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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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State Counsellor meets top US diplomat

Broad sanctions would not solve Rakhine crisis: Rex Tillerson

STATE Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi received the Hon. Rex Tillerson, Secretary of State of the United States, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on continued provision of assistance for the success of Myanmar's democratic transition, peace and national reconciliation and the situation in Rakhine State.

Mr. Tillerson said he was encouraged by discussions between Myanmar and Bangladesh regarding the Rakhine issue in Myanmar.

He made the remarks at a joint press conference with the State Counsellor in Nay Pyi Taw following their meeting.

Mr. Tillerson also urged cooperation between Myanmar and Bangladesh on repatriation of refugees and urged the government and security forces to protect all people within the country's borders. Regarding alleged ethnic cleansing in northern Rakhine, Tillerson called for a credible probe into allegations of human rights abuses against Muslims, saying that more information is needed to label the Rakhine issue as "ethnic cleansing."

The US Secretary of State also reaffirmed the US commitment to democratic transition in Myanmar, condemning the ARSA terrorist attacks in northern Rakhine on 25th August.

US Secretary of State Mr. Rex Tillerson, left, at a press conference held jointly with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: AUNG SHINE OO**

Broad sanctions on Myanmar would not solve the issue in northern Rakhine, he added.

"We want to see Myanmar succeed. You can't just impose sanctions and say therefore the crisis is over," said Tillerson.

Mr. Tillerson said one of the purposes of his visit to Myanmar was to better understand the complicated situation in Rakhine State, the Myanmar Government's efforts, and their perspectives on this matter. He welcomed coordination between Myanmar and Bangladesh for the return of the displaced people. Since the 25 August terrorist attacks, the US government has provided US$87 million for humanitarian assistance, and an additional US$47 million will be provided. Secretary Tillerson also said that the US will cooperate with Myanmar to fight against terrorism.

Mr. Tillerson also expressed his constructive support to State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's leadership in Myanmar.

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KBZ BANK
STRENGTH OF MYANMAR
BEST BANK IN MYANMAR
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Pyithu Hluttaw

National development needs includes investment in children

U Sai U Kham.
PHOTO: MNA

Dr. Win Myat Aye.
PHOTO: MNA

U Myint Lwin.
PHOTO: MNA

Dr Daw Khin Sithu.
PHOTO: MNA

Daw Aye Mya Mya Myo.
PHOTO: MNA

AT yesterday's meeting held at Pyithu Hluttaw meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw, Dr. Win Myat Aye, Union Minister, replied to discussions on the motion put forward by U Sai U Kham of Hsenwi constituency urging the Union Government to lay down strategic plans on investments in children's early development and pre-primary education.

"The basic foundation for the national development is the development of human resources. So, nurturing children at the very early stage of the development is a support for the national development", Dr. Win Myat Aye said.

"The Ministry is performing the tasks of cooperating with the government and NGOs in village/ward-based activities for the multi-development of all children as well as helping with monetary and technical aid every year to nurture children at their early stages and develop projects founded on a self-help basis. Now there is a need to form a national-level committee for nurturing children at their early stage and development. So, the committee was formed with the Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement as chairman. Strategic programmes on investments and pre-primary education included in nurturing children at their early age and development are being drawn up as a sector in a national education strategic project (2016-2021). The Government is implementing more effectively in the interest of all children with great effort by laying down the projects, hence the need to have the motion recorded."

Regarding the motion, Daw Cho Cho of Okktwin constituency discussed the motion in support.

The motion was discussed by Daw Aye Mya Mya Myo of Kyauktan constituency, Dr Daw Khin Sithu of Loikaw constituency, U Tin Hla of Danubyu constituency, U Myint Lwin of Twantay constituency and U Thaung Aye of Pyawbwe constituency.

Following that, U Sai U Kham, presenter of the motion, called for approval of the motion.

U Win Myint, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw, said the motion was put on record with 173 votes in favor, 209 votes against and 2 abstentions.—MNA ■

Amyotha Hluttaw

2nd Amyotha Hluttaw 6th Regular Session Holds its 12th Day Meeting

BY Aye Aye Thant

THE possibility of building several bridges in Mandalay and Chin State were among the issues discussed at yesterday's meeting of the Amyotha Hluttaw in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

U Kyaw Lin, Deputy Minister for Construction replied to the question raised by Daw Hla Htay (a) Daw Ohn Kyi of constituency 4 of Mandalay Region

"The Zawgyi river crossing bridge nearby Sel Gone village is situated on Thargara (east)-Sel Gone-Zay Ywa road between Sel Gone and Zay Ywa villages. If construction of the bridge is to be implemented, it will be of great benefit to 7,000 villagers of 1,477 households in seven villages. It needs to build a reinforced concrete bridge, linking with Han Myint Mo-Ywa Ngan road. Construction was targeted to be built in FY 2018-2019 of Mandalay Region Government, and it will be implemented depending upon the budget allotment."

The Deputy Minister also answered a question raised by U Myo Htat (a) Salai Myo Htike of constituency 12, Chin State, "If Dai Laung Creek rope bridge near Dat Chaung Wa, Apsa village-tract of Paletwa township in Chin State and Yan Laung Creek rope bridge will be built it will be beneficial to 1734 people of 250 houses in 9 villages. Out of the two bridges, Dai Laung creek rope bridge linking with Sami-Matupi road will be built as the reinforced concrete bridge, with Yan Laung creek rope bridge to be built as a firm rope bridge for motor-cycles to go over, prior to 2020-2021. Yan Laung creek bridge will be prioritized."

U Myo Htat (a) Salai Myo Htike. **PHOTO: MNA**

Daw Hla Htay (a) Daw Ohn Kyi. **PHOTO: MNA**

Daw Htu Mae.
PHOTO: MNA

U Zaw Hein.
PHOTO: MNA

The Deputy Minister went on to reply to questions raised by Daw Htu Mae of constituency 11, Rakhine State, U Zaw Hein of constituency 7 of Taninthayi Region and U Win Maung of constituency 6 of Magway Region.

Afterward, Mahn Win Khaing Than, Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw, announced that the Union Auditor General Law Amendment (Bill) approved and sent by the Pyithu Hluttaw was sent back with an amendment attached, and it was approved by the Hluttaw with the approval of Amyotha Hluttaw.

Then, U Thein Swe, Chairman of the Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee read out the interim report on the survey in Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, concerning the question raised by Naw Christ Tun (a) Dr. Arrkar Moe of constituency 7 of Kayin State, "Myanmar International Cooperation Agency."

Prescriptions 93-101 of Rules and Regulation on Amyotha Hluttaw, 2015 will be strictly exercised and there were 49 farms and factories handed over to MICA. Out of six farms and factories which had made contracts with MICA, five were examined on the ground. Another seven factories contracted with the animal Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, not with the MICA."

Afterward, Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw announced that parliamentarians needed to have their names enrolled if they were interested in discussing the interim report of the Government's Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee.

The 13th meeting of 2nd Amyotha Hluttaw 6th regular session will be convened on 17th November, it was learnt. ■

State Counsellor meets top US diplomat

FROM PAGE-1

"Myanmar's response to this crisis is critical to determining the success of its transition to a more democratic society," Mr. Tillerson said.

"It's a responsibility of the government and its security forces to protect and respect the human rights of all persons within its borders and to hold accountable those who fail to do so."

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi explained the Myanmar Government's efforts to achieve sustainable peace and stability in Rakhine State, to provide humanitarian assistance to the displaced people, to promote economic development of Rakhine State in cooperation with local businessmen, and to scrutinize displaced persons. The State Counsellor also explained the rehabilitation programmes and the efforts of the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development (UEHRD) in Rakhine State to provide humanitarian assistance with the participation of volunteer youths throughout the country.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. **PHOTO: AUNG SHINE OO**

'I have not been silent'

Addressing the global criticism that she has received over her silence on the refugee crisis, the State Counsellor told reporters that she has focused on speech that avoids inflaming sectarian tensions between communities.

"I have not been silent ... what people mean is that what I say is not interesting enough," she told reporters.

"What I say is not meant to be exciting, it's meant to be accurate .. not to set people against each other."

She also pledged to repatriate the refugees after scrutiny for citizenship.

She is participating in politics not for power, but for bringing fruits of the rule of law, peace and economic development, she said. —Myanmar News Agency ■

State Counsellor returns from Philippines after attending the 31st ASEAN Summit

A DELEGATION led by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who attended the 31st ASEAN Summit and other related meetings in the Philippines, departed from Manila International Airport yesterday at 9:15 am.

She was seen off at the airport by the Philippines Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Edurado E. Kapunan and his wife, Myanmar Ambassador to the Philippines U Win Naing and his wife, Col. Win Myat, military attaché (Army, Navy and Air) and responsible officials. The State Counsellor and her delegation arrived at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport at 11:35 am yesterday and were welcomed by Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe, Deputy Minister U Min Thu and officials and officials from Viet Nam and the Philippines Embassies in Myanmar.—Myanmar News Agency ■

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi arrives at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport. **PHOTO: MNA**

Signing of MoU between UCSB and CAG

THE chairman of the Union Civil Service Board (UCSB), Dr. Win Thein, received Mr. Li Ji, the Vice Minister of the China Academy of Governance (CAG), at UCSB in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

During the meeting, they discussed leadership discourse for Union civil servants, research processes, policy advice, bilateral cooperation on public administration and policy, the launching of training programmes for human resources and capacity development for civil servant officers and scholarships programmes.

The Vice Minister of CAG, the Rector of Central Institute of Civil Service (Upper Myanmar) U Nyi Nyi San and Rector of Central Institute of Civil Service (Lower Myanmar) U Aung Tin Soe signed the MoU agreement in front of the Chairman of UCSB for the bilateral cooperation between the Chinese Academy of Governance and the Central Institutes of Civil Service. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Anti-money laundering Central Committee holds meeting in Nay Pyi Taw

Lt. General Kyaw Swe, the Union Minister for Home Affairs and Chairman of the Anti-Money Laundering Central Committee, made an opening speech at the 2/2017 meeting of his committee yesterday at the Ministry of Home Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw.

"Myanmar joined Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG) on 9th March 2006. Implementation and performances over standards of Anti-Money Laundering concerning money laundering and terrorism of APG member countries are being carried out through the system of assessment between member countries. The Anti-Money Laundering Group will come to Myanmar on November 20 to December 1 to discuss with the teams — the anti-laundering central committee, anti-terrorism central committee, central committee for prevention and dangers of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, central authority of helping aid between countries in criminal cases, human trafficking prevention central committee and responsible officials from ministries, in Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon. Our central committee had made preparations", the Union Minister said. At the meeting, Chief of Police General Staff Police Brig Gen Myo Swe Win discussed performances over the previous meeting's decisions and the status of hearing the cases according to anti-money laundering law. In addition, the joint-secretary of the anti-money laundering central committee and Anti-Financial Crime Division Brig Gen Kyaw Win Thein clarified a national-level danger assessment report and situations concerning the anti-money laundering act at length. —MNA

Lt. General Kyaw Swe delivers the speech at the meeting of anti-money laundering Central Committee. **PHOTO: MNA**

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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.

2017 ceremony for nation-wide vaccination against Japanese encephalitis held

UNDER the management of the Ministry of Health and Sports, a ceremony for a nationwide vaccination against Japanese encephalitis was held at No.6 Basic Education High School in Zabuthiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the ceremony, Dr. Thar Tun Kyaw, the Director General of the Public Health Department and U Zaw Win, Deputy Director General of the Basic Education Department formally cut the ribbon to open the ceremony and went around the showroom.

Child receives vaccination for Japanese encephalitis prevention at No.6 BEHS in Zabuthiri Township. **PHOTO: MNA**

Japanese encephalitis (JE) is a potentially fatal viral brain infection for which there is no cure and it mainly affects children aged between one and 14, said the Director General of the Pub-lic Health Department. Then, the Ministry of Health and Sport has decided to provide Japanese encephalitis (JE) and other necessary vaccination in Myanmar beginning from January 2018. Currently, they have provided the Japanese encephalitis vaccines to the children aged from nine months to 15 years. The Director General of the Public Health Department under the ministry of Health and Sports gave the certificate of appreciation to the Deputy Director General of the Basic Education Department for providing the assistance to conduct the nationwide vaccination programme success-fully.

Then, Ms. June Kunugi, a representative of United Nations Children's Fund and Dr. Badri Tharpa, a representative of World Health Organization gave a speech at the ceremony.

About 14 million children aged from nine months to 15 years of age nationwide will be vaccinated against Japanese encephalitis with two parts. A school-based programme for vaccinations will be carried out between 15 November and 23 November 2017 and a public-based programme between 11 December and 20 December 2017.—MNA ■

Yangon Region Hluttaw motion on restricting building construction on old ponds and reservoirs

CONSTRUCTION on land that were once ponds and reservoirs should not be allowed, a regional Hluttaw representative said on Tuesday, because the site still serve a valuable purpose in helping to control flooding.

"We should not allow the construction of buildings over dried up ponds and water reservoirs by filling land into it even if these ponds and water reservoirs are no longer included in the (municipal) map. Those ponds and reservoirs should be restored", said U Yan Shin, the Regional Hluttaw representative from Mayangone Constituency-1 after he proposed the motion to Yangon Region Hluttaw meeting held on 14 November not to permit construction of buildings over dried up ponds and water reservoirs and to restore it.

"These ponds and reservoirs collect water and prevent flooding during the time of heavy rains. Now that these ponds and reservoirs are dried up and no longer exist, the Yangon Region is facing flooding annually. It's also had an impact on environmental conservation," he said.

Moreover, the ponds and water reservoirs dried up because of garbage thrown into it and illegal squatters settling on it, he added. Concerning those issues, U Kyaw Kyaw Tun, the Hluttaw representative from Hlaing Constituency-1 said construction on the former pond and reservoir sites should be controlled.

"People construct buildings over old and dried up ponds and water reservoirs after they apply for land grants. Then, these ponds and reservoirs completely disappear. Currently, we are planning to solve the flooding problem with loans from World Bank and international funds", U Kyaw Kyaw Tun said.

Region Hluttaw representatives decided to accept the motion. "In the new government period, Yangon City Development Committee does not allow constructing building over ponds and water reservoirs included on the city map, said U Maung Maung Soe, Yangon city mayor.—Ko Moe ■

Renovating of GTI school building will be completed no later than November

Renovating of GTI school building which is located at Insein township Yangon Region will be completed at the end of November, according to a report in the Myawady Daily on Monday.

The GTI have been planned to open at the first week of December, said an official from Technical and Vocational Education Department.

The department has accepted the application from 19 October to 10 November. Previously, the department planned to accept only 200 applicants. Currently, we accepted over 4,000 applicants.

"We found that many people are interested in applying for GTI which is planned to open this year. Currently, we have decided to accept only 200 applicants for the first batch, said an official from Technical and Vocational Education Department.

The GTI will provide five subjects such as Civil Engineering, Electronic Engineering, Electric Power Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Technology Research.

Upon graduation from the three-years training courses, the school will provide the diploma.

If the students are qualified, they can join directly to the third year of Technology university, it is learnt.—GNLM ■

Yaba worth Ks10 million seized in Loikaw

Acting on a tip off, a man alleged to be in contact with drug dealers, U Taw, was arrested on Hsihseng- Loikaw Road on Tuesday. A combined team comprised of officers and staff stopped a motorbike heading for Loikaw from Hsihseng driven by U Taw and found 4,000 Yaba tablets weighing a total of 360 grams worth Ks10 million from his bag. Police filed charges against him under sections 15 and 19 (A) of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Laws.—Loikaw (IPRD) ■

Workers process fish at a seafood factory in Yangon. **PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR**

Fisheries export income up by about US$57

Earnings from fisheries exports as of 3rd November is about US$358 million, an increase of US$57 million from the similar period of the previous fiscal year, according to the Commerce Ministry.

The Myanmar Fishery Federation (MFF) is exerting concerted efforts to increase fishery export earnings by developing fish farming lakes which meets international standards and adopt advanced fishing methods.

At present, 21 species of freshwater fingerlings are available for purchase at the respective Fishery Departments in each region and state.

The fishery export sector attained its highest income of over US$650million in the 2012-2013 FY.

Thereafter, the value of fishery exports gradually declined due mostly to erratic weather and scarcity of fish resources caused by illegal fishing methods.

Myanmar's fishery sector needs to shift to a modern farming system from the traditional methods, experts said. Moreover, throwing feedstuff such as bran and peanut oil cake in lakes causes wastage and losses, resulting in high requirements of feedstuff raw materials.

Therefore, the feedstuff produced by feed production machines should be utilised in fish farming.

Also, Myanmar's fisheries need to meet the criteria of European markets to boost export volume.—Mon Mon ■

Thai-Myanmar border trade showed slight decrease against last FY

BORDER trade between Thailand and Myanmar from 1st April to 3rd November in the current fiscal year showed a slight decrease of about US$12 million compared to the same period of last year, according to the Commerce Ministry.

Thai-Myanmar border trade at Tachilek, Myawady, Kawthoung, Myeik, Hteekhee, Mawtaung and Maese gates amounted to about $782 million.

Of these seven gates, the Myawady gate is the main land port for Thai-Myanmar border trade, but trade value was $28 million less than last year. The Tachilek and Hteekhee checkpoints also saw a slight decline in trade.

Thailand exports cosmetics, machinery, food products, agricultural equipment, trucks into Myanmar via Myawady gate while marine products (fish, crabs), agro products (onions, sesame seeds, turmeric, corn, etc.) were exported to Thailand.

Myanmar is conducting border trade with neighbouring countries— Thailand, India, China and Bangladesh — via 16 border checkpoints.

In border trade, Myanmar's exports surpassed imports. Border trade as of 3rd November this FY totaled $4.34 billion, with an estimated export value of $2.7 billion and import value of $1.6 billion. The figure decreased by $185 million compared to that of last FY.

Sino-Myanmar border trade is carried out through five gates: Muse, Lweje, Kanpiketee, Chinshwehaw and Keng Tung, while Myanmar's trade with India goes through Tamu and Reed land points of entry. Trade gates with Bangladesh are Maungtaw and Sittway. — Ko Htet ■

Foreign companies eye Bago Region rather than Yangon to invest

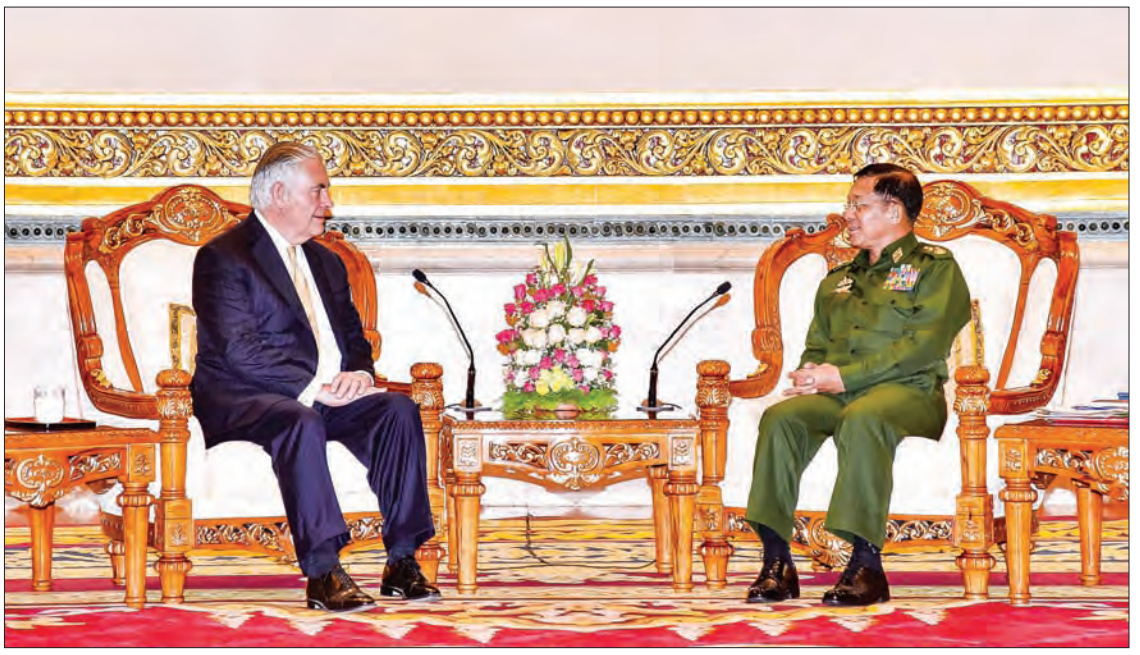
Foreign companies are interested in Bago Region rather than Yangon to put investments, according to yesterday's report of Myawady Daily.

Yangon Region has merits - getting easy access to transportation such as ports, shipments and having high number of labours. However, Bago Region will become the central point as it is strategically located. Additionally, cheap labour cost and vast areas of land attract the investors.

If project like Hanthawadi International Airport is completed, more foreign direct investment is likely to enter Bago Region, said U Thein Win, Bago Region Chief Minister.

Foreign enterprises from South Korea and China showed interest to invest in garment enterprises and feedstuff processing plants in Bago.—GNLM ■

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives US Secretary of State



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing holds talks with Hon. Rex Tillerson, US Secretary of State. **PHOTO: MNA**

SENIOR General Min Aung Hlaing received the Hon. Rex Tillerson, United States Secretary of State, at Zayya Thiri Beikman receiving hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

During the meeting, the Senior General discussed the ARSA terrorists attacks on Rakhine State's security stations.

Mr. Tillerson expressed his sorrow on loss of lives during ARSA's terrorist attacks in Rakhine State.

He also spoke of the continuing good relations between Myanmar and Bangladesh.

The US Secretary of State advised Myanmar to cooperate internationally and also expressed the goodwill of the US for Myanmar to succeed in its transition to democracy.

He also asked for details about the current situations in Myanmar.

The Senior General pointed out the connection of the most recent terrorist attacks on 25 August with attacks that occurred on 9 October 2016 and also explained what he said were the "right and equal reaction of the Myanmar Tatmadaw to terrorists" and the "wrong views and thoughts from international media".

Also discussed were the processes that should be followed for relaying accurate information about Rakhine issues to international media, sharing views on the resettlement process being implemented by the government of Myanmar for the Islamic people who arrived back to Myanmar and bilateral cooperation between the two countries on combating drugs and terrorist attacks.—Myanmar News Agency ■

ASEM's key objectives

ASEM is a forum of partnership cooperation and informal dialogue between Europe and Asia. Its key objectives are to preserve and strengthen peace and stability and establish conditions for the economic and social development of both regions.

These objectives also provide the basis for the three main pillars of the ASEM process (political dialogue, cooperation in the economy and finance, cooperation in the field of social, cultural and educational affairs).

In this respect, its key tasks include disarmament and the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the fight against illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, the fight against organised crime and terrorism, the reduction of pollution, the elimination of poverty, cultural heritage protection, concern for sustainable economic and social development, the promotion of education and exchange of people, cooperation on science and technology, trade, investment and entrepreneurship, etc.

Correction

Please read "Japanese Yen 125 billion" instead of "Japanese Yen 1.2 billion," in the news story "State Counsellor meets Prime Minister of Japan Mr. Shinzon Abe" in the fourth column on page-3 of November 15 Issue of the Global New Light of Myanmar.— Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)

THE Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is an intergovernmental process established in 1996 to foster dialogue and cooperation between Asia and Europe. Presently it comprises 53 partners: 30 European and 21 Asian countries, the European Union and the ASEAN Secretariat. ASEM addresses political, economic, social, cultural, and educational issues of common interest, in a spirit of mutual respect and equal partnership.

The initial ASEM partnership in 1996 consisted of 15 EU member states and 7 ASEAN member states plus China, Japan, South Korea and the European Commission.

The ASEM Summit is a biennial meeting between the Heads of State and Government, the President of the European Council, the President of the European Commission, and the Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

ASEM saw the first enlargement in 2004 during the 5th ASEM Summit (ASEM5) in Hanoi (Viet Nam), where the 10 new EU Member States (Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia) and 3 new ASEAN countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar) became officially part of the ASEM process.

The second round of enlargement in 2008 during the 7th ASEM Summit (ASEM7) in Beijing (China) brought in 6 new members: Bulgaria, India, Mongolia, Pakistan, Romania, and the ASEAN Secretariat, increasing total ASEM membership to 45 partners.

In October 2010, the 8th ASEM Summit (ASEM8) of Heads of Government and State in Brussels (Belgium) welcomed 3 new partners to the ASEM process (Australia, New Zealand, and Russia). This third round of enlargement increased the ASEM partnership to 48 partners.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Donations of UEHRD for Rakhine State

For the resettlement of Rakhine State, families of civil service personnel, businessmen and others made donations to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation.

Families from the Ministry and from the Myanmar Timber Merchants Association, a timber making furniture group and a timber arts group donated Ks21.9 million and Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation accepted the donations.

The donated cash was transferred to the Vice Chairman of UEHRD, Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye, and certificates of honour were given on behalf of all the donors. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Children under 15 in Maungtaw Township receive encephalitis vaccinations

The Ministry of Health and Sports launched a nationwide encephalitis vaccination programme for children under the age of 15 yesterday in Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State.

The medical officer of Maungtaw Township, Dr. Kyaw Maung Maung Thein, said this was the first step in a nationwide effort to control encephalitis, an incurable viral disease that affects children more severely.

"The intention of the vaccination is to control the spread of Japanese encephalitis, especially for children under 15. We vaccinate mainly children from 9 to 15 years of age. This campaign is not only for Maungtaw Township, but for the whole country also."

The disease is spread through mosquito bites, and the potentially fatal virus can harm the brain and cause irreversible neurological damage.

The vaccination can protect 85 to 100 per cent of children from Japanese encephalitis, it is learnt from the staff of the health department.

A nurse making injection to child under 15 for Japanese encephalitis prevention in Maungtaw, Rakhine. **PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY**

"In 2016, there was an outbreak and 30 per cent of the cases were fatal. There are no encephalitis cases so far in Maungtaw Township", said Dr Kyaw Maung Maung Thein.

The vaccination campaign will be held in Maungtaw region from November 15 to 23 for the first time and the second time from December 11 to 20. Ethnic villages and Muslim villages will be given the vaccinations in a separate programme, it is learnt from the Maungtaw health department.

One-hundred and fifty members of the health department including medical doctors are administering the vaccinations. About 2,000 children under the age of 15 were vaccinated yesterday, it was learnt. —Myanmar News Agency ■

Harvest of monsoon paddy model plot carried out in Thandwe, Rakhine

Head of township officers inspect harvesting paddy. **PHOTO: MNA**

Harvest of Sin Thwe Latt paddy seed plantation grown on the field of 5 acres owned by U Win Maung, in Shauk Kon village, Kyeintali, Thandwe district, Rakhine State was launched on November 10 by the agricultural department.

In the harvest ceremony head of Thandwe district agricultural department, Daw Myint Myint Yi and personnel, Kyeintali township administrator, agriculture department office, IPRD officials and staff and farmers—20 took part in the harvesting.

U Aung Than, head of township agricultural department explained about the need of growing pedigree seeds and their benefits.

Paddy harvested yesterday yielded 97.90 baskets per acre, it was learnt.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Rakhine State Government, UEHRD take steps for socio economic development

Rakhine State Government clarified its works with Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine State yesterday at the office of the government in Sittway.

The meeting was attended by Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu, Co-chairman of the committee on implementing recommendations on Rakhine State, Dr. Aung Tun Thet, Chief Coordinator of the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development in Rakhine State, Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Than Htut, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettment U Soe Aung, members of Rakhine State Government and representatives from nine private task forces which will work for socio-economic development in Rakhine State. The meeting was opened with remarks by Chief Minister U Nyi Pu.

Speaking at the meeting, Dr Aung Tun Thet expressed the UEHRD's commitment to development for Rakhine State, encouraging the nine task forces to overcome possible obstacles to come. U Kyaw Aye Thein, Rakhine State Finance, Tax, Planning and Economic Minister, clarified the tasks for socio economic development in Rakhine State. Representatives of the nine tasks forces discussed matters related to construction of infrastructures, development of economic zones, crowed funding, tourism, agriculture and livestock farming, communications and information, job creation, health care services and micro financing. —Win Min Soe (IPRD) ■

Farmers harvest rice by the traditional approach, reaping the rice together by a sickle. Photo: MNA

Harvest of monsoon paddy model plot in Ma La Kyun village in Kyaukpyu

Harvest of monsoon paddy model plot was launched in Sin Thwe Latt paddy seeds plantation field of U Kham Poke, a farmer in Ma La Kyun village in Kyaukpyu township on November 8, in cooperation with 25 people from agricultural department, mechanized agricultural department and cooperative department, village administrator and farmers.

Paddy fields did yield 77.44 baskets per acre. At the ceremony for harvesting monsoon paddy U Aung Khin Soe, township head of agriculture explained to those present at the ceremony concerning techniques of GAP and techniques of protection from insects (IPM), with farmers enquiring about what they wanted to know.—Myanmar News Agency ■

World Bank needs to show balance and justice

DUE to the suspension of the World Bank's loan to Myanmar the program for building a tar-macked road—Kalay-Thaingin-Haka Road in Chin State was also suspended, it was learnt. The World Bank agreed to give a loan of US $ 200 million for Rakhine State, Chin State and Sagaing Region which were hit by natural disasters in FY 2015-2016. The Chin State will receive US $ 66.8 million as a part of the loan. With outbreaks of landslides due to torrents in Chin Sate in the year 2015, transportation in Chin State was badly ruined and cut off.

It has been assumed that suspension of WB loans for Chin State is related in some way to the Rakhine State affair. The agreement to grant the loan for the Chin State was intended not to harm the political, economic and social development of the people in the Chin State on account of national disasters.

> As they say "it is very easy to spread a lie but to seek the truth takes more effort".

Yet, the WB's decision to suspend the loan to the Chin State, based on Rakhine State affair which was not totally concerned with the original cause of disbursing loans seems to suggest that that WB does not have a firm policy.

The Chin State touches with Rakhine State and Sagaing Region. The two States are the least developed region of the Union.

That is, the development of Chin State is a good support for the development of Rakhine. As for the Rakhine State, extreme poverty, lack of development and job opportunities has caused tension between social communities. In actual fact if the WB really wished to help Myanmar, it should have taken sufficient time to study the situation carefully before making such an important decision as most of the foreign media reports circulating world-wide are either false or extremely biased and based on emotions rather than on objective journalistic reporting. As they say "it is very easy to spread a lie but to seek the truth takes more effort".

But, the World Bank has already suspended the loan for the programme of the development of transport sector in Chin State by neglecting what should be done. Such an action underscores the fact that the WB did not make sufficient effort to understand the efforts being undertaken by the Myanmar leaders and the Union Government in cooperation with the regional/state governments to bring peace, sta-bility and development in Rakhine State.

Last but not least, we wish to state in all serious-ness that the WB should show a sense of justice and its ability to balance its priorities. ■

Natural Environment, Industries and Myanmar's Creeks and Rivers Waiting for Saviors

Dr. Aung Kyaw

PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

WITH the development of social environment, people's requirements followed the usual pattern of change. So as to possess necessary commodities and bring about services we need for fulfilling uncontrollable needs of people, natural resources given by our planet have to be applied unavoidably. At the time when the global population was not that huge as many as we have today, the world abounded with natural resources to support the ne-cessities of the then populace, but at present it has many limitations to supply all the increasing demands of what we need.

Harming a lot to natural environment

Previously, development of countries was specifically described by their economic development. To achieve such development it was essentially to promote the production of industries. Due to scourges of developing industries—smoke emitted from factories, wast-age disposal, sewage and wastewater our natural environment was greatly harmed. While following uncontrollable needs and desires, it leads us to the accumulation of greed/craving, anger and pride. It does not stop here, causing us to devalue our dignity, ethies, customs and traditions. Accordingly, starting from some 50 years ago, people came to be well convinced that economic development alone cannot control the development of a country and its people, laying great stress on sustainability and sustainable development.

Sustainability is becoming an essentiality to be taken into consideration by developed and developing countries in laying down policies on industries and policies for exploitation of natural resources, at the present time. Generally speaking, sustainability means fulfilling in ways and means that cannot ruin survival of future generation in exploiting natural resources to supply needs of today's people.

It is incumbent upon us as well as on our younger generations to abide by our traditions of not harming human's survival so that we cannot relay the dirty world full of air and water pollutions as a heritage, without any resources left due to our total exploitation.

> Sustainable development is meant for conservation of cultures, natural environment and social surrounding of excellence with the economic development.

Sustainable development is meant for conservation of cultures, natural environment and social surrounding of excellence with the economic development. In other words, it is an idea of taking into consideration of making economic development, natural environment and conservation of social surrounding in harmony. Though it is not that difficult to achieve economic development, it is not easy restore destruction of natural environment and social surrounding to the normal state. So, countries started to aim at achieve sustainable devel-opment more than economic development. For example, PRC suffered great destruction of natural disasters and severe air pollution starting from some 30 years ago, in spite of its industrial and economic developments. Thus, Beijing became a capital city with poor Air Quality Index. Former Beijing generation longed for economic development, today's Beijing generation expected for Blue Sky more. Japan's development can be said sustainable development as it gained economic progress and managed to conserve natural environment and virtuous cultural traditions.

Experiencing problems

It can be vividly seen that Myanmar is also facing challenges to acquire sustainable natural environment of excellence for next generations by seeing deforestation in present Myanmar, mining gems such as jade and ruby in Phakant and Mogok, extinction of rare animals, drying up of rivers and creeks, air and water pollutions. Though there are many chal-lenges on sustainable natural environment, I hereby in this article will present situations of decreasing water quality in creeks and rivers, their consequences and causes and performances made by the government and authorities for conservation.

Technicians and natural environment conservation activists pointed out the decreas-ing water quality through laboratory experiments of collected water sample for long. Due to decreasing water quality, aquatic animals were killed and hygiene of the consumers of those animals will be surely harmed in the long run, for example a large number of fish in Taung Tha Man Lake were killed a few years ago. It will harm economy of fishermen for sure, and reduce the quality of crops on account of water irrigated from those lakes and ponds. And, it can cause destruction on export markets of those crops. Several years ago, laboratory examination of black sesame seeds exported to Japan had depicted that its ex-port failure was attributed to toxin contamination in it, which was directly connected to the river water irrigated. According to the sesame exporter, those sesame needs to be stored in storage rooms for years to reach the stage Japanese side can accept. Most people regard that decreasing water quality in rivers was firstly attributed to consideration of rivers to be a place for disposing sewage and dirt. Riverside towns such as Pyay, Pa-an, Monywa, and Mawlamyaing have piles of dirt alongside the rivers. One of the reason is the use of cyanide used in gold mining, causing water contaminate with toxins.

Water Pollution Getting Worse

Factory waste water is the main factor in polluting the river water, making the water toxic and harm-ing the aquatic creatures. Among the factories that discharge the untreated waste water into the river through ditches, creeks and streams, textile factories and distilleries are known to be the worst of all. Many new distilleries sprung up very rapidly with the upsurge of liquor drinkers. According to the report of "Green Images of Myanmar," there are 72 distilleries-licensee and 25 distilleries are now in operation. The capacity of the smallest distilleries is 4000 gallons a day and the largest factory has been producing 30000 gallons a day. Waste water drainage per day from those factories has amounted to 4 million gallons. Out of those distilleries there are only 4 factories that have completed building waste water treatment system with 2 factories in the course of building WWTS. The remaining factories are still in preparatory stage of studying the technology for WWT. Some are in the stage of having dug a waste water storage pits.

The waste water collected in the pits is also dangerous for ground water as the waste water can percolate into the ground water reservoirs. It is a real threat to users of ground water as drinking water. Therefore, the factory waste water should be discharged after the treatment rather than discharging direct into the streams and rivers through the drains and pipes and also storing waste water in the earth pits.

> Though waste water treatment will initially cost a great deal, it will, in the long term provide beneficial effect on the public health. It can also indirectly support the fruit and vegetable market and also positive effect on natural environment.

Though waste water treatment will initially cost a great deal, it will, in the long term provide beneficial effect on the public health. It can also indirectly support the fruit and vegetable market and also positive effect on natural environment.

Suffer from the evil effect

As the distilleries factories discharge waste water direct into rivers, streams and soil, the following bene-fits can be gained; the factory owners can lower the cost of production and the consumers can have more reasonable price for drinks. However aquatic animals, people of fishery sector, farmers, export-ers, tourism sector, natural environment and quality of water resource have suffered a great deal of adverse effect. Forcing the distilleries to employ waste water treatment system at their factories can provide the benefits of having less number of drinkers due to high price of liquor and consequently reducing the expense budget in public health and stemming the deterioration of human resource.

Make decision after discussion

The Union Government has also ordered local authorities in region and states to inspect distilleries and to shut down distilleries which have no proper waste water treatment system.

In accordance with the rules and regulations, chief ministers and lawmakers from Ayeyawady and Mandalay re-gions made the field trips to alcohol distilleries in the regions looking into the waste water treatment systems there. Following the inspections, they took measures including reducing the waste water volume, suspension of alcohol distilleries until they have proper waste water treatment system and shutting down the factories.

Similarly, the General Administration Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs inspected the sewage treatment of the distilleries in Shwepyitha Township and ordered them to follow sewage water regulations prescribed in the 2012 Environmental Conservation Law which says the owner of a distillery is obliged to take all measures in order to manage the sewage treatment system of the factory.

Responsibility rests on all citizens of Myanmar

It is not easy to repair the damages caused by the environmental degradation. Hence, sustainability should be tak-en into account when policies and tasks related with natural environment are laid down. The responsibility rests not only on the government but also on the experts and the people. Hence, in order to improve the water quality of the country's rivers which is connected with the environment, public health and socio economy of the peoples, law enforcement for monitoring alcohol distilleries should be made to ensure that they dispose only treated water into the rivers. Meanwhile, the people are urged not to throw away garbage into the rivers. ■

Translated by Khin Aye Win

PHOTO: YUPAR

Vaccination campaign paints rosy picture of health care in Rakhine State

WITH nationwide vaccination against encephalitis on 15 November, children under 15 in Maungtaw Township also received the vaccination.

Myanmar's 14 million of children including 1 million children in 17 townships in Rakhine State are vaccinated on 15 November.

"We are ready today to give vaccination to nearly 350,000 children in two townships today. The population of children is expected to decrease because of those who fled to the neighbouring country. Vaccines and nurses and doctors are ready to launch the campaign," said Rakhine State Minister for Social Affairs Dr Chan Thar.

Rakhine State has suffered from mosquito-borne diseases as the state rich in rivers and forests.

The successive authorities had tried many years to conduct such kind of huge vaccination campaign in the state.

The state's dream do come true today due to the efforts of the authorities and Union Minister for Health. Reporters who visited the villages of Daing Net recently with authorities for media cover-age said nurses and vaccines had arrived at the village of Thinbawhla to give vaccinations to the children there.

There are 170 households with a population of more than 700 in the village of Daing Net ethnic people.

The campaign would paint a rosy picture for healthy children in Rakhine State.—Ko Zaw (Insein) ■

Rakhine State Minister for Social Affairs Dr Chan Thar. **Photo: Ko Zaw (Insein)**

Nurses are ready to give vaccination to children in nothern Rakhine. **Photo: Ko Zaw (Insein)**

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Supreme Court
Notification 865/2017

12th Waning of Tazaungmon, 1379 ME
(15 November, 2017)

Formation of Union Legal Supporting Group

1. The Union Legal Supporting Group is formed by the following persons in accordance with the Section 5 of the Union Legal Supporting Law.

(1) U Nyan Win — Chairman
Advocate (No-1203)

(2) U Soe Lwin — Member
Director
Union Judicial Supervisory Office
Union Supreme Court

(3) U Win Tin — Member
Director
Department of Prosecution
Union Attorney-General's Office

(4) U Myo Khaing Swe — Member
Director
Bureau of Special Investigation
Ministry of Home Affairs

(5) U Aung Kyaw Moe — Member
Director
Social Welfare Department
Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement

(6) Dr Khin Mar Yi — Member
Professor (Head of Department)
Department of Law, Yangon University
Department of Higher Education
Ministry of Education

(7) U Kyaw Hoe — Member
Advocate (No.1933)

(8) U Kyaw Htay — Member
Advocate (No.1488)

(9) Daw Nyein Zin Soe — Member
Director
Foreign Economic Relations Department
Ministry of Planning and Finance

(10) U Kyaw Soe Bo (a) U Kyaw Soe — Member
Advocate (No-1616)

(11) U Maung Maung Hla Thaung (a) U Hla Thaung — Member
Advocate (No.1666)

(12) Daw Nan Kham Ohn — Member
Advocate (No.4470)

(13) U Khin Zaw — Secretary
Advocate (No.1475)

2. Rights and responsibilities of the Union Legal Supporting Group is in accord with the prescription of Section 6 and 7 of Union Legal Supporting Law.

Htun Htun Oo
Union Chief Justice

Political party apply for registration at UEC

THE Union Election Commission scrutinizes and allows applications of political parties to be registered. People Life for Development Party applied for registration of political party at the UEC on 15 November 2017. — Myanmar News Agency ■

Public Announcement for remonstration

PEOPLE Life for Development Party headquartered at No. 23, first floor, Golden View Tower, cornor of U Aung Myat Street and 123th Street in Mingla Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region, submitted an application for registration as a political party in accord with the Section 5 of the Political Parties Registration Law on 15-11-2017. In their application they mention that they will use the name, the flag and the emblem as described hereunder.

In accord with Section 14 (d) of the Political Parties Registration Rules, it is hereby announced that those who want to remonstrate with the UEC about the party's name, flag and emblem may submit a complaint along with the supporting evidence within seven days starting from issuance of this announcement. —Union Election Commission ■

Party Flag.

Party Emblem.

U Myint Thu concurrently appointed as Permanent Secretary

THE Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Myint Thu, Director-General, Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, concurrently as Permanent Secretary.—Ministry of Foreign Affairs ■

U San Lwin presents credentials to Supreme Pontiff of the Holy See

U San Lwin, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Holy See, presented his Credentials to His Holiness Pope Francis, Supreme Pontiff of the Holy See, on 9 November 2017. in Vatican City.—Myanmar News Agency ■

Mro village to have access to education, healthcare, and jobs

News/Photo: Phoe Taung

On 4 August, Kaing Gyi (Mro village) in Maungtaw Township was attacked by ARSA terrorists, which killed 8 villagers. On 25 August, another terrorist attack forced the Mro villagers to flee their village. With guidance from the State Counsellor, the Yangon Region Government and the Mon State Government are building a new village for the Mro people near Thandar Village in Maungtaw Township. The new village with have fifty houses and the Taninthayi Region government and people have donated a school building and a monastery.

The following are excerpts on 12 November from interviews with officials in charge of building the new Mro village.

The area for the new Mro village being cleaned.

Daw Nilar Kyaw,

U Aung Htike.

U San Htun.

Daw Nilar Kyaw, Yangon Region Minister for Electricity, Industry, Transportation

Q: Can you tell us how you will relocate the Mro people to the new village?

A: There are about 258 Mro people moving in to the village and there are fifty houses for them. Each house is 40x60 feet and is being constructed by local constructors. We will discuss with the Mro people for digging up a well, fencing the houses, paving roads and supplying electricity. We will have to use solar power here before we can connect them with the power grid. The Thaninthayi Region will provide funding for building a clinic and school here.

Q: Do you have an estimated time for when you'll finish with the new village's construction?

A: We started this project in 19 October. Although in writing it says the Yangon Region Government is doing this project, the Mon State government is also aiding them. There are some difficulties with transporting items and hiring workers so depending on that the time of completion may change.

Q: Are there plans to help the Mro people in other ways?

A: There is another plan with the Yangon and Mon Government to build a 22 housing village in Pantawpyin near Mro.

U San Htun (Chairman) Kaing Gyi, Mro village

Q: Where did you used to live? And can you tell us why you requested to have the new village built here?

A: We used to live in the deep forests in Mayu mountains, about 2 miles away from the nearest concrete road, and we are farmers by descent. Now we want a place that's nearer the concrete roads after the terrorist attacks.

Q: So where are you living right now?

We're just living in tents right now until the new village is completed. They said it will take one or two months

Q: Did you have any students in your village before it was destroyed?

A: We had a self-made school made of bamboos and there were 42 students. We hired a teacher by paying them in paddy. After an elementary education we sent the students to a school three miles from here for further education.

Q: Can you tell us how you're living now?

A: Right now we're depending on rations and aid from the red cross and humanitarian organizations from Rakhine.

U Aung Htike In charge of construction for Kaing Gyi Mro new village

Q: Do you have an expected completion date for this project?

A: We want to finish this as soon as possible so we want to use a lot of workers and equipment for this. We can't really say for sure when we'll finish due to transportation difficulties but we're aiming for completion before the rainy season comes.

Q: Can you give some details of the layout of the new village?

A: We're going to construct them according to the guidance of the Yangon Region government. The houses will each be 40x60 feet and the road leading into the village will be 60 feet long and the road around the village will be 50 feet long. We are also discussing plans for diverting rainwater.

Q: What is the thought process for designing the layout?

A: The first consideration is for the Mro people to live in peace. We hear that they will later add in a clinic, school and a monastery.

Q: How about that housing in Pantaw?

A: That is still in discussion. They said there will be 22 houses built there but due to security concerns we cannot go and survey the land. ■

Myanmar, Bangladesh agrees to establish communications system for fighting terrorism

MYANMAR and Bangladesh would establish a bilateral communications system in attempts to step up efforts for fighting terrorism and to arrest ARSA terrorists and absconders.

The decision is mentioned in the joint statement of the two border guard forces at the 4th Central Level Meeting on Security and Law Enforcement between Myanmar and Bangledesh Border Guard Forces in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The two sides also agreed to open relations offices in Maungtaw in Myanmar and Teknaf in Bangladesh by December 2017.

The two forces also discussed several issues including to work together for fighting illegal trading, travelling in the Naf River, illegal fishing and letters of objections.

After the meeting, Myanmar officers transferred latest information on ARSA terrorists and absconders to the Bangladeshi officers, demanding to expose and transfer the terrorists to Myanmar. Next meeting will be hosted by Bangladesh in the first week of May in 2018.

— Myanmar News Agency ■

Passengers request to change locations of bus stops in Yangon

Passengers are facing difficulties as some Yangon water bus jetties are far away from YBS bus stops, according to a report in the Myawady Daily yesterday.

There are seven jetties on Botahtuang-Hlaingthaya route such as Botahtaung, Nanthidar, Larthar, Kyimyindein, Hlaing, Panhlaing and Insein Aungzeyar Suspension Bridge. Among them, Botahtaung, Nanthidar and Aungzeyar Suspension Bridge jetties are a little bit far away from bus stops.

"Therefore, we have already submitted a report to Yangon regional government to solve those difficulties," said an official from Tint Tint Myanmar Company.

Currently, the authorities are planning to run YBS 20 to Botahtaung jetties. Previously, YBS 20 which is owned by Omni Focus General Services public Co., Ltd ran Hlaingthaya-Hledan-Myaynigone-Tamwe-Mingala market- Thankhinmya park.—GNLM ■

Philippines' Duterte lauds China's help at 'crucial moment' in Marawi battle

MANILA — Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte on Wednesday heaped praise on visiting Chinese Premier Li Keqiang for what he said was China's "critical" role in expediting the end of a five-month war with Islamist insurgents in a Philippine town. Duterte credited China with supplying what he said was the rifle that on 16 October killed Islamic State's regional point man, Isnilon Hapilon, and said he would present that weapon to China as a mark of appreciation for its help in the war in Marawi City.

"I am going to return to you the rifle so that the Chinese people would know, it was critical, it is a symbol of the critical help," Duterte told Li, the first Chinese premier to visit the Philippines in a decade.

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte salutes with Chinese Premier Li Keqiang as they review honor guards upon arrival Li Keqiang's official visit, at the Malacanang presidential palace in Manila, Philippines on 15 November, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

There are doubts, however, about if it really was a Chinese sniper rifle that killed Hapilon, and uncertainty about whether the military has used any of the 6,100 guns Beijing has donated since June. The Philippine defence minister recently said all those weapons were given to the police. Hapilon was killed by members of the 8th Scout Ranger Company. "Scout Ranger Books", a Facebook page of one of the ranger officers, gave a blow-by-blow account of the operation and said the shot that killed Hapilon came from a gun mounted on an armoured vehicle. Members of the unit also told media the shot came from a fixed weapon controlled remotely. Such weapons are typically 50-calibre machine guns. "The arms you gave us, helped abbreviate, shorten the military fight there," Duterte said. On Friday, he said something similar to Russian President Vladimir Putin. He told him Russia had "helped us turn the tide and to shorten the war" by supplying weapons that Philippine soldiers used to kill militant snipers in Marawi. The Russian arms were actually delivered two days after military operations were declared over. The conflict was the biggest and longest battle in the Philippines since World War Two. More than 1,000 people, most of them rebel gunmen, were killed and 353,000 were displaced. Duterte told Li China's help came at "the crucial moment when we needed most and there was nobody to help us at that time". His remarks may not sit well with the United States and Australia, which from the early stages of the conflict were providing technical support to Philippine forces, including surveillance aircraft to pinpoint locations of militants. Li said China would provide 150 million yuan ($22.7 million) to help with reconstruction in Marawi. He praised Duterte for last year putting aside festering disputes with China and visiting Beijing, a trip he said was an "ice-breaker".

Philippine security analyst Renato De Castro said the information Duterte gave to Li was inaccurate, but consistent with his policy of "total appeasement" of China. "I'm really surprised, I don't know whether it's flattery or an outright lie," he told news channel ANC. —Reuters ■

Senior Chinese diplomat to visit North Korea as envoy of Xi

BEIJING — A senior Chinese diplomat will visit North Korea from Friday as a special envoy of Chinese President Xi Jinping, Beijing said, although it did not say he was planning to discuss North Korea's nuclear and ballistic programmes.

China has repeatedly pushed for a diplomatic solution to the crisis, but in recent months has had only limited high-level exchanges with North Korea.

The last time China's special envoy for North Korea visited the country was in February last year.

In a brief dispatch, the official Xinhua news agency said Song Tao, who heads the ruling Communist Party's external affairs department, would leave for North Korea on Friday. He will "inform the DPRK of the 19th CPC National Congress and visit the DPRK", Xinhua said on Wednesday, using the North's official name and referring to China's recently concluded Communist Party Congress at which Xi further cemented his power.

North Korea's KCNA news agency confirmed the visit, but said only that it would take place "soon".

The trip will come just a week after US President Donald Trump visited Beijing as part of a lengthy Asia tour, where he pressed for greater action to rein in North Korea, especially from China, with which North Korea does 90 per cent of its trade.

It is not clear how long Song could stay, but he has already visited Viet Nam and Laos to inform them of the results of the congress, a typical courtesy China extends other communist countries after such important meetings. It is also unclear whether Song will meet North Korea's youthful leader Kim Jong Un. Song's "main objective" in going to North Korea was to "report on the 19th Party Congress", Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang told a daily news briefing, adding that it was routine for China and other socialist countries to have such exchanges after important party meetings. The two countries would also "exchange opinions on matters of mutual concern" during the visit, Geng added. He reiterated that China was committed to resolving the Korean nuclear issue peacefully through consultation.

Kim and Xi exchanged messages of congratulations and thanks over the Chinese party congress, but neither leader has visited the other's country since assuming power.

Song's department is in charge of the party's relations with foreign political parties, and has traditionally served as a conduit for Chinese diplomacy with North Korea. A department official said last month that China's Communist Party continues to hold talks and maintain contacts with its North Korean counterpart, describing the two countries' friendship as important for regional stability.—Reuters ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV YAN DUN JIAOI VOY. NO (753)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YAN DUN JIAOI VOY. NO (753) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.11.2017and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT-4 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.

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Factory testing of MiG-35 to be completed by 2017

DUBAI — Factory testing of the light fighter jet MiG-35 will be completed this year, MiG Corporation's spokeswoman Anastasia Kravchenko said at the Dubai Airshow-2017 on Tuesday.

"Factory tests of the MiG-35 plane are to be completed this year. As soon as a serial contract is signed, we will start batch production at our plant in Lukhovitsy. At the moment we are waiting for a contract to be concluded with the Defence Ministry," she said.

As the chairman of the Federation Council's defense and security committee, Viktor Bondarev, who up to September 2017 held the position of Russia's Aerospace Force, has told TASS the purchase of the MiG-35 plane has been included in the new programme for armaments, adding that 24 such planes are to be acquired by 2020.

MiG-35 is the newest multi-role generation 4++ fighter. Its predecessors are MiG-29K/KUB and MiG29M/M2. The flight test programme began on 26 January, 2017.

The plane's international presentation was held near Moscow the next day.

MiG CEO Ilya Tarasenko said Peru, Myanmar and Bangladesh had taken interest in the MiG-35. —Tass ■

MiG-35 fighter jet. **PHOTO:TASS**

Airbus in record 430 plane deal with budget airline backer Franke

DUBAI— Airbus landed a deal for a record 430 of its A320neo-family jets on Wednesday as US investor Bill Franke raised his bet on budget airlines.

The preliminary deal, worth up to $50 billion, is designed to supply four airlines in which Franke's Indigo Partners has stakes: Frontier Airlines, Mexico's Volaris, Chilean carrier JetSmart and Hungary's Wizz Air. The 80-year old Franke signed the agreement at the Dubai Airshow amid a flurry of dealmaking, as airlines take advantage of a recent slowdown in demand for new aircraft to negotiate competitive prices from leading manufacturers. Budget airline flydubai on Wednesday committed to buying 175 Boeing 737 Max jets, worth around $21 billion at list prices. Airbus said it expected to finalise its agreement with Franke in the coming weeks. The two deals again underscore how budget carriers are rewriting the rule book by combining bargain fares augmented by optional services and upgrades for which passengers pay additional fees.—Reuters ■

US Senate panel set to advance quest for oil in Arctic refuge

WASHINGTON — Oil drilling in a vast Alaskan wildlife refuge could move a step closer to reality on Wednesday as a Senate panel votes to open part of the reserve coveted by conservationists.

Republicans, who control Congress and the White House, have long wanted to prise open a portion of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge on the north coast known as the 1002 area.

Senator Lisa Murkowski, an Alaska Republican and the head of the Senate energy committee, says drilling in the refuge is needed to provide jobs and boost the country's resource base.

But former US interior department officials, who worked under both Republican and Democratic presidents, said drilling in the refuge was risky, and the energy boom in the continental United States makes the economic argument to explore in the refuge ring hollow.

"We don't need to develop the Arctic Refuge — one of the costliest, and riskiest places to develop energy resources — to promote American energy security," said Steve Williams, director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service under former President George W Bush, a Republican.

He and five former officials made the comment in a letter sent on Tuesday to members of Murkowski's panel, a copy of which was seen by Reuters.

The region, protected since 1960 and renamed the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in 1980 by former President Jimmy Carter, is home to wildlife populations including caribou, polar bears and millions of birds that migrate to six of the seven continents.

Getting 60 votes in the 100-member Senate to approve drilling in ANWR has been elusive for decades. But Republicans have attached Murkowski's measure to budget legislation.

Once it passes her panel, it will be part of the wider legislation that only needs 50 votes to pass. That bill faces hurdles as many provisions are being attached to it, such as tax reform. Murkowski's measure would create an oil and gas drilling program on ANWR's coastal plain and require at least two lease sales within 10 years. Republicans had asked Murkowski to come up with a bill that would provide $1 billion in revenue to help pay for tax cuts. The Congressional Budget Office said the lease sales would provide $1.1 billion.—Reuters ■

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV BAGAN STAR VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BAGAN STAR VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.11.2017and 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

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV ARMATA VOY. NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ARMATA VOY. NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.11.2017and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT-5 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 CHUN AN SHIPPING PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV MCC SHENZHEN VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCC SHENZHEN VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.11.2017and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

Taylor Swift's 'Reputation' sales soar, but Adele keeps her crown

Singer Taylor Swift poses at the 2016 iHeartRadio Music Awards in Inglewood, California on 3 April, 2016. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

LOS ANGELES — Taylor Swift's new album "Reputation" has sold more than one million copies in its first four days, Nielsen Music said on Tuesday, but the US pop star failed to beat the record set by Britain's Adele two years ago.

Swift's 1.05 million US sales of "Reputation" came despite the singer keeping the album from streaming services and gave her the best-selling album of 2017.

But the figure was less than half the monster sales for the debut of Adele's "25" album, which surpassed 2.43 million copies in the first four days of release in November 2015 and smashed a 15-year-old US record set by boy band NSync in 2000. Adele also initially kept "25" from streaming services.

Swift, 27, recording on Nashville-based independent label Big Machine Records, now has four albums that have sold more than one million copies in their first week — "1989," "Red," and "Speak Now."

"Reputation," her first studio album in three years, marked another transformation for Swift with songs marked by vengeance that take aim at the media and some of her haters.

Full first week sales will be available next week, when "Reputation" will top the Billboard 200 album chart.

Swift this week announced the first US dates of what is expected to be a world tour to promote the album. —Reuters

Rita Ora's new album has songs inspired by exes

LONDON — Singer Rita Ora says some of the lyrics on her second studio album were inspired by conversations with her ex boyfriends.

The 26-year-old star has dated the likes of Calvin Harris, Rob Kardashian and James Arthur over the years, reported Contactmusic.

"The album is inspired by a few. There are little spurts of inspiration from conversations I've had with exes or boyfriends at the time.

"It's like a new chapter because, to be honest, everything with my music was way more impactful for me than any relationship. There was that pure frustration and passion that's really the core of this record," Ora says.

The singer has given a preview of her album to friend Ed Sheeran and she says he really liked it.

"I have a huge girl anthem with some incredible females on there. I haven't told anybody what yet but this rap feature is so exciting for me because I love this person.

"This song that I'm really excited about, Ed Sheeran loves as well. I've played loads to Ed. I really trust his opinion," she says.—PTI ■

British singer Rita Ora. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Actress Zendaya. **PHOTO: PTI**

Zendaya to star in and produce A White Lie

LOS ANGELES — Actress Zendaya will star in the film "A White Lie", about Vassar Colleges first Black graduate, Anita Hemmings.

The "Spider-Man: Homecoming" star will portray the role of Hemmings in the film, which she will produce along with actor Reese Witherspoon and Lauren Neustadter, reported Variety.

An official adaptation of the Karin Tanabes book "The Gilded Years", the story is about Hemmings, who passed as white until just a few short weeks before graduation, when her roommate began digging into her past.

The script of the film will be penned by Monica Beletsky.—PTI

India gives 'king of sweets' a geographical tag to end bitter rivalry

KOLKATA, (India) — India has awarded a "geographical indications" tag to rosogolla, the king of Indian sweets, after a years-long battle between two neighboring states over the ownership rights.

Luscious rosogolla, or sweet cheese balls dripping with sugar syrup, have long been a favorite dessert across the Indian subcontinent and among the diaspora.

But two eastern states, West Bengal and Odisha, have been arguing over the origins of rosogolla, which means a ball of sweet.

Varieties of 'Rosogolla', popularly known as the king of Indian sweets, are displayed inside a sweet shop in Kolkata, India on 14 November, 2017. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

They consulted historians and produced old documents to support their claims.

On Tuesday, the federal commerce and industry ministry ruled that the sweet originated from West Bengal, giving it the coveted "geographical indications" tag.

The World Trade Organization says "geographical indications" defines a good as originating in a particular territory of a member, or a region or locality in that territory, where a given quality, reputation or other characteristic of the good is available.

West Bengal's chief minister Mamata Banerjee welcomed the decision saying in a Twitter post it was "sweet news for us all". —Reuters ■

Sponsor of monk and donor of pagoda, ordination hall, monastery and pond
U Than Aung
(78) years
Advocate and Notary Public

Son of late U Tun Khin and late Daw Thaw residing at Thein Village, Myingyan District, Mandalay Region, son-in-law of late U Ba Hmu and late Daw Pyay residing at Simekhone Village, Myingyan District, Mandalay Region, younger brother of late Daw Mainkhalay, late Daw Tin, late Daw Khin and Daw Htin, beloved husband of Daw Myint Myint Kyi residing at No. 615-J, Pyay Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon Region, father of U Thiha Aung(TAS Co., Ltd) and Daw Khin Sabei Moe(Hiang Kie Coffee Myanmar Co., Ltd), U Thura Aung(eTrade Myanmar Co., Ltd) and Daw Thida Kyaw Myint Thein, Lt. Col Hla Myo residing in Nay Pyi Taw and Dr. Htin La Pyay Wun, grandfather of Mg Hein Linn Htet, Ma Shwe Eain Linn, Mg Htoo Myat Linn and Ma May Linn Let Myo, U Than Aung Passed away at resident of Simekhone Village, Myingyan District, Mandalay Region at 1:15PM on 14 November 2017(Tuesday).

The funeral ceremony will be held at Yeway Cemetery at 3:00 PM on 18 November 2017 (Saturday).

Buses will leave No. 615-J, Pyay Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon at 12:00 Noon.

The week mourning service will be held at No. 615-J, Pyay Road, Kamayut Township, Yangon, at 7:00am, on 20 November 2017(Monday).

Bereaved Family

Wonder Woman sword, Spider-Man drone land on 'Worst Toys' list

BOSTON — A plastic version of comic-book superhero Wonder Woman's sword and a Spider-Man drone showed up as villains on a US child safety advocacy group's annual list of potentially hazardous toys.

The group, World Against Toys Causing Harm, released its "10 Worst Toys" list on Tuesday, around the start of the holiday shopping season, with the goal of alerting parents to playthings that could hurt their children.

Besides the sword, which the group warned could cause "blunt-force injuries," and the drone's "potential for eye and body impact injuries," the list includes toys that could appeal to smaller children and contain removable pieces considered a possible choking hazard.

Mattel "Wonder Woman Battle-action Sword" is displayed during the World Against Toys Causing Harm (WATCH) news conference to announce their nominees for the "Ten Worst Toys" this holiday season in Boston, Massachusetts, US on 14 November, 2017. REUTERS

Flying toys, including the drone, and those that shoot projectiles, including toy Nerf guns, have long appeared on the list. While the products' boxes contain extensive warnings about the dangers of flying items, the group's executive director, James Swartz, said children could not use them in a safe way.

"Really, look at the packaging," Swartz said. "Is it realistic to use the product as the manufacturer intends? If the answer is no, it's better to stay away from it."

The list also includes several less-obvious threats. Among them: fidget spinners that can break apart, posing a choking hazard; a pull-along pony with a 19 inch (48 cm) cord the group said a small child could strangle on; and a baby doll with removable hair elastics labeled a choking hazard. Makers of the toys included on the list, including Mattel Inc, which makes the sword; Skyrocket Toys LLC, the drone manufacturer; and Nerf maker Hasbro Inc, did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

The Toy Association views the list as "needlessly frightening," said Joan Lawrence, the trade group's senior vice president of safety standards and regulatory affairs.

"We have strong safety standards in this country," Lawrence said, adding that parents should follow the package's directions about the age group for which a plaything is suitable.

The association released a survey this month showing 82 per cent of parents think the age ranges are merely suggestions. Lawrence urged parents to take them more seriously.

"If you're going to buy a bicycle ... there are instructions on how to safely use the bicycle, like wearing a helmet," Lawrence said. "We don't say, 'Don't buy the bicycle.' What we do is find ways to enjoy it safely." —Reuters ■

Photo taken on 29 July, 2017, shows Super Mario decoration in a store selling games and goods related to Nintendo Co in New York. Nintendo is close to an agreement with a US production company to make an animated "Super Mario Bros" movie, The Wall Street Journal reported on 14 November, 2017. **PHOTO: KYODO NEWS**

Nintendo making Mario movie with US studio: report

NEW YORK — Nintendo Co is close to an agreement with a US production company to make an animated "Super Mario Bros." movie, the Wall Street Journal reported on Tuesday.

The firm, Illumination Entertainment, is a producer of animated films for Comcast Corp's Universal Pictures. It has made "Minions" and "The Secret Life of Pets."

The potential deal follows an agreement Universal's theme-parks unit made with Nintendo two years ago to build attractions based on Mario and other characters, the newspaper said.

The 32-year-old Super Mario Brothers video game series and its spin-offs have sold more than 330 million units. Nintendo had revealed it was in talks with several Hollywood studios about making films based on its games. — Kyodo News ■

Lethwei Nation Fight 3 to be held in Yangon

KyawZin Lin

THE Lethwei Nation Fight 3 competition will be held at Thein Phyu Indoor Stadium in Yangon on Sunday.

There will be three special men's bouts and one women's match.

Myanmar lethwei fighter Saw Gaw Maw Too will fight against Singmanee Kaewsamri, the 67-kilo fighter from Thailand who is also the No.1 ranked fighter of the World Professional Muay thai Federation (WPMF) and a former Thai Fight champion.

Myanmar's Thwe Thit Aung will fight against Thailand's Don San Paung, who won three golden belts in Mway Thai Fights at Lumpniee Stadium in Thailand.

Saw Phoe Khwar from Myanmar will fight against Pet Mun Chun of Lao, who won a golden belt in PPTV Mway Thai Fight.

Lethwei, or Burmese bare-knuckle boxing, is a full contact combat sport from Myanmar that uses stand-up striking along with various clinching techniques. Lethwei is considered to be one of the most aggressive and brutal martial arts in the world, because the fighters fight with no padding or gloves, with only the use of tape and gauze allowed on their hands. ■

Wenger open to international role after Arsenal reign

LONDON — Arsenal manger Arsene Wenger is focused on managing the Premier League club but is not ruling out taking over an international team in the future.

Wenger has led Arsenal to three league titles and seven FA Cup trophies during his 21-year tenure and signed a new two-year contract at the north London club in May.

Media reports have linked the 68-year-old to several national team managerial roles, including England and France, on multiple occasions.

"Maybe, yes, I will do it at some stage but until now I like to be involved every day in the life of a club because the real test is there...," Wenger told beIN Sports.

"But I will not always have the physical strength to do that so maybe I will move into (international coaching). It's a fact my life is linked with football, in what way will be linked to my physical state.

Asked whether he could be on the bench at the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, he said: "Maybe, you never know."

Arsenal host Tottenham Hotspur on Saturday.—Reuters ■

Arsenal manger Arsene Wenger. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Moyes targets tighter defence to ease West Ham woes

LONDON — West Ham United would be "stupid" not to plug holes in their defence as they bid to start their season afresh following the departure of Slaven Bilic, new manager David Moyes has said.

The Hammers, who fired the Croat and replaced him with Moyes last week, have conceded 23 goals in 11 games, giving them the worst defensive record in the league. Ahead of his first game in charge at Watford on Sunday, the Scot suggested that although he would not curb West Ham's attacking instincts, his priority was to get his players to work harder for each other and the team.

"We would be stupid if we didn't look back," the Scot told the club's website. "We've looked at the goals we've conceded and we have got the worst defensive record in the league. We've got to try and find a way of stopping that.

"We don't want to stop the attacking play because we've got good attacking players. But we can't get away with not running back. We can't get away with not doing the jobs we've got to do.

"Ultimately, they've got to be a bit more humble for each other, work for the team, and score goals together and defend together... We must start from scratch and give the players a chance to start again." Moyes also hopes to inspire West Ham to more wins than his critics have forecast under him and ensure the club are nowhere near the relegation battle by to the end of the season. "I can only do that by getting the players onside and making sure they are doing the right things," he added. "They're telling me they want to work hard, be organised and disciplined. I hope once I've done that, they won't be complaining." West Ham are 18th in the standings following just two wins in 11 games, while Marco Silva's Watford are ninth after a steady start to the campaign. —Reuters ■

West Ham United manager David Moyes. **PHOTO: REUTERS**

Former Chelsea striker Drogba to retire in 2018

LONDON — Former Chelsea striker Didier Drogba will retire from the sport following the conclusion of the next United Soccer League (USL) season in November 2018. The Ivorian won four Premier League titles among 14 trophies in a Chelsea career spanning more than 380 appearances, and the 39-year-old is currently playing for Phoenix Rising in the second tier of United States professional soccer.

"Ah, do you want a scoop? I think next year will be my last season," Drogba told French news outlet RMC Sport. "At some point, you have to stop. I need to have time for my other projects. It's good to play, but at 39, it holds me back a bit." Drogba has enjoyed an illustrious club career, playing more than 670 games for eight different teams, including French side Olympique Marseille and Turkey's Galatasaray. —Reuters ■

Former Chelsea striker Didier Drogba. **PHOTO: REUTERS**