

## HAILING THE UNION PEACE CONFERENCE

Myanmar, Italy discuss peace, reform processes

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Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives ceremonial Guard of Honour in Brunei

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ANALYSIS

TIME SPENT IS WORTHWHILE

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# VISIONS FOR FEDERAL UNION

## UPC CONTINUES ITS THIRD DAY SESSION



Representatives listen to discussion at the Union Peace Conference—21st Century Panglong. PHOTO: MNA



Col Min Oo.



Naing Han Tha.

**T**HE Union Peace Conference (UPC)—21st Century Panglong continued into its third day session at MICC-2 in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday with political party representative U Thu Wai, government representative Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye, Tatmadaw representative Lt-Gen Tin Maung Win, indigenous armed organisations representative Bao Khe and Hluttaw representative U N Hton Kha Naw San as members of the panel

of chairpeople.

U Thu Wai said they all agree on the establishment of a federal union in which authorities are delegated for all (states and regions) to shape their own destiny, that there will be diversity in treading on the path to this goal, that this happens so because the attitudes and thinking are different and that it is required to understand (each other) and exercise patience in treading on the path

to the same goal.

He concluded that the people and the conference attendees must exert effort to make their country a happy abode and that there is no doubt that all the people are needed to make a collective effort to build a peaceful, developed country.

In the morning meeting of the third day session, representatives submitted their attitudes and opinions to the conference. Representing the Tatmadaw, Col

Min Oo said that only when unity of a plethora of indigenous races can be built will Myanmar stand tall amidst the world's nations, that only when the government is vested with power will it be able to have control over the people and only when the government can have influence over other organisations will sovereignty prevail.

He pointed out that every nation of the world has only one army, that the Tatmadaw is only

one army, that the Tatmadaw was born of the people comprising all indigenous races, and it is the one and only union army, that all citizens have to learn military science according to the statute laws and join the military service for national defence and that any and all indigenous races who would like to join the military service to contribute to national defence of their own will are always welcomed.

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# UPC continues its third day session

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NMSP's representative Nang Han Tha said that when the name of the federal union is made the Federal Democratic Union of Myanmar, either Myanmar, Bamar or Burma in English language will refer only to Bamar, which is just one of the national races.

"This being so, I think we need to choose another name which will be representative of all indigenous races and suggest the equality of all of them," said Nang Han Tha, adding that the federal democratic union Hluttaw will be composed of two chambers—the Senate and the House of Representatives—both of which shall be vested with equal legislative power, that any proposed bill shall be submitted to Hluttaws for separate, independent voting, that the federal democratic Union Hluttaw shall convene Hluttaw sessions according to the prescribed procedures, that in case of the arising of the need to cast votes for decision, the proposed bill shall need more than half of the votes of both Hluttaws, that necessary committees shall be formed with Hluttaw members to provide support for the enactment of laws by both Hluttaws and procedures should be formulated for the implementation of this system. If the Hluttaw is unable to approve either the whole or part of a bill already passed by the other Hluttaw, a joint co-ordination committee should be formed with representatives from both Hluttaws to find a solution.

Next, U Tun Naing from the Kokang Democracy and Unity Party said that Kokang region is still suffering from the consequences of conflict and so, Kokang indigenous people are especially desirous of peace. It is, therefore, suggested that in addition to considering the interests of ethnic people residing in the hilly region, emphasis should be placed on the interests of Bamar brethren from the mainland. We need, he said, to draw a lesson from the 1988 affair which rose from negligence of the interests of people of the basic stratum. (As known to all) this sort of affair can arise and have adverse effect upon the current peace process. Last but not the least, he expressed his wish for the remaining three armed groups to be able to participate in future conferences of this nature to be in accordance with the all-inclusive policy.

Afterwards, the Tatmadaw representative Lt-Col Zaw Oo said that excessive demands on the part of the armed organisations for political assurances and preconditions as well as for recognition of unlawfully obtained management, administration and economic opportunities are the main obstructions that delay the peace process and that the indige-



U Tun Naing.



Lt-Col Zaw Oo.



Khu Oo Reh.



Sai Htay Aung.



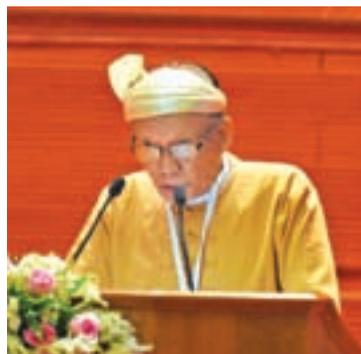
Col Zaw Win Myint.



U Hsin Wa.



U La Nang Bawk.



Sao Khun Sai.



Daw Cho Cho Kyaw Nyein.



Mar Tee Ya.



U Min Zin.



U Tun Zaw.



Nan Khin Aye Oo.

nous armed organisations and political party organisations, in effectuation of stability, peace and development of their respective regions and states, are required to follow upon the correct path of multiparty democracy as chosen by the people as well as upon the political path paved by the Union Peace Conference.

Khu Oo Reh of the Karen National Progressive Party discussed calling for a collective administration system to be used for townships where different national races are living and stressed the need for equal rights in all states. He also highlighted the importance of protection of the rights of the people to prevent power abuse in the states and by members of the Union to ensure a strong federal democracy. He said that it is required that Myanmar exercise direct-democracy through referendums on decisions of the state parliaments.

The powers to deal with foreign affairs, production of currency notes, posts and communications, defence, the judiciary, social welfare and industry sectors should be granted to the Union government.

Sai Htay Aung of Tai-Leng (Red Shan) called for the creation of a Red Shan State formed with Myitkyina, Moehnyin, Bahmo, Kamti, Tamu, Kalay, Mawleik and Katha districts where Red Shan nationalities are living, pointing out that federal systems of other countries allow for the creation of new states for ethnic minorities.

Col Zaw Win Myint, Tatmadaw representative, called for sooner implementation of the DDR/SSR process and completion of the peace conferences within 3-5 years. He stressed the need of strict adherence to terms and conditions of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement by the NCA

signatories. He pointed out the Section 10 of the Constitution that says no part of the territory constituted in the Union such as Regions, States, Union Territories and Self-Administered Areas shall ever secede from the Union. He asked that the entire people, including ethnic minorities, cooperate with the Tatmadaw that plays a central role while maintaining the defence and security of the country.

U Hsin Wa of the Kachin Independence Organisation said that national and state parliaments should be vested with legislative powers and members of the federal Union must have a right to deal with taxation, environmental conservation, narcotic drugs, birth and death registration, energy projects and development undertakings, exploitation of natural resources, foreign investments, broadcasting, banking and insurance businesses,

property transfer, provisions for university and vocational training schools, river and coastal matters, criminal and civil laws, trade, immigration and legislative power when they are able to.

U La Nang Bawk of the National Unity Party elaborated on four policies—equal rights, democracy, socio-economic development and self-determination—regarding national races, saying they are basic principles for establishing a federal Union.

U Min Zin suggested the forming of a group of intelligentia to draw up a charter for a new Union based on freedom, justice, equality and self-determination, saying that it is required to realise two visions—state-building and establishing an identity for the Union.

Sao Khun Sai of the Shan State Progressive Party expressed his hope that the 21st Century Panglong Union Peace Conference will be able to realise the national unity plan developed at the 1947 Panglong Pact. He stressed the need for equal rights, calling for the formation of a Bamar state to guarantee equality in the Union.

Daw Cho Cho Kyaw Nyein of the Democratic Party warned that there can be no economic growth if peace is impossible. She stressed the need to focus on economic growth and development while seeking ways and means for achieving peace.

Mar Tee Ya, an ethnic representative, made suggestions for the development of specific regions and states which are home to ethnic minorities while implementing the peace process.

In his discussion, U Tun Zaw of the Arakan National Council said that ethnic minorities are taking up armed struggle to fight for their fundamental rights, adding that successive authoritarian governments failed to settle the problems through political means.

Nan Khin Aye Oo of the Kayin People's Party suggested that legislative powers, judicial power and the power to enact laws be granted to a state government elected by ethnic minorities in Kayin State. She also called for resource sharing, adding that economic development brought about by rural development will be able to support the country's peace process.—*Myanmar News Agency*

## Myanmar, Italy discuss peace, reform processes

STATE Counsellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with Chairperson of the Italian Senate's Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs Mr. Pier Ferdinando Casini at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The two representatives discussed matters relating to the country's peace and reform processes and further relations and promoting cooperation between the two countries.—*Myanmar News Agency*



Daw Aung San Suu Kyi receives Chairperson of the Italian Senate's Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs Mr. Pier Ferdinando Casini. PHOTO: MNA

(Continued from 1st September session of the Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong)

## Cries for federalism dominate second-day session of 21st Century Panglong Conference

THE Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong Conference continued its second-day afternoon session at the Myanmar International Convention Centre in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday.

Lt-Col Thant Zaw said the executive and judicial systems described in the 2008 constitution are consistent with federal regulations regarding the rights of self-administration pertaining to the regions, states and self-administered zones and divisions.

Pa-O National Liberation Organisation (PNLO) Chairman Khun Myint Tun hinged on political approaches to political problems, pledging their cooperation with other ethnic brethren in establishing a unified federal union. He called for avoidance of any confrontation and use of force including military conflict in the struggle for the emergence of a unified Shan State and a Pa-O state within the framework of the law.

U Khun Tun Shwe of the Pa-O National Organisation suggested ethnic nationalities be addressed as 'union nationalities' to effectuate more fairness and implication in the creation of a democratic federal union. He also called for the establishment of a geographically-based federalism.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Win Myat Aye blamed lack of stability and peace for social ills, referring to the plight of the displaced people, mine-related physical disabilities, human trafficking and drug abuse in the conflict areas. The union minister

stressed the need for result-oriented dialogue at the negotiating table, calling for a concerted effort to root out the political divisions in the interest of the people.

Yebaw Myint Hein of the All Burma Students' Democratic Front (ABSDF) proposed a calculation of current trends and future prospects in the adoption of a new security policy, pointing out the need to strike a balance between federal and democratic criteria.

U Pu Chin Sian Thang of the Zomi Congress for Democracy called for genuine goodwill and collective cooperation at the 21st Century Panglong.

Parliamentary representative Daw Nant Than Than Lwin spoke of the nature of horizontal and vertical federalism, saying that the essence of both forms focus on the sharing of powers with the aim of preventing the rise of tyranny. The federalism of their choice should be one that would end over 60 decades of armed conflict and guarantee justice and equality in the delivery of democratic rights and the rights of citizens, she stressed.

U Khaing Tun Win of the Arakan Liberation Party (ALP) expressed his expectations on the inclusion of federal regulations regarding the percentage of representatives and a guarantee for vesting of legislative, executive and judicial powers in states.

U Shwe Min of the Lisu National Development Party asked for a self-administered zone for them in Kachin State "were the country to form new states"



Lt-Col Thant Zaw.



Khun Myint Tun.



U Khun Tun Shwe.



Yebaw Myint Hein.



U Pu Chin Sian Thang.



Dr Win Myat Aye.



U Shwe Min.



Daw Nant Than Than Lwin.



U Khaing Tun Win.

based on geographical locations.

Col Soe Tint stressed the need to participate in the undertakings of regional development through the full exercise of the constitutional rights.

U Sai Ngin of the Restoration Council of Shan State (RCSS) pledged strenuous efforts to enhance national reconciliation and establish a federal union in collaboration with partner organisations and the people.

Dr Manam Tu Ja of the Kachin State Democracy Party spoke of the need to enhance national reconciliation in his state, stressing that Kachin State would retain its name and territory as designated since independence. He called for the formation of an advisory body manned with senior political gurus from all

the ethnic nationalities residing across the country.

Yangon Region government Social Affairs Minister U Naing Ngan Lin spoke of the need to consider the public role in natural resources management, in addition to the roles of the central government and regional governments.

U Yan Kyaw of the Wa Democratic Party called for recognition of the Wa state, expressing his party's earnest support for the achievements of Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement, the action plans of the Mai Ja Yang Conference, and the national-level political dialogue to be conducted based on the outcomes of the 21st Century Panglong Conference.

Parliamentary representative U Min Oo called for wisdom and courage in deciding what should

be changed and what should not in the interest of the entire population of the Union.

Nai Layae Tama of the Mon National Party expressed his belief that the establishment of a democratic federal union would meet with success if the discussions at the Union Peace Conference maintained consistency with the pledges of the 1947 Panglong Agreement and the Panglong Pact.

U Yaw Thap of the Lahu National Development Party said they deserved a specific area given their population and geographical location. He also called for a quick end to armed conflict, the amendment of the 2008 Constitution and the adoption of a constitution that promises a federal union.—*Myanmar News Agency*

## Pyithu Hluttaw MPs approve Bill to amend the Law to interpret Statutes

THE Pyithu Hluttaw session continued for its 25th day with officials concerned answering parliamentary questions and lawmakers approving a Bill to amend the Law on Commission for Interpretation of Statutes yesterday.

During a Q & A session, Union Auditor-General U Maw Than stated that there is no plan to promote township audit officers to assistant directors as the government is striving for ensuring efficient performance on a tight budget.

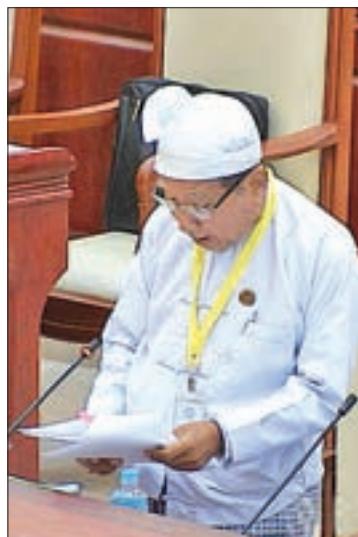
Next, Union Minister for Electricity and Energy U Pe Zin Tun said that Thahtay hydropower project will be completed by the end of the 2023-2024 FY if the funds are fully allocated.

Electricity generated from the project will be used for development undertakings in Rakhine State, added the Union minister.

He also replied that arrangements have been made to ensure 390 megawatts to avoid summer power outages next year, adding that works are underway to fix tangled power nests, replace old



U Pe Zin Tun. PHOTO: MNA



U Maw Than. PHOTO: MNA

wires and overloaded transformers with new ones and set up new posts.

Likewise, the Union minister said that a small hydropower project that can generate 600 megawatts is being implemented on Namtmalon creek in Homalin Township.

It is impossible to implement another small hydropower

project on Namtpann Ngar creek next fiscal year as suggested by a lawmaker as there is no enough funds to carry out the two projects at the same time, he added.

During yesterday's session the Pyithu Hluttaw approved the Bill amending the Law on Commission for Interpretation of Statutes with no amendment.—*Myanmar News Agency*

## Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee suggests passing Bill to revoke Emergency Provisions Act

THE Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee read out its report on a Bill to abolish the Emergency Provisions Act during the 25th day session of the Amyotha Hluttaw yesterday.

U Thein Lwin, member of the Bill Committee, said that the committee found that the Bill should be approved as did the Pyithu Hluttaw.

In the report, Defence Service personnel Hluttaw representative Brig-Gen Khin Maung Aye suggested not revoking the Emergency Provisions Act due to present situations, saying that it should be revoked only after a new law that can protect security and interest of the country and its citizens was enacted.

The Amyotha Hluttaw decided to discuss the bill soon.

A question and answer session followed with Union Minister for Education Dr Myo Thein Gyi answering a question regarding the construction of a



Dr Myo Thein Gyi. PHOTO: MNA

new school building for a BEHS (Branch) in Kyauktaw Township, Rakhine State.

The Union minister replied that a call for new school building will be taken into consideration next fiscal year in accordance with the ministry's priority list, saying that the BEHS (Branch)



U Thein Lwin. PHOTO: MNA

has enough rooms to accommodate students.

Then, two parliamentarians held discussions on a proposal calling for the adoption of a plan to promote ethnic literature and the education sector to eliminate illiteracy among ethnic minorities.—*Myanmar News Agency*

## Amyotha Hluttaw donates cash for restoration of quake-hit cultural heritages in Bagan

AMYOTHA Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than presented K4,380,000 of daily allowances from 219 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives for one day, and K5,620,000 donated by the Amyotha Hluttaw Office toward restora-

tion of quake-hit cultural heritage sites in Bagan to Union Minister for Religious and Cultural Affairs Thura U Aung Ko yesterday.

Also present at the cash donation ceremony were Deputy Amyotha Hluttaw speaker U Aye

Tha Aung, secretaries of Amyotha Hluttaw committees and members, Defence Services personnel Amyotha Hluttaw representatives and officials of the Amyotha Hluttaw Office.—*Myanmar News Agency*

## Pyithu Hluttaw donates cash toward restoration of quake-hit cultural heritages in Bagan

PYITHU Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint presented K15million — K8,520,000 of daily allowances of 426 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives for one day, and K6,480,000 which was donated by the Pyithu Hluttaw Office — toward restoration of quake-hit cultural heritages in Bagan to Union Minister for Religious and Cultural

Affairs Thura U Aung Ko yesterday.

Also present at the cash donation ceremony were Deputy Pyithu Hluttaw speaker U T Khun Myat, Pyithu Hluttaw representatives, Defence Services personnel Pyithu Hluttaw representatives and officials of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office.—*Myanmar News Agency*



U Win Myint handing over the donation. PHOTO: MNA

## Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets with Italian Senate's Standing Committee Chairperson

PYITHU Hluttaw Speaker U Win Myint received Chairperson of the Italian Senate's Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs Mr. Pier Ferdinando Casini at the Pyithu Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Also present were Chairman of the Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Zaw Thein and members, Italian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Pier Giorgio Aliberti and officials of the Hluttaw Office.—*Myanmar News Agency*

## Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker meets with Italian Senate's Standing Committee Chairperson

AMYOTHA Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than received Chairperson of the Italian Senate's Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs Mr. Pier Ferdinando Casini at Amyotha Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the call, they held discussions on promotion of relations between the two

parliaments.

Also present were Deputy Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Aye Tha Aung, Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw International Relations and Inter-parliamentary Friendship and Cooperation U Zon Hle Htan and officials of Amyotha Hluttaw Office.—*Myanmar News Agency*



Mahn Win Khaing Than receiving Mr Pier Ferdinando Casini. PHOTO: MNA

# LOCAL Business

## MoU signed to boost Myanmar-India border trade

Ko Moe

INDIAN entrepreneurs are keen to boost cooperation in bilateral border trade, a spokesperson of the country's biggest economic organisation said at a recent signing ceremony.

A memorandum of understanding was inked between the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Mumbai-based Indo-Myanmar Commerce and Industry on Thursday.

The MoU covers the promotion of bilateral trade and collaboration in related business channels, exchange of information and delegation as well as improved technical cooperation.

After signing the MoU, a business matching was made between the two parties to promote bilateral trade, then the

Myanmar side discussed further enhancement of Indian investment in all segments apart from the resource-based industry, said Dr Myo Thet, vice-president of the UMFCCI.

India is a major trade partner for Myanmar. The total value of bilateral trade reached US\$2 billion in 2015-2016 fiscal year. Mr Rohinton, vice president of the IMCCI, said, "Priority will be given to boosting bilateral border trade."

The IMCCI entrepreneurs include stream engines producers, gold purifying machine manufacturers, water purification machine makers, solar machine makers, wood-based furniture makers and agricultural machinery makers.

Till the end of July 2016, India investment in Myanmar reached US\$732.649 million, according to the Myanmar Investment Commission.

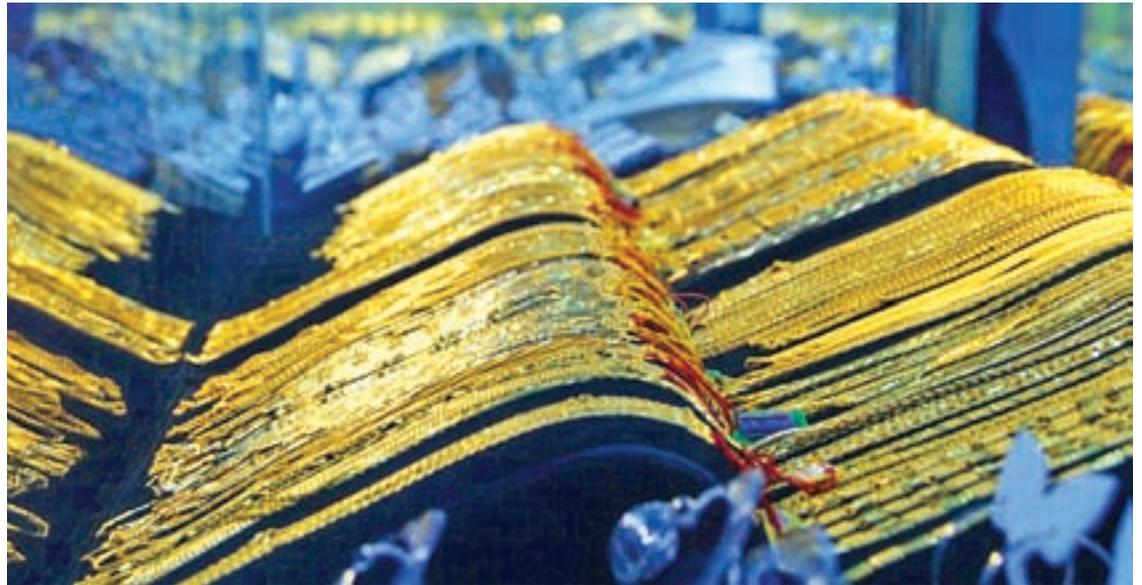


PHOTO: MYITMAKAH NEWS AGENCY

## Gold price declines by over K20,000

THE price of local gold decreased in value from over K870,000 to about K850,000 on Thursday as the price fell on the world market early this month, according to local gold traders.

"Although the price de-

clined on the domestic market, we received only a few demand for gold," said a local gold seller.

A gold trader estimated that the local gold price is likely to continue to decrease.

An ounce of gold on the world market peaked in value at US\$1,350. The price has steadily declined since 25 August. The current gold price on the world market is US\$1,307 on Thursday.—*Kyu Kyu*

## Exports of soft-shell crab down 50 per cent on 2015

A decline in the volumes of crabs caught in the waterways of Rakhine State's Kyaukphyu Township has caused the export of soft-shell crabs to slump by fifty per cent on last year's exports, Myitmakha News Agency has been informed.

Despite an average of 10-12 tons of the soft-shell crustaceans being exported to China every month back in 2015, crab-depletion induced appreciations in the price of the crusta-

ceans, together falling prices on the international market, meant that this March and April saw exports dwindle to just 6-8 tons a month.

"The main factors behind a dearth in numbers of caught crabs include a depletion in crab numbers and a decline in those catching crabs, combined with appreciating prices and irregular weather fronts. Then there's also the fact that we don't have the capacity to

purchase crabs for breeding purposes," said Aung Naing Lin, manager of soft-shell crab production company in Kyaukphyu Township.

There are currently two soft-shell crabs exporters in Kyaukphyu Township who reportedly connect with Yangon export companies to export the crabs across Asia to China, Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and as far east as Japan.

The appreciation in the price of soft-shell crabs have seen a single crab rise in value from K1,800 in 2015 to between K2,000 - 2,500 this March.

"The amount of crabs we catch is going down year upon year. A whole day of wading through rivers and streams will see us bag about 10 to 20 crabs, but maybe only one or two of them will be fit for market. Around two-thirds of crab catches have changed to catching fish," said U Shwe Thar, a crab catcher from Kyaukphyu Township.

It reportedly takes between 45 - 50 days to turn hard-shell crabs into those with a soft shell. A kilo of soft-shell crabs are exported to the international market for US\$5-10, while last year saw exporters able to sell the same quantity for between US\$12-13.—*Myitmakha News Agency*



Packed Soft-shell crab. PHOTO: MYITMAKAH NEWS AGENCY

## Pulse export volume to India likely to rise

THE export of beans and pulses to India, the major trade partner of Myanmar in the beans and pulses sector, is estimated to rise this fiscal year, according to local traders.

Pulse is one of major staple foods of India. The South Asian country, the second most populous nation in the world, with the population size of over 1.2 billion, is the largest producer as well as importer of pulses. India imports pulses from Myanmar and a number of African nations to fulfill their high demand.

India suffered severe monsoon floods this season on the Ganges River that destroyed pulse plantations. The country is expected, therefore, to be pur-

chasing a higher volume from overseas, a local exporter said.

Myanmar exported 1.1 million tonnes of beans and pulses last financial year. The country expects to export 1.4 million tonnes this FY, according to Myanmar Pulses, Beans and Sesame Seeds Merchants Association.

Each year the country exports more than 1 million tonnes of beans and pulses, at a total value of around US\$1 billion.

The pulses are becoming increasingly popular with farmers because they fetch a higher price than paddy. The majority of beans and pulses are usually harvested between January and March.—*Kyu Kyu*

## Myanmar oil merchants utilising American techniques

MEMBERS of the Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association are making efforts to use American techniques in cultivating crops which produce oil, it is learnt.

An envoy team from the Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers' Association travelled to North Dakota in America to observe their manufacturing process and their systematic cultivation methods. They learned that the growers in America cultivate their crops with the assistance of machines

and by spraying the organic fertilizer to increase the yield, it is learnt.

The envoy team is reported to continue observing the cultivation methods in Iowa, another state in America with large numbers of oil crops.

The current methods of local manufacturing of oil crops are inefficient. Therefore, concerted efforts are required to bolster the manufacturing volume, officials said.—*200*



Senior General being seen at the ceremony to receive Honour Guard. PHOTO: MNA

## Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives ceremonial Guard of Honour in Brunei

Commander-in-Chief of Defense Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing who is on a goodwill visit to Brunei Darussalam received a ceremonial Guard of Honour at the Ministry of Defence of Brunei yesterday.

Next, the Senior General met with the Deputy Minister for Defence.

Then, the Senior General held talks with the Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces on further cooperation

between the two armed forces, exchange of experience and skills and cementing bilateral relations and cooperation in the ASEAN spirit.

Afterwards, the Senior General visited the Royal Brunei Armed Forces Museum.

In the afternoon, the Commander-in-Chief and wife and party were hosted to luncheon by Myanmar Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam U Cho Tun Aung and wife and embassy staff families.—*Myanmar News Agency*

## Myanmar Ambassador presents credentials to Egyptian President

U Myint Lwin, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Arab Republic of Egypt, presented his Credentials to His Excellency Mr. Abdel Fattah Al Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt on 31 August 2016, in Cairo.—*MOFA*

## Sagaing farmers won't replant damaged pigeon pea crops

Farmers from Sagaing Region's Tigyaing Township will reportedly not be replanting swathes of pigeon pea crops damaged by torrential rains and pests, residents have told Myitmakha News Agency. Local farmers are instead formulating plans to grow sesame and green gram as is it reportedly too late in the season to attempt to replant pigeon pea.

"Our pigeon pea crops haven't been successful this year on account of poor weather. The failing crops can't completely be attributed to the rains, though; pests have gotten at them, too. I've been unsuccessful with about 15 acres of crops, of which 10 acres were destroyed by pests," said U Kyaw Hla, a pigeon pea farmer from Tigyaing Township.

But for pigeon pea growers in the region, unsuccessful crops

is no new phenomenon. Flooding which struck the township last year damaged pigeon pea crops, causing difficulties for farmers in having to replant.

"Irregular weather can destroy green gram crops, and the main reason behind [flooding caused by such weather] is deforestation of our woodlands," said a local green gram grower.

A 1.2 bushel's worth of green gram currently fetches K75,000 within Tigyaing Township, while the same quantity of pigeon pea reportedly goes for a market price of K104,000.

Bean growers have informed Myitmakha News Agency that is reportedly takes seven-and-a-half liters worth of green gram seeds per acre and five liters worth of pigeon pea seeds per acre.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

## Political dialogue framework set to be finalized prior to next conference

A framework for political dialogue is set to be finalized before the second round of the 21st Century Panglong Union Peace Conference, according to a press conference on the third day of the ongoing conference in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Retired Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo said that the political dialogue framework will be finalized before the next conference where a common ground will be sought for discussions on the agenda items at national-level dialogues.

The organizing committee is responsible to compile discussions and submitted a set of discussions to the next conference, he added.

Dr Salai Lian Hmung Sakhong said that United Nationalities Federal Council, a coalition of seven ethnic armed organizations who have not signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement yet, presented a paper on its policies to the third-day session of the conference.

Five representatives from the UNFC read out the paper at the conference as each representative of an organization or individual member is given only 10 minutes, he added.

UNFC held a meeting with the subcommittee-2 of the 21st Century Panglong Union Peace Conference preparatory committee last month and made an eight-point



U Hla Maung Shwe, Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo (Rtd), Dr Salai Lian Hmung Sakhong and Sai Kyaw Nyunt (from left to right). PHOTO: YE KHAUNG NYUNT

proposal for signing the NCA.

In connection with the eight-point proposal, Dr Salai Lian Hmung Sakhong said that the responsibility rested with the government, the army and the United Nationalities Federal Council.

"The government or the UNFC or the Delegation for Political Negotiation should be contacted for that issue."

Sai Kyaw Nyunt described the peace conference as effective to the peace process, expressing praise for the constructive approach taken by the government and the army.

Remaining organisations will present their policies on the last day of the 21st Panglong Conference, with officials saying that the Joint Committee will adopt a framework for the national-level

political dialogue after taking into consideration the proposals made by respective organisations.

Sai Kyaw Nyunt described varied voices at the conference as challenges, but he added that these challenges can be taken as advantages. According to him, this will prompt stakeholders to find a way out of the diverse opinions on the establishment of a democratic federal union.

The third-day session of the 21st Century Panglong Conference was followed by a press conference, in which retired Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, U Hla Maung Shwe and Dr Salai Lian Hmung Sakhong, U Zaw Htay and U Sai Kyaw Nyunt responded to the queries raised by the correspondents.—*Ye Khaung Nyunt*



Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin and wife Daw Wai Wai Hman are welcomed by Charge d'affaires a.i. of the Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in Yangon HE Mr Nguyen Thanh Vinh on their arrival at the reception to mark the 71st National Day of Viet Nam in Yangon on 2 September, 2016. PHOTO: MNA

## Salaries of monastic school teachers to be doubled

DETAILED salary calculations will start to be made this November in a bid to increase the salaries of teachers at monastic education schools, according to the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture.

Calculations will reportedly be made prior to a proposal being made to Hluttaw for a two-fold increase in salaries during the forthcoming 2016-17 fiscal year.

"We'll submit our budget for the coming fiscal year [to Hluttaw]. We'll make calculations come this October and November for a two-fold increase in financial support

for 2016-17, before then presenting to Hluttaw," U Aung San Win, director of the Ministry of Religion and Culture, told Myitmakha News Agency. The ministry currently employs a three-tiered monthly salary system to teachers at monastic education schools: K36,000 for primary-school teachers, K41,000 for middle-school teachers, and K45,000 for high-school teachers.

"A two-fold increase in salaries would see primary-school teachers receive K72,000 a month and middle-school teachers around K80,000 a month," the director

added. Myanmar currently boasts 1,568 monastic education schools and over 7,000 male and female teachers.

"Whether it's monastic education schools, or independent charity schools, I'm proud of such support for our nation. When monastic education schools were run solely by monasteries, we had to pay our teachers solely from as many donations we could collect," said Badanda Sandima, head abbot of the Mingalar Parahita Orphanage in Yangon's Twante Township.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

# ASEAN, China to adopt communications protocol to ease tensions at sea

MANILA — Southeast Asian countries and China will establish hotlines and adopt communications protocols to avoid potential naval clashes in the disputed waters of the South China Sea, a Philippines foreign ministry official said on Friday.

The protocols will be signed in Laos next week, when heads of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) meet with leaders from other regional powers — China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, India, Russia and the United States — for a three

day summit.

The mechanism, called the Code for Unplanned Encounters at Sea (CUES), would be new for both ASEAN and China, Foreign Affairs Assistant Secretary Helen de la Vega told a news conference.

“It’s one way of de-escalating tensions in the South China Sea,” she said, adding that hotlines between China and the ASEAN governments would be established. China claims almost the entire South China Sea where about \$5 trillion seaborne trade passes annually. Brunei, Malaysia, the Phil-

ippines, Taiwan and Viet Nam also have claims on parts of the sea, which is believed to have rich deposits of oil and gas.

“This is very important because any accident that can lead to a major confrontation will be avoided if our navies and coast guards are communicating with each other,” a senior Philippines navy commander told Reuters.

He said there had been instances in the past when Chinese vessels had not responded to radio and signal communications when they had been encountered by a

Philippine Navy ship.

Regardless of this agreement, the United States, Japan and Australia are expected to call on China to respect and comply with the ruling of the arbitration court in The Hague in July.

The court infuriated Beijing by ruling that China had no historical title over the South China Sea and it had breached the Philippines’ sovereign rights.

The Philippines new President Rodrigo Duterte said he will raise the arbitration ruling but will champion other issues, like ridding Southeast Asia of narcotics, clamping down on human trafficking and protection for migrant workers. Duterte is holding nine bilateral talks, including with US President Barack Obama, Russian leader Vladimir Putin and Japan’s Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, but as of yet no meetings had been scheduled with Chinese Premier Li Keqiang or UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

China’s foreign ministry said on Friday China was open to a meeting with Duterte during the summit in Laos, and would also welcome him to visit China at an early date.—Reuters



Ma Xiaotian speaks at the Shangri-La Dialogue Asia Security Summit in Singapore, in 2010. PHOTO: REUTERS

## China says developing new type of long-range bomber

BEIJING — China is developing a new long-range bomber, the head of the Chinese air force was quoted as saying in state media on Friday, the latest move in its ambitious military modernisation programme.

China has already improved its ability to strike at targets far from home and there will be further improvements in the future, the *Global Times* quoted air force chief Ma Xiaotian as saying at an air force open day.

“We are now developing a new generation of long-range bomber, and you’ll see it in the future,” Ma said, according to the paper, without elaborating.

China has been ramping up research

into advanced new military equipment, including submarines, aircraft carriers and anti-satellite missiles. This has rattled nerves regionally and in Washington as China takes a more muscular approach to territorial disputes in places such as the South China Sea.

The air force, which has for years relied on large numbers of Chinese copies of Russian aircraft, is now also developing its own stealth fighters. In July, it put into service a new, domestically developed large transport aircraft.

Ma said the air force had entered into a “transformation” stage, changing its focus from quantity to quality, the report said.—Reuters



A fisherman repairs his boat overlooking fishing boats that fish in the disputed Scarborough Shoal in the South China Sea, at Masinloc, Zambales, in the Philippines in 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

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## Singapore says Zika infections spread, nearly 190 cases

SINGAPORE — Singapore said on Friday it had found 38 more people who had contracted Zika, raising to 189 the number infected with the mosquito-borne virus since authorities reported the first locally transmitted case six days ago.

Some of the new cases had been detected in areas where infections had not previously been reported, the health ministry said in a statement.

The ministry did not specify the locations, but the virus has been spreading daily beyond an initial cluster.

Singapore, a regional financial centre and transit hub, is the only Asian country with active transmission of the virus.

On Thursday, it said the case load had jumped to 151 infections, including two pregnant women.

Zika infections in preg-

nant women have been shown to cause microcephaly — a severe birth defect in which the head and brain are undersized — as well as other brain abnormalities.

The connection between Zika and microcephaly first came to light last year in Brazil, which has since confirmed more than 1,800 cases of microcephaly.

In adults, Zika infections have also been linked

to a rare neurological syndrome known as Guillain-Barre, as well as other neurological disorders.

The United States, Australia and other countries have added Singapore to the growing list of places that pregnant women or those trying to conceive have been warned to avoid.

The first locally transmitted Zika infection in Singapore was reported on Saturday, with the initial tally including many foreigners believed to be among the hundreds of thousands of migrant workers in the island’s construction industry. As the outbreak spreads, many of Singapore’s five million people are covering up and staying indoors to avoid mosquitoes as health experts warn that virus in the tropical city-state would be difficult to contain.

The Zika outbreak comes as Singapore prepares to host the floodlit Formula One Singapore Grand Prix motor-race on 18 September.

Race promoters have said preparations were going according to plan.—Reuters



Nurses set up a mosquito tent over a hospital bed, as part of a precautionary protocol for patients who are infected by Zika, to show the media at Farrer Park Hospital in Singapore, on 2 September 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

# Opinion

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 Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

## Time spent is worthwhile

Tha Sein

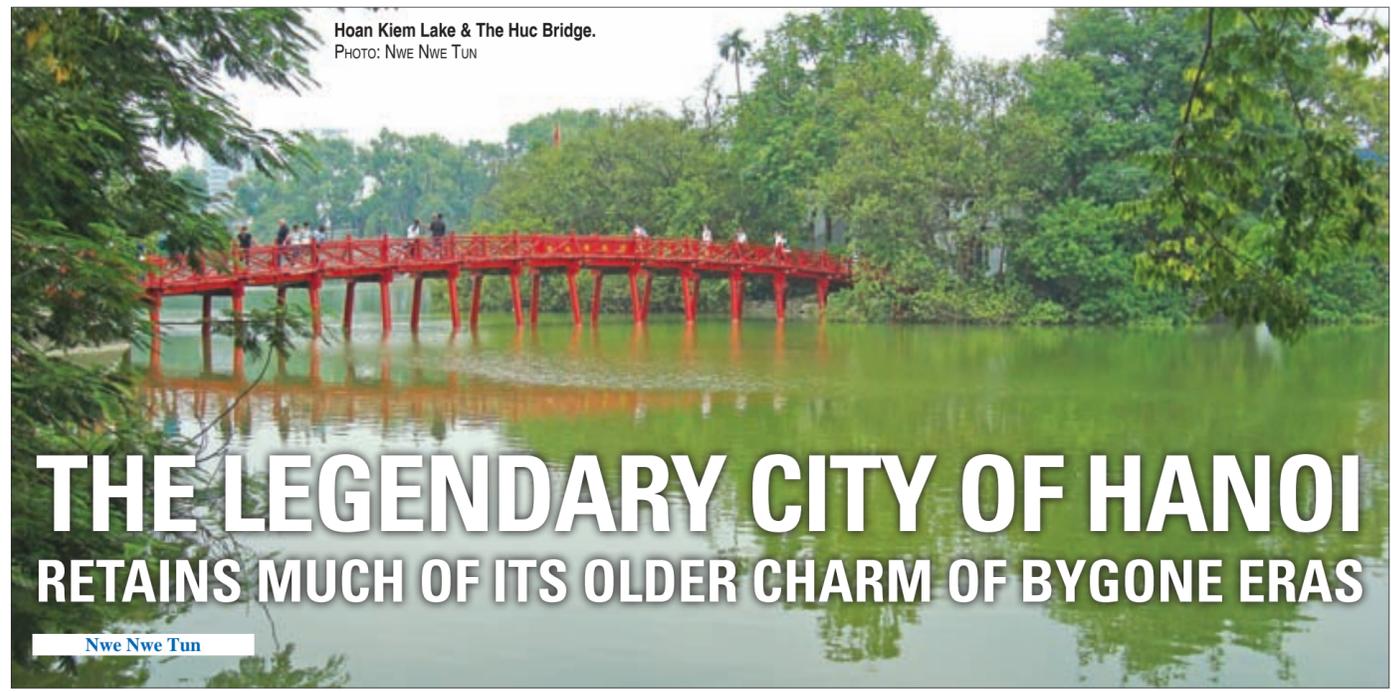
The Union Peace Conference—21st Century Panglong has entered its third day with high ranking officials, ethnic armed group leaders, political parties and others mingling closely as they composed the final words to bury their almost 70-year feud. The historic event, the first of its kind since independence, is broadcast live on all the country's television and radio stations in real time, drawing the interest of a large number of people in the country and beyond.

Although the peace conference is an initial step for the eternal peace to be brought about, all the stakeholders have been able to make their voice heard in the political process with some showing much interest in reaching any compromise, and there is a chance in their luck or in how successful they are. As the gathering has offered euphoria and high expectations in many quarters, those responsible should favour consensus over confrontation, conviviality over candour and process over substance to steer a real peace in the country.

Towards this end, those worthy of participating in the meeting have been inclusive and equal in seeking a solution of the federal problem which is still proving elusive, and the one wielding enormous power should take every possible step toward power-sharing that needs to be decided by a plebiscite, or otherwise we can't win and make change we are longing for, as the time and cost are worthwhile.

Frankly speaking, if the government is seen as favouring one side over the other, then some could see the situation spiral and deteriorate. If the government is seen as even-handed, they could actually see the situation improving. In this juncture, the stakeholders are bearing a heavy burden.

For the historic peace conference to actually shape the future, we firmly believe that all the stakeholders will be able to hold discussions in putting an end to the on-off internal conflict that has plagued many regions of the country since independence in 1948 and hand the people the transformative power without any racism, localism or dogmatism.



Hoan Kiem Lake & The Huc Bridge.  
 PHOTO: NWE NWE TUN

# THE LEGENDARY CITY OF HANOI RETAINS MUCH OF ITS OLDER CHARM OF BYGONE ERAS

Nwe Nwe Tun

Continued from yesterday

One-Pillar Pagoda is situated between the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and Museum. It is well-known with many travelers, prayers and Vietnamese. The pagoda was built in 1049 by Emperor Ly Thai Tong to mark the birth of his heir. It is said he did so following a dream in which a goddess gave him a son floating on a lotus. Fittingly, as one of Hanoi's most sacred sites, this pagoda rises out of a pond covered in lotuses. Travelers find the One-Pillar Pagoda either charming and lovely or utterly pointless, depending on how many tour groups are crammed into the small grounds at the time of their visit.

The city of Hanoi is made up of four districts: Hoàn Kiếm, Ba Đình, Hai Bà Trưng and Đống Đa. These districts are greatly contrasted by the skyscrapers and shopping malls. The first is Hoàn Kiếm District, centre of the city, with its heart in the Hoan Kiem Lake (Sword Lake). The enthralling Old Quarter covers its northern half while its southern half has mostly French architecture with shady streets and villas.

The southern half of Hoan Kiem is surrounded with a huge number of foreign embassies. The district has Hanoi's tourist attractions like Hoan Kiem lake, Ngoc Son temple, The Huc Bridge, the neo-Gothic Hanoi Grand Cathedral (St. Joseph's Cathedral), Hoa Lo prison, Eiffel-designed Long Bien Bridge, Hanoi Opera House and several museums. Hanoi Opera House is one of the few places in Hanoi to catch a symphony, this century old French colonial building is a popular landmark. Erected by the imperialist administration in 1911, it was modelled on the Palais Garnier, the older of Paris's two opera houses. Today the grand old lady hosts local and international entertainers and performers.

The political centre of Viet Nam is Ba Đình District. It is covering the national assembly building, president's palace, Ho Chi Minh's mausoleum and most embassies. It also contains the One-Pillar Pagoda and the discovered Thang Long Citadel. The French Quarter covered with shady boulevards is in its eastern part. Its northeastern part surrounds the Truc Bach lake where John McCain's plane was shot down. Its western part is mostly residential with great numbers of new skyscrapers around the Japanese Embassy on Lieu Giai street. The third Hai Bà Trưng District is located at the south of Hoan Kiem with the largest population of all districts. The district of northern part has French-style streets with giant trees. A large number of universities, including the Hanoi University of Technology are located there.

The fourth district Đống Đa which is one of the original four central districts, is mostly residential. The Temple of Literature (Imperial Academy) is the first university of Viet Nam and it is situated in the north end of district, bordering Ba Đình. Tây Hồ District (West Lake) is one of the largest natural lakes of Viet Nam. That district offers its serenity and close proximity to downtown; it



One-Pillar Pagoda.



Stone tablet mounted on the back of a tortoise at Temple of Literature.

is a high-end residential area housing a large population of expatriates. And then many other kinds of districts are located in Hanoi. There are a large number of universities, including the National University's main campus and Hanoi University of Education. The Museum of Ethnology, one

of foreign travelers' favorite, is located there. Its southwestern part bordering district has numerous high-rises including Keangnam Hanoi Landmark Tower, Viet Nam's tallest building. This is where you see a completely different side of a modern Hanoi, in contrast to the old

inner districts. Vietnamese cuisine has various kinds of food which are delicious. 'Pho Ga' (chicken noodle soup) and 'Pho Bo' (Beef noodle soup) are the most famous cuisines. There are diverse dishes including chicken, beef, fish and seafood. Nowadays,



Tourists are being seen in front of the Temple of Literature.

there are hundreds or thousands of restaurants in Hanoi catering to everyone's taste. Hanoi street foods are becoming a cuisine culture of Hanoi.

In Hanoi, there are thousands of street stalls in small enclosed structure on the footpath, with plastic tables and chairs on the pavement. Grabbing a bite at these eateries is a great way to experience the local food and culture. It is worth mentioning that food quality, freshness, and hygiene can be different greatly. A bowl of noodle soup goes for a few Vietnamese dong. Market food stalls also present a variety of other snacks: fruit portions, sausages, donuts, and other eats. A local famous food in the Hanoi area is dog meat (thịt chó), which is especially popular in the winter. There are a number of restaurants in the Tay Ho district.

Be sure to get your change as a few vendors seem to 'forget' to return it to you, and learn a little Vietnamese because vendors often speak little to no English. There is a large supermarket for groceries near the Hoan Kiem Lake.

Night Market usually opens from 7PM to nearly 10:30PM. This is a unique market which gathers on a walking street in the old quarter. Prices are negotiable but watch out for the "foreigner pricing" which is fairly common. There are many selling different types of materials ranging from cheap, affordable to very good quality with a high price. However, please bear in mind that

when shopping, take your time. Never rush into buying anything. Sellers often give a very high price that you can bargain down to half or one-third of the original price.

Temple of Literature is located at the south of the Mausoleum. The Temple of Literature was founded in 1070 and established as the country's first university, which educated the elite ranks and remained open until 1779. The temple features five courtyards and a small museum. The courtyard features numerous stone tablets, each mounted on the back of a tortoise, with the names of graduates over the centuries.

Ngoc Son Temple extends out into the lake, with small but attractive grounds, displays Vietnamese history and, more memorably, displays the giant turtles, including a mummified specimen. The site is frequently very crowded with tourists. Hoan Kiem Lake is a pleasant park in the centre of town, within easy walking distance from anywhere in the Old Quarter. That lake is locals' favorite leisure spot, and a great place to watch people practicing Tai Chi in the morning or to sit and read in the afternoon.

Hoan Kiem means "returned sword", and the name comes from a legend in which King Le Loi was given a magical sword by the gods, which he used to drive out the invading Chinese. Later, while boating on the lake, he encountered a giant turtle, which grabbed the sword and carried it down to its depths, returning it to

the gods from whom it had come. Rumour has it that the giant turtles still inhabit the lake. A mummified specimen is on display at the Ngoc Son Temple.

We also visited the Traditional Water Puppet Theatre. It is the ideal cultural place for visitors. It is located nearby ancient Hoan Kiem Lake, in the centre of Hanoi Capital. It presents the unique water puppet programme which is extremely attractive spiritual specialty. Puppetry is the traditional art closely connected with the long-standing spiritual life of the Vietnamese people. However, the puppetry art is more and more developed as well as popularized mostly in Viet Nam. The Water Puppet Theatre possesses a special strange attraction, becomes a destination which is liked by many domestic and foreign visitors and tourists. The theatre was established in October 1969 under the investment and guidance of Hanoi City People's Committee and Department of Culture-Sport and Tourism. The theatre has taken successfully on tour in more than 40 countries in the world, from Asia to Europe, America and Australia.

Water puppetry is one of typical stage art of Viet Nam culture, showing the intelligence, creativeness of people who are being specialties of Vietnamese wet-rice civilization. Water puppetry artists and puppeteers performed various kinds of culture and entertainments such as everyday life activities of Vietnamese people, played stories of national heroes and Vietnamese traditional opera played to the audiences. Water puppetry was performed four times in the day with drums mainly used, la and heavy sound as crackers, and so on. The puppeteers stood waist-deep behind the screen in the water to manipulate the puppets. Water-stage is the special thing of water puppetry art. The actions of puppets do not only depend on pole and string apparatus but also on the force of water as well as the system of rudders and floats in a controlling machine of the puppets.

Readers are advised to visit the Hanoi Capital and enjoy Traditional Water Puppet Show, the most attractive show in more than 40 countries in the world among other many things of tourist attraction.



## Efforts made to regulate flying of drones in public spaces

THOSE wishing to fly drones in public spaces must now reportedly first request a permit from the Department of Civil Aviation (DCA).

The department informed Myitmakha News Agency that attempts are being made to regulate the flying of drones within the country to mitigate any disturbance they could cause to airborne aircraft.

"The DCA is primarily responsible for airborne aircraft. In terms of drones, we just handle the protocol surrounding the issuing of permits; we're not concerned with the importation of drones into the country. We've mainly stipulated that drones mustn't disturb the flight path of any airborne aircraft, and must be flown in areas void of any other flying objects. If one wishes to fly a drone in a public space, they must first request permission from our department," said a member of staff from the DCA.

Due to the current absence of

precise laws concerning the operation of drones, enthusiasts have been taking to flying their drones in isolated areas on Yangon's outskirts which are devoid of people.

"There have been instances of drones being confiscated [by the police]. People tend to fly their drones in North Dagon and Shwepyitha. The crux of the issue is that flying drones is neither forbidden nor permitted. Areas where drones mustn't be flown have yet to be exactly demarcated. But, those in authority don't forbid enthusiasts from using their drones in parts of the city free of people," said U Ko Ko Ye, a drone expert.

Members of the Yangon regional police department reportedly did a sweep of shops selling drones back in August 2015, confiscating any drone they found on sale. But shopkeepers who currently sell the unmanned aerial vehicles have informed Myitmakha News Agency that their six shops are no longer targeted

by the authorities.

"Our main business is the sale of electronic paraphernalia. There haven't been any arrests made against [us]. One can fly their drone in the specified areas if one requests permission. The ability to remotely pilot a drone using one's phone has sparked a great deal of interest lately," said a staff member of the Myanmar Future Science shop.

U Zin Yaw, erstwhile Deputy-Minister for Transport, addressed the Amyotha Hluttaw back on 6 January this year stating that just as drones can be utilized for beneficial purposes such as taking photos and capturing video footage of other airborne crafts, together with studying agriculture, the weather and natural disasters, they can also be exploited for terrorist activities. In light of this, he expressed that negotiations with government ministries would be held to come up with a required regulatory protocol.—Myitmakha News Agency

## Loan repayments to be postponed for farmers in flood-hit areas

LOAN repayments will be postponed for farmers who had their farms damaged by flooding, it has been announced by the Agriculture department.

"We will collect accurate data on flooded fields after the water has receded. Currently, we are planning to allocate reserve paddy seeds of around 70,000 baskets (one basket=33.33 kg) from Union government funds and 60,000 baskets from agriculture department funds to weather affected farmers in Ayeyawady and Bago regions. Moreover, entrepreneur farmers and seed traders have reserved over 300,000 paddy seeds. After collecting accurate data of damaged fields, we will postpone the date of loan repayments because thousands of the farmers have had their crops destroyed," said U Aye Ko Ko, Deputy Director-General of the Agricul-

ture department.

For implementation of the plan, Agricultural Land Management and Statistics Department and Agricultural Department from flooded areas need to report on destroyed lands to the head office in time.

"Our paddy fields were stricken by the floods. The government had given us agricultural loans of K100,000 per acre but we cannot repay it on time. I think the government should provide not only paddy seeds but also other seasonal crops seeds," said U Maung Soe, a member of Farmers' Rights Support Network.

According to the initial announcement, over 100,000 acres of paddy and other crops have been damaged by heavy rains and flooding in Ayeyawady, Mandalay, Magwe and Yangon Regions.—Zar Zar

## Crime NEWS



(From Left to Right) Nyi Nyi Lwin, Pho Htoo, Pho Kyaw, Than Zaw and Kyi Soe. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

## Yaba pills, grenade seized from traffickers

AN anti-drug squad in Ayethaya discovered 1,960 yaba pills on Wednesday in the possession of motorcycle driver Zaw Oo.

Similarly, an anti-drug

squad in Myawady searched the home of one Nyi Nyi Lwin and discovered a hand grenade and 1,120 yaba pills.

Police from Pindaya Myoma Police State in Pyindaya,

Shan State, also seized 352 yaba pills from one Aung Tun Tin at his home.

Action has been taken against all suspects under the anti-narcotic law.—GNLM

## Police arrest man for holding counterfeit notes

POLICE arrested a man on suspicion of using counterfeit notes in Minbu town on Thursday.

According to an investigation, KBZ bank manager U Kyaw

Khine came across a 33-year-old man attempting to deposit and transfer 44 suspicious K10,000 bank notes. The bank manager, suspecting the notes were counterfeit, informed local police.

Police arrested and searched the customer, one Nee Win alias Pho Ni, who has now reportedly been charged for being in possession of counterfeit currency.—Kyaw Zayyar

## Man killed following truck collision

A MAN died on Wednesday afternoon when a 12-wheel vehicle ran him over on the Yangon-Mandalay road near Kyantaw village, Taungoo township, Bago region.

According to an investigation, the 12-wheel vehicle, be-

ing driven by one Tun Paing, 22, from Mawlamyine, crashed into Zaw Paing, 33, when the victim suddenly crossed the road between mileposts 179/3-4.

The driver was arrested and an investigation is ongoing.—Ko Lwin (Hswar)

## Yaba and raw opium seized

AN anti-narcotics suppression squad comprising policemen from Mong Hsat police station seized raw opium from a motorcycle driver on Mong Hsat-Tachilek road near Pan Hine village, Mong Hsat township on Wednesday. Acting on a tip-off police stopped and searched motorcycle driver 'Philie' and discovered raw opium weighing 2.8 kilograms.

On the same day a combined investigation team from Taunggyi searched the home of one Pyayt

Phyo Aung on Zee Za Wah road, Kyaung Gyi Su ward, Taunggyi town and discovered 5,400 yaba pills.

Similarly, Police from Taunggyi stopped and searched a vehicle en route to Hopong from Taunggyi being driven by one Maung Maung Thar Oho with Min Khant on board and found 200 yaba pills. Police have filed charges against all suspects under the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Laws.—Myanmar Police Force



Two drug dealers being seen with the drugs seized.

PHOTO: MYANMAR POLICE FORCE



## Abe holds talks with Putin on economy, isles row, Japan visit

VLADIVOSTOK (Russia) — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Russian President Vladimir Putin held on talks on Friday for the second time this year in Russia on economic cooperation and a decades-old territorial dispute that has prevented the two countries from signing a post-World War II peace treaty.

“I believe the development of the Far East region with big potential is Russia’s top priority issue,” Abe said at the outset of his meeting with Putin on the sidelines of the Eastern Economic Forum in the Russian Far East port city of Vladivostok.

“The growth of the Asia-Pacific leads the global economy. Japan, as Russia’s neighbour, will promote Japan-Russia cooperation in the region strongly,” Abe said.

Putin said, “It is important that the governments support the initiatives of the private sector.”

In the talks, the leaders are expected to discuss Putin’s visit to Japan, which had initially been eyed for 2014 but was postponed after Russia’s annexation of the Crimean region of Ukraine.

Japanese sources said such a visit is eyed for December in Yamaguchi Prefecture, western Japan, where Abe’s family has lived for generations and his electoral constituency is located.

With Tokyo hoping an economic cooperation offer will prompt the Kremlin to soften its stance in the dispute over a group of Russian-administered isles off Japan’s main northernmost island of Hokkaido, Abe is expected to pitch an eight-point Japanese economic cooperation plan he presented to Putin in May.

The plan focuses on Japanese assistance in developing the Russian Far East, a resource-rich but underdeveloped region to which Putin attaches importance to spur growth.

The Russian economy has been sluggish, hit by sanctions by Western countries and falling oil prices.

In their previous meeting in the Russian Black Sea resort of Sochi in May, Abe said he and Putin agreed on achieving a peace treaty with a “new approach, free of any past ideas.”

He did not, however, reveal any specifics regarding the path

ahead.

Japanese officials said the “new approach” did not mean a change in Tokyo’s stance of claiming all of the disputed isles — Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan and the Habomai islet group. The isles are called the Northern Territories in Japan and the Southern Kurils in Russia.

Sources close to Russo-Japanese relations said on Thursday that Tokyo is considering reviving a once-pursued “two-track” idea of seeking the return of two of the four islands initially, while continuing talks on the fate of the other two.

Putin has previously admitted the validity of the 1956 Japan-Soviet Joint Declaration that says Russia will return the two islands — Shikotan and the Habomais — after concluding a peace treaty with Japan.

Japan and Russia are far apart over the territorial issue. Tokyo maintains that ownership of the isles must be resolved before a peace treaty can be concluded.

Russia says the territorial and peace treaty issues are not directly connected and that it took control of the isles legiti-



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (L) meets with Russian President Vladimir Putin in the Russian Far East port city of Vladivostok, on 2 September 2016. The leaders meeting saw them focus on economic cooperation and a decades-old territorial dispute. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

mately at the end of World War II. Moscow has strengthened its control of the islands and developed their infrastructure.

The Japanese prime minister’s trip is a rare visit to Russia by a leader from the Group of Seven economies. The G-7 continues to impose sanctions on Moscow, condemning Russia’s annexation of Crimea and its military intervention in the

eastern part of Ukraine.

In April 2013, Abe, who took office in December 2012, became the first Japanese prime minister to officially visit Russia in 10 years, agreeing with Putin to revive territorial talks.

Since then, while Abe has made several trips to Russia, there has been no reciprocal visit by the Russian leader to Japan. —Kyodo News

## Philippines wants mandatory drug tests for college admissions

MANILA — The Philippines is stepping up President Rodrigo Duterte’s battle on drugs with incoming college freshmen set to face tests for illegal drug use from next year, an education official said on Friday.

A wave of 2,400 killings unleashed in a war on drugs since Duterte came to power two months ago has gained popular support in the Southeast Asian nation, but has alarmed the United Nations and the United States, Manila’s close ally.

The government seeks to make drug testing a requirement for all incoming college students, said Julito Vitriolo, the executive director of the Commission on



Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte gestures while delivering a speech during the 115<sup>th</sup> Police Service Anniversary at the Philippine National Police (PNP) headquarters in Quezon city, metro Manila, Philippines, on 17 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Higher Education.

“This was born out of the president’s call to make campuses drug-free, because we see the pervasive effects of drug use,” he said in a television interview.

“What’s important is for students not to use drugs. It will be a deterrent if they want to continue their studies,” Vitriolo said, adding that those testing positive could go through rehabilitation before being admitted to college.

Drug testing for university admission is now done on a voluntary basis. “It is something that we should be doing because the drug menace is real,” Monico Jacob, president of STI Educa-

tion Systems Holdings Inc, told Reuters, referring to compulsory tests.

STI, which has more than 103,000 students this academic year, has performed mandatory drug testing for the past five years.

Duterte won the May election by a landslide on a promise to wipe out drugs and dealers. He has named politicians, police generals and judges linked to the drug trade.

Police data show 2,400 deaths in the drug war after Duterte took over, a toll police say is a result of drug dealers resisting arrest or gang feuds. —Reuters

# Indian PM says G20 summit to provide him opportunity to engage with world leaders

NEW DELHI — Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Friday that the upcoming G20 summit to be held in China would provide him an opportunity to interact with world leaders on pressing international issues.

“During the G20 Summit, I will have an opportunity to engage

with other world leaders on pressing international priorities and challenges,” Modi said. “We will discuss putting the global economy on the track of sustainable steady growth and responding to emerging and entrenched social, security and economic challenges.”

The summit will be-

gin in China’s eastern Hangzhou city on Sunday.

“Will be in Hangzhou, China for G20 Summit, where I will interact with world leaders on key global issues,” Modi wrote on his Twitter account.

The Indian prime minister said he looked forward to a result-orient-

ed summit in China.

“India will engage constructively on all the issues before us and work towards finding solutions and taking forward the agenda for a robust, inclusive and sustainable international economic order that uplifts the socio-economic conditions of people across the world, es-

pecially those who need it most in developing countries,” he said.

“I look forward to a productive and outcome oriented summit.”

G20 is the group of the world’s 20 largest economies — Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy,

Japan, Mexico, South Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union (EU).

The first G20 leaders’ summit was held in Washington in 2008. The 10th summit was held in Antalya, Turkey, in November 2015.—Xinhua

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Yangon. 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2016

# Hurricane Hermine hammers Florida, leaving thousands without power

TAMPA, (Fla) — Fierce winds and rain from Hurricane Hermine slammed Florida’s northern Gulf Coast on Friday and power outages left tens of thousands of households in the dark.

Florida Governor Rick Scott said the storm could lead to deaths and told residents to stay indoors until it had passed.

Hermine, a Category 1 hurricane, made landfall shortly after midnight about 5 miles (10 km) southeast of St. Marks, bringing heavy rains and packing winds of 80 mph (130 km/h). It left 70,000 households in the state capital Tallahassee and thousands more elsewhere without power.

“It is a mess...we have high water in numerous places,” Virgil Sandlin, the police chief in Cedar Key, Florida, told the Weather Channel.

Strong gusts downed power lines and trees as widespread flooding inundated communities in northern Florida before the hurricane reached into Georgia, where conditions

were expected to deteriorate throughout the early morning on Friday.

“The combination of a dangerous storm surge and the tide will continue to cause normally dry areas near the coast to be flooded by rising waters moving inland from the shoreline,” the National Hurricane Centre said in an advisory.

The centre warned that some areas along Florida’s northern Gulf Coast may experience 9 feet (3 m) of flooding.

Pasco County reported crews rescued 18 people and brought them to shelters after their homes were flooded in Green Key and Hudson Beach early on Friday.

“Stay indoors even if it calm outside. The eye of Hermine may be passing through.

Let it pass completely before surveying any damage,” Governor Scott advised residents in a Twitter post.

The National Weather Service issued several tornado warnings and watches for communities throughout northern Florida and Georgia on Friday.



Tropical Storm Hermine is shown over the Gulf of Mexico in this GOES East satellite image captured, on 1 September 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

son. By 11 p.m. EDT, maximum winds were listed at 80 mph (130 kph), with hurricane-force winds extending up to 45 miles (75 km) from the storm’s centre.

Hermine became the fourth hurricane of the 2016 Atlantic storm sea-

son. By 11 p.m. EDT, maximum winds were listed at 80 mph (130 kph), with hurricane-force winds extending up to 45 miles (75 km) from the storm’s centre.

Hermine could dump as much as 20 inches (51

cm) of rain in some parts of the state. Ocean storm surge could swell as high as 12 feet (3.6 metres).

Scott declared a state of emergency in 51 of Florida’s 67 counties, and at least 20 counties closed schools.—Reuters

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Tel:376318 G.P.O Box:666  
Yangon. 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2016

**INVITATION FOR PRICE QUOTATIONS**  
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of the National Community Driven Development Project (NCDDP). The IDA No of the financing agreement is No H814MM. The Department of Rural Development (DRD) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, in its role as implementing agency of the NCDDP, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this financing towards eligible payments under the Purchase Order/Contract for the procurement of printed copies of the Operations Manual 2016 Edition. DRD now invites eligible suppliers to express their interest in supplying the following items:

**Reference Number: G 78 – PRINTING of the OPERATIONS MANUAL 2016 EDITION**

Lot No	Item No	Description	Quantity (No of copies)
1	1	PRINTING of the OPERATIONS MANUAL 2016 EDITION	60,000

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The printing will be contracted in 1 (one) contract. Suppliers will be selected following the Shopping Method as per the “Guidelines for Procurement of Goods, Works and non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers” dated January 2011.

Please submit your Expression of Interest for receiving the ITQ to: U Kyaw Soe, Deputy Director General, Department of Rural Development, Office No.(14), Nay Pyi Taw. For detailed information please contact U Kyaw Swa Aung, Director, Procurement and Logistic Section, Mobile phone 0943434333 or office phone 067409071/ Email: [unioncddprocurement@gmail.com](mailto:unioncddprocurement@gmail.com). Please indicate your e-mail address as only electronic copies of the ITQ will be send.

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## Hitachi starts trials of EMIEW3 humanoid robot at Haneda airport



Developed by Hitachi Ltd., humanoid robot EMIEW3 guides a woman, who plays the role of a passenger, during a demonstration at Haneda airport in Tokyo, on 2 September 2016.

PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

TOKYO — Hitachi Ltd. started trials of its EMIEW3 humanoid robot at Tokyo's Haneda airport on Friday to aid foreign visitors to Japan.

During the trials through December in the domestic Terminal 2 at the airport, the robot will communicate with passengers in Japanese and English at a designated information center and display relevant information.

The Japanese industrial conglomerate is hoping to enable the 90-centimeter tall humanoid robot with autonomous capabilities to guide users to destinations

starting around December.

At a demonstration on Friday morning, a female foreign passenger asked EMIEW3 for directions to a foreign exchange counter. The humanoid robot at the information center called another EMIEW3 robot to take her to the shop. "Please follow me," the robot said.

Since the introduction of EMIEW in 2005, Hitachi has been improving its capabilities. The newest EMIEW3 with a "remote brain" that can process images and voices was unveiled in April. Multiple robots can be linked with

the use of a remote operation system, according to Hitachi.

"We are hoping to use EMIEW3 to assist efforts to extend hospitality at Haneda airport through our trial runs," said Hiroshi Sato, senior vice president and executive officer at Hitachi.

A recent increase in the number of foreign visitors to Japan has raised the need for a variety of services, Sato said, expressing hope to increase the number of EMIEW3 languages available to include Chinese and Korean.—*Kyodo News*

## Samsung issues recall for Galaxy Note 7 after battery fires

SEOUL — Samsung Electronics Co Ltd (005930.KS) will replace all Galaxy Note 7 smartphones equipped with fire-prone batteries and halt sales of the flagship product in 10 markets, a devastating blow for what had been a revival in the firm's mobile business.

Koh Dong-jin, head of the South Korean company's smartphone business, spoke at a news conference jam-packed with reporters and cameras where he expressed regret at the recall, which will affect markets including South Korea and the US — but not China, where models feature a different battery.

The announcement on Friday comes just over two weeks since the premium device's launch, and follows reports of the 988,900 won (\$885) phone igniting while charging.

The executive, who declined to comment on the number of phones needing replacement, said Samsung had sold 2.5 million of the premium devices so far. The manufacturer plans to replace not only phones with faulty batteries sold to consumers, but also retailer inventories and units in transit.

"I can't comment on exactly how much the cost will be, but it pains my heart that it will be such a big number," Koh said.

The scale of the recall is unprecedented for Samsung, which prides itself on its manufacturing prowess. While recalls in the smartphone industry do happen, including for rival Apple Inc (AAPL.O), the nature of the problem for the Galaxy Note 7 is a serious blow to Samsung's reputation, analysts said.—*Reuters*

## Germany's Merkel not distancing herself from Armenia resolution

BERLIN — German Chancellor Angela Merkel told the parliamentary leader of her conservative party that she is not distancing herself from a Bundestag resolution on the 1915 massacre of Armenians by Ottoman forces

that has strained ties with Turkey, according to sources briefed on the matter.

Volker Kauder, the head of the Christian Democrats in parliament, told a meeting of party members that he had spoken with

Merkel and she emphasized her position, said the sources, who attended the meeting.

Kauder said Merkel also noted that she had voted to support the resolution during a party meeting be-

fore the vote, although she was not present when the vote took place in June. Economy Minister Sigmar Gabriel and Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier were also not present, the sources said.—*Reuters*



A Samsung Electronics' Galaxy Note 7 new smartphone is displayed at its store in Seoul, South Korea, on 2 September 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Putin says oil output freeze would be right decision

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin said an agreement between oil exporters to freeze output would be the right decision for the global market and a compromise should be found for Iran to achieve a deal.

Attempts by OPEC and non-OPEC oil exporters to reach a pact on stabilizing production levels earlier this year foundered because Iran, which is anxious to increase exports after the lifting of international sanctions, declined to participate.

"I think that from the point of view of economic expediency and logic, it would be right to find some sort of compromise" on Iranian output, Putin said in an interview with Bloomberg, a transcript of which was published on the Kremlin website.

"I would very much

like to hope that all the participants in this market, who want to maintain stable and fair world prices for energy resources, will at the end of the day take the necessary decision," Putin was quoted as saying.

He said he would convey his position to Saudi Arabia's Deputy Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, whom he may meet on the sidelines of a G20 gathering in China this weekend. "It wasn't us who rejected a freeze on production volumes, it was our Saudi partners who at the last minute changed their point of view and decided to take a time out in taking this decision," Putin was quoted as saying.

"If Prince Salman and I talk on this subject, I will of course lay out our position again: we believe that it (an output freeze) is the right decision for global energy."—*Reuters*

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

TUG;BONIA STAR 21, BG;SINGA BESAR 2502 VOY. NO (-)

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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.

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## Portraying motherhood biggest challenge in new release for Oscar-winner Vikander

VENICE — Portraying the joys and pains of motherhood in Derek Cianfrance's "The Light Between Oceans" that premieres at the Venice film festival on Thursday was one of the biggest challenges for 27-year-old Swedish actress Alicia Vikander.

The story, set in Australia in the 1920s, is the tragic tale of a lighthouse keeper, played by Michael Fassbender, and

his wife (Vikander), who have suffered two miscarriages when a baby in a boat washes ashore their remote island.

They decide to raise the child as their own, until they meet the child's real mother years later.

"I haven't had a child yet ... so knowing that half of the audience, or half of the women watching it will just feel like 'she doesn't really know what it's like', was something I felt a bit pressured by," Vikander, who won an Oscar for her

role in "The Danish Girl", told a news conference.

Cianfrance's drama, based on a novel of the same name, is one of 20 movies competing for the Golden Lion that will be awarded on 10 September.

The director said he was immediately attracted to the book because of its battle between truth and love, and chased it for a year before he was given a chance to direct it.

"I don't think any of these characters in this film are good or bad, don't think they ever meant to hurt somebody, but they make decisions with their heart and with their emotions and there are consequences to those emotional decisions," he said.

Vikander said she was nervous to work with Fassbender, who she described as "one of the most brilliant actors out there", but the energy she brought to the movie impressed.—Reuters



Alicia Vikander.  
PHOTO: REUTERS

## Jackie Chan to get lifetime achievement Oscar

LOS ANGELES — Martial arts expert and actor Jackie Chan will receive a lifetime achievement Oscar, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences announced on Thursday.

Chan, 62, the Hong Kong-born star of Hollywood movies such as "Kung Fu Panda," "The Karate Kid" and the "Rush Hour" franchise, will join documentary maker Frederick Wiseman, British film editor Anne V. Coates and casting director Lynn Stalmaster as recipients of the 2016 Governors Awards.

Each will get an honorary Oscar statuette recognizing their

lifetime contribution to film at a gala in Los Angeles in November.

Academy President Cheryl Boone Isaacs in a statement called them all "true pioneers and legends in their crafts."

Chan made his movie debut at the age of 8, and has acted and sometimes written and directed more than 30 martial arts movies in Hong Kong. He has never won an Oscar.

In August, he was ranked the second-highest paid actor in the world by Forbes with estimated 2016 earnings of \$61 million, just below "Fast and Furious" star Dwayne Johnson.—Reuters



Actor Jackie Chan.  
PHOTO: REUTERS

## N.Y. court tosses Lindsay Lohan's Grand Theft Auto V lawsuit

NEW YORK — A New York state appeals court on Thursday dismissed a lawsuit in which the actress Lindsay Lohan accused the maker of the popular "Grand Theft Auto" video games of basing a character on her without her permission.

Take-Two Interactive Software Inc did not use Lohan's "name, portrait or picture" in "Grand Theft Auto V" and therefore did not violate her right to privacy, the five-judge Appellate Division panel in Manhattan said.

The court also dismissed similar claims against Take-Two by Karen Gravano, star of the "Mob Wives" reality television series.

Lohan's lawyer, Robert Pritchard, had no immediate comment, while Gravano's lawyer Thomas Farinella said: "We're clearly disappointed and are exploring our options."

Take-Two did not immediately respond to a call seeking comment.

Lohan accused Take-Two and its Rockstar Games unit of modelling "Grand Theft Auto V"

actress character Lacey Jonas on her, with a similar look, voice, clothing and hair.

But the appeals court said that even if the character resembled Lohan, "Grand Theft Auto V" was protected as a "work of fiction and satire."

The panel also dismissed Lohan's claim that Take-Two improperly used her image in advertising for the game because "the images are not of Lohan herself, but merely the avatar," the court ruled.

Gravano, meanwhile, claimed that the game's character Andrea Bottino mirrored aspects of her life, including how she speaks.

Lohan starred in the 1998 movie, "the Parent Trap," and 2004's "Mean Girls," but in recent years she has been in the news more for her legal woes and visits to rehab clinics.

"Grand Theft Auto V" has sold more than 65 million units worldwide, according to the company's 2016 annual report.—Reuters



Lindsay Lohan.  
PHOTO: REUTERS

## Amy Adams leads in sci-fi thriller as Oscar buzz builds in Venice

VENICE — Five-time Academy Award nominee Amy Adams may get closer to finally landing an Oscar as two of her movies are competing at the Venice film festival this year, including Denis Villeneuve's sci-fi thriller "Arrival".

In the film, premiering on Thursday, Adams plays a linguist hired by the US government to go inside one of 12 space ships that

have touched down around the world. Her task: to establish contact with the extra-terrestrials on board, develop a common language and discover the purpose of their visit.

The movie, which also stars Forest Whitaker and Jeremy Renner, is one of 20 US and international films vying for the Golden Lion that will be awarded on 10 September.

Various scenes in the movie are silent, with Villeneuve using close-ups of Adams to convey that real communication does not always require words.

"I was drawn in by the intimacy of it," Adams told Reuters.

She said she always asks directors why they want her for a part, and turns down roles where they are looking for "someone to be likeable".

"Denis said 'I need to know what she's thinking'... He trusted the audience to go on this emotional journey," she later added at a news conference.

"Arrival" is one of several movies in Venice that feature a strong female lead. The character "felt like every woman I know who is struggling with hard things, working through personal issues while also heading out into the world", Adams said.

After a period in the doldrums, the world's oldest film festival is again seen as a launchpad for the industry's award season after premiering Academy winners in its last three editions.—Reuters



Actress Amy Adams.  
PHOTO: REUTERS

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**Bereaved family**

# More Aussie dads taking time off work to care for young children

CANBERRA — More Australian dads than ever before are taking time out from work to care for their young children, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) revealed on Friday.

Ahead of Sunday's Father's Day celebrations, the ABS has said Australian dads are increasingly taking advantage of flexible working arrangements and changing social stigmas to care for their children.

Lisa Conolly, director of Family and Community Statistics at the ABS, said the number of dads choosing to look after their children

had almost doubled in the last 20 years.

"Nowadays, around 30 per cent of dads took advantage of flexible work hours to look after young children (under 12), compared with 16 per cent of dads two decades ago," Conolly said in a statement released on Friday.

"The number of dads working from home to care for their children doubled from 7 per cent to 14 per cent, while dads who worked part-time to care for their children rose from 1 per cent to 5 per cent."

Although mothers are still the primary caregivers

to children in Australia, Conolly said perceptions towards working through having children were shifting. While nine in 10 dads are still employed despite having children, more mothers than ever before are also holding down employment while raising children.

"90 per cent of dads with children under 15 are employed (compared with 65 per cent of mums). Just fewer than 92 per cent of these dads work full-time (compared with 42 per cent of employed mums)," the statement said.

Father's Day is celebrated

on 3 September in Australia, and Conolly said while many dads feel "rushed for time" when caring for children under 15 years of age, Sunday is a great excuse for fathers to relax and spend time with loved ones.

"It comes as no surprise that almost all parents of children under 15 — 85 per cent of dads and 93 per cent of mums — felt rushed or pressed for time," Conolly said.

"However, around 89 per cent of both also felt they were able to spend quality time with their family and friends." —Xinhua



(3-9-2016, Saturday)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>6:00 am</b>  | Performing Arts Competitions  |
| • Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw   |   |
| <b>7:35 pm</b>  | • NHK Programme "Quiz Me ! Science!" (Pendulum Principle)                     |
| • Hyper Sport   |   |
| <b>8:15 am</b>  | • Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions                            |
| • Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions                            |   |
| <b>8:50 am</b>  | • Union peace conference - 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Panglong (Live Broadcast) |
| • Union peace conference - 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Panglong (Live Broadcast) |   |
| <b>1:35 pm</b>  | • Week Characterful News  |
| • Week Characterful News  |   |
| <b>2:20 pm</b>  | • Human Right "Traces/ Missing Foot Prints"                                   |
| • Human Right "Traces/ Missing Foot Prints"                                   |   |
| <b>3:35 pm</b>  | • Game for Children   |
| • Game for Children   |   |
| <b>4:15 pm</b>  | • Myanmar Traditional   |
| • Myanmar Traditional   |   |

Note/Hourly News Bulletins (Local + International)



(3-9-2016, Saturday)

- |  |  |                             |
|--|--|-----------------------------|
| <b>06 : 00 pm</b>                                | • Weather Report                                 | • Cassette Recordings       |
| • X Sports                                       |  | <b>08 : 25 pm</b>           |
| <b>06 : 40 pm</b>                                | • Hanthawaddy U Win Tin: A Fearless Man (Part-1) | • MRTV Entertainment Music  |
| • Hanthawaddy U Win Tin: A Fearless Man (Part-1) |  | <b>08 : 35 pm</b>           |
| <b>07 : 05 pm</b>                                | • MRTV Entertainment Music                       | • International Movie       |
| • MRTV Entertainment Music                       |  | <b>10 : 15 pm</b>           |
| <b>07 : 15 pm</b>                                | • Myanmar Movie                                  | • International Movie Songs |
| • Myanmar Movie                                  |  | <b>10 : 30 pm</b>           |
|  |  | • Myanmar Movie             |

(00:00 Am - 06:00 Am) Transmission (Repeat - 06:00 Pm ~ 00:00 Am)  
 (06:00 Am - 08:35 Am) Transmission (Repeat - 06:00 Pm ~ 08:35 Pm)

- |                       |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>08 : 35 pm</b>     | • Myanmar Movie       | ie Songs              |
| • Myanmar Movie       |                       | <b>10 : 25 pm</b>     |
| <b>10 : 15 pm</b>     | • International Movie | • International Movie |
| • International Movie |                       |                       |

(12:00 Pm ~ 04:10 Pm) Transmission (Repeat - 06:00 Am ~ 10:10 Am)

- 04 : 10 pm**
- Cartoon Movie "Ratatouille"

From 3-9-2016 (Saturday) 6:00 pm  
 To 4-9-2016 (Sunday) 6:00 pm

# Mariachi musicians honour late singer Juan Gabriel in Mexico City

MEXICO CITY — Mariachi folk musicians joined the faithful in Mexico City's historic Garibaldi Square on Tuesday to pay tribute to late singer Juan

Gabriel, who died of a heart attack on Sunday.

Gathering around a statue of the Mexican performer considered a musical icon across Latin

America for over 40 years, the musicians played his signature tunes and a priest held a service in his honor.

Gabriel, whose real name was Alberto Aguil-

era, was 66.

"It has hit all of us hard. We are hurting for his loss," said Leonor Rodriguez, of the Juan Gabriel fan club. —Reuters



A Catholic priest blesses the statue of late Mexican singer Juan Gabriel during a mass in his honor in Plaza Garibaldi, in Mexico City, Mexico, 30 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS



- |       |    |                                    |
|-------|----|------------------------------------|
| 10:27 | Am | Next Generation "Tyrah T (DJ)"     |
| 10:36 | Am | The Beauty In The North Of Myanmar |
| 10:52 | Am | Culture Shows: Composer Ma Mya Lay |

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

(3-9-2016 07:00am ~ 4-9-2016 07:00am) MST

**Today Fresh**

- |       |    |   |
|-------|----|---|
| 07:03 | Am | News  |
| 07:27 | Am | Great Shwedagon — The Sacred Hair Relics Hailing Pogodas    |
| 07:53 | Am | TECH School   |
| 08:03 | Am | News  |
| 08:26 | Am | Myanmar Traditional Festival                                |
| 09:03 | Am | News  |
| 09:26 | Am | Discovering Tribes "Lisu: Their Life and Customs (Part- I)" |
| 09:49 | Am | Orchid Lover  |
| 10:03 | Am | News  |

**Prime Time**

- |       |    |  |
|-------|----|--|
| 07:03 | Pm | News   |
| 07:27 | Pm | My Travel In This Exceptional Place, Inle Lake |
| 07:47 | Pm | Today Myanmar: The Plastic School              |
| 08:03 | Pm | News   |
| 08:26 | Pm | The Writer: Chit Oo Nyo (Part-1)               |
| 08:52 | Pm | Myanmar Masterclass: Art Teacher               |

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



Andy Murray of the UK. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Murray says noise under roof a distraction for players

NEW YORK — Andy Murray said on Thursday the noise created by the US Open's new retractable roof over Arthur Ashe Stadium is a distraction to players and makes it difficult to react to opponents' shots.

But the British second seed managed to shut out the noise and Spain's Marcel Granollers during a 6-4, 6-1, 6-4 second-round victory played while rain beat down on the closed roof and crowd noise reverberated inside.

The Wimbledon and Olympic champion ground down the world number 45 in a match involving numerous lung-busting rallies and played under a cacophony of sound with the \$150 million roof closed

from the start.

"It's because we use our ears when we play," Murray said, explaining the difficulty. "It's not just the eyes. It helps us pick up the speed of the ball, the spin that's on the ball, how hard someone's hitting it."

"If we played with our ears covered or with headphones on, it would be a big advantage if your opponent wasn't wearing them."

At times, the players could barely hear the ball off their strings and the rain hammering on the roof was almost deafening but Murray kept calm to clinch a convincing victory.

"At first we didn't know if there was just more people come in at the change of ends, but then we quickly realised it was the rain," Murray said.

But the Scot, chasing his fourth grand slam title, said players will cope with the extra noise.

"As an athlete, that's what you do. We adjust to conditions, different conditions every week," said Murray.

"I'm sure if the feedback is that the TV or the spectators aren't enjoying the match as much then they will look into it and try and change it."

"But if it's fine on TV, which from what I have heard it is, I don't know what the fans have said about it yet, but the players will adjust."

Murray led 5-2 in the first set only for Granollers to hit back but the Scot won a game lasting more than 10 minutes to break and clinch it on his seventh set point. — Reuters

## Messi goal puts Argentina top of World Cup group

BUENOS AIRES — Lionel Messi marked his retirement about face with a goal to give 10-man Argentina a 1-0 win over Uruguay on Thursday that lifted them to the top of the South American qualifying group for the 2018 World Cup finals in Russia.

In a match of few chances, Messi created something out of nothing three minutes before half-time when, surrounded by defenders, his shot from outside the box took a deflection on Jose Maria Gimenez and wrongfooted goalkeeper Fernando Muslera.

It took Messi's record as Argentina's top scorer to 56 in his 114th international and proved the perfect insurance for his team who were reduced to 10 men when young forward Paulo Dybala was sent off on the stroke of half-time. Dybala, who had almost put his side ahead in the 31st minute with a shot that hit the post, was sent off for a second booking and left the pitch in tears after his first start for Argentina.

Uruguay, who had spent virtually the entire first half defending, took the game to Argentina in the second but hardly troubled goalkeeper Sergio Romero.

"I wanted to be here after all the confusion I'd caused by first saying I wasn't coming and then that I was," Messi told reporters.

Messi said in June he was quitting international soccer after the disappointment of losing the

Copa America final on penalties to Chile.

"From the moment I said that, the fans showed me a lot of affection and I'm really grateful, I couldn't not come back."

Argentina now lead the 10-nation group with 14 points from seven matches, one point more than Uruguay, Colombia and Ecuador in the four qualification places.

Brazil, who beat Ecuador 3-0 in Quito with two goals by teenager Gabriel Jesus, are fifth — which would put them in an inter-continental playoff for one more berth.

All four coaches who were taking charge of their first matches won, including Argentina's Edgardo Bauza, who now takes his side to play bottom team Venezuela away on Tuesday.

Brazil's Tite will be looking to confirm their improvement at home against Colombia, who beat Venezuela 2-0. Paraguay, under new coach Francisco Arce, upset Copa America holders Chile 2-1 in Asuncion to climb to sixth also with 12 points and play Uruguay next in Montevideo. Bolivia gave their new coach Guillermo Hoyos a winning start with a 2-0 home win over Peru and face seventh-placed Chile away next. — Reuters



Lionel Messi. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Zhang topples former champion Stosur in second round

NEW YORK — China's Zhang Shuai, who broke through with a stunning run to this year's Australian Open quarter-finals, advanced to the third round at the US Open on Thursday with a victory over former champion Samantha Stosur.

Zhang lost serve just once in ousting the 16th-seeded Australian 6-3, 6-3 on the Grandstand court.

The 51<sup>st</sup>-ranked Zhang became the first women's qualifier since 1990 to reach the quarters in Melbourne, in a surprise charge that came after she had

failed to get past the first round of 14 successive majors dating back eight years.

Against 2011 US Open winner Stosur, who reached the semi-finals at this year's French Open, Zhang won a baseline battle by outmanoeuvring the Australian, forcing her into 27 errors, including 20 from the forehand side. Zhang next faces 52<sup>nd</sup>-ranked Yaroslava Shvedova of Kazakhstan, who routed China's Wang Qiang 6-0, 6-1. — Reuters



Shuai Zhang of China. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Bale dreams of Champions League glory in Cardiff hometown

MADRID — The possibility of winning Europe's most prestigious club competition in his hometown has given Wales winger Gareth Bale extra motivation to help Real Madrid become the first club to defend their Champions League title.

The former Tottenham Hotspur winger has won the Champions League twice in three years since his record-breaking move to Real in 2013. Manchester United's Paul Pogba has since overtaken Bale as the world's most expensive player.

If Bale were to achieve an unprecedented third Champions League title in this season's final at Cardiff, it would make him the only Welsh-

man to win the competition three times, surpassing Ryan Giggs, Ian Rush and Joey Jones. "I played the (2014 European) Super Cup in Cardiff before and it was an amazing experience to have my friends and family close by," Bale told British media. "I suppose there's a little more motivation if there needs to be any more and we'll be trying to make history in Cardiff."

"We know we have a chance and we will be trying our best to do that. My aim is to win as many trophies as I can and as many Champions Leagues as I can."

English Premier League clubs spent a staggering 1.165 billion pounds (\$1.55 billion) on new recruits during the close season but Bale felt the massive outlay will not necessarily translate into success on the continental stage. — Reuters



Wales' Gareth Bale. PHOTO: REUTERS