mainly grown by grafting. More local and foreign markets will be explored. There are about 200 local varieties in the country.

Three foreign countries propose to buy bamboo charcoal

OFFERS to buy Myanmar's bamboo charcoal have been received from three foreign countries including the United States, according to the Commerce Ministry.

Myanmar's bamboo charcoal is being marketed to penetrate the Japanese, American and Vietnamese markets. Samples of the charcoal have

already been sent to those countries.

A kilo of bamboo charcoal will sell for Ks1,500 on average. In early 2017, Japan, the United States and Viet Nam have proposed to purchase Myanmar's bamboo charcoal, said U Win Myint, the director of the Trade Promotion Department under the Ministry of Commerce.

Myanmar's bamboo charcoal was previously exported to Japan, but technical shortcomings led to market fade in late 2013.

The bamboo charcoal is utilised mostly in Japan and China as a fuel. Additionally, it is also used to purify water and eliminate organic impurities and smells.—200 ■

Riverview Point Condo expo to be held

A two-day Riverview Point Condominium expo will be take place on 6th and 7th May, according to imyanmarhouse.com.

The expo will be held beside the pool on the fourth floor of the Riverview Point Condo situated at the corner of Ahlon Strand Street and Thittaw

Street from 9 am to 5 pm on 6th and 7th May.

This condo is located near the banks of the Yangon River, allowing residents to enjoy the views and the fresh air. The location is also near schools, markets and hospitals. Construction of the condominium is complete and it is ready for

occupancy.

The condominium provides facilities such as a gym, car parking, swimming pool, playground, 24-hour security, elevators, CCTV cameras, etc.

In this expo, one square foot will sell for Ks150,000 and advanced purchase can be made with Ks1million.—200 ■

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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

သတင်းစာများကို ဤဆိုင်များတွင်ဝယ်ယူဖတ်ရှုနိုင်ပါပြီ

- Market Place by City Mart (6.5 Mile)
- Market Place by City Mart (Damasidi Road)
- City Mart (Aung San Stadium)
- City Mart (47th street)
- City Mart (Yankin)
- City Mart (China Town)
- City Mart (Myay Ni Gone)
- City Mart (FMI)
- City Mart (Junction Square)
- City Mart (Junction Maw Tin)
- City Mart (Sule Square)
- City Mart (Star City - Thanlyin)
- City Mart (Waizayandar)
- City Mart (Hledan)
- City Mart (Myanmar Plaza)
- Ocean North Point (9 mile)
- Ocean Shwegonedine

Ocean City SUPERCENTER **City Mart** Supermarket

Philippines open to joint war drills with China: Duterte

MANILA — Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said on Monday that he is open to the idea of conducting joint military exercises with China.

"I agree (to the idea). They can have joint exercise(s) here in Mindanao, maybe in the Sulu Sea," Duterte told reporters after visiting the Chinese warship docked in Davao City wharf.

Duterte said he was very impressed by the Chinese war-

ship. "It's very impressive. It's all carpeted. It's so beautiful. Inside, it's like a luxury hotel," he told reporters, "It's clean!"

He said the visit to the warship is part of the confidence building and good will between Manila and Beijing.

A Chinese naval fleet has begun a three-day friendly visit after arriving Sunday at Davao City in the southeastern region of The Philippines. —Xinhua ■



Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte returns the salute of a Chinese Navy officer as he tours a Chinese Naval ship during a visit to Davao city, southern Philippines on 1 May, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Thai navy defends submarine purchase, shrugs off criticism

BANGKOK — Thailand's navy defended on Monday its plan to buy three submarines from China amid growing public criticism and questions over the need for the costly vessels.

The military government approved last week the purchase of the first submarine from China, at a cost of 13.5 billion baht (\$390 million).

Navy Chief of Staff Admiral Leuchai Ruddis said the payment will be made in installments over seven years and will not leave other parts of the government's budget short.

"There is an uncertain security situation in our region of the world and the need for force can happen at any time," Leuchai told a news confer-

ence at the navy's headquarters in Sattahip, southeast of Bangkok.

Leuchai said Thailand had to defend its maritime borders and he shrugged public concern.

"It is necessary to move forward with the purchase," he said.

Thailand is not involved in disputes with China and other Southeast Asian countries over the South China Sea but it does have a dispute with Cambodia over their maritime border in a gas-rich part of the Gulf of Thailand.

Thailand also has maritime borders in the Indian ocean.

Politicians from both main

political parties have criticized the purchase of the S26T submarines, accusing the military government of mismanaging priorities at a time of economic downturn.

Thailand's defence budget this year is more than 210 billion baht (\$6.11 billion), about 9 per cent more than in 2014, the year the military took power.

China was the first major power to acknowledge Thailand's ruling junta following the 2014 coup.

The United States responded to the overthrow of an elected government by freezing \$4.7 million of security-related aid and cancelling some security agreements. —Reuters ■

Japan, Central Asia countries rap N Korea aggression as unacceptable

ASHGABAT — Japan and five Central Asian countries condemned on Monday North Korea's repeated nuclear tests and launches of ballistic missiles as unacceptable in a joint statement adopted at a foreign ministers' meeting in the Turkmenistan capital Ashgabat.

The statement is a "big outcome which shows that the international community will be united in dealing with North Korea," Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida told reporters after the meeting with his counterparts from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

The meeting comes amid heightened tensions over North Korea, which test-fired a ballistic missile Saturday, again resisting pressure applied by the United States and its allies' to exercise self-restraint.

In the statement, the ministers called North Korea's nuclear ambitions a serious threat to international and regional peace

and safety and urged it to comply with UN Security Council resolutions banning the country from testing nuclear devices and using ballistic missile technology.

It also noted the importance of resolving the long-standing issue of abductions of Japanese nationals by North Korea decades ago.

In a press conference following the meeting, Kishida announced a Japanese pledge to provide some 24 billion yen (\$215 million) to strengthen logistics and transportation sectors in Central Asia.

He said the government will invite around 2,000 people from Central Asian countries in the next five years for education and training in areas including logistics, and also pledged to ease visa restrictions for tourists and business travelers visiting Japan from Central Asia.

The meeting, the sixth of its kind, was last held in Kyrgyzstan in July 2014. —Kyodo News ■

Cambodia's Angkor heritage site earns over 39 mln USD in 4 months

PHNOM PENH — Revenue from ticket sales to foreigners visiting Cambodia's Angkor archaeological park climbed to 39.2 million US dollars in the first four months of 2017, up 60 per cent year-on-year, according to an official report on Monday.

The ancient park received 945,366 foreign tourists during the January-April period this year, up 11.5 per cent over the

same period last year, said the report of the state-owned Angkor Enterprise.

The sharp rise in the revenue was due to the increase in ticket prices since 1 February.

A current entrance fee to the site is 37 US dollars for a one-day visit, 62 US dollars for a three-day pass, and 72 US dollars for a week-long pass.

Entry is free for Cambo-

dians and children under 12 years old.

Located in northwestern Cambodia's Siem Reap province, the Angkor archaeological park was inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1992 as the kingdom's top tourist destination. Most tourists to the site are Chinese, South Koreans and Americans. —Xinhua ■

N Korea hints at nuclear tests to boost force “to the maximum”

SEOUL, — North Korea suggested on Monday it will continue its nuclear weapons tests, saying it will bolster its nuclear force “to the maximum” in a “consecutive and successive way at any moment” in the face of what it calls US aggression and hysteria.

US President Donald Trump has said a “major, major conflict” with North Korea is possible over its nuclear and ballistic missile programmes, while China said last week the situation on the Korean peninsula could escalate or slip out of control.

In a show of force, the United States has sent the nuclear-powered USS Carl Vinson aircraft carrier group to waters off the Korean peninsula to join drills with South Korea to counter a series of threats of destruction from North Korea, formally known as the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK).

“Now that the US is kicking up the overall racket for sanctions and pressure against the DPRK, pursuant to its new DPRK policy called ‘maximum pressure and engagement’, the DPRK will speed up at the maximum pace the measure for bolstering its nuclear deterrence,”



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

a spokesman for North Korea’s foreign ministry said in a statement carried by its official KCNA news agency.

North Korea’s “measures for bolstering the nuclear force to the maximum will be taken in a consecutive and successive way at any moment and any place decided by its supreme leadership,” the spokesman said.

Reclusive North Korea has carried out five nuclear tests and a series of missile tests in defiance of UN Security Council and unilateral resolutions. It has been conducting such tests at an unprecedented rate and is believed to have made progress in developing intermediate-range and submarine-launched missiles.

It test-launched a missile on Saturday which Washing-

ton and Seoul said was unsuccessful, but which nevertheless drew widespread international condemnation.

South Korea said the United States had reaffirmed it would shoulder the cost of deploying the Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD) anti-missile system to counter the North Korean threat, days after Trump said Seoul should pay for the \$1 billion battery.

In a telephone call on Sunday, Trump’s national security adviser, HR McMaster, reassured his South Korean counterpart, Kim Kwan-jin, that the US alliance with South Korea was its top priority in the Asia-Pacific region, the South’s presidential office said.

Trump, asked about his message to North Korea after the latest missile test, told reporters: “You’ll soon find out,” but did not elaborate on what the US response would be.

Trump stepped up his outreach to allies in Asia over the weekend to discuss the North Korean threat and make sure all are “on the same page” if action is needed, a top White House official said.

“There is nothing right now facing this country and facing the region that is a bigger threat than what is happening in North Korea,” White

House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus told ABC’s “This Week.”

The THAAD deployment has drawn protests from China, which says the powerful radar that can penetrate its territory will undermine regional security, and from residents of the area in which it is being deployed, worried they will be a target for North Korean missiles.

The United States is seeking more help from China, the North’s major ally, to rein in Pyongyang’s nuclear and missile development. Trump, in the Reuters interview, praised Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping as a “good man”.

Tension on the Korean peninsula has been high for weeks over fears the North may conduct a long-range missile test, or its sixth nuclear test, around the time of the 15 April anniversary of its state founder’s birth.

North Korea, technically still at war with the South after their 1950-53 conflict ended in a truce, not a treaty, regularly threatens to destroy the United States, Japan and South Korea and has said before it will pursue its nuclear and missile programmes to counter perceived US aggression. —Reuters ■

At least 27 hurt in turbulent Aeroflot Moscow-Bangkok flight

BANGKOK/MOSCOW — At least 27 people were injured on an Aeroflot flight from Moscow to Bangkok on Monday when their Boeing 777 hit an air pocket, the Russian embassy in Thailand said in a statement.

It said 24 of the injured were Russian nationals and 15 of them were taken to a Bangkok hospital for treatment. The other three injured were from Thailand.

The Russian airline said in an earlier statement that several passengers had been injured during “severe turbulence” 40 minutes before landing in the Thai capital. It said the crew was unable to warn passengers of the approaching danger as the turbulence occurred in a clear sky.

“All the injured were sent to a local hospital with injuries of a different kind of severity, mainly fractures and bruises,” the embassy said. “The reasons behind the injuries was that some of the passengers had not had their seatbelts fastened.”

Airports of Thailand Pcl, Thailand’s main airport operator, told Reuters the Boeing 777 had landed in Bangkok, but said any other comment should come from the airline.—Reuters ■

Abe calls for “historic step” towards constitutional reform this year

TOKYO — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said Monday this year is the right time to “take a historic step” in reforming Japan’s pacifist post-World War II Constitution, two days ahead of a public holiday commemorating its entry into force 70 years ago.

Abe cited the “security situation, which is increasing in severity,” as one of the factors in what would be a first-ever amendment to the foundational document.

“This is the time to show the public our specific stance on the ideal Constitution,” Abe said at a gathering in Tokyo of a cross-party league of lawmakers in favor of constitutional reform.

“In this milestone year, we will take a historic step toward the large goal of constitutional reform,” he said. “Those mem-



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (R) speaks at a gathering of a cross-party league of lawmakers in favor of constitutional reform in Tokyo on 1 May, 2017. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

bers of the public who think of the Constitution as an immortal tome are now a small minority.”

Any proposal to amend the Constitution requires the support of at least two-thirds of lawmakers in both houses of parliament before gaining a majority of votes in a national referendum.

Abe’s ruling coalition and pro-amendment opposition parties already have the two-thirds majority, but public sensitivity over the Constitution is likely to drive them to aim for some sort of consensus with the rest of the Diet. “The time is ripe now. What we are seeking is a specific plan,” he said. Abe spoke amid heightened tensions surrounding North Korea, which continues to test-fire ballistic missiles and is thought to be planning a sixth nuclear test.—Kyodo News ■

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Pollution, Pollution ...Everywhere!

Dr. Nu Nu Win

Nowadays, it is difficult to find a place where we can have fresh air, even at the beach resorts, the countryside or in the villages. It shows that we can find air pollution more in the down-town areas where we have thick population and intense traffic. It is so easy to have air pollution and water pollution where we have thick areas of industries and businesses.

As we have more and more industries and factories, it is a great pity that the things we took for granted like fresh sea breeze or wide areas of natural forests are dwindling day by day. Some people may say that an area becomes developed because businesses and industries could be seen in abundance; however, we should all make sure that we are not paying a heavy price in terms of water and air pollution in these industrial zones.

And moreover, because most of these industries and businesses are mostly owned not by our citizens but by foreigners, sometimes it is very difficult to enforce proper environmental standards for a clean and safe environment for the people living in these areas. Because they are foreigners, some do not care about keeping the environment safe for the health of the people who live in the surrounding areas. In such cases, private sector companies could come up with innovative ideas for CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) projects or PPP – Public Private Partnerships projects to deal with environmental issues.

In some cases, some industries cut down trees to get fuel for their boilers instead of using coal, fuel oil or natural gas (This is just one example). If these practices continue without any corrective measures taken, we are sure to see changes

in the weather resulting in storms, floods or water shortages in these areas.

And also when these industries and businesses dump their industrial wastes without any discipline and without any thought for others, it can make the surrounding rivers and water to become polluted very easily.

Therefore, although we need development and modern businesses and industries to provide more work opportunities for the people in these areas, we do need to be vigilant and keep our guard against contamination of our rivers and lakes and also the indiscriminate and irresponsible dumping of industrial wastes and air pollution due to excessive CO2 (carbon-dioxide) emissions.

These are all the factors we should think ahead before we accept direct foreign investment in our country. ■

Losses Which Are Irreplaceable

Khin Maung Htay (Education)

School libraries and rural ones had been opened for children to acquire knowledge and intellect, but their reading speed did not develop to the extent expected. By seeing this we can conclude that our children's use of libraries is still only at a low level.

Literary Festivals

Very recently, festivals for children literature have been held in Mandalay and Mawlamyine cities. It is heartening to find interested parents and children come to study attentively and buy books after choosing what they wanted. To readers' delight, Weekend Book Stalls and Book Centers have been opened. So, an idea occurred to my mind that festivals for children and Nobel Myanmar Book Fair should be held frequently.

School Lesson

In an outlook of a teacher at the chalk face, there are a lot that can revitalize and change children's intellect, among the Readers they have to learn at schools. For example, the lesson like, "Hellen Keller" in the Reader prescribed for matriculation can ignite readers' aspiration to strive for success, without yielding to any hardships and difficulties throughout their lives. "The Last Leaf" taught at 9th standard as well depicted how people should look after between each other, though living apart.

We find good lessons can give good

outlooks. While working as the teacher, I greatly appreciated a lesson from Matriculation Myanmar Reader named "My leisure hours" written by writer "P Morning". I taught and explained it to students enthusiastically. In it there included noteworthy expressions concerning "time". It was very interesting to recount some figures and Buddhist monks who strictly kept time in Myanmar history. Whatever it is, the lesson can impress children with the good idea that time should not be wasted uselessly.

Now I felt sorrow greatly for having it deleted from the syllabus. That is because I firmly believe that school lessons are effective in educating school-age children intellect and knowledge on moral ethics. Had curriculums for different classes been compiled with a view to developing children's multi-education in physical & mental development, character, aesthetics and vocational knowledge, it would be of great benefit for them.

Media Covering A Vast Land

One of the reasons for which people are becoming less interested in reading is said to be the development of online media such as social websites, twitter and so on. But, on an over-all view to international market, print media is still essentially being subscribed. People are still in the habit of keeping myriads of books on their book-shelves as remembrance.

On examining into online users, it is very depressing. Online literates are meager in amount. If we know how to

use a phone, it is useful for us to apply it in various ways, like a computer. We can have applications of variety installed in a phone for various uses. In fact, we are using only a little bit out of applications installed in our phones.

Most are using face-book, a social website. Much as we cannot say exact amount of face-book users, almost phone uses are face-book users in Myanmar. In using face-book, they have no restriction on time. Every moment they have got leisure hours they go online, using face-book. This is attributed to an easy access to post what they want to and video files and photos. For these advantages, it is globally being used.

Social website pages are bringing news and information to us more rapidly, including timely statements & news release of professional experts. We can peruse and take notes of posts that can be said to be noteworthy things. As a matter of fact, we can earn money back but we cannot get time lost even though we will pay bounty for regaining it. It is an irreplaceable loss.

Recently, a video file recording a murder case posted by the murderer himself had been spread on line for a few hours because of not being able to be removed from the webpage. As regards this, various kinds of criticism emerged, blaming lack of timely removal. Concerning this, Mark Zuckerberg, co-founder and chief executive officer of face-book, social website said it at the FB Developer Conference.

SEE PAGE-9

2nd Donation Ceremony for Thiri Mingalar Mahasasana Beikman in Insein, Yangon

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended the second donation ceremony for Thiri Mingalar Mahasasana Beikman held in Yangon at 1:00 pm yesterday.

The ceremony to offer donation for Thiri Mingalar Mahasasana Beikman to be constructed and with the donation contributed by Tatmadaw families and other wellwishers in the precinct of Abaya Laba Muni Buddha Image located on Mindhamma Hillock of Insein Township in Yangon was held on the afternoon of 1st May.

First, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla donated cash amounting to Ks 10 million, which was accepted by Quartermaster-General Lieutenant-General Nyo Saw. Afterwards, Vice President U Myint Swe and wife presented Ks 34 million followed by a donation



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing gives donation at the Zeyathiri Beikman in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

ceremony. The grand total of donations amounted to over Ks 929 million including the first time donations.

After the ceremony, the Senior General and party warmly greeted the wellwishers and observed the documentary photos for construction the Sasana Beikman.

The Beikman is a two-sto-

reyed building and has 186 ft in length and 72 ft in wide. It is being constructed adjacent to Lawka Chantha Abaya Laba Muni Buddha Image located on Mindhama Hillock in Insein Township. The building is intended for all Sanghas to use for holding religious examinations and religious purposes.—Myanmar News Agency ■

IFC, CBM promote new credit reporting regulation

IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, has successfully supported the Central Bank of Myanmar to develop a regulation for credit reporting—a key step in building up modern financial infrastructures that are necessary to improve access to credit for consumers and micro, small and medium enterprises in the country.

The Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) issued the Regulation on Credit Information Reporting System on March 31, 2017, which provides a basis for the establishment and operations of credit reporting companies, such as credit bureaus, according to a report on April 28.

About 70 officials and representatives from the CBM, relevant government agen-

cies, the Myanmar Banks' Association, local and international banks, microfinance institutions and other lending agencies, as well as international development partners today attended an event to promote the new regulation. The participants deliberated on the key features of the Myanmar credit reporting regulation and its implications for the lending industry.

"The regulation is fundamental for credit information sharing among the lending institutions through credit bureau, which pools information from various types of creditors and public data sources on individual and business borrowers," said Daw Khin Saw Oo, Deputy Governor of the CBM.—Mizzima ■

Rakhine to export 10,000 tonnes of matpe to India

FROM PAGE-1

But a potential problem is that only vessels weighing a maximum of 3,000 tons can berth at the Sittway port. If a new port is built in Sittway, this will become a major transfer point capable of exporting pulses and beans directly to India.

"I am submitting this matter to the Union Minister for him to submit onward at the union level", U Kyw Aye Thein said.

It is learnt that there were border trade stations in Sittway Township and Maungdaw Township where trade volumes were high in the past, but due to the current situation, trade values were only around US\$5 million. In order to improve this situation, the Rakhine state government is finalising the setting up of a trade zone in Kanyinchaung, Maungdaw

Township this year. The construction of the Kanyinchaung trade zone was begun in 2015 with a total cost of Ks1 billion – Ks 600 million from the government and Ks400 million from local business persons.

It is learnt that the state government's grand plan for the development of Rakhine State is divided into north, middle and south zones. Matpe planting is the main activity of the agriculture and livestock sector in the north zone, while the travel sector will be developed in the MraukU. Matpe planting is being done now, and fresh water fish breeding has also started in Kyauktaw.

If the breeding of fresh and seawater fish is successful, it will help to increase the declining trade with neighbouring Bangladesh. ■



Matpe beans. **PHOTO: MAUNG MAUNG THANT (KYEMON)**

Losses Which Are Irreplaceable

FROM PAGE-8

Nowadays, there are extremely large amounts of people using face-book, wasting time and money other than usefully. They include our families, relatives and next of kin. Nothing can be said about it, if they hold the ruler of inborn human rights because they have spent their own money.

Look forward to public benefits

Humans cannot live alone, having to live in society or community. We need to take people's interest into consideration, rather than our personal benefits. Only if national interest develops, will the interest of every individual develop, to put it simply on a national scale. Likewise, our nation will be of great benefit, only if every person lives frugally and work hard. Look at today's face-book pages. The worst thing is that we usually hate speech and vulgar usages. There are some groups spreading rumors and invented stories, by exaggerating a piece of ordinary news. Some are posting indecent and compromising photos and video files. Spreading fabricated news as an ad hominem attack is in fact a great loss that comes to nothing.

Taking Selfie

Some harm nobody, posting photos about themselves or those nearby or their routines, since dawn to dusk, including taking meal and drinking coffee. Nothing special is being posted. It would have been acceptable if the meal they took, the place they went and the persons they met were peculiar than ever. Now they have been posting selfies without aim and objective, with the exception of drinking water & going to toilets. Though they are disappointing, it is not appropriate for us to block these posters, being close friends. Here I want to say is none other than the fact that we are losing time and money, with the passing time. As said above, we can earn money again but time lost is regrettable. What is more regrettable is that our potential avant-garde had been consumed with the time.

Think ourselves reasonably

If we assess our deeds, money can be earned again, but we exerted our physical and mental efforts for getting it, so we should not waste it. It will cost a family consisting of 4 or 5 members 50,000 Kyats on the conservative estimate, may be round about 100,000 Kyats,

including on-line charges.

40,000 or 50,000 kyats spent is equivalent to the income earned for the whole month by an ordinary daily-wager. Instead, some spent much money on purchasing pre-paid phone cards, living on scanty amount of food. They are spending their time online. Every one of us living in a society should not be satisfied just with the pleasure of a family or a group. We should not kill time without applying our abilities. Instead of it, we should always try our best for self-motivation so that our capacities will become higher and higher. As for those who know how to use on-line beneficially, online websites are like a resource that will never be deprived of knowledge much as we exploit enormously. Now is the knowledge age—the knowledgeable ones can enjoy benefits while the naïve ones will go past the resource.

Hence, we should assess time and money wasted. Spending excessively is a useless wastage. Changes start from every individual, thence to a family and a country. Therefore all want changes.

So as to be able to liberate ourselves from unbeneficial losses, let us start from individuals! ■

WORLD
BRIEFSThree women arrested
in London under anti-
terror laws — police

LONDON — Three women were arrested under Britain's anti-terror laws in east London on Monday, police said, in connection with investigations into a plot that was thwarted last week.

The Metropolitan Police said it arrested two 18-year-olds and a 19-year-old on suspicion of the commission, preparation and instigation of terrorist acts. "The arrests were made as part of an ongoing intelligence-led operation in connection with an address on Harlesden Road," the police said in a statement, referring to a location where a woman was shot on Friday during an armed raid which police said disrupted a militant plot. —Reuters ■

Five killed in crane
accident at Samsung
shipyard in South
Korea

SEOUL — Five people died and about 20 were injured when a crane collapsed at a Samsung Heavy Industries shipyard in South Korea during construction of an oil platform for French energy company Total, the two companies said on Monday. The yard in Geoje is building the platform for Total's Martin Linge field off Norway. Total's Norwegian subsidiary said none of its employees were among the killed or injured in the accident which took place at 0745 CET (0545 GMT). —Reuters ■

Turkey's Erdogan
says wants India trade
volume up at \$10 bln/
year

ISTANBUL — Turkey's \$6.5 billion annual trade volume with India is "not enough" and should be boosted, Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan said on Monday. "I think it would be beneficial to raise it to \$10 billion," he told a joint news conference with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi broadcast on state television channel TRT Haber. Erdogan also said he believed India would take steps to expel the domestic network of Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen, who Ankara accuses of orchestrating a failed coup in July. —Reuters ■



Families are reunited as US Border patrol agents open a single gate to allow families to hug along the Mexico border as part of Children's Day in Mexico, at Border Field State Park in San Diego, California, US on 30 April, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Macron, Le Pen exchange May Day blows across Paris

PARIS — Centrist presidential frontrunner Emmanuel Macron and his far-right rival Marine Le Pen traded campaign blows across Paris on May Day, as France's most crucial election in decades entered its final week.

Macron sought for a third successive day to paint National Front (FN) leader Le Pen as an extremist, while she portrayed him as a clone of unpopular outgoing Socialist President Francois Hollande, under whom he served as economy minister from 2014 to 2016.

The latest opinion poll showed Macron leading Le Pen by 61 per cent to 39 ahead of Sunday's election, which offers France a choice between his vision of closer integration with a modernised European Union and her calls to cut immigration and take the country out of the euro.

"I will fight up until the very last second not only against her programme but also her idea of what constitutes democracy and the French Republic," said Macron, an independent backed by a new party, En Marche! (Onwards!), which he set up himself a year ago.

He was speaking after paying tribute to a young Moroccan man who drowned in the River Seine in Paris 22 years ago after being pushed into the water by skinheads on the fringes of a May Day rally by FN, then led by Le Pen's father Jean-Marie.

Campaigning in Villepinte, a suburb north of the capital, Marine Le Pen told a rally: "Emmanuel Macron is just Francois Hollande who wants to stay and who is hanging on to power like a barnacle."

Since taking over the party, she has worked hard to cleanse

it of xenophobic and anti-semitic associations and make it more appealing to a wider electorate.

She said at the weekend she had no more contact with her father and was not responsible for his 'unacceptable comments'.

Le Pen senior gave his own traditional May Day speech at a statue of French mediaeval heroine Joan of Arc, just a few hundred yards (metres) from where Macron commemorated the death of young Moroccan Brahim Bouarram.

"Emmanuel Macron is doing a tour of graveyards. It's a bid sign for him," he said.

The bitterly contested election has polarised France, exposing some of the same sense of anger with globalisation and political elites that brought Donald Trump to presidential power in the United States, and

caused Britons to vote for a divorce from the EU.

The vote in the world's fifth largest economy, a key member of the NATO defence alliance, will be the first to elect a president who is from neither of the main political groupings: the candidates of the Socialists and conservative party The Republicans were knocked out in the first round on 23 April.

Between them Le Pen and Macron gathered only 45 percent of votes in that round, which eliminated nine other candidates.

The second round will take place in the middle of a weekend extended by a public holiday. That has fed speculation that a high abstention rate could favour Le Pen, whose supporters typically tell pollsters they are staunchly committed to their candidate. —Reuters ■

South Africa's Cosatu labour group cancels May Day speeches after Zuma booed

JOHANNESBURG — South Africa's Cosatu labour federation abruptly canceled speeches at a May Day rally on Monday including an expected address by President Jacob Zuma after the crowd became rowdy and some members booed Zuma.

Zuma and his entourage could be seen on live TV hastily leaving the podium and being whisked away in a large motorcade from the event in the central city of Bloemfontein.

Cosatu, a key political ally of the ruling African National Congress (ANC), last month called on Zuma to step down after his change of finance ministers triggered a credit rating downgrade to "junk".

TV footage showed scuffles breaking out in the crowd, apparently between those who support the president and those opposed to Zuma. Thousands had gathered clad in Cosatu's trademark red shirts. Zuma has become a focus of mounting public discontent over a series of missteps which have taken place against the backdrop of rising unemployment and a stagnant economy.

Marches calling on Zuma to quit have drawn tens of thousands of protestors but the ANC has rejected such calls ahead of two key conferences this year, one where it will chart its policy direction, the other where it will pick Zuma's successor to lead the party in 2019 general elections. —Reuters ■



Iraqi forces patrol a street as they battle with Islamic State militants, in western Mosul, Iraq on 1 May, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS/SALEM

US-backed militias oust IS from Syria's Tabqa old city

BEIRUT — US-backed militias said on Monday they had pushed Islamic State fighters out of the old quarters of Tabqa, a strategically vital town controlling Syria's largest dam, hemming the militants into the remaining modern district along the shore.

The Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), an alliance made up of Syrian Kurdish and Arab fighting groups, are fighting a

multi-phased campaign to drive Islamic State from its stronghold of Raqqa, 40km (25 miles) downstream and east of Tabqa.

The SDF will wait to assault Raqqa until it seizes Tabqa, its military officials have previously said, but it had made slow progress since besieging the town in early April.

This changed on Thursday when the SDF began to advance north into the old city.

On Monday the SDF said in an online statement it had taken the last three neighbourhoods of the old city and an adjoining industrial district.

SDF forces were now fighting Islamic State in the three modern quarters of the town which lie along the Tabqa reservoir, SDF spokesman Talal Silo said.

Islamic State still control the dam. The Syrian Observa-

tory for Human Rights, a Britain-based war monitor, said on Monday the SDF now controls about 80 percent of Tabqa.

In recent weeks the SDF has also squeezed Islamic State's pocket of territory around Raqqa, which the jihadist group has used as a base to plot attacks and manage much of its self-declared caliphate since seizing the city in 2014. —Reuters ■

Hamas to soften stance on Israel, Muslim Brotherhood in policy document

DOHA — The Palestinian Islamist group Hamas will remove a call for Israel's destruction and drop its association with the Muslim Brotherhood in a new policy document to be issued on Monday, Gulf Arab sources said.

Hamas's move appears aimed at improving relations with Gulf Arab states and Egypt, which label the Brotherhood as a terrorist organization, as well as with Western countries, many of which classify Hamas as a terrorist group over its hostility to

Israel. The sources said Hamas, which has controlled the Gaza Strip since 2007, will say in the document that it agrees to a transitional Palestinian state along the borders from 1967, when Israel captured Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem in a war with Arab states. Israel withdrew from Gaza in 2005.

A future state encompassing Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem along 1967 borders is the goal of Hamas' main political rival, the Fatah movement led by

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. His Palestinian Authority has engaged in peace talks with Israel on that basis, although the last, US-mediated round collapsed three years ago.

The revised Hamas political document, to be announced later on Monday, will still reject Israel's right to exist and back "armed struggle" against it, the Gulf Arab sources told Reuters.

Hamas has fought three wars with Israel since 2007 and has carried out hundreds of

armed attacks in Israel and in Israeli-occupied territories since it was founded three decades ago.

It remains unclear whether the document replaces or changes in any way Hamas's 1988 charter, which calls for Israel's destruction and is the Islamist group's covenant.

A Hamas spokesman in Qatar declined to comment. There was no immediate comment from Egypt and Gulf Arab states. Arab sources said the Ha-

mas document was being released ahead of a planned visit by Abbas to Washington on 3 May and as Donald Trump administration prepares to make a renewed push for Israeli-Palestinian peace.

Analysts say the revised document could allow Hamas to mend relations with Western countries and pave the way for a reconciliation agreement with the Palestine Liberation Organization, now also headed by Abbas. —Reuters ■

India says two soldiers killed, mutilated in Pakistani attack

SRINAGAR — Pakistani soldiers killed two members of an Indian army patrol on the de facto border in the disputed Kashmir region on Monday and then mutilated their bodies, the Indian army said, vowing to exact revenge.

Accusations that Pakistani forces have mutilated dead Indian soldiers have in the past outraged the Indian public and intensified demands for retribution.

The Indian army said Pakistani forces fired rockets and mortar bombs at two Indian posts on the Line of Control dividing Muslim-majority Kashmir between the two sides, in the Krishna Ghati sector.

"In a unsoldierly act by the Pak army the bodies of two of our soldiers in the patrol were

mutilated," the Indian army said in a statement, referring to Pakistani forces.

"Such despicable act of Pakistan army will be appropriately responded."

There was no immediate response from the Pakistan army and Reuters was not in a position to independently verify the authenticity of the Indian account.

It was also not immediately clear what led to the latest clash between the nuclear-armed neighbours.

The armies have been facing off for decades across the Line of Control, an old ceasefire line through the region that both countries claim in full but rule in part.

Recently, a 2003 ceasefire in the region has frayed with

sporadic cross-border firing.

Both sides have accused each of violating the ceasefire and of beheading soldiers in the past. In November, three Indian soldiers were killed in an ambush, and the body of one of them was mutilated, the Indian army said at the time.

Peace talks between the two countries have been on hold for years and diplomatic engagement is at a minimum.

India accuses Pakistan of backing Islamist militants and encouraging them to attack Indian forces in Indian-controlled Kashmir and, occasionally, in other parts of India.

Pakistan denies that and says India must hold negotiations on the future of Kashmir.—Reuters ■



The second-generation Ratnik combat outfit is delivered to land troops, the Airborne Force and marine infantry. **PHOTO: TASS**

Russia to upgrade parachute for Ratnik 'soldier of future' combat outfit

ULYANOVSK—The D-10 parachute for the Ratnik 'soldier of the future' combat outfit will be modernized by 2018, Airborne Force Commander Colonel-General Andrei Serdyukov said on Friday.

"R&D work is planned for 2018 to modernize the D-10 parachute system and the reserve parachute for airdropping personnel wearing Ratnik combat outfits," the commander said.

R&D work is also expected to be completed in 2018 to devel-

op a whole range of multi-purpose platforms and cargo parachute systems for airdropping armaments, military hardware and cargoes weighing from 500 kilograms to 18 tonnes, the commander said. The second-generation Ratnik combat outfit is delivered to land troops, the Airborne Force and marine infantry. The combat gear comprises armour vests and helmets, small arms, sights and reconnaissance equipment.—Tass ■

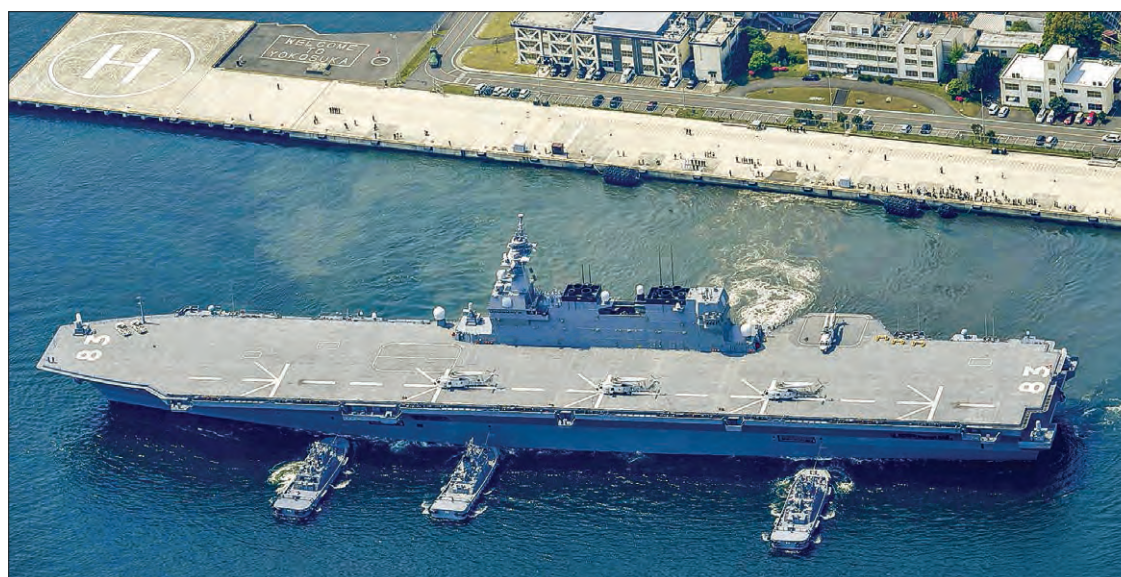
MSDF escorts US Navy ship for 1st time under new security laws

TOKYO — A Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force helicopter carrier joined a US Navy vessel in the Pacific on Monday for the first protection mission under security legislation that took effect last year, with tension running high in the region over North Korea.

The mission, being conducted by the helicopter carrier Izumo, Japan's largest postwar naval vessel, is apparently aimed at demonstrating the robust Japan-US security alliance and deterring North Korea from conducting nuclear and missile tests.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government has expanded the role of the Self-Defence Forces through the security legislation to more actively contribute to regional and global peace, but the move has been controversial in the country, where many people cherish the pacifism embedded in the post-World War II Constitution.

Some citizens protested against the mission near Yokosuka base, southwest of Tokyo, from where the Izumo departed Monday morning to join the US



Japan's Maritime Self-Defence Force helicopter carrier Izumo leaves Yokosuka base in Kanagawa Prefecture, southwest of Tokyo, on 1 May, 2017, as seen in this photo taken from a Kyodo News helicopter.

PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Navy supply ship off the Boso Peninsula in Chiba Prefecture, east of the capital.

The 19,500-ton Izumo, which is equipped with a large flight deck, is expected to sail for two days in the Pacific toward waters off the Shikoku region in western Japan, according to government sources.

The supply ship escorted by Izumo is likely to refuel other

US vessels currently deployed in waters near Japan in anticipation of possible further missile test firings by North Korea, as well as ships sailing with the US Navy's aircraft carrier Carl Vinson that entered the Sea of Japan on Saturday.

Having left Singapore on 8 April to head to waters near the Korean Peninsula, the Carl Vinson has actively engaged in drills

with Japan and South Korea. It conducted bilateral exercises with the MSDF in the Philippine Sea on 23 April and in the Sea of Japan on Saturday.

Once the protection mission ends, the Izumo is expected to take part in an international fleet review organized by the Singapore Navy. Under Japan's security legislation, which loosened constraints imposed on SDF

activities by the war-renouncing Constitution, SDF personnel are allowed to guard vessels and weapons belonging to US forces when the latter are engaged in activities beneficial to the defense of Japan.

The protection mission can be conducted in various situations, including when the two countries are engaged in joint exercises or monitoring and information-gathering activities related to North Korean missile launches.

The MSDF personnel are allowed to use weapons to a certain extent. But due to constitutional constraints, they must stay away from areas where combat activities are taking place involving the armed forces of a foreign country to which Japan is providing support.

As the Constitution bans the "use of force" by Japan to settle international disputes, the government restricts the area of SDF activities to ensure they will not be viewed as an "integral part" of the military operation conducted by other countries.—Kyodo News ■

Tornadoes, storms kill nine in US South

AUSTIN — Tornadoes ripped through an East Texas county on Saturday evening, killing at least four people and injuring dozens of others, while high winds, falling trees and floods killed five others in neighbouring states, according to news reports.

Three tornadoes were confirmed by the US National Weather Service in Canton, a city about 60 miles (95 kilometres) east of Dallas in Van Zandt County.

The winds flipped over cars, snapped trees, destroyed houses and left roads strewn with debris and fallen power lines, according to photographs and video published by the Dallas Morning News.

“We have at least four fatalities,” Canton Mayor Lou Ann Everett said at a news conference on Sunday, adding that number could rise. “The damage was extensive in the affected area. It is heartbreaking and upsetting.” Forty nine people had been treated for injuries, she said.

Earlier a Canton fire department captain said he believed five people had been killed.



Homes are severely damaged after a tornado hit the town of Emory, Texas, US on 30 April, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

The mayor urged people to stay away from a sprawling flea market known as First Monday Trade Days, as crews tried to clean up debris.

Texas Governor Greg Abbott deployed a search and rescue team to the area. The storms caused floods in neighbouring states, killing a 72-year-old woman in southwestern

Missouri who was washed away in her car, according to local media reports.

In Arkansas, a woman was killed when a tree fell on her mobile home in DeWitt, and a 10-year-old girl was killed after flood waters swept her away in Springdale, ABC News reported. A fire chief responding to the storm was killed on Sunday in Cleburne

County, the county sheriff said.

In Mississippi, a person was killed after a tree fell on their house in Durant, ABC reported.

The governors of Missouri and Oklahoma declared states of emergency due to flooding.

In the St Louis area, severe thunderstorms were forecast through

Sunday. Some people were told to evacuate and 33 rescues were conducted, mostly in the state's central and southwestern regions, Missouri Governor Eric Greitens said.

Parts of Indiana received up to 8 inches (20 cm) of rain while areas in Oklahoma, Missouri and Arkansas were drenched with up to 4 inches (10 cm),

James said.

Heavy rainfall in the Midwest was expected to continue on Sunday, along with wind gusts of 60 miles (95 km) per hour.

Flash floods and strong thunderstorms were forecast for parts of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama on Sunday, the National Weather Service said.—Reuters ■

May Day rallies across US to target Trump immigration policy

NEWYORK—Labour unions and immigrant advocacy groups will lead May Day rallies in cities across the United States on Monday, with organizers expecting larger-than-usual turnouts to protest the immigration policies of President Donald Trump.

The demonstrations could be the largest by immigrants since Trump's inauguration on 20 January, activists say, and some immigrant-run businesses plan to shut down for some or all of the day to protest the administration's crack-down on immigrants living in the country illegally.

“To me, it's offensive the policies this president

is trying to implement,” said Jaime Contreras, vice president of the Service Employees International Union's 32BJ affiliate, which represents cleaners and other property service workers in 11 states.

“It's a nation of immigrants, and separating immigrant families because of their immigration status, it goes against what we love about this wonderful country.”

May Day, also known as International Workers' Day, has typically been a quieter affair in the United States than in Europe, where it is a public holiday in many countries.

In New York City, im-

migrant-run convenience stores and taxi services in upper Manhattan will close during the morning rush hour between 7 am and 10 am, in a protest reminiscent of those staged on “A Day Without Immigrants.”

At lunchtime, fast-food workers will join elected officials at a rally outside a McDonald's restaurant in midtown Manhattan, calling for more predictable work schedules. In the early evening, organizers expect thousands of demonstrators to gather at a rally in Manhattan's Foley Square for musical performances and speeches by

union leaders and immigrants living in the country illegally.

In Los Angeles, organizers expect tens of thousands of people to gather in the morning at MacArthur Park before marching downtown to a rally before City Hall.

Heightened precautions were also in place in Seattle, where officials were on the lookout for incendiary devices and gun-carrying protesters after a January shooting outside a political event and an incident during May Day 2016 when a protester threw an unlit Molotov cocktail at police.—Reuters ■

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‘GOT’ bosses have tightened script security: Nathalie

LONDON — Actress Nathalie Emmanuel says some of the extreme security measures have put in place for the storyline of “Game of Thrones” season seven.

The 28-year-old star, who plays Missandei in the hit HBO fantasy drama series, says since the show is adapted from George R R Martin book series, its bosses have taken precautions to ensure the plots stay top secret, reported Femalefirst.

“They’ve definitely tightened up who has scripts and how we’re given them. You have to look at it digitally. They won’t

send it to us unless our emails have a two-step verification (security process).

“You might get given rehearsal notes on set, but you have to sign for and return them before you leave. If you don’t, people will chase you until you give them back,” Emmanuel says.

Asked about how difficult it was to keep the much-talked-about resurrection of Jon Snow a secret, the actress says, “I was obviously sworn to secrecy. I was so sick of people asking me about it. We’re not allowed to say but I also wouldn’t want to.—PTI ■

Actress Nathalie Emmanuel.
PHOTO: REUTERS



Actor Charlize Theron (L) and Jason Statham (C) and Director F. Gary Gray attend a media event for the new film “The Fate of the Furious” in Beijing, China on 23 March, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

“Fate of the Furious” drives China box office to fastest growth in over a year

SHANGHAI — China’s box office sales grew at their fastest pace in over a year in April, driven by the US action movie “The Fate of the Furious”, the eighth instalment of the high-octane fast car franchise.

Monthly ticket sales jumped nearly 57 per cent from the same period a year ago to 4.9 billion yuan (\$707.5 million), data from box office tracker EntGroup showed, the largest monthly growth since February last year.

China’s box office, a magnet for Hollywood producers, saw growth stall last year amid a crackdown on subsidies and a weak slate of movies. Ticket

sales grew under 4 per cent in 2016, down sharply from around 50-per cent growth the year before.

After a stronger start this year, China ticket sales slid again in February and March.

The sharp April rise came on the back of the latest outing from Universal’s hugely-popular Fast and Furious franchise. The film, released in mid-April in China, has so far raked in \$362.7 million in the China market, EntGroup data showed.

Despite a slowdown in box office sales in the market, US studios are increasingly looking to China to boost global

revenues, though they face issues from a local quota system for imported films to questions over censorship.

Hollywood is lobbying to increase the official quota level of 34 imported films a year and to raise the share of sales that international partners receive, as a revenue-sharing deal struck in 2012 comes up for review this year.

“The Fate of the Furious”, which stars Vin Diesel and Jason Statham, is the second-highest grossing movie of 2017 so far behind “Beauty and the Beast”, with global ticket sales of \$1.06 billion, according to Box Office Mojo.—Reuters ■

Anupam Kher joins “Judwaa 2” cast

MUMBAI — Veteran actor Anupam Kher is set to star in David Dhawans upcoming action-comedy “Judwaa 2”.

Kher will join previously announced cast Varun Dhawan, Jacqueline Fernandez and Taapsee Pannu.

The film is a sequel to the 1997 Salman Khan starrer.

Varun broke the news on Twitter by sharing a picture of him along with Kher standing next to each other.

“@AnupamPkher is the only

member of the original cast of Judwaa to be part of Judwaa2. Hes a lot fitter and better looking now,” Varun wrote.

Kher played the role of Inspector Havaladar Vidyarthi in the original movie, which also starred Karisma Kapoor as Mala, Rambha as Roopa, Bindu as Roopas mother, Kader Khan as Sharma (Malas dad) and Shakti Kapoor as Rangeela.

The cast of “Judwaa 2” is currently shooting in London.

—PTI ■

Beyonce’s mother ‘can’t wait’ for pop diva to give birth

LOS ANGELES — Beyonce’s mother, Tina Lawson, “can’t wait” for the singer to give birth to her twins. The mother of the 35-year-old pop diva, who already has a five-year-old daughter with Jay Z, has expressed excitement at becoming a grandmother yet again, reported People magazine. “I’m so excited. I can’t wait. (Beyonce and Jay Z are) incredible parents. She’s a really good mom. Really patient and kind.

“(My biggest lesson was) teaching them that what is on the inside counts more than what’s



on the outside,” Lawson said.

She added when asked about the gender of her unborn grandchildren— “I would be happy with whatever God gives me. It’s the biggest blessing.—PTI ■

Tradition, revelry mark May Day in Oxford

OXFORD (England) — Revelers in the English university city of Oxford took part in the annual May Morning festival on Monday — an event famous for its centuries-old cultural traditions, as well as some rowdier modern ones.

The festival features traditional music and dancing and frequently attracts crowds in the tens of thousands.

“It’s the tradition. My dad came here when he was young and now I’m a student I can go too,” Constance Holstead, a 21-year-old from West Yorkshire who studies at Oxford told Reuters.

“But it does feel a bit busier and more choreographed than when I came when I was much younger.”

The ceremony that begins

the festival, featuring the choir from Magdalen College performing “Hymnus Eucharisticus” goes back some 500 years, the college says.

Following the performance, which sees choristers sing from atop a church tower, bells ring out across the city of for 20 minutes and then festivities, including traditional Morris dancing, begin across the city.

The event has attracted unwelcome attention in recent decades, as revellers, often fuelled by alcohol, pushed to take part in a comparatively new tradition of leaping into the Cherwell river from the city’s Magdalen Bridge.

After 40 people were injured jumping into the river in 2005, local authorities installed



Demonstrators walks behind a banner as part of traditional May Day labour day march in Nantes, France on 1 May, 2017. Banner reads, “Finish with social backstepping that makes the fertile ground for the far-right”. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

crash barriers and hired security guards to prevent people jumping from the bridge.

Despite the forced end of

bridge-jumping, the event still maintains a party spirit.

Gemma Bryant, 20, an Oxford student from Bristol, told

Reuters “I’ve been at a ball all night, and now I’m off to have my second breakfast, and then write an essay.” —Reuters ■

Russian traveler reaches South Africa by motorbike

PRETORIA — A Russian biker has covered 110,000 kilometres solo on his motorbike reaching



Oleg Kharitonov at a news conference in TASS to announce the start of his journey. **PHOTO: TASS**

ing Africa’s south cape halfway around the world.

On Sunday, Oleg Kharitonov arrived at the Russian Orthodox Church near Johannesburg, South Africa.

The 46-year-old set off from Moscow on 20 August 2014. He rode east across Russia, circled around South East Asia, travelled around Europe and further on to Africa, heading from Morocco to South Africa. Kharitonov has visited 61 coun-

tries so far.

“I felt like doing impossible things, like testing myself and feeling the world first-hand,” he told TASS, giving reasons for his marathon ride. In Africa, the traveler has gone through a few ordeals.

“It used to be frightening. I was hurled with stones, beaten by sticks and held at knifepoint,” Kharitonov said. “My guardian angel has shown what could happen but protected me.”

The biker spends nights either in his tent or at cheap hotels.

“But it is better when your compatriots give you shelter for a night,” he added. The traveler’s bike was “assembled by Russian masters from various parts particularly for his travels.”

The Russian Motorcycling Federation provides support to the adventurous biker. By plane, he is due to cross the Atlantic

for Argentina, where Cape Horn is his destination. Afterwards, Kharitonov will head to the central regions along the western coast and then to Alaska. After crossing the Bering Strait, the biker will ride home around Russia. In late August 2018, he plans to finish the travels covering a total of 150,000-170,000 kilometres for four years. “On 1 September, I will be taking my daughter to school for her first day,” he said.—Tass ■

MRTV

Programme Schedule
(2-4-2017, Tuesday)

6:00 Am	3:10 Pm
◆ Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw	◆ Real Sotry Real Movie
7:00 Am	3:45 Pm
◆ Breakfast News	◆ AFC CUP & Myanmar Club
7:35 Am	4:35 Pm
◆ Social Economic Scenes	◆ Football Magazine
8:35 Am	4:45 Pm
◆ Law Affairs	◆ AFC Cup 2017 Myanmar Club (LIVE Broadcast) (Yadanarbon Vs Than Quang Ninh)
9:10 Am	7:15 Pm
◆ Documentary	◆ TV Drama Series
9:35 Am	8:00 Pm
◆ MRTV Youths Programme	◆ News/International News/ Weather Report
10:30 Am	8:35 Pm
◆ Documentary	◆ Life Struggles
11:10 Am	8:50 Pm
◆ Teleplay	◆ Documentary
12:30 Pm	9:15 Pm
◆ TV Drama Series	◆ TV Drama Series
1:00 Pm	10:00Pm
◆ Radio Drama	◆ Unity Melody
2:10 Pm	
◆ Documentary	
2:25 Pm	
◆ TV Drama Series	

mitv

Myanmar International

Programme Schedule

(2-5-2017 07:00am ~ 3-5-2017 07:00am) MST

07:03	Am	News	(11:00 Am~03:00 Pm)-Monday Repeat(07:00Am~11:00 Am)
07:27	Am	Those Who Never Give Up (Ep-6)- In Pursuit of a dream	(03:00 Pm ~ 07:00 Pm) -Today Repeat (07:00 Am~ 11:00Am)
08:03	Am	News	
08:26	Am	Myanmar Martial Art (EP-1) (Bando)	
08:45	Am	Impressionist Myanmar Master - U Lun Gywe	
09:03	Am	News	
09:26	Am	The Strokes of Myanmar	
09:52	Am	Today Myanmar	
10:03	Am	News	
10:25	Am	Development Momentum of Sittway	
10:43	Am	The Beauty In The North of Myanmar	

Prime Time

07:03	Pm	News
07:27	Pm	A Day Out With Sarah (EP-5)
07:52	Pm	Soft Drinks without Vendor
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	Taste of Myanmar (Rice Salad with Vegetables)
08:45	Pm	Talking Shwe Thway (Children Journal)

(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)

Chelsea on course for the title as Spurs beat Arsenal

LONDON — Chelsea remain on course for the Premier League title after a 3-0 win at Everton left them four points clear of second-placed Tottenham Hotspur, who beat local rivals Arsenal 2-0 on Sunday.

Goals by Pedro, Gary Cahill and Willian gave Antonio Conte's Chelsea side a comfortable win in the end but the Spurs team they beat 4-2 in the FA Cup semi-final last weekend are showing remarkable resilience in the league.

In particular, Tottenham know they can rely for regular goals on England pair Harry Kane and Dele Alli, who have close to 50 between them this season with 27 and 21 respectively.

A cool finish from each — Kane's coming from the penalty spot after he had been fouled — was too much for Arsenal, whose chances of finishing in the top four to claim their usual Champions League place were badly diminished as a result.

Spurs, chasing their first English championship since 1961, can close the gap on the leaders to one point if they can win a third successive London derby away to West Ham United on Friday.

Victory over their greatest

rivals Arsenal to follow a late success at Crystal Palace in midweek means a 10th straight league win in a row would put pressure on Londoners Chelsea.

The leaders do not play until next Monday and, although Conte's side will

North London derby on the way back from Everton that Arsenal could not make a better fist of the game at White Hart Lane.

Draws for the two Manchester clubs earlier in the day should have given Arsenal added incentive but they were easily beaten and will finish below Spurs for the first time in 22 years.

United suffered another of the home draws that have blighted their first season under Jose Mourinho when re-

legation-threatened Swansea City salvaged a 1-1 draw, Gylfi Sigurdsson's fine free kick equalising a controversial Wayne Rooney penalty.

City, meanwhile, needed a late equaliser by Gabriel Jesus to earn a 2-2 draw at Middlesbrough. They were twice behind and missed a chance to go above Liverpool who can move a provisional three points clear of them with a win at Watford on Monday.

With what look like three winnable games after that, Liverpool could finish strongly, but it is only Tottenham who can prevent Chelsea's animated Italian coach Conte from taking the title in his first season of English football. —Reuters ■



PHOTO: REUTERS



Sulley Muntari of AC Milan. PHOTO: REUTERS

Muntari walks off pitch after card for complaining about racist chants

ROME — Pescara's Ghanaian midfielder Sulley Muntari abandoned the pitch on Sunday, saying he had been booked for complaining about racist chanting from the crowd during his team's 1-0 defeat at Cagliari in Serie A.

Muntari was shown the yellow card for dissent by referee Daniele Minelli in the 90th minute and walked off the pitch in protest during stoppage time, leaving his team to play the last few minutes with 10 men.

The 32-year-old told television reporters that a group of fans had been insulting him from the start of the match, including a group of children.

He said he offered the children his shirt to set an example but the insults continued in the second half.

"He told me I should not talk to the crowd. I asked him if had heard the insults. I insisted that he must have the courage to stop the game," Muntari said.

"The referee should not just stay on the field and blow the

whistle, he must do everything. He should be aware of these things and set an example," he added.

Italy has struggled to stop racist chanting in its stadiums and there have been a number of incidents over the years.

In one of the most serious in 2013, the AC Milan team abandoned the pitch during a friendly in the town of Busto Arsizio after home fans insulted midfielder Kevin-Prince Boateng.

Under guidelines introduced following that incident, the referee is supposed to alert the fourth official who should in turn report the incident to the public security department responsible for policing at games.

Pescara coach Zdenek Zeman said he sympathised with Muntari but said the player should not have walked off.

"Muntari has abandoned the pitch because of racist chants but we should not take justice into our own hands," he said.—Reuters ■

Yadanabon FC will play against Than Quan Thann FC today

As one of the last matches of 2017 AFC Cup competition, Yadanabon FC will compete against the Vietnamese club Than Quan Nhin FC at Mandalay Thiri Stadium in Mandalay tonight.

In their most recent match, Yadanabon FC drew Than Quan Nhin FC with a 1-1 result. Yadanabon FC lost their last game

and has not won their last two games of the AFC Cup Group H matches. Than Quan Nhin FC lost their last two games and have not won their last three games of the AFC Cup Group H matches. With only three competitors concluded in Group H, Yadanabon will fight for second place and also watch for the

results of other groups' teams. Tonight's game will be important for both teams since both are depending entirely on the match to step up to the semifinal.

The first-place teams from all groups and the best second place team will participate in the semifinal of the AFC Cup 2017. —Kyaw Zin Lin ■



Yadanabon players take their victory after the match. PHOTO: SOE NYUNT

Than Quang Ninh FC	Yadanarbon FC
LOST in last 2 AFC Cup Group H's games.	LOST in last 1 AFC Cup Group H's games.
NOT WON in last 3 AFC Cup Group H's games.	NOT WON in last 2 AFC Cup Group H's games.