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## ADVICE FOR NEW PEACE CENTRE

### Peace process must focus on all stakeholders: State Counsellor



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi chairs the coordination meeting on the formation of the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre (NRPC). PHOTO: MNA

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi stressed the need to focus on the participation of all stakeholders who should be involved in every step of the country's national reconciliation and peace process at a coordination meeting on the formation of the National Reconciliation and

Peace Centre (NRPC) yesterday. The meeting was attended by peace negotiator Dr Tin Myo Win, government representatives Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Ye Aung and Union Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, Tatmadaw representatives Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, Lt-Gen Tun Tun

Naung and Lt-Gen Min Naung, Myanmar Peace Centre representatives U Myint Soe, U Khin Zaw Oo and Dr Min Zaw Oo and other officials.

The participants agreed to form the NRPC in parallel with preparations for the "21st Century Panglong Conference", to

focus on the involvement of all stakeholders in every step of preparing for the conference and to hold the second coordination meeting next week.

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi called for national peace conference within the next two months at the second meeting

of the Union Ceasefire Joint Monitoring Committee (UJMC) on 27 April in her effort to bring eternal peace to the country, stressing the need to hold the national peace conference like the historic Panglong Conference concurrently with the nationwide ceasefire.—*Myanmar News Agency*

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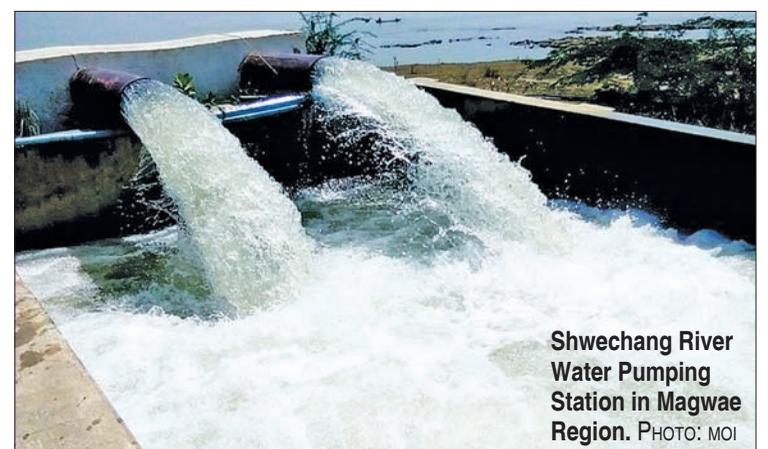
## 170 river water pumping stations set to close

THE Irrigation and Water Resources Utilisation Department is planning to close operations at 170 river water pumping plants among 379 plants across the country, said the department's director-general U Kyaw Myint Hlaing.

"Of 379 river water pumping stations, 170 will be closed," said the director-general, adding that the proposed closure of the plants has been approved by the minister, and the proposal will be submitted to the cabinet.

According to the department, the closures were proposed because of a decrease in electricity generation from the river water pumping plants, the use of disqualified generators and electrical equipment at the plants and farmers' unwillingness to pay electricity bills for pumping water from the river.

Moreover, damage to the stations' water outlet channels, the formation of sandbanks in the rivers and river bank erosion are also blamed for the clo-



Shwechang River Water Pumping Station in Magwae Region. PHOTO: MOI

sure of the plants.

In its statement, the department said it will stop eight of an ongoing 15 projects and 11 of 20 stations that are still operational.

"The closure of the facilities with no water supply operation and no production costs will have no impact on farmers," said the director-general.—*Ye Khaung Nyunt and Myat Thandar Maung*

## No plan to change Ward or Village Administration Law: Deputy Home Affairs Minister

THERE is no plan to amend or redraw the 2012 Ward or Village Administration Law at the moment, said Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Maj-Gen AungSoe at a parliamentary session yesterday.

The law was drawn up by the ministry in accordance with suggestions of related ministries, legal experts, staff from social organisations, the legal advisory team of the President's Office and the Union Attorney-General's Office, and it was enacted following the approval of the two huttaws, said the deputy minister.

Moreover, its rules and regulations were revised several times in order to minimise weaknesses, he added.

In response to a question about whether there is a plan to eliminate the production of narcotic drugs in territories held by armed groups, the deputy minister



Pyithu Hluttaw is being convened. PHOTO: MNA

replied that the fight against narcotics faces challenges amid the easy availability of chemicals necessary to make drugs in border regions and remote areas that

lack peace and stability. He said drugs are smuggled out of the country the same way chemicals are brought in.

He highlighted the impor-

tant of peace and stability, effective legal mechanisms and the rule of law, calling for cooperation between the government, the public and ethnic armed

groups in the fight against narcotics.

Anti-narcotics efforts are being made in cooperation with the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement signatories, said the deputy minister, adding that narcotic drug elimination can be implemented as a national duty following the inking of truce deal with non-signatories and political dialogue.

In response to a question about fire prevention measures, the deputy minister said the Fire Service Department is educating the public in fire safety and prevention and stepping up preventive measures in collaboration with departments concerned.

Also during the 24th-day session of the Pyithu Hluttaw, a bill revoking the Law to Safeguard the State against the Dangers of Those Desiring to Cause Subversive Acts was approved unanimously.—*Myanmar News Agency*

## Myanmar Investment Commission to be reformed

THE Myanmar Investment Commission, which has the power to approve or reject investments in the country, will be reformed under Myanmar's new government.

"The Myanmar Investment Commission will be reorganised according to the new Foreign Investment Law and the Myanmar Citizens' Investment Law. The amount of foreign investment was US\$9.48 billion during the 2015-2016 budget year. When

compared to the 2014-2015 budget, it is \$1.48 billion higher. Myanmar aimed to earn about \$8 billion this budget year from the investment," said U Than Aung-Kyaw, the assistant director of the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration. China and Singapore are the leading investors in Myanmar. The largest share of foreign investment goes into the oil and natural gas sector.—*PPN/Union Daily*

## IDPs in Kyaukme reach 700



IDPs are sheltering at a monastery in Kyaukme. PHOTO: ATK

THE number of villagers who have fled to Nat Sa Lin monastery in Kyaukme Township has reached 700 following the fighting between the TNLA and RCSS in the township.

Villagers fleeing the fighting near Man Pauk Village in Pon Lon Village-tract arrived at the monastery last night, said U Tun, a local, adding that they have been accommodated at the monastery.

People from some vil-

lages fled their places to escape possible fighting there, said U AungAung from Hsipaw.

The monastery saw more arrivals of IDPs on 5 May, receiving 190 in total.

According to the Hsipaw Township General Administration Department, 132 people from Pan Khar Village arrived at Yadana Shwegu Monastery to find shelter on 3 May.—*Aung Thant Khaing*

## New playgrounds, parks to be built in Yangon

THE Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC) will build six new playgrounds and upgrade nine playgrounds this fiscal year.

"During the period from 2014-2015 to 2016-2017, the committee has been upgrading nine playgrounds and building six new playgrounds. YCDC will renovate 11 parks for public recreation, while two new parks are also being built. Lately, the parks inside and outside the city of Yangon are being renovated by respective development departments. Most parks are not charging any entrance fees. Some old parks could not be renovated until now," said U Khin Maung-Myint from Bocho Ward, Bahan

township.

There are 63 parks within YCDC's jurisdiction. Ten parks were upgraded in 2013-2014, plus six in 2014-2015 and seven in 2015-2016. In the same period, 22 parks were renovated, and 13 parks were maintained. There are also five parks that need maintenance. Similarly, 100 playgrounds were renovated: 21 in 2011-2012, 18 in 2012-2013, 33 in 2013-2014 and 11 in 2014-2015. There are 17 playgrounds that still require maintenance, according to the Parks and Playgrounds Department under YCDC.

"We have short-term, medium-term and long-term plans

to both upgrade or renovate the parks and playgrounds as well as to build new ones. Besides, we are also maintaining them on a regular basis in such a way as to suit the relaxation and recreation needs of people of all ages. We have to do all these things under budget constraints. I think the public must also cooperate with us.

For example, they must abide by the rules and regulations. If people cooperate, abiding by rules and regulations, parks and playgrounds will last longer," said an official from the Parks and Playgrounds Department under YCDC.—*MyanmaAlin*

## Botahtaung BEHS No 6, formerly known as St Paul's school, to get YHT's blue plaque in June

YANGON Heritage Trust is planning to install a blue plaque at a colonial-era school building in Yangon in June, recognizing it as a heritage of the city.

Basic Education High School No. 6 in Botahtaung Township, which is more than 100 years old, will become the 11th heritage building with the blue plaque of YHT.

"Previously, it was St Paul's school. We aim to make the public know the value of Yangon history. We also need to provide technical support if we want to preserve the city's urban heritage," said U Kyan Taing Aung from YHT.

The commemorative Blue Plaque is part of the YHT's efforts to promote and integrate



Botahtaung BEHS No.6, formerly known as St Paul's School in Yangon. PHOTO: EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Yangon's unique heritage into a 21st Century vision of the metropolis as one of Asia's most

liveable cities.

There are more than 100 heritage buildings in Yangon.—200

## President U Htin Kyaw requests equal treatment for Myanmar workers in Thailand

PRESIDENT U Htin Kyaw requested the right to equal treatment for Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand during a meeting yesterday with Thailand's minister of foreign affairs, Mr Don Pramudwinai, who is serving as the Thai prime minister's special representative.

During the meeting at Credentials Hall in the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw, the Myanmar president said the two countries will enjoy stronger economic and trade relations following the completion of the Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge No 2 at Myawady.

The Thai foreign affairs minister said Thailand hopes to hold talks on bilateral cooperation during the upcoming Russia-ASE-

AN Summit, and he invited the president to pay a goodwill visit to Thailand.

Next, the two held discussions on trilateral cooperation between Myanmar, Thailand and Japan in developing the Dawei Special Economic Zone, the expansion of sustainable and responsible investments, further cooperation in the sectors of capacity building and human resources development and measures to upgrade the Emergency Department at Dawei Hospital.

Also present at the meeting were Union ministers Dr Pe Myint and U Thein Swe, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin, Thai ambassador to Myanmar Mr Pisanu Suvanajata and other officials.—*Myanmar News Agency*



President U Htin Kyaw welcomes Mr Don Pramudwinai, Thailand's minister of foreign affairs in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

## Myanmar, Thailand look to promote sector-wide development

THE foreign affairs ministers of Myanmar and Thailand, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Mr Don Pramudwinai, held talks in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday on further cooperation in bilateral relations and the promotion of sector-wide development. The talks focused on border region development, on the treatment of Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand and on developing the Dawei Special Economic Zone project.

During a joint press con-

ference after the meeting, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said they discussed bilateral cooperation during the talks, adding that there are many sectors for win-win cooperation between the two countries.

"The two countries can overcome challenges of the 'sufficiency economy' through bilateral cooperation, the Thai foreign minister said, referring to the theory or moderation championed by the current King of Thailand.

Speaking on the occasion, Thailand's foreign minister pledged to boost Thailand's cooperation with Myanmar and with ASEAN and the Greater Mekong Sub-region countries as well.

During the talks, the two also discussed Myanmar-Thai-Japan cooperation.

In response to a question about the rights of Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand, the Thai foreign minister replied that there are 1.59 million registered Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand, and Thailand provides education and healthcare services to children of Myanmar migrant workers, pledging to boost the rights of the workers as much as they can.

Regarding the Dawei Deep Seaport project, he said there has been some progress in the project, and he believes the trilateral cooperation between Myanmar, Thailand and Japan will bring success to the project.

When asked what Myanmar's policy toward neighbouring nations is, if Myanmar has migrant workers' issues with other neighbours as it has with Thailand, and how ASEAN is viewed by Thai media, Union Minister for For-

eign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said relations with ASEAN are well-regarded, that her father suggested even before the emergence of the EU that there be a regional organisation for cooperation among the nations within the region and that cooperation is meant for fulfilling hopes and for bringing happiness and peace. She said it is natural for neighbours to have some issues, though what counts is not the issues themselves but finding ways to solve them and avoid hostilities while trying to solving problems. She stressed the importance of addressing issues in an amicable manner through cooperation.

She also said Thailand alone would not be held accountable for migrant workers' issues and that Myanmar would also arrange for them to be repatriated and work at home.

Her Thai counterpart vowed to guarantee the right to equal treatment for Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand and said that the people of Myanmar, Thailand and Japan will enjoy the benefits of the Dawei SEZ project, which is still in progress.—*Myanmar News Agency*



Union Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi holds talks with her Thailand counterpart Mr. Don Pramudwinai. PHOTO: MNA

## Union Information Minister meets foreign guests

UNION Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint received Ms Isabella Kurkowski, country representative of DW Akademic, and outgoing Russian ambassador to Myanmar Mr Vasily B Pospelov separately in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Union minister held talks with the foreign guests on ongoing matters related to developments in the media sector and further cooperation in the sector.—*Myanmar News Agency*

## UCSB Chairman meets Chinese ambassador

DR WIN THEIN, chairman of the Union Civil Service Board, met Chinese ambassador to Myanmar Mr Hong Liang in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, the UCSB chairman clarified the ongoing transformation of the civil service personnel sector, plans to change the civil service entrance examination, training programmes being conducted

at the Central Institute of Civil Service and capacity building for government staff.

Next, they held discussions on China's assistance to the establishment of a civil service academy in Myanmar and cooperation between the Civil Service College in Beijing and Myanmar's Central Institute of Civil Service.—*Myanmar News Agency*



Chairman Dr Win Thien holds talks with Mr Hong Liang. PHOTO: MNA

## Water supply zones to be built in Yangon

WATER supply zones will be built in Yangon to supply adequate water levels throughout the city. These zones will provide 500 million gallons daily, said Dr Toe Aung, the deputy head of the City Planning and Land Administration Department under the Yangon City Development Committee (YCDC).

Yangon has a population of over five millions, and YCDC distributes over 200 million gallons to residents daily. The population of Yangon is expected to exceed 10 millions during next 30 years. Water supply zones will be implemented as short-term and long-term projects with the aim of supplying over 500 million gallons daily.

The Gyo Phyu Dam, Nga-moeyek Dam, Phoogyi Dam, Nyaunhnabin water treatment plant and Hlawga Dam are the main water resources from which over 200 million gallons of water is piped to Yangon residents every day.

Besides these water resources, YCDC has planned to implement the Toe River Water Project in Twante Township and the Koatkowa River Water Project in Htantabin this fiscal year.

YCDC plans to build a total of ten water supplied zones. Zone 1 will supply water to Botataung, Pazundaung, Kyauktada, Pabedan, Mingala Taung Nyunt, Tamwe, Lanmadaw, Latha, Ahlon, Kyimyindine, Dagon, Bahan and Sanchaung, while Zone 2 will supply Yankin, Thingangyun, Thaketa, Dawbon and Tamwe. Zone 3 will supply Yankin, Kamayut, Mayangone, Hlaing, Insein and South Okkalapa. Zone 4 will serve North Okkalapa, Mayangone, Insein and Mingaladon. Zone 5 will serve Mingaladon, Shwepyitha, Insein and North Okkalapa. Zone 6 will serve Mingaladon. Zone 7 will serve North and East Dagon. Zone 8 will supply South Dagon and Dagon Jetty. Zone 9 will serve Hlaingthaya. Finally, Zone 10 will serve Dala, Seikkyikanaungto and Kyimyindine.—200

## Crime NEWS

### Men sustain serious injuries after head-on-collision

A HEAD-ON collision between a truck and a motorbike on the Yangon-Mandalay expressway in Bago Region on Saturday left a motorcyclist and its passenger seriously injured.

The collision happened between mile posts No 112/7 and No 113/0 near Kanywa Village, located three miles from the Kyauktada Township Police Station.

According to investigators, the six-wheel truck driven by

Win Soe Tin Oo, 42, en route from Mandalay, went out of control and crashed into the motorbike driven by Maduzan (aka Hla Myo), 18, and carrying one other person on board.

The collision seriously injured both people on the motorcycle. The victims are now being treated at Yangon General Hospital.

Truck driver was charged for careless driving by local police.—*KK/Union Daily*

### Wife of police officer charged for torturing two girls

DAW Moe Moe Tin, the wife of a police inspector from the Monywa Traffic Police Department, has been charged for torturing two under-aged females.

The charge came after Ma Thandar Thwe from the Future Light Group uploaded a post about the torture of two girls in front of traffic police in the compound of the Monya Township Police Station on her Facebook page.

Following a tip-off, the deputy head of the Sagaing Re-

gion Social Welfare Department rushed to the scene and saw two wounded girls at the station. They were crying when they were discovered.

The two victims are a 13-year-old Grade 8 student and a nine-year-old Grade 5 student. Both are currently staying at the department-owned pre-school.

The case is under investigation. Police have filed a suit against Daw Moe Moe Tin under section 66(d) of the Child Law.—*MMT/ Union Daily*

### Three men arrested for drug dealing in Myeik



Nay Lin Aung, Nyo Win and Myo Thein Tun pose with the cars, drugs and cash seized from them by police.

THREE men have been charged by local police for illegal drug smuggling in Myeik Township, Taninthayi Region, on Saturday evening, according to a police report.

Acting on a tip-off, police caught Nay Lin Aung, Nyo Win and Myo Thein Tun while they were trading WY-variety yaba pills weighing three kilograms at the junction near Kabin Village in Kyaukphyta Village-tract. Police seized 30,000 yaba tablets,

K1.6 million (US\$1,373) in cash and two cars.

“As part of the government’s 100-day project, we have accelerated our anti-drug publicity activities across the town, putting more effort into exploring drug-related cases in the area,” said a member of the local anti-drug squad.

All people involved in the case will face charges under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—*Myint Oo*

### Fire engulfs Insein Locomotive Plant



Firefighters extinguishing the factory fire with might and main.

A FIRE broke out at a factory located within the compound of the Insein Locomotive Factory in Yangon on Sunday, damaging two factories and industrial raw materials.

According to an investigation, the fire was caused by an overheated electric board installed in the factory. The flame spread to the industrial

raw materials and factory furniture and badly destroyed the two plants—a 1,250-square-foot plastic seeds factory and a 2,400-square-foot plastic factory.

Police say no one was injured in the fire.

Police received a call for fire services at 3:40am. With the assistance of residents and

Red Cross volunteers, 400 firefighters controlled the blaze within 50 minutes with the use of 10 water tankers and 37 fire engines.

Action has been taken against U Nay Win, 50, the owner of the plastic seeds factory, who will be charged under the Criminal Law.—*Tin Win Lay*

### Heroin, yaba pills seized across the country

A LOCAL anti-drug squad acting on a tip-off searched a motorbike on the Shwebo-Myitkyina road and discovered 0.44 kilos of heroin hidden in 44 soap cans, along with 3,950 yaba pills, on Sunday.

Action is being taken against Ngwe Soe Lin, who was driving the motorbike.

Meanwhile, a local anti-drug squad seized 46 yaba pills from Zaw Zaw Aung in Myawady. The finding also led

to the arrest of three drug dealers named Sithu, Zeyar Kyaw and Ma Thandar Soe and the seizure of 280 yaba more pills.

On the same day, an anti-drug squad in Phaya Thonzu seized 287 yaba pills from a house, and a squad in Chanmyath Township also discovered 123 yaba pills in a hotel room where Ye Lin Aung was staying.

Action has been taken against all those involved in the cases.—*GNLM*



A drug dealer seen with narcotics. PHOTO: POLICE

### Jewellery thief wanted in Magwe

POLICE are investigating the theft of property owned by Daw Thein Khin, who resides in Lintaw Village in Myaing Township, Pakokku District, Magwe Region.

Daw Thein Khin reported gold and jewellery worth over K4 million (US\$3,433) plus K15 million (\$1,287) in cash from an iron box made in her bedroom missing on 5 May.

“We could not find the iron box or the property in it when we went to take out money we needed on Thursday afternoon,” said Daw Thein Khin.

The owner of the property filed a complaint at the township police station on Friday. Local police have filed a case according to Section 380 of the Criminal Law and are trying to arrest the thief as quickly as possible.—*KZY*

# LOCAL Business



## Agarwood set to make a comeback in Myanmar

THE Myanmar Agarwood Producers and Exports Association (MAPEA) has announced that agarwood products will be sold from the end of this month in a bid to create a new market for the production and trade of agarwood within Myanmar.

Agarwood bangles and bead necklaces from abroad are entering the Myanmar market, but the majority of agarwood entrepreneurs within the country are focused on agarwood essential oils, uncut wood and other products that can be made from the wood.

“We’re still in the process of selecting the best wood carvers. We’ve tasked them with carving agarwood, giving them hints as to where the resin lies within the wood. They’ve only just got underway, so they’re not used to carving [with agarwood] yet. By the end of May, the wooden products will be finished,” said

U Kyaw Htun Win, chair of the MAPEA.

Areas of the agarwood where resin has congealed are incorporated into the carver’s design, while the value of the finished product depends on the quantity of resin within the wood, according to people in the industry.

“The agarwood market is sure to improve from here on out. Agarwood cultivators will become involved [in the process], too. The most well-known foreign market for agarwood is currently China. We would have a great opportunity to expand our market if we could produce finished agarwood products within our country,” said U Nay Lin Aung, an agarwood plantation owner.

Carved agarwood products can only be produced from agar trees that have matured for 10 to 15 years.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

## Myanma insurance to sign with top global reinsurance companies

MYANMA Insurance will reportedly sign a contract with the world’s top reinsurance companies to effectuate the development of the Myanmar insurance businesses.

Myanma Insurance has huge reserve funds, including a life fund of K12.2 billion; a general fund of K8.3 billion and a general reserve fund of K6.4 billion. The company will sign the Marine Excess of Loss Reinsurance Treaty, the Fire Excess of Loss Reinsurance Treaty and the Motor Facultative Obligatory Treaty and Energy Treaty. These reinsurance treaties will be signed by top-notch reinsurers in order to have a substantial reinsurance cover.

“Reinsurance is meant for

placing insurance from our side in the possession of top-notch foreign insurance companies so that it can cover large losses and it can be safe for locals who regularly pay insurance premiums,” said U Aye Min Thein, the managing director of Myanma Insurance.

There are the training classes for insurance, and those who have certificates can join the insurance company as a representative. There are many aspects to insurance, from the basic courses to the advanced courses, and those who pass Grade 11 can join these classes at their levels.

Myanma Insurance has already linked with a company to provide teaching to its staff. Myanma Insurance is working with

companies from India, American and Vietnam, he said.

To open this insurance school, a government subsidy is required. If the government cannot provide it, a private company will step in.

The compensation of Myanma Insurance is responsible for the government. It assumes all the liability if it will be under the Myanmar Insurance Law. Myanma Insurance paid total compensations of about K2.9 billion in 2014-2015. Myanma Insurance, like other insurance companies, is using the agency system. New agents will be recruited and trained, too.

Myanmar is home to 12 private insurance companies and 22 representative offices of foreign insurance companies.—*Zar Zar*

## Japan to invest in Myanmar chicken export business

JAPANESE businessmen will invest in Myanmar chicken farms on a commercial scale, and Myanmar chicken will be exported as frozen meat, said the vice chairman of the Myanmar Livestock Federation.

Currently, meat production in the country’s chicken farming sector is about a quarter that

of broiler chicken at a domestic market. Besides, the price of Myanmar chicken is 50 per cent higher than that of broiler chicken, and there are low consumers of Myanmar chicken because of low supply in the market.

“Japanese businessmen will start to breed a total of around

200,000 chickens in Myanmar on a commercial scale, aiming at the export market,” he added.

Japanese businessmen will breed only Myanmar chicken through co-operation with local breeders, and they will transform some breeding and feeding methods of Myanmar chicken.—*200*

## Natural gas prices decline in local market despite spike in petrol price

ALTHOUGH the price of petrol has increased in the local market, the price of natural gas has decreased to US\$6.70 per million cubic feet over the last two years, according to local entrepreneurs.

According to staff at filling stations, the price of 92 octane petrol in the first week of May

rose from K540 to K550 per litre, while price of 95 octane petrol remained unchanged. The price of high diesel rose to K540 from K530 per litre, and diesel to K500 from K490.

Domestic petrol prices are directly linked to global crude oil prices. The price of crude oil per

barrel rose from \$41 to \$43 in the global market.

The price of natural gas has fallen to \$6.70 dollar per million cubic feet in 2016, down from \$11.

Myanmar has four natural gas exploration projects—Yedagun, Zawtika, Yadana and Shwe.—*ML/Union Daily*

## Kanbawza Bank Will Be The First Myanmar Bank to Open International Representative Office

**Kanbawza Bank (KBZ Bank) receives licence to establish a representative office in Thailand, marking a major milestone for Myanmar’s largest private bank.**

KANBAWZA Bank (KBZ Bank) Limited, part of the KBZ Group of companies, has officially received a licence to open a representative office in Thailand. This licence from the Bank of Thailand makes KBZ Bank the first Myanmar bank to establish a presence in Thailand, or anywhere outside Myanmar. It is the first step towards a goal of becoming Myanmar’s foremost commercial presence in the Southeast Asian (ASEAN) region and internationally.

“As the largest bank in Myanmar, we are able to use our extensive knowledge of the country’s financial markets to encourage and promote trade, as well as provide advisory services to Thai businesses looking to enter Myanmar,” said U Than Cho, Senior Managing Director of KBZ Bank, who be-

lieves that the new office in Thailand could play a key role in helping Myanmar re-integrate into the ASEAN business community.

“The long-standing relationship between the two countries offer sample opportunities to collaborate across various sectors in the region. We have long been a leading financial institution in Myanmar, and are prepared to represent the country alongside our international industry peers,” added U Than Cho.

He further elaborated that in order to open this office, KBZ Bank had to undergo stringent due diligence procedures and demonstrate significant transparency as part of the licence application. This included an appraisal of the bank’s position in the market, background information of its shareholders,

the awards the bank has received and its accounts and investments to ensure its operations adhered to the guidelines set by the Bank of Thailand.

KBZ Group has a proven track-record of operating with industry best practices as evidenced in 2014, when the Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business (MCRB) recognized the KBZ Group of Companies as the most transparent organization in Myanmar. With endorsements from the Central Bank of Myanmar and the Royal Thai Embassy in Yangon, KBZ Bank was successful in demonstrating its financial sector credentials and compliance.

The representative office will be headed by Zeyar Sein Htut, KBZ Bank’s newly appointed Country Head for Thailand, and will fo-

cus on activities such as market research, liaising with the private sector and serving as a source of information, including regulatory requirements for doing business both in Thailand and Myanmar. The location and opening date of the office will be announced in the near future.

Zeyar Sein Htut is currently responsible for corporate advisory at KBZ Bank and business development within KBZ Group, where he leads new business and investment opportunities, provides advisory services to all corporate clients and executes project finance transactions.

Bilateral trade between Myanmar and Thailand during the past five years has been worth US\$6.8 billion on average. Building on the strong trade relations, Myanmar

being Thailand’s seventh-largest trade partner in the world and Thailand being Myanmar’s second-largest, there are many potential areas to further encourage commercial exchange as both countries seek to boost strong bilateral trade ties in the coming years. Additionally, KBZ Bank is able to explore opportunities to build relations with, and eventually cater to the large Myanmar population in the Kingdom — estimated to be around 3 million people — when they return to their home country.

Last year, KBZ Bank announced their intention to open representative offices in Thailand and Singapore, following the success in obtaining the licence to operate in Thailand. The bank is poised to continue expansion in ASEAN.—*GNLM*

## Maverick mayor Duterte takes chunky lead in Philippines vote count

MANILA — Firebrand Philippine city mayor Rodrigo Duterte took a commanding lead as unofficial presidential election results poured in on Monday, suggesting the political outsider's pledges to crush crime and corruption had carried the day.

Three hours after polling stations had closed, a rolling ballot count by an election commission-accredited watchdog showed about 40 per cent of the votes cast were in his favour. An exit poll of a small number of voters showed a similar lead. Asked by a television interviewer what he thought about his apparent victory, Duterte gave a puzzling answer. "Sometimes I'm victorious and the winner, sometimes there's always losing and being sad, sometimes being sick and healthy," he told CNN Philippines, slouched in a chair and dressed casually in a checked, short-sleeve shirt.

"That is how the universe is being played every

day."

The 71-year-old's defiance of political tradition has drawn comparisons with US Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, as has his regular references to his libido. His man-of-the-people demeanour tapped into popular disgust with the political establishment over its failure to tackle poverty and inequality despite several uninterrupted years of robust economic growth.

His incendiary rhetoric and advocacy of extrajudicial killings to stamp out crime and drugs have, however, alarmed many who hear echoes of the Southeast Asian country's authoritarian past. The election numbers reported by the Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting (PPCRV) had, by 1208 GMT, accounted for about 60 per cent of the 54 million registered Filipino voters.

Duterte had 10.4 million votes, with Senator Grace Poe a distant second with 5.9 million. The gov-

ernment's candidate, Manuel Roxas, was just behind Poe with 5.8 million.

The presidential race has been one of the most divisive in years, with outgoing leader Benigno Aquino and rival candidates warning of a disaster if Duterte makes good on his promises.

He had been acting uncharacteristically coy for most of the day and had earlier urged the throng of media to stop asking him about the possibility of winning.

He talked of making peace with his rivals after a "virulent" campaign and reiterated that if president, he would give police a green light to use deadly force against criminals.

"If they put up a good fight and refuse to surrender and if you feel your life is in jeopardy, shoot. You have my authority," he said in Davao City, where he has been mayor for 22 years.

At least 11 people were killed in violence before voting started, but otherwise the election was mostly smooth



Presidential candidate Rodrigo "Digong" Duterte gestures as he speaks to reporters before casting his vote at a polling precinct for national elections at Daniel Aginaldo National High School in Davao city in southern Philippines, on 9 May. PHOTO: REUTERS

with voting machine problems at only a few dozen polling stations.

Voters also cast ballots for the vice-president, 300 lawmakers and about 18,000 local government officials.

"Bongbong" Marcos Jr., the son and namesake of late dictator Ferdinand Marcos, looked on course to become vice president with a

narrow lead as the votes were being counted.

Duterte's entertaining speeches, often loaded with profanity, have shed little light on his policies beyond going after gangsters and drug pushers.

He has been vague on what he would do to spur an economy that has averaged growth at around 6 per cent

under Aquino.

In a report on Monday, ratings agency S&P Global said a Duterte presidency would create uncertainty, especially if he picks fights with the political elite.

"He could take some time getting used to the many compromises required in the national leadership position," it said.—Reuters

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## 2nd China-Indonesia High-level Economic Dialogue kicks off in Jakarta

JAKARTA — The second meeting of China-Indonesia High-level Economic Dialogue, which was co-chaired by Chinese State Councilor Yang Jiechi and Darmin Nasution, Indonesian Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs, was held here on Monday.

The two sides hailed the progress achieved in bilateral cooperation after the first meeting in January last year, had an in-depth exchange of views and reached a comprehensive agreement on the cooperation in trading, investment, financing, infrastructure, energy and agriculture.

Both officials agreed

that the two countries, which share development goals, should work together to deal with the global economic challenge and to promote further cooperation.

Yang said China and Indonesia are good neighbors, good friends and good partners, seeing a momentum of bilateral relations.

China is willing to implement the consensus between Chinese and Indonesian leaders and synergy the development strategies and achieve common development with Indonesia, said the Chinese official.—Xinhua

## S Korea urges N Korea to show sincerity toward denuclearisation

SEOUL — South Korea's Defence Ministry spokesman said on Monday North Korea should stop provocative military acts and show sincerity toward denuclearisation before asking for military talks between the two nations.

Moon Sang Gyun made the comment after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un raised the necessity for inter-Korean military talks during the seventh congress of the Workers Party of Korea in Pyongyang.

"Our government leaves the door for dia-

logue open, but North Korea should stop provocations and show sincerity toward denuclearisation to enable the talks to be held," he told reporters.

Moon also dismissed Kim's declaration that his country is a "responsible nuclear weapons state," saying South Korea will continue to achieve the denuclearisation of North Korea through "strong sanctions and pressure."

"(The) consistent position held by us and the international community is not to recognize North Korea as a nuclear state," he said.—Kyodo News

## Death toll rises to 22 in SE China landslides



Rescuers search for signs of life at the landslide site in Taining County, southeast China's Fujian Province, on 9 May. PHOTO: XINHUA

FUZHOU — The death toll has risen to 22 and 17 people remain missing after a landslide hit Taining County in southeast China's Fujian Province on Sunday, local authorities announced on Monday afternoon.

As of 1pm, 22 bodies had been found at the scene and two people who were on the missing list had been found alive and safe, authorities said.

The landslide occurred at about 5am on Sunday in Taining County, where

about 100,000 cubic meters of mud and rocks flowed downhill, burying a temporary shed at a hydro-power station construction site and damaging its offices.

Heavy rain has made rescue work more difficult, and according to Zheng Guoen, deputy head of the provincial drought and flood control office, residents in the area need to be evacuated soon to avoid more geological disasters.—Xinhua

## Cambodia, Japan begin restoration of Angkor Wat causeway



The ruined causeway at Cambodia's Angkor Wat temple will be restored by Cambodia and Japan in a four-year project. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

ANGKOR WAT, (Cambodia) — Cambodia and Japan began on Monday a four-year project to restore the ruined western causeway at Cambodia's Angkor Wat temple.

Speaking at the launch of the Angkor Wat restoration project, Deputy Prime Minister Sok An said "today's event reflects the robust spirit of international cooperation and solidarity in the protection, safeguarding and conservation of the heritage of humanity in accordance with the motto 'heritage for all, all for heritage'."

Sok An said Japan is playing a significant role in the process, providing financial and technical supports to Cambodia, especially for the conservation and restoration of Bayon Temple and causeway at Angkor Wat, which is the main gateway to the site.

Joining the event, Yuji Kumamaru, Japanese ambassador to Cambodia, said Japan had established the Japanese government team for the safeguarding of the Angkor sites in 1994, and this team has been actively participating in the preservation and restoration of

Angkor Wat and Bayon Temple since then. He said \$26 million has already been spent supporting the project and Japan's Sophia University has been making a tremendous contribution to the preservation and restoration of Angkor.

Kumamaru said Cambodia's Authority for the Protection of the Site and Management of the Region of Angkor (APSARA), with close cooperation from the Sophia University team, is working on the restoration of the western causeway of Angkor Wat.

For this project, he said Japan provided cranes and other specialist equipment costing approximately \$767,000.

Cambodia, meanwhile, will spend \$820,000 for all technical work and labor costs and other necessary equipment.

Toshiaki Koso, chancellor of Sophia University, said at a ceremony to mark the start of the work that Angkor Wat belongs to Cambodians and it must be resorted or preserved by Cambodians and therefore Japan, through Sophia

Asia Center for Research and Sophia University, has trained Cambodian workers at home and in Japan in this particular kind of work.

In the 1960s, France helped restore the southern half of the western causeway and in 1996 the restoration of 90 metres of half of the northern side of the western causeway was conducted, taking 12 years for APSARA and Sophia University to complete.

This second phase project covering another 100 metres is expected to be completed in 2019.

With the appeal by former King Norodom Sihanouk to the international community to save Angkor Wat after it was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list in 1992, ICC-Angkor, a committee for the safeguarding of the site, was established by the first Intergovernmental Conference on Angkor held in Tokyo in 1993. To date, ICC-Angkor has mobilised more than 30 international teams from 23 countries to carry out preservation and restoration through more than 70 projects.—*Kyodo News*

## Nepal's annual policy and programme focusing on post-quake reconstruction, economic development

KATHMANDU — Nepalese President Bidya Devi Bhandari on Sunday unveiled the government's annual policy and programme for the fiscal year 2073-2074 (2016-2017) focusing on speedy post-quake reconstruction and economic development.

Presenting the government's policy and programmes at Legislature Parliament, President Bhandari said that the next fiscal year will be a year

of constitution implementation and rule of law, noting that the much-awaited elections of local bodies will be held in mid-December this year.

"This will help ensure democratic exercise at people's level, rule of law and leadership of people's representatives in local development ending the condition of absence of people's representatives at local bodies," the President said.—*Xinhua*



Nepalese Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli (C) waits for the arrival of Nepalese President Bidhya Devi Bhandari to present the Nepalese government's annual policy and programme for the next fiscal year 2016/17 at parliament in Kathmandu, Nepal, on 8 May 2016. The document mainly focused on the implementation of the Constitution and federalism and the acceleration of post-quake reconstructions. PHOTO: XINHUA

## Power to the people: electric bikes take off in North Korea

PYONGYANG — Wheels have long been a sign of economic status for both individuals and nations, and on the lightly trafficked streets of Pyongyang, capital of impoverished and isolated North Korea, electric bicycles are the hottest new ride on the road.

Almost unseen two years ago, the Chinese-made two-wheelers are a common sight this week in the city, which hosts the first congress of the country's ruling Workers' Party in 36 years.

Kim Jong Un, whose family has run the country for nearly 70 years, is expected to consolidate his leadership at the congress.

While pedal-powered bikes still predominate on Pyongyang's wide avenues, the electric bike trend began in the last year, locals and foreign residents of the North Korean capital said.

On Saturday, a Reuters journalist covering the congress saw six of the bikes in the space of 10 minutes.

"You can carry luggage," said Kim Chol Jin, a computer science student at Kim Chaek University of Technology, who was riding his electric bike along Mirae Scientists Street.

"My wife bought me this to help shorten my commute," he told Reuters journalists, who were accompanied by a government guide.

The proliferation of electric bicycles follows another recent local consumer trend: a surge in residential usage of LED light bulbs and solar panels, to get around the country's chronic electricity shortage.

A bike made by a Chinese company called Anqi was for sale this week in Pyongyang's Kwangbok Department Store for 2.62 million won — around \$330 at the unofficial exchange rate of 8,000 won to the dollar. While that is well beyond the reach of the average North Korean, an expanding gray market economy has given rise to a growing consumer class known as "donju", or "masters of money".

Most residents still commute by foot or on the city's

crowded buses.

Ou Xiongfei, sales manager at another company, Belling Cycle Tech Limited Co in Dongguan, China, said its electric bikes and motorbikes are exported via trading companies to countries including Argentina, Iran and North Korea.

"Lots of our e-bikes and e-motorcycles are exported to North Korea," she told Reuters by phone.

Traffic is getting busier in Pyongyang, which last year began laying out its first dedicated bicycle lanes.

To ease congestion, authorities have even introduced a system to alternate the days vehicles are allowed on the once all-but empty roads.

Traffic is still far from gridlock, but electric bikes have now joined the taxis, a growing fleet of private cars, and the Soviet-era trolleybuses that have plied the capital for decades.

The trolleys are hooked up to the electricity grid, making them vulnerable to outages, so electric bikes are an increasingly popular alternative when power doesn't flow to the people.—*Reuters*



People walk past an electric bicycle in Pyongyang, North Korea, on 6 May. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Thailand to launch low-season campaigns for European tourists

BANGKOK — Thailand plans to attract more tourists from Europe and the Middle East during the current low season.

Tanesuan Petsuwan, director of the Tourism Authority of Thailand for Europe, Africa and the Middle East, confirmed on Monday that the agency will launch tourism campaigns in London, Paris, Frankfurt, Stockholm and Moscow in bid to draw more visitors to Thailand especially during low season which lasts from May until October.

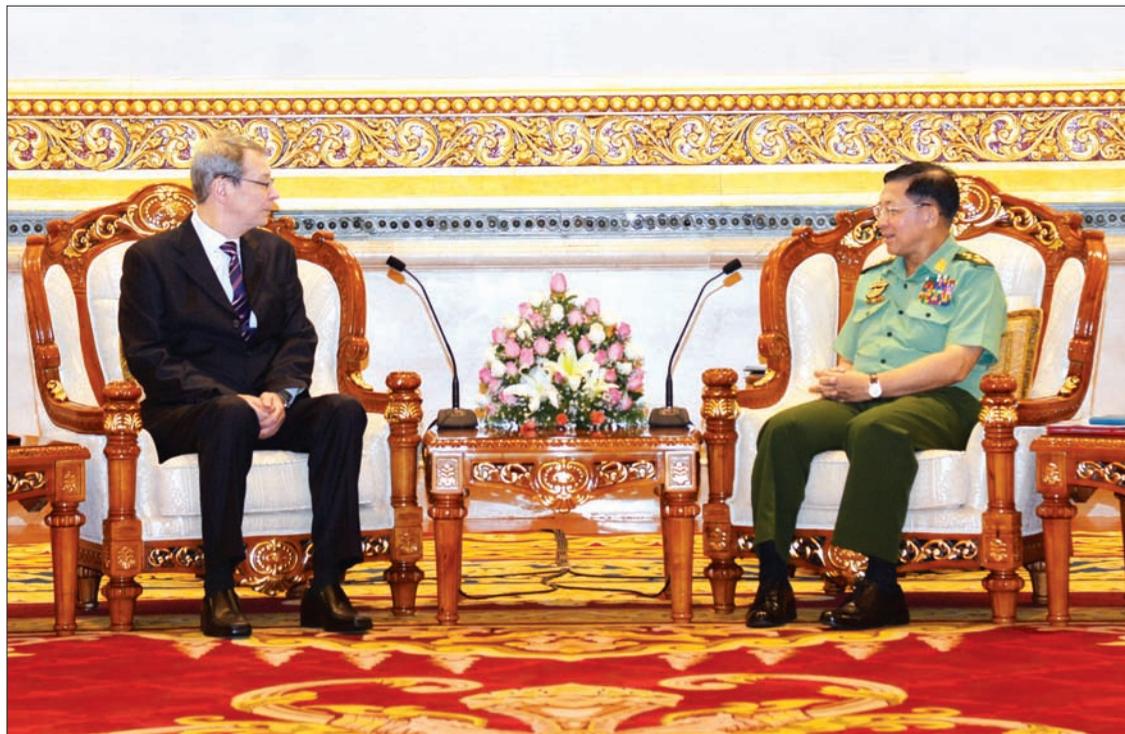
Thai Airway International will lower the prices of its air tickets from those European cities to Bangkok as part of the low-season tourism campaign, the TAT director said.

A few major Middle Eastern airlines, including Etihad, Emirates and Qatar, will also join the low-season campaign, he said.

In particular, Qatar Airways will open four weekly flights from Doha to Krabi, a southern coastal province of Thailand, and three weekly flights from Doha to Chiang Mai.—*Xinhua*



## Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets outgoing Russian ambassador



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receiving Russian ambassador. PHOTO: MNA

COMMANDER-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Russian ambassador to Myanmar Mr Vasily B Pospelov, who has now

completed his tour of duty in Myanmar, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. They discussed matters related to bilateral relations between the two armed forces, military

technology cooperation, future exchanges of goodwill visits, Myanmar's peace process and further cooperation between the two countries.—*Myawady*

## Black market petrol sellers face prosecution in Mandalay

THE increased likelihood of experiencing fire related accidents because of extremely high temperatures has caused the Mandalay district authority to begin cracking down on black market petrol sellers from the beginning of this May.

“We are informing [the general public of this new legal stance] as part of the new government's hundred day project initiative. Legal action will be taken in accordance with existing laws [against those caught selling pet-

rol on the black market].” said U Win Zaw Naing, administrator of Mandalay district.

The initiative is being carried out against sellers of petrol on the black market because of concerns over fire safety and the illegal nature of the petrol being sold.

“The presence of roadside petrol shops is a real fire concern. If these shops are doing business and have a letter of recommendation from the local ward and township authorities, it should be

asked whether there's really been consideration over households in the vicinity.” said U Tin Htun Oo, from Pyigyidagun township.

The influx in black market petrol shops is damaging official state petrol stations which pay taxes, it is known, while groups will be established and tasked with checking battery and pump petrol shops along the strand road, making arrests where necessary, according to the Mandalay district administrator.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

## Child painting exhibition titled ‘Garden of Art’ held in Mandalay till 12 May

AN art exhibition titled ‘Garden of Art’ was opened at the Kuthodaw Art Gallery in Aungmyethazan Township, Mandalay, yesterday.

The four-day event, which displayed over 100 watercolour and oil paintings by seven students between the ages of five

and 10 years. The children are outstanding students at Basic Education Schools and private schools in Mandalay Region.

The event will run between until 12 May. Present at the opening ceremony were artists and painting enthusiasts.—*Maung Pyi Thu*



Young artists pose with their masterpieces.

### Private Education and Training Institutions **POEM:**

In Myanmar, there has been visible proliferation of private education and training institutions owned by citizens or jointly or wholly by foreigner and to the layman it's not very clear if the latter are related to agreements or protocols under trade in services concerning the education sector and if there was permit obtained by the Institution from the Myanmar Investment Commission.

Some private education/ training institution claiming affiliation to some foreign institution and maintaining that they will provide ‘quality education/training’ has not been up to expectation of parents and students. In fact some of ‘Institutions’ don't seem to have the services of competent and qualified teaching staff, or for that matter proper facilities for practical training.

Education/training provided has been at an accelerating cost and are now increasingly unaffordable by many and worst there is no pathways to transfer at the students' option to continue in an equivalent private or public institution.

Perhaps the authorities should take stock of the situation of sub-standard, exploiting or unauthorized private institutions to help to resolve the dilemma of parents and students regarding continuing education in these private institutions.

*Lokethar*

### Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am a regular reader of The Global New Light of Myanmar and would like to suggest the expansion of the space for the opinion column. Most of the local and foreign writers' goodwill, knowledge-sharing and constructive criticism on our country's political, social and economic situations is highly impressive to the readers. There is no more repressed censorship in Myanmar so both public and private newspapers should allocate more space in the dailies for those who wish to present their individual opinions for public facing issues or emotions in the opinion column freely and correctly.

I regard all the writers who contribute to the GNLM and the readers. Especially, I like the articles and editorials of Tommy Pauk, Kyaw Thu Ya, Dr. Saw Mya Aung, Myo Myint, U Khin Maung, Kyi Mon, Saya Mya and Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt who consistently present the readers with their knowledge, thoughts, perspectives based on politics, humanity, culture and truth in the human society. Now, all state-run dailies ( Myanmar version ) have opened to the freelance writers to contribute to the readers with their individual opinions for widening the general knowledge.

I humbly hope GNLM will encourage the writers to write about actual public voices and current issues in Myanmar. GNLM, the state-run daily will be able to compete with the private-owned newspapers rhythmically. I also believe that the writers might use press freedom with ethical principles.

Sincerely  
Hein Htet

# Russia showcases Syria hardware in grand Red Square military parade

MOSCOW — Russia showcased its modernised military war machine in a grand parade on Moscow's Red Square on Monday, displaying the advanced air defense missile system used to protect its base in Syria and some of the jets that have flown missions there.

The event, an annual fixture designed to commemorate the Soviet Union's victory over the Nazis in the Second World War, took place in bright sunshine as President Vladimir Putin looked on from a tribune filled with Soviet war veterans.

The strong man Russian leader, whose forces annexed Ukraine's Crimea in 2014 and are now helping Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's army, watched as thousands of Russian troops marched across the famous square to the strains of marshal music.

The authorities, backed by state media, use the annual event to build patriotic sentiment and to underscore the importance of having a strong military to protect the country's borders.

It is also a chance to show how a multi-billion dollar modernisation programme is chang-



A Russian Buk-M2 missile system drives during the Victory Day parade, marking the 71st anniversary of the victory over Nazi Germany in World War II, at Red Square in Moscow, Russia, on 9 May.

PHOTO: REUTERS

ing the face of the Russian military by supplying it with new weapons and hardware.

Columns of tanks followed the troops as did the advanced S-400 air defence missile system which is deployed in Syria to protect the Russian air base there. Russia's latest Yars mobile intercontinental nuclear missile launcher was also on show. Scores of military aircraft then flew over Red Square, including jets who emitted mul-

ti-colored smoke to trace a red, blue and white Russian flag in the sky.

Putin, in his speech to the parade, largely confined his remarks to the importance of defeating the Nazis in the Second World War, but also spoke about the need today to fight global terrorism and cooperate with other nations to do that.

A similar, albeit more modest parade, was held at Russia's base in Syria.—*Reuters*

# Drawing on history, Cameron argues Britain is safer in the EU

LONDON — Britain needs the European Union to help fight Islamic State and rebuff a “newly belligerent” Russia, Prime Minister David Cameron said on Monday, making a “big, bold, patriotic case” for membership of the bloc.

With just over six weeks to go before a referendum, both campaigns to stay in and to leave the EU are stepping up their arguments, with former London mayor, Boris Johnson, due to challenge the prime minister in a speech later on Monday detailing why a British exit, or Brexit, would help the country.

Setting out the security argument for Britain to vote to remain in the EU on 23 June, Cameron drew on military history, invoking the memory of war leader Winston Churchill to bolster his case that “isolationism has never served this country well”.

“I want to show that if you love this country, if you want to keep it strong in the world and keep our people safe, our membership of the EU is one of the tools that helps us to do these

things,” Cameron told diplomats and campaigners.

“I’m not arguing that the EU alone has kept the peace in Europe these last 70 seventy years, of course not, NATO has played an absolutely key role ... (but) it’s pretty extraordinary that countries that were fighting and killing each other are now finding a way to work together.”

He warned Britain that it could be exposed to greater threats if voters decided to vote in favour of leaving the EU, underlining the role of security cooperation after dozens were killed in attacks by Islamic State in Brussels and Paris.

The prime minister was careful not to say a departure would cut ties — an argument criticised by “Out” campaigners — but underlined that Brexit would “make cooperation more legally complex and make our access to vital information much slower”.

He accused “Out” campaigners of wanting to turn back the clock by hoping that Britain’s departure would trigger the

demise of the European Union — something he said would enhance the power of Russia to meddle in countries in central and eastern Europe, which were once behind the “Iron Curtain”.

“Now is a time for strength in numbers. Now is the worst possible time for Britain to put that at risk,” he said. “Only our adversaries will benefit.”

It was the latest speech by Cameron, who has spent weeks touring Britain, talking to students, workers and other voters to try to win over Britons, who, according to opinion polls, are evenly split on which way to vote at the referendum.

The government, which is divided over whether to stay in the 28-member bloc, previously focused on economic arguments, and Cameron again challenged “Out” campaigners to show how Britain would be better off if the country left the European Union.

“The leave campaign are asking us to take a massive risk with the future of our economy and the future of our country,” he said.—*Reuters*

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Iran test-fires ballistic missile two weeks ago: commander

TEHRAN — An Iranian army commander said on Monday that the Islamic republic test-fired a ballistic missile two weeks ago with an “insignificant error margin,” Tasnim news agency reported.

“We test-fired a missile with the range of 2,000 km two weeks ago, which had an error margin of eight meters,” deputy commander of Iran’s armed forces, General Ali Abdollahi, was quoted as saying.

“An eight-meter error margin means no error, means without error,” Abdollahi said. “This missile can be guided to out of atmosphere and back to atmosphere, to hit its target with accuracy.” — *Xinhua*

### Landslides kill at least 25 in northern Rwanda

KIGALI — At least 25 people have been killed due to landslides triggered by heavy rains that hit northern Rwanda on Saturday night, local authorities said on Sunday.

Local government officials said the rains which hit Gakenke district in Northern province, also destroyed about 300 homes.

Philippe Habinshuti, the director of disaster response and recovery at Rwanda’s Ministry of Disaster Management and Refugees told journalists that an assessment was still underway to determine the total damages but the death toll could rise.

“So far 25 bodies were dug out of the muck but we are still gathering information,” he said. Six of the victims were members of the same family.

Local officials said the landslides buried houses while trees were uprooted and plantations destroyed.

The landslides blocked the Kigali highway and vehicles heading to northern and western parts of the country had been diverted through another route.— *Xinhua*

### Chilean military base poses threat to Bolivia

La Paz, (Bolivia) — Bolivian President Evo Morales on Sunday accused neighbouring Chile of threatening the land-locked Andean nation by establishing a military base some 15 kilometres (9 miles) from their shared border and close to the disputed Silala river.

“This installation is an aggression to the life, homeland and to Bolivia,” the leftist leader said during a public appearance in the Santa Cruz region.

Chile and Bolivia have long had thorny relations and are at loggerheads again over access to the Silala river, which crosses their shared border.

Over the Easter weekend, Morales threatened to go to the International Court of Justice in the Hague to resolve the dispute, which had until recently been a low-profile issue.

Morales said on Sunday that international norms prohibit installing military bases less than 50 kilometres from shared international borders in order to avoid confrontations.—*Reuters*

### Seven killed, 30 injured in road mishap in eastern India

NEW DELHI — At least seven people were killed and more than 30 others injured in a road mishap in the eastern Indian state of Jharkhand on Monday, a police official said.

“The accident, involving a private bus with some 40 passengers on board, took place on a busy road in state capital Ranchi in the morning,” he said, on condition of anonymity.

While seven passengers died on the spot, those injured have been admitted to a local hospital where the condition of four are said to be serious, the official said.

A probe has been ordered into the incident, he added.

India records one of the highest road accidents in the world, which claim the lives of over 130,000 people every year, according to official figures.— *Xinhua*

### Glass falls off Shanghai Tower, injuring one

SHANGHAI — A piece of glass fell from the 76<sup>th</sup> floor of the Shanghai Tower, China’s tallest building, on Monday, injuring one person on the ground.

Workers were changing a damaged piece of glass when it fell, bounced off the ground and hit the foot of a driver getting out of a car, according to a spokesperson for the tower’s management.

They said initial investigation suggested the fall was caused by workers’ malpractice but more investigation is needed.

Rising 632 meters over Shanghai’s Pudong New District, the Shanghai Tower has been partially open to the public since 27 April.— *Xinhua*

## Pentagon report reveals confusion among US troops over Afghan mission

KABUL — Amid fierce fighting after the Taliban captured the northern Afghan city of Kunduz last year, US special forces advisers repeatedly asked their commanders how far they were allowed to go to help local troops retake the city.

They got no answer, according to witnesses interviewed in a recently declassified, heavily redacted Pentagon report that lays bare the confusion over rules of engagement governing the mission in Afghanistan.

As the Taliban insurgency gathers strength, avoiding enemy fire has become increasingly difficult for advisers, who have been acting as consultants rather than combatants since NATO forces formally ceased fighting at the end of 2014.

In the heat of the battle, lines can be blurred, and the problem is not exclusive to Afghanistan: questions have arisen over the role of US troops in Iraq after a US Navy SEAL was killed by Islamic State this month.

“How far do you want to go?” is not a proper response to “How far do you want us to go?” one special forces member told investigators in a report into the US air strikes on a hospital in Kunduz that killed 42 medical staff, patients and caretakers.

That incident was the biggest single tragedy of the brief capitulation of Kunduz to Taliban militants, and there is no suggestion that the mistake was the result of a lack of clarity over the rules of en-



Afghan National Army soldiers fire artillery during a battle with Taliban insurgents in Kunduz, Afghanistan, on 29 April 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

gagement.

But the 700-page report, much of it blacked out for security reasons, sheds light on how the rules are not fully understood, even by some troops on the ground, compromising the mission to stabilise the nation and defeat a worsening Islamist insurgency.

The issues exposed in the report are likely to be considered by the new US commander in Afghanistan, General John Nicholson, as he prepares to make recommendations in the coming weeks that

may clarify or expand the level of combat support the US-led training mission can provide.

“It’s not a strategy and, in fact, it’s a recipe for disaster in that kind of kinetic environment,” said the soldier, who, like others in the report, was not identified.

He added that his unit, whose role was to advise and assist Afghan forces without engaging in combat, asked three times for commanders to clarify the rules governing their mission.

“Sadly, the only sounds au-

dible were the sounds of crickets ... though those were hard to hear over the gunfire.”

While acknowledging a lingering “lack of understanding in the West” about the US and NATO role in Afghanistan, US military spokesman Brigadier General Charles Cleveland denied there was confusion among troops over the broader mission.

More than 9,000 US soldiers were “retrained” on the rules of engagement following missteps in Kunduz, in an effort to reduce fu-

ture misunderstandings, he said.

Critics say the confusion comes from political expediency, because US leaders are keen to portray the Afghan operation as designed mainly to help local forces fight for themselves.

“The rules of engagement are trapped in the jaws of political confusion about the mission,” a senior Western official told Reuters.

“Nobody in Western capitals seems willing to admit that Afghanistan is a worsening war zone and ... that their troops are still battling out a combat mission on a daily basis,” added the official, who declined to be named.

Until the end of 2014, when their combat role officially ended, NATO forces in Afghanistan peaked at more than 130,000 troops, most of them American. NATO’s presence today is a fraction of the size.

Around 10,000 US troops are divided between the NATO train-and-assist mission called Resolute Support and a US-only counter-terrorism operation against militant groups that include al Qaeda and Islamic State but not the Taliban.

Under publicly declared rules of engagement, US advisers in Resolute Support generally cannot attack Taliban targets except in self defence.

As government forces have struggled, however, the definition of “self defence” has appeared less sharply defined, with some US air strikes conducted to defend partnered Afghan units.—Reuters

## Syrian government forces battle rebels near Aleppo, city areas shelled

BEIRUT — Syrian government forces and their allies clashed with insurgents near Aleppo on Monday and warplanes launched more raids around a strategic town Islamist rebels seized last week, a monitoring group said.

The capture of Khan Touman was a rare setback for government forces in Aleppo Province in recent months, and for allied Iranian troops who suffered heavy losses in the fighting. Warplanes continued to strike around the town on Monday, and had carried out more than 90 raids in the area since Sunday morning, the British-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

Al Manar television, run by Damascus’s Lebanese ally Hezbollah, said troops had destroyed a tank belonging to insurgents and killed some of its occupants.

Khan Touman lies just southwest of Aleppo city, which is one of the biggest strategic prizes in a war now in its sixth year, and has been divided into government and rebel-held zones

through much of the conflict. Russia’s military intervention last September has helped President Bashar al-Assad reverse some rebel gains in the west of the country, including in Aleppo Province.

The Observatory said warplanes struck rebel-held areas of the city early on Monday, and rebels fired shells into government-held neighbourhoods, despite a Russian-announced extension of a truce encompassing the city of Aleppo.

French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault, hosting a meeting of Assad’s opponents in Paris, said Syrian government forces and their allies had bombarded hospitals and refugee camps.

“It is not Daesh (Islamic State) that is being attacked in Aleppo, it is the moderate opposition,” he said.

Ayrault said Monday’s meeting would call on Russia to put pressure on Assad to stop the attacks, adding that humanitarian aid must be allowed to reach those in need.—Reuters

## BBC correspondent expelled from North Korea over reporting

PYONGYANG — North Korea expelled a BBC journalist on Monday over his reporting, the broadcaster and a North Korean official said, as a large group of foreign media members visited the isolated country to cover a rare ruling party congress.

Rupert Wingfield-Hayes was detained on Friday as he was about to leave the country and taken away for eight hours of questioning and “made to sign a statement”, the network reported.

The British journalist, accompanied by a BBC producer and cameraman, arrived in Beijing on Monday evening after a flight from Pyongyang, the North Korean capital.

“We’re obviously very glad to be out. We’re going to go and talk to our bosses now. But just relieved to be out,” Wingfield-Hayes told reporters at the airport before being driven off in a car, along with his colleagues.

Wingfield-Hayes had “distorted facts and realities” in his coverage, North Korean official O Ryong Il said in announcing that the reporter, who is based in Tokyo, was being expelled and



BBC journalist Rupert Wingfield-Hayes (C) is surrounded by reporters upon his arrival at Beijing Capital International Airport after being expelled from North Korea, in Beijing, on 9 May. PHOTO: REUTERS

would never be let in again.

“They were speaking very ill of the system, the leadership of the country,” O, who is secretary general of a National Peace Committee, told reporters in Pyongyang, according to a video clip published by the Associated Press.

Another BBC correspondent in Pyongyang, John Sudworth, said in a broadcast report there

was “disagreement, a concern over the content of Rupert’s reporting”, including questioning the authenticity of a hospital.

In his report of a visit to the children’s hospital in Pyongyang, Wingfield-Hayes said the patients looked “remarkably well” and there was not a real doctor on duty.

“Everything we see looks like a set-up” he said.—Reuters

## Ex-fishermen, families sue state for damages over US H-bomb tests

KOCHI (Japan) — A group of former Japanese fishermen on Monday filed an unprecedented lawsuit seeking compensation from the government for failing to disclose for decades records of their exposure to radiation from US hydrogen bomb tests in the Pacific in 1954.

A total of 45 people mainly from Kochi Prefecture, including families of deceased fishermen, are seeking 2 million yen (\$18,600) each in compensation in the lawsuit filed with the Kochi District Court.

It is the first time that a compensation lawsuit has been filed against the state in Japan in connection with

the hydrogen bomb tests the United States conducted on Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands. The tests began with an explosion code-named Castle Bravo on 1 March, 1954, according to a lawyer for the plaintiffs.

Castle Bravo was the largest nuclear weapons test ever conducted by the United States, and it spewed radioactive fallout over a vast area. Japanese tuna fishing boat Fukuryu Maru No. 5 was in the fallout zone and one of its 23-man crew died about six months later.

The plaintiffs in the lawsuit are crew of other ships that were also sailing in the vicinity around the time of the hydrogen bomb tests.

They also include 10

people who applied in February for workers' compensation for cancer and other diseases that they say were caused by exposure to radiation from the hydrogen bomb tests.

"Among my peers, there are people who died in their 40s. I feel angry about how the state responded (to this issue)," Yutaka Kuwano, an 83-year-old plaintiff, said in a gathering earlier in the day in the city of Kochi, western Japan.

Details of radiation exposure likely suffered by crew of ships other than the Fukuryu Maru crew have remained largely unknown until recently since the government had not disclosed records of radiation checks conducted on ships



Plaintiffs head to the Kochi District Court in the southwestern Japan city of Kochi on 9 May 2016, to file a damages suit in connection with the 1954 US hydrogen bomb tests on Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

that were in the contaminated areas.

However, retracting its earlier position that no such records remained, the Health, Labour and Welfare Ministry released them

in September 2014 following repeated requests from a Kochi-based civic group and others studying the issue. The ministry acknowledged that crew members on 10 ships, among some

500 vessels in the vicinity of the tests, received a certain level of exposure, but asserted that the doses did "not reach levels that could damage their health."—*Kyodo News*

## Trump changes tune on tax hikes for rich Americans

WASHINGTON — US Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump said on Sunday he is open to raising taxes on the rich, backing off his prior proposal to reduce taxes on all Americans and breaking with one of his party's core policies dating back to the 1990s.

"I am willing to pay more, and you know what, the wealthy are willing to pay more," Trump told ABC's "This Week."

After effectively sealing the Republican nomination last week, Trump has used speeches and interviews to offer more details on his policy positions.

The billionaire real estate tycoon has said he would like to see an increase in the minimum wage, although on Sunday he told NBC's "Meet the Press" he would prefer to see states take the lead on that front instead of the federal government.

"I don't know how people make it on \$7.25 an hour," Trump said of the current federal minimum wage. "I would like to see an increase of some magnitude. But I'd rather leave it to the states. Let the states decide."

Trump's call for higher taxes on the wealthy is a break with Republican presidential nominees who have staunchly opposed tax hikes for almost three decades. Higher taxes have

been anathema to many in the party since former President George H.W. Bush infuriated fellow Republicans by abandoning a pledge not to raise taxes and agreeing to an increase as part of a 1990 budget deal.

Democrats, including presidential front-runner Hillary Clinton, have pressed for increased taxes on the wealthiest Americans for years.

Trump released a tax

proposal last September that included broad tax breaks for businesses and households. He proposed reducing the highest income tax rate to 25 percent from the current 39.6 percent rate.

Pressed on the contradiction between his latest comments on taxes and the September tax plan, Trump said he viewed his original proposal as "a concept" and said he expected it would be changed following negotia-

tions with Congress.

"By the time it gets negotiated, it's going to be a different plan," Trump told ABC. He emphasized in separate interviews with ABC and NBC's "Meet the Press" that his priorities were lowering taxes on the middle class and businesses. "The middle class has to be protected," Trump told NBC. The rich are "probably going to end up paying more," he said.—*Reuters*

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Email address: [myanmar@tilleke.com](mailto:myanmar@tilleke.com)

Date : 10.5.2016

## Gates Foundation backs Takeda polio vaccine with \$38m grant

LONDON — Japan's Takeda Pharmaceuticals is to get \$38 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to develop a crucial, low-cost polio vaccine for use in developing countries.

As part of a global plan to eradicate the crippling disease, of which experts say the world could see the last case this year, countries will need to switch from using oral polio vaccine (OPV) to using so-called inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) to ensure the disease does not reappear.

Experts fear a substantial worldwide shortage of IPV once every country in the world is ready to make the switch, and polio eradication strategists have been looking at how to avert that shortfall by encouraging new manufacturers into the sector.

Chris Elias, the Gates Foundation's head of global development, said the part-

nership would help "ensure that the world has enough vaccine to get the job done and maintain a polio-free world".

Takeda said in a statement it would use the Gates funding to develop, license and supply at least 50 million doses per year of so-called Sabin-strain inactivated poliovirus vaccine (sIPV) to more than 70 developing countries.

The shot will be made available at an affordable price for countries supported by the GAVI vaccines alliance, which is backed by the Gates Foundation, the World Health Organisation, UNICEF and others to fund immunisation programmes in poor countries. Polio invades the nervous system and can cause irreversible paralysis within hours — and WHO's repeated warning is that as long as any polio virus is circulating, people are at risk.—*Reuters*

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**HAPPY 40<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY FOR SAYARMA MAYFLORA**

(10<sup>th</sup> MAY, 2016)

**U.S.A (KO KO)**

# Canada hopes cooler weather aids battle with Alberta wildfire

LAC LA BICHE, (Alberta) — Canadian firefighters looked to cooler weather on Monday to help with their battle against the country's most destructive wildfire in recent memory, as officials sought to gauge the damage to oil sands boomtown Fort McMurray.

The fire, which started on 1 May, spread so quickly that the community's 88,000 inhabitants barely had time to leave and whole neighborhoods were destroyed.

"This is great firefighting weather, we can really get in here and get a handle on this fire, and really get a death grip on it," Alberta fire official Chad Morrison said on Sunday. The wildfire scorching through Canada's oil sands region in northeast Alberta had been expected to double in size on Sunday, but light rains and cooler temperatures helped hold it back.

The temperature, which reached a high of 17 C (63°F) on Sunday, was expected to cool further, with Environment Canada forecasting a 40 percent chance of showers in Fort McMurray on Monday. Cooler temperatures around 10 C were expected through to Friday after last week's record heat. Still, much of Alberta is tinder-box dry after a mild winter and warm spring.



A wildfire burns near Highway 63 south of Fort McMurray, Alberta, Canada, on 8 May. PHOTO: REUTERS

Alberta's government

estimated on Sunday that the fire had consumed 161,000 hectares (395,000 acres).

Officials made clear it was too early to put a time line on getting thousands of evacuees camped out in nearby towns back to Fort

McMurray soon, even if their homes are intact.

The city's gas has been turned off, its power grid is damaged and the water is undrinkable. Alberta Premier Rachel Notley said on Sunday recovery efforts had

begun, with 250 employees from power company ATCO working to restore the power grid and assess gas infrastructure.

Fort McMurray is the center of Canada's oil sands region. About half of the

crude output from the sands, or 1 million barrels per day, has been taken offline, according to a Reuters estimate. Oil prices jumped almost 2 per cent in trading early on Monday, as Canada's fire contributed to tightening supply. The inferno looks set to become the costliest natural disaster in Canada's history. One analyst estimated insurance losses could exceed C\$9 billion (\$7 billion). Nearly all of Fort McMurray's residents escaped the fire safely, although two people were killed in a car crash during the evacuation.

In his now regular evening message Fort McMurray fire chief Darby Allen on Sunday sent condolences to the families of the two teenage cousins in the crash. One of the victims, 15-year-old Emily Ryan, was the daughter of a fireman in the city.

Regional officials also said via Facebook that firefighters were getting their first break since the fire began a week ago after being relieved by reinforcements.—Reuters

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA HASIL VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA HASIL VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.5.2016 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER  
LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MATHU BHUM VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MATHU BHUM VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.5.2016 and 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER  
LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ANDAMAN STAR VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ANDAMAN STAR VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.5.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV NPS MOSA VOY NO (0273)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NPS MOSA VOY NO (0273) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.5.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L 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

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MCC HA LONG VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCC HA LONG VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.5.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV XIN XIANG AN VOY NO (001)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XIN XIANG AN VOY NO (001) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.5.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W-3 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  
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Phone No: 2301928

## US film star Depp mocks apology video over dog row



Actor Johnny Depp and wife Amber Heard arrive at the Southport Magistrates Court on Australia's Gold Coast, on 18 April. Hollywood actor Johnny Depp's wife, actress Amber Heard, appeared in the Queensland court Monday charged with illegally smuggling the couple's Yorkshire terriers, Pistol and Boo, into the country on a private jet while Depp was shooting a *Pirates of the Caribbean* movie last year. PHOTO: REUTERS

LOS ANGELES — Film star Johnny Depp said on Sunday he was sorry for “not smuggling my dogs into England because it would have been a bad thing to do”, mocking an apology he made for bringing two dogs into Australia without going through quarantine.

An Australian court let off his wife, actress Amber Heard, with a good behavior bond last month after she pleaded guilty to falsifying travel documents to sneak their two Yorkshire Terriers, Pistol and Boo, into the country.

The couple made an apology to Australia in a short video, which was widely mocked for its dead-pan tone and the actors' odd manner, after she was cleared of charges of illegally importing animals for not putting the dogs through proper quarantine procedures. “I really would like to apologize for not smuggling my dogs into England because it would have been a bad thing to do,” Depp told reporters at a news conference to promote his new film ‘*Alice Through The Looking Glass*’.—*Reuters*

## Composer, electronic music pioneer Isao Tomita dies at 84

TOKYO — Composer, electronic music pioneer and synthesizer artist Isao Tomita died Thursday of chronic heart failure at a Tokyo hospital, his record label Nippon Columbia Co. said Sunday. He was 84.

His 1974 album “*Snowflakes are Dancing*,” featuring his arrangement of Claude Debussy's “*Clair de Lune*” (Moonlight) and synthesizer performance, drew worldwide attention and won him four Grammy Award nominations.

The Tokyo native composed numerous music pieces for Japanese television dramas, animation and films. In 2003, he was honored with the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette, the seventh highest honor given by the government. In 2012, he released “*Symphony Ihatov*,” which featured virtual pop singer “*Hatsune Miku*,” and gave many performances at home and abroad.—*Kyodo News*



Oscar-winning actress Julia Roberts. PHOTO: PTI

## Happy not being on social media: Julia Roberts

LONDON — Oscar-winning actress Julia Roberts says it is important to have an awareness of social media.

The “*Notting Hill*” star said, however, she does not subscribe to sites like Facebook and Twitter herself, reported Contactmusic.

When asked if she worries about not being engaged with social media, she said, “What’s a good analogy? It’s like people talking about a TV show: I can be perfectly aware of the TV show and the story, but it doesn’t mean I watch it.”

“I have other friends who watch it, and they tell me about it. I mean we were talking about Instagram. Everyone has Instagram on their phone. (if I had it) I would be looking at it all the time.”—*PTI*

## ‘Captain America: Civil War’ starts summer with sizzling \$181.8 million

LOS ANGELES — Marvel-Disney’s “*Captain America: Civil War*” has opened the summer spectacularly with a dominant \$181.8 million weekend at 4,266 US locations.

The third “*Captain America*” movie met lofty expectations with the fifth-best domestic opening weekend of all time — trailing only “*Star Wars: The Force Awakens*” at \$248 million, “*Jurassic World*” at \$208.8 million, “*Marvel’s The Avengers*” at \$207.4 million and “*Avengers: Age of Ultron*” at \$191.3 million.

The tentpole has already topped the final domestic total of 2011’s “*Captain America: The First Avenger*” at \$176.6 million and should eclipse 2014’s “*Captain America: The Winter Soldier*” at \$259 million by the end of next weekend.

The marketing for “*Civil War*” clearly resonated with moviegoers, as it promised an epic fight between Chris Evans’ *Captain America* and Robert Downey Jr.’s *Iron Man*, plus the introduction of Chadwick Boseman’s *Black Panther* and Tom Holland’s *Spider-Man*.

Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst with ComScore,

said the performance of “*Captain America: Civil War*” underlines Marvel and Disney’s adept management of a key franchise. “‘*Captain America: Civil War*’ certainly delivered the goods as the official kick off movie of the summer of 2016 was in perfect position to capitalize on its sheer quality, massive entertainment value, brand appeal and a high-profile release date,” he noted. “Despite a cadre of sports-related options on the small screen, including the Kentucky Derby and Stanley Cup playoffs, ‘*Cap*’ came on strong with a top 5 all-time opening weekend debut and expected long-term bankability at the multiplex.” “*Captain America*” is also keeping the US box office on track for a record performance in 2016 with \$3.856 billion through this weekend — 7.8% ahead of the same point last year and an impressive 14.7% ahead of 2014. Disney has played a major role in that gain with “*The Jungle Book*” and “*Zootopia*” delivering blockbuster numbers plus “*Star Wars: The Force Awakens*” providing \$285 million, or 30% of its \$936 million total.

The fourth weekend of

“*The Jungle Book*” finished second to “*Captain America*” with \$21.9 million at 4,144 sites to lift its 24-day total to \$285 million. Open Road’s comedy “*Mother’s Day*” came in a distant third with \$9 million at 3,141, followed by Universal’s third frame of “*The Huntsman: Winter’s War*” with \$3.6 million at 2,901. With its apt title, “*Mother’s Day*” saw an impressive 7% rise in business during the *Mother’s Day* weekend following a so-so opening frame. The ensemble movie, starring Jennifer Aniston, Julia Roberts and Kate Hudson, has taken in \$20.7 million in its first ten days. The 10th weekend of “*Zootopia*” was edged out for fifth by New Line’s second session of “*Keanu*,” which fell more than 67% to about \$3.1 million. “*Zootopia*” followed with \$2.7 million at 2,077 locations, bringing its 66-day total to \$327.6 million.

As a result, “*Zootopia*” has eclipsed Warner Bros.’ “*Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*” by \$300,000 as the year’s second-biggest domestic grosser after Fox’s “*Deadpool*” at \$362.2 million.—*Reuters*

## Fans furious after Harry Styles cuts his famous curls

LONDON — Admirers are mourning the death of One Direction star Harry Styles’ hair. The pop star, 22, posted a picture on Instagram of himself clutching a disembodied ponytail with the caption ‘Whoops’.

One positive thing has come out of it though, despite the frantic protestations of his 17.1 million followers, he’s donated his locks to The Little Princess Trust which is a charity set up to provide wigs for children, who have lost their own hair during cancer treatment.

Styles is set to make his acting debut in the World War II drama “*Dunkirk*”, in which he stars opposite Tom Hardy and Cillian Murphy, and so it was likely a necessary move for his as-yet-unknown character.

“*Dunkirk*” is set to hit theatres in July 2017.—*PTI*

# All Kumamoto public schools to resume classes after major quakes



Students of a junior high school, whose building was heavily damaged by a massive earthquake, hug each other as their school resumes classes by sharing an elementary school building in Mashiki, Kumamoto Prefecture, southwestern Japan, on 9 May 2016, nearly a month after the disaster. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

**KUMAMOTO** — Several public schools resumed classes on Monday in parts of Kumamoto Prefecture hit hardest by the major earthquakes that struck southwestern Japan last month, with the remainder set to reopen by midweek.

A total of 62 public elementary schools and junior high schools in Mashiki, Minamiaso and six other municipalities resumed classes Monday, while 111 other schools, also including high schools and special schools, were set to restart in the next two days. But school operations will not resume entirely as some elementary school and junior high school students share

buildings, while a few students will be forced to stay in dorms in order to be able to attend classes.

Meanwhile, the last remaining section of an expressway in Oita Prefecture that had been closed following the mid-April quakes reopened at noon Monday, restoring the entire expressway network in the southwestern main island of Kyushu for the first time in 25 days, according to the transport ministry.

Following the devastating magnitude-6.5 quake on 14 April and M7.3 event two days later, school closures peaked on 18 April with 401 of 614 public schools suspending operations in Kumamoto

Prefecture. Some of the schools have since managed to reopen after confirming their buildings are safe and have proper access to power and water. Four elementary schools in the town of Mashiki, which is still sheltering 900 people whose homes were severely damaged, have asked the evacuees to move out of the classrooms to gymnasiums and other facilities so that classes can restart. Among those that have remained closed, elementary schools and junior high schools will resume lessons by Wednesday, while all 19 high schools and 11 special schools are scheduled to restart on Tuesday. At Takaki elementary school in the

town of Mifune, children came to school accompanied by their parents. "I'm relieved everyone's safe," Ikuo Iwashita, the principal, told a school assembly in the library. "I'm looking forward to playing with my friends," said Karen Matsushita, a third-grader. But her mother Naoko said, "I'm still afraid of taking my eyes off her. Suppose there's another quake."

With some roads and railways severed by mudslides triggered by the quakes, Kyushu Railway Co. began operating special school buses between Aso and Otsu to help high school students attend schools after the resumption.—*Kyodo News*

## MRTV News Channel in Brief

(10-5-2016, Tuesday)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>6:00 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw</li> </ul> <p><b>7:35 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Socio Economic Scenes</li> </ul> <p><b>8:35 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documentary</li> </ul> <p><b>9:35 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MRTV's Youth Programme</li> </ul> <p><b>10:35 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MRTV Education</li> </ul> <p><b>11:35 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fashion Show</li> </ul> <p><b>11:45 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documentary</li> </ul> <p><b>12:50 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TV Drama Series</li> </ul> <p><b>1:35 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TV Drama Series</li> </ul> <p><b>2:20 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Musical Programme</li> </ul> | <p><b>2:40 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teleplay</li> </ul> <p><b>3:35 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Socio Economic Scenes</li> </ul> <p><b>4:35 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Football Magazine (Ayeayawady)</li> </ul> <p><b>5:35 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Money Talks</li> </ul> <p><b>6:35 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kyae Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than</li> </ul> <p><b>7:15 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TV Drama Series</li> </ul> <p><b>8:00 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>News / International News/ Weather Report</li> </ul> <p><b>9:00 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>News</li> </ul> <p><b>TV Drama Series</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes or No Talk Show</li> </ul> <p><b>Songs In Myanmar Movies</b></p> |
|--|--|

Note / Hourly News Bulletins (Local + International)

## MRTV Entertainment Channel

(10-5-2016, Tuesday)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>6:00 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weather Report</li> <li>Music Programme</li> </ul> <p><b>6:10 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pyi Thu Ni Ti</li> </ul> <p><b>6:30 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cartoon Programme "Bambi II" (Part - 2)</li> </ul> <p><b>7:10 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Drama Series</li> </ul> <p><b>7:50 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Drama</li> </ul> | <p><b>Series</b></p> <p><b>8:30 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Music Programme</li> </ul> <p><b>8:50 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Life In Night ..... Art In Life (Ep-1)</li> </ul> <p><b>9:20 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Movie Songs</li> </ul> <p><b>9:30 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lisu New Year Festival</li> </ul> <p><b>9:40 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Music Programme</li> </ul> <p><b>10:10 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Myanmar Video</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

From 10-5-2016 (Tuesday) 6:00 Pm To 11-5-2016 (Wednesday) 6:00 Pm

# Japan's oldest Harbor Seal dies at over 100 in human terms

**SAPPORO** (Japan) — Japan's oldest Harbor Seal has died at an aquarium in Hokkaido at an estimated age of 46, equivalent to over 100 in human terms, the aquarium operator said on Monday.

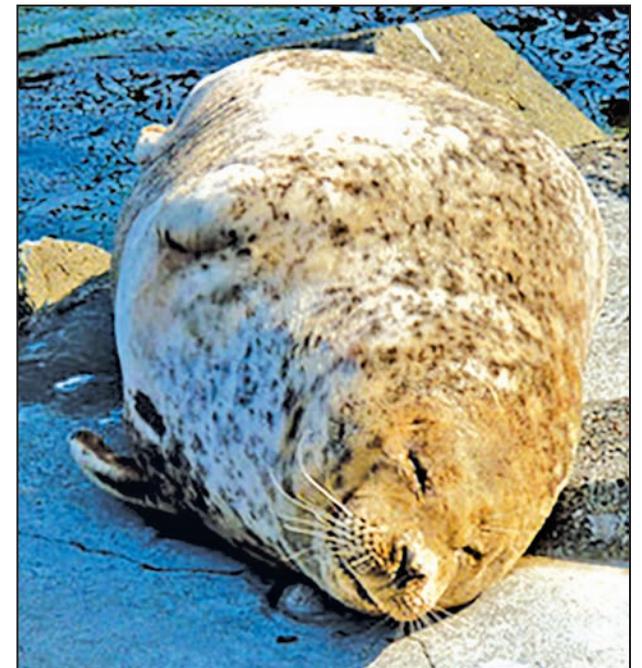
The female seal, named Tora, was found dead on Wednesday inside a pool at the Otaru Aquarium in the city of Otaru, the operator said. A Harbor Seal's life span is usually about 25 to 30 years.

"She had been at the aquarium longer than any of our staff and taught us about seals since the time when we did not know much about the animal," said Nobuya Ise, the director of the aquarium.

Tora, the oldest Harbor Seal registered at the Japanese Association of Zoos and Aquariums, was

taken into shelter in 1970 and was judged to be under one-year-old at the time. She had since been raised at what later became the aquarium.

While Tora had suffered poor eyesight in recent years, she was seen eating octopus voraciously in September. It was only from late April that she lost her appetite and began spending much of the day sleeping, according to the aquarium. Tora was once washed away from a seaside pool in the 1970s by high waves but returned on her own, and was then given her name after Torajiro Kuruma, the main character in the popular Japanese film series "Otoko wa Tsuraiyo" (It's Tough Being a Man), who causes a stir upon returning to his hometown.—*Kyodo News*



Undated photo shows Tora, a female Harbor Seal at the Otaru Aquarium in Otaru, Hokkaido, in northern Japan. Tora, estimated to be 46 years old, the equivalent of more than 100 years in human age, was found dead at the aquarium on 4 May. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

## mitv Myanmar International

(10-5-2016 07:00am ~ 11-5-2016 7:00am) MST

### Today Fresh

- |       |    |   |
|-------|----|---|
| 07:03 | Am | News  |
| 07:25 | Am | Insight Myanmar: Manuscription (Epi-3) Preservation of Ancient Manuscript |
| 07:45 | Am | Amazing: Magician Sak Kaw Ma  |
| 08:03 | Am | News  |
| 08:26 | Am | Director: Maung Myo Min (Yin Twin Pyit)                                   |
| 08:35 | Am | Those Who Never Give Up (Ep-1) Aung Thamar Di Gold Shop                   |
| 09:03 | Am | News  |
| 09:26 | Am | Bagan Choral Dance  |
| 09:31 | Am | Choral Dance (Duel)   |
| 09:38 | Am | Oboist and His Life   |
| 10:03 | Am | News  |

- |       |    |   |
|-------|----|---|
| 10:26 | Am | Crab Business (Part-I) Mud Crab                       |
| 10:41 | Am | Cultural Show: Theatrical Make Up                     |
| 10:48 | Am | Today Myanmar: Online Shopping- Food Delivery Service |

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

### Prime Time

- |       |    |  |
|-------|----|--|
| 07:03 | Pm | News   |
| 07:26 | Pm | A Day Out With Sarah (EP-5)                                  |
| 07:52 | Pm | Kindhearted Pet Lovers                                       |
| 08:03 | Pm | News   |
| 08:26 | Pm | Discovering Tribes "Lisu: Their Life and Customs (Part- II)" |
| 08:48 | Pm | Serene and Happy Rural Life in Myanmar                       |

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

(For Detailed Schedule - [www.myanmaritv.com/schedule](http://www.myanmaritv.com/schedule))

## Masters record as Djokovic sinks Murray in final

MADRID — World number one Novak Djokovic beat defending champion Andy Murray 6-2, 3-6, 6-3 in the Madrid Open final on Sunday to capture a record 29<sup>th</sup> Masters crown.

The Serb collected his fifth title of 2016 after winning the Qatar Open, Indian Wells, Miami Open and Australian Open, in which he also defeated Murray in the final.

The Scot, who also lost second place in the world rankings to Roger Federer, knocked out crowd favourite Rafael Nadal in the semi-finals but Djokovic proved a more formidable opponent, breaking him three times in the opening set. Murray hit back in the second but had no answer in the third as Djokovic repeated his 2011 Madrid Open triumph.

“I started very well and played terrific tennis in the first set,” said Djokovic.

“There were a couple

of close games in the second set ... and I made some unforced errors and double faults in the game when I dropped my serve. So I fought...very hard.”

Djokovic also collected his 64<sup>th</sup> career title, equalling tennis greats Pete Sampras and Bjorn Borg.

“It’s obviously very flattering to be alongside such legends of the sport, players that I looked up to, especially Pete Sampras,” he said.

“When I was growing up he was ruling the tennis world. To win as many titles as he did in his career, it’s quite amazing.”

Murray said his opponent played the better tennis.

“Novak has had a lot of wins against me in the last couple of years unfortunately but he has done some great things and also deserved this win,” the Scot added. “At the end he came up with some big serves and got himself some free points and did well. That’s why he’s number one just now.”

—Reuters



PHOTO: REUTERS

## Barca thrash Espanyol as Atletico exit title race

BARCELONA — Barcelona closed in on the La Liga title by thrashing local rivals Espanyol 5-0 on Sunday as Atletico Madrid dropped out of the race after losing 2-1 at Levante and Real Madrid beat Valencia 3-2.

Barca top the standings on 88 points, Real moved into second on 87 and Atletico have 85 with one game remaining.

Barca went ahead in the eighth minute when Lionel Messi curled a 22-metre free kick into the top corner with a magnificent finish.

Luis Suarez stretched the hosts’ lead with two goals in the second half before Rafinha and Neymar completed the rout.

Atletico took the lead at Levante in the first minute through Fernando Torres, but the relegated home side fought back, equalising through Victor Casadesus before Giuseppe Rossi grabbed the winner in stoppage time.

Real were without goalkeeper Keylor Navas, defender Dani Carvajal, midfielder Luka Modric and winger Gareth Bale through injury, but went ahead thanks to a thunderous low finish from Cristiano Ronaldo in the 26<sup>th</sup> minute.

Karim Benzema scored the second before the break but Rodrigo Moreno, who was later sent off, pulled one back for Valencia after halftime.

Ronaldo added his second a few minutes later before Andre Gomes scored a sumptuous consolation goal for Valencia.

Barca knew any slip-up could prove fatal to their title hopes, but Messi’s brilliant curled free kick got them off to an ideal start, although they were aggrieved when Ivan Rakitic had a goal harshly ruled out for offside and Messi had a strong penalty appeal turned down.

Messi laid on the pass for Suarez to smash in the second in the 52<sup>nd</sup> minute and the Uruguayan headed in a third to move on to 37 goals for the league season, one more than the entire Espanyol team. Brazilian midfielder Rafinha pounced on an embarrassing error by goalkeeper Pau Lopez to score his first goal since returning from a serious knee injury.

Neymar added the fifth by tapping in Suarez’s low cross following a scooped pass from Dani Alves. Barca will clinch the title next week if they win at Granada, who ensured their survival in the top flight on Sunday by thrashing Europa League and King’s Cup finalists Sevilla 4-1 away from home.

“It was a very complete performance and the result and how we got it strengthens us,” Barca coach Luis Enrique said.

—Reuters

## Manchester City checked by Arsenal, Spurs sunk by Southampton

LONDON — Manchester City drew 2-2 with Arsenal to leave their Champions League qualification in serious doubt and Tottenham Hotspur failed to nail down second place in the Premier League after losing 2-1 at home to Southampton on Sunday.

Arsenal twice came from behind to deny City and need a point from their final game to secure a Champions League place of their own next season.

City ended the day two points ahead of Manchester United after manager Manuel Pellegrini’s final match in charge at the Etihad but their neighbours have a game in hand and will deny them a Champions League place if they win their final two matches.

“We should have won that game and I think we deserved it. We played very well,” Pellegrini said.

“Our first 25 minutes were some of the best here this season. But Arsenal’s goals were

good,” the Chilean added.

“The effort, speed and character was good, and we were playing against a very good team.”

City started brightly.

Sergio Aguero rifled a shot into the net from outside the box but Olivier Giroud quickly equalised with a powerful header, his first goal for 16 games.

Kevin de Bruyne ran half the length of the pitch, holding off four defenders, to grab City’s second before Alexis Sanchez grabbed Arsenal’s equaliser.

Spurs need a point from their final game at Newcastle United to finish above Arsenal for the first time since 1995 and secure their best finish in the top flight since 1963.

Tottenham’s traditional frailty was on show at White Hart Lane, however, as they again failed to secure victory from a winning position after Son Heung-min put them ahead after 15 minutes.

Two goals from Steven Da-



Alexis Sanchez celebrates scoring the second goal for Arsenal as Manchester City’s Joe Hart looks on dejected during Barclays Premier League at Etihad Stadium on 8 May. PHOTO: REUTERS

vis sealed a Southampton comeback that kept them in the hunt for a Europa League place.

At Anfield, a much-changed Liverpool side containing just

three of the side who started against Villarreal in the Europa League on Thursday, easily saw off Watford 2-0 with goals from Joe Allen and Roberto Firmino.

Leicester City collected the Premier League trophy on Saturday after beating Everton 3-1 and are 10 points clear at the top of the table.—Reuters