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FIGHT AGAINST GRAFT



Pyithu Hluttaw is being convened in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

Lawmakers challenge government to fight corruption

TO realize the development policies for the country, it is very important that the government fight to end corruption, which remains the country's biggest impediment to achieving modern development, said Daw Khin Hninn Thit of

the Padaung Constituency at a Pyithu Hluttaw session yesterday.

Expressing support for a motion calling on the government to take effective anti-corruption measures submitted by Dr U Than Win of North Okkal-

apa Constituency, the MP pointed out that corruption is the cause of many a great negative thing in the country's economic and social sectors.

Likewise, Dr U Myint Thein of Nyaunglebin Constituency called for im-

proving the livelihoods of service personnel and punitive actions against those who committed corrupt acts, saying that one of the reasons for corruption is the low pay of government employees.

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Migrant workers in Thailand left vulnerable as advocacy groups suspend operations

TWO major Thai-based organisations advocating the rights of Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand, the Myanmar Association in Thailand (MAT) and the Aid Alliance Committee for Myanmar workers (AAC), have suspended their activities in light of resignation by both groups from the Myanmar Embassy's Worker Assistance Committee.

The resignation of both organisations comes after a meeting with the Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand on Monday.

"Representatives of our ACC and U Kyaw Thauang's MAT have resigned from the [embassy's] committee. In light of this matter, we've suspended our activities to assist Myanmar migrant workers as of today," said Ko Ye Min of AAC via phone from Thailand.

The suspension of

both groups' activities effectively cuts off a lifeline for the multitudes of migrant workers employed in Thailand under precarious circumstances.

Both organisations reportedly resigned from the embassy's committee over differences of opinion, together with

The embassy isn't as cozy with [migrant] workers as the AAC is.

the embassy's inability to take responsibility over their safety.

"It was our own decision [to resign]," continued Ko Ye Min. "They said they couldn't take responsibility for our safety, and we didn't see eye-to-eye on some matters as well."

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Weather bureau issues flood, landslide warnings for Chin, northern Rakhine

THE weather bureau has alerted the people in Chin State and the northern part of Rakhine State to possible flash floods and landslides due to a depression formed over the northwest Bay of Bengal.

The formation, currently located near a coastal section near India

and Bangladesh, is not likely to move towards Myanmar. But the weather formation is still coded at the orange level because Chin State and the northern part of Rakhine State are in the circle of the depression.

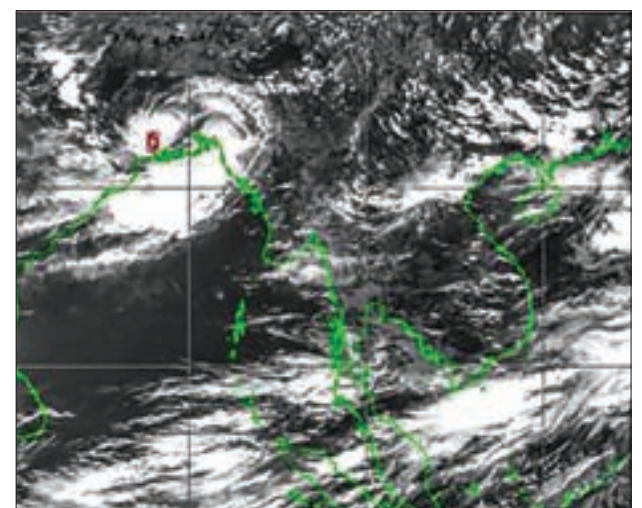
"Heavy rainfall is likely to occur over Chin State

and northern Rakhine State due to the depression," the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology said.

In its warning, the weather bureau alerted the people in hilly areas in the two regions to strong wind, flash floods and possible landslides. Residents living near rivers in northern

Rakhine State were also alerted to possible flash flooding.

The warning also cautioned fishermen against venturing into sea as the condition would be rough with squalls and strong wind up to 40 miles per hour along the Rakhine coast.—GNLM



သဒ္ဓါထက်သန် မြန်မာအားမန် ကမ္ဘောဇဘဏ်

Amyotha Hluttaw

Education Ministry vows to give priority to building staff quarters for teachers



Union Minister for Industry U Khin Maung Cho. PHOTO: MNA

SAFE staff quarters will be built for teachers working in the country's remote areas, Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein



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

Gyi told the Amyotha Hluttaw yesterday.

According to the ministry, a budget of more than K10 bil-



U Tet Tun Aung. PHOTO: MNA

lion had been allocated for the construction of 55 staff quarters for the 2015-2016 FY and 11 four-storey buildings with 264

apartments for the 2016-2017 FY. In his response to questions at the parliament the Union minister vowed to put priority on building staff quarters for teachers in cooperation with region/state governments.

U Tet Tun Aung, who raised a question about staff quarters for teachers in rural areas, said that it is required that the government improve the accommodation and livelihoods of teachers assigned to fur-flung areas.

During yesterday's Amyotha Hluttaw session, Union Minister for Industry U Khin Maung Cho also responded to a question about distillery wastewater dumped into the Hsinkyone creek by the Yaung Ni liquor factory in Ayeyawady Region and actions against the distribution of low-quality alcoholic beverages

on the market.

The Union minister pledged that the departments concerned and the Ayeyawady Region government will make an inspection tour of the liquor factory after the distiller completed repair works and action will be taken against the factory if it does not meet set standards.

No toxic chemicals were found in the factory's product following a laboratory test carried out last fiscal year, said the Union minister, adding that the distiller was asked to halt production until the completion of repair works.

Next, Chairman of Union Civil Service Board Dr Win Thein put forward a Bill to revise Civil Service Law to the Amyotha Hluttaw.— *Thein Ko Lwin/ Myanmar News Agency*

Wastewater treatment tanks installed at two parks in Yangon

Ko Moe

IN cooperation with the Japanese International Cooperation Agency, the Yangon City Development Committee and Daigo Sangyo Co Ltd, wastewater treatment tanks have been established at Maha Bandoola Park and U Ottama Park in Yangon.

A ceremony to hand over the two tanks was held at the YCDC yesterday, Yangon Mayor U Maung Maung Soe said the two modern tanks were considered an essential characteristic of an urban area and would not cause any harm to people living nearby.

The YCDC has been working to improve the city's sewage system, housing, roads, bridges, transportation and environmental sectors. Work on the installation of the wastewater treat-

ment tanks, donated by Daigo Sangyo Co Ltd, started at on 1 March and the two tanks have been in operation since the end of July. Daigo Sangyo Co Ltd has plans to conduct training for the use and maintenance of the wastewater treatment tanks.

Under the arrangement of YCDC and BORDA, a German company, a wastewater treatment tank was set up at the Basic Education High School-1 in Tamway Township in January last year for 850 teachers and students.

A similar tank was established at a training school for employees of the YCDC under the arrangement of Mitsubishi Rayon Co Ltd and Myanmar Water Engineering Product Co Ltd in 2015.



Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint visits the MRTV relay station (Thabyetaung). PHOTO: MNA

Union Information Minister visits IPRD offices, relay station, dailies and printing house in Nay Pyi Taw

UNION Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint visited the Information and Public Relations Department's district and township offices, the MRTV relay station (Thabyetaung) and the Kyemon and Myanma Alinn dailies and the Nay Pyi Taw printing house in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During his inspection tour of

IPRD offices in Dekkhina and Ottara districts and Pobbathiri and Pinyinman townships, the Union minister called for wall posters and story-telling programmes for children and literary talks to be held at the offices.

He also stressed the need for release of information and turning the offices into public gather-

ing places and called for winning the public trust. In the afternoon, the Union minister met with staff of the Myanma Alinn and Kyemon dailies in Zeyarthiri Township and inspected the Nay Pyi Taw printing house. Later, the Union minister visited self-sustaining libraries in the township.— *Myanmar News Agency*

Lawmakers challenge ...

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Regarding lawmakers' discussions on the proposal, U Mya Win, chairman of the anti-corruption commission, said it is difficult to end corruption, which has become deeply rooted in the country's various sectors within a short period of time.

The commission chairman stressed the need for correcting the mindset of the people, as corruption is caused by both the giver and the taker.

It is imperative to revise

some provisions of the anti-corruption law, added the chairman, expressing his belief that a comprehensive approach to the fight against corruption will help the country make remarkable progress in its corruption battle within a prescribed time.

Next, the commission chairman called on the parliament to record the proposal calling for fighting corruption. The Pyithu Hluttaw unanimously approved the anti-corruption proposal.— *Myanmar News Agency*

Correction

Please read e-mail: ir.pso.moi2015@gmail.com in the story "Government's work performance for first 100 days press conference to be held on Friday: covered on Page-3 of the 10th August issue of the Global New Light of Myanmar.—Ed

Pyithu Hluttaw provides cash donation for flood victims

A CEREMONY to officiate the donation of funds by the Pyithu Hluttaw for flood victims was held at the Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the ceremony Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint presented K15 million including K8.52 million collected from 426 Pyithu Hluttaw

representatives who donated together one day's ministerial allowance to Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye, vice chairman of the National Natural Disaster Management Committee.

Next, the Union minister presented a certificate of hon-

our to the Speaker.

Also present at the donation ceremony were Deputy Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Ti Khun Myat, chairmen of Pyithu Hluttaw committees, Defence Services Personnel Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and officials of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office.— *Myanmar News Agency*

Vice President U Henry Van Thio provides relief supplies to flood victims in Magway, Bago Regions

VICE President U Henry Van Thio presented cash and other supplies to flood victims in Magway and Bago Regions yesterday.

On his arrival at a relief camp in Aunglan Township of Magway Region, the Vice President handed over K6.1 million to flood victims and spoke words of encouragement.

Next the Vice President and party went to Pyay where he heard reports on flood damage in Bago Region and relief and rehabilitation work presented by Bago Region Chief Minister U Win Thein and gave instructions on the distribution of paddy strains for inundated farmlands.

At Shwe Palin Hmaw relief camp, the Vice President presented cash and supplies including 240 bags of rice and 280 visses (a viss is approximately 1.6

kilograms) of edible oil to flood victims in Pyay.

Then, he provided relief supplies including rice and edible oil to flood victims at a relief camp in Htonbo Township and visited inundated wards in Padaung Township where he met with more flood victims. A relief camp in Shwedaung Township also received cash and supplies.

Speaking to flood victims in affected townships, the Vice President stressed the need for a strong spirit to overcome the disaster, calling on flood victims to do their bit in the government's rehabilitation work.

He also expressed special thanks to everyone for offering help in relief efforts and pledged the government's commitment to providing assistance to post-disaster recovery.—*Myanmar News Agency*



Vice President U Henry Van Thio visits the shelter-2 in Aunglan.
PHOTO: MNA

Vice President cautions against impact of economic growth on environment



Vice President U Myint Swe addresses the coordination meeting organised by the Central Committee for National Environmental Conservation and Climate Change in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

VICE President U Myint Swe has shed light on the impact of economic growth on environment in the undertaking of national development at a coordination meeting in Nay Pyi Taw, calling for effective efforts toward environmental protection.

The vice president yesterday addressed the coordination meeting organised by the Central Committee for National Environmental Conservation and Climate Change at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation in the capital city.

The vice president said putting a heavy emphasis on economic development with no regard for effective environmental conservation in the past has degraded ecosystems, adding that the ill consequences of climate change must be tackled because they pose

a great threat to people and sustainable development. He stressed that sustainable development involves striking a balance between socioeconomic development and environmental protection.

He said national economic policies should encourage national reconciliation, equitable resource allocation among states and regions, and the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources from generation to generation.

He urged officials to follow and put into practice the environmental conservation law, its rules and regulations and the environmental impact assessment regulations in pursuit of national sustainable economic growth.

According to environmentalists, Myanmar is ranked the second most vulnerable country to

climate change.

Heavy reliance on natural resources for socioeconomic development has turned out to be a trigger for detrimental effects on forests, minerals, marine resources and biodiversity.

Vice President U Myint Swe called for the implementation of a comprehensive strategy for international cooperation to combat the effects of climate change and step up environmental conservation.

Union Minister U Ohn Win, Chairman of the Central Committee for National Environmental Conservation and Climate Change, briefed the vice president on the organisational structure of his committee and its functions, with officials explaining environmental protection measures across the country.—*Myanmar News Agency*

List of 700 participants in 21st Century Panglong Conference to be announced after UPDJC meeting

Thein Ko Lwin

ABOUT 700 representatives are expected to attend the planned Union Peace Conference- 21st Century Panglong and a list of the participants in the conference is set to be announced in

mid-August, the Union Minister for Office of the State Counselor told the Amyotha Hluttaw yesterday.

In his response to a question about the peace conference scheduled to be held on 31 August, the Union minister said that

an emphasis is being placed on the participation of all stakeholders in the conference.

According to a political dialogue framework approved previously, the government and parliament are set to hold 75 seats each with 150 seats each for Tatmad-

aw, ethnic armed organizations and political parties and 50 seats each for ethnic representatives and other invitees.

The Union minister said that the political dialogue framework will be reviewed at a UPDJC meeting scheduled to be held this

month. The list of the participants in the 21st Century Panglong Union Peace Conference will also be approved at the meeting.

An agenda of the conference depends upon the outcome of the UPDJC meeting, added the Union minister.

A JOURNEY OF TRULY ASIA AT SEDONA HOTEL YANGON



Let your palate take you on a culinary journey across South and East Asia this month at the luxurious and relaxed settings of D'Cuisine where Chef Robert and his kitchen team will feature delicacies from the countries of Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Vietnam, Thailand, India and of course, Myanmar!

Every evening will feature 'live' dances ranging from the various ethnicities that makes Asia a most colourful and vibrant culinary destination

Time : Daily Dinner Buffet 6.30pm to 10.00pm
Venue : D'Cuisine All Day Dining Restaurant

** Children below 12 and seniors above 60 years old enjoy 50% discounts.

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SEDONA
YANGON

Myanmar traditional boxing matches to be held in Macau and USA

MYANMAR traditional boxing contests will be held in Macau and the USA with an aim to interest foreigners in Myanmar boxing and to hopefully foster future participation in Myanmar traditional boxing contests, said U Wunna, in charge of the Myanmar Media Group.

"We expect to convene the Myanmar boxing matches in Macau and USA at the end of this year. After holding Myanmar boxing matches in these two countries, we plan to hold them in other countries, too. We will try to hold the boxing competitions in an attractive way to make foreigners interested in Myanmar traditional boxing," he added.

The Myanmar boxing matches will be held un-



Soe Lin Oo (Myanmar) and Tar Wun Chaing (Thai) seen fighting. PHOTO:200

der Myanmar traditional boxing rules. The referees will be from Myanmar. Famous Myanmar fighters

and foreign boxers will compete.

The Myanmar Media Group will sponsor the

first Myanmar traditional boxing matches in Tokyo, Japan on 27 October, 2016.— 200

Two bridges to be built in Homalin and Hkanti

Two bridges across the Chindwin River will be built in Homalin and Hkanti townships to develop the upper regions of Chindwin River running across the Sagaing Region, said the divisional Roads/Bridges department.

Crossing the Chindwin River, the 120-metre-long Homalin bridge will connect Homalin town to Katha town. The construction of the bridge will ensure smooth and easy access to Katha, Aung Zayar, Tamu, Kalay and Kalyawa town on Chindwin West; Phaung Pyin, Maw Lite, Yay Oo and Monywa on Chindwin South; Kawlin, Wuntho, Shwebo, and Mandalay on Chindwin east; and Hkanti, Leshi, Lahe and Nang Yum on the north of Chindwin Riv-

er. The Homalin bridge will be the most useful bridge on northeast border line of Myanmar.

Similarly, the 112-metre-long Hkanti Bridge will connect Hkanti to Hsinthay town. After finishing the bridge, travellers can go to Pan Hsaung in the Naga region and Monywa.

In the past, local residents in Homalin and Hkanti Townships relied on Chindwin River for transport of goods and people. After constructing of the two bridges, local people of Homalin and Hkanti Townships will see development in health, social, education and economic sectors. The bridges will be built using the 2016-2017 budget of the Sagaing region government.— 200

Crime NEWS

Teenagers charged with two counts of mobile phone theft

YANGON (North) District police were on patrol on 7 August when they found a suspicious-looking group of teens on Yangyi Aung road, ward 13, Shwpyitha township, Yangon region.

The police took them to the police station for interrogation. When interrogated, Aung Thu, Kyaw Min Tun, alias Min Tun Aung, Soe Min Aung, alias Kayin, and Myo Min Zaw, alias Gay Gay, admitted that they had stolen two mobile phones from a house at ward 5, Yangyi Aung road. Action has been taken against them under section 380/54 of the Penal code.

Police said that Gay Gay and Soe Min Aung have been charged with another count under section



Aung Thu, Kyaw Min Tun, (a) Min Tun Aung, Soe Min Aung, (a) Kayin, and Myo Min Zaw, (a) Gay Gay. PHOTO: KO KO NAING (SHWE PYI THAR)

380/54 of Penal code after they allegedly stole a mobile phone last week. They allegedly sold

the mobile phone to Ma Phwe Phwe for Ks 35,000. — Ko Ko Naing (Shwe Pyi Thar)

Police arrest two men for looting

THE police have filed a lawsuit against two men on suspicion of looting a bag in front of the pagoda at Twantay town on 8 August.

According to the investigation, the police stopped a motorbike heading for Dala from Twantay driven by a young man

with another on board. But, the motorbike driver disobeyed the order and drove away.

Police pursued the motorbike and arrested the driver and passenger near Pyawbwealay village.

Police checked the bag in their possession and found Ks

175,000, gold materials, some currency notes of US and Singapore dollars and Two KBZ bank books.

The police identified the pair as Min Chit Oo, alias Min Oo, 24, and Kyaw Zin, alias Aung Pu, 23, from Dala town. — The Mirror

Yaba and opium seized

AUTHORITIES from Mong Pyin Myoma police station seized Yaba pills at a house in Wan Mon village on 7 August. Acting on a tip-off, the police searched a house belonging to Ma Nan Ei and found 1,329 Yaba pills.

Similarly, a combined investigation team comprising officials and staff from Thaton police station seized 587 Yaba tablets from the home of Myo Zayar on Railway Station Road, Thaton township on 8 August. According to the investigation, members of the police arrested Aung Min, who is the owner of the Yaba on Railway Station road. The police also arrested Aung Kyaw Oo who is the alleged drug dealer at his house on Lanthit Road, Auk Kyin ward, Thaton.

Police from Myitkyina police station also searched the



Ma Nan Ei. PHOTO: MPF

home of Ma Kaw Bu at Kyunpintha ward, Myitkyina township, on 7 August and discovered 272 Yaba tablets and opium weighing 6.5 grams. Police have filed charges against them under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.— Myanmar Police Force

Illegal timber confiscated from vehicle

ILLEGALLY sawed timber was seized from a vehicle on Myo Chaung- Min Hla-Sein Kantlant road, Kyaukdaga township, Bago region on 7 August.

According to the investigation, officials and staff from the forestry department stopped and searched the vehicle driv-

en by U Than Soe alias U Soe Aung, 43, from Bago township and found illegally sawed timber weighing 1.0354 tonnes on board the vehicle. The driver said that he brought the timber from the Myauk Zamani forest reserve. He will be charged under the forestry law.— Khin Ko (Kyaukdaga)

LOCAL Business

Vehicle substitution announcement deflates Yangon's car market

SALES in Yangon's vehicle market have slumped after the Road Transport Administration Department (RTAD) issued a statement permitting the import of trucks if pickups and light-trucks are revoked as part of a regional substitution scheme, veteran car brokers say.

The statement, issued by the RTAD on 26 July, has reportedly deflated the region's car market due to the suspension of vehicle permits, on top of a additional 15 per cent income tax which had already dented the market.

"Sales have been poor of late because if you want to import vehicles using the vehicle substitution system, you're not only permitted to import one kind of vehicle - such as light-trucks, trucks and various buses - but also other models according to the vehicle substitution plan," said U Sein Hman of a car trading zone situated in Yangon's Hlaing Township.

Car dealers from the old Thirimingalar car market have stated that only slips which permit the importation of vehicles not for commercial use might increase in



Car sales in Yangon have slumped due to the suspension of vehicle permits. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

price, while those who desire to purchase cars for commercial activities could buy up slips in lieu of wasting their time trying to obtain slips themselves through the official process.

"The authorities should seek

out those who renovate damaged cars and put them back on the market. Legal action should be taken against them. Nobody in the car market should be given any grief on their pretext," said U Kyaw, an import-export businessman.

The release of the statement has reportedly also augmented the price of other cars on the market by between K1.5 - 2 million depending on vehicle models, car brokers say.—Myitmakha News Agency

Omni Focus Co to establish public bus company with over 3,500 buses

THE Omni Focus Company has plans to establish a public bus company with a fleet of over 3,500 buses, said a responsible person from the company.

After shutting down the All Private Bus Lines Control Committee (Central), the Yangon Transport Authority has been planning to run bus lines under a public bus company programme. Omni Focus Company plans to operate their bus company with over 3,500 buses made between 2006 and 2016 as required by the government for the establishment of such an enterprise. Omni Focus Company is currently running bus lines in Yangon.

The Yangon Transport Authority is managing bus lines, taxis, other transportation vehicles, the Circular railway and the water transportation network in Yangon Region.

There are over 350 passenger bus lines in Yangon with a total of 5,000 buses and over 50,000 taxis, it has been learned.—200

Tax exemptions to be granted to 100 per cent of export factories

TAX exemptions will be granted to 100 per cent of export factories operating in Myanmar without time limit if both nationals and (if applicable) their foreigner partners export all finished products they manufacture, it has been learned from the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA).

Export enterprises will be exempted from certain taxes. That means they will receive a refund of the duties levied on their imported raw materials when they export their finished products. This tax ex-

emption has been enshrined in the new Investment Law to bolster the export volume, said U Aung Naing Oo, secretary of the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC).

According to existing business law, both custom duties and other general taxes levied on imported raw materials will be exempted for three years after the MIC has granted permission to an enterprise. However, this kind of exemption will not be granted according to the new MIC law, said U Aung Naing Oo.

Export factories will be able to enjoy, however, a right to duty exemption without time limit. If they want to be engaged in exporting for 20 years, they will be granted a 20-year tax exemption. A 50 year tax exemption is also available. Companies will be refunded the tax levied on imported materials against the volume of export, he added.

Myanmar's trade deficit has increased recently due to the value of imports rising above export earnings, triggering a need for US currency.—200

An expensive habit: Betel leaf prices high due to flooding in Magwe Region

THE price of betel leaf (instrumental in the construction of chewable betel quids) has surged due to plantations in some villages being destroyed by flooding in Magwe Region, according to merchants.

Betel leaf prices are exorbitantly high compared to periods of normal trading, fetching up from K7,500 to K15,000 per viss (approximately 1.6 kilograms) on the market.

Betel leaves are mainly

sent to market from Magwe, Minbu and Taungdwingyi. Betel leaves are also cultivated in Minbu (Saku), Pinle Thek, Letkhoke, Kyaungtaaw Yar, Kyaukgon, Pwintbyu and Shauktaw villages. These areas have also been affected by flooding.

Pantanaw betel leaf is famous among betel quid connoisseurs and is cultivated across the nation. Other varieties of betel leaf are entering the market to fill the mouths of customers.—200



Betel leaves. PHOTO: MYITMAKHA NEWS AGENCY

High-rise car parking and hotels to be built on Myanma Railway land

HIGH-rise car parking and hotel projects in Yangon will be implemented on the land belonging to Myanma Railway, it has been learned.

Due to a scarcity of available land in Yangon City, a number of development projects will be conducted on the grounds of the Kyimyindine and Pazundaung railway stations which are owned by Myanma Railway, according to

the Yangon Regional government.

Although buildings are slated to be built on Myanma Railway property, the authorities concerned are also eyeing vacant land owned by other ministries. However, no projects will take place on the land owned by the Yangon City Development Committee, said an official from the Yangon Transport Authority. Further details regarding the deals being made between

developers, Myanma Railway and the various ministries concerned have not been forthcoming.

The car park at Pazundaung railway station can accommodate approximately 1,000 cars and Kyimyindine station over 5,000, according to the project companies. A hotel zone, staff housing apartments, a shopping centre and a play-ground will also be built.—200

Japan's crown prince ready for throne, but no fairytale for his unhappy princess

TOKYO — When Japanese Crown Prince Naruhito proposed to a reluctant Masako Owada, he promised to protect her with all his might, a vow that may get tougher to keep if, as expected, his father Emperor Akihito abdicates, and the woman who has struggled to adjust to royal life becomes empress.

The 82-year-old Akihito, who with Empress Michiko has won hearts at home by championing the disadvantaged and worked to heal the wounds of World War II abroad, hinted in a televised address on Monday that he could give up the Chrysanthemum Throne due to advancing age.

While the earnest Naruhito, 56, is seen as ready for the succession and has taken on more official duties, Masako, 52, who turned down his first two proposals during a long courtship beginning nearly 30 years ago, has struggled as Crown Princess. Harvard-educated Masako, who reluctantly abandoned a diplomatic career to marry, has for more than a decade battled depression, as she grappled with the prescriptions and pro-



Japan's Crown Prince Naruhito and Crown Princess Masako make an appearance before Japanese athletes during a team-forming ceremony ahead of the Japanese team's departure to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, in Tokyo, Japan, on 3 July 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

scriptions of palace life and pressure to produce a son.

Their daughter, 14-year-old Aiko, cannot take the throne under male-only inheritance laws.

In 2012, Masako, who spent large parts of her early life overseas and speaks several languages, acknowledged that she had been battling a stress-related illness for a long time. Her public appearances are still sporadic. "Imperial popularity tends to be earned through

carrying out public duties over the course of the reign," said Kenneth Ruoff, a professor at Portland State University and author of "The People's Emperor."

"If Naruhito does that, there is no reason to think he would be any less respected than his father. The case of Masako is more difficult to foresee." Naruhito's interests in medieval transport and environmental causes seem safely worthy, if dull, though royal watchers say he

has broken new ground, like advocating hands-on fathering, uncommon in a country where there is still a strong gender-based division of labour both at work and home.

He is also unusual, for a Japanese royal, in having studied abroad, and describes his two years at Oxford University as some of the happiest days of his life.

Naruhito has made clear he will carry on his father's work of reminding people about the importance of peace, even as Prime Minister Shinzo Abe moves to recast wartime history with a less apologetic tone.

But he is best known for his passionate defence of Masako, who disappeared from public view in 2003 with shingles and what was later described as an "adjustment disorder".

In 2004 he set off an unusually public feud with the Imperial Household, an agency responsible for organising the activities of the royal family, by saying that Masako, who had hoped to use her diplomatic experience as crown princess, had "totally exhausted herself" trying to adapt to palace life.—Reuters

UN censure of North Korea missile thwarted

UNITED NATIONS — The United Nations Security Council has been unable to condemn the launch of a missile by North Korea that landed near Japan because China wanted the statement to oppose the planned deployment of a US anti-missile defence system in South Korea.

North Korea launched a ballistic missile last Wednesday that landed in or near Japanese-controlled waters for the first time, the latest in a series of launches by the isolated country in defiance of UN Security Council resolutions.

The 15-member council held a closed-door meeting on the same day, but has been unable to agree on a US-drafted statement to condemn the launch, which was almost identical to two previous statements issued by the council on North Korea (DPRK).

China proposed that the statement also say "all relevant parties shall avoid taking any actions which could provoke each other

and escalate tensions, and shall not deploy any new anti-ballistic missile stronghold in Northeast Asia with an excuse of dealing with threats of the DPRK nuclear and missile programmes."

Beijing has said Washington's decision last month to deploy a Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD) system would only worsen tensions on the Korean peninsula.

China's UN mission also did not want the statement to express concern that the missile landed near Japan, telling council diplomats in an email, seen by Reuters: "We believe that the response of the council is based on violation of Security Council resolutions, not the place where the missile impacted."

Japan and the United States said they could not accept the proposed changes to the draft by China and on Tuesday dropped the bid for a Security Council statement.—Reuters

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Asia must invest more in disaster risk reduction — Red Cross

JAKARTA — From typhoons and earthquakes to floods, Asian nations must step up investment in disaster risk reduction before it is "too late for too many" in a region regularly battered by disasters, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) said.

Asia-Pacific is the world's most disaster-prone region according to the United Nations, accounting for over half of the world's 344 disasters last year, with more than 16,000 deaths and 59 million people affected in the region alone.

The region has made improvements in tackling disasters but Asia can do more by boosting its investment in risk reduction, said Elhadj As Sy, IFRC Secretary General.

"If you compare with what you used to have five years ago, 10 years ago, the countries are getting better equipped and better prepared," Sy told the Thomson Reuters Foundation in an interview during a recent visit to Jakarta. "Is it enough? Probably not," he added.

Citing successes in the Philippines, which is bat-

tered by typhoons every year, Sy said investing in disaster risk reduction was key to minimising the number of casualties.

Typhoon Haiyan, which hit the Philippines in 2013, killed more than 6,300 people and uprooted over four million, but last year's typhoon season had only a minor impact in the country.

"Invest in disaster reduction, invest in preparedness ... We know it is harder for people to invest in something they do not see and where they do not measure

the consequences.

"But if we wait until they see and measure the consequences, it is too late for too many," Sy said.

International aid for disasters stood at \$28 billion from 2004 to 2013, but most of this was aimed at emergency response and rehabilitation, rather than prevention, according to the 2015 UN Asia-Pacific Disaster Report.

Asia-Pacific is particularly vulnerable to disasters partly due to a rapidly growing population and a large

number of urban poor who tend to live in hazard-prone areas such as slums and riverbanks. Currently, over 700 million people in the region live in areas deemed at "extreme" or "high" disaster risk, and the number could reach one billion by 2030, according to the latest UN data, in March.

"It is not enough just to respond when the shock arrives. What is most important is how can we work together in the spirit of risk reduction," the head of IFRC said.—Reuters



A man walks through a smouldering slum area after a fire razed more than 100 dwellings and workshops in East Jakarta, Indonesia, on 8 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Nepal quake impact on single women underlines need for equal land rights — activist

KATHMANDU — Last year's twin earthquakes in Nepal disproportionately affected single women, underlining the need for equal land ownership to increase their resilience in disasters, a women's rights activist has said.

Of the more than 900,000 homes damaged and destroyed, about a quarter belonged to female-headed households. More than 500,000 women and girls were displaced and about 2,000 women were widowed, according to official data.

"The deep gender inequality in Nepal meant that women, and single women in particular, suffered most in the aftermath of the earthquakes," said Lily Thapa, founder of Women for Human Rights (WHR), a group campaigning for single women's rights with about 100,000 members.

"They could not make themselves heard and they received the least assistance, which left many vulnerable to abuse, trafficking and harassment," she told the Thomson Reuters Foundation in Kathmandu.

While the 2015 constitution prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender and established equal property rights, a deep-rooted patriarchy still denies these rights to women, and to single women in particular.

Nepal's categorisation of single women — estimated by the charity to number 500,000 — includes those who are widowed, those who are unmarried above the age of 35, and those who are divorced.

Early marriage, with 37 per cent of Nepali women married before the age of 18, increases their vulnerability, Thapa said.

The migration of millions of young Nepali men overseas to find jobs has also led to an in-



A woman walks out from her house damaged during the 2015 earthquakes in Bhaktapur, Nepal, on 25 April 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

crease in female-headed households to 26 per cent in 2011 from 15 per cent in 2001, according to census data.

While women's ownership of land and property has improved in recent years, women are still much less likely to inherit land, to have land registered in their name, or possess documentation that supports their claim, Thapa said.

Female ownership of land and/or property stood at 20 per cent in 2011 compared with 12 per cent in 2001. In rural areas, it is 18 per cent compared with 27 per cent in urban areas.

The quakes that struck last April and May killed 9,000 people and injured at least 22,000 in the Himalayan nation.

Nearly a quarter of the 495 single women-headed households surveyed by WHR and Oxfam after the disaster said they had lost their property papers, and nearly half had lost their citizenship certificates.

Many women have never had citizenship papers, marriage certificates or even birth certificates. Getting documentation can be daunting for single women, as large numbers are illiterate, Thapa said.

After the quakes, these challenges were thrown into sharp relief as single women had to repair or rebuild their homes and care for the family. Many were unable to seek assistance.

When WHR surveyed women several months after the quakes, more female-headed households than male-headed households were still in camps, Thapa said.

"Women who were widowed in the quakes, for example, had to observe the mourning rituals for a year — staying indoors, not going into crowds. How could they go get relief or get new papers?" Thapa said.

"There is a lot of social pressure on widows, on single women to observe rituals, to

stay home, to remain dependent on men," said Thapa, a widow herself.

Nepal appointed its first female president last year and its first female chief justice earlier this year, in signs that the country is becoming increasingly inclusive, following the end of 10 years of civil war in 2006.

WHR is lobbying the government to include single women in the planning and implementation of disaster preparedness, response and recovery programmes and resettlement plans.

It is also asking the government to ensure that joint land ownership registration is made mandatory for married couples, and to promote women's registration on other forms of land documentation.

"Strengthening single women's asset ownership is key to reducing their vulnerability to disasters and boosting their resilience," Thapa said. —Reuters

MH370 fell out of sky after engine failure: Australian analysis

CANBERRA — Australian defence scientists who analysed signals from missing Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 have revealed the Boeing 777 fell very fast before crashing into the Indian Ocean off the coast of Western Australia.

The Australian media reported on Tuesday that data analysis and manufacturer simulations showed it was likely the aircraft lost engine power before falling out of the sky at a rate of up to 20,000 feet per minute on 8 March 2014.

An aircraft attempting a regular landing — or a crash landing in water — would descend at a rate of around 2,000 feet per minute, raising doubts over previous predictions that the plane "landed" intact in the water before breaking up.

Australian scientists believe that prior to its final moments, the jet made a number of automated "handshake" signals with satellites on the ground near Perth in Western Australia. After six of those handshakes, a seventh, out-of-sequence signal came from the jet, indicating engine failure likely from a lack of fuel.

The data gives life to the theory that MH370 fell out of the sky, and did not glide to a final crash-landing spot in the Indian Ocean.

Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) chief commissioner Greg Hood said the scientists' analysis of the signals closely matched a flight scenario in which there was no pilot at the controls at the point of impact — in contrast to previous theories about how MH370 went down. —Xinhua

Children held at Australian camp suffer assaults, sexual abuse — leaked documents



A group of around twenty protesters stand outside and occupy Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull's electoral office, as they demand the end to the policy of offshore detention of asylum seekers, in the Sydney suburb of Edgecliff, Australia, on 14 October 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

SYDNEY — More than 2,000 incidents, including sexual abuse, assault and attempted self-harm, were reported in about two years at an Australian detention centre for asylum seekers in Nauru, more than half involving children, a newspaper reported on Wednesday.

Leaked documents published by the *Guardian Australia* detail again the level of abuse at the centre on tiny Nauru, one of two run by Australia on neighbouring South Pacific islands, and show once more that children bear the brunt of the trauma.

The closely protected camps, and Australia's hard-line immigration policy against illegal boat arrivals, have been widely criticised by the United Nations and human rights groups.

Under Australia's policy,

asylum seekers intercepted at sea are sent to Nauru and another camp on Manus Island, in Papua New Guinea, and told they will never be settled in Australia.

The number of refugees and asylum seekers trying to reach Australia is tiny compared with Europe, but immigration has long been an emotive issue in Australia and the hardline immigration has bipartisan political support.

Australia said it was seeking to confirm all reports had been dealt with by Nauru police. "It's important to note many of these incident reports reflect unconfirmed allegations," a spokeswoman for Australia's Department of Immigration said.

The more than 2,000 leaked incident reports published by the *Guardian* cover the period between August 2013 and October

2015. Children account for less than 20 per cent of the roughly 500 detainees held on Nauru. There were 59 reports of assaults on children in the period, and seven reports of sexual assaults. Some of the reports alleged abuse by guards against children, while there other reports of sexual advances by unknown men.

The reports also show there were 30 incidents of self-harm among children and 159 of threatened self-harm involving minors.

The remaining reports involving children cover a variety of issues, ranging from accidents to misbehaviour.

One of the leaked incident reports said a child had "written in her book that she was tired, doesn't like the camp and wants to die ... 'I want death, I need death'". —Reuters

Opinion

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Success entails effective teamwork

Kyaw Thura

IN this modern industrial world, a good government is the name of the game in keeping the country one step ahead of others in terms of development. Successful governments are found to be organisations that always prioritise their people's requirements and strive to satisfy their expectations.

It is natural that organisations can fail for many reasons. Failure is an unavoida-

ble cause, so we should not let fear for failure deter us from getting back on our feet again. The best way to avoid future failures is to learn from past failures, find causes of failures and draw lessons for repair and reform.

In this respect, research and development is of the essence for any government or organisation to survive. Research and development cannot be undertaken on an indi-

vidual basis. It requires teamwork. There is every reason to believe that success is something that can be achieved through effective teamwork. In this process, effective teamworking and problem-solving skills require training. It is absolutely vital for leaders of every organisation at all levels to dedicate undivided attention to building the capacity of their respective teams in order to achieve their objectives.

It is important to conduct a capacity building programme that marries the needs and aspirations of team members with those of the organisation. A general consensus on successful governments and organisations is to invest in human resources. Judging from the hypothesis that there is no such thing as something for nothing, doing more with less can amount to doing everything with nothing.

Myanmar's post-election foreign policy

Professor Chaw Chaw Sein

THE general election held late last year represents a historical landmark in Myanmar's democratic transition. The international community is watching the new government's foreign policy to see where it goes. Here are some pointers.

The focus of the outgoing government was on reintegrating with the international community, but the new government will not need to reset relations with the West. This is related to two important factors. First, the reputation of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi rests firmly on her record as a Nobel Peace Laureate and as an international icon of democracy. Second, the previous administration already developed Myanmar's relations with the West and Myanmar will now need to re-engage with China. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will therefore need to convince the West to continue its support, ease the remaining sanctions imposed on Myanmar and invest heavily in the country – while also re-establishing relations with neighbouring China. Against that backdrop, this paper explores the concept of Myanmar's foreign policy as articulated by the country's leadership, and then turns to domestic factors that may influence the foreign policy direction.

The government led by the NLD was formed on 31 March 2016. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is arguably the most popular leader

ever in Myanmar and controls two ministries: Foreign Affairs and the Office of the President. She also serves as the State Counsellor. This is a considerable responsibility, with the day-to-day running of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and policy recommendations of the Office of the President. Many have worried that having such heavy responsibilities might interfere with her work on priority tasks such as the peace talks.

On 18 April, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi delivered a 16-minute Myanmar New Year message which emphasized four areas of domestic policy: national reconciliation, internal peace, drafting of a constitution aimed at establishing a democratic federal union, and improving the quality of life for the population. In order to clarify the trajectory of Myanmar's foreign policy, a formal foreign policy pronouncement was issued in the capital city, Nay Pyi Taw, on 22 April 2016 where Daw Aung San Suu Kyi pledged that the government would adopt a people-centred policy, emphasizing the relations between peoples of different countries, creating friendly and cooperative relations between them.

For Myanmar, people-to-people diplomacy is particularly important for improving relations with big powers through fostering positive images of a nation in democratic transition. It faces a range of challenges and conflicts which some institutions and countries have misinterpreted in terms of human rights and

migration. Under such circumstances, it is essential to pursue people-to-people contacts to improve the understanding of the actual situation in Myanmar and the country's external and internal policies. After many years of isolation of Myanmar from the world – and of the world from Myanmar – the country needs more visits, exchanges and interactions with leaders, scholars, students, civil society organizations and not least tourists from other countries. Careful attention should be given to practical arrangements, including an effective immigration policy for foreign scholars.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's first pragmatic approach can be seen in inviting Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi to Nay Pyi Taw, only a few days after the new government was formed. This invitation is linked to domestic factors, especially the important Myitsone Dam Hydro Power Project. Myanmar-China relations became strained under the U Thein Sein government (2011–2015) due to suspension of this project. This Project will become a major test for new government. At the domestic level, the importance of terminating the project, rather than suspending has been highlighted in journal articles, websites and social media, under headings such as 'Let Irrawaddy flow as Irrawaddy water' and, 'Do all you can to prevent Myitsone'. In this context, instead of taking time to consider the issue, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will need to clarify how she in-

tends to resolve this issue without damaging relations with China. A pragmatic approach to China would be well-advised to include positive cooperation in the area of tourism, instead of resuming the project. As for China, if it truly wants to maintain friendly relations with Myanmar, it should avoid playing the Myitsone Dam card.

Another highly controversial issue is most Myanmar Buddhists hold that the Muslim community in Rakhine is outsiders who emigrated from Bangladesh, and refer to them as 'Bengalis'. It would be advisable for the international community to show understanding by supporting both communities without bias, recognizing that it is difficult for Myanmar to mature in democratic practices and liberalism within such a short time-frame. The new government will need to negotiate with the US to ease the remaining sanctions. As of this writing, some sanctions have been eased, while other measures have been retained, to discourage human rights abuse and arms trade with North Korea. The sanctions decision came before Secretary of State Kerry's visit to ASEAN in

May 2016. However, in her meeting with John Kerry in Nay Pyi Taw, State Counsellor Suu Kyi politely said that the US's sanctions were understandable and did not pose a big problem.

Myanmar's post-election foreign policy will continue in line with fundamental principles from the time of independence, but will also focus more on domestic matters of relevance to foreign policy. If Myanmar is to be more deeply involved in international affairs, the NLD-led government will have to deal with a series of tricky domestic balancing acts: these include balancing environmental degradation vs economic development; non-renewable natural resource exploitation vs ethnic demands; universal human rights vs the rights of individual citizens; outside intervention through foreign aid vs national sovereignty; and the desires of ethnic populations vs domestic security concerns. Otherwise, the government's 100-day plan for short-term achievement and the first five years of the democratically elected NLD-led civilian government will be in vain.

Chaw Chaw Sein has been Head of the International Relations Department, University of Yangon since 2006. She was promoted to the post of Professor in 2011 and is now in charge of both International Relations and Political Science at Yangon University. She is a member of Myanmar ISIS, and participates in international conferences jointly held by Myanmar ISIS and international partners. She works closely with the National Defense College, the Ministry of Defense, by supervising theses and giving lectures.

Priority given to educational staff for low-cost housing



50 per cent of the apartment will go to education staff. PHOTO: MIN HTET AUNG (MDY SUB-PRINTING HOUSE)

EDUCATIONAL staff in the Mandalay Region top the list of the government's priorities to offer housing services, said U Zar Ni Aung, regional minister for Electric Power, Energy and Construction.

Plans are underway to construct over 30 new staff housings, which will produce over 420 apartments across the region. The target areas include Aungmyethazan, Chanmyathazi, Myingyan, Taungtha,

Ngahotgyi, Meiktila, Mahlaing, Yamethin, Wundwin, Thazi, PyinOoLwin, Kyaukpadaung, Thabeikkyin and Mogkok townships.

After completion of the project, 50 per cent of the apartments are likely to go to low-income educational staff who have no ownership of a house or land in the area in which they are assigned to teach.

Among all civil servants in Mandalay, priority will be given

to needy school teachers in order to encourage skilled persons to enter the teaching profession in the future.

Presently, only 5 per cent of civil servants enjoy the government's accommodation services.

The local government will select those teachers under criteria such as salary, experience and marital status.—*Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-Printing House)*

Myanmar to host Asian Men's Club Volleyball Championship this month

MYANMAR will host the Asian Men's Club Volleyball Championship 2016 to help produce qualified new generations of athletes in the country's sports industry through this international competition.

The event is scheduled to take place between 23 and 31 August at Wunna Theikdi Indoor Stadium in the capital Nay Pyi Taw, according to the Ministry of Health and Sports.

More than 300 athletes from over 15 countries will take part in the competition.

Participating countries include the host Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam, Indonesia, Malaysia, China, Hong Kong, China (Taipei), Japan, Iran, Iraq, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan.

As part of preparations to successfully hold the sports

event, a coordination meeting was held on Monday in Nay Pyi Taw among the relevant organizations, including the Department of Sports and Physical Education and the Myanmar Volleyball Federation.

Preparations are being made to broadcast the sports event live, U Thein Win, vice chairman of the MVF, said at the meeting.—*Myanma Alinn*

Migrant workers in Thailand left vulnerable as advocacy groups suspend operations

>> From page 1

We've given them back our organisation's embassy card. The organisation will continue to exist. We've just been forced to suspend our advocacy activities for the time being."

U Moe Aung Naing, an official from the Myanmar Embassy in Thailand, said the embassy confiscated the organisations' cards, issued by the embassy which officially recognised them as migrant worker advocacy organisations, reportedly because they are to be issued with new cards that will better represent the changed status of the organisations in Thailand.

"The embassy's workers assistance committee met with the ambassador on 7 August. The embassy took in the current cards of both groups which resigned as they will be issued with new ones by the Thai government," he said. A total of eight members, five from MAT and three from AAC, resigned from the embassy's committee, while remaining committee members from other migrant worker advocacy groups will continue to hold their positions unaffected.

"To be frank, the embassy isn't as cozy with [migrant] workers as the AAC is. We've never even heard of people

from the embassy providing assistance the entire time we've resided in the country. To rely on an embassy that doesn't do its job is funny," said U Kyaw Min Htaike, a Myanmar migrant worker living in Thailand.

On 5 August, the Thai government ordered both organisations be brought in for investigation after a statement they made during a joint press-conference held in Yangon on 2 August, that tens of thousands of Myanmar migrant workers had been subjected to arrest by Thai authorities, was published on the Thai News Daily's website.—*Myit-makha News Agency*

BFM sets up disaster preparedness fund in 11 regions, states

KBZ's Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation has established a K100-million fund in 11 regions and states so far to allow authorities to better respond to disasters.

The Mandalay Region Government received K100 million, donated by the foundation yesterday, as its 11th fund for disaster preparedness.

"This donation is aimed at assisting respective regional governments to quickly respond to disasters which are currently affecting the country," said U Bo Bo Wai Maung of the foundation at the ceremony.

Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr Zaw Myint Maung

accepted the donation and spoke words of thanks.

BFM and other philanthropic groups carried out evacuation and relief operations in areas which were badly hit by floods and landslides last year. They did, however, face delays in sending relief aid to some areas due to poor infrastructure.

The foundation's chairperson Daw Nang Lang Kham established the fund citing the need to combat such difficulties.

From June 2016 BFM has established the fund in Kachin, Kayah, Chin, Rakhine and Shan states, and Magway, Sagaing, Bago, Ayeyawady and Mandalay regions.—*Thiha Tun*



Chief Minister Dr Zaw Myint Maung presenting the certificate of honour. Photo: BFM

Survey aims to protect near-endangered bird species in Taninthayi

RESEARCH to observe the natural environment of a rare bird species in the Laynya Ngawon Forest in Taninthayi Region is being undertaken by the Biodiversity and Natural Conservation Association (BANCA), its member said.

In collaboration with Flora and Fauna International, the programme aims to study the lifestyle and the natural character of Gurmey's pitta (*Hydornis gurneyi*), a medium-sized passerine bird. The bird is one of the rarest bird species on earth. It is a near-endangered species. The bird breeds in the Malay Peninsula,

with populations in Thailand and especially Myanmar.

The project is a part of the bird observers' efforts to help designate the forest as a protected area. The researchers will install voice transmitters across the Laynya Ngawon Forest, the habitat of Gurmey's pitta, to take records of the bird.

Due to hunting and deforestation, the population of Gurmey's pitta has gradually decreased.

Between 10,000 and 17,200 adult Gurmey's pitta can be found in the Taninthayi Region of Myanmar and Thailand, according to the BANCA.—200



PHOTO: ANIMALWORLD.TUMBLR.COM

Trump's remarks on gun rights, Clinton unleash torrent of criticism

WILMINGTON, (N.C.) — Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump suggested on Tuesday that gun rights activists could act to stop Democratic rival Hillary Clinton from nominating liberal US Supreme Court justices, igniting yet another fire storm of criticism just as he sought to steer clear of controversy.

"If she gets to pick her judges, nothing you can do folks," Trump said at a rally. "Although the Second Amendment people, maybe there is, I don't know," he continued.

The US Constitution's Second Amendment guarantees the right to bear firearms.

Before the remark, Trump had been emphasizing his case against Clinton, who is leading in national opinion polls in the race for the 8 November election. Some in the audience in North Carolina who were seated behind Trump could be seen wincing when he made the comment.

Clinton's campaign called the remark "dangerous."

"A person seeking to be the president of the United States should not suggest violence in any way," it said.

When asked to clarify what Trump meant, his campaign said he was referring to getting supporters of the Second Amendment to rally votes for Trump in the election.

"It's called the power of unification — 2nd Amendment people have amazing spirit and are tremendously unified, which gives them great political power," the Trump campaign said in its statement.

Immediately after Trump made his comment, many on social media accused him of effectively calling for Clinton's assassination. In just three hours, 2nd amendment



Donald Trump attends a campaign rally at the Trask Coliseum at University of North Carolina in Wilmington, North Carolina.

PHOTO: REUTERS

became the top trending topic on Twitter, with more than 60,000 posts mentioning the term.

Introducing Trump later at another rally in North Carolina, in Fayetteville, former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani accused the news media of taking the remark out of context to help Clinton get elected.

"What he meant by that was you have the power to vote against her," Giuliani said to cheers. "You have the power to speak against her. You know why? Because you're Americans."

"It proves that most of the press is in the tank for Hillary Clinton," he added. "They are doing everything they can to destroy Donald Trump."

The US Secret Service, which provides security details for both Trump and Clinton and rarely comments on political matters, when asked for a response on Trump, said: "The Secret Service is aware of the comment."

Trump later told Fox News Channel's "Hannity" program that "nobody in that room" thought he meant anything other than to rally

support against Clinton.

"This is a strong powerful movement, the Second Amendment," Trump said. "Hillary wants to take your guns away. She wants to leave you unprotected in your home. This is a tremendous political movement."

By day's end, Trump was drawing criticism on several fronts, another chapter in a campaign marked by bitterness and partisanship.

Michael Hayden, a former CIA director who on Monday was among 50 Republican national security experts to denounce Trump in a letter, said on CNN, "You're not just responsible for what you say. You are responsible for what people hear."

US Senator Elizabeth Warren, a liberal firebrand who loves tweaking Trump, tweeted that the Republican nominee "makes death threats because he's a pathetic coward who can't handle the fact that he's losing to a girl."

Trump senior adviser Kellyanne Conway fought back in a tweet of her own, calling Warren a "disgrace."—Reuters

Putin and Erdogan move towards repairing ties amid tension with West

ST PETERSBURG/ISTANBUL — Russia and Turkey took a big step towards normalising relations on Tuesday, with their leaders announcing an acceleration in trade and energy ties at a time when both countries have troubled economies and strains with the West.

President Vladimir Putin received his Turkish counterpart Tayyip Erdogan in a Tsarist-era palace outside his home city of St Petersburg. It was Erdogan's first foreign trip since last month's failed military coup, which left Turkey's relationship with the United States and Europe badly damaged. The visit is being closely watched in the West, where some fear both men, powerful leaders ill-disposed to dissent, might use their rapprochement to exert pres-

sure on Washington and the European Union and stir tensions within NATO, the military alliance of which Turkey is a member.

Putin said Moscow would gradually phase out sanctions against Ankara, imposed after the Turks shot down a Russian fighter jet near the Syrian border nine months ago, and that bringing ties to their pre-crisis level was the priority. "Do we want a full-spectrum restoration of relations? Yes and we will achieve that," Putin told a joint news conference after an initial round of talks. "Life changes quickly." Cooperation would be increased on projects including a planned \$20 billion (15 billion pounds) gas pipeline and a nuclear power plant to be built in Turkey by the Russians, Erdogan said, as

well as between their two defence sectors. "God willing, with these steps the Moscow-Ankara axis will again be a line of trust and friendship," Erdogan said.

The leaders were to discuss the war in Syria, over which they remain deeply divided, in a subsequent closed-door session. Progress there is likely to be more halting, with Moscow backing President Bashar al-Assad and Ankara wanting him out of power.

Turkey has been incensed by what it sees as Western concern over a post-coup crackdown but indifference to the bloody putsch itself, in which rogue soldiers bombed parliament and seized bridges with tanks and helicopters. More than 240 people were killed, many of them civilians.—Reuters

NEWS IN BRIEF

Police raid suspected Islamist extremists in West German towns

DUESSELDORF (Germany) — Police carried out raids against suspected Islamist extremists in several towns in the west German state of North Rhine-Westphalia on Wednesday, the state's criminal police said.

Raids took place in the towns of Duisburg and Dortmund among others, the *Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* (WAZ) newspaper reported, and targeted preachers who are suspected of trying to recruit young men to fight in Syria and Iraq.

A spokeswoman for the state criminal police referred all further enquiries to the Federal Prosecutor's Office which was not immediately available for comment. Germany is on high alert after a spate of attacks since July that have left 15 people dead, including four attackers, and dozens injured. Two of the attackers, a Syrian asylum seeker and a refugee from either Pakistan or Afghanistan, had links to Islamist militancy, officials say.—Reuters

Putin, May agree to meet to try to thaw frosty ties

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin and British Prime Minister Theresa May spoke by phone on Tuesday and agreed to meet "in the near future" to try to improve poor relations between Moscow and London, the Kremlin said in a statement.

Both leaders are due to attend a G20 summit in China early next month, giving them an opportunity to meet for the first time since May became prime minister in July.

Relations between Russia and Britain are strained by differences over Ukraine and Syria as well as by what London says is a sharp increase in flights by long-range Russian bombers near British air space.

The Kremlin said Putin and May had agreed to try to work to ensure that the two countries' intelligence services communicated with one another properly and to improve air safety, a reference to Russian military flights. Both leaders had expressed dissatisfaction about the current state of Russian-British relations, the Kremlin said, adding that the phone call had taken place at Britain's initiative.—Reuters

US deploys three B-2 bombers to Guam

NEW YORK — The United States has temporarily deployed three B-2 Spirit nuclear-capable bombers to the Pacific island of Guam, the US Strategic Command said on Tuesday, amid heightened tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

The deployment of the B-2s to Andersen Air Force Base is a "demonstration of the US commitment to supporting global and regional security," said Adm. Cecil Haney, US Strategic Command commander.

During the short-term deployment, the B-2s will carry out trainings in the Asia-Pacific region, and integrate capabilities with key regional partners.

US Pacific Air Forces on Saturday deployed B-1B bombers to Andersen to replace B-52 bombers that have been in Guam as part of the US Pacific Command's continuous bomber presence mission.—Kyodo News

Currency notes worth 865,000 USD stolen from moving train in India

NEW DELHI — Unidentified burglars broke into a moving train in southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu and stole away soiled currency notes worth 865,000 US dollars, police said on Wednesday.

The burglary took place inside Salem-Chennai Express train carrying a consignment of soiled currency notes to Chennai.

"When train pulled into Chennai early on Tuesday morning, it had a person-sized hole in roof of one of its coaches," an official said. "Preliminary investigations suggest a robbery of currency notes worth 865,000 US dollars from the consignment."

The train was carrying soiled Indian currency notes worth 51.3 million US dollars belonging to a few public sector banks to be deposited at a Reserve Bank of India (RBI) branch in Chennai, officials said.

Reports quoting railway police officials in Chennai saying when the consignment was opened, wads of currencies were found lying scattered on the floor and four of the boxes were broken.

Police officials said a special team of railway police has been formed to investigate the theft. "An alert has been issued to all the police stations along the route to gather information on the burglary," the official said.—Xinhua



Boys salvage goods from a site hit by airstrikes in the rebel held town of Atareb in Aleppo Province, Syria. PHOTO: REUTERS

UN urges Aleppo ceasefire to repair water system, stem outbreaks

GENEVA — The United Nations called on Tuesday for an urgent ceasefire in the divided Syrian city of Aleppo, where it said two million people lack access to clean water, putting people, especially children, at risk of disease.

Access is needed to deliver food and medical supplies and for technicians to repair electricity networks that drive water pumping stations, which were heavily damaged in attacks last week.

“The UN is extremely concerned that the consequences will be dire for millions of civilians if the electricity and water networks are not immediately repaired,” it said in a statement, adding that, at minimum, a weekly 48-hour pause was needed.

It was signed by UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Syria Yacoub El Hillo, and Kevin Kennedy, UN regional humanitarian coordinator.

An estimated 250,000-275,000 people are trapped in eastern Aleppo following the

closure of Castello road last month, the last remaining access route to the opposition-held part of the city, the statement said.

Insurgents effectively broke a month-long government siege of eastern Aleppo on Saturday. Their advance severed the primary government supply corridor running into the city from the south and raised the prospect that government-held western Aleppo might in turn become besieged by the insurgents.

This brought the total number of civilians in the city under “de facto fear of besiegement to over two million,” the UN said.

Later, pro-Damascus media reported that Syrian government forces and their allies had captured territory from rebels in southwestern Aleppo, closing off a rebel route into the east.

UN Special Envoy for Syria Staffan de Mistura and UN aid chief Stephen O’Brien are to brief the Security Council on the deteriorating situation in Aleppo on Tuesday.—Reuters

Western countries concerned by tension around Libya’s Zueitina oil terminal

PARIS — Western countries including the United States, France and Britain said in a joint statement on Wednesday they were concerned by mounting tension around the Zueitina oil terminal in Libya.

Washington, Paris, London and the governments of Germany, Spain and Italy urged a return under government control of all oil and gas installations and called on all parties to avoid damaging the country’s energy infrastructure.

“The government of national accord must work with the National Oil Corporation to re-

launch oil production in order to rebuild Libya’s economy,” the six countries said in a statement released by the French foreign ministry. Libya’s state oil company on Sunday called on rival armed factions to avoid damaging the oil terminal in Zueitina, following reports of possible clashes at the eastern port.

The National Oil Corporation (NOC) said it was concerned by reports of “imminent conflict” between the Libyan National Army (LNA) and the Petroleum Facilities Guard (PFG) in the vicinity of Zueitina.—Reuters

Saudi Arabia intercepts two missiles fired from Yemen, Al Arabiya says

DUBAI — Saudi Arabia intercepted two ballistic missiles fired at the kingdom by Yemen’s armed Houthi movement on Wednesday, Saudi-owned Al Arabiya TV reported.

The attack follows renewed air strikes by a Saudi-led military coalition on the Houthi-controlled Yemeni capital, Sanaa. Thirteen civilians were killed when bombs a snack food factory.

The Houthis did not immediately claim responsibility for the missile attack. In the past,

they have boasted of launching around a dozen Scud missiles at the south of the kingdom during more than a year of war.

A senior Houthi official did say that he held the United Nations responsible for the stepped-up combat, which followed the collapse over the weekend of UN-backed peace talks.

“The silence of the UN towards this dangerous escalation and mass extermination against the Yemeni people ... makes it a partner in the aggression,” Saleh

al-Samad, the chief of a new Houthi-backed political council, told state news agency Saba.

Saudi Arabia and an alliance of mostly Gulf Arab allies have launched thousands of air strikes against the Houthis and their allies in Yemen’s army since they intervened in Yemen’s civil war on behalf of the exiled government. The Saudis are backing an offensive by pro-government fighters aiming to advance on Sanaa from the north and east.—Reuters



An employee walks inside a snack food factory after a Saudi-led air strike hit it in Sanaa, Yemen, on 9 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Executed Iranian nuclear scientist unfairly tried, said he was innocent

DUBAI/WASHINGTON — Iranian security forces may have pressured nuclear scientist Shahram Amiri, hanged last week for spying for the United States, to admit to crimes he did not commit, his mother said in an interview this week.

Amiri leapt to the global spotlight in 2010 when he claimed first that US agents had abducted him and then that he was in the United States of his own free will.

The same year, he returned to Iran where he was welcomed as a hero but then detained and tried on charges that he divulged nuclear secrets.

“When I was saying goodbye to him before his execution, he told me not to be sad as he had done nothing wrong,” Marzieh Amiri told Reuters in a telephone interview.

“He asked me to tell everyone that he was innocent. He was saying his conscience was clear,” she said.

Her son’s closed-door trial was unfair and he was not prop-



Iranian scientist Shahram Amiri speaks to journalists as he arrives at the Imam Khomeini Airport in Tehran, on 15 July 2010. PHOTO: REUTERS

erly represented, she said. She did not know the full name of the lawyer, who as a result could not be reached for comment.

“They should have held a public trial,” she said. “I am not angry with the government or the Supreme Leader (of Iran, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei). I am angry with extremist security forces who were on his case, trying to prove he was a spy and who may-

be forced him to confess to things he hadn’t done.”

Iranian judiciary officials could not be reached for comment. Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei, spokesman for Iran’s judiciary, told reporters Amiri received a fair trial and the case followed standard judicial procedure.

“He ... had contacted Iran’s number one enemy, America, and had given our most secret and vital information to them,” Mohseni Ejei said on Sunday, according to the state broadcaster.

In June 2010, Iranian state television showed Amiri, then 32, saying in a video he was in Arizona after US and Saudi intelligence forces kidnapped him a year earlier during a religious pilgrimage abroad.

In a second video soon afterwards, Amiri said he was in the United States voluntarily and wanted to dispel “rumours” that had been spread about him.

“I am an Iranian, and I have taken no step against my homeland,” he said.—Reuters

Consumer groups press Yum's KFC to tighten antibiotic rules

LOS ANGELES — Consumer groups on Wednesday will deliver a petition from more than 350,000 people to the KFC fried chicken chain, calling on the Yum Brands Inc unit (YUM.N) to stop the routine use of antibiotics by the companies that supply its poultry.

Several fast-food restaurants, which have been under fire for selling unhealthy meals, are assuming the role of public health change agent by forcing their respective meat suppliers to adopt new practices aimed at keeping vital antibiotics working.

KFC has said that by 2017, antibiotics important to human medicine will only be used to maintain chicken health and only under the supervision and prescription of a licensed veterinarian. But critics say that policy effectively allows for routine use of antibiotics by its chicken suppliers.

As per federal government guidance, KFC does



A KFC fast food restaurant, which is owned by Yum Brands Inc, is pictured ahead of their company results in Pasadena, California, US, in July 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

not allow the use of such antibiotics for growth promotion. Medical experts warn that the routine use of antibiotics to promote growth and prevent illness in healthy farm animals contributes to the rise of drug-resistant "superbug" infections that kill at least 23,000 Americans each

year and represent a "catastrophic threat" to global health.

More than 70 per cent of medically important antibiotics in the United States are sold for use on livestock and poultry.

McDonald's Corp (MCD.N) last week said it switched to chicken raised

without antibiotics important to human health, months ahead of schedule.

Chick-fil-A Inc, which has surpassed KFC to become the No. 1 US fast-food chicken chain by revenue, has vowed to fully transition to chicken raised with any antibiotics by the end of 2019.—Reuters

Eurostar train staff to strike for seven days, UK union says

LONDON — Train managers on the Eurostar line linking Britain to continental Europe will strike for a total of seven days in August because of a long-running dispute over anti-social working hours, Britain's RMT rail union said on Wednesday. The RMT said the strike action would take place in two blocks over two weekends, from 2301 GMT (00:01 am BST) on 12 August to 2259 GMT on 15 August, and from 2301 GMT on 27 August to 2259 GMT on 29 August. The dispute involves 80 train managers who are RMT members. The union said 95 per cent of them had backed the strike action in a ballot.

Eurostar said it would have to make small changes to its timetable on those days to ensure all passengers booked to travel could do so. It may need to cancel one or two trains but passengers would be able to travel on later ones, the company

said. "Our focus has been seeking a joint resolution, naturally, while planning to provide a good service for our customers," a Eurostar spokeswoman said.

The RMT said the dispute with management centred on what it called Eurostar's failure to honour an agreement from 2008 which sought to ensure that train managers could expect a good work-life balance in terms of unsocial hours and duty rosters. "Our train manager members at Eurostar have a heavy commitment to shift work and unsocial hours and are sick and tired of the company's failure to honour agreements," RMT General Secretary Mick Cash said in a statement.

"Our members have every right to have a fair work-life balance that fulfils the operational needs of the company while guaranteeing quality time off for friends and family."—Reuters

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KULNATEE VOY. NO (06/16)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KULNATEE VOY NO (06/16) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.8.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of SPW-4 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S KULNATEE CO LTD.

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MERATUS GORONTALO VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MERATUS GORONTALO VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.8.2016 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 YANG MING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV GSS YANGON VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GSS YANGON VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.8.2016 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 CHINA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SSL TRUST VOY. NO (004)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SSL TRUST VOY NO (004) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.8.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W 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 THE SHIPPING CORP. OF INDIA LTD

Phone No: 2301185

DECLARATION FOR TRADEMARK

Max Myanmar Manufacturing Company Limited, situated at No. (1), Bayint Naung Main Road, Ywamaw, Ward (2), Hlaing Township, Yangon Region, declared at Deeds Registration Office, Yangon, to register the following Trademark to be used as Patent under Registered Deed No. (8720/2016), on (23rd) June, 2016.



Max Myanmar Manufacturing Company Limited hereby declared that, throughout the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, it shall distribute and sell the cement bearing the Trademark MAX CEMENT BEAR under the figure of Red Bear, in various sizes and colours, on the bags which packed the cement manufactured by the Max Myanmar Manufacturing Company Limited owned Cement Factory, the documents, advertisements, T.V Advertisements, e-mail, Internet, website, signboards, seals, blocks, designs, vouchers, canvas bags, paper boxes and car stickers relating to the business of said Trademark and the notice is given that no other party (or) parties shall not use the said Trademark by making party (or) wholly fraudulence (or) similarity.

This is to declare and give notice that, if anyone does not comply with the given notice, the legal action shall be taken at any Court under the Civil (or) Criminal Law.

Under the instruction of,
U Mya Han, B.A (Law), LL.B, D.B.L, D.M.L
Advocate (Sr. 2701/84)
No. (55), Room (5), Mahabandoola Park Street,
Kyauktada Township, Yangon.

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Mystery magic spells unearthed with ancient skeletons in Serbia

KOSTOLAC, (Serbia) — Archaeologists are trying to decipher magic spells etched onto tiny rolls of gold and silver that they found alongside skeletons of humans buried almost 2,000 years ago.

“The alphabet is Greek, that much we know. The language is Aramaic – it’s a Middle Eastern mystery to us,” Miomir Korac, chief archaeologist at the site in eastern Serbia, told Reuters.

The skeletons were found at the foot of a massive coal-fired power station where searches are being carried out before another unit of the electricity plant is built on the site of an ancient Roman city.

Last week, after carefully brushing away soil from the bones, Korac’s team found two amulets made of lead that, when opened, were each found to rolls of precious metal — silver and gold — covered in symbols and writing.

They believe the inscriptions are magic spells, taken to the grave to invoke divine powers to perform good or evil.

“We read the names of a few demons, that are connected to the territory of modern-day Syria,” archaeologist Ilija Dankovic said at the dig, as more skeletons from the 4th century A.D. were being uncovered.

The fragile, golden and silver scrolls — which once unrolled look like rectangles of foil similar in size to a sweet wrapper — may never be fully understood.

They are the first such items discovered in Serbia but resemble amulets of “binding magic” found in other countries, Dankovic said.

“They were often love charms, ordering someone to fall in love, but there were also dark, malignant curses, to the tune of: ‘may your body turn dead, as cold and heavy as this lead,’” he said.



Archaeologists work at the Viminacium site, around 100 km east from Belgrade, Serbia on 8 August, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Magic charms tended to be buried with dead children or adults who had suffered a violent death, Dankovic said, because of a belief that “souls of such people took longer to find rest and had a better chance of finding demons and deities and pass the wishes to them so they could do their magic.” —Reuters

Brazil’s Senate indicts Rousseff, opens impeachment trial

BRASILIA — Brazil’s Senate voted early on Wednesday to indict President Dilma Rousseff on charges of breaking budget laws and put her on trial in an impeachment process that has stalled Brazilian politics since January.

With the eyes of the world on the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, senators in the capital Brasilia voted 59-21 against the suspended leftist leader in a raucous, 20-hour session presided over by Chief Justice Ricardo Lewandowski.

A conviction would definitively remove Rousseff from office, ending 13 years of leftist rule by her Workers Party, and confirm that interim President Michel Temer will serve out the rest of her term through 2018.

Rousseff’s opponents needed only a simple majority in the 81-seat Senate to put her on trial for manipulating government accounts and spending without congressional approval, which they say helped her win re-election in 2014.

A verdict is expected at the end of the month and will need the votes of two-thirds of the Senate to convict Rousseff, five votes less than her opponents mustered on Wednesday.

Wednesday’s vote showed the movement to oust Rousseff has gained strength in the Senate, which had voted 55-22 in May to take up the impeachment proceedings initiated in the lower house in December. It also looked like game over for Rousseff who lost crucial ground instead of winning over more senators.

This will strengthen Temer’s hand as he strives to establish his legitimacy and stabilise Brazil politically.

The uncertainty has hampered his efforts to plug a fiscal crisis inherited from Rousseff, who is blamed for driving the economy into what could be its worst recession since the 1930s.

Temer, Rousseff’s

conservative former vice president who took office in May, has urged senators to wrap up the trial quickly so he can move ahead with a plan to cap public spending, reform an overly generous pension system and restore confidence in government finances.

Investor expectations that Rousseff will be replaced by the more business-friendly Temer have strengthened Brazil’s currency and driven up shares on the Sao Paulo stock market by more than 30 per cent since January, placing them among the world’s best performing assets.

Rousseff has denied any wrongdoing and denounced her impeachment as a right-wing conspiracy that has used an accounting technicality as a pretext to illegally remove a government that improved the lot of Brazil’s poorer classes.

“The cards are marked in this game. There is no trial, just a sentence that has already been written,” Workers Party Senator Jorge Viana said in a speech to the chamber. The impeachment, he said, was driven by the elite which oppose social welfare gains.

Rousseff’s critics say her interventionist economic policies and inability to govern led to the debacle in Latin America’s largest country. Some argue that, whatever the legal reasons for impeaching her, she should not be allowed to return to office for the good of the nation.

Her supporters argue that she is being ousted by politicians who are in many cases being investigated for receiving kickbacks in the graft scandal at state-led oil company Petrobras.

Corruption allegations forced the resignation of three of Temer’s cabinet members after and he could also be implicated. In plea bargaining testimony published by local media over the weekend, jailed construction magnate Marcelo Odebrecht reportedly claimed Temer had received illegal campaign funding.—Reuters

Eleven premature babies killed in Baghdad hospital fire

BAGHDAD — At least 11 prematurely born babies were killed in a fire that broke out in the early hours of Wednesday on a maternity ward in a Baghdad hospital and was probably caused by an electrical fault, the health ministry said.

Seven other babies and 29 women were rescued from the Yarmuk hospital’s maternity ward and transferred to another hospital, the ministry said in a statement.

Firefighters took three hours to put out the blaze that engulfed the ward, according to a medical staffer.

Yarmuk is main hospital on the western side of the capital, with emergency care and teaching facilities among others.

The incident is likely to intensify public accusations of state corruption and mismanagement.

Pictures posted on social media showed the hospital in a state of neglect, with cockroaches crawling out from between broken tiles, dustbins overflowing with rubbish, dirty toilets and patients lying on stretchers in the courtyard.

The relative of a patient who died recently in the hospital from meningitis said he saw cockroach crawling along the tube of an oxygen mask.

“It was so dirty,” he said. “We had to bring our own bed sheets.”

Thirteen years after the US-led invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein, the oil-rich country still suffers a shortage of electricity, water, schools and hospitals.

Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi has been trying for more than two years to tackle corruption in Iraq, which ranks 161 out of 168 on Transparency International’s Corruption Index, but has faced due to resistance from much of the political elite. —Reuters

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MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(10 / 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-031(16-17)	Wild CAT 330(AMC) (4000) Litres	US\$
(2)	IFB-032(16-17)	Spares for KB-150 Well Servicing Unit (1) Item	US\$
(3)	IFB-033(16-17)	Spares for FLC 504 Derrick Shaker Units (6) Items	US\$
(4)	IFB-034(16-17)	Spares for S-250 Series Shaker Screen Ex ZJ 70L SR I & II (6) Items	US\$
(5)	IFB-035(16-17)	Spares for Derrick Shaker Units (Derrick FLC 2000) Ex ZJ 50D SR I & II (6) Items	US\$
(6)	IFB-036(16-17)	2" & 3" ERW Steel Line Pipe, API 5L Grade A (2) Items	US\$
(7)	IFB-037(16-17)	Spares for F-1600 Pump Ex ZJ 70L Drilling Rig (2) Items	US\$
(8)	IFB-038(16-17)	Spares for EMSCO Rotating Equipment (6) Items	US\$
(9)	DMP/L-011(16-17)	Mud Testing Equipments (7) Items	Ks

Tender Closing Date & Time - 1-9-2016, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 8TH August, 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

Drake declares love for Rihanna during concert

NEW YORK — Rapper Drake announced during his concert here that he has “got love” for R&B star Rihanna, whom he has been linked with for some time now.

The 29-year-old Canadian rapper performed at Madison Square Garden on Saturday night and declared his love for Rihanna, 28, while addressing the crowd, reported the *New York Post*.

“If you’ve got love for Rihanna in New York City...cuz you know I’ve got love for Rihanna,” he told the audience before launching into a few of her songs. The concert also featured Future. Although Drake made it clear he admires the “Work” singer, the “One Dance” performer also flirted with the women in the crowd.—PTI



Chinese star Zhu Zhu to star with Salman Khan in ‘Tubelight’

MUMBAI — Superstar Salman Khan’s next venture “Tubelight” will also serve as the Bollywood launch pad for Chinese actress Zhu Zhu.

Directed by Kabir Khan, the film is currently been shot in Ladakh. The 32-year-old actress posted several pictures of her work trip to India on her Instagram account. “Having my first Hindi lesson,” she captioned a photo of herself taking Hindi classes in Mumbai. Zhu Zhu also shared on location photographs of Ladakh, in which she is seen enjoying the beauty of the region.

The actress started her career as a VJ and tasted fame with winning a local singing contest in Beijing. She was also a part of Hollywood film “The Man with the Iron Fists,” which had Russell Crowe in the lead role. “Tubelight,” scheduled to release on Eid next year, is Salman and Kabir’s third film together.—PTI

Johnny Depp lines up witnesses in legal case against Amber Heard

LOS ANGELES — Hollywood star Johnny Depp reportedly has almost two dozen witnesses, including security staff, police officers, and his housekeeper, in support against domestic violence allegations from estranged wife Amber Heard.

The 53-year-old Mort-decai star actor is said to be prepared for the upcoming trial where the actress, who has accused him of leaving

her bruised when he threw an iPhone at her face following a row in May, is seeking to have a permanent restraining order against him and has a number of people ready to testify that her claims are false, reported TMZ.

The two police officers, who responded to a 911 call following the alleged altercation will testify they saw no evidence of injury to the actress, or anything broken in their home.

Five concierges from their

apartment building, who all saw Heard between 21 May, the night the alleged attack happened, and 27 May and have all stated in depositions they saw no injuries to the actress’ face.

Two security guards who were in the unit on 21 May will go on record to testify Depp did not hit his spouse, while the former couple’s housekeeper Hilda Vargas will also give a mystery testimony.—PTI



I want to get back to music: Mandy Moore

LOS ANGELES — Singer-actress Mandy Moore says she misses singing a lot and wants to get back to music.

The 32-year-old “Chasing Liberty” star said television and films have always been her priority but now she is planning to switch back to music, reported *People* magazine.

“Life sort of put it on the back burner. I think being in films and trying to do television has always been such a huge priority for me... I feel like it gave me way more opportunities than music.” I’ve been writing for the last seven

“I’ve been writing for the last seven years, since I put out a record. So I have a wealth of music to choose from,” Moore said.—PTI

LeAnn Rimes returns with new ‘soul-based’ album

LONDON — Country music singer LeAnn Rimes says her forthcoming studio album is more spontaneous and organic than her last offering “Spitfire”, describing her new work as “soul-based”.

The Grammy Award winner, who rose to fame aged 13 and is known for hits such as “How Do I Live” and “Can’t Fight The Moonlight”, will put out “Remnants” in October, her first album release on new label RCA UK.

“On my last record ... we definitely knew the story we

were writing song by song and it was very much in the moment of a lot of heartache and chaos,” Rimes said in an interview in London.

“And this one, this time around, is just coming from a completely different place. And not until we finalised the record did we see this amazing arc that we had written and created and it’s a beautiful record. It’s really soul-based”.

The 33-year-old, who cites gospel and soul as major musical influences growing up, says she turns to her actor husband Eddie Cibrian and step-children for feedback on her work as well as her own “internal cues”.

“Kids are amazing. They will let you know if it sucks and they seem to like it so that’s a good thing,” Rimes said.

“With this record I kept it a secret what it sounded like. My mum heard one song, she still hasn’t heard the album. I’m keeping it very hush hush ... I think that once I’m happy hopefully people will connect with that energy.”

Asked about the international success of female American country stars versus their male counterparts, Rimes said: “We have this other passion. Even though men can bring passion to a song it’s just a different kind of thing.—Reuters



Singer LeAnn Rimes.
PHOTO: REUTERS

Two more golds for Phelps, Hosszu and Ledecy march on

RIO DE JANEIRO — Michael Phelps won two gold medals on Tuesday, avenging his 200 meters butterfly defeat from the London Olympics and then anchoring the U.S. 4x200 freestyle team to victory on a night of high drama and emotion in the pool.

Katie Ledecy of the United States won her second gold medal of the meeting and Hungary's Katinka Hosszu her third, extending their dominance of women's swimming in feats that on any other day would have grabbed top billing.

Instead it was Phelps, the most successful Olympian of all time, who stole the limelight, extending his career medal tally to 25 by adding golds number 20 and 21.

In the 200 butterfly, he touched the wall in one minute, 53.36 seconds to beat Japan's Masato Sakai by 0.04 seconds, with Hungary's Tamas Kenderesi taking the bronze. Chad Le Clos of South Africa, Phelps' conqueror four years ago, finished fourth.

Phelps, who had announced his retirement after London but

launched a comeback in 2014, then celebrated by climbing into the stands to embrace his fiancée Nicole and kiss his baby son Boomer.

Seventy-five minutes after racing, he was back in the water to swim the final leg of the 4x200 freestyle after Conor Dwyer, Townley Haas and Ryan Lochte had built a lead of 1.76 seconds.

The Americans touched in 7:00.66, with Britain second in 7:03.13 and Japan in third after James Guy overhauled Takeshi Matsuda on the final leg.

For Phelps, the butterfly victory was especially sweet after the sting of the London defeat, where he misjudged his final lunge for the wall to let Le Clos steal the gold medal.

"I'm just thankful, that's for sure, I wanted that one back," he said.

"That event was kind of like my bread and butter, and that was the last time I'll ever swim it... There wasn't a shot in hell I was losing it. And if I did, every ounce that I had was left in the pool.—Reuters



Michael Phelps (USA) of USA reacts after his team won the gold medal during Men's 4 x 200m Freestyle Relay Final at Olympic Aquatics Stadium in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 9 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS



Weighlifting — China's Deng wins gold with world record as rival withdrawn

RIO DE JANEIRO — China's Deng Wei won the women's 63kg gold medal on her Olympic debut and broke the world record held by Taiwan's Lin Tzu-chi, who was withdrawn just hours before the event started.

The International Weightlifting Federation declined to comment on the reasons for Lin's withdrawal but a source close to the situation said the Taiwanese lifter failed a dope test.

Lin, who set the world record total of 261kg in winning the 2014 Asian title, was withdrawn by Taiwan's Olympic committee and then lost her world record when Deng Wei managed 262kg.

Lin, 28, is the third lifter to test positive in the past five days following Antonis Martasidis of Cyprus (85kg) and Tomasz Zielinski of Poland (94kg) who were sent home. Deng Wei was the easiest winner of the week, finishing with a lift to spare. She beat her own clean & jerk world record by 1kg with 147kg on her second attempt to reach 262kg.

Deng finished 14kg clear of Choe Hyo Sim, the North Korean who has stood below her on the podium at the past two International Weightlifting Federation world championships. It was the

widest winning margin of the six events to date.

The bronze was won by Karina Goricheva, 23, from Kazakhstan. Deng, 23, who missed out on competing at the London Games in 2012, has plenty more championships ahead of her. "My performances were good enough to be in the team at London four years ago but another team mate was chosen ahead of me," she said. "This was my first Olympic Games but I said to my coach that I could break the world record so it was within my expectation. I will continue to work hard to win more gold medals."—Reuters

Games bus hit by gunfire, no one seriously hurt: witnesses

RIO DE JANEIRO — A bus carrying journalists at the Rio Games was hit by gunfire on a highway between Olympic venues on Tuesday, witnesses said. No one was seriously injured in the incident.

The bus was making its way from the Games basketball venue to the main Olympic park when, according to passengers, two shots were heard hitting the vehicle. Windows shattered and flying glass left two people with minor lacerations.

"We were shot at. I mean we could hear the report of the gun," said Sherryl "Lee" Michaelson, a retired US air force captain who is working for a basketball publication in Rio.

A spokesman for the Rio organising committee, Mario Andrada, said forensic investigators were trying to determine if the projectile was a bullet or a rock.

"We haven't yet been able to confirm what kind of projectile hit the bus," he said, adding that the incident occurred in the Curicaca neighbourhood, just a few kilometres (miles) north of the Olympic Park. "We don't want to speculate."

A Reuters photograph taken in the first moments of the incident showed a small hole, about the width of a finger, in one of the windows.

Violent street crime in Rio has left its mark on South America's first Olympic Games. On Saturday, a bullet hit the equestrian centre, missing journalists there by just a few feet. That bullet was suspected to have been fired by a gang member trying to shoot down a police blimp or drone, officials said.—Reuters

MRTV

Entertainment Channel

(11-8-2016, Thursday)

06 : 00 pm

- Weather Report
- Music Programme

06 : 15 pm

- He can do it

06 : 30 pm

- Cartoon Programme "Scooby-Doo! Camp Scare" (Part-2)

07 : 10 pm

- International Drama Series

07 : 50 pm

- International Drama Series

08 : 30 pm

- MRTV Entertainment Music

08 : 35 pm

- ThiriWunTha Play (Part-2)

09 : 20 pm

- International Movie Songs

09 : 30 pm

- Pyi Thu Ni Ti

9 : 50 pm

- Taung Byone Nat Festival (Part-4)

10 : 05 pm

- Myanmar Video

Midnight

- Close Down.

From

11-8-2016 (Thursday) 6:00 pm

To

12-8-2016 (Friday) 6:00 pm

mitv

Myanmar International

(11-8-2016 07:00am ~ 12-8-2016 07:00am) MST

Today Fresh

07:03

Am

News

07:26

Am

Myanmar Social & Charitable Association (EP-3) (Part-1)

07:50

Am

Myanmar Social & Charitable Association (EP-3) (Part-2)

08:03

Am

News

08:26

Am

Travelogue: A Tour in Korea (Part-4)

08:38

Am

On the River

09:03

Am

News

09:26

Am

Products Of Myanmar - Seashells Products

09:44

Am

Irrawaddy Dolphin (Part- II)

10:03

Am

News

Prime Time

07:03

Pm

News

07:26

Pm

A Visit to Kyauk Kyi

07:43

Pm

Welcome to the Southern most part of Myanmar

07:54

Pm

Now in Yangon

08:03

Pm

News

08:26

Pm

Myanmar Delicate Artistic Creations- Gem Stone Painting

08:44

Pm

Director: Thiha Kyaw Soe

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

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

10:26

Am

Reflected Glory

10:50

Am

Today Myanmar: The Plastic School

Leicester manager Ranieri signs new contract until 2020

LONDON — Manager Claudio Ranieri has signed a new contract with Leicester City that would keep him at the club until June 2020, the Premier League champions announced on Wednesday.

Appointed in July, 2015, the 64-year-old Italian helped the club defy pre-season odds of 5000/1 to win the league, the first top-flight title in Leicester's 132-year history.

"Claudio's qualities, both as a man and as a coach, have been very clear since the moment he arrived – qualities that have helped Leicester City to progress on every level," club vice chairman Aiyawatt Srivaddhanaprabha said in a statement.

Key players including goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel, defender Wes Morgan and prolific striker Jamie Vardy have also extended their contracts with the club who begin their title defence with a trip to newly promoted Hull City on Saturday.

"From the moment I talked to the owners about their vision for Leicester City, I knew it was something I wanted to be part of for a long time," Ranieri said. — Reuters

Last-gasp Carvajal earns Super Cup glory for Real

TRONDHEIM, (Norway) — Dani Carvajal scored a stunning late goal as Champions League winners Real Madrid beat Europa League holders Sevilla 3-2 after extra-time in an all-Spanish UEFA Super Cup thriller in Trondheim, Norway on Tuesday.

Right back Carvajal went on a weaving run in the Sevilla half in the 119th minute before lifting the ball over goalkeeper Sergio Rico and being mobbed by ecstatic team mates.

"I stole the ball, saw the space and went forward," the defender told Spanish television. "The essence of Real Madrid is never to give up."

Real looked down and out when they trailed 2-1 with one minute to go in normal time but captain Sergio Ramos took the match into

extra-time with a last-gasp header from a cross by Lucas Vazquez in front of a crowd of 21,166.

Earlier, the Madrid club, who were without Cristiano Ronaldo, Gareth Bale, Toni Kroos and Pepe, took the lead in the 21st minute with a superb curling shot by Marco Asensio from 30 metres.

Sevilla reacted in positive fashion and were rewarded in the 41st minute when Franco Vazquez, who joined from Palermo in July, levelled with a low, left-foot volley.

Jorge Sampaoli's men then went in front with a penalty in the 72nd minute after Ramos brought down Vitolo.

Yevhen Konoplyanka, who had come on as a substitute five minutes earlier, sent Real goalkeeper Kiko Casilla the wrong way from the spot. — Reuters



Serena eliminated in third round upset

RIO DE JANEIRO — Olympic champion and world number one Serena Williams was b u n -



dled out of the Rio de Janeiro tennis tournament in the third round of the singles on Tuesday after a shock 6-4, 6-3 defeat to Ukraine's Elina Svitolina.

The defeat by the 20th-ranked Svitolina ends Williams' Olympic tournament, having also suffered a surprise loss in the doubles with older sister Venus on Sunday.

The 34-year-old Williams, who is not entered in the mixed doubles, cut short her media commitments after the loss, speaking only to the official

changing rooms.

Svitolina, who will face Czech Republic's Petra Kvitova in the quarter-finals, was over the moon with her first victory in five meetings over the 22-times grand slam singles winner.

"It's an unreal feeling for me. This is just a perfect moment," said Svitolina.

Williams grew increasingly frustrated during the match as she struggled to find her range, making 37 unforced errors compared to 17 by the 21-year-old Ukrainian.

Late in the second set, Williams served five double faults in a single game, which drew gasps from a shocked audience. She took out her frustrations on her racquet, slamming it into the court surface on at least two occasions.

Williams' defeat came hours after third seed and French Open champion Garbine Muguruza was upset by Puerto Rico's Monica Puig. — Reuters

Brazil and US held, Canada win again

RIO DE JANEIRO — The United States and Brazil advanced to the quarter-finals of the Olympic women's soccer tournament as group winners despite being held to disappointing draws in their final pool matches on Tuesday.

Canada remain the only team left with a 100 per cent winning record after two goals from captain Melissa Tancredi secured a 2-1 upset win over Germany 2-1 and top spot in Group F.

Hosts Brazil rested seven starters, including their influential captain Marta, but despite dominating possession were held to a goalless draw by South Africa in Manaus.

The point for Brazil was enough to ensure top spot in Group E and set up a last eight clash on Friday with Australia, who advanced from Group F as one of the best third placed teams following a 6-1 demolition of Zimbabwe.

Germany went through in second place in Group F, despite their defeat by Canada in Brasilia, and will now play China in the last eight after the Asians drew 0-0 with Sweden in Group E.

The United States will face the Swedes, who finished third in Group E, in knockout action on Friday.

The triple reigning champion Americans will hope for a better showing from goalkeeper Hope Solo, who was at fault for both Colombian goals scored by Catalina Usme.

Solo let the ball squirm through her legs for Colombia's opener after 26 minutes and then completely missed a cross ball for the second in the final minute. The US topped Group G ahead of France, who set up a quarter-final with Canada in Sao Paulo after easily beating New Zealand 3-0 on Tuesday. — Reuters