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Saturday, 10 November 2018

State Counsellor, Chinese Asian Affairs Special Envoy discuss constructive assistance to Myanmar

DAW Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received Mr. Sun Guoxiang, Special Envoy for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they cordially discussed the matters related to the recent developments on peace and reconciliation process in Rakhine State and China's continued provision of constructive assistance in Myanmar's endeavours. — MNA ■



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi meets with Mr. Sun Guoxiang, China's Special Envoy for Asian Affairs, in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Release

(2nd Waxing of Tazaungmone 1380 ME)
(9 November 2018)

On 5th November 2018, the Daily Star newspaper published an article according to which a spokesperson from the Bangladesh Border Guard Police claimed that shots were fired seventeen times from a police outpost near the Myanmar-Bangladesh border and a fifteen-year-old cowherd named Narul Islam suffered injuries to his elbow.

On 7th November 2018, Mr Delwar Houssain, Director General of South and East Asia Department of

the Bangladesh Ministry of Foreign Affairs invited the Myanmar Ambassador to Bangladesh and formally lodged a protest.

The Myanmar Ambassador promptly contacted the responsible officials from the Myanmar Border Guard, who confirmed that no shooting incident had taken place. The Myanmar Border Police had not received any complaint related to such an incident, nor had the Bangladesh side attempted to call a Flag

Meeting the following day to discuss this issue, which would have been the normal course of action to take.

The Myanmar Border Police further investigated this incident with a view to taking necessary action. The Balukhali refugee camp in Bangladesh is situated some 5,000 yards away from the Taung Pyo Letwe police outpost mentioned in the newspaper report.

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VP U Myint Swe attends coordination meeting for 71st Independence Day

VICE President U Myint Swe attended the 2nd coordination meeting of the Central Committee responsible for organizing the country's 71st Independence Day celebrations, at the Union Government office meeting hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

Speaking at the meeting, the Vice President said that the 36-member Central Committee for holding the Independence Day was formed on 4 October 2018, in accordance with the five national objectives set by the government.

The Vice President, who is also the chairman of the committee, added that nine sub-committees were formed to carry out tasks set by the central committee. To ensure work goes smoothly, more sub-committees may be formed, if required, he said.

The 1st coordination meeting of the Central Committee was held on 15 October 2018. Members discussed ways to conduct the Independence Day ceremony and related programmes. A total of 22 decisions were made at the meeting. Their implementation was assigned to the relevant sub-committees.



Vice President U Myint Swe addresses the second coordination meeting of the central committee for organizing Myanmar's 71st Independence Day celebrations. **PHOTO: MNA**

The ceremonies this year will be held in accordance with the five national objectives, and relevant sub-committees are expected to strive toward a better event each year, based on their observations on the past years' ceremonies.

As the events will be attended by leaders of the government, government officials, foreign diplomats, local and international non-governmental organisations, and other officials, sub-commit-

tees have been asked to coordinate to ensure there are no deficiencies.

"Firework displays need to be conducted systematically so that there is no danger to people," said the Vice President.

The Independence Day message and postcards need to be produced and distributed in time. Sub-committees need to accurately evaluate and incur expenses. As the weather situation is also quite unpredictable, a

Plan B for all ceremonies needs to be drawn up and made ready.

All members have been requested to discuss completed and ongoing works decided at the first Central Committee meeting. They have also been asked to inform us about difficulties faced and make suggestions, wherever necessary," said the Vice President.

At the meeting yesterday, members of the sub-committees explained the works undertaken

by them. They invited suggestions and discussed the works conducted.

Afterwards, the Vice President chaired sub-committee-wise discussions and concluded the meeting with a closing speech.

The meeting was attended by Permanent Secretaries and Directors-General from ministries, high ranking Tatmadaw officers, and other officials. —MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Min)

PRC donates US\$300,000 to National Reconciliation and Peace Center

THE People's Republic of China donated US\$300,000 to the National Reconciliation and Peace Center, at a ceremony held in Meeting Hall 1 of the Office of the State Counsellor in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Special Envoy for Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (PRC), Mr. Sun Guoxiang, gave the donation to the National Reconciliation and Peace Center (NRPC) Vice Chairman and Union Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor, U Kyaw Tint Swe. The NRPC Vice Chairman

received the Chinese envoy at Meeting Hall 2, State Counsellor's office, at 11 am yesterday. This was followed by the donation ceremony. At the ceremony, NRPC Vice Chairman U Kyaw Tint Swe delivered the welcoming message, while Mr. Sun Guoxiang spoke about China's donation to the center. Afterwards, the union minister presented a certificate of honour to Mr. Sun Guoxiang. Also present on the occasion were the Chinese Ambassador Mr. Hong Liang and responsible officials.—MNA ■ (Translated by Thandar Aung)



The National Reconciliation and Peace Center meeting with China's Special Envoy for Asian Affairs, Mr. Sun Guoxiang, on behalf of the Chinese government, in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**



Myanmar and Thai officials discuss technical cooperation between the two countries during a meeting in Nay Pyi Taw. **PHOTO: MNA**

Myanmar, Thailand convene 16th consultation meeting on technical cooperation

The 16th Myanmar-Thailand Consultation on Technical Cooperation Meeting was held from 8 to 9 November at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Myanmar delegation was led by U Chan Aye, Director-General of International Organizations and Economic

Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Thai delegation was led by Mrs. Suphatra Srimaitree-phithak, Director-General of Thailand International Cooperation Agency under the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

During the meeting, both sides discussed the matters on technical cooperation between

Myanmar and Thailand, Human Resources Development programmes and its prospects for future cooperation.

They also further exchanged views on the completed and on-going projects under the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) framework. —MNA ■

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Release

(2nd Waxing of Tazaungmone 1380 ME)
(9 November 2018)

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There are two Bangladesh police outposts between the refugee camp and the Taung Pyo Letwe police outpost. At the specific date and time of the alleged incident, Myanmar and Bangladesh were conducting coordinated patrols of the Naf River to ensure border security and stability. It has been verified that there had been no shooting from either the Taung Pyo Letwe police outpost or the Ye Aung Chang Wa police outpost. Neither had there been

any reports of shooting lodged by the Bangladesh officials engaged in the coordinated exercises. The Myanmar police force has also confirmed that there was no request for any Flag Meeting related to this incident from the Bangladesh side.

The Ministry would urge that if similar incidents are reported in the future, the Bangladesh side should immediately call for a Flag Meeting to discuss the matter. A formal protest through diplomatic channels based on dubious reports, as took place in this case,

does not serve any useful purpose.

The Ministry is particularly concerned that such actions could cause misunderstanding and delay to the repatriation of verified returnees to Myanmar, which is due to commence very soon. Myanmar is conscious of the friendly relations that exist between the two countries and will in good faith implement the bilateral agreement for the return of displaced persons from Rakhine under conditions of safe, voluntary and dignified return.

Vice President U Henry Van Thio receives CITIC Group Chairman

VICE PRESIDENT U Henry Van Thio received a delegation led by China International Trust and Investment Corporation (CITIC) Group Chairman Mr. Chang Zhenming in the guest hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw at 2 pm yesterday. During the meeting, matters pertaining to increasing bilateral economic cooperation, Kyauk Phyu Special Economic Zone, and opportuni-

ties for cooperating in development works in Myanmar were discussed. Also present were Union Minister for Commerce Dr. Than Myint, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Set Aung, Kyaukphyu Special Economic Zone Management Committee Co-Chairman Dr. Soe Win and departmental officials. — MNA ■ (Translated By Thandar Aung)



Vice President U Henry Van Thio holds meeting with Mr. Chang Zhenming, Chairman of CITIC Group from China, in the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Mandalay Convention Centre opened in Chanmyathazi Tsp

A CONVENTION centre built by the Mandalay Investment and Development Group Limited's (MIDG) New Starlight Group of Companies was inaugurated at the Chanmyathazi Township in

Mandalay yesterday morning. The ceremony was attended by U Thaug Tun, Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission and Union Minister for the Office of the Union

Government.

First, the Chairman of the New Starlight Group of Companies, U Kyaw Kyaw Win, handed over the Mandalay Convention Centre to Dr. Ye Lwin, Manda-

lay Mayor and Chairman of the Mandalay City Development Committee.

Next, Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo; Mandalay Mayor and Chairman of the Mandalay City Development Committee, Dr. Ye Lwin; Mandalay Region Minister for Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation, Dr Soe Than; the Region Minister for Electricity and Construction, U Zar Ni Aung; the Region Minister for Planning and Finance, U Myat Thu; the secretary of Myanmar Investment Commission; the Director General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration, U Aung Naing Oo; the Myanmar Rice Federation Chairman U Chit Khine; and the Chairman

of New Starlight Group of Companies, opened the ceremony with a ribbon-cutting.

Union Minister U Thaug Tun and Chief Minister for Mandalay Region Dr. Zaw Myint Maung, then pressed a button to unveil the Mandalay Convention Centre's plaque and sprinkled scented water on it.

Later, the Union Minister, the Chief Minister, the Deputy Minister, regional ministers, departmental officials, representatives from New Starlight Group, and guests visited shops that will be featured in the Mandalay Business Forum 2018 Trade Fair, which ends 11 November. — Tin Maung, Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-Printing House)

(Translated By Thandar Aung)



Union Minister U Thaug Tun and Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung formally open the Mandalay Convention Centre. **PHOTO: MIN HTET AUNG (MANDALAY SUB-PRINTING HOUSE)**

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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.

Invest Myanmar Summit 2019 to be held in Nay Pyi Taw

THE Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) will host the Invest Myanmar Summit 2019 at MICC II in Nay Pyi Taw on 28 and 29 January, 2019. The summit seeks to explore potential business opportunities in Myanmar for local and foreign investors.

The summit, held in collaboration with the government and the country's private sector, aims to attract greater

foreign investment to Myanmar.

Participants are expected to discuss the National Project Bank, investment projects in states and regions, and economic and investment opportunities in Myanmar.

The two-day summit will see participation from union ministries, regional governments from the country's nine states and regions, and professional organizations. Investors from Australia, China, China's

Hong Kong, India, Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Britain, the United States, and the European Union are expected to attend the summit.

Officials from the Myanmar Investment Commission and Directorate of Investment and Company Administration will also attend the meet and hold discussions with foreign investors.

Entrepreneurs from manufacturing, garments, power

generation and distribution, tourism, education, food processing, fisheries, healthcare, and property sectors have also been invited to attend the summit.

"The summit will act as a platform for businesses to meet with potential partners and for investors to gain access to national, regional, and private sector business projects," said U Wai Phyoo, chairperson of Invest Myanmar Summit.—GNLM ■

Plans announced to grow peas and pulses on over one million acres in Sagaing region

THE government plans to set aside over 1 million acres of land in districts of Sagaing Region to plant beans in the 2018-2019 fiscal year, said U Khin Maung Nyount, an officer with the Region's Agricultural Department.

There are plans to cultivate 139,770 acres of green gram, 209,077 acres of Mung bean, 41,408 acres of soya

bean, 43,418 acres of cow peas, 427,078 acres of chick peas, 59,316 acres of green peas, 146,933 acres of red and blue phaseolus lunatus bean, 8,063 acres of red phaseolus lunatus bean, and 29,849 acres of butter bean.

"Most farmers in Myanmar plant different varieties of beans after the paddy growing season. Some value-added

bean products are also produced in the Myanmar industrial zone. The country also exports beans," said an official with the Region's Agricultural Department.

Under the new plan, the government will plant 1,104,912 acres under bean cultivation in 2018-2019 FY. Of this, 121,328 acres are in Sagaing District, 197,990

acres in Monywa District, 178,544 acres in Yinmabin District, 295,886 acres in Shwebo District, 119,101 acres in Kanbalu District, 73,202 acres in Katha District, 97,886 acres in Kalay District, 12,455 acres in Mawlaik District, 4,457 acres in Tamu District, and 4,063 acres in Kani District.—Win Oo (Zeyataing) ■

(Translated by Hay Mar)

CRIME NEWS

975,000 Yaba pills seized in Ponnagyun Township

At noon 8 November, police personnel on patrol found an ownerless suspicious boat at Mho Hin Pyun Creek, Doe Taung Village (new village) in Ponnagyun Township.

When the boat was searched in the presence of witnesses 975,000 Yaba tablets with WY sign worth

about Ks 1,950 million were found inside water proof bags. Ponnagyun Myoma police station is filing a charge under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law, according to local police station.—GNLM ■

(Translated by Thandar Aung)



Ownerless suspicious boat and seized psychotropic tablets seen. **PHOTO: MPF**

1100 g of heroin seized in Indaw Township



Aye Myat Moe (a) Ma Aye Aye with heroin. **PHOTO: MPF**

POLICE discovered 1100 g of heroin worth Ks110 million from a woman driving a motorcycle in Indaw, Sagaing Region, on 8 November, according to local police source.

The police found the heroin in 110 soap cans in a bag. Acting on a tip-off, the combined team comprising of members of local police and Anti-Drug Squad from Indaw Township stopped and

searched the motorbike driven by Aye Myat Moe (a) Ma Aye Aye, 26, en-route from Katha to Indaw at the Naba junction, Indaw, at 10 pm.

Indaw Township Police Station has opened a file against the suspect for drug trafficking under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—GNLM ■

(Translated by JT)

CBM allows foreign banks to extend services to local companies

By May Thet Hnin

THE Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) has granted permission to 13 foreign banks, who already have branches in the country, to extend their services to local companies, according to a directive issued by the CBM on 8 November.

The move aims to level the field for domestic and foreign banks, and improve access to funds for local companies. According to the new directive, foreign banks will now be allowed to extend financing and other banking services to local corporates.

“The move is to improve access to finance. Funding for businesses is of vital importance in the current economic climate. When the foreign banks were permitted to set up branches, they were given a timeline for when each step is to be accomplished. Therefore, it is time to ease their restrictions,” said U Win Thaw, Director-General of the Governor’s Office of the

CBM.

The foreign banks can lend to local businesses, as per the CBM’s interest rates, set according to the Financial Institutions Law 2016. They are only allowed to lend in Myanmar’s currency. The CBM will soon announce the details of other services the banks can now provide.

“We had some time with the foreign bank branches for market analysis and preparation. Similarly, local private banks had

time to make themselves more competitive,” said U Win Thaw.

“The banking sector plays a critical role in economic growth. Only a well-developed banking sector can enable the development of our country. This directive aims to boost economic growth, with foreign bank branches investing in domestic financial markets. Both domestic- and foreign-owned banks were given specific time-

lines for a competitive market,” he added.

U Than Lwin, a senior consultant at the KBZ bank, said the directive does not detail other services foreign banks can now provide.

“If foreign banks are al-

lowed the same rights as domestic banks, we may face difficulties in a competitive market”, he said. “They have financial efficiency with advanced technology, plus better services. But, we do not intend to oppose the lifting of restrictions”, he said.

“At present, domestic businesses are experiencing difficulties due to high interest rates charged by private banks, and securing loans with collateral. This is why we will opt for loans, depending on services offered by the banks”, said U Ye Myint Maung, an exporter.

“Businesses look for unsecured loans and lower interest rates. We will apply for loans after identifying the strengths, regardless of foreign or local banks. We have received loans from foreign banks in other countries. The interest rate is only 2 per cent, while domestic banks set over 11 per cent, and sometimes up to 13 per cent. There is a significant gap between them. This being so, we

would like to request the CBM to favour local businessmen while setting interest rates,” he said.

The CBM allowed foreign banks to provide export financing and related banking services for export financing from 8 December 2017.

The 13 foreign bank branches permitted by the CBM to enter the domestic market are the MUFG Bank, Ltd., the Overseas-Chinese Banking Corporation Ltd, the Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, the United Overseas Bank Limited, the Bangkok Bank Public Company Limited, the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, the Malayan Banking Berhad (Maybank), the Mizuho Bank Limited, the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited, The Joint Stock Commercial Bank for Investment and Development of Vietnam (BIDV), the Shinhan Bank, the E. Sun Commercial Bank Limited, and the State Bank of India. ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

The CBM will soon announce the details of other services the banks can now provide.

Rice, broken rice export reaches 1.2 million metric tons in seven months



Workers unload rice sacks off a ship docked in the Yangon River. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAR

THE volume of rice and broken rice exports between 1 April and 26 October is estimated to have reached 1.2 million metric tons, worth over US\$435.9 million, according to an announcement by the Myanmar Rice Federation (MRF).

Over the past seven months, rice worth \$360 million was shipped from Myanmar to 43 countries. The export volume stood at over 1 million

metric tons. Meanwhile, the country exported over 251,200 metric tons of broken rice, valued at \$75.58 million, to 18 countries.

The volume of rice exports via border trading remains relatively high compared to the sea, accounting for 53.3 per cent of the total export. Rice export through border checkpoints was estimated to be worth \$239 million, while trade

conducted by sea generated revenues of \$196.9 million.

In the last 2017-2018 fiscal year, 3.6 million tons of rice and broken rice, worth \$1.13 billion, were exported from Myanmar.

The MRF did not reach its export target of 2 million tons in the last mini-budget period of April to September. —GNLM■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Food safety institute to be set up in Myanmar

By Nyein Nyein

THE Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) is planning to set up an institute to promote food safety, said U Ye Min Aung, vice president of the UMFCCI. He revealed plans for the Food Safety Professional Institute at the National Seminar on Food Safety held yesterday at the UMFCCI.

“The UMFCCI plans to implement food safety measures with the help of the Myanmar Food Processors and Exporters Association, the Myanmar Livestock Federation, the Myanmar Fishery Federation for fish farming, the Myanmar Edible Oil Millers Association, and the Myanmar Rice Federation for crops. We plan to set up the Food Safety Professional Institute to ensure food safety and improve related activities,” said U Ye Min Aung.

When food safety measures are in line with international standards, they can help boost exports and bring about

consumer health benefits, he added.

The UMFCCI and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 4 September, 2018 to cooperate in conducting workshops and educational programmes to improve food safety practices of all stakeholders in the export supply chain, including exporters and factories. The MoU also aims to promote exports, attract foreign investments, and increase job opportunities.

Investment in food safety management is pivotal to the progress of agri-businesses, said an IFC official.

Currently, Myanmar is facing challenges regarding food safety, said U Sein Thauung Oo, vice chair of the Myanmar Food Processors and Exporters Association.

The country is in need of measures to ensure food safety. With this in view, the UMFCCI teamed up with the IFC in November 2017 by formulating a project. ■

(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)

Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air) holds 8th Maha Kathina ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw

8th Maha Kathina Robe Offering ceremony organised by families of the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air Force) was held at Anawrahta Hall of the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army). Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla attended the ceremony and donated Kathina robes and offertories to the monks.

First the congregation led by Senior General received 9 Precepts from Zeyathiri Township Yezin Kan Oo Pariyatti Monastery patron Sayadaw Sasana Daja Dhammacariya Bhaddanta Vilasa and listened to the sermon.

Afterwards Senior General and wife offered Kathina robes and offertories to the presiding Sayadaw of the Maha Wizitayone Monastery.

Following this Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice Senior General Soe



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla donate Kathina robes to Sayadaw at the 8th Maha Kathina Robe Offering ceremony yesterday. **PHOTO: COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OFFICE**

Win and wife Daw Than Than Nwe offered Kathina robes and offertories to the presiding Sayadaw of the Zay Kone Monastery.

Union Minister for Home Affairs and wife, Union Minister for Defence and wife, Union Minister for Border Affairs and wife, Chief of General Staff (Army, Navy and

Air) and wife, C-in-C (Navy) and wife and C-in-C (Air) and wife also offered Kathina robes and offertories to the Sayadaws.

Afterwards high-ranking

officers from the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air) and Chief of Myanmar Police Force offered Kathina robes and offertories to the Sayadaws.

This was followed by two monks from Yezin Kan Oo Monastery conducting Kathina questions and answers.

Finally, the Senior General and congregation listened to the sermon of the presiding Sayadaw of Maha Visutayama Zay Kone Monastery, Pyinmana Township and shared merits for the donations made. After this event, the Senior General and guests offered soon (day meal) to the Members of Sangha.

In the 8th Maha Kathina Robe Offering ceremony organized by the families of the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army, Navy and Air) offertories (worth over Ks. 100 million) from respective departments were donated and the offertories were delivered to the respective monasteries by cars of the relevant departments. —

MNA ■ (Translated by



Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye shakes hands with Singapore's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan in Singapore yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

Union Minister Dr. Win Myat Aye meets Singapore's Minister for Foreign Affairs

THE Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Dr. Win Myat Aye, met with Singapore's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Singapore yesterday.

During the meeting, the ministers exchanged views on the return of displaced people to Rakhine State and issues related to their resettlement. They also discussed Myanmar's cooperation with the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) for the development of Rakhine State. —MNA ■

(Translated by Myat Thandar Aung)

65th Independence, Armed Forces Day of Cambodia celebrated in Yangon



Union Minister U Kyaw Tin and Cambodian Ambassador Mr. Sok Chea cut ceremonial cake at the reception to mark 65th Anniversary of Independence Day and Armed Forces Day of Cambodia. **PHOTO: MNA**

THE 65th Anniversary of Independence Day and Armed Forces Day of Cambodia was celebrated at the Melia Hotel in Yangon yesterday evening. Union Minister for International Cooperation U Kyaw Tin and his wife attended the ceremony. The celebration began with the playing of the national anthems of Myanmar and Cambodia. Afterwards, the Union Minister and the Cambodian Ambassador to Myanmar, Mr. Sok Chea, delivered the opening speeches. This was followed by a cake-cutting ceremony.

Later, the Union Minister

and the Ambassador posed for photographs with other invitees. The Cambodian Ambassador and his wife also hosted a dinner for the guests. The ceremony was also attended by Union Minister for Ethnic Affairs Nai Thet Lwin and his wife, Lt-Gen Myo Zaw Thein from the Commander-in-Chief's Office (Army) and his wife, Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Thet Pone and his wife, ambassadors and diplomats from foreign embassies in Yangon and representatives from the United Nations.—MNA

■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

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Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint meets Information Ministry employees



Union Minister Dr. Pe Myint delivers a speech at the meeting with Information Ministry officials in Yangon. **PHOTO: MNA**

UNION MINISTER for Information Dr. Pe Myint met with personnel from his ministry in Yangon yesterday. At the meetings, he stressed the importance of working continuously to upgrade their skills.

In the morning, the Union Minister met with employees of Myanma Radio and Television (MRTV) at the MRTV Studio A, Pyay Road, Yangon.

The Union Minister delivered the opening remarks at the meeting. This was followed by personnel sharing suggestions on the current news broadcasting system, expanding and producing more programs, the requirement for additional personnel, work requirements, and requirements of the personnel's families. The MRTV Director-General resolved queries.

In the afternoon, the Union Minister met with staff from the Information and Public Relations Department, the Printing and Publishing Department, and the News and Periodicals Enterprise.

During the meetings, the Union Minister called for the development of MRTV, saying that capability of its personnel is important, and must thrive.

The Union Minister said that science and technology is changing and developing at a rapid pace in the world. "Information technology, which is directly related with the ministry, is changing, especially with time. You all have to keep pace by learning continuously. People working in the news and information sector have to keep up with change by upgrading their skills. You need to increase your capability for your own sakes. You need to work on improving your own abilities while working in your own environment," he said.

"To increase the capability of the departments, two things come to mind. One is to reduce errors and weaknesses to zero, or perform regular tasks to their fullest satisfaction. Another is to innovate and do better work. Only then can work progress," he added.

ly without error, success will be achieved. "Personnel working in the state-owned newspaper are required to ensure the accuracy of news, publish the newspaper on time, provide better and human interest stories, articles and photos," he said. "The work of Sarpay Beikman involves presenting literature awards, national literature awards, holding book festivals and ensuring the regular running of libraries. Those works need to be made better and more interesting. Sarpay Beikman has gained much trust. Now, it is arranging to publish 100 Myanmar classical series and Myanmar's encyclopedia," he said.

Children's literature festivals conducted by the Information and Public Relations Department in various regions have seen rising interest, he said. They will be extended to other states and regions' cities, including Myitkyina and Loikaw, and the festival in Bago Region is planned to be an exceptional one, he added.

"Personnel must improve

To increase the capability of the departments, two things come to mind. One is to reduce errors and weaknesses to zero, or perform regular tasks to their fullest satisfaction. Another is to innovate and do better work.

in Yangon at the meeting hall of the Printing and Publishing Department's Central Press Building on Theinbyu Road in Yangon.

The Union Minister opened the meeting with his remarks. Afterwards, participants discussed the requirement to reprint Myanmar's encyclopedia. They also discussed undertaking more welfare works for personnel. This was followed by department officials resolving queries.

ed. "Staff from each department must help develop the department by improving the way they perform together in their respective sector. This will allow them to improve their capabilities at the individual level. This will also secure their present and future in the department, or in any change of situation in the future," said the Union Minister.

The minister added that if tasks at hand are done smooth-

their work, become better, and make their department a valuable, recognized department. In turn, the department will become a place of honor and satisfaction. As they perform their work, the capacity of the staff will improve and develop. All personnel ought to work with good thoughts and ideas for the development of the department," said the Union Minister. — MNA ■ (Translated by Zaw Min)

Myanmar Gazette

Heads of service organizations appointed

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed the following persons as Heads of Service Organizations, shown against each of their names and to remain on probation from the date they assume charge of their duties.

Name	Appointment
(1) U Aung Soe Win Consul General (Deputy Director-General) Consulate General (Los Angeles) Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Director-General Planning and Administrative Department Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(2) U Chit Toe Deputy Director-General Department of Hydropower Implementation Ministry of Electricity and Energy	Director-General Department of Hydropower Implementation Ministry of Electricity and Energy



Myanmar Border Police and Border Guards Bangladesh conducting coordinated naval patrols. **PHOTO: MPF**

Myanmar, Bangladesh conduct coordinated patrol

A coordinated patrol between Myanmar and Bangladesh was conducted at the border posts 45 to 46 from 10:45 am to 11:45 am on 8 November.

The Myanmar patrol was led by Police Major Myo Myint from No.1 Border Police sub-division, Area 2, Maung-taw Township, and the Bangladesh patrol was led by Subedar Ruhul Amin of No. 11 Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB).

Likewise, on the same day at 10:35 am, a troop of border police led by Police Major

Kyaw Win of No.2 Border Police sub-division (Ngakhuya) station conducted a coordinated patrol with two water crafts along the Naf River.

The troop in the two water crafts met with Bangladesh's troop led by Subedar Md. Alyciuse of BGB 2 in two water crafts at the middle of the Naf River and patrolled together along the river at 11:00 am, according to the Police Information Department.—

GNLM ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Russian concert coming to Yangon

A music concert by pianist Alexei Kuznetsov and saxophonist Roman Markelov from the Russian Federation is being organized at the National Theatre in Yangon on 14 November at 6 pm.

The concert will be

held in collaboration with the Ministry for Culture of the Russian Federation and the Saint-Petersburg Music House. Entry to the concert is free of charge.— MNA ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)

Working together for peaceful living

It is important to take preventive measures that are up to date with the current times and to address new challenges in countering transnational crime, thereby attaining the trust of the people, said Vice President U Myint Swe at the 12th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime held on 31 October.

We can see socio-development in countries around the world increase in parallel with the rate of various criminal activities. While authorities keep a watchful eye on crime and effectively address it, transnational crime can be elusive and difficult to handle. Countries around the world need to cooperate with each other to put early preventive measures in place, in addition to taking effective legal action.

Transnational crime is prevalent in the ASEAN region, and also becoming a serious challenge to the world and its people. Criminal groups along country borders are also using advanced modern technology to conduct money laundering operations, human trafficking, cybercrimes, drug trafficking, arms trafficking, wildlife smuggling, and the illegal trade and movement of nuclear or other radioactive materials. These groups may have a network larger than a country.

With these criminal gangs intensifying the network of transnational crimes, governments need to offer effective protection to its citizens, who may be facing losses. If these criminal issues cannot be handled, then governments would be nothing more than paper tigers. Transnational crimes are an increasing threat to national security and their negative effects can be felt in public safety, society, healthcare, economic stability and rule of law.

It seems that for countries to realize the aims of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025, they will need to effectively address transnational crimes that are threatening public safety. As a member of the ASEAN family, Myanmar places great consideration on the duties and responsibilities for successfully establishing an ASEAN community. Myanmar will also strive for peace, stability, security, and prosperity for itself and other member countries. Myanmar is always ready to cooperate with member countries to combat transnational crimes and provide support in regional development.

At present, it's difficult to handle and combat transnational crime due to the fact that no immediate losses are visible, along with low levels of reporting, organizations working for rule of law unable to receive information and act quickly, insufficient capacity and technological resources to counter effectively, unreachable large area of operations, no clearly marked boundaries, which enable criminal groups to avoid the law, restrictions and disagreements, to name a few.

This is why it will be effective for people from different countries to work hand-in-hand to counter transnational crime and enact preventive measures so that we may all have safe social lives and security.

Raising Public Awareness on Ease of Doing Business Index – Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo

By Shin Min
PHOTO: Aye Than

Dialogue titled "Nation Building through Ease of Doing Business"

(Continued from yesterday)

MYANMA Radio and Television presents the dialogue under the title "Nation Building through Ease of Doing Business" in which Deputy Minister for Commerce U Aung Htoo, Yangon Electricity Supply Corporation General Manager U Tin Aung, Yangon City Development Committee Secretary Daw Hlaing Maw Oo and Executive U Zeya Thura Mon of Myanmar Chambers of Commerce and Industry are participating in the talk show.

Facilitator: Well! His Excellency Deputy Minister, please explain what measures have been taken to improve the indicators.

Deputy Minister: Speaking quite frankly, we did not know much about the indicators at the outset. Later, we pursued the subject in depth. When calculating the index, questions were raised once in a year to government departments. They are to give the answers between February and May. In May, we have to combine all data and calculate on it. At that time we ask questions to both government and private sectors. In doing so, the questions are also asked to law firms and accounting firms which are working together with the private sector.

For these questions, some gave flippant answers. For example, the questions want yes or no. If yes, more questions will follow as a consequence and if they answer we have no idea, it is



very easy for them. But in reality that does not work.

Another matter is that when employees of companies are trying to get license or permit, they approach agents who act on their behalf. In the process, they do not record the actual cost. For example, a company sets the expenditure for getting a license as 200 USD and it gives its agents 200 USD. It does not know on which items the agent has spent the money. In reality, the expenditure

is less than 200 USD.

Next, the duration. Some said they got the permit within one day that means they submitted the application today and the next day they got it. We, on our part, said it took 24 hours to get the permit. But on their part, they said the submission date is one day and the approval date is the other. Therefore, it took two days to get a permit. It seems the duration for getting permit takes too long. Procedure is another matter. Some procedures have been abolished, but it is active as the accounts are going as usual.

So, in cooperation with UM-FCCI, we studied case by case what we can do on that matter. We made sure that the private sector was able to answer these questions and so do in the government sector.

We found out that some facts have not been counted as said by U Zeya Thura Mon. In accord with the guidance given by the

very much complicated. We are trying to ease it. After that, it will be uploaded in Ease of Doing Business Website and websites of the relevant ministries. This will help people understand what they need to do.

Facilitator: Again, Daw Hlaing Maw Oo, please explain what the committee is implementing concerning Dealing with Construction Permit.

Daw Hlaing Maw Oo: Just now, His Excellency Deputy Minister and U Zeya Thura Mon have talked about it and there was a discussion from the point of view of electricity indicator. There is four parts for scoring in Dealing with Construction Permit. From the step of submitting a construction permit to project completion, there is an index for the whole procedure. There also has norms to measure duration and cost. Quality Control Index such as how much experts are involving in the procedures.

We have been ranked 73 out of 66 in Dealing with Construction Permit indicator. It is due to misunderstanding of questions raised by the other side. We've found out that they replied to the queries without knowledge. Therefore, we have to take remedial action to make the World Bank known the real situation.

We have fixed the difficult procedures and proposal made by IFC. The outsiders do not know what we are doing our best. So there is a gap. So to fill the gap we are now trying to open the communication lines. In doing so, we upload SOP data in addition to application forms and some data. Data on EC meeting are also uploaded. The recommendation of IFC can also be browsed in the website. The works done such as the number of application and the amount of receiving permit. Measures taken by experts are also uploaded.

(Translated by Wallace)

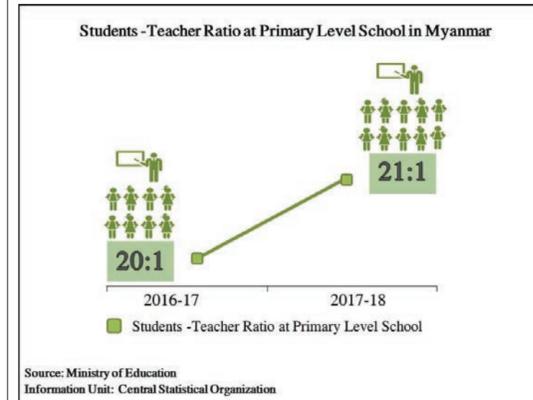
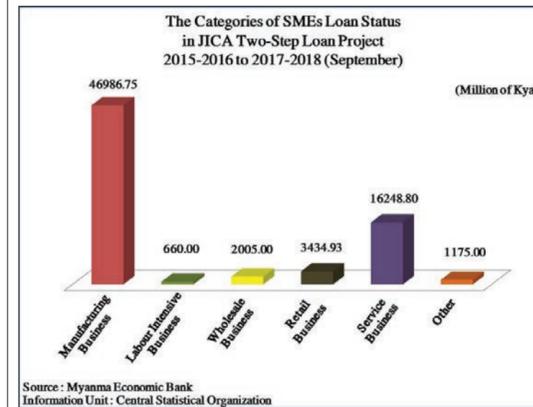
Procedure is another matter. Some procedures have been abolished, but it is active as the accounts are going as usual.

We are now preparing Ease of Doing Business Website..

vice-president, there is ten support groups. These groups have been reformed with the directors-general and managing directors who can really carry out the job with full power. They are appointed as secretaries of the groups. The leaders of the group have put their focuses on it. Moreover, two experts – a foreign and a local - from World Bank contribute to this work. Meetings have been held once every two weeks to improve the indicators. At the meetings future plans have been laid down and implemented. We also found out that giving awareness on Ease of Doing Business Index

is too weak in both in the private and government sectors. So we decided to include information sector into the process and made known to the public. This dialogue is one of its kinds. We are now preparing Ease of Doing Business Website. The ten groups have developed Standard Operating Procedure such as what steps are to be taken to get construction permit. Before the said website cannot be in operation, the procedures are uploaded to Commerce Website. This is aimed at enabling people to browse it and to know the procedures clearly. SOP is

50th MEETING OF ASEAN COMMITTEE ON CULTURE AND INFORMATION
aseancoci
12 - 16 NOVEMBER 2018
NAY PYI TAW, MYANMAR.
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Low Pressure Area Condition
(Issued at (14:00) hours MST on (09- 11 -2018))

According to the observations at (13:30)hrs MST today, the low pressure area over the South Andaman Sea still persists. It is forecast to intensify into a depression during next (48) hours.

General Caution

Due to the Low pressure area, rain will be scattered to fairly widespread in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Thantharyi regions, Kayin and Mon states within 48 hours commencing afternoon today.

Squalls with moderate to rough seas are likely at times Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon -Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35)mph. Wave height will be about (6-9) feet in Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon -Taninthayi Coasts.

Mandalay holds Business Forum 2018 Trade Fair

THE Mandalay Business Forum 2018 was held, at 9.30 a.m. yesterday, at the Mandalay Convention Centre (MCC) in Mandalay which aims at boosting trading sectors and investment enterprises.

The Mandalay Business forum 2018 Trade Fair, which was co-organized by Mandalay Region Investment Committee, Myanmar Investment Commission, The Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA), Ministry of Commerce and New Starlight Group of Companies.

At the forum, Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission U Thaung Tun, Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung, Mon State Chief Minister Dr. Aye Zan, Deputy Commerce Minister U Aung Htoo, ministers from the Mandalay Region government, regions and state ministers for Planning and Finance, departmental heads, ambassadors, officials from INGOs, foreign investors, business organizations and business personnel from Mandalay attended.

At the forum, Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung said, "Mandalay Business Forum 2018 was being held aiming to show many good opportunities for investment, trading and tourism sectors in Mandalay region. At the forum, discussions on Myanmar Company Acts, revenues and taxes can be made and which was attended by business personnel from local and foreign countries to discuss how to promote Myanmar's trading enterprises."

"I am much obliged to the businessmen who attended at this business forum and for their contribution in holding the forum, which plays a vital role



Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission U Thaung Tun, Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung and dignitaries pose for photo at opening Mandalay Business Forum 2018. **PHOTO: MIN HTET AUNG (MANDALAY)**

in fostering economic development for the country. As there are many good opportunities to make investment in Mandalay, Mandalay region government will relax some restrictions within the framework of the rules and regulations. Thus, all are invited to make investment in Mandalay and we will fully support to do so."

Then Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission U Thaung Tun said, "We are making changes around this time while carrying out to make sustainable development. Our country sandwiches between two emerging economies, China and India. Due to its strategic location, there are many good employment opportunities for young people in Myanmar.

Mandalay is a cultural capital, which plays a pivotal role for business resources such as construction, transportation

and tourism sectors.

Myanmar is carrying out to set targets on sustainable economic development. Today's forum is a place to show employment opportunities and

and quality for the investors, aiming to attract the foreign investments, job creation for the locals and the improvement of workforce."

Following Deputy Minister

As there are many good opportunities to make investment in Mandalay, Mandalay region government will relax some restrictions: Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung

business enterprises for Myanmar nationals and foreigners alike, and we can realize how to gain privileges and profits." He added that the new laws and rulings can enhance the progress

for Commerce U Aung Htoo made remarks at the Mandalay Business Forum 2018; all the attendees took documentary photographs together.

Next business roundtable

talks continued and Director General of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration U Aung Naing Oo discussed the title on "Mandalay: the heart and hub of Myanmar", New Starlight Group of Companies U Lin Htut Oo discussed the title on "Promoting Modern Urban Lifestyle in Mandalay", President of Mandalay Region Mango Group, Vice President Mandalay Region Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Producer and Exporter Association Daw Than Than Swe discussed the title on "Food Processing of Mandalay Region Fruit: Opportunity & Challenges", Mandalay Myotha Industrial Development Co., Ltd Managing Director Dr. Tun Tun Aung discussed the title on "Golden Land of Myanmar, Road to Mandalay", Myanmar International Freight forwarders Association General Secretary Daw Ye Ye Hla joined the discussion on "Logistic Hub: Opportunities and Challenges", Public Relation Section, Department of Urban and Housing Development, Nay Pyi Taw Director Daw Moe Thidar discussed the title on "Why City Development is important", and Ministry of Hotels and Tourism Director U San Yu discussed the title on "Tourism Investment".

A total of 120 participants, including ambassadors, officials from different embassies, representatives from companies and business enterprises, joined the discussion of the Mandalay Business forum 2018 Trade Fair, together with some 200 participants from different countries attend it. At the forum, there are totaling 225 booths that will exhibit their products till November 11. — Tin Maung, Min Htet Aung (Mandalay) (Translated by Win Ko Ko Aung)

Union Attorney-General attends Sagaing Region office opening, meets legal officers

Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo attended the opening ceremony of the extended wing of the Sagaing Region Advocate General's office yesterday.

He also held a meeting with regional legal officers on the same day and gave them necessary guidance, including adherence to the law, maintaining ethics, providing complete

evidence in trials, and ensuring the legal rights of citizens are protected so that the rule of law in further strengthened. Attending the meeting were the Sagaing Region Advocate General, regional legal officer, and legal officers from districts and townships within the region. — MNA/(Translated by Zaw Htet Oo) ■



Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo holds a meeting with legal officers in Sagaing Region. **PHOTO: MNA**

President Trump to snub Macron's 'Peace Forum' on Armistice weekend

PARIS (France) — US President Donald Trump is set to snub a peace conference organised by French President Emmanuel Macron this weekend as part of World War I commemorations in Paris, organisers said Thursday.

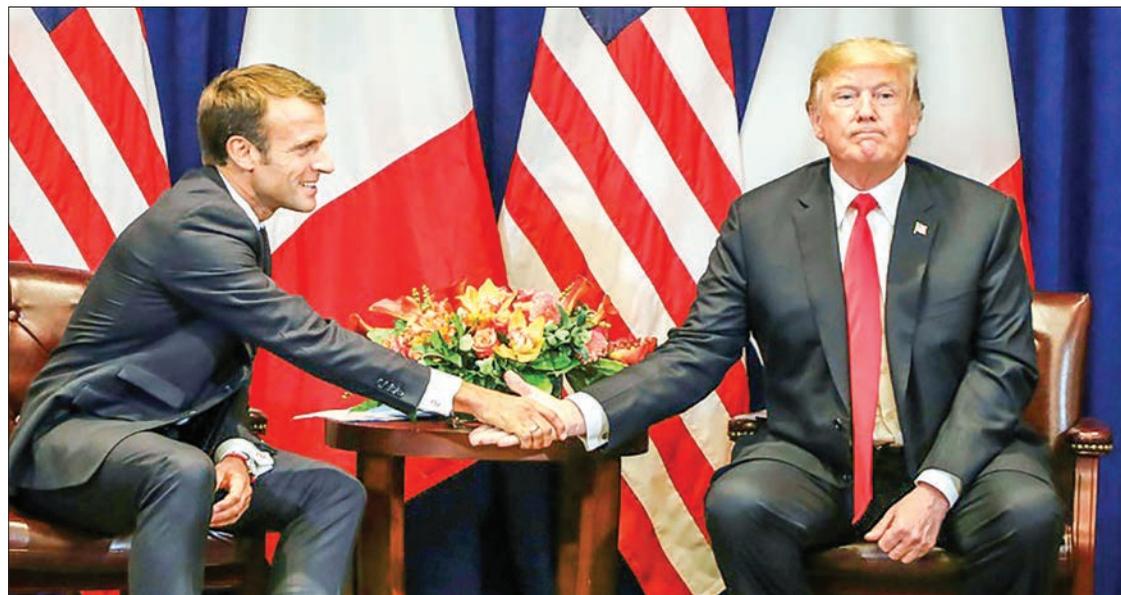
Trump is due in the French capital along with around 70 other leaders for a ceremony on the Champs-Élysées on Sunday morning to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of the war.

Many of the invitees, including Russian President Vladimir Putin, Turkey's Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Germany's Angela Merkel, are then expected to attend the opening of the inaugural Paris Peace Forum, which Macron will host.

Ending uncertainty about whether the US leader would participate, chief organiser Justin Vaisse confirmed to AFP on Thursday that Trump did not plan to attend. In an interview earlier this week, Vaisse had played down the importance of his presence and said the Forum was part of Macron's efforts to organise a "fightback" against the threat of rising nationalism.

"The aim of the forum is to show that there are lots of forces in the international system — states, NGOs, foundations, intellectuals, companies — who believe we need a world of rules, an open world and a multilateral world," he said.

"This world needs to meet up and defend itself," he said. "It doesn't matter if those who don't believe in multilateralism aren't there." Macron has been an outspoken critic of Trump's "America First" policies and of his decisions to pull out of international agreements such as the Paris climate accord, the Iran nuclear deal and most recently



Ties between French President Emmanuel Macron (L) and his US counterpart Donald Trump have cooled recently amid a growing list of disagreements. PHOTO: AFP

a nuclear arms treaty. While the two leaders struck up a warm relationship initially, particularly during Trump's first visit to Paris as president in July 2017, their ties have cooled recently amid a growing list of disagreements, diplomats say.

Trump and Macron are to hold talks Saturday at the Elysee Palace, the French president's official residence, French officials said.

'Contrary to his agenda

Macron, a pro-EU centrist elected last year, has used the WWI commemorations to issue a series of warnings about the rise of nationalism across the world — embodied by Trump — and has likened it to "leprosy".

"I am struck by similarities between the times we live in and those of between the two world wars," he told a French newspaper earlier this month.

The 40-year-old hopes the three-day forum will become an annual gathering of political leaders and civil society groups

to discuss democracy — along the same lines as the Davos meeting in Switzerland, which is devoted to economics. It will be opened on Sunday afternoon by Macron, who will then symbolically hand the floor to German leader Merkel and UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres who are set to deliver the opening addresses.

"The Forum will send the message: this is not only about commemorations. This is about learning the lessons of the past and preparing for the future," said former French ambassador Michel Duclos from the Paris-based Montaigne Institute think-tank. With its workshops and roundtable discussions devoted to global governance, climate change or internet regulation, it is not hard to see why Trump, who has consistently attacked international institutions, decided to skip it.

"It's completely contrary to his agenda," said Jeremy Shapiro, research director at the European Council on Foreign Relations think-tank, told AFP. "And he

doesn't like conferences."

Shapiro, who will moderate a discussion on philanthropy at the Forum, said he expected the mood to be downbeat following recent electoral developments that have seen Brazil turn to a far-right president, Jair Bolsonaro.

"My mood is pretty grim," he said, adding that part of the problem was that Macron and Merkel, the biggest counterforces internationally to right-wing nationalism, were both weakened figures. "Macron has fallen in the polls and doesn't look quite as shiny and new as he did a year ago," Shapiro said. "Obviously Merkel has had similar problems, but at a different point in her political career."

The German chancellor has been weakened by her announcement last month that she would not seek re-election and would relinquish her role as head of her centre-right CDU party after 18 years. The Forum "is obviously pushing against the tide and it's all the more admirable for that," he added. — AFP ■

Portuguese president calls for peace, freedom to counter wave of intolerance

LISBON — Portuguese President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa made an appeal on Thursday for the digital revolution to counter the wave of intolerance and fight for peace and freedom, as the four-day Web Summit closed.

"The digital revolution has to be for dialogue, for peace. I know it is difficult, because this wave that goes through the world will last four, six, eight years, but it is the opposite of the digital revolution, its meaning," Rebelo de Sousa said in the closing speech.

The president called on all participants to "fight for values, for freedom, for multilateralism, not for unilateralism and for peace to counter the wave that crosses the world."

"This is the message that must be spread throughout the world," he added.

This year's edition of the Web Summit, the third in Lisbon, brought together 69,304 participants from 159 countries, over 1,200 speakers, over 1,500 investors and 2,600 journalists.

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, European Union Commissioner for Competition Margrethe Vestager and former British Prime Minister Tony Blair were present at the summit.

Web Summit, originally held in Dublin, Ireland, was moved to Lisbon in 2016.

The summit has generated 500 million euros (568 million US dollars) economic benefit for the country since then. — Xinhua ■

EU court backs Dyson on vacuum cleaner energy tests

BRUXELLES (Belgium) — An EU court ruled Thursday that Brussels regulators are wrong to test the energy efficiency of vacuum cleaners using empty dust bags, in a victory for British manufacturer Dyson.

Household vacuums sold in Europe must carry energy labeling to allow consumers to judge which models are more efficient and thus cheaper to run and less damaging to the environment.

But Dyson, which makes cleaners with without bags, argues that tests carried out on its competitors' products do not take into account the extra energy they need to operate with full dust receptacles. On Thursday, the General Court of the European Union, the bloc's second-highest court, agreed with the British firm and annulled the European Commission's regulation on the testing of vacuum cleaners.

In its ruling, the court found the commission had "disregarded an essential element" of its own directive on providing European consumers with scientifically accurate information.

Dyson is owned by inventor and entrepreneur James Dyson, whose pioneering appliances are hailed as a British industrial success story and who is aiming to break into the electric car market. — AFP ■



Dyson is owned by inventor James Dyson, whose pioneering appliances are hailed as a British industrial success story and who is aiming to break into the electric car market. PHOTO: AFP

China steps up drone race with stealth aircraft

ZHUHAI (China) — China is unleashing stealth drones and pilotless aircraft fitted with AK-47 rifles onto world markets, racing to catch up to US technology and adding to a fleet that has already seen combat action in the Middle East. Combat drones were among the jet fighters, missiles and other military hardware shown off this week at Airshow China, the country's biggest aerospace industry exhibition.

A delta-winged stealth drone received much attention, highlighting China's growing production of sophisticated unmanned aerial vehicles seeking to compete with the US military's massive fleet. The CH-7 — a charcoal-grey UAV unveiled at the air show — is the length of a tennis court with a 22-metre (72-foot) wingspan. It can fly at more than 800 kilometres (500 miles) per hour and at an altitude of 13,000 metres (42,650 feet).

"We are convinced that with this product clients will quickly contact us," said Shi Wen, chief engineer of the Caihong (Rainbow) series drones at state-

owned China Aerospace Science and Technology Corp (CASC).

The CH-7's maiden flight is slated for late next year. CASC has clients in around 10 countries, Shi told AFP, while declining to name them. "Some things remain sensitive," he said.

'Competitive prices' -

China's drones are now flying in the Middle East, as Beijing has fewer qualms than the United States when it comes to selling its military UAVs to other nations.

The Iraqi army has used CASC's CH-4 drone to conduct at least 260 strikes against the Islamic State group, Chinese media reported earlier this year.

In Yemen, where a civil war has sparked what the UN calls the world's worst humanitarian crisis, the United Arab Emirates military has reportedly targeted a Shiite rebel chief with a Chinese-made drone.

"The Chinese have produced an enormous range of drones, and this seems to be an area that they expect to make great progress," said Steve Tsang, director of the China Institute at

China's new stealth drone

Unmanned aerial vehicle unveiled, adding to a range of Chinese drones that have already seen combat in the Middle East

CH-7 (Rainbow-7)

Maiden flight set for late 2019

Wingspan: 22 m

Max. takeoff weight: 13 tonnes

Speed: +800 kph
Altitude: 13,000 m

- For reconnaissance, electronic surveillance, detection of stealth fighters, attack: *CAAA
- China's series of drones have been sold to around 10 countries: Shi Wen, chief engineer of CH drones
- Iraqi army has used CH-4 drone to conduct at least 250 strikes against Islamic State group, Chinese media has reported

Source: State media/ China Academy of Aerospace Aerodynamics/CASC/Global Security © AFP

China new stealth drone. PHOTO: AFP

the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London.

"The export and deployment of them should enable them to improve on design as they get tested in a real combat environment," Tsang said.

The United States has plenty of lethal drones, but it has had restrictions on exporting them out of concern that the technology

could be copied or used against its own troops.

Some of those restrictions were lifted in April for US allies, with President Donald Trump's administration citing competition from Chinese "knockoffs", but even a solid ally such as Jordan has not been able to buy US drones.

The US rules gave Beijing

the opportunity to fill the void and sell its drones to other countries, but China's "competitive" prices also helped, said James Char, an expert on the Chinese military at Singapore's Nanyang Technological University.

China has exported its armed UAVs to countries in Asia, Africa and the Middle East, Char said.—AFP ■



This photo, taken on Nov. 8 by Australian Border Force shows the six Western Australia bobtail lizards found in a Japanese national's check-in baggage. The 45-year-old man was charged with wildlife smuggling and animal cruelty. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Japanese man arrested for alleged wildlife smuggling in Australia

SYDNEY — A Japanese man has been arrested for alleged animal cruelty and wildlife smuggling after he was found with six Australian lizards in his luggage, Australian Border Force said Friday.

The 45-year-old man was intercepted while attempting to catch a flight to Hong Kong from the Western Australian state capital of Perth on Thursday.

Six bobtail lizards were found wrapped in paper towel and tightly packaged inside a cloth bag in his check-in suitcase, the Border Force said in a statement.

It is alleged the lizards were

taken from multiple sites around Western Australia with some kept in hessian bags for up to eight days with no food and little water.

Bobtail lizards are a slow-moving species of skink with distinctive short, round tails. Adults grow up to 35 centimeters in length. The native Australian species can fetch up to A\$10,000 (\$7,200) each on the international black market.

The maximum penalty for wildlife trade offences under Australian law is 10 years imprisonment and a fine of up to A\$210,000 for individuals. — Kyodo News ■

Living on edge: Viet Nam's 'black canal' dwellers

HO CHI MINH CITY — On the banks of Ho Chi Minh City's Xuyen Tam canal the houses come in many forms. Short or tall, pieced together from scraps of wood, or metal or plastic. Some tilt precariously over the polluted water's edge.

The makeshift homes are set to be demolished under long-promised government plans to redevelop the city's "black canals" — nicknamed for the darkened hue of their waste-strewn waters — where thousands live with no legal title to the land.

That worries grandmother Nguyen Thi My, who for the past 28 years has lived on the downtown Xuyen Tam canal, eking out a living selling snacks.

"It'll be a pity to move. I know this area well... and it's good for business," she told AFP from her busy home where she lives with family.

It's a familiar woe in the city where land fights frequently flare up between residents and a government seen to be in the pockets of powerful developers.

My's is one of 20,000 remaining households on Ho Chi Minh

City's serpentine waterways slated to be demolished by 2020 as part of the city's massive renewal project that promises to replace some of the polluted canal banks with Parisian-style riverside promenades, paved roads, modern shops and buildings.

Around 36,000 homes along the city's canals have already been cleared, forcing residents to move to the outskirts or accept compensation that is often lower than soaring market rates.

Some canal dwellers like Le Thi Thanh are fed up with the trash — and stench — and say they'd happily move.

"People just throw trash and defecate in the canal, so we have to live with the pollution," 61-year-old Thanh, who has been on Xuyen Tam canal for 20 years, told AFP.

Thanh runs a boarding house, mostly for rural migrant labourers, and sells lottery tickets from the slanted porch of her home pieced together with old wooden doors and metal sheets.

The canals of Ho Chi Minh City have not always been so coveted.

Under the French, they

were the city's main arteries used to move goods and people around, but as roads modernised and as the population boomed with war refugees in the 1960s, they became places to illegally settle.

Today, the tide may be turning again.

"There's a new elite that's emerging that's retransforming (canals) into an aesthetic place where you might sit and capture cool breezes and have views," Erik Harms, author of "Luxury and Rubble" about development in the city, told AFP.

The relocations have not been easy for some former canal residents like Nguyen Van Muc, who said he was forced to move into government housing three years ago.

His new house, though outfitted with ceramic tiled floors and plastered walls, is half the size of his old clapboard model on Nuoc Len canal — and 20 kilometres (12 miles) away.

"I've sent several complaint letters to central and local authorities but received no response," the former police officer told AFP.—AFP ■



The United Nations has warned that 40 per cent of the planet's insect pollinators, particularly bees and butterflies, risk global extinction, which would have serious implications for food production and ecosystem health. **PHOTO: AFP**

Spying on bees reveals pesticides impair social behavior

TAMPA — A new study that allowed humans to spy on bumblebees inside their nests showed that pesticides can impair social behavior, making it hard for bees to eat and rear their young, researchers said Thursday.

Previous research has shown that the common class of pesticides known as neonicotinoids can harm bees' ability to forage outside the nest.

The latest findings add to long-standing concerns about these important pollinators' health.

Researchers tracked the changes in bees' behavior by placing cameras inside 12 specially made boxes that contained one chamber for a nest and another chamber for foraging. Some bees were exposed to concentrations of the neonicotinoid imidacloprid similar to that expected in the environment. Others were not.

They found the pesticide-exposed bees were less social in a variety of ways than control bees placed in similar boxes but not fed nectar that contained neonicotinoids.

"Exposure to the neurotoxic pesticide resulted in measurable changes in worker bee behavior with-

in the nest," said the report in the journal *Science*.

"The workers were less active, less likely to feed and care for larvae, and more likely to be found towards the periphery of the nest."

The effects were particularly noticeable at night.

"Bees actually have a very strong circadian rhythm," said lead author James Crall, a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University.

"So what we found was that, during the day, there was no statistically observable effect, but at night, we could see that they were crashing."

Experiments also showed that pesticide exposure made it more difficult for bees to regulate their body temperature, and to build a protective wax cap over the colony.

"Almost all of our control colonies built that cap," Crall said.

"And it seems to be totally wiped out in the pesticide-exposed colonies, so they lose this capacity to do this functional restructuring of the nest."

Researchers said their findings add to mounting evidence of the harm posed by neonicotinoid pesticides.—AFP ■

Delhi bans trucks as megacity chokes

NEW DELHI — Delhi authorities have imposed a three-day ban on trucks entering the world's most polluted major city as its 20 million inhabitants wheezed in the toxic annual winter smog.

With levels of air pollution classed as "hazardous", the restriction on the nearly 40,000 medium and heavy lorries that enter Delhi every day was imposed late Thursday.

The transport ministry said that vehicles carrying food and other essentials were exempted, while appealing to private owners of diesel sports utility vehicles (SUVs) to leave their cars at home.

Delhi's air quality typically worsens in winter, as clouds of smoke from farmers' fires billow into the city and mix with industrial and traffic emissions to form a noxious cocktail.

On Wednesday night Delhites largely defied a court order and set off an immense barrage of smoke-spewing firecrackers to celebrate the major

Hindu festival of Diwali, sending pollution levels soaring.

On Friday, levels of particulates 2.5 micrometres or less in diameter, the most harmful to human health, peaked at 845, according to the US embassy website that monitors air quality independently.

The "hazardous" figure is roughly 33 times the World Health

Organization safe limit of 25 and health experts advise people to stay indoors or use masks for protection.

Vehicles on Delhi roads generate roughly 20 percent of these tiny particles in air, which can be absorbed into the bloodstream and which are linked to chronic bronchitis, lung cancer and heart disease.

Authorities in the

previous years have rationed private car use and imposed shutdowns on industrial units and coal-run power plants, as well as taxes on lorries to discourage them from using Delhi as a transit route.

Delhi was among 14 Indian cities that figured in a list of the 20 most polluted cities across the globe this year issued by the WHO.

—AFP ■

INVITATION FOR PRICE QUOTATIONS

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) towards the cost of the Printing of Rural WASH Strategy and Investment Plan. The Department of Rural Development (DRD) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing towards eligible payments under the Purchase Order/ Contract for the procurement of printed copies of the Rural WASH Strategy and Investment Plan. DRD now invites eligible suppliers to express their interest in supplying the following items:

PRINTING of the RURAL WASH STRATEGY AND INVESTMENT PLAN

Lot N°	Item N°	Description	Quantity (N° of copies)
1	1	RURAL WASH STRATEGY (Myanmar Version)	2,200
	2	RURAL WASH STRATEGY (English Version)	2,200
	3	RURAL WASH INVESTMENT PLAN (Myanmar Version)	2,200
	4	RURAL WASH INVESTMENT PLAN (English Version)	2,200

Expressions of Interest must be submitted in a written form to the email address below and clearly indicate the reference number above. Eligible supplier shaving expressed interest will receive an INVITATION TO QUOTE (ITQ). Sealed Quotations will be submitted to the address below at the latest at the dead line of **Tuesday 23 November 2018**, after which no Quotations will be accepted.

Please submit your Expression of Interest for receiving the ITQ to: U Thein Lwin, Deputy Director General, Department of Rural Development, Office No.(36), Nay Pyi Taw. For detailed information please contact U Kyaw Swa Aung, Director, Procurement and Logistic Section, Mobile phone 0943434333 or office phone 0673418633/0673418631 Email: pldrd.npt@gmail.com. Please indicate your e-mail address as only electronic copies of the ITQ will be send.

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V RATANA THIDA VOY. NO. (128 W/E)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V RATANA THIDA VOY. NO. (128 W/E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-11-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T./A.I.P.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 REGIONAL CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (105 N/S)

Consignees of cargo carried on M.V CAPE FLORES VOY. NO. (105 N/S) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10-11-2018 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.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 NEW GOLDEN SEA
SHIPPING LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

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If any wishing to object the transfer from Optimum Choice Co., Ltd to Buronos Private Company Limited (No:59/61, (Lot E), Maharweitzado Street, Mayangone Township, Yangon, Myanmar) for all registration process and distribution of under mentioned products produced by Zenith Crop Sciences Bulgaria Limited (Address: 75-83, Dimitar Manov Street, Sofia 1408, Bulgaria) may state their objection within (14) days from this advertisement date to Co-Secretary, Pesticide Registration Board (PRB), Plant Protection Division, Department of Agriculture, Yangon, Myanmar.

No:	Trade Name	Active ingredients	Registration Type	Registration Number
1	Copforce Extra 43.95 WP	Copper Oxychloride 39.75%+Cymoxanil 4.2% WP	Provisional	P 2018-2180

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1	Triomax 45 WP	Copper Oxychloride 29%+Cymoxanil 4%+Mancozeb 12% WP	Provisional	P 2018-2466

Anawrahta Production Co., Ltd

(No: 7, Build (34), Sabai Street, Mayangone Township, Yangon, Myanmar)

Met Opera reinvents 'Marnie' in the #MeToo era

NEW YORK (United States) — Operas often revolve around flawed heroines who fall into tragic — even sordid — love affairs. But rarely does one combine a Hitchcockian edge, costumes straight out of “Mad Men” and a storyline that feels tailor-made for the #MeToo era.

“Marnie” — now making its US debut at the Met in New York — tells the story of a glamorous yet troubled young woman in late 1950s England who embezzles money from her employers and moves on. One theft too far leaves her prey to unscrupulous men whose unwanted advances, crude even six decades ago, resonate as America stumbles through a na-

tionwide reckoning about sexual misconduct.

“I wanted the audience to leave where they think, ‘I kind of like them and I kind of don’t like them’ all at the same time,” star Isabel Leonard told AFP in an interview about her title character and the men around her. “So they’re left with something to think about.”

The opera is Nico Muhly’s reworking of a dark 1961 novel by Winston Graham that was later adapted for the silver screen by Alfred Hitchcock — whose star Tippi Hedren has revealed that the legendary director repeatedly harassed her.

The formula and timely sub-



The Metropolitan Opera will broadcast the modern opera “Marnie” in movie theaters worldwide this weekend **PHOTO: AFP**

ject matter is certainly a departure for the 135-year-old Met, but falls into its current strategy of trying to make the art form more accessible to younger audiences.

After seeing the Hitchcock

film again a few years ago, director Michael Mayer pitched the idea to Met brass, who commissioned the work from Muhly, a young American composer who calls opera a “magical idiom.”

“Marnie” will be simulcast in cinemas worldwide this weekend as part of the Met’s “Live in HD” series — another outreach project aimed at drawing in new fans.—AFP ■

Young Palestinian carves sculptures with metal wires



A wire sculpture work made by Palestinian artist Mahmoud al-Nabahin is seen at his home in central Gaza Strip al-Bureij refugee camp on 6 November 2018. **PHOTO: XINHUA**

GAZA — Using metal wires, 20-year-old Palestinian Mahmoud al-Nabahin from the Gaza Strip, carves unconventional works called “wire sculpture.”

It always takes al-Nabahin long hours of work to make the metal wire into variety of forms in his home in al-Bureij refugee camp in central Gaza Strip.

The young man, who studies business administration in a Gaza university, has never participated into training courses anywhere and he is “completely self-taught.”

“I’ve seen sculptures made by British artists online and I’ve learned many techniques from Youtube videos,” al-Nabahin told Xinhua. His first piece of work was a small tree made up of copper wires he found at home.

The young man, who is the first Palestinian to practice this kind of art, said this art requires much patience and steady nerves.

Metal wires are materials that have been employed in this art works, known as wire sculpture. One of the pioneers of this art is the American sculptor Alexander Calder, who has greatly developed wire sculpturing techniques that serve the kinetic perception of sculpture art.

Al-Nabahin was encouraged by his father to make his talent in wire sculpture into a stable source of livelihood.

With much concentration, al-Nabahin forms figures and animals out of small wires, turning them into fine masterpieces.

He uses a range of materials, such as hexagonal mesh, wire links and copper wire.

“I recycle things and try to overcome the shortage of some raw materials, form them as in my imagination,” al-Nabahin said.

Due to lack of financial support, he could hardly find ready-made brass wires in the form of rollers, so he removes copper from inside power cord, which consumes much time and efforts.

It takes al-Nabahin one to four days, sometimes longer, to carve a single piece, depending on the details of the work.—Xinhua ■

Japan TV station cancels K-Pop stars BTS over nuke bomb shirt

TOKYO (Japan) — A Japanese television station has cancelled a performance by the wildly popular Korean boyband BTS, after controversy erupted over a shirt worn by a member appearing to show the mushroom cloud created by an atomic bomb.

The international superstars were due to perform on TV Asahi on Friday, but the station abruptly cancelled the show after a photo of member Jimin wearing the shirt went viral.

“BTS’s appearance scheduled for the 9th has been cancelled,” TV Asahi said in a statement.

“The T-shirt that one of the members wore made headlines and became controversial,” the station added, saying it had discussed the “intention” behind the shirt with the band’s record label

and ultimately decided to “cancel their appearance”.

BTS issued their own statement on the row, but gave no details on why the show had been postponed.

“We apologise for disappointing fans who were looking forward to this. BTS will continue their efforts to connect with fans on stage and also through music,” the group said on their website.

The offending shirt featured the phrase “PATRIOTISM OUR HISTORY LIBERATION KOREA” repeated multiple times alongside an image of an atomic bomb explosion and another of Koreans celebrating liberation.

BTS member Jimin reportedly wore the shirt last year, on August 15, when Koreans celebrate the end of Japanese occupation in 1945.

Ties between Japan and South Korea continue to be soured by bitter disputes over history and territory stemming from Japan’s brutal 1910-45 colonial rule over the peninsula.

Last month, Tokyo reacted furiously after South Korea’s top court ordered a Japanese steel giant to compensate victims of wartime forced labour programmes.

BTS are the leading lights of the K-Pop phenomenon and made history earlier this year by becoming the first K-Pop band to top the US album charts, a sign of the genre’s growing global appeal. Known for their boyish good looks, floppy haircuts and meticulously choreographed dance moves, the septet has become one of South Korea’s best-known and most lucrative musical exports.—AFP ■



BTS have become wildly popular. **PHOTO: AFP**

Baby boom for some nations, bust for others: study

PARIS (France) — Soaring birth rates in developing nations are fuelling a global baby boom while women in dozens of richer countries aren't producing enough children to maintain population levels there, according to figures released Friday.

A global overview of birth, death and disease rates evaluating thousands of datasets on a country-by-country basis also found that heart disease was now the single leading cause of death worldwide.

The Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), set up at the University of Washington by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, used more than 8,000 data sources — more than 600 of them new — to compile one of the most detailed looks at global public health.

Their sources included in-country investigations, social media and open-source material.

It found that while the world's population skyrocketed from 2.6 billion in 1950 to 7.6 billion last

year, that growth was deeply uneven according to region and income.

Ninety-one nations, mainly in Europe and North and South America, weren't producing enough children to sustain their current populations, according to the IHME study.

But in Africa and Asia fertility rates continued to grow, with the average woman in Niger giving birth to seven children during her lifetime. Ali Mokdad, professor of Health Metrics Sciences at IHME, told AFP that the single most important factor in determining population growth was education.

"It is down to socioeconomic factors but it's a function of a woman's education," he said. "The more a woman is educated, she is spending more years in school, she is delaying her pregnancies and so will have fewer babies."

The IHME found that Cyprus was the least fertile nation on Earth, with the average woman

giving birth just once in her life.

By contrast, women in Mali, Chad and Afghanistan have on average more than six babies.

'Less mortality, more disability'

The United Nations predicts there will be more than 10 billion humans on the planet by the middle of the century, broadly in line with IHME's projection.

This raises the question of how many people our world can support, known as Earth's "carrying capacity".

Mokdad said that while populations in developing nations continue to rise, so in general are their economies growing.

This typically has a knock-on effect on fertility rates over time.

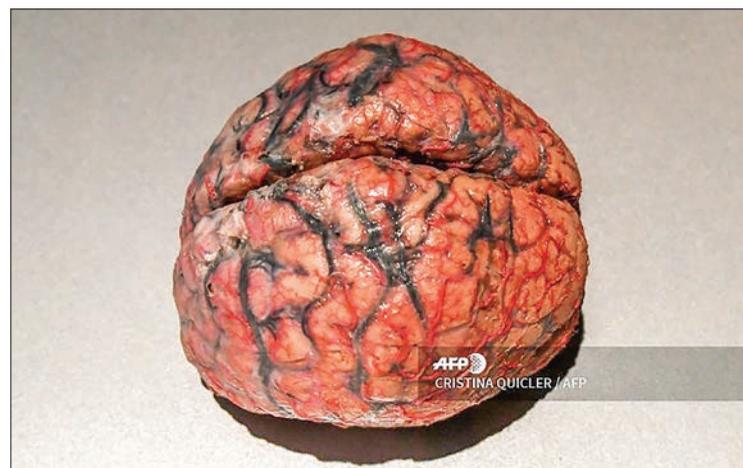
"In Asia and Africa the population is still increasing and people are moving from poverty to better income — unless there are wars or unrest," he said.

"Countries are expected to fare better economically and it's more likely that fertility there will decline and level out."

Not only are there now billions more of us than 70 years ago, but we are also living longer than ever before.

The study, published in *The Lancet* medical journal, showed male life expectancy had increased to 71 years from 48 in 1950. Women are now expected to live to 76, compared with 53 in 1950.

Living longer brings its own health problems, as we age and deteriorate and place greater burdens on our healthcare systems.—AFP ■



A plastinated human brain is on display. PHOTO: AFP

Japan team transplants stem cells into brain to treat Parkinson's disease

TOKYO — Japanese researchers said Friday (Nov 9) they have transplanted stem cells into the brain of a patient in the first stage of an innovative trial to cure Parkinson's disease.

The research team at Kyoto University injected induced Pluripotent Stem (iPS) cells - which have the potential to develop into any cell in the body - into the brain of a male patient in his fifties, the university said in a press release.

The man was stable after the operation, which was performed last month, and he will now be monitored for two years, the university added.

The researchers injected 2.4 million iPS cells into the left side of the patient's brain, in an operation that took about three hours.

If no problems are observed in the coming six months, they will implant another 2.4 million cells into the right side.

The iPS cells from healthy donors have been developed into

the precursors of dopamine-producing brain cells, which are no longer present in people with Parkinson's disease.

The operation came after the university announced in July they would carry out the trial with seven participants aged between 50 and 69.

It is the first involving implanting stem cells into the brain to cure Parkinson's.

"I appreciate the patients for participating in the trial with courage and determination," Kyoto University professor Jun Takahashi told reporters on Friday, according to public broadcaster NHK.

Parkinson's disease is a chronic, degenerative neurological disorder that affects the body's motor system, often causing shaking and other difficulties in movement.

Worldwide, about 10 million people have the illness, according to the Parkinson's Disease Foundation.—AFP ■



In Africa and Asia fertility rates continue to grow while Europe and North and South America are not producing enough children to sustain their current populations. PHOTO: AFP

Mammoths return: Will Yakutia succeed in cloning them?

YAKUTSK — The permafrost is a wonderful storage of ancient animals' remains. Scientists find there soft tissues, which may be used in cloning. TASS tells about how Yakutia's scientists plan to work on this most complicated task.

The collection

The center, which will focus on genetic history and studies, will be organized at the North-Eastern Federal University in Yakutia. The idea is not new, but only now there are clear images of what the future scientific cluster will

be like. The breakthrough project is supported by the regional government. The University estimates necessary investments of 400 million rubles (\$6 million).

"This scientific material is unique in the world," says Elena Grigoryeva, a representative of the Molecule Paleontology international center at the Mammoth Museum. "In Yakutia's subsoils, experts have found 75% of the world's carcasses of mammoths and other mammoth fauna with preserved soft tissues."

The Mammoth Museum was organized in 1991 at the initia-

tive of Yakutia's first mammoth researcher Pyotr Lazarev as a scientific and cultural center, and later on it became a part of the University's Applied Ecology Institute.

"Until it was organized, practically every object found in Yakutia was delivered to the country's central research institutions," she said. "Now we can make complex studies here, and display or keep researched objects in Yakutsk."

The collection consists of about 3,000 objects, including recent unique discoveries: a horse carcass (4,400 years old),



A research center will be organized at the North-Eastern Federal University in Yakutia. PHOTO:TASS

a mummy of a baby buffalo (8,200 years), a baby moose carcass (9,000 years). All carcasses with soft tissues are stored inside a big freezer at the optimal temperature of minus 18 degrees Celsius.

"It is very important to keep the objects frozen, as this way specialists study original tissues and cells, which are thousands years old," the museum's representative said.—Tass ■

Myanmar national men's football squad begins rigorous training in Mandalay

MYANMAR national men's football squad left Yangon for Mandalay on 8 November morning with the intention of entering a rigorous training, said a source of Myanmar Football Federation.

Myanmar also known as the Asian Lions began an intensive training in the evening following

the arrival to Mandalay, the capital of Myanmar ancient kings.

Myanmar's head coach Mr Antoine Hey took 25 preliminarily selected players to the training and a final lineup would be released just before a home match against Cambodia.

Myanmar took more than

40 days to make preparations for taking part in AFF Suzuki Cup 2018.

Myanmar will play a home match against Cambodia at Mandalay Thiri Stadium on 12 November and Viet Nam at Thuwunna Stadium on 20 November. —Htut Htut (Twantay) ■



Myanmar preliminarily selected players are in a severe training in Mandalay. PHOTO: MFF

Myanmar secures 3 golds, one silver and 10 bronzes in 4th Asian Vovinam Championship

MYANMAR won 3 gold, one silver and 10 bronze medals in the 4th Asian Vovinam Championship held in Tabanan Gymnasium, Bali, Indonesia from 2 to 7 November.

Myanmar was ranked third place securing a total of 14 medals. Viet Nam stood first place with a total of 25 medals—13 golds, 11 silvers and one bronze, followed by Cambodia with a

number of 36 medals—11 golds, 11 silvers and 14 bronzes.

Myanmar entered the 4th Asian Vovinam Championship with four participants—3 males and one female. The 4th Asian Vovinam Championship attracted more than 230 participants from 17 countries.

The victorious Myanmar Vovinam sport contingent was welcome back at Yangon Inter-

national Airport by U Kyaw Oo, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Sports, U Soe Aung, Principal of Sports and Education Institute, the officials of Sports and Physical Education Department and Myanmar Vovinam Association, families of the players and the students from Sports and Physical Education Institute (Yangon). —Htut Htut (Twantay) ■



Victorious Myanmar Vovinam players pose for a documentary photo together with the manager after attending the awarding ceremony in Indonesia. PHOTO: MVA



Aung La N Sang (right) holding his Male Athlete of the Year Award in Global Martial Arts Awards 2018 at JW Marriott Hotel, South Beach in Singapore. PHOTO: AUNG LA N SANG'S FACEBOOK PAGE

Aung La N Sang wins two awards in Global Martial Arts Awards 2018

ONE Middleweight & Light Heavyweight World Champion Aung La N Sang secured two awards in Global Martial Arts Awards 2018, which took place on Thursday at the JW Marriott Hotel, South Beach in Singapore.

Aung La secured the two awards in the event: Male Athlete of the Year and he also won Bout of the Year in the match against Japanese fighter Ken Hasegawa.

Aung La N Sang was formerly nominated in the five categories: Walkout of the Year, Martial Arts Hero of the Year, Male Athlete of the Year, Bout

of the Year and Knockout of the Year. On the contrary, Martial Arts Hero of the Year was garnered by Filipino mixed martial artist Eduard Folayang.

The Global Martial Arts Awards 2018 gave credits to outstanding individuals or entities in 16 categories.

The event recognized superstar athletes, gifted coaches, innovative industry leaders, and media personalities who have left unforgettable marks on the competitive world of martial arts in the past year according to the Global Martial Arts Awards Committee.—Lynn Thit (Tgi) ■

Final of U-19 women's football tourney to be broadcast live on MRTV

THE final match of the states and regions U-19 women's football tournament 2018 will be broadcast live on MRTV, MRTV Sport Channel and Myanmar Radio at 2:45 pm on 11 November.

The Yangon Region team will play against Shan State team at Wunna Theikdi Stadium in Nay Pyi Taw at 3pm on 11 November.—MNA ■ (Translated by Kyaw Zin Lin)