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PAVING THE WAY

Preparatory sub-c'tee 1 for Union Peace Conference continues meeting

Myo Myint, Honey Win

THE second work coordination meeting of the preparatory sub-committee 1 continued in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday with those present discussing rounds of political dialogue set to be held at the peace conference and matters related to citizens and the CSO forum, topics for discussion and guidelines.

The meeting was attended by Dr Tin Myo Win, chairman of the preparatory committee for the Union Peace Conference--the 21st Century Panglong Conference, Lt-Gen Yar Pyae, chairman of the subcommittee 1 and vice-chairman P'doh Saw Kwe Htoo Win as well as members.

The meeting was aimed at reviewing the political dialogue framework, focusing on agenda items to be discussed at the conference and stakeholder involvement in it, said Dr Salai Lian Hmung Sakhong, secretary 1 of the subcommittee 1.

Ten topics under five agenda themes which are to be discussed in political talks at different levels were chosen at the meeting, added the secretary (1).



Participants discuss at the meeting of the preparatory committee 1 for the Union Peace Conference—the 21st Century Panglong Conference. Photo: Htein Nan Naw

The outcomes of separate topics of discussion held by the working committees will be submitted to the UPDJC meeting through the UPDJC secretariat in order to turn the points into agreements at the Union Peace Conference, he added.

U Khun Myint Tun, member of subcommittee 1, said that the meeting made important decisions paving the way towards the planned Peace Conference.

The meeting decided to allow the NCA non-signatories to join the Conference where they will

have access to political dialogue, he added. According to U Khun Myint Tun, the NCA non-signatory groups are set to hold talks with the State Counsellor on 17 July.

U Khun Maung Thaug, another member of subcommittee 1, expressed his view that the con-

ference is being seen as a work in progress towards a lasting peace in Myanmar.

He called for the participation of all in the conference and for all to do their bit to find a settlement between the factions after more than six decades of conflict.

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Myanmar gov't assures it is working to ensure safe return of refugees

THE Ministry of Border Affairs and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees jointly hosted a consultation workshop on a strategic operation plan for the voluntary repatriation of Myanmar refugees in Thailand in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

In his address, Union Minister Lt-Gen Ye Aung said that the government will make the necessary arrangements to ensure the return

home of Myanmar refugees on the Myanmar-Thailand border with safety and with dignity.

According to sources, some of 105,000 Myanmar refugees, living in a total of nine camps along the Myanmar-Thailand border, are planning to return home.

The ministry is planning to ink another MoU with the UNHCR in regard to the ongoing projects to provide returning Myanmar cit-

izens with education, health services, clean water, infrastructure and vocational training, added the Union minister. According to the ministry, it has been implementing such projects since 2013 in Kayin, Mon, Kayah, Shan and Chin States and Taninthayi and Bago Regions with the use of US\$ 9.05million in cooperation with the UNHCR.

The Union minister called for a repatriation plan to be developed

at the workshop in order to ensure the return of Myanmar refugees in safety, stressing the need for collaborative efforts between the ministry, ethnic groups, CSOs, ethnic communities and the UNHCR.

During the workshop those present held roundtable discussions on the challenge of repatriating refugees and developing strategic operational plans.—*Myanmar News Agency*



သဒ္ဓါထက်သန် မြန်မာအားမာန် ကမ္ဘောဇဘဏ်



Ancient Buddha statues found in Sagaing.
PHOTO: LU AUNG (KATHA)

Ancient Buddha statues found in Sagaing

ANCIENT Buddha images were found in a village located in Indaw Township in Sagaing Region, locals say.

The ten Buddha images were discovered within the compound

of monastery in Ywahalung Village while doing sanitation around the archway of an ancient pagoda by villagers on 25 June.

“This is one of ancient pagodas situated in the region. We

don't know exactly when the pagoda began. We collected those statues after removing broken brick pieces from inner part of the pagoda's archway,” said U Thuzata, the abbot of the monastery.

Plans are underway to make a study on the newly discovered Buddha icons. Currently, these statues have been placed at the village monastery for public observation.—*Lu Aung (Katha)*

Water levels of Chindwin River forecast to remain above danger level in Hkamti, Homalin

THE Department of Meteorology and Hydrology announced yesterday that the water levels of the Chindwin River have exceeded by about two feet in Hkamti and about one foot and six inches in Homalin their respective danger levels.

The department added that the water levels may rise one foot and six inches in Hkamti over the next day and about one foot in Homalin over the next two days.

The department advised people who settle near the river bank and low-lying areas along the Chindwin River to take precautionary measures or alternatively seek higher ground.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Rakhine ethnics remain Rakhine ethnics: local government announces

THE expression “the Buddhist community in Rakhine State” will not be used considering the ongoing developments in the region, the Rakhine State Government said in an announcement on Monday, stressing that it would sustain the use of “the

Rakhine people” by common consent.

“The Rakhine ethnics will always be addressed as the Rakhine ethnics,” Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu said, commenting on the announcement.—*Myanmar News Agency*



Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu. PHOTO: MNA

Myanmar commits K1b to alternative education programme

THE Ministry of Education is planning to kick off its K1 billion alternative education programme for those who have dropped out of school for various reasons and for children who are out-of-school but under the age of 16, according to the Alternative Education Forum in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

In his address, Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi stressed the need for expanding education access for out-of-school and illiterate children to build a better future for them.

Myanmar is planning to create an alternative education programme allowing everyone to have access to education throughout life, said Director-General Dr Khaing Mye of the ministry.

Only NGOs, INGOs and CSOs worked for the non-formal education programme before it was recently awarded funding for broader implementation by the government.

According to the press conference, a budget of K1b is set to be spent on the programme and the government has signaled their commitment to providing more funding if it is deemed necessary.

This project is aimed at providing alternative education opportunities for vagrant children, children with special needs, ethnic minority children and children in conflict zones, said the director-general.

The ministry will step up its efforts to enable children in

border areas and the offspring of Myanmar migrant workers to pursue education in cooperation with CSOs.

According to the ministry, it has proposed the formation of the Department of Alternative Education to the Union government.

Statistics showed that there are 2.7m children who have left school for various reasons and 3.5m illiterate juveniles across Myanmar. Director-General Dr Khaing Mye said that the new department, comprising 25 external experts and staff from the Myanmar Educational Research Bureau, is expected to be formed soon, adding that priority will be given to the project.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Myanmar earns €533.49m of jade, gems and pearl sales at latest expo

The 53rd Myanmar Gems Emporium in Nay Pyi Taw fetched €533.49m in total sales from jade, gem and pearl lots, at its expo that began 24 June and ended yesterday, according to a press conference of the emporium.

The latest emporium earned the total from 312 lots of pearl, €3.12m euros, 63 lots of gems for €3.29m and 3,947 lots of jade for €527.08m over the 13-day expo where 365 pearl lots, 512 gems lots and 6,062 jade lots were displayed.

The event attracted 2,108 foreign merchants from 709 companies and 809 local traders. A total of 1,866 from 813 companies in China, 151 sales from 82 companies from Hong Kong were among foreign buyers from Australia, India, Japan, Singapore, Thailand, Austria and Indonesia.

A total of 2,300 foreign merchants visited the emporium last year. Deputy Director U Than Zaw Oo said that buyers have to make

full payments within 90 days to collect purchases.

The Myanmar Gems Emporium Central Committee seized €17.54m, five percent of the deposit of traders for 1,468 jade lots at the 52nd emporium as buyers failed to complete the payments.

The central committee received 10 per cent of the seized money as fines while one per cent went to the fund of the central committee and the remaining 89 percent to owners of jade lots.

Traders who failed to complete the deals forfeited five percent of the deposit and the non-paying bidders were banned to visit the emporium for three years. Myanmar earned more than €589m in sales at the previous expo as buyers made payments for 4,375 of 5,843 jade lots. The emporium organizer expressed its hope that 73 percent of buyers at the 53rd emporium complete their purchases.—*Myanmar News Agency*



PHOTO: MNA

VP U Henry Van Thio meets with Japanese delegation



Vice-President U Henry Van Thio receives Japanese delegation led by Ambassador Mr. Tateshi Higuchi and Mr. Hiroaki Nakanishi, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Hitachi. PHOTO: MNA

VICE President U Henry Van Thio received a delegation led by Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Tateshi Higuchi and Mr. Hiroaki Nakanishi, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Hitachi, at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting the trio held talks on Japanese cooperation and investments in the Dawei Special Economic Zone, means to encourage Japanese business investment in Myanmar in general, technological support from Japan in the country's ICT sector and

human resources development. Bilateral relations and cross-cooperation were also inevitably discussed. Also present were Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Kyaw Myo and other officials. — *Myanmar News Agency*

Info-Zone Farming Network pushes for contract farming

AN Info-Zone Farming Network will introduce contract farming, contractual agreements with foreign countries for the export of crops into Myanmar in a bid to develop the farming sector. Contract farming is a system where companies provide farmers technology and seeds to grow crops and once they are harvested, the company sells the crops.

In a bid to implement a contract farming system in Myanmar, the Info-Zone Farming Network will distribute themselves to begin a market.

"The focus is on developing Myanmar's agricultural sector irrespective of government support or not. We're trying to push the development of farmers between themselves with the contract farming system," said Ko

Kyaw Htin Gyi from Info-Zone Farming Network.

Info-Zone Farming Network signed a contract with both Thailand and India in May this year for the cultivation of chemical-free chillies during 2016, while a contractual agreement has also been made with a Japanese Taro Processing Facility for the cultivation of chemical-free Japanese Taro.

"For the time being, the contract for Japanese Taro has been signed for Naypyidaw and Shan State. Contracts don't exist for the flow of normal domestic trade," said Ko Myo Zaw from Info-Zone Farming Network.

"Contract farming allows for, not only a higher profit margin, but to know the requirements of other countries. One

can learn the technical side of things whilst adhering to the needs of the customer."

Development between farmers through a contract farming system can allow farmers to understand the requirements of not just their own domestic market, but international markets too. It also gives farmers the opportunity to learn a diverse range of new technologies and foreign cultivation methods.

Info-Zone Farming Network is an organisation formed online through the connection of crop growers, those involved in the fertilizer industry; market and technical experts, together with investors. It's an organisation that creates low-cost agricultural equipment for farmers. — *Myitmakha News Agency*

Naw Dar Khu selected as honour-worthy woman of June by State Counsellor

Naw Dar Khu, who lacks arms, was chosen as the honour-worthy citizen for the month of June by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who is presenting letters of appreciation to outstanding and/or exemplary citizens regularly each month, it has been learned.

Naw Dar Khu, daughter of a Tatmadaw member, was born with the affliction of having no arms. She is the youngest of five siblings.

Her father is Saw Tha Dar and mother is Naw Phaw Ko. Despite lacking hands the honoured citizen of June exerted her utmost to learn to write with her legs. She passed the promotion examinations yearly up to Grade 9 but had to make a second attempt to finish Grade 10 due to poor health.

Despite the challenges of



disability, poverty, poor health and an inability to attend private tuition classes, Naw Dar Khu sat for, and passed, the matriculation examination which this year saw a fail rate of 70 per cent. It was for her exemplary efforts in achieving her personal goals that Naw Dar Khu was chosen by the State Counsellor for the honour. — *GNLM*

Hluttaw Commission reveals Myanmar's hydropower potential

A Union Hluttaw Commission for the Assessment of Legal Affairs and Special Issues has revealed that Myanmar has the capacity to produce over 100,000MW of hydroelectricity, but doesn't have the technological or financial capacity to do so and can only produce 5,000MW.

The Asia Development Bank and Japan will support in boosting Myanmar's electrical production capacity to 30,000MW by 2030, with France also to provide technical support in sourcing electricity from natural river currents, according to the Ministry of Electrical Power. "Electricity is a basic human need, but Myanmar can

only produce 5,000MW. But, as a country with hydroelectricity, we have the capacity to produce as much as 100,000MW. It's technological, infrastructural and financial difficulties that don't allow yet to produce that volume," said U Kyi Thar, a retired director of the Ministry of Electric Power and member of the aforementioned commission.

The Yangon regional government has also reported the region will require an additional 400MW of electricity to provide for affordable housing and high-rise building projects which are currently being constructed. — *Myitmakha News Agency*

BRAZILIAN 'CHURRASCOS' AT SEDONA HOTEL YANGON



This July, D'Cuisine (All Day Dining Restaurant) introduces this signature Brazilian specialty to you served personally to your table!

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**Inclusive of free flow of wine, beer & soft drink



“Total ICT Solutions For SMEs” show takes place in Mandalay



Photo shows the “Total ICT Solutions For SMEs” Show taking place in Mandalay. Photo: Thiha Ko Ko

THE Mandalay Region Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the Mandalay Region Computer entrepreneurs Association and the Mandalay Region Computer Professionals Association organised a “Total ICT

Solutions For SMEs” show which was held at Mandalay ICT Park in Chanayethazan Township.

The event was aimed at aiding the transformation from traditional work procedure to a more systematic modern work

procedure in small and medium businesses across Myanmar with the use of ICT.

ICT Techniques including software for stock keeping, methods of management, bookkeeping and security systems.—*Thiha Ko Ko*

Ministry accelerates protection of wild animals from smugglers

WILDLIFE conservation programmes are being carried out by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation in cooperation with partner organisations.

With the assistance of the Wildlife Conservation Society, an international body to protect wildlife and wild places worldwide, the Forest Department plans to conduct several protection activities including elimination of the illegal trading of wildlife products along border area.

The department will perform a survey to collect species of native mammals, providing security training for its members, establishing centers to conserve turtles, research programmes on varieties of plants, capacity building training for management of national parks and exchanging technology relating to maintain zoological gardens with ASEAN member countries.

U Kyaw Naing Hsan, direc-

tor of environmental conservation department, said, “Although we accelerate prevention activities to reduce illegal smuggling of wildlife products, the country sees the occurrence of similar cases. It is difficult to control illegal wildlife trafficking because of the existence of the big black market. It needs to help replace livelihood of smugglers with suitable ones.”

Myanmar signed the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, an international agreement among governments in 1997. The country entered the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (SEAN-WEN) in 2005.

According to an international study, over 1,000 rhinoceros, around 35,000 African elephants and about 3,000 bears have been killed each year by hunters. Some African countries face extinction of chimpanzees.—*Zar Zar*

Crime NEWS

Passenger motor vessel burns and sinks in Kaladan River

A PASSENGER motor vessel carrying 15 passengers on board sank after a fire broke out while the vessel was on the Kaladan River near Sittwe town on Tuesday. According to an investigation, the vessel was weather bound for five days. The vessel is reported to belong to one U Tun Zan and sank when electric short-circuiting caused a major fire while the boat was crossing the river mouth. Nobody was killed in the accident though some passengers sustained minor injuries. Currently, the passengers are being housed in Sittwe.—*Kogyi Saw*



Vessels seen in Kaladan River. PHOTO: KOGYI SAW

Man charged with murder in Dala township

POLICE filed charges against a man on suspicion of killing his wife Aye Thandar in front of the courthouse in Dala township, Yangon region, on Tuesday.

“The couple came to the court in order to get a divorce. He stabbed his wife to death while she was sitting at a tea shop nearby.

The police quickly arrested him. He is said to have killed his first wife.

This victim is his third wife,” said a witness (the witnesses’ statement regarding the suspect’s number of previous wives, or their fate, is so far unsubstantiated). Aye Thanda, 42, died at the scene and her body was sent to the township general hospital.

Police have filed a murder charge against Tin Maung Win alias Tun Shwe, 46.—*Than Htay (Dala)*



Tin Maung Win (a) Tun Shwe. PHOTO: THAN HTAY (DALA)

Teenager charged with violation of communications law

A teenager has admitted to sending a text message, intended for a friend that ended up being sent to a stranger that alluded to be plotting an attack on Myanmar Plaza. The teenager claims the message was sent in jest, according to police.

The message reads, “Eighty AK47 rifles and 20 C4 grenades ready.”

The parking lot at Junction Square and four buildings at Myanmar Plaza on 10 July.

Cash award when mission accomplished.”

The 17-year-old, who will not be named due to his age, had a lawsuit filed in Botahtaung township police station against him, and has since been found guilty of “inducing public panic through a text message.”

The report did not state what section of the communications law has been filed against him or if he has yet faced court over the incident.—*Ko Moe*

Police arrested murderer in Thakayta

A MAN has been charged with murder for allegedly killing a woman in Yanpay ward, Thakayta township on Monday.

According to an investigation the victim was discovered dead by her son inside her home. Police reportedly suspected a man who was working next door as a mason.

When interrogated, the mason, identified as one Aye Chan Aung, 19, admitted that he had killed the victim after taking a gold ring and a mobile phone. The offender said that he and the victim got into an argument when she refused to lend him a broom. He then killed her with a kitchen knife. The police have filed charges against Aye Chan Aung,



Aye Chan Aung. PHOTO: MNA

19, from Dagon Myothint township.—*MNA*

LOCAL Business

Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems tenders 180 buoys from foreign countries

THE Directorate of Water Resources and the Improvement of River Systems plans to invite tenders for 188 light buoys as a part of the Ayeyawady River Navigation Enhancement plan.

“Pre-existing made buoys are not clearly visible at night with ships facing difficulties navigating,” said U Aung Myo

Khaing, Director of DWRIR.

The criteria for the buoys include telemetric systems with solar battery-power system. Out of National Water Resources Committee’s US\$100m loan from the World Bank, US\$32m would be spent on the Ayeyawady River Navigation Enhancements.—*Aung Thant Khaing*

Action against fake cement manufacturers to be taken

POLICE have been monitoring fake cement manufacturers for a week now, with most cases occurring in larger cities. The fake cement is a small blend of cement, and rock powder and then packaged into Crown and AAA cement brands and sold.

Police have said that they have already taken action against some of the fake manufacturers and that they will

continue this as a long-term project due to the impact it may have on the community.

“It has been a long time that we have received an information tip-off concerning manufacturing of the fake cements,” said a Mandalay Region Police Officer. Severe actions will be taken against those fraudulent cement manufacturers under the existing laws.—200

Mini bus not in accord with specifications to be levied as Express

TRANSPORTATION businesses are found to be importing mini-busses that are not regarded as “mini-busses” under the licenses that exist; they are purchasing incorrect vehicles to evade heavy tax, according to an official from the customs department.

Beginning this month taxes will be imposed on “express” minibuses as well, even if they

have the luggage shelves above seats. Companies are importing the wrong vehicles to avoid the tax gap, according to the official.

“Some importers are willing to evade heavy taxes on the importation of mini-busses. They attempt to cheat on the customs department applying for permit for Mini bus instead of the one for Express,” said the official.—200

New investment law to come

A new investment law is to be enacted to improve Myanmar’s economic sector with a bill to be submitted to the parliament this month, according to U Aung Naing Oo, the director-general of DICA.

The initial foreign investment law was enacted in 2012 while the Myanmar citizen investment law was formulated in 2013. However, these two laws are controversial, and therefore, these two laws are combined to make a new law.

To be able to enact the new investment law, DICA has received the assistance from International Finance Corporation (IFC). These new laws

will enable more investments in Myanmar, suggested economic experts. Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) has already been reformed under the new government. Over US\$6bn expected to enter Myanmar in this fiscal year, according to MIC.

Foreign Direct Investments during the last fiscal year earned over US\$9.4bn, US\$1bn higher than the 2014-2015 FY. More FDIs are expected to enter industry, electricity, petroleum and natural gas, hotel and tourism, mining, agriculture, livestock and fishery, transportation and communication, housing construction and service industry.—*Zar Zar*

KATRI to assist development of Myanmar textile export sector



QC staff checking quality of the factory’s product at a garment factory. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

NO 3 Heavy Industry under the Ministry of Industry will work with Korea Apparel Testing Research Institute (KATRI) to improve Myanmar’s textile sector to enter the international market, according to Dr. Eun Ho Shin, the in-charge of KATRI.

The cooperation aims at promoting the textile industry under three-year-project to effectuate the development of the industry.

Myanmar garment industry is seeing certain garment factories change from Cutting-Making

and Packing (CMP) system to, FOB under which garments are manufactured by the local garment factories themselves and exported.

There are a total of 11 projects to develop within Myanmar’s garment industry in two years, with projects beginning last year. Currently, entrepreneurs working under FOB system are making effort to seek a 5 per cent tax exemption, in order to improve their competition in the market.

“South Korea is reported to

have the highest investment in the Myanmar garment sector,” said U Myint Soe from Myanmar Garment Entrepreneurs’ Association.

Myanmar garment factories are seen to lack a skilled labor force and face difficulties transforming from a CMP into FOB.

Myanmar garment industry is mainly dependent on assistance from Japanese and South Korean markets. Foreign direct investment in the Myanmar garment industry is from 20 countries including China (Taipei), Malaysia, Turkey and Germany.—200

Fisheries department receives assistance from International Development Organisations

THE Fisheries Department is reported to have been conducting eight projects with assistance from international development organisations to develop the countries fishery sector.

The project aims to develop small fishery enterprises and aquatic breeding businesses from September 2015 to September 2016 with an allocated fund of €680,000 funded by the Italian government.

Under the Denmark-Myanmar Country Programme, a five-year project will be started in this fiscal year of 2016-2017

to enhance the social standard of fishery workers from Tanintharyi Region and Rakhine State.

The organisations are the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), World Fish, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) and Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA). Denmark and Italy governments are also providing monetary assistance to the fishery sector.

WCS is participating in the conservation of Ayeyawaddy

dolphins whereas World Fish is developing fisheries in the Ayeyawaddy delta and tropical areas. JICA is focusing aquatic breeding on a manageable scale to promote the living standard in the villages and SEAFDEC in biological monitoring in fisheries products.

KOICA is assisting in developing freshwater enterprises and conservation of freshwater and saltwater animal and plants. Italy is helping the small fishery enterprises to develop while World Fish is conducting fishery research capacities.—200

Constitution reform likely in sight after upper house race: Kyodo poll

TOKYO — Amending Japan's Constitution is within reach, as many lawmakers in favour of such reform are likely to win in the 10 July House of Councillors election that would pave the way to secure the required two-thirds majority in the upper house, a Kyodo News survey indicated Tuesday.

Based on the nationwide, three-day telephone survey conducted from Sunday, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Liberal Democratic Party and coalition partner Komeito are likely to win at least 74 of the 121 seats up for grabs in the election, surpassing Abe's stated target of 61, a majority of the contested seats.

With the addition of Initiatives of Osaka and independents thought likely to support constitutional revision, being pushed by Abe, chances are strong that the combined number of contested and noncontested seats of the pro-constitutional amendment camp in the upper house would now account for at least two-thirds after the election.

On its own, the LDP could win at least 60 seats. By combining at least 57 of the contested seats with the noncontested seats it already holds, the LDP is gearing up to achieve a simple majority in the upper house for the first time in 27 years, according to the survey.

But the election outcome is far from certain as more than 40 per cent of respondents said they are undecided on either their constituency or proportional representation votes.

To begin the process of constitutional revision, at least 162 of the upper house's 242 lawmakers must approve before putting the issue to a national referendum.

The survey said Komeito is likely to gain ground by securing 14 seats, while the Initiatives from Osaka is likely to win six seats.

The four pro-constitutional change parties — LDP, Komeito, Initiatives from Osaka, and the Party for the Japanese Kokoro — together hold 84 noncontested seats. If the four parties win 78 of



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (C) runs in the city of Matsuyama on 11 June 2016, during his campaign for the 10 July House of Councillors election. A Kyodo News survey has indicated that amending Japan's Constitution is within reach, as many lawmakers in favour of such reform are likely to win in the election, which would pave the way to securing the required two-thirds majority in the upper house. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

the contested seats, they will reach the two-thirds majority.

About 43,000 eligible voters responded to the poll. Two ballots will be cast each for constituencies that will account for 73 of the 121 contested seats, and for 48 seats through the proportional

representation system.

As for those against amending the Constitution, the main opposition Democratic Party appears weak and is likely to win between 25 and 30 seats, below its 43 contested seats. The Social Democratic Party is likely to win just one of the contested

seats, down from the two it currently has.

The People's Life Party and Party for the Japanese Kokoro continue to face an uphill battle.

The Japanese Communist Party, meanwhile, is likely to gain ground by securing 9 seats, up from three of the contested seats it already holds.

The opposition camp is not faring well in the 32 single-seat constituencies, pitting an LDP candidate with a rival backed by four opposition parties, namely the Democratic Party, JCP, SDP and People's Life Party.

The LDP has the lead in around 20 of the constituencies as well as in constituencies where three to six seats are up for grabs.

In the proportional representation system, the LDP could secure at least 20 seats and the Democratic Party at least 10 seats.

For the constitutional amendment, a two-thirds majority is also needed for the 475-seat House of Representatives, and the LDP and Komeito already hold such a majority there.—*Kyodo News*

Viet Nam to host ASEAN tourism forum in 2019

HANOI — Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc has approved a proposal for Viet Nam to host the ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) in 2019.

The PM ordered the Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism to start working on a detailed plan in preparation of the ATF, which is considered one of the most important events to promote tourism cooperation among the bloc's member states, Viet Nam's state-run news agency VNA reported on Wednesday. Highlights of the ATF will include meetings among the ASEAN tourism ministers, followed by meetings between the ministers and tourism representatives from China, Japan, India, Russia and the Republic of Korea. The event will also feature ATF Travex (Travel Exchange), the longest-running annual ASEAN leisure travel trade event showcasing the largest collection of ASEAN tourism sellers.—*Xinhua*

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Bad weather holds up Indian Ocean search for missing Malaysia MH370 aircraft

SYDNEY — Adverse weather has caused a delay of up to eight weeks in the Indian Ocean search for missing Malaysia Airlines flight MH370, search officials said on Wednesday, pushing the hunt well beyond an expected conclusion date of mid-2016.

The jet carrying 239 passengers and crew disappeared enroute from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing on 8 March 2014, in one of aviation's great mysteries. A wing part, known as a

flaperon, washed up on the French island of Reunion in July 2015.

Crash investigators have otherwise confirmed no other trace of the plane. An undersea search of the southern Indian Ocean, history's costliest such effort, has turned up nothing.

"Poor weather conditions have severely impacted search operations," the Joint Agency Coordination Centre in charge of the search said in a statement.

"Progress has slowed, with only a minimal area searched" since the start of the southern hemisphere winter, it added. The search has covered 110,000 sq km (42,000 sq miles) of ocean floor, leaving just 10,000 sq km (3,800 sq miles) unchecked, said the agency, which represents the Australian, Malaysian and Chinese authorities spearheading the effort.

The poor weather will permit some use of deep tow equipment, but an au-

tonomous underwater vehicle that surveys the most difficult stretches can only be launched in the calmer conditions of spring and summer, the agency added.

If the weather remains hostile or equipment fails, the search "may continue well beyond the winter months," it said.

The agency had originally expected to wrap up its search of about 120,000 sq km (46,000 sq miles) of ocean floor in mid-2016.—*Reuters*

Australian state of Tasmania to proceed with plans for 'smoke-free generation'

MELBOURNE — The Australian state of Tasmania will proceed with ground-breaking legislation to establish a tobacco-free generation, after receiving approval from the parliamentary committee who were investigating the new law. The Tasmanian legislative body, which was formed to inquire into the Public Health Amendment (Tobacco Free Generation) Bill 2014, released its final

report on Wednesday and found there were no legal reasons why Tasmania couldn't forge ahead with its pioneering legislation.

The Bill would result in a law banning tobacco sales to people born after January 1, 2000. This means the generation of Tasmanians aged 16 and under will not have legal access to tobacco products. And despite the report highlighting risks such as potential legal ac-

tion by tobacco manufacturers, age discrimination and accidental breaches by tourists, the committee gave Tasmania a green light for its proposal to establish Australia's, and the world's, first smoke-free generation. "Although there are a range of issues that have been identified by the committee in relation to the bill ... there does not appear to be any significant legal impediment to the operation of the bill,"

committee chairman Craig Farrell wrote in the report on Wednesday. Professor E Haydn Walters and PhD student, Kathryn Barnsley, from the University of Tasmania, published an article in 2015 on the tobacco-free generation in the Medical Journal of Australia, where they believed The Tasmanian Public Health Amendment Bill would be vital to improving the health in Tasmania.—*Xinhua*

Australian PM Turnbull in reach of hollow election victory

SYDNEY — Embattled Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull on Wednesday pulled within striking distance of the votes needed to form a narrow majority government in a cliffhanger election that has left the country in limbo and his leadership in doubt.

“The government is still on track to form a majority government,” Treasurer Scott Morrison told Australian Broadcasting Corp (ABC) radio.

Electoral officials are counting 1.5 million postal and absentee votes that will be crucial to the result of Saturday’s poll, which saw a swing against Turnbull’s conservative coalition government and the rise of populist independents.

A final reckoning may not be known for days, possibly weeks, leaving Australia in a political vacuum.

The latest projections by the ABC shifted two seats into the government’s column, giving Turnbull’s Liberal-National coalition 71 out of 150 lower house

seats, and the centre-left Labor opposition 67. Seven seats are too close to call.

Both major parties are short of the 76 seats needed to form a majority government in the House of Representatives, and negotiations are underway with independents who will hold at least four seats.

“It’s still either a very, very narrow coalition majority or hung parliament,” ABC polling expert Antony Green told ABC’s Radio National.

Turnbull’s gamble in calling an early election failed to deliver a clear mandate for his agenda of corporate tax cuts and his disastrous polling has led to attacks from inside and outside his coalition after his attempt to end a querulous upper house Senate failed.

Despite the internal criticism, Turnbull’s position as Liberal leader does not appear in danger in the short term.

The surge in support for independents, combined with rules that make it easi-



Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull is followed by a television cameraman as he walks to his car outside his home in Sydney, Australia, on 5 July, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

er for smaller parties to win Senate seats in a so-called double dissolution of parliament, will likely make it impossible for Turnbull to push through policies including a A\$50 billion (\$37.19 billion) corporate tax break over 10 years.

Even if the coalition wins a narrow majority in the lower house, Turnbull would then have to shep-

herd legislation through an even more intransigent Senate. But Treasurer Morrison said the government would not abandon its economic policies. “We will go forward with our legislation plan for the budget, certainly if we return as a majority government,” he said.

The election was meant to end political turmoil that delivered Australia four

prime ministers over the past three years. Instead, it has left Turnbull’s authority in tatters less than a year after he ousted then prime minister Tony Abbott in a party-room coup with a promise of stable government.

The National Party, the junior coalition partner, is demanding a greater say in a future government given

its strong electoral performance.

The Nationals represent rural Australia and take a strong stance on foreign ownership and trade. In May, the party was influential in blocking a Chinese bid for cattle giant S. Kidman & Co by a group headed by Hunan Dakang Pasture Farming Co Ltd, saying the sale was not in the national interest.

While Liberal Party Senator Corey Bernardi, a social conservative and strong supporter of Abbott, signalled he was in talks to start a breakaway Conservative Party of Liberals disaffected with what they see as Turnbull’s centrist policies.

“Irrespective of the final election result, the clear mission now is to bring people together for the good of the country,” Bernardi wrote on his blog. “That is going to take the formalisation of a broad conservative movement to help change politics and to give common sense a united voice.” —Reuters

World Bank helps Viet Nam improve efficiency in land administration

HO CHI MINH CITY — The World Bank (WB) on Wednesday approved a 150-million-US dollar credit for the Viet Nam Improved Land Governance and Database Project. The project will develop a national multi-purpose land information system and make a national land database available to the government and the public, said the WB in Viet Nam.

The project is designed with an emphasis on building sustainable databases that are accurate, user-friendly, and accessible through a gradual approach to developing land information systems and land databases.

The project will also help the government simplify procedures and business processes for land registration offices operating at sub-national levels, provide better-quality land services, and increase public awareness of land information and land services.—Xinhua

Japan ruling bloc election win could be too big for markets to swallow

TOKYO — A big win for Japan’s prime minister and his allies in a Sunday election would raise concern that the government will switch its focus from a stuttering economy to revising the post-war, pacifist constitution to ease constraints on the military.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s coalition is in no danger of losing power in the election for half the 242-seat upper house, a vote he is portraying as a referendum on his “Abenomics” recipe of hyper-easy monetary policy, spending and reform, amid growing signs the strategy is not working.

Media surveys published on Wednesday showed Abe’s Liberal

Democratic Party-led coalition and like-minded parties could win a two-thirds “super-majority” in the upper house of parliament.

That would both allow Abe to assert he has a mandate for his economic policies and let the government begin the process of revising the constitution. “If the LDP wins big and together with like-minded parties, gets a two-thirds majority, the markets will see that as negative, because concerns will increase that the government will switch from putting priority on the economy to focus on constitutional revision,” said Mitsuo Imaizumi, chief currency strategist at Daiwa Securities.

Abe won a rare second term as prime minister in a 2012 election promising to reboot the long-stagnant economy, but his deeper agenda was to ease the limits of a pacifist constitution to let Japan play a bigger global security role.

Conservatives see the constitution as a humiliating symbol of Japan’s defeat in World War II and as shackling the military. Its admirers consider it the source of post-war peace and democracy.

Abe has recently played down his goal of changing the constitution but a big win on Sunday could open the door to achieving his long-held ambition, opposition politicians say.

“During the campaign, Prime Minister Abe has not mentioned amendment of the constitution. This is a stealth approach,” Katsuya Okada, leader of the opposition Democratic Party told a recent news conference.

The Democratic Party and three small parties, backed by grassroots groups, are trying to prevent the ruling camp and its allies from winning the two-thirds majority.

Amending the constitution requires two-thirds of seats in the upper house and the lower chamber, where the ruling bloc already has a “super majority”, and a majority in a public referendum.

Many voters are also

apparently reluctant to see the proponents of revising the constitution win big.

A Jiji news agency survey showed 49.6 per cent of respondents did not want to see the LDP-led coalition and its allies win a two-thirds majority versus 31.5 per cent who did.

Turnout on Sunday will be closely watched in an election overshadowed by Britain’s vote to leave the European Union, the death of seven Japanese in a militant attack in Bangladesh and a looming city election in Tokyo.

Low turnout could undercut Abe’s portrayal of the vote as an endorsement of his economic policies.—Reuters

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A definitive time for Myanmar

Kyaw Thura

MYANMAR has entered a turning point in history, with the seeds of democracy beginning to sprout from the reform efforts made by the people, the government, the army and the parliament. To enable the country to keep moving forward to stability and prosperity, we have an innate responsibility to empower the younger generation to take our place

when their time comes.

What State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said in connection with this sort of responsibility is noteworthy. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has warned that the fault will lie with the older generation if they fail to bequeath a legacy of reliable mechanisms to the younger generation, whereas the younger generation will be at fault if they fail to sustain that good

legacy left by the older generation. She stressed that people are all duty-bound to pass down the good legacy from generation to generation.

Judging from her words, the young people are required to equip themselves with the intellectual capacity to enhance their administrative capabilities. The youth of today must have the potentiality and capability to shoulder the responsi-

bility for running the country in future. Potentiality without capability will not produce effective results. The same thing can be said of the capacity without potentiality.

Now is the time for the older generation to prepare themselves to develop a good legacy of administrative mechanisms and for the younger generation to ready themselves to take up the responsibility.

Minkyi Swa Saw Ke, Wunzin Pho Yaza and Meikhtila Lake

Maha Saddhama Jotikadhaja
Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

MINKYI Swa Saw Ke [1368-1401 A.D.] was the third king of First Ava dynasty [1364-1555 A.D]. During his reign, in the year 1369, the embankments of Meikhtila Lake broke due to heavy rains in high monsoon. He came out from his capital Ava with a large body of retinue and stayed in a temporary Palace built not far from the Lake. With him were irrigation engineers, hydrologists, metriologists, astronomers, astrologers and many experts on maintenance, repair and renovation of such work. On inspection of the Lake, the king found a grand nat-spirit shrine with a gilt idol of a beautiful lady in it. On enquiry about this shrine, no one of his retinue could give answer. Meanwhile, a cart arrived at the shrine and the cart man offered pickled tea and flowers to the idol and propitiated. When the king asked the cart man about the idol, the cart man told that he was just doing what others do. But if the king wanted to know about the shrine, there was a knowledgeable young man called Sar-toe Nge Nyo who was a Son-in-law of head-man of Wunzin village, who might be able to tell about the Shrine. The king sent his equestrian messenger to bring Sar-toe Nge Nyo to him.

Wunzin Pho Yaza. To the north east of Meikhtila Town, about 10miles distance there was a village named Wunzin. At this village lived a herbalist doctor Saya Ohn and his wife Daw Cho. In 1347 A.D a son was born to them. At the time of his birth a big meteor flew from the east to the

west crossing the sky above the village. So the parents named their son Mr Metcor [Maung Ukkar]. The parents sent their son Maung Okkar at the age of 6years to the village monastic school for education. The son proved a brilliant pupil who mastered all teaching subjects. His father passed away when he reached the age of 8years. The mother sent the son to another monastery and under the Abbot of that monastery Maung Okkar mastered all teaching subjects, Niti Treates and books almost by heart. Besides he showed his hobby of gathering any piece of knowledge, information or literary works. He would join the gatherings of adults and aged to listen or to participate in their talks and noted down all those worth noting. He copied stone inscriptions, ink writings of temples and pagodas, collecting pieces of manuscripts which he kept at home or farm house. His friends found him funny and they jokingly nick named him Sar toe Nge Nyo [literary collector Nge Nyo]. At the literary circles, he could contribute his knowledge. He was not only knowledgeable but also eloquent in his talk. Using simile, metaphors and his own technique of delivery, citing proverbs, old sayings, fables legends and tales, history and archaeology, he made his audience spell bound and informed.

At the age of 15 he was a young farmer, ploughing fields to support his aging mother while at the same time ardently pursuing his hobby of research, collection of literary pieces and literary talks.

His name' Sar toe Nga Nyo spread far and wide. On reaching late teen age, he fell in love with Mei Chit, daughter of the headman U Moe who held a very low opinion of Maung Ukkar who was not a hard working farmer but a talker and collector of literary pieces. As his daughter married Maung Ukkar, U Moe gave them a pair of cattle, a cart, 3 pes of paddy fields, a cart load of paddy and kitchen utensil and let them stay at their own farm house.

Maung Okkar was his name mentioned in his horoscope [palm leaf birth certificate]. His real name was Maung Nyo. Villagers and friends combined his name and his hobby in a rhymed name Sar toe [collected of literary pieces] and Nge Nyo [his name Nyo]. His name spread far and wide as the most learned and knowledgeable young man.

In 1368 A.D while king Minkyi Swa Saw Ke was repairing the embankments of Shi Shar Lake he found a nat spirit shrine with an idol of a beautiful lady in it, on the embankment. As no one of his retinue was able to tell him about it he sent his equestrian messenger to Wun Zin village to bring Sar toe Nge Nyo to him.

Sar Toe Nge Nyo knew that he would be used by the king in royal service. He tied the horns of his farm cattles with sprigs of Eugenia [Tha byey] leaves and set them free and donated his farm lands to religion. On hearing that, his father-in-law was very angry and called his daughter to come back to him, since her husband was in danger of royal punishment.

On presenting him to the king, Sar toe Nge Nyo replied to the King's question without delay. "Your Majesty, it is not a nat-spir-

it shrine. Neither was the idol of a beautiful lady a female nat-spirit. In the reign of king Anawrahta of Bagan, this Lake was badly damaged by heavy rain in high monsoon. The king came out with his retinue, including irrigation engineers, hydrologists, metreologists, astrologers and other experts and stationed in a temporary Palace not far from the Lake. The king personally supervised the works. One day one Sawbwa from Kamboza [a vassal king of Anawrahta] came to pay respects to Anawrahta with the tribute of his beautiful daughter named Saw-Khin Hla in marriage to the king, who raised her to a lesser queen [concubine] she was so beautiful that the king always kept her near him. After a few months, she died of malaria. The king was so sad that he forget to bury her body. The ministers made a gold statue in the likeness of Saw Khin Hla and kept it near the king. They buried her dead body in that place on the embankment. When the repair and renovation works were finished, the king returned to his capital. His ministers objected to bringing the gold statue of Saw Khin Hla to the capital as it was in-auspicious. They buried in a strong chamber made in the embankment just above her dead body. They built a memorial on this spot with a gilt idol of her in it. In course of time local people, thinking that she was the guardian spirit of the Lake, began to worship and propitiate it. If Your Majesty order to excavate the place, you will recover the gold status, Sir."

When the shrine was removed and its ground was excavated a gold statue and the skeleton of Siw Khin Hla in the coffin beneath it were recovered. The king was highly impressed by Sar

Toe Nge Nyo's vast knowledge and personality. He deserved a royal service, not a farmer here. But he was young, only 21 years in age. Therefore the king appointed him a junior minister with the title Sitapyit Amat. He, his wife and his father-in-law and household were taken to the capital Ava. In 1368 A.D he was promoted with the title Min Yaza and many rewards were given him. After Minkyi Swa Saw Ke, king Min Khaung raised him to the status of Akyitaw Min [Royal Counsellor] with many awards. His native village's name was prefixed to his titles such as Wun Zin Min Yazar, Wun Zin Pho Yazar. From the reign of Minkyi Swa Saw Ke, Sin Byu Shin Tayaphayar to Inwa Ming Khaung, he served faithfully three kings in successibn. He carried out political, diplomatic and religious works with diligence and sincerity. In 1423 A.D at the old age of 74 he passed away peacefully.

Because of learnedness and vast knowledge he acquired by his hobby and perseverance, he reached the summit of his successes from a mere farmer to the king's adviser and counsellor, under three successive kings. But he never forgot his native counsellor village. In 1379 A.D just eleven years after his appointment as Sitapyet Amat, he reached the age of 32 years, he built at his native village Ein Kone Ywa, Shwezigon Zedi Pagoda with 21 minor Zedis around it. Shwezigon Zedi measures 32 cubits high, 32 cubits at the base and 128 cubits on all four sides. 21 minor zedis surrounded it to mark his age 21 when he became Sitapiyrit Amat and his age 32 when he became Wun Zin Min Yaza.

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Outstanding offspring of Tatmadawmen honoured



Defence Service Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meeting offspring of the Tatmadawmen and the war veterans. PHOTO: MNA

COMMANDER-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing honoured the brilliant and outstanding offspring of Tatmadawmen and members of the War Veteran Organisation with a prize presentation ceremony

in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

In his address the Senior General called on outstanding students to strive to become amazing and able citizens in order to be able to make contributions to exciting future, or perhaps even

present, nation-building endeavours. During the ceremony, 530 incredible students and six schools which saw high pass rates were presented awards and certificates of honour.— *Myanmar News Agency*

BFM donates K30m to EASF to improve medical service

THE Emergency Ambulance Service Foundation-EASF has been provided with a fund by KBZ's Brighter Future Myanmar

Foundation, the BFM, to improve its operations.

Senior Executive Director of KBZ Group of companies

U Nyo Myint handed over K30 million to the EASF through U Tin Zaw Maung, Chairman of the EASF yesterday. The funding comes following the BFM's donation of emergency vehicles to the EASF which is run under the Myanmar Medical Association.

"Today's donation is aimed at making for more effective ambulance services, which will save lives" said U Nyo Myint.

Every emergency vehicles of the EASF is equipped with emergency medical equipment including a defibrillator and the foundation has saved the lives of about 2,700 people so far.— *Thura Lwin (Eco)*



U Nyo Myint (R) accepts a certificate of honour presented by U Tin Zaw. PHOTO: THURA LWIN

e-lottery ticket system postponed

THE MINISTRY of Finance and Revenue is not in a position to introduce an e-lottery system during this year as there are many things to do, said U Min Htut, director-general of Internal Revenue Department.

He said that much work remains to be done before opening the new e-lottery system. The department will seek the government's approval after the par-

liament passed the State Lottery Law. Afterwards, the IRD will rent experts for implementation of the new system before inviting the tender.

He continued to say that all works are expected to be finished after six months. This is the reason why the ministry postponed the programme to a later time.

But the department will introduce Ks one billion award, the

highest award, this year. The department will not abolish the current paper lottery system when the new online lottery system is introduced to the public.

The lottery system is set to be transformed into an online lottery system, which will see paper tickets replaced with electronic ones. The change will be implemented after enacting the State Lottery Law.—200

GE supplies gas turbines for Myingyan power project

TWO gas turbines supplied by General Electric (GE) have been purchased from Sembcorp Utilities for a 225-megawatt power plant to be built for the Myingyan power project in Mandalay Region. The purchase of the Heat Recovery Steam Generators was in the mix, according to a GE press release.

The new power plant is expected to go online in early 2018, supplying power to the national grid.

"This is an important project to deliver additional power to drive our growing economy," said Minister of Electricity and Energy, U Pe Zin Tun in the release.

"We are confident the stakeholders in this project, the IPP – Sembcorp Utilities – and their partners, Jurong Engineering and GE, will deliver a modern, high technology and efficient combined cycle power plant in Myanmar."

As of 2014, 70 per cent of Myanmar is without electricity and despite the National Electrification Plan, most of the energy created is being used to supply Yangon's thirst for power.

"As one of the largest gas-fired power plants in the country, the Myingyan power project will play an active role in meeting power needs here,"

said Dennis Foo, General Manager of Sembcorp Myingyan Power Company.

The Myingyan project is designed to deliver high levels of efficiency, availability, flexibility and reliability, reads the report.

GE will design, supply, and install two HRSGs and a reheat steam turbine for the project.

"GE's involvement in the Myingyan IPP project represents our commitment to support the Myanmar government, and companies like Sembcorp and Jurong Engineering as they take up the challenge of driving projects to meet growing power needs," said Andrew Lee, Chief Country Representative of GE Myanmar.

"Once the Myingyan IPP begins delivering power to the national grid, it should help reduce Myanmar's reliance on the more expensive, short-term rental of gas engines as well as the gap between electricity supply and demand."

GE began operating in Myanmar in 2013, after the ease of US economic sanctions in 2012. The company says that it aims to help, "development through capacity building, human capital and leadership training and other philanthropic initiatives."— *GNLM*



A 6F.03 gas turbine being seen. PHOTO: (SUPPLIED)

Minkyi Swa saw ke, Wunzin Pho Yaza and Meikhtila Lake

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The outstanding achievements of Wun Zin Min Yaza were recorded in Myanmar chronicles. Among them, his diplomacy in putting an end to long-drawn-out Mon-Myanmar conflicts between Ava and Hamsavadi was most noteworthy. The writer of this Article had contributed a research paper on this subject in Thar Kaung Ta-man annual Magazine

[om; aumi {wref*zi}] published by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Here is a brief of his diplomatic tour de force.

Wun Zin Min Yazar advised both King Min Khaung of Ava and King Rajadarit of Hamsavadi, on the futility and destruction of war and peace and utility of ending war by means of dynastic marriages a&ra[cit qu|ci|zi] E|jynaxmi b&vrtai &rty| lap [By means of dynastic marriages be-

tween King Min Khaung and his royal family and king Rajadarit and his royal family the two kingdoms were united and thus there was free flow of trade and commerce to and fro between Upper Myanmar [Ava Kingdom] and Lower Myanmar [Hamsavadi] and beyond [Overseas]. King Min Khaung's sister and daughter were given in marriage to King Rajadarit and vice versa. Thus King Min Khaung and

King Rajadarit each became father-in-law and brother-in-law to each other. The war ended forever. The two kings wept when they heard the news of the death of each other. There were records of many cases of domestic and foreign affairs which Wun Zin Pho Yaza settled with his diplomacy par excellence.

His monuments in the form of Pagodas with stone inscriptions are located in the area

around Meikhtila Lake and Wun Zin village. There is a hotel name Wun Zin Hotel at Meikhtilar Town today. The writer, in his capacity as Director General of the Fine and Performing Arts Department 1965-1973 had produced with the help of Saya Zaw Gyi, [U Thein Han], K (U Khin Zaw) and U Myat Kyaw [Sinbaungwei Min Min] a ballet "Wun Zin Pho Yazar" which was a hit at home and abroad.

Obama hits campaign trail, says ready to 'pass baton' to Clinton



US President Barack Obama waves with Democratic US presidential candidate Hillary Clinton during a Clinton campaign event in Charlotte, North Carolina, US, on 5 July 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

CHARLOTTE — After months on the sidelines, President Barack Obama joined Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton on the campaign trail at a rally in North Carolina on Tuesday, telling voters he was ready to “pass the baton” to his former secretary of state.

Obama took the microphone in Charlotte, chanting “Hillary!” and told the crowd there had never been a candidate as prepared to be president as Clinton, his rival in 2008 for the Democratic nomination.

“I’ve run my last campaign, and I couldn’t be prouder of the things we’ve done together, but I’m ready to pass the baton,” Obama said, in what was likely to be the first of many trips this year on Clinton’s behalf.

“I know Hillary Clinton is going to take it, and I know she can run that race,” he said.

Obama was returning the favour after Clinton backed him in 2008’s general election. This year, he waited while she battled US Senator Bernie Sanders for the Democratic nomination before endorsing Clinton last month once she became the party’s presumptive nominee.

In Charlotte, Clinton preceded Obama, saying, “We’re going to build on the vision for America that President Obama has always championed, a vision for a future where we do great things together.”

The North Carolina trip came the same day that Federal Bureau of Investigation Director James Comey said the agency would not recommend that Clinton face criminal charges over her use of a personal email system while secretary of state.

White House spokesman Josh Earnest said Obama did not get advance notice of Comey’s announcement and said the president would not discuss the FBI’s investigation with Clinton.

Clinton’s campaign welcomed the end of a probe that had cast a cloud over her campaign, but Republicans seized on Comey’s criticism of what he termed Clinton’s “extremely careless” handling of emails.

Presumptive Republican nominee Donald Trump, who was due to campaign in Raleigh, North Carolina, on Tuesday, criticised FBI recommendation, tweeting, “As usual, bad judgement.”

The first joint campaign appearance by Obama and Clinton was initially planned for soon after she clinched the Democratic nomination. But it was postponed following the mass shooting on 12 June at a nightclub in Orlando, Florida.

On Tuesday, Obama appeared at ease back on the campaign trail. He mocked Trump’s promise to “Make America Great Again,” saying, “America is really great.”

And he sought to contrast Clinton’s preparedness for the White House and passion for helping working families with Trump, a political neophyte he referred to at times as “the other guy.”

“Everybody can tweet, but nobody actually knows what it takes to do the job until you’ve sat behind the desk,” he said, an apparent reference to the wealthy New York businessman’s fondness for Twitter.

Clinton hopes to reclaim

North Carolina for the Democrats in the 8 November election. Obama won the state in the 2008 general election but lost it narrowly in his 2012 re-election.

Obama’s appearance with the former first lady closes a circle on a relationship that began cordially when the two were US Senate colleagues, grew tense when they were presidential rivals in 2008, and became close when Clinton served in Obama’s Cabinet during his first term.

Clinton and her family have played a role in Obama’s elections. Clinton and Obama appeared together in Unity, New Hampshire, following their divisive primary fight in 2008, and Clinton’s husband, former President Bill Clinton, gave a well-received speech at the 2012 Democratic convention.

Obama has focused on what he touts as Clinton’s strength of character, in hopes of shoring up support among voters who find her untrustworthy, a weakness Trump has sought to exploit.

Clinton needs Obama to woo young and left-leaning voters who backed Sanders and who made up part of the president’s voting coalition in 2008 and 2012. Clinton has also campaigned with high-profile liberal US Senator Elizabeth Warren, and she will appear later this week with Vice President Joe Biden.

Clinton and Obama travelled to North Carolina on the presidential plane Air Force One, which Trump characterized as a burden on taxpayers. A Clinton spokesman said the campaign would cover its portion of the travel costs. —Reuters

NEWS IN BRIEF

Serbian air force fighters scrambled to escort El Al plane

BELGRADE — Serbian MiG 29 fighter jets intercepted an El Al airliner around 10.30 am Tuesday following a bomb threat and escorted the plane over Serbian airspace.

The air force jets escorted the Israeli airliner from the moment it entered Serbian airspace, sources at the Ministry of Defence told Tanjug.

The flight from New York was bound for Tel Aviv, and an anonymous tip about a potential bomb threat onboard turned out to be unfounded. According to media reports, the plane had also been intercepted by Swiss and Croatian military jets as it flew over the two countries’ airspaces. The plane eventually landed safely at Tel Aviv’s Ben-Gurion Airport, the AP reported.—Tanjug

UN Security Council slams deadly attacks in Saudi Arabia

UNITED NATIONS — The UN Security Council on Tuesday “strongly deplored the heinous and cowardly terrorist attacks” in three cities of Saudi Arabia on Monday.

“The members of the Security Council stressed the need to take measures to prevent and suppress the financing of terrorism, terrorist organisations and individual terrorists,” said the council in a press statement.

“They stressed that those responsible for these killings should be held accountable, and urged all states ... to cooperate actively with all relevant authorities in this regard.”

The attack near Al-Masjid al-Nabawi (The Mosque of the Prophet), one of the holiest sites in Islam located in Medina, is the most serious one, leaving at least four people dead and five others injured. The Islamic State extremist group has claimed responsibility for the attack. Attacks also occurred in Qadif and Jeddah. —Xinhua

Legal case for Britain’s 2003 Iraq invasion ‘unsatisfactory’ — UK inquiry

LONDON — Britain’s decision to go to war with Iraq in 2003 had a “far from satisfactory” legal basis and ex-Prime Minister Tony Blair’s case for military action was over-hyped, a long-awaited inquiry into the conflict concluded on Wednesday.

The intelligence about Iraq’s alleged weapons of mass destruction which Blair used to justify joining the US-led invasion, which led to the removal of Saddam Hussein and the deaths of 179 British soldiers, was flawed but went unchallenged, inquiry chairman John Chilcot said.

There was no imminent threat from Saddam in March 2003 and the chaos in Iraq and the region which followed should also have been foreseen, he added. “The inquiry has not expressed a view on whether military action was legal,” Chilcot told reporters and relatives of some of the soldiers killed in Iraq. “We have, however, concluded that the circumstances in which it was decided that there was a legal basis for military action were far from satisfactory.”—Reuters

Istanbul attack could be result of Turkey, EU ignoring Moscow’s ‘signals’ — Kremlin

KREMLIN — The Kremlin said on Wednesday it believed that the recent attack on Istanbul airport could be a result of Turkish and European security services ignoring Moscow’s signals about suspected “terrorists” hiding in Turkey and Europe.

“Over the past many years, the Russian side ... has informed our Turkish and European colleagues that persons suspected of being linked to terrorism ... find shelter both in Turkey and in a number of other European countries,” Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told a conference call with journalists. “In most cases such signals from the Russian side have not been given proper attention or any reaction by our colleagues. To our regret, these (Istanbul attacks) can be a consequence of such disregard.”—Reuters

Wildfires hit Russia’s Far East

VLADIVOSTOK (Russia) — Fourteen wildfires hit Russia’s Far East within 24 hours, destroying 1,400 hectares of forest, the local forestry department reported Wednesday.

The Chukotka region suffered the most, it said, adding that wildfires were also reported in Yakutsk, Magadan, and Khabarovsk.

About 500 firefighters, 40 pieces of equipment and ten aircraft were involved in the firefighting efforts, the local administration said.

The Far East region has witnessed 1,044 forest fires so far this year, far more from the same period last year, covering 574.1 hectares of land.—Xinhua

Islamic State says Dhaka cafe slaughter a glimpse of what's coming

DHAKA — Islamic State has warned of repeated attacks in Bangladesh and beyond until rule by sharia, Islamic law, is established, saying in a video last week's killing of 20 people in a Dhaka cafe was merely a glimpse of what is to come.

Five Bangladesh militants, most from wealthy, liberal families, stormed the upmarket restaurant on Friday and murdered customers, the majority of them foreigners, from Italy, Japan, India and the United States, before they were gunned down.

"What you witnessed in Bangladesh ... was a glimpse. This will repeat, repeat and repeat until you lose and we win and the sharia is established throughout the world," said a man identified as Bangladeshi fighter Abu Issa al-Bengali, in the video monitored by SITE intelligence site.

Bangladesh has rejected the Islamic State's claim of responsibility for the Friday attack and blamed it on a domestic militant group.

It was one of the deadliest attacks in Bangladesh, where Islamic State and



Policemen sneak a look inside the Holey Artisan Bakery and the O'Kitchen Restaurant as others inspect the site after gunmen attacked, in Dhaka, Bangladesh. PHOTO: REUTERS

Qaeda have claimed a series of killings of liberals and members of religious minorities in the past year. The government has also dismissed those claims.

The IS video began with pictures of recent attacks in Paris, Brussels and Orlando in the United States that the Middle

East-based militants have claimed.

The fighter in the video, who spoke in both Bengali and English, said Bangladesh must know that it was now part of a bigger battlefield to establish the cross-border "caliphate" the group proclaimed in 2014.

"I want to tell the rulers of Bangladesh that the jihad you see today is not the same that you knew in the past," he said from a busy street in the militant group's de facto capital of Raqqa, in Syria.

"The jihad that is waged today is a jihad under the shade of the Cali-

phate."

Though Bangladesh has rejected the IS claim of responsibility for Friday's attack, police said they were stepping up security in response to the video threat.

"We are taking this issue seriously. All our concerned units are working

tirelessly," said deputy police inspector general Shahidur Rahman.

Police believe the domestic Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh, which has pledged allegiance to Islamic State, played a significant role in organising the band of privileged, educated young men who carried out the attack.

Police have said they are hunting for six members of the group suspected to have helped the attackers. But foreign security experts say the scale and sophistication of the attack on the Holey Artisan bakery cafe pointed to some level of guidance from international militant groups.

Officials in Dhaka said on Tuesday police commandos had mistakenly shot dead a restaurant chef during the operation to end the siege.

H.T. Imam, a political adviser to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, also said security officials had seen online warnings about an impending attack on Friday and ordered major hotels and restaurants in the neighbourhood of the cafe shut.

But they missed the actual target, he said.—Reuters

Iraqi forces advance towards Islamic State-held air base south of Mosul

BAGHDAD — Iraqi forces have retaken a cluster of northern villages from Islamic State militants, the government said on Tuesday, pushing closer to an air base that could serve as a springboard for an offensive to retake Mosul, the biggest city held by IS.

Backed by air strikes from a US-led coalition, government troops launched their thrust up the eastern side of the Tigris river from the Makhmour military base in March, but tough IS resistance and rough terrain have slowed their advance.

Government forces have now seized all villages in the Haj Ali area and reached the eastern bank of the Tigris, around 60 km (40 miles) south of Mosul, the Defence Ministry said in a statement on Tuesday.

An army brigadier involved in the operations to retake Qayara air base on the Tigris's western side said Iraqi forces had dislodged militants from seven Haj Ali villages on Monday evening after Is-



Iraqi soldiers gather to go battle against Islamic State militants south of Mosul, Iraq, on 15 June 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

lamic State fled in boats or by swimming away.

"Our sources inside the villages told us Daesh fighters started to flee the villages in large numbers on Monday," the officer said, using an Arabic acronym for Islamic State. The troops' objective now is to hold their positions on the river bank and wait for other forces advancing

from the south to close in on Daesh fighters and take control of Qayara air base."

Elite counter-terrorism forces and two army divisions, also bolstered by US-led air strikes, advanced last month from a northern refinery town towards the Qayara airfield, seen as key for a move to recapture Mosul, Iraq's second largest city.

Two years since IS seized wide swathes of northern and western Iraq in a stunning offensive, the tide has begun to turn as an array of forces lined up against the militants have made inroads into their proclaimed "caliphate". Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi has pledged to retake Mosul by the end of this year.—Reuters

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Botataung Township, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Dated 7 July 2016

kmma@kcyangon.com

Brexit a double-edged sword for France's National Front

PARIS — Britain's vote to leave the European Union looks like a boost for France's eurosceptic National Front, but that could turn to trouble for the party if voters see instability across the Channel when they elect a new president in 10 months' time.

National Front (FN) leader Marine Le Pen looked ecstatic as the Brexit result was announced, calling it a "victory for freedom" that would soon be repeated in France, an EU-founding member whose voters are increasingly eurosceptic.

As the only major party in France that backed Brexit and is calling for a similar in-or-out referendum on EU membership, the FN has at first glance much to gain from a vote that thrust Europe to the centre of France's 2017 election debate.

"It's excellent news for the FN," the party's vice-president Florian Philippot told Reuters. "Up until now we were told that leaving the EU would be apocalyptic, that we'd be isolated. Britain will show it's exactly the opposite."

Like many of the Brexit campaigners, the FN banks on grassroots anger with elites, and is faring well in small towns and rural areas that feel forgotten by globalization, giving it hopes the Brexit vote will push even more working-class voters to vote for it next year.

Opinion polls already show that the anti-immigration FN, whose ratings benefited from Europe's refugee



Marine Le Pen, France's far-right National Front political party leader, speaks during a news conference at the FN party headquarters in Nanterre near Paris after Britain's referendum vote to leave the European Union, France, on 24 June 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

crisis, is likely to top the first round of the presidential election.

"The headlines are doing the FN's job for it, yet again," said sociologist Sylvain Crepon, an expert on the FN at the university of Tours.

But where the Brexit legacy stands as the French vote for a president on 23 April and 7 May next year will be key.

The Brexit vote has plunged Britain into political chaos. Prime Minister David Cameron announced he is standing down, opposition leader Jeremy Corbyn faces an open revolt by parliamentary colleagues and UKIP leader Nigel Farage, one of the most effective Brexit campaigners,

said he is resigning.

There has been a sharp drop in the pound and in British consumer confidence since the vote, while pro-EU Scotland is threatening to quit the United Kingdom.

"If things go well (at the time of the French elections), the FN will benefit from it. If it's trench warfare, if banks are moving their headquarters away from Britain, if the British economy has taken a hit, the FN argument will be caught out," Ifop pollsters' analyst Jerome Fourquet said.

The FN's Philippot says much of the talk about negative consequences of Brexit "is a refusal by the elite, especially in France,

witnessing in the UK at the moment makes others think twice about leaving, that is not a bad thing," an aide to German Chancellor Angela Merkel told Reuters.

It is unsure at this stage how clear the consequences of Brexit will be in 10 months' time, or whether the divorce talks will have started.

How Donald Trump's populist, anti-Washington message fares in US election in November and whether the far-right wins in the October re-run of Austria's presidential election — which could itself be influenced by the Brexit vote — could also affect the FN's appeal.

Le Pen has said that, if elected, she would launch negotiations to leave the euro, restore borders, ensure the primacy of French law over EU law, and scrap EU checks on French public finances.

After six months, voters would decide in a referendum whether to stay in the bloc or leave.

Even within the FN, there has been criticism of this policy, which has put off the elderly — who tend to vote more than younger voters — for fear their pension could be affected.

However, opinion polls since the Brexit vote show a change among FN voters, with a huge majority now backing an EU exit. According to an OpinionWay survey on 27 June some 69 per cent would vote for a "Frexit."—Reuters

US mulls sanctions on North Korea for human rights violations

SEOUL — The United States is for the first time considering imposing sanctions on North Korean officials for human rights violations, with a blacklist of people responsible for them possibly including its leader Kim Jong Un, a *Seoul daily* reported Wednesday.

The blacklist, which will be submitted to Congress as early as this week, comprises 15 officials in the North Korean leadership and 10 agencies involved in infringement of human rights, including sending people to prison camps, the JoongAng Ilbo reported, citing multiple US and South Korean sources. A key source said the move "holds very significant meaning."

"The submission of a human rights violation report that includes Kim Jong Un, and the announcement of sanctions on North Korea's human rights issue — unlike sanctions for its nuclear tests or missile launches — permanently labels North Korea as 'a country in violation of human rights' and Kim Jong Un as 'a criminal who perpetrated the human rights violations,'" the source was quoted as saying.

The source added it is the first time the United States is imposing unilateral sanctions over the North Korean human rights issue.—*Kyodo News*

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE (INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER) (9 /2016)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB-021(16-17)	Electrical Spares for USS Oil Well Rig (13) Items	US\$
(2)	IFB-022(16-17)	Spares for 3 rd Stage & 4 th Stage Atlas Copco Compressor (Intermech) (178) Items	US\$
(3)	IFB-023(16-17)	2 7/8" & 2 3/8" EUE Tubing (2) Items	US\$
(4)	IFB-024(16-17)	2", 3" & 4" Flow Line Pipes (3) Items	US\$
(5)	IFB-025(16-17)	Spares for P & H Crawler Crane (19) Items	US\$
(6)	IFB-026(16-17)	Handling and Lifting Accessories (62) Items	US\$
(7)	IFB-027(16-17)	Spares for L-Type & ZW-Type Compressor (54) Items	US\$
(8)	IFB-028(16-17)	Spares for Clean Energy Mother & Daughter Compressors (IMW) (77) Items	US\$
(9)	IFB-029(16-17)	Rig Floor Handling & Lifting Accessories (20) Items	US\$
(10)	IFB-030(16-17)	Electrical Spares for ZJ 70L Rigs (22) Items	US\$
(11)	DMP/L-010(16-17)	1" Ø Reinforcement Hose Pipe and 1" Ø Union (2) Items	Ks

Tender Closing Date & Time - 28-7-2016, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 5TH July, 2016 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph. +95 67 - 411097 / 411206

Trump takes potential VP running mates for test drives

WASHINGTON — Donald Trump is taking some of his potential vice presidential running mates out for a test drive this week, meeting in private and trotting them out in public as he seeks to make his choice before the Republican National Convention less than two weeks away.

Republicans close to the campaign say Trump and his team are considering announcing his running mate pick next week ahead of the convention, to be held 18-21 July in Cleveland, to try to get maximum media buzz from the decision.

As his aides vet the people on his short list, Trump is getting an up-



Republican US presidential candidate Donald Trump smiles at a campaign rally in Raleigh, North Carolina, US, on 5 July 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

close look at some of the candidates and talking about it publicly, dispensing with the usual tradition of keeping secret the process of choosing a running mate.

Trump, who is to be formally nominated at the convention as the Republican candidate for the 8 November election, met privately on Tuesday with one possible pick, US Senator

Bob Corker of Tennessee, at Trump Tower in New York. On Tuesday night, the two appeared together at a Trump rally in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Trump introduced Corker, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, as "a great friend of mine, somebody respected by everybody." Then it was Corker's turn.—*Reuters*

Kyoto's Shokado museum showcases nature, tea ceremony, art

KYOTO — The Shokado Garden Art Museum in a suburban Kyoto neighbourhood offers a respite to visitors with its distinct seasonal variations of flora as well as recreated tea ceremony houses, calligraphy works and brush paintings — all associated with medieval Japanese Buddhist monk Shokado Shoji.

Versed in Shingon Esoteric Buddhism, Shoji (early 1580s-1639) served as a priest at a temple on Otokoyama hill in what is now Yawata city, where the museum is also located.

He was one of the most cultured persons in the period, practicing calligraphy,

brush paintings, waka poetry and the way of tea and is considered one of the three masters of the Kanei period of the early 17th century for his brush strokes.

He was also touted for his refined taste in choosing tea ceremony implements.

Opened in 2002, the museum has around 300 items including calligraphy works and paintings associated with Shoji and artworks donated by private citizens. It typically holds around five feature exhibitions each year.

Beyond the entrance, a path beside a pond filled with carp and a bamboo grove leads to a garden

with three unique tea houses, which are open to the public in the spring and autumn.

One of them, a thatched roof hut was relocated from Otokoyama and restructured to recreate the place where Shoji spent his last years. Doubling as a tea ceremony room, the hut is named Shokado.

The monk is perhaps best associated with that name and it is used for Shokado bento, a cross-partitioned meal box devised in the early 20th century. Shoji's use of a similarly split box for storing tea ceremony tools and tobacco is thought to have inspired

the founder of the Japanese restaurant Kitcho to create the serving style. A Kitcho outlet in the museum's compound serves Shokado bento meals.

"The garden offers an extraordinary world where you think you have slipped into the Edo period," museum director Kazumasa Ishibashi said, referring to Japan's premodern era. "I hope people will come to feel the seasons and to freshen up."

Admission to the garden is 400 yen (\$4) per adult. The charge for the museum, which is closed on Mondays, varies depending on the event.—Kyodo News



Photo taken on 20 May 2016 shows an exhibition space at the Shokado Garden Art Museum, which opened in Yawata, Kyoto Prefecture in 2002 to show tea ceremony tools and artworks associated with medieval Japanese Buddhist monk Shokado Shoji. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Sri Lanka says fact-finding commission to probe war crime allegations against army

COLOMBO — The Sri Lankan government said on Wednesday that a proposed fact-finding commission will inquire into allegations raised against the army.

The army has been accused of committing war crimes during the fi-

nal stages of a 30-year war with Tamil Tiger rebels.

Foreign Minister Mangala Samaraweera said the government will not flatly deny any allegation related to the war but will investigate them.

A fact-finding com-

mission is expected to be established later this year following wide consultations with all stake holders.

Samaraweera said the commission will investigate if the army chain of command issued orders during the war which led to

human rights violations.

Allegations that the military may have used cluster bombs will also be looked at.

Sri Lanka defeated the Tamil Tigers in May 2009 but Samaraweera said that while the war was won

little was done to win the peace.

Sri Lanka has won the confidence of the international community and this was clear from the support Sri Lanka received at the recently concluded UN Human Rights Council ses-

sion in Geneva, he said.

He invited the Tamil diaspora who are making allegations against the country to visit Sri Lanka and get a first-hand view of the changes now taking place in the island nation.—Xinhua

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION ENTERPRISE

Date: July 4, 2016

Invitation for Private Power Generation Plant thru Rental Power Basis in Yangon Region

1. Electric Power Generation Enterprise (EPGE) seeks to invite tender for the purchasing electricity of 300 MW by Rental power plant system in Yangon Region.
2. The concession period for the power plant shall be **5 (five)** years from commercial operation date (COD).
3. The Tender Form fees is K.500, 000/- (Kyat five hundred thousand only) and can be purchased at Procurement Department, Electric Power Generation Enterprise, Building 27, Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
4. The bidders shall send the technical and commercial proposal addressed to
Tender Evaluation Committee
Electric Power Generation Enterprise,
Ministry of Electricity and Energy
Building 27, Nay Pyi Taw
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
5. The bid submission date is August 18, 2016 at 16:00 hr. Myanmar Standard Time.
6. Bidding Proposal must be submitted at the address in time. Any late proposal shall be rejected.
7. The bidders shall make the proposals in accordance with the Invitation for **Invitation for Power Generation Rental Basis**
8. The necessary information of this project tender can be inquired within office hour.

Attention to

Tender Evaluation Committee,
Electric Power Generation Enterprise
Ph +95 9 8601033, +95 67 8104281,
+95 96 8104282
Fax +95 67 8104280
epgethermal@gmail.com

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DAWEI STAR VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DAWEI STAR VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.7.2016 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 CONTINENTAL SHIPPING
LINE PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV E.R. TURKU VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV E.R. TURKU VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.7.2016 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 HANJIN SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.7.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.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 BANGSAOTONG VOY NO (181)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGSAOTONG VOY NO (181) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.7.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.P.T.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
AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN
SHIPPING CO LTD.

Phone No: 2301928

Madonna moved to tears by case of child rape in Kenya

NAIROBI — Pop star Madonna was reduced to tears during a trip to Kenya as she listened to a man describe how his five-year-old daughter had been recently raped by a neighbour in Nairobi's Kibera slum.

The US singer met the man during a visit to Kibera, one of Africa's biggest slums, on Saturday and Sunday. She had gone there to see how she could improve the lives of its residents, a spokesman said.

"This was an incredibly powerful and disturbing conversation about the realities of violence in these people's lives," said Trevor Neilson, who manages Madonna's Raising Malawi and Ray of Light foundations, and accompanied her on the trip.

"These stories brought Madonna to tears," Neilson told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

The "Material Girl" singer, who took her four children to the east African country, posted a video on Instagram showing them cleaning streets, clearing gutters and painting murals.

Madonna also met Kenya's First Lady Margaret Kenyatta on Monday to discuss working with her charity to scale up maternal and child health programmes and initiatives against gender violence.

Kenyatta's charity Beyond Zero, which provides mobile clinics offering basic health services to



Singer-songwriter Madonna Ciccone poses for a photograph with Kenyan First Lady Margaret Kenyatta as she receives a 'Beyond Zero' campaign technical report at State House in Nairobi, Kenya, on 4 July. PHOTO: REUTERS

Kenyans in remote areas, recently introduced safe spaces for victims to report gender based violence.

"Her (Madonna's) basic belief is that no child, no woman should be attacked anywhere. Period," Neilson said.

"There needs to be a bright light shone on this problem, which

creates an environment that enables the victims to come forward ... and forces law enforcement to pursue these things." Constance Gakonyo, the First Lady's chief of staff, said the two women discussed ways of working together but they did not go into detail.

Madonna's welcome in Kenya

was in contrast to the criticism she faced after visiting Malawi in 2013, when she was accused by Malawi of expecting its government to be forever chained in an "obligation of gratitude" toward her for adopting two Malawian children and contributing to the construction of classrooms there.—Reuters

Britney Spears, Pink, Gomez record song for Orlando victims

LOS ANGELES — Jennifer Lopez, Gwen Stefani, Britney Spears, Selena Gomez, Jason Derulo, Meghan Trainor, Juanes, Pink and Mary J Blige are among 24 artists featured on a new recording to raise money for victims of the Orlando nightclub massacre.

The all-star release, "Hands" — a charity single from Interscope Records with support from GLAAD — was conceived by hit songwriter Justin Tranter, co-writer of pop star Justin Bieber's "Sorry" and hits for Gomez, DNCE, Fall Out Boy and Stefani, reported Billboard.

The 12 June attack at the gay nightclub in Orlando, which killed 49 people and injured 53, is the deadliest mass shooting in American history.

Funds from the song will aid families with medical care, counseling and will also be used for education.

"Hands" will arrive on iTunes. Proceeds will be distributed by Equality Florida Pulse Victims Fund, the GLBT Community Center of Central Florida and GLAAD.—PTI

Noel Neill, Lois Lane in 'Superman' TV series, dies at 95



Actors Jack Larson and Actress Noel Neill. PHOTO: REUTERS

TUCSON, (Arizona) — Actress Noel Neill, who played Lois Lane, the intrepid reporter on the "Adventures of Superman" television series who never quite figured out her Daily Planet colleague Clark Kent was The Man of Steel, has died at the age of 95, a friend said on Monday.

Neill died on Sunday at her home in Tucson, Arizona, after a long illness, Jim Nolt, the owner of "The Adventures Continue" website dedicated to the 1950s TV show, said in a statement.

Neill was born on 25 November, 1920, in Minneapolis, where her father was a journalist at the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Shortly after high school she travelled to California and found a job as a singer at a restaurant at

the Del Mar racetrack. Her connections at the track led to a contract with the Paramount movie studio.

She had a series of small film roles, many of them uncredited, in the 1940s. There was no substantial work until 1948, when Columbia Pictures borrowed Neill to make 15 episodes of a comic book-based movie serial about a man from another planet who discovers he has super-human strength and is impervious to bullets.

Kirk Alyn was cast as the star of "Superman" and the petite red-headed, blue-eyed Neill was Lois Lane, his friend and co-worker at the Daily Planet.

Neither was cast when "Adventures of Superman" was

adapted for television.

But when the original TV Lois Lane, Phyllis Coates, left the show after one season, Neill stepped back into the role that would define her career and make her part of one of American television's most enduring series.

The show hit the air just as television was becoming a social force in the United States and became a favourite of generations of children, with a long life through reruns.

The TV Superman, as played by George Reeves, was faster than a speeding bullet and more powerful than a locomotive in his blue tights and red cape as he fought a never-ending battle for "truth, justice and the American way."—Reuters

Stars out for 'The Legend of Tarzan'

LONDON — After nine months of intense workouts and meal plans to get into the strapping shape of vine-swinging jungle hero Tarzan, Swedish actor Alexander Skarsgard found a fitting way to decompress with his famous father, veteran Swedish actor Stellan Skarsgard.

"My dad was shooting a miniseries in London at the time, and so I went straight to his house, and he loved to cook," Skarsgard told Reuters at the London premiere of "The Legend of Tarzan" on Tuesday. "I went straight to his house after wrap and spent four to five days on his couch just being fed. Incredible weekend."

The new Tarzan film, based on the books by Edgar Rice Burroughs and out in UK theaters on 6 July, is woven into the real life story of African-American historian George Washington Williams, who travelled to the Congo and condemned Belgium's King Leopold II for his harsh and brutal treatment of the Congolese people.

Tarzan has also appeared in



Swedish actor Alexander Skarsgard. PHOTO: REUTERS

numerous comic books since its debut, making the film the latest in a long line of recent comic book adaptations for the big screen. The film's director David Yates, best known for directing four "Harry Potter" films, said the comic book genre is not yet in danger of tiring out audiences.

"I think the comic book genre will constantly evolve. Because it is a genre that contains stories and characters that can go in any direction so I as a place for theater it will probably be with us for a little bit longer yet," he said. "Marvel do an amazing job and they're bright enough to take those worlds in different directions."—Reuters

Lagerfeld pays tribute to atelier seamstresses at Chanel show

PARIS — Chanel took fashionistas behind the scenes into its ateliers for its autumn/winter haute couture show on Tuesday, focusing on the intricate craftsmanship displayed on its luxurious outfits and shining the spotlight on its artisan workers.

Creative head Karl Lagerfeld, known for putting on elaborate shows for one of the world's most famous labels, transformed Paris' Grand Palais into a Chanel workshop with rolls of fabric, mannequins, sewing machines, cutting tables and seamstresses at work in front of an audience including Hollywood stars Will Smith and Jessica Chastain.

The 82-year-old designer dedicated the fashion show to the label's normally unheralded "petites mains" (small hands), even posing with the heads of the ateliers at the end.

Models wore plenty of the brand's signature tweed — starting with jackets with angular shoulders and elbow-length sleeves paired with culotte trousers and, later coat dresses.

Intricate floral embroidery or shiny beading decorated some of the clothes, which were all worn with black boots.

For Chanel's evening looks, Lagerfeld decorated shoulders and hems on an array of dresses in luxurious materials. —Reuters



A model presents a creation by German designer Karl Lagerfeld as part of his Haute Couture Fall Winter 2016/2017 fashion show for Chanel in Paris, France, on 5 July 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Venezuelans seek spirituality from mountain goddess, African traditions



People take part in rituals at the Sorte Mountain on the outskirts of Chivacoa, in the state of Yaracuy, Venezuela on 10 October 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

CARACAS — One long night every year in a mountainous rain forest in Venezuela, hundreds gather to dance on red-hot embers, enter trance-like states, and worship an ancient goddess known as Maria Lionza.

Those who travel to the mountain known as Sorte in central Venezuela are practitioners of a cult that is built on local indigenous traditions.

Followers say its rituals heal pain and can even cure disease.

Legend holds that Maria Lionza, the daughter of an indigenous chief and a European colonizer, battled a massive anaconda until the serpent exploded — causing torrential rains that are typical of the jungle surrounding Sorte.

"Those of us who rec-

ognise our ancestral roots pay homage to our queen in the sky by offering spiritual services, helping cleanse people, leading prayer and seeking to do good," said Alexis 'Suumi' Samarena, a devout follower of the religion.

Maria Lionza's followers congregate at Sorte on 12 October, which in Venezuela has been dubbed "Day of Indigenous Resistance" in response to celebrations of Christopher Columbus traditionally observed on the same day.

There are no official figures on how many followers of Maria Lionza exist in Venezuela.

However, the cult's influence has spread sufficiently beyond the South American nation's borders that Panamanian salsa leg-

end Ruben Blades dedicated a song to Maria Lionza in 1978.

Spiritual rituals that combine Roman Catholic teachings with African and indigenous legends are routinely practiced side-by-side with Christianity, primarily by Venezuela's working class.

Santeria, a religion native to the Caribbean that combines the Yoruba traditions of West African slaves with Catholic teachings of Spanish colonizers, is also popular among those seeking spiritual guidance outside the Catholic church.

Santeria devotees dress in white and in some cases perform animal sacrifice to pay homage to spirits known as Orishas. Venezuela's Supreme Court in June agreed to

hear a request to annul a ban on animal sacrifice, a case brought by a lawyer who practices Santeria.

A separate spiritual group known as "paleros" hold ceremonies in which the followers commune with the dead in a set of traditions that also come from Africa.

Venezuela's economic crisis, however, has limited many of the traditional ceremonies of these spiritual groups. Triple-digit inflation has left many unable to afford the materials needed for ceremonies."

When people realise (the cost of) a bottle of liquor necessary for a ritual, they no longer think of rituals but rather about buying food for themselves and their family," said Samarena.—Reuters

Entertainment Channel

(7-7-2016, Thursday)

<p>06 : 00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weather Report • Cartoon Programme "Zootopia" (Part-2) <p>07 : 00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Drama Series <p>07 : 40 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Drama Series <p>08 : 50 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRTV Entertainment Music • Pyi Thu Ni Ti 	<p>09 : 20 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Movie Songs <p>09 : 30 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Night Of Dancing With Phoe Chit <p>10 : 00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music Programme <p>10 : 20 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Myanmar Video <p>Midnight</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close Down
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From 7-7-2016 (Thursday) 6:00 pm
To 8-7-2016 (Friday) 6:00 pm

Myanmar International

(7-7-2016 07:00am ~ 8-7-2016 07:00am) MST

<p>Today Fresh</p> <p>07:03 Am News</p> <p>07:26 Am Sitagu International Buddhist Academy (Part-1)</p> <p>07:51 Am Cultural Show: Theatrical Make Up</p> <p>08:03 Am News</p> <p>08:26 Am Myanmar Outstanding Lady "Thin Zar Phyo"</p> <p>08:39 Am Strolling Along A Memory Link - U Pein Bridge</p> <p>09:03 Am News</p> <p>09:26 Am Products of Myanmar - Shin Ma Taung Thanakhar</p> <p>09:42 Am Five-Star Ocean Liners in Myanmar</p> <p>10:03 Am News</p>	<p>10:26 Am Myanmar Prehistory</p> <p>10:50 Am Kindhearted Pet Lovers</p> <p>(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm) - Wednesday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am) (03:00 Pm ~ 07:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)</p> <p>Prime Time</p> <p>07:03 Pm News</p> <p>07:26 Pm Travelogue "To the coastal region (Myeik - Kaw thong)" (Part-1)</p> <p>07:54 Pm Now in Yangon</p> <p>08:03 Pm News</p> <p>08:26 Pm Tapestry- A Unique Combination Of Painting and Craftsmanship</p> <p>08:44 Pm A Life In The Ring</p> <p>(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am) (11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am) - Wednesday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am) (03:00 Am ~ 07:00 Am) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)</p> <p>(For Detailed Schedule – www.myanmaritv.com/schedule)</p>
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Mourinho targets glory at Manchester United unveiling

LONDON — New Manchester United manager Jose Mourinho announced his return to English football on Tuesday by reminding the world that he is a proven winner who will tell his players to forget the past three years of under-achievement and instead target success.

In a news conference at Old Trafford before 25 camera crews from around the world, Mourinho covered a wide range of issues from transfer targets to the need for Wayne Rooney to continue playing as a striker and the departure of Ryan Giggs. He seemed determined to deflect attention away from himself to “the biggest club in the world”. The 53-year-old, who described himself as “the Special One” and then “the Happy One” during similar media conferences to announce his arrivals at Chelsea in 2004 and 2013, adopted a more serious and less showy approach on Tuesday.

“I want everything. I want to win matches, I want to play well. I want to score goals, I don’t want to concede goals. I want everything,” he said.

Improving on last year’s fifth place would not be sufficient, he



New Manchester United manager Jose Mourinho poses ahead of the press conference at Jose Mourinho Press Conference, Old Trafford on 5 July 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

said, indicating that he intended to return United, who won the last of their 20 league titles in 2013, to their former position of dominance.

“There are some managers who won the title 10 years ago,

some have not won a title ever. The last time I won the title was one year ago. So if I have something to prove, imagine the others.

“For Manchester United fans for so many years success was just routine but the last three years I

want to forget. I will never be able to work without success. I feel a bit frustrated that I am not playing Champions League. I do not hide I chase Sir Alex (Ferguson’s) records in the Champions League.”

Turning to Rooney, Mour-

inho suggested the 30-year-old’s future lay up front and not in midfield where England manager Roy Hodgson employed him in a failed experiment at the European Championship in France.

“In football there are many jobs but the most difficult to find is the guy who puts the ball in the back of the net. (Rooney) will never play 50 metres away from the goal. He will be a nine, 10, 9.5, not a six or an eight. You can tell me his pass is amazing but my pass is amazing too without pressure.”

Mourinho, who was out of work for five months after being sacked by Chelsea, said former United manager Ferguson had offered him two pieces of advice on joining the club: to bring an umbrella to cope with the notorious Manchester weather and a bottle of wine for them to share.

The Portuguese also addressed the sudden departure of Giggs from the club after 29 years, denying that the decision had been down to him. “It’s not my responsibility that Ryan is not in club. The job Ryan wanted was the manager’s job and the club decided that was the job for me.—

Reuters

Germany forced to make key changes for semi-final

EVIAN, (France) — Germany coach Joachim Loew has been forced to make changes to his team for Thursday’s semi-final against hosts France at Euro 2016 because of injuries and a suspension, including replacing key goalscorer Mario Gomez.

Gomez, whose two goals helped the world champions to the last four, has been forced out of the rest of the tournament with a pulled hamstring. Holding midfielder Sami Khedira will also miss the clash because of a groin injury.

Central defender Mats Hummels completes the trio of absentees, sitting out the game due to suspension following a second booking in the Germans’ quarter-final victory over Italy on penalties.

Chasing a fourth European title, Germany could also be without Bastian Schweinsteiger. Loew has ruled out using his captain unless he has recovered fully from a knee ligament injury.

The German boss has to decide what to do with his forward line and whether to use Mario Goetze, Lukas Podolski, Thomas Mueller or Leroy Sane. Goetze and Mueller have both

been struggling with their form.

In defence Loew is unlikely to deploy a three-man central defence as he did against Italy.

“Against France I still have to think about it. Italy are a team with automated plays. They are world class in playing them but they are predictable,” Loew told reporters.

“France are different. They constantly change positions, they are much more unexpected and difficult to predict.”

Loew is likely to use Emre Can as Khedira’s replacement with Benedikt Hoewedes slipping into the central defence for Hummels.

The French are feeling confident following their 5-2 demolition of Iceland and the euphoria in the country is growing. But, in order to reach a home final in Paris on 10 July, Didier Deschamp’s team must plug their porous defence.

Leading 4-0 at halftime against Iceland, France dropped their guard, conceding two goals. Centre back Samuel Umtiti, playing his first international, was not totally commanding and Adil Rami, who was suspended, could return for the German game.—Reuters

Barcelona’s Messi gets 21 mths for tax fraud, unlikely to serve time

MADRID — Barcelona’s Argentine soccer star Lionel Messi was sentenced on Wednesday to 21 months in prison and fined 2 million euros (\$2.2 million) after being found guilty of three counts of tax fraud, although it is unlikely he will serve time.

The Barcelona court handed the same sentence to the player’s father, Jorge, with a 1.5 million euro fine. Both defendants have around five days to appeal to the supreme court, the Barcelona court said in its statement.

Spanish law is such that any sentence under two years for a non-violent crime rarely requires a defendant without previous convictions to serve jail time. A spokeswoman for the court confirmed Messi was unlikely to be imprisoned.

Messi, 29, and his father defrauded the Spanish tax office of



Barcelona’s Argentine soccer star Lionel Messi. PHOTO: REUTERS

almost 4.2 million euros between 2007 and 2009 by using a web of shell companies to evade taxes on income from the player’s image rights, the court said in a written ruling.

The companies — with

names such as Sport Consultants and Sport Enterprises — were based in tax havens such as Belize, Uruguay and Switzerland where legislation kept the identities of their owners secret, according to the ruling.

Messi, five-times World Player of the Year, admitted during the trial to signing contracts protecting his image rights but said he had no knowledge he was partaking in any wrongdoing or defrauding the Spanish state.

He said his father had control over his financial affairs, but the court said on Wednesday that this was not enough to avoid charges.

“(His) avoidable ignorance, which was derived from indifference, is not an error, and it does not remove responsibility,” the presiding judge, Mercedes Armas Galve, wrote in the statement.—

Reuters

Midfielder Mooy joins Huddersfield on loan from Man City

LONDON — Huddersfield Town have taken Australia midfielder Aaron Mooy on a season-long loan from Manchester City, the Championship (second tier) club said on Tuesday.

The 25-year-old, who joined the Premier League side on a three-year contract from sis-

ter club Melbourne City last week, scored 11 goals and set an A-League record of 21 assists for the Australian club during the 2015-16 season.

The Australian international has represented his country 15 times.

“The opportunity to loan

Aaron came around very quickly once his move to Manchester City and I am happy we could move quickly to do this,” coach David Wagner told the club’s website (www.htafc.com).

Huddersfield finished 19th in the Championship last season.—

Reuters