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A health official assists a schoolgirl in wearing mask following recommended precautionary measures in Kawthoung. **PHOTO: KYAW SOE**

Death toll from seasonal influenza reaches 12

WITH two more deaths from H1N1 influenza yesterday, the number of death toll has reached 12 or 5.6 per cent of those who have been confirmed to have the virus, the Ministry of Health and Sports said yesterday.

Two patients receiving treatment for the seasonal influenza A H1N1 positive died yesterday after being admitted to Yankin Children's Hospital and Waibargi specialist Hospital on 28th July, said a statement released by the Ministry of Health and Sports.

The statement said that more than 210 patients are receiving treatment for the severe acute respiratory infection at hospitals nationwide, of them 62 are contracted with the swine flu.

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Peace Commission, PNLO make joint visit to ceasefire area in Mon State

THE Peace Commission Chair and members, Union and State Government Ministers, and the Chair and senior members of the PaO National Liberation Organisation (PNLO), made a joint field visit to ceasefire areas in Thaton Township, Mon State yesterday.

The Joint Coordinating Body for Peace Process Funding, chaired by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and comprising representatives of both government and Ethnic Armed Organisations, identified peace-supporting development as one of the priorities for peace process funding in December 2016.

The visit is a part of the priorities for peace process funding.

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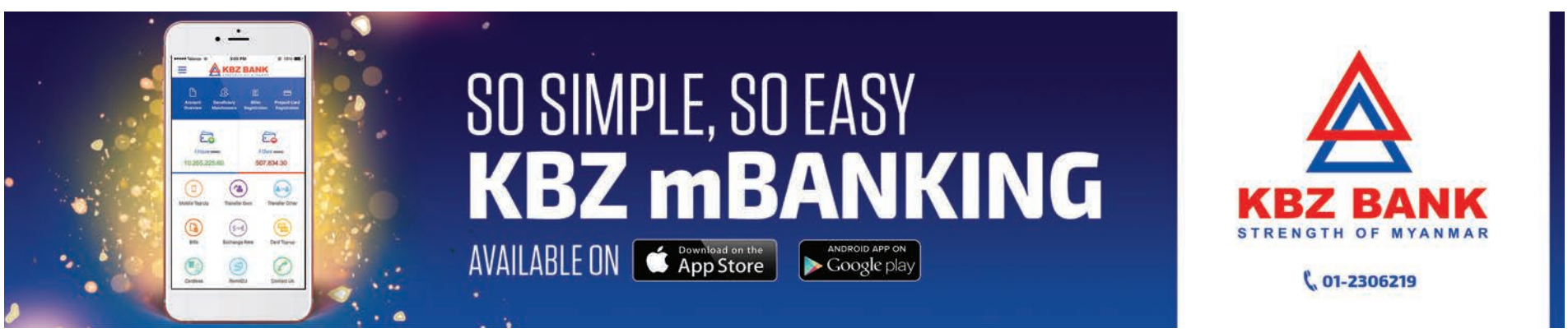

Ministry of Education to establish new MRTV channel

Kyaw Thu Htet, Hmwe Kyu Zin
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

The Government will create a state-run television channel, the Government Education Television channel, devoted to enhancing Myanmar's education reforms, according to a Pyithu Hluttaw motion approved yesterday. The motion was introduced by Dr. U Hla Moe of Aungmyethazan constituency.

"If the channel is established the Ministry of Information will subsidize technical assistance and infrastructure of broadcasting," Union Minister for Information Dr. Pe Myint said. "And, it will be necessary for the Ministry of Education to film and broadcast programmes. The GETV Channel will be included in the MRTV network. Equipment will be provided depending upon the location of the studio and what is to be filmed by the Ministry of Education.

Setting up fiber channel connections and connecting it to the satellite earth station in Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon), building the studio, purchasing and installation of machinery needed for the project, hiring fiber channel connections will all require Ministry of Education funding. The Ministry of Information will cooperate with the Ministry of Education." "Teaching and learning is now done in the classroom, but the future paradigm of learning will be beyond classrooms," said U Min Thein of Taungdwingyi constituency. "Instead schools or teaching centres will come to the places where students live. Students from England can get educational attainments of degrees conferred upon by American universities by linking with computers and networks without moving an inch from their own places. Myanmar also needs an educational TV channel. Simply broadcasting lectures by a professor as if he reciting from memory will not attract students."

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

Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Kyaw Myo. **PHOTO: MNA**

"Educational investment should be made by launching an education TV channel so that the whole populace, from urban and rural areas including hilly regions, can access online education," said U Ye Lwin of Ahlone constituency. "It will be very helpful for the future of children to broadcast educational programmes, stories and lessons on discipline, moral ethics and spiritual values. Simultaneously, we can reduce inequality in education. It will be more effective for the education system to rapidly develop if punctual lessons are available." Union Minister for Education Dr. Myo Thein Gyi also supported the motion saying: "I hereby support the motion and it should be approved by the Hluttaw. Arrangements should be made to broadcast educational lectures and stories as a separate TV channel. In support of the establishment of a separate education TV channel in combination with information technology platforms, the Ministry of Education will submit grant budgets in respective financial years by laying down long-term and short-term plans to implement installation of ICT equipments and studio fiber channel connections and acquisition of technicians and professionals. "It cannot be implemented overnight by the Ministry of Education, needing to take time" Dr Myo Thein Gyi said. The Pyithu Hluttaw also addressed a new emergency warning system over SMS. Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Kyaw Myo described a pilot program me whereby text messages that contained weather warnings were sent over mobile networks.

"The Disaster Alert Notification Mobile Application includes news and information, emergency phone numbers and what to do and what not to do in time of natural disasters, advance notification and alerts," U Kyaw Myo said. "To improve the efficiency of the system we will negotiate implementation with the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and the Ministry of Transport and Communications." ■

Amyotha Hluttaw debates Farmland Law, increased foreign investment in agriculture

Thura Zaw, Mi Mi Phyo
(MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY)

Controversial proposed amendments to Myanmar's Farmland Law were debated by at least 20 parliamentarians during yesterday's meeting of the Amyotha Hluttaw in Nay Pyi Taw.

The debate focused on the rights of landowners to sell or lease land to foreigners without state approval.

Parliament members argued for and against regulations on farmland sales and leases.

Some legislators argued that easing restrictions on agricultural lands would open one of Myanmar's largest economic sectors, and its largest employer, to greater foreign investment. Myanmar agriculture lags behind many of its neighbours in the region due to the lack of agricultural inputs including fertilizers, pesticides, seed productions, farming machinery, storage facilities, food processing and packaging facilities, quality testing facilities and training across agricultural supply chains.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw. **PHOTO: MNA**

U Hla San. **PHOTO: MNA**

Other legislators argued that Myanmar should continue to restrict foreign investment in agriculture.

"Foreigners hired land for a one-year contract to grow watermelon in Mandalay and Sagaing regions," said MP U Hla San. "But, the soil was degraded after one year due to their overuse of fertilizer."

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker announced that the discussion of the MPs will be reviewed at the bill committee.

Other matters discussed at the Amyotha Hluttaw included plans to open a technical training school in Loikaw in Kayah State in FY2018-2019.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation U Hla Kyaw announced a plan to increase the number and width of sluice gates in dams and dikes to mitigate rising water levels. The Deputy Minister said some sluice gates on some dams and dikes were not adequately maintained due to a lack of funds.

The next regular Amyotha Hluttaw session is scheduled for 2 August. ■

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Office of the President
Order 19/2017

1379 ME, 8th Waxing Day of Wagaung
(31 July 2017)

U Set Aung appointed Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance

In accordance with the provisions stated in article 234 (a) and (d) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and section 16 (b) (9) of Union Government Law, U Set Aung has been appointed as Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance.

Sd/ Htin Kyaw
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Pyithu Hluttaw Judicial and Legal Affairs Committee chairman meets Yangon Region Hluttaw

Pyithu Hluttaw Judicial and Legal Affairs Committee Chairman U Khin Maung Win met Yangon Region Hluttaw Judicial, Rule of Law, Complaints and Appeals Scrutiny Committee chairman U Myint Lwin Oo and party yesterday at the Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw.

The officials discussed matters relating to works of the two committees. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Thai government opens centers for migrant workers to register

By Pwint Thitsar

THAILAND's Ministry of Labor has opened 99 centers nationwide for Myanmar migrant workers to upgrade their legal status, said the Embassy of Myanmar in Bangkok.

The ministry began work on 24 July to formalize the legality of migrant workers after new labor regulations took effect on 23 June. The ministry reports that between 24 and 30 July, 35,386 workers from Laos, 72,535 workers from Cambodia and 145,988 workers from Myanmar came to legalize their documents.

The number one industry migrant workers work in is agriculture and livestock followed by the construction industry and then by the food-service industry. Labor attaché U Moe Aung Khaing said they are ready to issue Certificate of Identity (CI) to Myanmar workers after they have received approval from Thailand's Ministry of Labor. "We have set up six centers to issue these certificate booklets," said U Moe Aung Khaing. "There are plans to open up three more centers in areas with a large concentration of Myanmar workers."

Myanmar workers who have received the CI booklet will receive a Thai visa that is valid till 31 March 2018 and U Moe Aung Khaing said visa extensions will be possible.

An agreement has also been reached with the Thai government to issue CI booklets to Myanmar workers with expired red passports, purple passports and pink ID cards.

The Myanmar Embassy in Bangkok said an estimate of 260,000 Myanmar workers came to apply for CI booklets between 3 March and 29 July. ■

U Moe Aung Khaing, the labor attaché, inspects a center issuing CI booklets in Ranong. **PHOTO: PWINT THITSAR**

Food delivered by WFP to IDP camps (Upper) and utensils and construction material (Lower left and right) are found at the hidden tents of violent attackers. **PHOTO: STATE COUNSELLOR'S OFFICE INFORMATION COMMITTEE**

Tents of violent attackers discovered in Mayu Mountain

SECURITY forces discovered tents, foods and utensils of violent attackers in Mayu Mountain range on 30 July.

Security personnel and villagers discovered the hidden tents, constrution materials, food and utensials during a search for villager U Than Htay of Chutpyin Village, Yathedaung Township reported missing in Mayu Mountain range.

Discovered items include, a roll of green-colored water proof sheet, 12 multi-colored water proof sheets measuring 12 ft x 6 ft, a 100 ft coil of nylon rope, 4 shovels, 5 bags of rice, 7 viss of cooking oil, 5 packets of one viss dried fish pack, one viss packet of chili powder, 6 boxes of seasoning powders, betel nut 3 viss, 18 packets of one pound coffee mix packet, a carton containing 100 packets of 75 gm High Energy Biscuits with World Food Programme (WFP) logo, utensils and blankets.

Sittway based sub office of United Nations World Food Programme officials provided rice, cooking oil, salt, pea, biscuit and nutrient powders as humanitarian assistance to IDP camps in Rakhine State with the permission of Rakhine State government and investigations are underway into the case of the discovery of tents, utensils and foods.—Myanmar News Agency ■

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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.

Yangon Region Sangha Nayaka Committee holds graduation ceremony of Training on Vinaya Regulations and Law

GRADUATION ceremony of Sangha Nayaka training and training on Vinaya Regulation and law conducting to 324 monks altogether sponsored by Yangon Region Sangha Nayaka Committee was held at the Tatmadaw Dhammayone at 3 pm yesterday.

At the ceremony, Vice-chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Agga Maha Pandita Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotika Dhaja Bhaddanta Uttama Nyanabivamsa gave five precepts.

Afterward, the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaws and Yangon Region Sangha Nayaka Committee Sayadaws offered certificates to graduate sanghas, with U Sein Maw, head of Region Religious Affairs Department, in Yangon Region. And, donors donated offertories to trainees who completed the courses.

State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Sayadaws offer certificates to graduate sanghas at the Tatmadaw Dhammayone yesterday. **PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT**

At the end, Dr Bhaddanta Eiddhi Bala preached a sermon, followed by offering ceremony of dry rations to Sanghas.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Experts discuss stepping up efforts for wildlife conservation

A WORKSHOP on implementation of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and coordination between related organisations and departments on preventing trade in endangered species was held yesterday morning in Ingyin hall of Director General's office, Forest Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation.

Forest Department Director General Dr. Nyi Nyi Kyaw gave an opening speech at the workshop attended by officials of related organisations and departments consisting of General Administrative Department, Union Attorney General office, Department of Fisheries, Department of Trade, Transnational Crime Department, Police Force, border and ethnic nationals development department, customs department, road transport authority, non-government organizations such as European Union (EU), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), World Wildlife Fund (WWF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Fauna & Flora International (FFI).

Suggestions made at the workshop will be confirmed and implemented at the National Wildlife Enforcement Task Force meeting to be held on 10 August in Forest Department. — MNA ■

Illegal wood seized on the Lashio-Muse Road

MYANMAR law enforcement authorities seized three vehicles on the Lashio-Muse Road in Shan State carrying 5 tons of suspected timber contraband on 30 July, according to a police source.

The 145 pieces of wood, which includes such rare and protected species as padauk, were discovered near milestone 191/7 on the Lashio-Muse Pyidaungsu Road and are estimated to have a street value of Ks75 million.

Timber smuggling is a common practice along the Myanmar-China border in Shan State. The seizure of the three vehicles occurred on a day that authorities at the Yaypu inspection station conducted a total of 10 seizures of contraband lumber worth an estimated Ks173 million. Traffic checkpoints are stationed at Yaypu, Hsenwi Township, Shan State and Mayanchaung, Kyaikto Township, Mon State.—GNLM ■

Illegal timber seized on Lashio-Muse road in Shan State. **PHOTO: MPF**

Rubber production season comes to a close

AS the rubber production season comes to a close, Myanmar exports have begun to decline and with decreasing supply, prices have begun to climb, according to rubber traders in Mon State.

Mon State rubber producers primarily export their rubber to Thailand and China through Muse, Myawady, Kawthoung and Tachileik, said U Moe Oo, a rubber businessman in Mon State.

Myanmar rubber prices at "free-on-board" prices – the price of goods including shipping costs – increased US$50 per ton for ribbed smoked sheets (RSS) and over $100 per ton for Myanmar Standard Rubber (MSR) rubber, according to the Myanmar Rubber Planters and Producers Association.

A man hangs up sheets of raw latex rubber to dry in the sun. **PHOTO: KAYZU (AMIA)**

Rubber prices for this week are $1,600 to $1,700 per ton for RSS 1, $1,550 to $1,650 for RSS 2, $1,500 to $1,600 for RSS 3, $1,450 to $1,550 for RSS 4, $1,400 to $1500 for RSS 5, $950 to $2,050 for MSR 3L, $1,600 to $1,700 for MSR 10, $1,450 to $1,550 for MSR 20, $1,350 to $1,450 for MSR 50 and $1,250 to $1,350 for Crepe Rubber.

In the last financial year, over 100,000 tons of rubber worth $180 million were exported to abroad.

Nearly 100,000 acres of rubber are growing now in Mon State. —Zar Lin Thu ■

Requirement of more 5 million baskets paddy seeds in Ayeyawady Region

AYEYAWADY Region farmers are facing a seed shortage of five million baskets of paddy seeds, according to the Ayeyawady Region Agriculture Department.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation plans to implement a paddy seed growing project for farmers in Ayeyawady and Sagaing regions. This project will be supported by Myanmar's Department of Agricultural Research and experts from Japan International Cooperation Agency. "Farmers plant more than 5 million baskets of paddy seeds in the region for the whole year," said U Tun Aung Kyaw, head of Ayeyawady Region Agriculture Department. He said that farmers often have to purchase seeds, but struggle to find sources of quality seeds in local markets.

"We need more seed markets," said U Kyaw Soe, member of Pantanaw farmers' development network. —Zar Lin Thu (AMIA) ■

Myanma Insurance, private companies allowed to sell four new policies

May Thet Hnin

THE Insurance Business Regulatory Board (IBRB) has granted permission to the state-run Myanma Insurance (MI) as well as private companies for four new types of insurance, said U Khin Maung Win, General Manager of the MI.

According to the announcement issued on 10 July, the new types of insurance include personal accident insurance, marine hull insurance, travel insurance and farmer's life insurance.

U Khin Maung Win said that the personal accident insurance is a new version of health insurance. This new type of insurance will provide financial supports to policyholders for accidental death, disability and injuries. Every healthy person between the age of 16 and 65 are eligible for this kind of insurance policy for three, six and 12-month term. The insurance benefits will normally go to the policyholder. However, the beneficiary files a claim with the insurance companies when the insured has died in accident. The price for the policy ranges between Ks500,000 and Ks20 million.

U Khin Maung Win also said that persons between the ages of 16 and 60 are eligible for farmer's life insurance. Farmers and their families, relatives and business partners may apply for the new insurance for a 12-month term with prices ranging from Ks100,000 to Ks5 million plus a one per cent premium. The insurance company will pay the full amount of insurance benefits for death and disability. Based on the level of injury, compensation will be paid for those who sustained injuries in the case of accident. U Khin Maung Win added that travel insurance system covers inbound and outbound travels as well as passenger transportation. The term of travel insurance is between one day and three months at the most, with the price ranging from Ks500,000 and Ks10 million. For outbound travel insurance, a person has to pay Ks200 fees for a one-week term and Ks500 for a three-month term.

Including the four new types of insurance, Myanma Insurance currently provides 31 types of insurance to the public, while private insurance companies offer 12 kinds of insurance.

"The MI always collaborates with private companies to develop the country's insurance market. There is no discrimination, with the MI planning to grant all types of insurance to the private sector in the future through a stage-by-stage approach. For the time being, the MI does not allow private companies to offer some forms of insurance with higher compensation rates," said U Khin Maung Win. He continued to say that the MI operates like a private company, offering compensations to policyholders as quickly as possible. The quick responses have been given by respective departments to survey the cases, getting necessary documents from relevant organisations.

Of all the types of insurance, fire insurance is the best seller, representing 40 per cent of total earnings, followed by comprehensive motor insurance, marine insurance and life insurance, said U Khin Maung Win.

The Myanma Insurance company independently operates like private companies under the supervision of the Insurance Business Regulatory Board. ■

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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 SUPERCENTER City Mart Supermarket

YBS passenger bus crashes into a taxi on the Shwe Gone Taing overpass on Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, yesterday. **PHOTO: NAING LIN AUNG (IPRD)**

Crash seriously injures taxi driver, damages new YBS bus

A taxi driver was seriously injured and a new Yangon Bus Service passenger bus was damaged in a crash on the Shwe Gone Taing overpass on Kabar Aye Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, yesterday.

The taxi was coming up from the side of the Hnin Si Gone Home for the Aged and when it attempted a U-turn on the Shwe Gone Taing Overpass and was struck by the YBS bus on its right side.

The taxi driver was transported to Yangon General Hospital with major injuries.

Police inspector Ye Min Htun is leading the accident investigation. —Naing Lin Aung (IPRD) ■

Three dead bodies found in Chook Pyin Creek, in Yathedaung Township

At about 2 pm on 31 July, in the creek of Chook Pyin Creek (a) Zawt Pyin creek one mile far from the east of Chook Pyin village, 3 dead bodies—one decapitated and the other two nearly beheaded were found. On investigating the bodies, the victims were Iman Nusaw aged 54 of Nilinpaw village, Ahtetnam village tract, Nawra King aged 18 and Nora Long aged 15, it was learnt. The cases are being investigated.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Myanmar trade officials discuss private sector development and pulses market

THE Trade and Investment Development Work Committee meeting was held yesterday at the Ministry of Commerce meeting hall and was attended by the Trade and Investment Development Work Committee Chairman Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo.

The deputy minister said private sector development is essential. The deputy minister also urged attendees to study the examples of other countries in the region.

Trade and Investment Development Work Committee Vice Chairman Permanent Secretary U Toe Aung Myint discussed the current trade situation, annual exports and pulses prices.

The discussion continued with the participation of officials from the Myanmar Pulses, Beans, Sesame Seeds Merchant Association, Yangon region trading house and private businesses.

The discussions were led by Work Committee Chairman Deputy Minister U Aung Htoo.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo addresses the Trade and Investment Development Work Committee meeting. **PHOTO: MNA**

Terrorist trainee arrested in Yathedaung, Rakhine State

At about 5 pm on July 27, security forces seized a villager known as Anna Tular residing in Ahtet Nanyar village, who was said to have completed the terrorist attack training on the range of May Yu one month ago, during the patrol duty in Yathedaung township, Rakhine State.

It has been learnt that he was being investigated according to the law. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Anna Tular. **PHOTO: MNA**

Land tenure, property registration procedures to be improved

LAND tenure, cadaster and the establishment of a new property registration system were discussed at the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation during a meeting yesterday.

Union Minister Dr Aung Thu said property documentation systems for land deeds, value assessments, registration agreements, stamp duties, transfers and other processes need to be improved.

Settlement and Land Records Department Director General U Thet Naing Oo said that sorting out land tenure issues will improve Myanmar's Doing Business Report rating.

Officials with the General Administrative Department, the Internal Revenue Department, the Department of Urban and Housing Development and the Yangon City Development Committee all contributed their views to the property registration committee..

Ministries were assigned responsibilities to enable Myanmar to increase its World Bank ease of doing business ranking. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation was given the responsibility to improve Myanmar's Registering Property ranking.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Police arrest man and discover narcotic. **PHOTO: AUNG KYAW TUN**

Police seize heroin from a Bhamo motorcyclist

Law enforcement authorities discovered 22.4 grams of heroin hidden in two soap cups during a vehicle inspection near Bhamo University, Bhamo Township, Kachin State yesterday.

The authorities stopped a Mnaoto motorcycle heading toward downtown Bhamo from Mansi Township and discovered the narcotic hidden in the driver's trousers pocket, along with Ks160,000.

The suspect, Paung Phat, also known as Mar Tu, 33, of Nant Hlaing Village, Bhamo was arrested on suspicion of narcotics violations.—Aung Kyaw Tun/ Bhamo (IPRD) ■

Inada leaves Defence Ministry with no apology over coverup scandal

Former Defence Minister Tomomi Inada (L front) walks down stairs as personnel see her off after a ceremony marking the end of her duties at the Defence Ministry in Tokyo on 31 July, 2017. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

TOKYO — At a ceremony to mark her resignation as defense minister, Tomomi Inada on Monday called for the creation of an "open" atmosphere inside the ministry and the Self-Defence Forces following a data coverup scandal, but did not offer an apology.

Admitting the ministry's "inappropriate" response to information disclosure requests in the scandal, Inada told senior Defence Ministry and SDF officials, "I hope you will work to build an open culture, cooperate more closely, and bring together the ministry and the SDF to ride out any kind of difficulties."

Inada resigned Friday following a one-year stint that was marred by gaffes and missteps. The direct reason for her resignation, which took place just days ahead of a looming Cabinet reshuffle, was the ministry's coverup of data related to a UN peacekeeping mission in South Sudan, in which she was alleged to have played a role.

She has denied involvement in the coverup but quit her ministerial post Friday to take responsibility for the issue, which she said had "shaken public confidence" in the ministry and the SDF.

The logs stirred controversy as they described some especially tense situations that Ground Self-Defence Force members found themselves in during the UN mission in the fledgling African country. The involvement of troops in conflict situations overseas is a sensitive issue in Japan due to the war-renouncing Constitution.

The Defence Ministry usually holds a ceremony for a minister leaving the post, but a senior ministry official was irritated that Inada did not decline the offer to attend the event at a time when the ministry is on high alert following North Korea's second test of an intercontinental ballistic missile late Friday night.

"We had a lot going on inside the ministry and she could have chosen to excuse herself. After all, she did not try to understand the feelings of the people on the frontline," the official said.

After attending the ceremony, Inada reviewed guards of honor and left the ministry building in Tokyo, receiving applause from the ministry and SDF officials.

The coverup scandal led the ministry's top bureaucrat Tetsuro Kuroe to quit his post for keeping from the public the fact that the GSDF had retained the data once thought to have been discarded. GSDF Chief of Staff Toshiya Okabe will also leave his post in August.

Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida is concurrently serving the defense portfolio. —Kyodo News ■

Japan's Daio Paper begins sanitary napkin production in Thailand

BANGKOK — Japan's Daio Paper Corp has begun operating its first overseas manufacturing facility for sanitary napkins in Thailand to expand its market share amid tough competition with larger Japanese and US rivals. The company is planning to release its "Elis" brand sanitary pad in the Southeast Asian country in mid-August, aiming to achieve a 10 per cent share in the next three years. It trails Japanese rivals Unicharm Corp and Kao Corp which hold shares of 50 per cent and 37 per cent, respectively. "This is the first time for us to manufacture Elis sanitary napkins outside Japan. As a trial, we put imported products on sale last June and have gained good feedback," said Hiroyuki Fujita, president of local subsidiary Elleair International (Thailand) Co. The local arm has spent 400 million baht ($12 million) to set up a new production line for the product at its factory, which currently produces diapers, in the Amata City Industrial Estate in Rayong province, southeast of the capital Bankok.

About 140 million sanitary napkins are being consumed monthly in Thailand, which is dominated by Unicharm's "Sofy" and Kao's "Laurier." Johnson & Johnson Services Inc. of the United States, which markets "Modess," is in third place with a 10 percent share, according to the subsidiary.

Elleair International (Thailand) aims to capture the third rank through local production in the sector which it forecasts will grow 3 to 5 per cent annually.

The local arm uses Rilakkuma, a popular bear character from Japan, for the packaging of Elis while selecting Natapohn Temirak, an actress better known by her nickname Taew, as the face of its marketing campaign. Kyodo News ■

Bangladesh to digitally map supply chain to tackle garment sector abuse

CHENNAI, India — B angladesh, the second largest garment producing country in the world, will digitally map its entire garment industry in the first such initiative to bring transparency in the supply chain in an effort to stop abuses.

The mapping project will collect "credible, comprehensive and accurate data" on factories across Bangladesh and disclose it in a publicly available, online map, said a manufacturers association that launched the project on Saturday.

Bangladesh's garment sector, worth about $28 billion per year and employing 4 million people, came under scrutiny after the collapse of the eight-storey Rana Plaza factory complex in 2013 that killed more than 1,100 workers.

The death of 10 workers in a boiler explosion at a garment factory earlier this month renewed calls for more transparency and implementation of labour laws.

"We believe (the project) will empower stakeholders across the industry, including workers, factory authority, brands, government and civil society organisations to create positive changes...," Siddiqur Rahman, president of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association, said in a statement.

"This transparency initiative would significantly complement our ongoing efforts towards enhanced, more risk-averse supply chains," Rahman said. Campaigners have criticised many retailers for failing to improve working conditions in their supply chains. Long hours, low pay, poor safety standards and not being allowed to form trade unions are common complaints from garment workers.

Locating sub-contracting suppliers has been the biggest challenge, with many big manufacturers not transparent about the lower ends of their supply chain, campaigners add.

The digital mapping project is part of efforts to change that, project head Parveen S Huda said. "The mapping project will fuel Bangladesh's garment industry advancements, inspire shared responsibility, responsible sourcing, collective action and build upon pre-existing improvement efforts through informed decision-making," Huda said in a statement.

The map will provide a detailed industry-wide database of factories, including names, locations, numbers of workers, product type, export country, certifications and brand customers.

Verification of information will be crowdsourced from the public to ensure that information remains up-to-date and accurate. The first public map is scheduled to live in 2018 in the Dhaka region. The final version of the map showcasing all 20 Bangladeshi garment producing districts is expected to be completed by 2021. —Reuters ■

Suppression and Eradication of Black Market

GNLM

IN dealing with national problems of variety, knowledge on the actual situation is an initially needed fundamental. Only if we have the full knowledge of the actuality will it be able for us to acquire the right solution in carrying out practically. The fall of Burma Socialist Program Party (BSPP) was attributed to failure to know actual situations under the then party set-up.

In performing the tasks of developing the nation based on the lessons in the past, the UMFCCI (Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry) are holding (SME Development Strategy, "Issues and Solutions" Forum) to effectively submit suggestions to the Government, with a view to laying down solutions which reflects the actual situations.

The facts on illicit trade submitted at this meeting are assumed to be the ones that should be emphasized with great stress.

The responsible person of the UMFCCI presented at the meeting the facts on illicit trade. In doing so, he made submissions based on the difference between facts on legal trade released by the State and facts on the trade released by trade-partner countries. Cases of the said illicit trade can be found in the trade between Myanmar and Thailand as well as in the trade between Myanmar and China. This was caused by most of Myanmar's border trade with China and Thailand.

According to the report by the UMFCCI, the amount of import via black market, which was excluded in the statistics of the nation's legal trade, amounted to US $ 5339 million. In addition, the amount of export via black market, which was excluded in the statistics of the nation's legal trade, amounted to US $ 10975 million. At the conservative estimate made by the responsible personnel of the UMFCCI, loss of taxes and customs to be levied on the black market will be US $ one billion. Compared to the amount of the legal trade deficit—US $ 5 million, the depth of the amount of US $ one billion can be guessed easily.

In fact, loss of national revenue due to black market exceeds the said amount. Evidently enough, it will be enormously great to lose for the nation, provided that loss of honest and straightforward entrepreneurs and bribery and corruption are taken into consideration. In eradication of deep-rooted and long-lasting practices of black market systematic measures must be made by taking time step by step. I hereby submit my humble suggestion for the State to lay down a all-inclusive strategy consisting all machinery of the country, based on the suggestions made by UMFCCI. ■

Gender Equality and Climate Change Action

By Dr. Khine Khine Win

WITHOUT doubt, climate change has greater impact on those sections of the population. Women comprise more than half of the today world's population and are commonly face higher risks and greater burdens from the impact of climate change especially in situation of poverty. A United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) study shows that in a natural disaster, women and children are 14 times more likely to die than men.

Climate change worsens gender inequality. Gender equality does not imply that women and men are the same, but that they have equal value, rights and should be accorded equal opportunity. Marginalized populations including women tend to be disproportionately and negatively impacted and women are affected by climate change differently due to their social and economic inequality. Based on survey result, the large majority of deaths are women during disaster. In countries where gender inequality is more severe, death rates of women in climate-related disasters are shockingly high. For instance, women accounted for 61% of fatalities caused by Cyclone Nargis in Myanmar in 2008, 70–80% in the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, and 91% in the 1991 cyclone in Bangladesh.

A study of the cyclone that ravaged much of Bangladesh in 1991 suggested that many women and children perished in their homes because as they waited for men to make evacuation decisions. A study by Oxfam found that four times as many women died after the Indian Ocean tsunami in some villages—in part, because women were less likely to know how to swim or climb trees to save themselves. Women tend to be less aware of how to protect themselves and have less knowledge about disaster occurrences. That struggle comes on top of the unique challenges of dealing with climate change in regions with little money, infrastructure, or government support.

During community consultations for a United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) climate change gender vulnerability assessment, the women of Pinsalu and Labutta villages which were worst affected by the May 2008 Cyclone Nargis, said they need to be better prepared for natural disasters as they are primarily responsible for the safety of vulnerable family members.

Women and children are more vulnerable to the health effects of climate change. For instance, data for 2000 and 2012 from South-east Asia show that diarrhoeal diseases, which are common during instances of flooding, killed more women than men. Indeed women suffered malnutrition following a disaster as pregnant and breastfeeding mothers may be neglected. If climate change makes certain water and wood sources more unreliable, these water- and wood-gatherers mostly women will have to walk farther every day, limiting the time they have to perform other tasks, like earn money, learn new skills, or simply rest. It is a kind of human rights threat too.

In climate change mitigation, women often seen as victims and treated such rather than involving them in decision-making. What makes it harder for women is that they are under-represented in decision-making when it comes to climate change. They have far lower access to management of natural resources.

Here is a question. How to protect women and girls after a disaster? These are the some facts that we can help women and girls after disaster.

First and foremost important thing is we need to recognize women as actors, not just victims. Women should be seen as partners when interacting with men during an emergency or disaster response. 2. Government and international agencies should be aware of gender issues in the distribution of relief items.3. The government has to assess the risk of violence to women and girls and address their specific needs. As women are less likely to survive disasters, and that planning and warning systems need to be responsive to this reality. 4. Shelters should be guarded. 5. Showers and latrines for women and girls should be private and secured. 6. Donors need to dedicate more funding to reproductive health services, awareness-raising of gender-based violence, and counseling and treatment for women and girls. 7. Relief services need to be designed with civil society women's networks at the planning table with the cooperation of government agencies. 8. Women's participation in disaster risk reduction (DRR) decision-making processes at all levels throughout the country should be high. These are the some facts which can help women and girls after disaster.

Like many other developing countries, Myanmar is particularly vulnerable to natural disasters such as floods, and earthquakes. And like many human and natural disasters, extreme weather events affect certain populations disparately and unfairly. 2016 Climate Risk index shows that Myanmar is the second-most vulnerable country in the world to the affect of climate change.

To conclude, I would like to highlight here is that this is the time to take urgent action for climate change and also time to emphasize the needs and roles of women in building a culture of disaster resilience. ■

The joint delegation of the Peace Commission and PNLO meeting with local people in a ceasefire area in Thaton, Mon State. **PHOTO: STATE COUNSELLOR'S OFFICE INFORMATION COMMITTEE**

Peace Commission, PNLO make joint visit to ceasefire area in Mon State

FROM PAGE-1

The joint delegation held a community consultation in Inn Kway village. Government and PNLO representatives both emphasized that peace and development must go hand in hand. Community representatives presented the development needs of the local people, such as all-weather roads, electrification, health clinics, and jobs including for internally-displaced persons.

All parties expressed a commitment to working together to implement practical results from this field visit, based on this bottom-up guidance.

The delegation members expressed hope that similar field visits to other ceasefire areas would take place in the near future.

The Myanmar Government delegation was headed by Dr Tin Myo Win (Peace Commission Chair) and included Dr Win Myat Aye (Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement), Dr Myint Htwe (Union Minister for Health and Sports), U Thein Zaw (Deputy Chair of the Peace Commission), Dr Aung Tun Thet (member of the Peace Commission) and U Set Aung (Member of the Development Assistance Coordination Unit), along with Mon State Chief Minister Dr Aye Zan and State ministers. The PNLO delegation was headed by Chair U Khun Myint Tun.—GNLM

The joint delegation of the Peace Commission and PNLO holds talks with local people in a ceasefire area in Thaton, Mon State. **PHOTO: STATE COUNSELLOR'S OFFICE INFORMATION COMMITTEE**

The third Law Amending the Anti-Corruption Law (2017 Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No. 18)

8th Waxing of Wagaung 1379 ME
31 July, 2017

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw enacted this law

1. This law shall be called as the Third Law Amending the Anti-Corruption Law.
2. The word "not older than 70" shall be replaced with " not older than 75" in the sub-section (b) under the Section 9 of the Anti-Corruption Law.

I sign hereby according to the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Sd/ Htin Kyaw
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Office of the President Order 20/2017

1379 ME, 8th Waxing of the month of Wagaung
31 July 2017

Deputy Governors of the Central Bank of Myanmar appointed

In accordance with the provisions stated in section 9 of Central Bank of Myanmar Law of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the following persons have been appointed as Deputy Governors of the Central Bank of Myanmar.

Name	Appointment
(1) U Soe Min	Deputy Governor
(2) U Soe Thein	Deputy Governor
(3) U Bo Bo Nge	Deputy Governor

Sd/ Htin Kyaw
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Death toll from seasonal influenza reaches 12

FROM PAGE-1

Laboratory tests carried out from 2 pm on Saturday to 2 pm Sunday confirmed that 11 patients are contracted with H1N1 virus. Meanwhile, the health officials have sought to calm fears among the public over the outbreak which has seen stores Yangon sell out of surgical masks.

The ministry has urged everyone to follow their recommended precautionary measures, which include avoiding crowds, frequent washing hands, use of disposal tissues when sneezing and coughing, and thorough cleaning of utensils and plates before use.

The health officials pointed out that H1N1 has been among the strains of flu circulating in Myanmar seasonally since a global pandemic in 2009, although deaths from the virus have not been reported in recent years.— GNLM

Invitation to young writers for Sunday section

The Global New Light of Myanmar is accepting submissions of poetry, opinion, articles, essays and short stories from young people for its weekly Sunday Next Generation Platform. Interested candidates can send their works to the **Global New Light of Myanmar** at No. 150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon or by email to **dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com** with the following information: **(1)** Sector you wish to be included in (poetry, opinion, etc.), **(2)** Real name and (if different) your penname, **(3)** Your level of education, **(4)** Name of your School/College/University, **(5)** A written note of declaration that the submitted piece is your original work and has not been submitted to any other news or magazine publishing houses, **(6)** A color photo of the submitter, **(7)** Copy of your NRC card, **(8)** Contact information (email address, mobile number, etc.).— Editorial Department, The Global New Light of Myanmar news office

US attitudes to Russia unlikely to change soon, says Putin

MOSCOW — Russia has demanded the United States reduce its diplomatic personnel in Russia nearly three-fold, Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Sunday, adding that he doesn't think further countermeasures in response to Washington's unfriendly policy would be expedient right now as they might harm Moscow's international ties.

"As for other possible measures or is that too much or not, it is quite painful from the point of view of the operation the diplomatic mission. Since out of more than a thousand of the employees, diplomats and technical staff, who has been and are still working in Russia, 755 will have to finish their work in Russia," he said in an interview with VGTRK host Vladimir Solovyov.

The president explained why response measures have been taken now. "Because the American side once again made an absolutely ungrounded, which is important, step to deteriorate the Russian-US relations, imposing illegal restrictions and trying to press other countries, including its allies, which are interested in the development and maintaining of relations with Russia," he said, obviously referring to the US bill toughening the anti-Russian sanctions.

"We have been waiting for quite a long time for any positive changes [in the United States' attitudes to Russia], we have hoped that the situation will change somehow.

But, to all appearances, even if it ever changes, it will not be soon," he said in an interview with VGTRK host Vladimir Solovyov. "I thought we must demonstrate that we are not going to leave anything unanswered either."

Russian President Vladimir Putin. **PHOTO: TASS**

Possibilities for further countersanctions...

Putin stressed that Russian has a wide set of possible extra restrictions in respect of the United States. "The question is whether it is expedient to make further steps and which steps we can make," he said.

"We do have what to say and impose restrictions in such spheres of our joint activities that would be very painful for the US side. But I don't think it should be done as it would harm the development of international relations," he said, adding that it would harm "not only the Russian-US relations as such but would do certain damage to us."

"Theoretically, there might come the time when losses from attempts to exert pressure on Russia would be equal to the negative impacts stemming from certain restrictions on our cooperation. Well, when such a moment comes, we can look at other options of responses. But I hope such a moment will never come. As of today, I am against," Putin said.

... or possibilities for cooperation

Nevertheless, the Russian leader stressed, Russia and the United States have sphere where cooperation is very important.

"There are very important spheres of cooperation, including non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction — and here we are playing the first violin, along with the Unites States, and strengthening of this regime, as well as fighting against terrorism," he said.

According to Putin, such cooperation is yielding good results. "Judging by what has been done recently (let us wait and see how the situation develops further), the establishment of the de-escalation zone in Syria is a concrete step, a concrete result of joint efforts," he underscored. "Not only in the interests of Syria and Russia but also in the interests of Jordan and Israel, and, hence, in the interests of the United States as this is region of US interests. So, we are working and achieving results even now, in this rather difficult situation."

The Russian president cited other areas of possible cooperation. "Well, we have good plans for cooperation in outer space. For instance, both our and American researchers are interested in possible joint efforts to explore Venus," he noted.

Other major areas of cooperation, in his words, are problems of cyber security. "I have already told that, we have repeatedly invited the American side to arrange cooperation to secure out interests, both Russia's and the United States' and global, and to establish control over such negative activities as cyber crime," he said. "Instead of making concrete steps to begin constructive cooperation, we only hear ungrounded accusations of meddling in the United States' domestic affairs."

Moreover, the two countries can establish economic cooperation, including such sectors as energy, aviation, space exploration. "We have done much in the sphere of aviation, in the sphere of space exploration and we have good perspectives, let alone US spacecraft that are launched by our engines, let alone the international space program," he added.

US' sanctions against Russia

Earlier in the week, the US Senate adopted by an overwhelming majority of 98 against 2 votes a bill toughening the US' unilateral sanctions against Russia, Iran and North Korea. Previously, the bill won the majority of votes ($19 against 3) in the House of Representatives. Now, Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act has been referred to President Donald Trump. The White House says Trump will sign the document. The Russian foreign ministry said that in response to the US' fresh round of anti-Russian sanctions it reduced the number of US diplomats in Russia to 455, or as many as there are Russian diplomats serving in the United States, and closes access to the embassy's compound in Serebryany Bor and storage facilities in Moscow from 1 August.

Strains in relations between Russia and the United States started in 2014, after Crimea's reunification with Russia. Washington froze cooperation with Moscow in many areas having imposed sanctions on Russian individuals and legal entities. Russia imposed countersanctions and announced the suspension of the deal on the disposal of weapons-grade plutonium and two research programs in nuclear physics over a "threat to strategic stability stemming from unfriendly actions."

In late 2016, the United States imposed another round of sanctions against Russian intelligence services and a number of individuals having accused them of meddling with the US elections. The US administration also expelled 35 Russia diplomats and seized two Russian compounds in the States of New York and Maryland.—Tass ■

WORLD BRIEFS

British interior minister to push Silicon Valley on countering militants — source

LONDON — Britain's interior minister travels to Silicon Valley this week to ask social media companies such as YouTube to step up efforts to tackle content which encourages militants to carry out violent attacks. Home Secretary Amber Rudd will meet with senior executives of social media and internet service providers to discuss "tackling tackling terrorist content available online," according to a person familiar with her plans. —Reuters ■

Russia says concerned with situation on Korean Peninsula after missile test

MOSCOW — Russia's Foreign Ministry said on Monday it was concerned about recent developments on the Korean peninsula following another missile test by Pyongyang. The ministry also said in a statement that the United States and other countries were trying "to shift responsibility for the situation to Russia and China" and that such attempts were baseless. —Reuters ■

Poland says will go on logging ancient forest despite EU court ruling

WARSAW — Poland said on Monday it would continue with the "protective" logging of the country's primeval Bialowieza forest despite a ruling by the European Union's top court ordering it to stop immediately.

Asked if Poland would continue what it has described as necessary felling to check in a beetle outbreak, a representative of the state forest management agency told a joint news conference with Environment Minister Jan Szyszko: "The State Forests are obliged to continue protective measures. We have to fulfil the protective measures plan and this is what we are doing," Konrad Tomaszewski said.—Reuters ■

Islamic State claims responsibility for attack on Iraqi embassy in Kabul

KABUL — Militant group Islamic State on Monday claimed responsibility for an attack on the Iraqi embassy in Kabul that began with a suicide bomber blowing himself up at the main gate, allowing gunmen to enter the building and battle security forces.

The assault comes a week after 35 people were killed in a Taliban attack on government workers in the Afghan capital and underlines the country's precarious security as the United States weighs an overhaul of its policy in the region.

"Our forces are inside and a clearance operation is underway," said Afghan interior ministry spokesman Najib Danish, adding that embassy personnel were safe, although embassy guards and nearby civilians might have suffered casualties.

Danish put the number of gunmen in the building at three.

Islamic State's Amaq agency said two attackers had blown up the gate, killing seven guards, and two fighters had broken into the compound.

Islamic State has carried out a series of high-profile attacks in Kabul, mainly targeting members of the mainly Shi'ite Hazara community, and fuelling concerns of a possible spillover into Afghanistan from fighting in Syria and Iraq.

The local branch of the movement, often called Daesh, is often known as Islamic State in Khorasan (ISIS-K), after an old name for the region that now includes Afghanistan.

US commanders say it has been severely hit by a campaign of drone strikes and joint Afghan and US Special Forces operations, with hundreds of fighters and commanders killed.

However Afghan security officials say the movement operates in as many as nine provinces, from Nangarhar and Kunar in the east to Badakhshan, Jawzjan and Faryab in the north and Baghdis and Ghor in the west.

The Taliban, fighting to reestablish strict Islamic law 16 years after being expelled by a US-led campaign in 2001, have opposed Islamic State.— Reuters ■

An Afghan police man covers himself as smoke rises from the site of an attack in Kabul, Afghanistan on 31 July, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Militants poised to leave Lebanon-Syria border zone under truce

BEIRUT — A convoy of buses was deployed on Monday to transport Nusra Front militants and refugees from Lebanon's border region to Syria in exchange for Hezbollah prisoners.

Under a local ceasefire between the Lebanese Shi'ite group and the Sunni militants, about 9,000 fighters and their relatives would leave for rebel territory in Syria on Monday, a Hezbollah media unit had said.

The Nusra Front was al-Qaeda's Syria branch until it severed ties and rebranded last year. It now spearheads the Tahrir al-Sham Islamist alliance in the Syrian war.

The deal includes the departure of all Nusra militants from Lebanon's northeast border region around Arsal town, along with any civilians in nearby refugee camps who wish to leave.

Hezbollah took most of the barren, mountainous zone of Jroud Arsal last week, after launching an offensive with the Syrian army to drive militants from their last foothold along the border.

The next phase is expected to target a nearby enclave in the hands of Islamic State.

The first stage of the ceasefire, brokered by Lebanon's internal security agency, took effect on Sunday as the two sides exchanged the bodies of fighters killed in clashes between them.

"Buses that will transport Nusra Front militants and their families have started arriving in Jroud Arsal," the Hezbollah military media unit said.

The convoys came from Syrian territory and headed towards Lebanese army positions, it said.

Hezbollah has played a major role in fighting militants along the frontier during Syria's six-year war. It has sent thousands of fighters to help prop up President Bashar al-Assad's government in the battle against rebel groups.

A Lebanese security source said dozens of buses would carry militants and refugees to Syria's Idlib province, which is under the insurgents' control.

Nusra Front will release eight Hezbollah fighters under the deal, three captured in recent days and five held in Syria, the source said.

The Lebanese Red Cross has taken part in logistics.

The UN refugee agency, not involved in the deal, was trying to reach refugees in the Arsal region to evaluate whether returns were voluntary, spokeswoman Lisa Abou Khaled said.

"UNHCR believes that conditions for refugees to return in safety and dignity are not yet in place in Syria," she said, as war rages on across much of the country. The multi-sided Syrian conflict has killed hundreds of thousands of people and driven at least 11 million from their homes.—Reuters ■

Turkey says detains more than 1,000 in latest anti-terror raids

ANKARA — Turkish authorities detained 1,098 people over the last week for suspected links to militant groups or last year's failed coup attempt, the interior ministry said on Monday.

In a statement, the ministry said 831 of those were detained for suspected ties to the US-based Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen, whom Ankara blames for orchestrating an attempted coup in July. Gulen denies any involvement.

It said another 213 of those were suspected of links to the outlawed Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), which has carried out a three-decade insurgency against the government and is considered a terrorist organisation by the United States, Turkey and Europe.

Forty-six people were detained over alleged links to Islamic State, while 8 more were held for suspected ties to "leftist terrorist groups", the ministry said.

Following the 15 July coup, Turkey has arrested some 50,000 people and sacked or suspended more than 150,000 in the military, civil service and private sector as part of a sweeping crackdown that has worried rights groups and some Western nations.

The Turkish government, however, has said the purges were justified by the gravity of the threats it was facing. — Reuters ■

Venezuela Socialists celebrate new Congress, pariah status looms

CARACAS — Venezuela's ruling Socialist Party has vowed that a newly elected legislative super-body will begin passing laws quickly after a vote that was boycotted by the opposition and slammed by foreign governments as an affront to democracy.

At least 10 people were killed in protests on Sunday by opponents of unpopular leftist President Nicolas Maduro, who insists the new "constituent assembly" will bring peace after four months of protests that have killed more than 120 people.

Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro (C) speaks during a meeting with supporters in Caracas, Venezuela on 30 July, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

The country's CNE elections authority said 8.1 million voters went to the polls on Sunday. The opposition estimated only 2.5 million ballots were cast.

Maduro's critics characterized the election as a naked power grab meant to keep him in office despite repudiation over an economic crisis that has spurred malnutrition and left citizens struggling to obtain basic products in the nation of about 30 million people.

The vote could exacerbate those economic woes if the United States — the top market for Venezuelan oil — follows through on threats of economic sanctions, and could sow doubts among investors about the legitimacy of financing deals backed by the new assembly. "The constituent assembly will start its work right away," Diosdado Cabello, deputy head of the Socialist Party, told a post-election rally in Caracas that featured singers, dancers and culminated after midnight in the announcement of the official vote count and a fiery speech by Maduro.

"Good morning Venezuela. We have a constituent assembly!" he shouted. "I ask our countrymen to close ranks so that the assembly can be a place of dialogue."

On Sunday, the US State Department vowed "strong swift actions against the architects of authoritarianism" that, according to US officials, will involve sanctions on the oil sector.

Allies of the Socialist Party won all 545 seats in the new assembly, which will have the power to rewrite the constitution, dissolve state institutions such as the opposition-run Congress, and sack dissident officials. "The constitutional assembly will not resolve any of the country's problems, it just means more crisis," opposition leader Henrique Capriles told a news conference, calling for a new round of protests at noon on Monday.

"As of tomorrow, a new stage of the struggle begins," Capriles said.

Latin American nations from Argentina to Mexico, which are historically wary of siding with Washington in hemispheric disputes, sharply condemned the vote.

Several refused to recognize the results, while Spain and Canada joined in the condemnation.

Socialist party official Cabello hinted that the constitutional assembly would hold sessions in the same legislative palace as the existing Congress, which the opposition took over in a landslide 2015 victory. —Reuters ■

Germany open to class action lawsuits in emissions scandal

BERLIN — Germany is open in principle to class action lawsuits against carmakers engulfed in the diesel emissions cheating scandal, the Transport Ministry said on Monday ahead of a diesel summit this week.

Representatives of the federal government, states and major carmakers will meet on Wednesday to discuss ways to avoid diesel bans though a German environmental group is threatening to sue the industry unless it takes radical steps.

The car industry hopes it can reduce polluting nitrogen oxide emissions with relatively cheap software updates and avoid court bans on diesel cars in some cities.

But a court on Friday backed a legal bid by German environmental group DUH to ban diesel cars from Stuttgart, which is home to carmakers Porsche, Mercedes-Benz and auto suppliers Bosch and Mahle.

The court ruling said retrofitting diesel cars with new software would not be sufficient to ensure Stuttgart meets emissions standards as soon as possible.

DUH, which is pushing for carmakers to be forced to replace emission control systems, said it felt validated by the court decision and expected action at this week's summit.

"We will not be fobbed off with a half-baked proposal," DUH head Juergen Resch said on Monday in Berlin. "We will make use of all available legal possibilities."—Reuters ■

US VP Pence, in the Baltics, voices support for mutual defence in NATO

TALLINN — US Vice President Mike Pence on Monday assured the Baltic states of US support if they faced aggression from Russia, telling them that Washington firmly backs NATO's doctrine of collective defence.

Pence's comments to the presidents of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, ahead of Russian war games on their doorstep, were clearly intended to reassure following Russia's 2014 annexation of Crimea from Ukraine and US President Donald Trump's early lukewarm support for NATO.

During a visit to NATO's Brussels headquarters in May, Trump jarred allies by not restating US support for a critical portion of the alliance's charter and instead berated some members for not spending enough on defence. Trump has since said he supports the NATO charter's Article 5, the requirement that each member of the alliance defend each other if they come under attack.

"A strong and united NATO is more necessary today than at any point since the collapse of communism a quarter-century ago and no threat looms larger in the Baltic states than the spectre of aggression from your unpredictable neighbour to the east," Pence said at news conference with the three Baltic presidents.

"Under President Donald Trump, the United States stands firmly behind our Article 5 pledge of mutual defence. An attack on one of us is an attack on us all."

Russia is scheduled next month to hold large-scale military manoeuvres with its ally Belarus. The US army's top general in Europe said this month that the Zapad war games could be a "Trojan horse" resulting in military equipment being left in Belarus.—Reuters ■

Germany urges EU countermeasures against US over Russia sanctions

BERLIN — New sanctions against Russia proposed by US lawmakers and which could harm European firms violate international law and the European Commission should consider counter-measures, the German economy minister was quoted on Monday as saying.

German Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy, Brigitte Zypries. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

"We consider this as being against international law, plain and simple," Brigitte Zypries told the Funke Mediengruppe newspaper chain. "Of course we don't want a trade war. But it is important the European Commission now looks into countermeasures."

The German government and business leaders have said the new sanctions passed this month by the US House of Representatives could prevent German companies from working on pipeline projects that they say are essential to Germany's energy security.—Reuters ■

TRADEMARK CAUTION

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Thein Aung *B.Sc,R.L,D.B.L* Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
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Tel:376318 G.P.O Box:666
Yangon. 1st August 2017

China hits back at Trump criticism over N Korea

BEIJING — China hit back on Monday after US President Donald Trump tweeted he was "very disappointed" in China following Pyongyang's latest missile test, saying the problem did not arise in China and that all sides need to work for a solution.

China has become increasingly frustrated with American and Japanese criticism that it should do more to rein in Pyongyang. China is North Korea's closest ally, but Beijing is angry with its continued nuclear and missile tests.

North Korea said on Saturday it had conducted another successful test of an intercontinental ballistic missile that proved its ability to strike the US mainland, drawing a sharp warning from Trump and a rebuke from China.

The Central Committee and the Central Military Commission of the Workers' Party of Korea hold a banquet at the Workran House in celebration of secone successsful test-fire of international ballistic missiles (ICBM) Hwasong-14, in this update picture provided by KCNA in Pyongyang on 30 July, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe spoke with Trump on Monday and agreed on the need for more action on North Korea just hours after the US Ambassador to the United Nations said Washington is "done talking about North Korea".

A White House statement after the phone call said the two leaders "agreed that North Korea poses a grave and growing direct threat to the United States, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and other countries near and far".

It said Trump "reaffirmed our ironclad commitment" to defend Japan and South Korea from any attack, "using the full range of United States capabilities".

Trump wrote on Twitter on Saturday after the missile test that he was "very disappointed" in China and that Beijing profits from US trade but had done "nothing" for the United States with regards to North Korea, something he would not allow to continue. China's Foreign Ministry, in a statement sent to Reuters responding to Trump's tweets, said the North Korean nuclear issue did not arise because of China and that everyone needed to work together to seek a resolution.

"All parties should have a correct understanding of this," it said, adding the international community widely recognised China's efforts to seek a resolution.

The essence of Sino-US trade is mutual benefit and win-win, with a vast amount of facts proving the healthy development of business and trade ties is good for both countries, the ministry added.

Chinese Vice Commerce Minister Qian Keming, weighed in too, telling a news conference there was no link between the North Korea issue and China-US trade. "We think the North Korea nuclear issue and China-US trade are issues that are in two completely different domains. They aren't related. They should not be discussed together," Qian said.

China, with which North Korea does the large majority of its trade, has repeatedly said it strictly follows UN resolutions on North Korea and has denounced unilateral US sanctions as unhelpful.

Nikki Haley, US Ambassador to the United Nations, said in a statement China must decide if it is willing to back imposing stronger UN sanctions on North Korea over Friday night's long-range missile test, the North's second this month.

Any new UN Security Council resolution "that does not significantly increase the international pressure on North Korea is of no value", Haley said, adding that Japan and South Korea also needed to do more.

Abe told reporters after his conversation with Trump that repeated efforts by the international community to find a peaceful solution to the North Korean issue had yet to bear fruit in the face of Pyongyang's unilateral "escalation".

"International society, including Russia and China, need to take this seriously and increase pressure," Abe said. He said Japan and the United States would take steps towards concrete action but did not give details.

Abe and Trump did not discuss military action against North Korea, nor what would constitute the crossing of a "red line" by Pyongyang, Deputy Chief Cabinet spokesman Koichi Hagiuda told reporters.

"Pyongyang is determined to develop its nuclear and missile programme and does not care about military threats from the US and South Korea," state-run Chinese tabloid the Global Times said on Monday.

"How could Chinese sanctions change the situation?" said the paper, which is published by the ruling Communist Party's official People's Daily.

China wants both balanced trade with the United States and lasting peace on the Korean peninsula, its official Xinhua news agency added in a commentary.—Reuters ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV SAN GIORGIO VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SAN GIORGIO VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.8.2017and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV MCC HA LONG VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCC HA LONG VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.8.2017and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV CHINDWIN STAR VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CHINDWIN STAR VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 1.8.2017and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Renowned American rocker Marilyn Manson to stage concert in Moscow

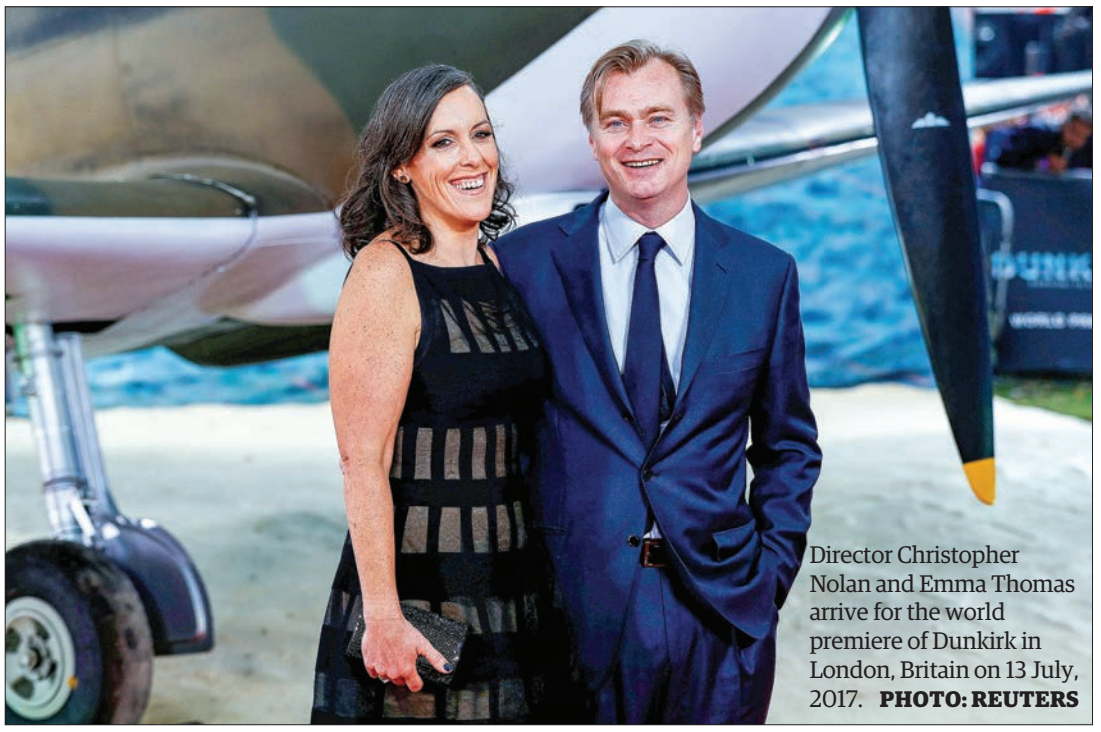
Marilyn Manson. **PHOTO: TASS**

MOSCOW — On 31 July, American rock musician Marilyn Manson will stage a concert in Moscow's Stadium club, the club's press service said.

Manson is currently on tour in support of his new album called Heaven Upside Down. After the Moscow gig, he will perform in Ukraine, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland, France, the United States, Sweden, Denmark, the Czech Republic, Austria, Italy and the United Kingdom.

In the summer of 2014, Manson's shows in Moscow and the Siberian city of Novosibirsk were cancelled. His performance at the Park Live festival at VDNKh in Moscow was called off due to a bomb scare while some Orthodox Christian activists protested against his concert in Novosibirsk lambasting him for allegedly promoting homosexuality. However, Novosibirsk Mayor Anatoly Lokot said that according to prosecutors there was nothing wrong with Manson's songs. Since the show was scheduled during the festival of City Day, when municipal services and law enforcement officials were going to have their hands full with keeping order during the local celebrations, the concert had to be postponed. In the end, the city administration put forward other dates for the concert but the singer's management said he was unable to perform in Novosibirsk on suggested days.

Marilyn Manson is musician Brian Hugh Warner's stage name formed by juxtaposing the names of the US actress Marilyn Monroe and notorious murderer Charles Manson. In 1989, Warner founded an industrial rock band Marilyn Manson which has so far released nine studio albums and received a number of music awards including four Grammys.—Tass ■



Director Christopher Nolan and Emma Thomas arrive for the world premiere of Dunkirk in London, Britain on 13 July, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

World War II film "Dunkirk" continues to lead North American box office

LOS ANGELES — Warner Bros.' presentation of Christopher Nolan's epic war film "Dunkirk" continued to lead North American box office with an estimated 28.13 million US dollars in its second weekend.

The World War II drama has earned 102.83 million US dollars in North America after just 10 days in theaters. It also marched to 45.6 million US dollars this weekend from 63 overseas markets for a global combined total of 234.1 million US dollars, according to studio figures collected by comScore.

The Emoji Movie, from Sony Animated Pictures, opened in second place with an estimated 25.65 million. "The film took advantage of a lack of family fare in the marketplace for a solid weekend performance despite the critics," wrote movie analyst Paul Dergarabedian at comScore in an email to Xinhua. The American 3D computer-animated comedy film directed by Tony Leondis stars the voice of Anna Faris, James Corden, TJ Miller, Patrick Stewart and Sofia Vergara among others.

Universal's "Girls Trip" moved to the third place at the North American box office. The comedy film brought in another 20.08 million US dollars in its second weekend and 65.5 million US dollars through Sunday after 10 days in release. Focus Feature's "Atomic Blonde" landed in the fourth place with an estimated 18.55 million US dollars in its opening weekend in North America. Sony's "Spider-Man: Homecoming" finished fifth with an estimated 13.45 million US dollars in its fourth weekend.—Xinhua ■

Russian opera diva Anna Netrebko leads rating of highest-paid Russian musicians — Forbes

MOSCOW — Russian opera singer Anna Netrebko takes the lead in the list of Russian top-earning musicians, Forbes said on Monday.

Netrebko's annual income amounted to $7.5 mln, according to Forbes. Pop singer Philipp Kirkorov is second with the revenue of $7.4 mln, followed by rapper Timati ($6.6 mln). The top ten highest-paid Russian musicians also comprise Dima Bilan with $6 mln, Grigory Leps ($6 bln), Bi-2 group ($5.7 mln), Sergei Shnurov ($5 mln), Zemfira ($5 mln), Nikolai Baskov ($4.3 mln) and Egor Krid ($4 mln).—Tass ■

Ageing is a double-edged sword: Kate Hudson

Los Angeles — Actress Kate Hudson says getting older is a "double-edged sword" as it affects one physically, but also gives a greater sense of wisdom.

The 38-year-old actress says she has grown more comfortable in her skin and wants women to feel positive about growing old, reported The Times magazine.

"Ageing is like a double-edged sword, because you accept that your body starts to change and gravity takes over and, as that's happening, you gain a sense of wisdom and get more comfortable with who you are...

"I'm all for the creams and the lasers and longevity. I'm not going to lie: I'm one of those women who, if there's a filter, I'm using it...You can use all the creams in the world but, I'm telling you, the best thing for ageing is being active and healthy, so I want to reach out to women about body positivity," Hudson says.—PTI ■

Visitors to Tokyo Disneyland, DisneySea reach 700 million

CHIBA (Japan) — The total number of visitors to Tokyo Disneyland and Tokyo DisneySea amusement parks reached 700 million Monday, operator Oriental Land Co said.

Sae Tanaka, a 36-year-old nurse from the western Japan city of Otsu, was the lucky 700 millionth visitor.

Together with her husband and two children, she shook hands with Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse and received a bunch of flowers and a free passport valid for both parks until the end of 2020 as commemorative gifts

"It's a lifetime memory," Tanaka said. "We'd like to look around Cinderella Castle, which my daughter likes, and other places."

Sae Tanaka (center R) holds a certificate marking her as the 700 millionth visitor to Tokyo Disneyland and Tokyo DisneySea in Chiba Prefecture's Urayasu, east of Tokyo, on 31 July, 2017. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

Tokyo Disneyland, located in Urayasu, Chiba Prefecture, near Tokyo, opened in April 1983, and the number of visitors hit 100 million in May 1991.

Tokyo DisneySea opened next to Tokyo Disneyland in September 2001, and the combined number of visitors to both parks reached 500 million in August 2010 and 600 million in April 2014.

Tokyo Disneyland started large-scale renovation work in April, aiming to open attractions based on "Beauty and the Beast" and "Big Hero 6" movies in 2020.

The investment in the project is estimated at 75 billion yen ($680 million). —Kyodo News ■

Palace Museum encourages people to take culture home

BEIJING — "Cultural creative products are good culture carriers," said Shan Jixiang, curator of the Palace Museum, during a lecture at Xinhuanet on Wednesday.

"Make the cultural relics 'alive' means reconsidering the value of the cultural relics, and infusing cultural elements into today's modern life," Shan added.

After opening the mysterious West District of the Palace Museum, visitors, especially the young visitors, have become more curious about the Palace Museum than before, said Shan.

"This is because people connect the Palace Museum with the living place of their favorite role in an ancient-costume TV series--The Legend of Zhenhuan" (an imperial concubine).

"People want to find out which room in the West District did Zhenhuan actually live in history," he added.

This change made Shan realize, to make the cultural relics serve the present and fulfill the mission of the museum, it is very important to make cultural relics "alive" and entice modern people's tastes.

"We are trying every possible way to encourage people to take home the culture of Palace Museum," said Shan.

As how to connect tradition with modernity, Shan believed that a good way is to design and produce cultural creative products.

"We should understand the public's needs, dig out information from the museum's collection, combine historical minutiae with modern sensibilities and technologies, and convert them into cultural creative products in the end," said Shan.

"We have designed and developed a total of around 8,700 kinds of distinctive cultural creative products and accessories by the end of 2015," Shan noted, giving examples that cultural creative products have penetrated into every part of people's lives.

"For example, we all use phones, so we designed more than 400 kinds of phone cases decorated with cultural elements; we also designed a stringed Buddhist beads-inspired earphones, which became the winner of a national creative products contest," Shan said.

The Palace Museum has countless treasures and profound culture, which inspire cultural creative product designs.

"By extracting available innovative elements on cultural relics and borrowing cultural symbols from distinguished cultural resources, we have produced many appealing and useful products," said Shan.

"For example, in the painting Armored Emperor Qianlong Inspecting the Troops, Emperor Qianlong (1736-1796 AD) is riding on horseback.

The horse is very lifelike, so we extract the image of the horse and decorate it on things like neckties and fruit folks."

"Besides, we have designed zaojing umbrellas by resembling zaojing or caisson ceiling, a kind of ceiling with distinctive feature of classical Chinese architecture," Shan said.

"Now, we have finally met people's needs of taking home the culture of Palace Museum," said Shan. — Xinhua ■

Shan Jixiang, curator of the Palace Museum, gives a lecture at Xinhuanet in Beijing, capital of China, on 26 July, 2017. **PHOTO: XINHUANET**

mitv Myanmar International
Programme Schedule

(1-8-2017 07:00am ~ 2-8-2017 07:00am) MST

07:03	Am	News
07:26	Am	Rakhine The Land Of Sublime Pagodas
07:57	Am	Dances of Myanmar: Tai Khun or Gon Traditional Dance
08:03	Am	News
08:25	Am	Halin, A Treasure Trove Of The Ancient Pyu City
08:50	Am	Next Weekend
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	International Dances in Myanmar
09:50	Am	Today Myanmar: Seasonal Influenza A (H1N1) pdm 09
10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	Marketable Goods (Straw painting)
10:45	Am	Ashin Thitzana or Martyr of Buddha's Sasana

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

Prime Time

07:03	Pm	News
07:26	Pm	Food Trip (Ep-8) (Part-2)
07:58	Pm	[Doctor] [Painter]
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	Taste Of Myanmar (Shan - Flat-Rice-Noodle Soup)
08:43	Pm	Up Against The Tide

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

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

Myanmar's Aung Thu struggling to get the ball past two Malaysian defenders at 2016 AFF Championship. **PHOTO: SOE NYUNT**

Myanmar to play with Malaysia this month

Shine Htet Zaw

Myanmar national football team will play a friendly match against Malaysia at the Thuwanna Stadium on 29 August.

The match is intended to assess Myanmar team's ability before meeting with Krygyzstan national football team in the AFC qualifier 2019.

Myanmar beat Malaysia 1-0 in the AFC SUZUKI Cup 2016. Myanmar players started training since 22 July and are being coached by U Kyaw Lwin, U Soe Myat Min and U Sai Maung Maung Lwin. Myanmar national team has consisted of 19 players including Kyaw Zin Lwin and Thiha Sithu.

Host Myanmar under training for AFF U-18 Championship

Kyaw Zin Lin

In preparation for 2017 AFF U-18 Youth Championship, Myanmar U-18 national football team is being trained in Yangon starting from Sunday said Myanmar Football Federation web page.

The 2017 AFF U-18 Youth Championship is the 14th edition of the AFF U-19 Youth Championship, organised by ASEAN Football Federation. It was hosted by Myanmar for second time and the first time was in 2003 co-hosted with Vietnam.

Myanmar drew out group stage in previous season and the Championship will be played in September 2017. Eleven out of the twelve member associations of the ASEAN Football Federation will take part in the tournament featuring two groups, five teams in one and six teams in other.

Myanmar U-18 team is being camped till next month.

Myanmar schedules to play with Italian giant Inter Milan U-18 and Myanmar National League's Shan United Club in August to gain better team understanding before the tournament. The team will be headed by its Head Coach Bun Berli.

Players running down contracts will become a norm, says Wenger

LONDON — Players running down their contracts will become the norm in years to come due to skyrocketing transfer fees, Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger has said. Alexis Sanchez and Mesut Ozil have both entered the final year of their deals, while Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain, Santi Cazorla, Jack Wilshere and Kieran Gibbs could also leave Arsenal for free in 12 months' time.

Wenger tried to see the positive side, saying it could be an "ideal situation" for the club as the players would be motivated to perform to impress potential suitors.—Reuters

PHOTO: REUTERS

Chelsea midfielder Matic has medical at United

LONDON — Chelsea midfielder Nemanja Matic has undergone a medical at Manchester United ahead of a 40-million-pound ($52.53-million) move that will reunite him with former manager Jose Mourinho, British media said.

The midfielder was pictured at the club's Carrington Road training complex on Sunday, with media reporting that a deal would be announced on Monday.

It will be the second time that Matic, who turns 29 on Tuesday, has played under Mourinho. The Portuguese first signed him when he was Chelsea manager, for 21 million pounds in January 2014.

Matic, who had originally joined the Blues in 2009 before moving to Benfica in 2011, became an influential part of Chelsea's title-winning side under Mourinho in 2014-15. —Reuters ■

Pulis concern as West Brom's McClean limps off in friendly

West Bromwich Albion's James McClean. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

LONDON — West Bromwich Albion winger James McClean has suffered a knee injury and could be set for a spell on the sidelines ahead of the Premier League season.

McClean limped off in the 48th minute of West Brom's 2-1 loss to third tier Bristol Rovers in a pre-season friendly at Memorial Stadium on Saturday.

"James' (injury) is the most concerning at the moment because it is in the knee area and we'll get that scanned to see what that tells us," manager Tony Pulis told the club website. (www.wba.co.uk) "Matty reported a tight hamstring so it made no sense to risk him."

The 28-year-old Irishman was a last minute replacement for Matt Phillips, who was withdrawn from the starting lineup as a precaution.

West Brom also lost Chris Brunt to an injury in the same match, the midfielder substituted just before halftime with a calf issue.

"We're hoping Chris' problem is not so serious. It's a question of whether he's strained his calf or it's just a result of landing awkwardly," Pulis added.West Brom, who finished 10th in the league last season, host Bournemouth in their opening game of the new campaign on 12 August. —Reuters ■