

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Vol. IV, No. 49, 11th Waxing of Nayon 1379 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Monday, 5 June 2017



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is seen off by diplomats at the Yangon International Airport yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

State Counsellor departs for visits to Canada and Sweden

STATE COUNSELLOR Daw Aung San Suu Kyi left Yangon last night for official visits to Canada and Sweden at the invitation of Canadian Prime Minister Mr. Justin Trudeau and Swedish Parliament Speaker Mr. Urban Ahli.

The State Counsellor and party were seen off at the airport by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein,

Charge d'affaires of Canadian Embassy in Myanmar Mr. Loc Pham, Minister Counsellor of Swedish Embassy in Myanmar Mr. Johan Hallenbog and other officials.

The State Counsellor is accompanied on her trip by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin and Deputy Minister from the Office of the President U Min Thu and

other officials. During the official visits, the State Counsellor will discuss with officials from Canada and Sweden on the two countries' transition to a federal democracy system.

She will meet with Mr. Trudeau on 7 June. This is Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's first visit to Canada and Sweden as State Counsellor and Foreign Minister. The State Counsellor holds

honorary citizenship to Canada, which was presented to her in 2012 by John Baird, the Conservative foreign minister at the time, during a visit to Myanmar.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is scheduled to visit Canada from 5 June to 9 June, travelling to Toronto and Ottawa. She and her entourage will then depart for Sweden. —Myanmar News Agency ■



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Heavy rain floods roads, strong wind rips off roofs in Yangon

HEAVY rain inundated many parts of Yangon yesterday, causing flooding and snarling traffic, while strong winds caused damage to shops and houses in Hline Township.

There were also reports of uprooted trees and many falling branches in Hline Township.

The rain and wind started in the afternoon, causing some zinc roofs to be bent or ripped off from about 70 shops out of the 160 shops in the Yadanabon market at the corner of Kamayut station road and 11 Street, Ward 3, Hline Township, while some trees along 11th street were uprooted.

In ward 1 of the same township, two electric power poles fell down and water flowed into the compound of No. 24 Basic Education Primary School. In ward 5, near the old station, a three-foot wide, 25-foot tall tree fell across the railway tracks, temporarily stopping rail traffic.

"We didn't have time to run when there was sudden heavy rain with strong winds. Some fell

down as they walked, while some trees fell down. A couple of shops were totally destroyed. A lot of damage was caused as strong winds blew near the ground for about three minutes while three cars were damaged by falling trees", said U MyintOo, who lives on Station Road.

A police official said there were no reports of serious injuries.

"We went to help as soon as we heard the news. We informed the relevant authorities and worked together in clearing the debris. Some houses were damaged, but no one was hurt", said Padaukchaung police station Inspector Tin NaingZaw.

The heavy rain flooded parts of some townships and the strong wind felled trees across the Yangon region. Roofs of some of the buildings in the staff quarter compound of National Rehabilitation Hospital on Mindhamma Road, Ward 6, Mayangon Township were damaged and trees along Shwehintha Road, Ward 11, in Hline Township had

broken branches or were uprooted. A landslide occurred along a 20-foot long, seven-foot high wall on Bagaya Road, Kyuntaw South Ward in Sanchaung township, according to an announcement from the Yangon Region Police Force.

The underground car park of Dagon Center 1 in Mayaynigon, Sanchaung Township became submerged. Members of the West District Fire Brigade, the township fire brigade, SanchaungMyoma police station personnel and four fire engines were helping to pump out the water, it is learnt.

West Shwegonedine Road in Bahan Township also became flooded, causing traffic jams. BahanMyoma police station personnel and traffic police were seen clearing up the snarled traffic. In townships where such occurrences happen regularly, police personnel, officials of the respective townships and local residents worked together to resolve the issues.—ZawGyi (Panita) Photo: Myanma Alinn



Man arrested on suspicion of attending terrorist training

SECURITY forces arrested a man on suspicion of attending a terrorist training in Buthidaung Township on Friday.

Murmud Eisalam from Rhatt Chaung Village was ar-

rested in his house by the security police.

The suspect is under legal proceedings and further investigation is ongoing.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Two suspects arrested in Maungta and Minbya

THE security forces arrested two suspects on 3 June in Maungta and Minbya townships.

While they were taking regular inspection, the security forces arrested Mohamad Alaung of Taungpyo Yar village who was found illegally entering into Myanmar between 33 and 34 border posts in Maungta Township on 3 June at about 5:00 pm.

Similarly, while stopping and inspecting vehicles on the Yangon- Sittway road in Minbya Township, three motorbikes fled, but Martarme in Lattawye village was caught with motorbike. Under interrogation, Martarme admitted that he and the other two: one is from the same village and an unknown driver left the village to go to other country via Yangon. — Myanmar News Agency ■

K1billion worth of illegal drugs discovered in overturned vehicle in Inndaw Township

AUTHORITIES seized illegal drugs yesterday worth more than K1 billion from an overturned vehicle in Inndaw Township, Sagaing Region.

The Toyota Surf Van driven by Soe Myint Tun Aung was found overturned shortly after its passengers ran away to escape from the police who had stopped the vehicle. The driver was arrested at the scene.

Police found the drugs in the car three miles and four furlongs away from Pinlewe Village. Inside the doors and fuel tank of the car were heroin and stimulants packed in plastic bags. The two passengers in the car who eluded police are being sought.—Mg Chit Lin(Inndaw) ■



Soe Myint Tun. PHOTO: MG CHIT LIN(INNDAW)

Maungtaw holds art competitions for Anti-Drug Day

ART competitions commemorating the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking were held in Maungtaw No. 1 Basic Education High School yesterday with students from Maungtaw and Buthidaung townships competing.

Maung Than Htay Hlaing, a 10th grader at No. 1 Basic Education High School in Maungtaw, said education and information on the danger of drugs is important because drug usage is rising and becoming a big threat to youths in the region.

The art competition was held using mottos and slogans such as “Resist the danger of drug to prevent destruction of

human world”, “A drug-free country develops and grows”, “Resist drugs and raise the honour of the people through sports”, “A healthy and durable human world eliminates drugs” and “Help and assist drug addicts while acting against dealers for the country”.

Entries for the competition included cartoons, posters and computer drawings.

Police Captain Maung Maung Yin of Anti-narcotics Task Force No. 46 said educational events were held in the Maungtaw district annually to educate students about the danger of drugs.

The art, cartoon, poster and

computer drawing competitions were held to commemorate in advance the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking that falls on 26 June. Informative and educational talks about the danger of drugs will also be carried out in schools and wards, added the police captain.

It is learnt from the Maungtaw district education office that 16 students from basic education high schools, middle schools and post primary schools in Maungtaw and Buthidaung townships competed in the art, cartoon, poster and computer drawing competitions.— Min Thit (MNA) and Aung Kyaw Sein (IPRD)■



One of sixteen contestant participate in the painting competition.
PHOTO: YE HTUT



Prize winning student accepting award at the Children's Literature Festival in Taunggyi. **PHOTO: AUNG MIN HAN**

Children's literature festival in Taunggyi concludes

THE closing ceremony of the Children's Literature Festival and Book Sales event co-sponsored by the Ministry of Information, the Ministry of Education and the Shan State Government was held yesterday afternoon at Taunggyi University in Shan State. At the event, Information and Public Relations Department Director General U Maung Pe thanked the organisers of the event.

Officials presented awards and commemorative gifts to prize-winning students of the events and contests in the festival. There were eight winners each in the mid-level general debate, the pre-junior level storytelling contest, mid-level painting contest, mid-level paper folding contest, post primary-level story telling contest, pre-primary-level poem recitation contest, primary-level painting contest, primary-level paper folding contest and

primary-level poem recitation contest.

Officials also presented documents of honour to contest judges, artists, cartoonists and members of organisations that participated and assisted in the festival, including the Myanmar Library Foundation, Shan State Advocate, Shan State Auditor, Taunggyi University, Technological University, Computer University, Shan State Police Force, basic education schools, health department, municipal, department of natural resources and environment, road transport administration, department of rural development, Myanmar Fire Department, Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association, Tharapa Library, Thabye Children's Education and Health Support Group, Save The Library, Shanti Volunteer Association,

Free Funeral Services Society (Yangon), Face Colouring Group, Space and Universe Showroom, Kanbawza Youth Library, Kanbawza Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation, Naungtaung Welfare Monasteries of Hopong Township, private schools in Taunggyi, Kanbawa Education Yeiktha, private schools in Aungban, Pyinn-ya Pan Taing private high school, Premier Coffee, U Book Education Co., Galety Co. Mo Asia Co. United Parmaceutical Co., Cherry FM, Phyu Sin Co., Brain Works, Mega Myanmar Energy, Hepta Mix Creative Marketing Service and groups who helped and assisted the visitors.

The event was successfully concluded with the presence of the Shan State Chief Minister Dr. Linn Htut, state government members, ministers and departmental officials.— Aung Min Han ■

Japan NPO hopes to host screens films for children in Myanmar

A nonprofit organization in Japan is aiming to give children in developing countries a chance to enjoy films by hosting screenings in places where seeing them is a rare opportunity. The Tokyo-based organization, World Theater Project, started showing films at schools in Cambodia in 2012 hoping children will expand their horizons by viewing them.

Tatsuki Kimbara, a 29-year-old company employee, joined the group's Osaka branch office in 2016 and has held events to raise donations for the project.

The NPO has hosted about 320 screenings across Cambodia by bringing its own equipment such as generators and projectors, Kimbara said, adding it hopes to host such screenings also in Myanmar and other developing countries.

When the crew visited a farming village about five hours by car from Cambodia's capital Phnom Penh, they showed an animation by the late cartoonist Takashi Yanase about a boy raised in a forest who becomes a musician.

Children who gathered in a classroom leaned forward to concentrate on the film dubbed in Khmer. One of them was quoted as saying, “I want to be like the main character (of the film).”

The NPO currently has the rights to screen four films, including an animation with the

main character modeled after Japanese soccer player Yuto Nagatomo.

Increasing the number of films for showing requires the purchase of screening rights from distributing agencies and creating a dubbed version of each film. In addition to the expenses in Cambodia, the cost of one screening exceeds 100,000 yen (\$900), Kimbara said, adding that all the costs are covered by donations by members and companies who support the cause.

Kimbara, who traveled to Cambodia when he was a student at Kanazawa University, opened a branch of the organization in Kanazawa on the Sea of Japan coast after he recently switched jobs and moved to Ishikawa Prefecture. To cover the costs of the project, Kimbara is set to host events such as re-creating and tasting meals that come up in the animated film “Castle in the Sky” and other works by Studio Ghibli Inc. He is also considering having talk shows by people in the film industry.

“I want to bring smiles to children in developing nations through our support from the Hokuriku (Sea of Japan coast) region,” Kimbara said. Individual donations start as small as 300 yen a month. “I'd like people to know they can treat a child to a movie with just a 100 yen donation,” he said.—Kyodo News ■

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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.

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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.

New sluice gate installed over Barla Creek

A NEW sluice gate to control the flow of water has successfully been built by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation over Barla Creek, located on the outskirts of Yangon.

Barla Creek flows from the eastern part of Hmaw-by Township to Mingaladon and Hlegu townships. The old Barla Creek is about 19 miles in length and the new Barla Creek is about 5.6 miles long. The old and new creeks meet near Barla Village and continue to flow into the Nga-moeyeik Creek through the Hsinphone sluice gate near Shwepaukkan Myothit.

Villages around the creek and Yangon-Mandalay Road experience flooding every year during the rainy season.

There are a total of 11 bridges over the Barla Creek. A sluice gate had already



Photo shows a bird's eye view of newly constructed sluice gate over Barla Creek. **PHOTO: SOE WIN (MLA)**

been constructed over the creek, but it was not able to reduce the increasing amount of water caused by heavy rain and high tides. This prompted the water authority to build a new gate to

help control the flow of water and prevent flooding.

Upon completion of the project, the new 8-ft wide, 8-ft high sluice gate has helped reduce the amount of water from the

creek after heavy rains caused by the storm on the last four consecutive days in May.

The construction of the gate was initiated in January and concluded in late April.—Soe Win

Numbers of patients with cirrhosis increasing

THE number of patients with cirrhosis have increased year on year in Mandalay, one of largest cities in the country, according to U Min Lwin, assistant director of Medical Social Work Department, Mandalay General Hospital.

Cirrhosis is a serious disease of the liver caused by alcohol abuse, chronic hepatitis diseases and fatty liver disease, which is often seen in people with obesity or diabetes.

According to the yearly hospital-based statistics, the number of people suffering from cirrhosis was 1,198 in 2013, 1,536 in 2014 and 1,802 in 2015. The figures went up to about 2,000 in 2016.

“We have seen growing numbers of patients with cirrhosis within the past four years. The major cause of the problem is drinking too much alcohol,” said U Min Lwin, who urges people to reduce alcohol

consumption to improve their health. Hospital statistics show that congenital heart disease is the second most common disease at the hospital after cirrhosis. The numbers of people with congenital heart disease were 1,792 in 2016, an increase of over 800 compared with 2015. However, the cases relating to accidental injuries have significantly decreased each year.—Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House) ■

Ballooning services to be launched this month in Yangon

MINGALAPAR balloon services will be launched in the third week of this month in Yangon to allow visitors an aerial view of Yangon City, said a spokesperson of Inbloom Travel and Tour Co.

Visitors may enjoy the bird's eye view of the city's landmark structures by riding balloon at a site situated near the entrance of Kandawgyi Natural Park opposite of Yangon's Zoological Garden.

The helium balloons will go up to 400 feet from the ground and fly over the park for around 15 minutes. Visitors can take photographs and view the beautiful landscape of the city from the hot-air balloon, which can hold a maximum of 20 persons in a basket. Tickets will be sold beginning after 15 June. The fees is Ks10,000 per adult, Ks5,000 per child and 28 US dollars per foreign visitor.—200 ■

Correction

Please read “Union Peace Conference — 21st Century Panglong (Second Session)” in the last paragraph of the opinion entitled “Never Be Reluctant to Return Something Similar to What We Get” in the 4th July-2017 Issue of the Global New Light of Myanmar.—Ed

Water quality of Inle Lake to be examined

THE Forest Research Institute said it is working to examine the quality of water in Inle Lake, the famous freshwater lake in Nyaungshwe Township, Shan State, for a period of one year.

The research programme is part of a US\$3.4 million project financed by the Norwegian government. The water samples collected from the lake will be examined at the state-owned laboratory installed at Yezin Agricultural University. Since last October, essential laboratory

equipment has been installed at the lab, which was built with the use of funds provided by the Norwegian Institute for Water Research.

Inle Lake, one of the country's top tourist attractions, has been suffering from environmental problems including drought, deforestation and pollution for years. Forest coverage near the lake has decreased to 120.14 square miles. The decrease in the forest coverage is linked to the development of

agribusiness.

Inle and the surrounding regions in Shan State are proving to be extremely popular tourist destinations for foreigners in the wet season, tour operators say.

According to statistics of the Shan State Hotels and Tourism Department, the number of foreign travellers to the Inle region increased by around 30,000 in the first quarter of this year compared to the same period last year.—200 ■

Natural gas export earnings decrease by over US\$35million

NATURAL gas export earnings as of the end of May this FY hit over US\$230million, a decrease of over US\$35 million from the same point last year, according to the Commerce Ministry.

Natural gas exports accounted for 45 per cent of the country's total export earnings, followed by the garment sector with 17 per cent.

The natural gas extracted from the Shwe natural gas field discovered offshore in Rakhine in 2014 is exported to China.

The Yadana natural gas project is conducted by the Total Company with its pipeline to Thailand. According to 2014 statistics, the daily production from the Yadana natural gas field totalled 910 million cubic feet per day, over 700 million cubic feet of which went to Thailand. As the gas field matures and production declines, about 800 million cubic feet are currently produced a day, it is learnt.

Yedagon gas field in Taninthayi offshore was discovered in 1992, and extraction of the gas began in 2000. About 330 million cubic feet were exported daily to Thailand.

There is no local consumption from this gas field. Located in the Gulf of Moattama, the gas from Zawtika Project started to export gas in 2014 to



Offshore gas field in Myanmar developed by Daewoo International Corp. **FILE PHOTO: DAEWOO INTERNATIONAL CORP**

neighbouring Thailand, with its production of 279 million cubic feet for use by Thailand and 64 million cubic feet for local consumption.

The export of natural gas and crude oil was recently battered by the low price.

The country's export sector is depending more on the agriculture and industrial products of small and medium-sized enterprises, while lessening its reliance on natural resources

such as natural gas and jade, it is learnt.

The oil and gas sector ranked first in foreign investment sectors with overall investments of US\$22.41 billion in 154 projects as of 30th April, followed by the power, transportation and communications and manufacturing sectors, according to the statistics of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA). —Mon Mon ■

CHDB sees 16,000 housing savings holders

More than 16,000 people have already opened housing saving accounts at the Construction and Housing Department (CHDB) in an attempt to purchase the low-cost apartments developed by the Rural and Housing Development Department under the Construction Ministry.

Those who want to buy those apartments under an installment plan linked with CHDB have to open a Housing Savings account with an initial deposit of Ks10,000. Those who deposit 30 per cent of an apartment's value and have regular income which allows

them to afford to make monthly payments are entitled to apply for a mortgage at CHDB. The CHDB has so far lent money for more than 600 people. They can purchase a low-cost housing unit in Shwelinpan, Yuzana, Kanaung housing from Dagon Seikkan Township and Myayinanda from Mandalay. A unit of these apartments is worth around Ks10million. The CHDB extended the duration of mortgage payments from 8 to 10 years in a bid to help low-income people own a house under a long-term mortgage plan. —Ko Htet ■

Mung bean price on downward trend

The prevailing prices of mung bean and pigeon peas continue to decline, with about Ks900,000 for mung bean and Ks640,000 for pigeon peas per tonne, respectively.

The mung bean price hit a record high of Ks2.6million per tonne in 2015, whereas pigeon peas fetched up to Ks1.7million a tonne. The price has gradually declined since then, down by about Ks1.7million for a tonne of mung bean and by about Ks1.1million for a tonne of pigeon peas.

India is the main buyer of

Myanmar's mung bean and pigeon pea. Its demand accounted for 70 per cent of various peas export. Therefore, the price is positively related to its demand. Green grams are exported to China, Viet Nam and European Union countries.

The peas are mostly cultivated in Sagaing and Magway regions. A total of 1.43 million tonnes of various peas were exported in fiscal year 2016-2017, according to the Commerce Ministry.

—Zuzan ■

200,000 coffee acres by 2030, agriculture ministry projects

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation hopes to increase coffee acreage to 200,000 and export 60,000 tonnes by 2030.

The country needs to lay down concrete policies to boost coffee production, experts say. Additionally, establishing of public-private partnerships, gaining access to long-term loan plans, and cooperation with foreign and local organisations are absolute musts for enhancing of Myanmar's coffee sector, officials said.

ials said.

Myanmar's coffee has become precious crop among Myanmar agricultural products. A tonne of Myanmar's coffee fetches over Ks3million.

Ywangan coffee is officially recognised by the Specialty Coffee Association of America (SCAA). Currently, there are about 50,000 acres of coffee farms, producing about 7,000 tonnes.

Myanmar's Arabica coffee is exported to Switzer-

land, China (Taipei), China, Thailand, America, South Korea, Japan, Germany, etc. High-quality coffee exported to America fetched about US\$7,000 per tonne, whereas the export price of fair quality coffee to China (Taipei) is about US\$3,800 per tonne.

Concerted efforts have been exerted for Ywangan coffee to attain Geographical Indication (GI) as proof of its Ywangan origin since 2015, it is learnt. —Htet Myat ■

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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**



US Secretary of Defense James Mattis (5th L) poses for a picture with ASEAN defence leaders after a meeting on the sidelines of the 16th IISS Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore on 4 June, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

SE Asian nations step up cooperation as Islamic State threat

SINGAPORE — Southeast Asian nations plan to use spy planes and drones to stem the movement of militants across their porous borders, defence officials said at the weekend, as concerns rise over the growing clout of Islamic State in the region.

Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines said they will launch joint air patrols this month at their shared boundaries in the Sulu Sea, in addition to existing maritime patrols.

Authorities in the region have urged greater cooperation to counter the fallout from a raging battle with Islamic State-linked militants in the southern Philippines, the biggest warning yet that the ultra-radical group is building a base in Southeast Asia.

“Our open borders are being exploited by terrorist groups to facilitate personnel and material,” Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) told

the Shangri-La Dialogue, an annual regional security forum in Singapore.

The region is home to 600 million people and includes Indonesia, which has the world’s highest number of Muslims. Authorities in both Indonesia and Malaysia, also Muslim-majority, have said thousands of their citizens are sympathisers of Islamic State and hundreds are believed to have travelled to Syria to join the extremist group.

Indonesian authorities blamed Islamic State for bombings last month that killed three police officers, the latest in a series of low-level attacks by the militants in the last 17 months.

In recent months, dozens of fighters from Indonesia and Malaysia have crossed from their countries to Mindanao in the southern Philippines, intelligence officials have said, easily passing through waters that have often been lawless and plagued

by pirates. Mindanao is the one region in the largely Catholic Philippines to have a significant Muslim minority. ASEAN made a joint pledge with the United States on the sidelines of the Shangri-La forum to help the Philippines overcome the militant assault in the city of Marawi.

“What featured quite strongly in the US-ASEAN meeting was the pledge by both US and ASEAN members that we stand ready to help the Philippines...whether it’s information, intelligence or otherwise,” said Singaporean Defence Minister Ng Eng Hen.

Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, with the assistance of neighbouring Singapore, have carried out joint maritime patrols in the Sulu Sea since last year after a series of kidnappings by the pro-Islamic State Abu Sayyaf group.

“We decided at least these three countries, to avoid being accused of doing nothing...We’re

doing joint maritime and air patrols,” said Malaysian Defence Minister Hishammuddin Hussein, adding that the air patrols will be launched on 19 June.

“If we do nothing, they get a foothold in this region.”

Indonesian Defence Minister Ryamizard Ryacudu told Reuters his country will consider deploying drones and surveillance planes at its borders with the Philippines. The measures come amid concerns that fighters may try to escape the military offensive in the Philippines, and flee to neighbouring countries.

“We believe the elements involved in the Marawi clashes may try to escape through the southern Philippines and head either for Malaysian or Indonesian waters,” said Malaysia’s counter-terrorism police chief, Ayob Khan Mydin Pitchay.

“This is one of their only ways out.”

Among other measures,

Singaporean and Malaysian officials said monitoring and intelligence-sharing on specific individuals had been stepped up in the wake of the fighting in Marawi.

Singapore’s Home Affairs Minister K Shanmugam on Sunday urged residents of the wealthy city-state to report friends or family suspected of being radicalised, according to local media. Security experts have warned that Southeast Asian countries are vulnerable to the spread of Islamic State as it suffers setbacks in Syria and Iraq. “We’re seeing that, as Islamic State is losing ground on the battlegrounds of the Middle East, they’re pushing their franchise overseas as energetically as they can,” said Nigel Inkster of London’s International Institute for Strategic Studies. “We’re seeing this in the southern Philippines but there are other countries in Southeast Asia, particularly Indonesia, that are at risk.”

—Reuters ■

Commune local elections begin throughout Cambodia

PHNOM PENH — Local communal elections, a bellwether test for next year’s national elections, began on Sunday morning as millions of Cambodians started to cast their ballots nationwide.

Hang Puthea, a National Election Committee spokesman, said all 22,148 polling stations nationwide would be open from 7 am to 3 pm on Sunday, with preliminary results to be announced the same day.

Twelve political parties are running for seats in the 1,646 commune chief elections, in which communes, or clusters of villages, elect a council of five to 11 members every five years. Hang Puthea said 7.8 million Cambodians have registered to vote on Sunday, down from 9.2 million in 2012.

In the last commune elections in 2012, the ruling Cambodian People’s Party led by Prime Minister Hun Sen won 1,592 of

the 1,633 commune chief positions up for grabs, while the now defunct opposition Sam Rainsy Party won 22, the Human Rights Party 18, and the royalist FUNCINPEC party one. Of the 12 parties contesting this year’s local elections, many believe that only the Hun Sen-led CPP and the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party will win seats.

The results are expected to impact next year’s general election. — Kyodo News ■



Cambodia’s Prime Minister and president of Cambodian People’s Party (CPP) Hun Sen casts his vote during local elections in Kandal province, Cambodia on 4 June, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

China calls for diplomatic efforts to solve nuclear crisis on Korean Peninsula

SINGAPORE — The relevant parties at the 16th Shangri-La Dialogue, particularly China, here on Sunday urged the adoption of diplomatic means instead of military or economic punishment to finally solve the nuclear threat on the Korean Peninsula.

The crux of the nuclear crisis is Washington and Pyongyang's mistrust to each other, pointed out He Lei, head of the Chinese delegation to the dialogue who also serves as vice president of the Academy of Military Science of the People's Liberation Army of China (PLA).

The United States should become more open-minded and exert more wisdom in dealing with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), he suggested.

According to Koh Chin-ye, CEO of the Singapore-based Longus Institute for Development and Strategy, the two adversaries continuously increase their chips to intimidate each other before finally threading on each other's bottom lines.

At the invitation of the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) that initiated the event, US Secretary of Defence James Mattis



China's People's Liberation Army Vice President of Academy of Military Science, He Lei, and his delegation leave a bilateral meeting with Japan on sidelines of the 16th IISS Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore on 4 June, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

delivered a speech on Saturday, saying that Pyongyang constituted the most urgent and dangerous threat to the region.

The Trump administration has made it clear on several recent occasions that the United States is losing "strategic patience" and all options are on the table, indicating that the large-

est military power in the world might resort to the use of force in dealing with his long-time rival. America's recent military attacks on Syria and Afghanistan were interpreted as a strong warning against the disobedient Asian country.

It's better for the concerned parties to argue at the negotia-

tion table than to cross fire at the battlefield, suggested Zhao Xiaozhuo, an attendee and research fellow from the Academy of Military Science of the PLA.

The use of force could terminate one problem for the time being, but it would generate 10 more problems, he warned.

In addition to military

means, Mattis pledged in his speech to continue to increase diplomatic and economic pressures, until Pyongyang finally and permanently abandons its nuclear and ballistic missile programs.

Putting economic pressures on Pyongyang, according to the Asia-Pacific Regional Security Assessment 2017 published by IISS ahead of the security forum, is largely ineffective.

What's worse, the chance looks remote for Washington and Pyongyang to sit down to talk. An arduous task it surely would be, but if one side takes concrete steps toward that direction, there is always room for diplomacy.

The only way out of the nuclear mire lies in the endeavor in the field of diplomacy, as China has always advocated. China firmly supports a denuclearized and peaceful peninsula, and has all along called upon the relevant sides to return to the negotiation table, according to the Chinese delegation.

The three-day Shangri-La Dialogue organized by the IISS gathered senior military officials, diplomats and experts from over 30 countries.—Xinhua ■

Japan, Malaysia defence chiefs agree to work closely on N Korea

SINGAPORE — The defence ministers of Japan and Malaysia agreed on Sunday their countries will work closely to ease tensions over North Korea and in regional waters based on international law.

An official traveling with Japanese Defence Minister Tomomi Inada said she and her Malaysian counterpart Hishammuddin Hussein agreed on the importance of the international community ramping up pressure on North Korea to stop it from threatening regional security.

After the meeting in Singapore on the sidelines of Asia's annual premier security forum, known as the Shangri-La Dialogue, Inada told reporters that she had expressed concerns over North Korea's nuclear arms programme and the situation in the South China Sea, and both sides agreed to enhance defense cooperation.

The Japanese official did not say whether Hishammuddin raised the issue of the murder of the estranged half-brother of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un at Kuala Lumpur international airport in mid-February.

The previous day in a speech at the forum, Hishammuddin warned no country is immune to the risks posed by North Korea.

"No one, certainly not Malaysians, could have foreseen that we would be directly impacted" by North Korea, Hishammuddin said. "The cruel assassination of Kim Jong Nam...reminds us Malaysians again that we were not insulated from the world and its troubles."

Malaysian police have said the 45-year-old half-brother died on 13 February after two women smeared the extremely toxic nerve agent VX on his face at the airport's budget airlines terminal.—Kyodo News ■

North Korea says rejects new sanctions, to continue nuclear programme

SEOUL — North Korea "fully rejects" the latest UN sanctions against its citizens and entities as a "hostile act" and will continue its nuclear weapons development without a delay, its foreign ministry spokesman said on Sunday.

The UN Security Council on Friday expanded targeted sanctions against North Korea after its repeated missile tests, adopting the first such resolution agreed by the United States and Pyongyang's only major ally China since US President Donald Trump took office.

The sanctions resolution "is a crafty hostile act with the purpose of putting a curb on the DPRK's buildup of nuclear forces, disarming it and causing economic suffocation to it," the foreign ministry spokesman said in a statement carried by its official KCNA news agency. DPRK is short for Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the North's official name.

"Whatever sanctions and pressure may follow, we will not

flinch from the road to build up nuclear forces which was chosen to defend the sovereignty of the country and the rights to national existence and will move forward towards the final victory," the spokesman said.

North Korea has rejected all UN Security Council resolutions dating back to 2006 when it conducted its first nuclear test, saying such moves directly infringe its sovereign right to self-defence.

The United States has struggled to slow North Korea's nuclear and missile programmes, which have become a security priority given Pyongyang's vow to develop a nuclear-tipped missile capable of hitting the US mainland.

The Trump administration has been pressing China aggressively to rein in its reclusive neighbor, warning that all options are on the table if Pyongyang persists with its nuclear and missile development. North Korea blamed the United States and China for "railroading and en-

forcing" the sanctions resolution at the UN Security Council "after having drafted it in the backroom at their own pleasure."

"It is a fatal miscalculation if the countries ... would even think that they can delay or hold in check the eye-opening development of the (North's) nuclear forces even for a moment," the spokesman said.

Adding names to the UN blacklist mean a global travel ban and asset freeze, making the listings more symbolic given the isolated nature of official North Korean entities and the sophisticated network of front companies used by Pyongyang to evade current sanctions.

The UN Security Council first imposed sanctions on Pyongyang in 2006 over its ballistic missile and nuclear programs and has ratcheted up the measures in response to five nuclear tests and two long-range missile launches. North Korea is threatening a sixth nuclear test.—Reuters ■

Preparedness key to mitigating effects of natural disasters

Aye Min Soe

WITH no casualties reported and quick repairs to many damaged buildings in the disaster caused by Cyclone Mora, Myanmar has seen the positive results of its disaster preparedness.

The government is taking a leading role in disaster preparedness and response to natural disasters, while engaging with philanthropic organisations and the humanitarian community to help the country deal with the inevitable challenges of weather and acts of nature.

This preparation is all the more important with the upcoming monsoon season, which usually brings with it natural disasters such as floods and landslides.

Myanmar ranked 42nd out of

171 countries in the world that are most at risk to natural disasters and ranked 15th highest in the world for a lack of readiness in responding to natural disasters.

The time and circumstances demand our unity and readiness to resist and respond to natural disasters.

Combined with global warming, the evil effects of natural disasters related to climate change are threatening the safety of our planet.

The consequences of climate change cannot be avoided, but the Union government has already demonstrated that disaster preparedness and rapid response can save lives and make a huge difference.

The new government is working on natural disaster response preparation that includes the strengthen-

ing of roads and bridges, improving communications and increasing the usage of electric power, prioritising resources for natural disaster preparedness and working on the additional construction of emergency shelters in places where they're most needed.

The government is planning to further strengthen its disaster response systems in the wake of Cyclone Mora, which killed scores of people in neighbouring Bangladesh and left thousands homeless in both nations.

No deaths were reported in Myanmar, although many homes, schools and government buildings were damaged by the cyclone with winds up to 135 kph (85 mph).

An issue on the Agreement on Cooperation in Natural Disaster Ear-

ly Warning and Mitigation between ASEAN and the Russian Federation was debated at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw recently.

Dr. Win Myat Aye, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, seconded the motion that the agreement would enable Myanmar to respond more effectively to natural disasters in future.

Public awareness and participation plays a vital role in lessening the losses and damage caused by natural disasters.

The government needs support to uphold its duty to the people in the country, and it is important for the organisations and community to know that their work and support is not only vital, but also in keeping with humanitarian ideals. ■

Maintaining Longevity is possible, but Mortality is inevitable

Tommy Pauk

ALL living things are mortal. It is inevitable that we humans must die one day but the way of individual death is different e.g. sudden demise by accidents such as car crash, plane crashes and boat-sink, natural calamity, bomb blasts planted by terrorist, incurable diseases, modern pandemic disease and so on. These fatal accidents end their lives tragically. Some people commit suicide to end their life for specific reasons. Nobody wants to encounter tragic end of life indeed. Human life is so fragile that we maintain and protect our lives to be longer life-expectancy cautiously. However, no one can predict their destiny or expiry-date-of-life exactly. Moreover, time is consuming our life span fast. A person's destiny decides to end his or her life. We humans wish to have the blessing of longevity. The teen-agers, adolescents, adults and elderly people are doing regular physical exercises and having a balanced diet in order to keep fit or maintain longevity. They practice for their personal well-being. Daily food-intake is important and food must be hygienic and free from chemical dye and chemical fertilizer in it. Otherwise, people will be unhealthy and their life expectancy will be shorter. Thus humans are struggling for survival and longevity. Normally, we humans know our date of birth, but we do not know our date of death.

Naturally, the ageing people are more likely to reach death than the young people. The health and

physical constitution of the ageing people are deteriorating. They are prone to get any infection easily. They are just like overripe fruits in the tree which are about to fall on to the ground. Nevertheless, life, death and decay are natural processes for living things. Everybody is afraid of death, but nobody can overcome or escape from death. Death does not favor anybody irrespective of human social classes. While we are alive, we should live in our life humanely and naturally. We ought not to act against nature or destroy the natural environment of Mother Earth. When we die, our body will gradually rot and decay. Our lifeless remains will turn to refuse in the environment of the bereaved family. Some persons are as useless as rubbish even though they are alive. They are being useless for human society because they are good-for-nothing persons and never do good to humanity as well as community. Their body may be healthy, but they have negative mindsets towards the social welfare and charitable work. It is imperative for everyone to be healthy, wealthy and useful for all mankind while they are alive. We must try to be healthy persons with good-tempered mindset in dealing with fellow human beings in human society. We should eat not only wholesome food but also treat others nicely. Both body and mind must be healthy so that we can enjoy real happiness in life. Jealousy, animosity, inordinate greed, anger, extreme lust, hostility and unjust earning lead a miserable existence as they are considered evil-temper-

ament. We must calm down or tame such evil-temperament in our life to attain personal well being, peace of mind and happiness.

If a person is unsociable and supercilious, he or she will be certainly ostracized by the generous persons. Unless a person does anything good for his or her society decently and honestly in a long life, he or she will be considered a useless or undignified person. No matter they are young or old, the boastful and conceited persons are disgusted by decent and simple persons. Although some persons are already in old age, they do not realize the impermanence of life or nada (Spanish word) and practice narcissism stupidly. Actually we are passing through our life-span to the destination known as death. We do not want to die and we want to be immortal. Gradually, we realize that there is no everlasting life on earth. All living things are impermanent. Of course that is a Universal truth!

Even if we could live in longevity, we will inevitably encounter death one day. Healthy Food, peaceful lifestyle, un-spoilt natural environment, fresh air and clean water make a person gain longevity. The oldest people or centenarians are found in the rural areas in the world. They eat moderate amount of healthy food or organic food and drink clean water. Mostly, they have worked on farm as farmers in the lush green countryside. Besides, they are contented, good tempered, honest and simple. Most of them are free from stressful life. Their minds are serene and

calm and their dresses or clothes are adaptable to the climate and environment. Since their habitat is in nature or in rural areas, they are lucky to get chance to breathe fresh air every day. Fresh fruits, green vegetables and vegetations are available to be eaten. Air pollution cannot occur in those areas as there are no greenhouse effects and gas emissions. Unfortunately, the people from modern big cities encounter air pollution more or less. They want to enjoy longer life expectancy by creating healthy life style and doing exercises. The urbanites try hard to maintain longevity due to concrete wood or concrete jungle in which they survive. The advantage of living in the metropolitan districts or regions is that modern health care service is available at all time. The urbanites can get access to advanced western medical services easily. They can have medical check-up and treatment for illness. This action is one of the ways for maintaining health and longevity. They also can learn the practice of how-to-keep-personal-well-being from the competent medical doctors. The doctors' advice is very helpful for the people to practice right way to achieve good health indeed.

Everyone is obliged to struggle for survival and well-being during the unknown permitted life-span on earth. Anyway, human life is so precious and superior than any other living things on this beautiful and magnificent planet. Wishing everyone a long long live life with happiness!!! ■

Chinese submersible Jiaolong dives in Yap Trench

ABOARD SHIP XIANGYANG-HONG — On Sunday, China's manned submersible Jiaolong conducted its first dive in the Yap Trench of the year.

Jiaolong began diving at 8:43 am local time on a rainy day, reaching a depth of 4,177 metres.

Jiaolong was not afraid of the bad weather, but the rain did make it a bit more difficult for the dive, said Wang Xiangxin, a staff member on board.

"We cannot hear each other clearly due to the rain, so we have to be extra careful during the operation," Wang told Xinhua.

There will be five dives for Jiaolong in the Yap Trench, and the last dive is planned for 12 June.

The dives will focus on research in deep-sea biotic communities and gene resources, according to scientists on the ship. Jiaolong completed a series of dives in the Mariana Trench on 1 June and was transferred aboard Xiangyanghong to the Yap Trench afterward.

The Mariana and Yap trenches are located in the west Pacific Ocean. The Yap Trench has a depth of 8,527 metres, and the Mariana Trench, the deepest known point of Earth's oceans, has a depth of 11,034 metres. —Xinhua ■

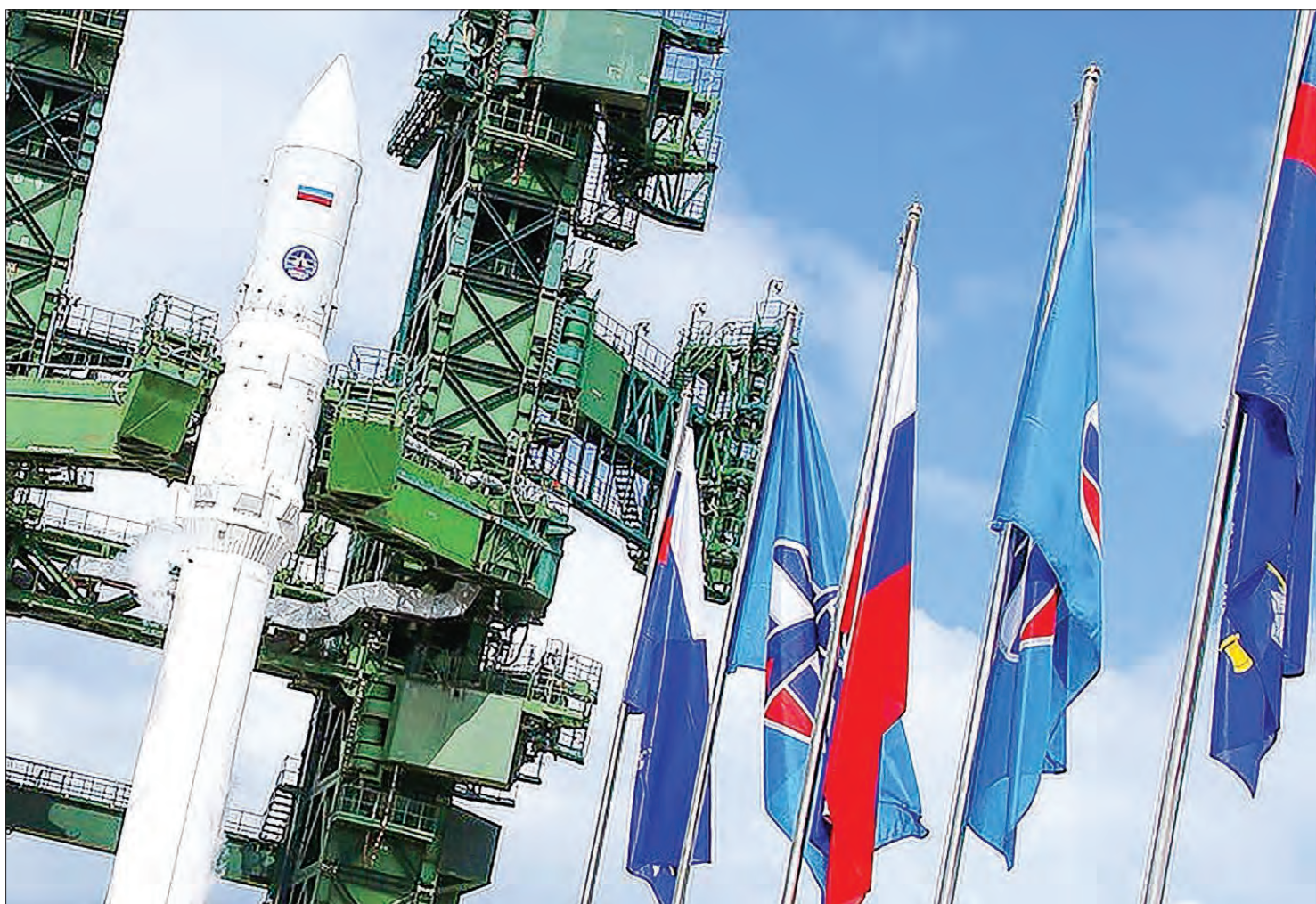


PHOTO: TASS

Vostochny space centre to get launch pad for super-heavy rocket before 2030

ST PETERSBURG — Russian space agency Roscosmos plans to build a launch pad for a super-heavy rocket at the Far Eastern Vostochny space center before 2030, Roscosmos chief Igor Komarov said.

According to previous plans, Roscosmos was to build a super-heavy rocket launch pad after 2030. The launch of a Soyuz-5

rocket from the Vostochny space center was scheduled for 2034, and a super-heavy rocket was expected to take off a year later.

"Considering that Soyuz-5 will be the first stage for a super-heavy rocket to deliver our payloads and conduct missions to the moon and Mars, we are now tackling this issue according to a schedule different that

the one earlier mentioned in the (Roscosmos) strategy, he told reporters.

"We will speed up the process as soon as possible," he said. "This is the task that had been put before us."

The construction of the Vostochny space center in the Amur region began in 2010. A Soyuz-2.1a rocket was success-

fully launched from Vostochny for the first time on 28 April. Vostochny occupies an area of about 700 sq km. It is destined to become the first national facility for civilian space launches, ensuring Russia's full-scale access to outer space and reducing the dependence of the Russian space industry on the Baikonur space center in Kazakhstan. —Tass ■

Loxo's targeted drug helps variety of advanced cancers in small study

NEW YORK — Three quarters of patients with a wide variety of advanced cancers responded to a Loxo Oncology Inc therapy that targets a specific genetic defect, according to data from a small study presented on Saturday at the year's most important oncology meeting.

The drug, larotrectinib, directly targets an acquired rather than inherited genetic defect called TRK fusions. In such patients, TRK genes abnormally attach to other genes, triggering accelerated cancer cell growth.

If approved, the oral therapy would mark a major step toward treatment based on a patient's or the cancer's genetic traits rather than whether the

disease originated in the lung, breast or elsewhere.

"What we're seeing here is the original promise of precision medicine," said Dr David Hyman, chief of early drug development at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre in New York who led the study.

Merck & Co's immunotherapy Keytruda last month became the first cancer drug to win US approval based on specific genetic biomarkers regardless of the site of the original tumour.

The Loxo-funded larotrectinib study followed 50 TRK fusion-positive patients with more than a dozen different types of advanced cancer, including lung, pancreatic, breast

and colon. Seventy-six per cent of patients experienced significant tumor shrinkage, including complete remission in 12 per cent.

"This is a real breakthrough," said Hyman, who presented the data at the American Society of Clinical Oncology meeting in Chicago. He said the response rate exceeded expectations. "These are people who had no hope by and large."

Researchers have yet to determine other key benchmarks of performance, including median overall survival, progression-free survival or duration of response as most patients were still alive and responding after one year.

Nearly all responders remained on the drug or received potentially curative surgery, with the longest ongoing response out to 25 months so far.

Loxo expects to apply late this year or early next for US approval. The Food and Drug Administration granted larotrectinib its breakthrough designation, given to medicines it deems potentially important advances in serious diseases.

Up to 5,000 US patients a year are diagnosed with the TRK defect, but Hyman said there could be more if testing becomes more common. Comprehensive genetic testing can detect TRK fusion and more specific tests are being developed.

Pediatric patients in the trial had a type of cancer called infantile fibrosarcoma, a disease with a high rate of TRK fusion. In some cases it can be cured with amputations or other disfiguring surgeries.

Researchers found that after treatment with larotrectinib, less radical limb-sparing surgery may be an option.

They were particularly struck by the drug's lack of toxicity. No patients discontinued treatment due to side effects.

"This is a safety profile that feels to me more like a drug for a chronic medical condition like high blood pressure than a cancer therapy," Hyman said. —Reuters ■

WORLD
BRIEFS

US President Donald Trump (C) delivers remarks before signing two bills boosting government support for law enforcement first responders, surrounded by law enforcement organization leaders at the White House in Washington, US on 2 June, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Trump urges end to political correctness in wake of London attack

WASHINGTON — US President Donald Trump on Sunday urged the world to stop being “politically correct” in order to ensure security, after three attackers drove a van into pedestrians and stabbed revelers in London, killing seven.

At least 48 people were injured in the attack, the third to hit Britain in less than three months and occurring days ahead of a snap parliamentary election on Thursday.

“We must stop being politically correct and get down to the business of security for our people,” Trump wrote on Sunday morning. “If we don’t get smart it will only get worse.”

He continued: “At least 7 dead and 48 wounded in terror attack and Mayor of London says there is ‘no reason to be alarmed!’”

London Mayor Sadiq Khan — elected last year and the first Muslim to head a major Western capital — had earlier said Britons should not be alarmed to see a higher police presence on the streets of London following the incident.

Earlier, Trump offered US help to Britain and promoted

his controversial travel ban as an extra level of security for Americans.

“Whatever the United States can do to help out in London and the UK, we will be there — WE ARE WITH YOU. GOD BLESS!” Trump wrote on Saturday.

Trump also spoke with British Prime Minister Theresa May to offer condolences and offered Washington’s “full support” in investigating and bringing the perpetrators to justice, the White House said in a statement.

In another tweet on Saturday, Trump said “We need to be smart, vigilant and tough. We need the courts to give us back our rights. We need the Travel Ban as an extra level of safety!”

The US Department of Homeland Security issued a statement late Saturday saying “At this time, we have no information to indicate a specific, credible terror threat in the United States.”

Trump’s appeal for his travel ban, which he says is needed to protect Americans from terrorist attacks, followed his emergency request that the Supreme Court reinstate

the executive order that would bar people entering the United States from six predominantly Muslim countries.

Critics say his reasoning is flawed and assails the ban, which has been blocked by lower courts, as discriminatory.

The US State Department condemned what it called “the cowardly attacks targeting innocent civilians” in a statement, and echoed Trump’s readiness to provide any assistance that British authorities request.

“All Americans stand in solidarity with the people of the United Kingdom,” State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said in the statement.

Trump was briefed earlier about the London Bridge incident by his national security team, according to White House spokesman Sean Spicer, who said on Twitter that security officials would continue providing the president with updates.

The State Department also said it was monitoring the situation and advised Americans in Britain to heed the advice of local authorities and maintain

their security awareness.

Law enforcement officials in major US cities said they were not aware of any threats but were on alert.

“There is no credible threat or nexus to LA,” the Los Angeles Police Department tweeted. “We ask Angelenos to stay vigilant.”

The New York Police Department’s Counterterrorism Bureau said on Twitter that its critical response teams had been deployed to heavily traveled pedestrian areas.

“Go about your Sat night, NYPD cops are protecting you” the department’s official account tweeted.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said in a statement he had directed state law enforcement officials to step up security and patrols at high-profile locations, including airports, bridges, tunnels and mass transit systems.

Ariana Grande, the US singer whose 22 May concert in Manchester, England was hit by a suicide bombing that killed 22 people and wounded 116, tweeted “Praying for London” after Saturday’s attacks. —Reuters ■

Police raid flat of one of London Bridge attackers — Sky News

LONDON — Police raided an address in east London used by one of the three attackers who killed seven people in the city centre, Sky News reported on Sunday, citing unnamed sources.

An eyewitness to the raid told Sky he heard several bangs during the operation and was later told they were controlled explosions. —Reuters ■

Putin says joint efforts to fight terrorism should be stepped up after London attacks

MOSCOW — Russian president Vladimir Putin expressed his condolences over attacks in London in a telegram to British prime minister Theresa May on Sunday, the Kremlin said in a statement.

“The President of Russia expressed his confidence that the build-up of joint efforts to fight forces of terror all over the world should become the common answer on what happened,” the Kremlin said. —Reuters ■

UK’s Rudd says London attackers probably “radical Islamist terrorists”

LONDON — The attackers who killed seven people and wounded 48 in central London on Saturday were probably radical Islamist terrorists, Britain’s interior minister Amber Rudd said on Sunday.

“As the prime minister said, we are confident about the fact that they were radical Islamist terrorists, the way they were inspired, and we need to find out more about where this radicalisation came from,” Rudd told ITV television. —Reuters ■

UK PM May calls for beefed up terror response after London attack



Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May speaks outside 10 Downing Street after an attack on London Bridge and Borough Market left 7 people dead and dozens injured in London, Britain, on 4 June, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

LONDON — British Prime Minister Theresa May reacted on Sunday to an attack that killed seven people in London by saying things could not continue as they were and that the strategy for dealing with terrorism needed to be reviewed in four ways.

Three assailants drove a van at pedestrians on London Bridge late on Saturday night before getting out of the van in the bustling Borough Market area and stabbing a number of people. All three attackers were shot dead by police within eight minutes of



Police attend to an incident on London Bridge in London, Britain, on 3 June, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

the first emergency call to officers.

May mentioned beefing up jail sentences for terrorism offences and additional cyberspace regulations as possible areas of policy change.

The attack was the third to hit Britain in quick succession after a similar incident on Westminster Bridge in March and a suicide bombing that killed 22 people at a pop concert in Manchester; northern

England, less than two weeks ago.

"We cannot and must not pretend that things can continue as they are," May said in a televised statement in front of her Downing Street office.

"We believe we are experiencing a new trend in the threat we face as terrorism breeds terrorism, and perpetrators are inspired to attack not only on the basis of carefully constructed plots after years of

planning and training, and not even as lone attackers radicalised online, but by copying one another and often using the crudest of means of attack."

She said campaigning ahead of a national parliamentary election on Thursday was suspended as a mark of respect, but would resume on Monday.

"Violence can never be allowed to disrupt the democratic process, so those campaigns

will resume in full tomorrow and the general election will go ahead as planned on Thursday," said May.

She listed four areas where she said change needed to take place.

The first was the fight against the "evil ideology" inspiring the repeated attacks, which she called a perversion of Islam and of the truth.

The fight could not be won through military in-

tervention alone, she said, adding that there was a need to defend pluralistic British values that were superior to anything offered by the "preachers of hate".

Secondly, May said, new regulations were needed to reduce the space available to extremists online.

"We cannot allow this ideology the safe space it needs to breed. Yet that is precisely what the internet and the big companies that provide internet-based services provide," May said. "We need to work with allied democratic governments to reach international agreements that regulate cyberspace."

Thirdly, she said, more needed to be done to identify and stamp out extremism across British society.

The fourth area was the counter-terrorism strategy, which May said was robust but needed to be reviewed in light of the changing threat.

She said that if an increase in jail sentences for terrorism-related offences, even apparently minor ones, were needed, then it would be done.—Reuters ■

INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER NO.1/2017

- Ministry of Natural Resources And Environmental Conservation, No.(1) Mining Enterprise Invites to submit the tender quotation open tender in the United State Dollars.
 - Cathode Copper 1 Lot (400) M/T and Cathode Copper 3 Lot (1200)M/T
 - Lead Ore and other mixed (6555) Kg
 - Silicon Ore and other mixed (120) M/T
 - Petrified wood Fossil (2.184) M/T
 - Lead Ore and other mixed (17) M/T
- Tender Closing Date and Time is 5th July, 2017 (15:00)hrs.
- Tender document are available from the Procurement Department, No.(1) Mining Enterprise, Ministry of Natural Resources And Environmental Conservation,, Office Building No.(19), Nay Pyi Taw and Details Can be asked to +95-(0)67-409012 and 409162 within the office hours.

Tender Invitation Committee,
No. (1) Mining Enterprise

Two Japanese MSDF ships arrive in Philippines on 4-day visit

SUBIC BAY, (Philippines) — A helicopter carrier and a guided-missile destroyer of the Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force arrived on Sunday on a four-day visit to the Philippines aimed at deepening relations between the two

countries. The 25,000-ton helicopter carrier Izumo and the 6,500-ton guided-missile destroyer Sazanami docked mid-morning at the Subic Bay Freeport Zone in Olongapo city, 125 kilometres northwest of Metro Manila.

"The visit will further enhance and sustain promotion of peace, stability and maritime cooperation between the two countries through naval diplomacy and camaraderie," the Philippine Navy said in a statement.

It also said the commander of the Japanese ships, Rear Adm. Yoshihiro Goka, would pay a courtesy call on the commander of the Philippine fleet, Rear Adm. Gaudencio Collado Jr, during the visit. —Kyodo News ■

Merkel says Germany stands at Britain's side after London attack

BERLIN — Chancellor Angela Merkel said she was saddened and dismayed by the attack in London on Saturday in which at least six people were killed, and that Germany stood by

Britain's side in the fight against terrorism.

"Today, we are united across all borders in horror and sadness, but equally in determination," Merkel said in a statement issued

on Sunday.

"I stress for Germany: in the fight against all forms of terrorism, we stand firmly and decisively at Britain's side."

A government official

said later that Germany had no indications any Germans were among the casualties of the attack but it would take some time until they knew for certain.—Reuters ■

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US-backed Syrian forces seize dam west of Raqqa from Islamic State -SDF

BEIRUT — US-backed Syrian militias said they seized a major dam on the Euphrates river from Islamic State on Sunday, their latest gain as they push towards Raqqa city.

The Syrian Democratic Forces, an alliance of Kurdish and Arab fighters, said they captured the Baath Dam in the morning, renaming it Freedom Dam. The hydroelectric facility lies 22 kilometres upstream of Raqqa, where Islamic State's operations in Syria are based.

The spokesman for the Kurdish YPG militia, the SDF's key component, said fighters were combing nearby villages for mines and shoring up their defensive lines. "The dam has been completely liberat-



Vehicles drive near Tabqa Dam on the Euphrates River, in the town of Tabqa, after Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) captured it from Islamic State militants this week, Syria on 12 May, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

ed," Nouri Mahmoud said.

The advance means the SDF now hold all three major dams along the

Euphrates, after gaining control of Syria's largest dam last month. With air strikes and special forces

from the US-led coalition, the SDF have been encircling Raqqa, which Islamic State has used as a hub to

plan attacks abroad.

The operation to storm the city will start in the next "few days", Mahmoud said on Saturday. The Raqqa assault will pile more pressure on the jihadist group's self-declared "caliphate" as it faces defeat in the Iraqi city of Mosul and retreats across much of Syria.

Islamic State still controls swathes of Syria's eastern desert bordering Iraq and most of Deir al-Zor province, which would be its last major foothold in Syria after losing Raqqa.

The SDF has advanced in recent months to within several kilometres (miles) of the centre of Raqqa, facing fierce resistance from Islamic State.

Fighting since late

last year has displaced tens of thousands of people, United Nations sources say, with many flooding camps in the area and others stranded in the desert.

The UN human rights office has raised concerns about increasing reports of civilian deaths as air strikes escalate. The Raqqa campaign has "resulted in massive civilian casualties, displacement, and serious infrastructure destruction" so far, it said in a May report.

Islamic State militants have also reportedly forbidden civilians from leaving, it added.

The United States-led coalition says it is careful to avoid civilian casualties in its bombing runs in Syria and Iraq.—Reuters ■

MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FINANCE INTERNAL REVENUE DEPARTMENT OPERATION MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE NOTICE FOR FURNISHING COMMERCIAL TAX ANNUAL RETURNS FOR 2016-2017 FINANCIAL YEAR

1. This is to notify that any persons chargeable under the Commercial Tax Law within the financial year from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017, including the economic enterprises of the Union Government, State-owned mills and factories, trading and service enterprises, development committees, cooperative societies, individuals, organizations or associations formed by individuals, companies, partnerships and joint-ventures, carrying out the following economic activities are required to furnish their annual returns of production or services, properly filled in, signed in accordance with the instructions mentioned in the returns to the respective Township Revenue Offices or Medium Taxpayer Office (1),(2) and (3) or Large Taxpayer Office in person or by registered mail. A receipt will be issued by the respective offices in the case of returns being filed in person.

- (a) Domestic Production
- (b) Import
- (c) Trading
- (d) Service

2. The total proceeds of sale or the total receipts from service, which are not chargeable to commercial tax, of goods and services in the Cooperative and Private Sectors, other than exempted goods and services under the Union Taxes Law, 2016, are as follows;

- (a) The total sale proceeds of Kyat 20,000,000 for the domestic production of goods in a financial year.
- (b) The total receipt from service of Kyat 20,000,000 for the rendering of services in a financial year.
- (c) The total sale proceeds of Kyat 20,000,000 for the trading business in a financial year.

3. **Deadline for furnishing of returns -**
30th June 2017 (Friday)

4. **Penalty for late filing and non-filing of returns -**

A penalty of 10 % on the tax due shall be charged if there is a failure to furnish the return without a sufficient cause within the stipulated time.

5. **How to get return forms -**

The forms are available free of charge at the respective Township Revenue Offices or Medium Taxpayer Office (1),(2) and (3) or Large Taxpayer Office or on the IRD website <http://www.irdmyanmar.gov.mm>.

6. **Enquiries**

Enquiries may be made at the respective Township Revenue Offices or Medium Taxpayer Office(1),(2) and (3) or Large Taxpayer Office or Tax Service Unit, No. 59/61, Ground Floor,Pansodan Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon or the Tax Service Unit, 65th Street, between 22nd and 23rd Streets Mandalay.

Director
Operation Management Directorate

MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FINANCE INTERNAL REVENUE DEPARTMENT OPERATION MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE NOTICE FOR FILING RETURN OF INCOME

1. All taxpayers, including companies, partnerships and joint-ventures, cooperative societies, association of collective farming, individuals (excluding salary-earners), associations formed by individuals, organizations or associations registered and formed under any existing law,chargeable under the Income Tax Law within the financial year from 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017, are required to file their returns of income if they made profit or not in this financial year, properly filled in and signed in accordance with the instructions mentioned in the returns, to the respective Township Revenue Offices or Medium Taxpayer Office (2) and (3) in person or by registered mail. A receipt will be issued by the respective offices in the case of returns being filed in person.

2. Those taxpayers registered with the Large Taxpayer Office and Medium Taxpayer Office (1) are required to make their own tax assessments and file a return of income to the Large Taxpayer Office and Medium Taxpayer Office (1) in person or by registered mail. In filing a return of income, instructions mentioned in the return should be carefully followed and there is no need for filing annual financial statements.

3. Those taxpayers who earned income from "Salary" within the income year are not required to file a return of income. However, their employers are required to file the Annual Salary Statement to the respective Township Revenue Office.

4. **Requirement For Attachment :**

Taxpayers are also required to submit, together with the return, a financial report prepared in connection with taxpayers' books of account kept in accordance with the Income Tax Regulations for the relevant income year.

5. **Deadline for Filing of Returns-**
30th June 2017, (Friday)

6. **Penalty for late filing and non-filing of returns of income**

A penalty not exceeding 10 % of the tax due may be charged if there is a failure to file a return of income.

7. **Where to get return forms-**

The forms are available free of charge at the respective Township Revenue Offices or Medium Taxpayer Office (1), (2) and (3) or Large Taxpayer Office or on the IRD website <http://www.irdmyanmar.gov.mm>.

8. **Enquiries**

Enquiries may be made at the respective Township Revenue Offices or Medium Taxpayer Office(1),(2) and (3) or Large Taxpayer Office or the Tax Service Unit, No. 59/61, Ground Floor,Pansodan Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon or the Tax Service Unit, 65th Street, between 22nd and 23rd Streets, Mandalay.

Director
Operation Management Directorate

US defence chief reassures ASEAN of US commitment to region

SINGAPORE — In his talks with defense ministers from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, US Defence Secretary Jim Mattis on Sunday sought to reassure those 10 nations of Washington's commitment to the Asia-Pacific region.

The meeting, held on the sidelines of the Asia Security Summit in Singapore, came amid uncertainty over Washington's stance toward the region under President Donald Trump, who has declared — and already demonstrated in less than five months in office — a commitment to reviewing the most basic aspects of US foreign policy.

"There was a general affirmation from all ASEAN countries that the US presence is not only welcomed, but strongly supported Secretary Mattis affirmation of continued US presence in this region. That was quite uniform," Singapore Defence Minister Ng Eng Hen told reporters afterwards.



US Secretary of Defence James Mattis speaks at the 16th IISS Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore on 3 June, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Ng was among the Southeast Asian defence ministers and other senior defence officials who attended the meeting with Mattis, his first with his ASEAN counterparts since taking charge of the Pentagon on 20 January.

Trump largely ignored Southeast Asia during the US presidential campaign, a region where the South China Sea territorial conflict has long been a pawn in the geopolitical contest

between the United States and China in wielding influence.

In the wake of Trump's election, the United States has seen some Southeast Asian allies like the Philippines and Malaysia tilt towards China in a bid to draw much needed foreign investment to boost their economies.

In a speech Saturday at the Shangri La Dialogue, as the annual security conference is also known,

Mattis maintained that the Asia-Pacific region is still a US priority and Washington wants to strengthen its alliances and "empower the region."

"Currently 60 percent of all US navy ships, 55 percent of army forces and about two-third of fleet marine forces are assigned to the US Pacific Command area of responsibility. Soon 60 per cent of overseas tactical aviation assets will be assigned to this theater," Mattis said at the security forum billed as the largest in Asia.

The bloody fighting in recent day between Philippine government forces and the Islamic State-backed Maute militant group in Marawi, a predominantly Muslim city in southern Mindanao Island, was also on the agenda of the US-ASEAN meeting.

Ng said both the United States and ASEAN vowed to assist the Philippines.

"We recognized that if the situation deteriorates in Mindanao, it can have a direct bearing on the well-being of cities or residents and we — US, Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia — offered our help," the Singapore defence minister said.

"We stand ready to help whether its information, intelligence or otherwise. And for Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines, they have already started the Sulu Sea patrols."

The fighting in Marawi that started on 23 May was sparked by an attempt by government troops to capture Isnilon Hapilon, a leader of the notoriously violent Abu Sayyaf rebel group who was believed to be in Marawi for medical treatment. ASEAN groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam.—Kyodo News ■

Indian coast guards rescue 27 from flooded barge off Karnataka coast

NEW DELHI — Indian coast guard members Sunday rescued 27 workers from a flooded barge off coast in southern Indian state of Karnataka, officials said.

The barge flooded in the Arabian sea off Ullal coast in Dakshina Kannada, west of Bengaluru, the capital of Karnataka.

Reports said the barrage hit rock following which it flooded and began to sink with 27 people on board. "The vessel, Dredger Ibis, was reported to be in distress on Saturday evening, following which the coast guard swung into action and rescued four people," a senior police official said. "Due to inclement weather, the rescue operation had to be put on hold temporarily. However, the operation resumed today morning and remaining 24 crew members stuck on the barge were saved."—Reuters ■

Residents trapped as gunfire mars ceasefire at Philippines city

MARAWI CITY (Philippines) — Thousands of civilians hoping to flee fighting in the besieged Philippines city of Marawi remained trapped on Sunday after a four-hour ceasefire to evacuate residents was marred by gunfire.

Only 134 were freed on Sunday, less than on previous days, despite government hopes that more than 1,000 would be able to leave a city battered by 13 days of intense fighting.

Philippines president Rodrigo Duterte predicted the siege would be over within days despite fierce resistance by fighters aligned to Islamic State in the dense urban heart of the southern Philippines city.

"This will be over in about three more days,"

Duterte said on Saturday after visiting a hospital in Cagayan de Oro where wounded soldiers were being treated.

"I will not hesitate to use every power available." About 400 local militants reinforced by about 40 foreign fighters stormed Marawi on 23 May, using sophisticated battlefield tactics to take control of large swaths of the lake-side city. They have been pushed back to the city centre by Philippines forces over the past week after some 4,000 ground troops were bolstered by helicopters and aircraft deploying rockets and bombs.

Many residents have told Reuters that the airstrikes caused extensive property damage and dozens of civilian deaths. Authorities lifted the civil-

ian death toll from 20 to 38 on Sunday - but said all those deaths were caused by militants.

A presidential spokesman said 120 militants had died, along with 38 government forces. Duterte said the use of air power had been restrained so far.

"I can end this war in 24 hours," he said. "All I have to do is to bomb the whole place and level it to the ground."

Duterte has asked the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), an Islamic separatist movement based on the Philippines island of Mindanao, to help negotiate a peace settlement with the Islamist fighters, who are predominantly drawn from the Maute Group based in and around Marawi. —Reuters ■

ကွန်ပျူတာ စနစ်ဖြင့်ထိန်းသော
MECHANICAL CAR PARKING

Side View: 14'4" height, 18' width, 7'2" depth.
Front View: 7'2" width, 7'2" depth.
Plan View: 21'6" width, 14'4" depth, 7'2" depth.
Front View: 21'6" width, 14'4" depth, 7'2" depth.

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: 09.259.81.37.37
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Hollywood star Tom Cruise . PHOTO: REUTERS

I am a total romantic: Tom Cruise

LOS ANGELES — Hollywood star Tom Cruise says he is a die hard romantic and likes to give his 100 per cent to his date.

The 54-year-old actor says he enjoys the simple things and is not afraid to get in touch with his affectionate side, reported People magazine.

“You have no idea! You know me — I’m 100 per cent or nothing. I’m just not interested in halfway.

“I am a total romantic. I like a walk through the park. I like all that stuff, you know? I really love travelling,” Cruise says.—PTI ■

LONDON — “Baywatch” star Priyanka Chopra has her eye on a superhero role and says Batgirl would be “cool” to play.

A new Batgirl film was announced earlier this year and it will be written and directed by Joss Whedon.

The hunt for the lead actress is still on and Priyanka, 34, seems to have thrown her name into the ring. “My dream part is, now that I’m working in America, I definitely want to do a superhero part,” she says in a chat with OK! Magazine.

“When I think of American movies, they’ve had superheroes for eons right? So I definitely want to play a superhero and I want to have an interesting super power. I don’t know... Batgirl would be so cool!”

Batgirl has appeared twice on screen in recent years; Alicia Silverstone played a version of her (called Barbara Wilson) in “Batman & Robin”, and Rosario Dawson voiced Barbara Gordon/Batgirl in the recent “Lego Batman Movie.”—PTI ■

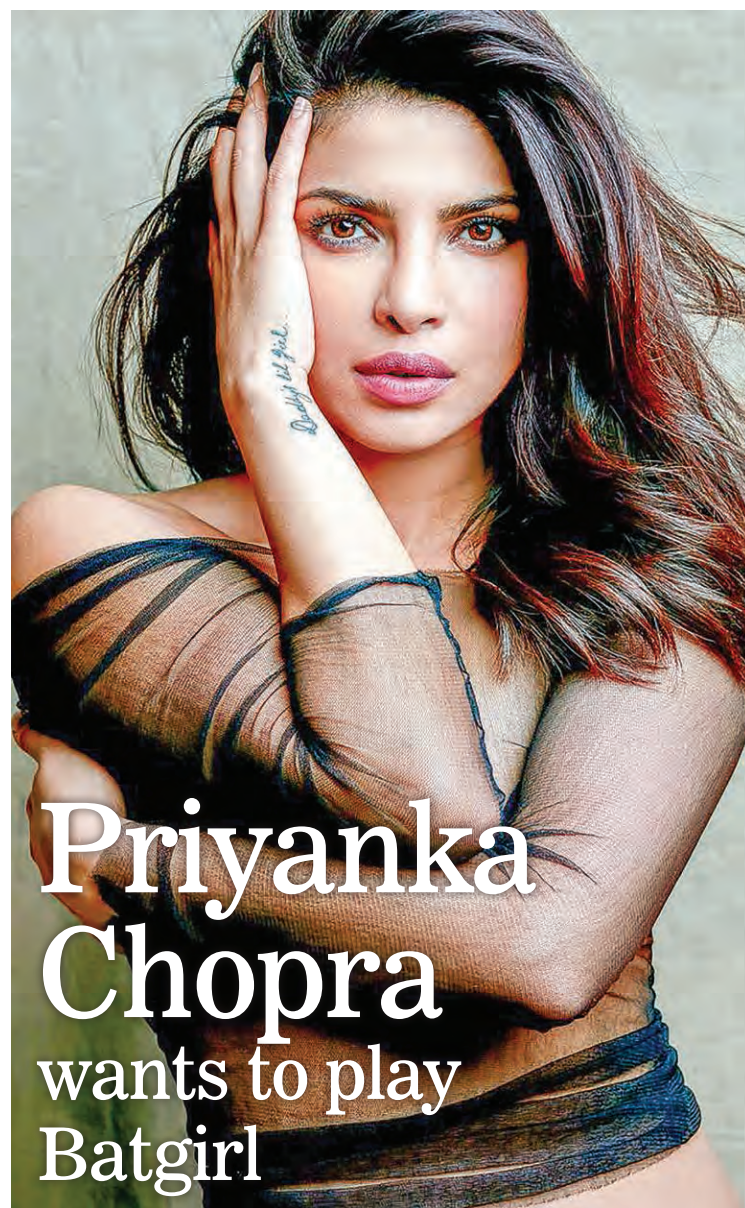


PHOTO: REUTERS

Priyanka Chopra wants to play Batgirl

Naomi Watts gets nervous on stage

LONDON — Actress Naomi Watts says she wants to do theatre but has a fear of stage. The “Gypsy” actress says she gets anxious in front of live audience, reported Femalefirst. “I still haven’t done theatre. I’ve got to pluck up the nerve. I’m not very good on stage. “Even when you do those talk shows and you have a live audience, it fills me with fear. But I’m not one to let fear get the better of me,” Watts says.

The 48-year-old actress,

who has sons Sasha, nine, and eight-year-old Sammy with former partner Liev Schreiber, believes the entertainment industry has changed a lot over the years.

“There used to be a theory that it was all over by 40 but things have changed. There’s a lot more to be done, but it does feel like the voices of women are becoming more heard. And TV has definitely helped with that. There’s a movement,” she says.—PTI



Naomi Watts. PHOTO: REUTERS

HBO’s Bill Maher faces backlash after using racial epithet

LOS ANGELES — Ik-show host and comedian Bill Maher drew harsh criticism on Saturday for using a racial epithet on his HBO series “Real Time” in an interview with a US senator from Nebraska.

Maher issued a statement on Saturday apologizing for the comment, which HBO called “inexcusable.”

Maher was interviewing Ben Sasse, a Republican, late Friday when he used the slur in reference to himself, quickly drawing a backlash. The show is aired live.

“Friday nights are always my worst night of sleep because I’m up reflecting on the things I should or shouldn’t have said on my live show,” Maher said in a statement provided to Variety.

“Last night was a particularly long night as I regret the word I used in the banter of a live moment.

The word was offensive and I regret saying it and

am very sorry.” US civil rights leaders reacted with outrage.

“Bill Maher decided to get on television last night and sanitize and normalize the n-word,” civil-rights activist Reverend Al Sharpton said in his Saturday sermon in New York. “Just because Bill Maher is liberal and our friend, you don’t give him a pass ... you never get the right to use that term.”

Sharpton called for a meeting with HBO leaders to request a “correction” on the “Real Time” episode, broadcast from Los Angeles, and to hold Maher accountable.

Maher used the offensive word after Sasse invited him to visit Nebraska and work in the fields.

Maher made a distinction between slaves that toiled in fields and slaves that were allowed to work indoors, using the slur to refer to himself as the latter.

HBO released a statement on Saturday calling the comment “inexcusable,” according to CNN, which like HBO is owned by Time Warner Inc (TWX.N).

“Bill Maher’s comment last night was completely inexcusable and tasteless,” the statement read. “We are removing his deeply offensive comment from any subsequent airings of the show.”

HBO representatives did not respond to a request for comment. Maher could not be reached directly.

Sasse made a series of Twitter posts about the interview early on Saturday.

“Here’s what I wish I’d been quick enough to say in the moment: ‘Hold up, why would you think it’s OK to use that word?’” Sasse wrote. “The history of the n-word is an attack on universal human dignity. It’s therefore an attack on the American Creed. Don’t use it.”—Reuters ■

Robocop joins Dubai police to fight real life crime

DUBAI — A robotic policeman which can help identify wanted criminals and collect evidence has joined Dubai's police force and will patrol busy areas in the city, as part of a government programme aimed at replacing some human crime-fighters with machines.

If the "Robocop" experiment is successful, Dubai Police says it wants the unarmed robots to make up 25 per cent of its patrolling force by 2030.

Clad in the colors of the Dubai Police uniform,

the life-size robot, which can shake hands and perform a military salute, is the lighter side of a government plan to use technology to improve services and security ahead of Dubai hosting Expo 2020.

"These kind of robots can work 24/7. They won't ask you for leave, sick leave or maternity leave. It can work around the clock," said Brigadier Khalid Nasser Al Razooqi, director general of the Smart Services Department at Dubai Police.

The first automated

policeman in the Middle East, the robot on wheels is equipped with cameras and facial recognition software.

It can compare faces with a police database and flag matches to headquarters. It can read vehicle license plates and its video feed can help police watch for risks such as unattended bags in popular areas of Dubai, a financial and tourism hub.

Members of the public can also talk to the robot to report a crime or communicate with it using a touch

screen computer embedded in its chest. Built by Barcelona-based PAL Robotics, and programmed by Dubai Police, the cost of the robot has not been disclosed.

Most people are not nervous about talking to a robot and some even seem to prefer it, Razooqi said.

"We now see the new generations who are using smart devices — they love to use these kind of tools. A lot of them have seen the Robocop movie and they said: you guys, you have done it."—Reuters ■

Japan sees growing number of marriages for people aged around 50

TOKYO — Proving there is no age limit to marriage or romance, a growing number of Japanese people aged from their late 40s to early 50s are taking their first shot — or second or later — at tying the knot.

Driven by a desire to have a romantic relationship, regardless of age, many people who lived through Japan's asset-inflated "bubble economy" from the late 1980s to early 1990s want to enjoy the present moment amid increasing global economic uncertainties and are turning to marriage as the way to go.

At a time when the overall number of marriages is declining, a growth trend is seen among those in their 40s and up for both their first and second or later marriages, according to the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research.

In 2015, 2,950 men aged between 50 and 54 tied the knot for the first time, up 4.7 times from the figure in 1990, while the number of women doing so doubled to 1,169, the institute said.

Men marrying for the second time in the same age bracket totaled 7,710, 1.6 times higher than the 1990 level. The figure for women also more than doubled to 6,222.

A 51-year-old man, Hiroyuki (not his real name), who holds a management-level position at a major firm in the Kanto region centering on Tokyo, said he got married when he was 49. It was the first marriage for both him and his wife, Keiko (also a pseudonym).

Hiroyuki said he was so busy with work during weekends that he had no time to meet women outside of work. Also, given his senior position, he was hesitant to seek potential

marriage partners among women in his office until he realized he was hitting the age of 50.

His colleague invited him then to register with a marriage consultancy firm. He first sought a young woman, but eventually hit it off with Keiko, who is now 51 as well. Hiroyuki said he felt at ease with her and was drawn to her fun-loving personality.

Abandoning his initial requirements for a marriage partner, he settled down with Keiko. She had initially wanted to balance work and family, but later quit her job to live with him.

He now comes home early and mingles more with his neighbours. Having a child may be difficult for the couple, but that means he does not need to worry about added expenses in raising a child.

The couple said they enjoy their respective hobbies, travel and spending time together.

For them, marriage came at just the right time. "If (we were) young, we would have been putting all our efforts into simply making a living. We are glad we married at this age."

Marriage consultation centers not only attract first-timers, but those who want to give it another shot once their children become independent. Men are mostly looking for a new life after retirement, while women are seeking financial support.

In May, Nozze, a Tokyo-based center providing information about marriage, sponsored a matchmaking event in Yokohama near the capital in May. Among the attendees was a 54-year-old woman, who had divorced her husband five years ago due to his violence. — Kyodo News ■



Visitors look at an operational robot policeman at the opening of the 4th Gulf Information Security Expo and Conference (GISEC) in Dubai, United Arab Emirates on 22 May, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS



Myanmar International

Programme Schedule

(5-6-2017 07:00am ~ 6-6-2017 07:00am) MST

07:03	Am	News
07:27	Am	Myanmar Delicate Artistic Creations-Gem Stone Painting)
07:45	Am	MONASTERY (Bargayar Kyaung)
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	Irrawaddy Dolphin (Part-2)
08:39	Am	Grow Back For Posterity "The Dawn of Development"
08:51	Am	Kindhearted Pet Lovers
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	A Trip to The City of Rakkhita, Rakhine
09:46	Am	Great Minds of Myanmar - U Kyaw Win (Anthropologist)
09:52	Am	The Youth & Library

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

Prime Time

07:03	Pm	News
07:27	Pm	Food Trip (Ep-3) (Part-2)
07:51	Pm	Cultural Shows: Composer Ma Mya Lay
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	Taste of Myanmar (Shan Noodle Salad)
08:44	Pm	A Nun's Creation in Fruit Carving
08:52	Pm	Chef Life: Zin Min Htun

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

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

Myanmar to test Singapore in friendly soccer match



PHOTO - PHO THAW ZIN

IN preparations for the Asian Cup selection match, Myanmar national football team left by air to Singapore yesterday for two test matches with Singapore's national team and Niigata Club. The Myanmar team consists of team manager U Than Toe Aung, Chief Coach Gerd Friedrich, Assistant Coaches U Kyi Lwin, U Zaw Win Htut, Poposki, goal coach U Aung Kyaw Kyaw, team secretary U Htun Htun Aung, players goal - Thiha Sithu, Kyaw Zin Htat, Pyae Phyto Aung, back - David Htan, Kyaw Zin Lwin, Zaw Min Tun, Htike Htike Aung, Win Min Htut, Thaung Hlyat Htan, Thein Than Win, Nanda Kyaw, midfield - Yan Aung Kyaw, Myo Ko Tun, Tin Win Aung, Min Min Thu, Sithu Aung, Sawlman, Maung Maung Lwin, Yan Naing Oo, Zin Phyto Aung, forward - Kyaw Ko Ko,

Aung Thu and Than Paing. The Myanmar team will also receive training in Singapore from 4-10 June and will play with Singapore national team on June 4 and Niigata on 9 June.

At the request of the chief coach of Singapore national team, the match with the Singapore national team will be held closed-door while Myanmar football fans will be allowed to view the match with Niigata. Myanmar national football team is having a second round match of Asian Cup selection match with Macau team in an away match on 13 June. Myanmar team had lost at home to Indian team in the first match of Asian Cup selection match and remaining matches are becoming crucial and need a win against Macau.

—Ye Yint Shine ■



Real Madrid celebrate with the trophy after winning the UEFA Champions League Final at The National Stadium of Wales, Cardiff on 3 June, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Real triumph again as Ronaldo double sinks Juventus

CARDIFF — Cristiano Ronaldo struck twice as Real Madrid became the first team to successfully defend their European title in the Champions League era with a 4-1 win over Juventus in Saturday's final for their third triumph in four years.

Real, who now have a record 12 European Cup wins, grabbed the lead in the 20th minute through Ronaldo, who slotted the ball low into the corner after a clever cut-back from Dani Carvajal following a

classic counter attack.

But determined Italian champions Juve drew level seven minutes later, with one of the finest goals seen in a Champions League final, as Croatian forward Mario Mandzukic beat Real keeper Keylor Navas with a perfectly executed overhead kick.

The Spanish champions took charge after the break, however, restoring their lead through a deflected long-range shot from Brazilian Casemiro

in the 61st minute before Portugal forward Ronaldo struck again, from close-range, after fine work by Luka Modric, to score his 600th goal for club and country.

Juve finished with 10 men after Juan Cuadrado was sent off in the 84th for a second yellow card after pushing Sergio Ramos and in the final minute of normal time substitute Marco Asensio added a fourth after some poor defending from the Italians.

—Reuters ■



Ukraine's Elina Svitolina in action during her third round match against Poland's Magda Linette at Roland Garros in Paris, France on 4 June, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Svitolina reaches fourth round in Paris

PARIS — Fifth seed Elina Svitolina huffed and puffed into the fourth round of the French Open with an error-ridden 6-4, 7-5 victory over Poland's Magda Linette in a rain-delayed match on Sunday.

Svitolina, one of the pre-tournament favourites after winning titles at the Rome and Istanbul claycourt

tournaments, made 25 unforced errors and served five double faults before overpowering the world number 94.

The 22-year-old Ukrainian, who lives and trains in Paris, put on an untidy display but played perfectly on the key points, holding serve throughout.

"Roland Garros has always been special for me," Svitolina, who could not play

on Saturday because of rain, said courtside.

"I'm very happy that I could win three matches here and hopefully I will keep it going. I was trained to stay focused and I'm happy I could finish it early."

Next up for Svitolina is Croatian qualifier Petra Martic, who beat Latvian 17th seed Anastasija Sevastova 6-1, 6-1.—Reuters ■