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Tatmadaw, police repel multiple raids in Maungdaw

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C-in-C Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Cambodian Ambassador

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Teachers being evacuated by helicopter from Maungdaw Township in Rakhine to Buthitaung. PHOTO: MNA

Tatmadaw troops evacuated teachers, staff and locals to places of safety

SCORES of victims — teachers, departmental personnel and locals residing in Taungpyowae and nearby villages — recently scourged by violent armed attacks in Maungdaw Township, Rakhine State, were evacuated to places of safety in multiple trips by Tatmadaw helicopters yesterday.

They included one Buddhist monk, 114 teachers, 50 departmental staff and 16 local residents—181 in all, to Buthitaung. Out of that group, 27 teachers and locals were later sent on to Sittway by helicopter, according to the Myawady News.

The troops of the Tatmadaw are continuing to conduct clear-

ance operations in the villages in Maungdaw Township as part of efforts for providing security to the local peoples.

The troops also repelled multiple raids by violent armed attackers to the Alethanyaw Area Office, where members of the Tatmadaw and the police were stationed.

Responding the deadly attack in Rakhine State, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on Wednesday said that the government is dealing with the current issue in Rakhine State exercising the rule of law so that the government can reach the best and fairest settlement.

Regarding the attack in

Rakhine State, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services said on Wednesday that the Tatmadaw (armed forces of the country) is in Rakhine State to protect the citizens from deprivation as a priority, and to cooperate with all countries in accord with international laws and regulations.—*Myanmar News Agency*

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Union ministers visit Kyikanpyin Police Headquarters

UNION ministers and the chief minister of Rakhine State visited the recently attacked police headquarters in Kyikanpyin, Maungdaw Township, Rakhine State and expressed their sympathies to the bereaved families

of the police who died in the line of duty.

Union Ministers Dr Pe Myint and U Thein Swe and Chief Minister U Nyi Pu met with staff, members of the police and their families and gave cash as-

sistance to the bereaved families.

Before meeting and thanking the surviving families, Dr Pe Myint said his prayers were with the members of the police who had lost their lives during the attacks and expressed his deep ap-

preciation for the sacrifices they made.

U Thein Swe vowed to undertake better measures after learning lessons from the recent violent attacks in Rakhine State.

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Buthitaung monks addresses township elders, departmental personnel

A GOVERNMENTAL mission comprising Union Ministers and the State Chief Minister paid respect to Chairman Sayadaw and members of Buthitaung Township Sangha Nayaka Committee and donated offertories at Ayezedi Monastery yesterday, receiving reparations from the Sayadaws.

U Soma, the presiding monk of Ayezedi Monastery and Chairperson of Township Sangha Nayaka Organization said: "We are elated to see such a delegation led by the Union Ministers come to survey the situation and we welcome them wholeheartedly. We are very happy to hear that Tatmadaw came here to protect the sovereignty of the State, not to launch a person-or-organisation-focused fight. We want to ensure the safety and security of the local populace, physically and mentally". In the meeting, Union Ministers, State Chief Minister and authorities clarified the situations with those present.

Discussions included supplying food to the local people, arrangements to keep the area under sufficient security



Union ministers and Chief Minister of Rakhine State presenting offertories to Members of Sangha in Buthitaung. PHOTO: MNA



Union Ministers Dr Pe Myint and U Thein Swe and Rakhine State Chief Minister U Nyi Pu cordially talk to local Islam community. PHOTO: MNA

guard, equipping the guards with modern weapons, organising a scrutiny committee for citizenship with local elders included, supplying electrical power for 6 hours (up from 2 hours) and building ideal villages with strong fences.

Union Ministers met with Islams residing in wards and village tracts near Buthitaung at 1:15p.m at the office of township administration. — Myanmar News Agency



A local discussing measures to be taken by the local authorities for the safety of the people in Buthitaung, Rakhine State at the meeting with the governmental mission including Chief Minister U Nyi Pyu. PHOTO: MNA



Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives Viet Nameese ambassador

U WIN MYINT, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw, received Ambassador of Viet Nam to Myanmar Mrs Luan Thuy Duong at Pyithu Hluttaw hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, they discussed matters related to promoting bilateral friendship and cooperation between the two countries. — Myanmar News Agency



Speaker U Win Myint talking with Mrs Luan Thuy Duong in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker receives Viet Nameese ambassador

MAHN WIN KHAING THAN, Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw, received Ambassador of Viet Nam to Myanmar Mrs Luan Thuy Duong at Amyotha Hluttaw hall in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, they discussed matters related to pro-

moting bilateral friendship and cooperation.

Also present at the call were Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Aye Thar Aung and officials of the Office of Amyotha Hluttaw.—Myanmar News Agency



Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than talking with Mrs Luan Thuy Duong in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

Anniversary of NCA to be broadcast live

THE Anniversary of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement will be held at the Myanmar International

Convention Centre (I) at 9 am on Saturday. The event is scheduled to be broadcast live via Myanmar Ra-

dio and Television, MRTV News Channel and Myanmar Radio at 8.45 am.—Myanmar News Agency

Netherlands FM meets local, foreign businesspeople in Yangon

NETHERLANDS Foreign Minister Mr Bert Koenders held talks with local and foreign entrepreneurs in Yangon yesterday over business opportunities and challenges associated with investment in the country.

Before meeting with the businesspeople, he visited U Thant Museum, established at the residence of former UN Secretary-General U Thant in Kamayut Township, Yangon.

The delegation led by the Netherlands Foreign Minister was conducted around U Thant House by Dr Thant Myint-U, Chairman of the Yangon Heritage Trust, and U Thant's grandson. The delegation has since concluded their visit. —Myanmar News Agency



Netherlands Foreign Minister Mr Bert Koenders arriving at Yangon International Airport. PHOTO: ZAW GYI (PANITA)

Japanese company to provide scholarship to Myanmar students

JACOM Co, a private technology company in Japan, has pledged to offer scholarship awards to undergraduate students in the 2016-2017 academic year, with the aim of promoting the existing relations between Myanmar and Japan.

The company will select outstanding first-year and second-year students attending the University of Computer Studies. Priorities will be given to students who come from poor areas. The scholarship award winner will receive a Ks600,000 stipend

per year.

The winners will have an opportunity to participate in the company's internship programme after they finish the four-year bachelor's degree programme from the university, said Mr Kazuo Kawasaki, director and chief operating officer of the JACOM.

The three-year programme will start in 2016-2017 AY and end in 2018-2019 AY. Jacom Co., Ltd. has been established since 1974. The company provides computer programming services. — 200

State Counsellor accepts credentials from FAO Resident Representative

DAW Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar, received Ms Xiaojie Fan, newly accredited United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Resident Representative in Myanmar and accepted credentials yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay

Pyi Taw.

At the meeting, they discussed matters relating to FAO's assistance on rural development of Myanmar, as well as cooperation between Myanmar and FAO on issues of food security and production of healthy foods.—*Myanmar News Agency*



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi receives Ms Xiaojie Fan, newly accredited United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Resident Representative in Myanmar. PHOTO: MNA



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi shakes hands with Mr Khaled Mohamed Abdelrahman Abdelsalam, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

Cambodian, Egyptian ambassadors call on State Counsellor

DAW Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, received Cambodian and Egyptian ambassadors separately in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting with Ambassador of Cambodia to Myanmar Mr SOK Chea, they discussed matters on promotion of bilateral cooperation in hotel and tourism, culture, transport and trade sectors between

the two countries. Following the call, the State Counsellor received Mr Khaled Mohamed Abdelrahman Abdelsalam, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Myanmar.—*Myanmar News Agency*

International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction ceremony observed in Nay Pyi Taw

VICE President U Henry Van Thio called for commitment to reducing natural disasters in Myanmar, stressing the importance of cooperation between the people and authorities for the sake of the safety of the people.

He made the remarks at his opening address at the ceremony marking International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

"In doing so, there are two levels—national level initiatives and public level initiatives. It cannot be implemented in one day, one month or one year; thus we need to participate with concerted effort," said the vice president.

U Henry Van Thio revealed, "Over the past 25 years there have occurred 24 costly disasters in all in Myanmar, once every year on average. Victims numbering 4 million or so suffered thereupon from the loss of \$ 4.7 billion altogether."

Present at the ceremony, held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre, Nay Pyi Taw, at 9 am this morning were Union Ministers, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives, chairmen and vice-chairmen of natural disaster management committees, diplomatic corps, regional representa-

tives, those from local and foreign organisations and officials from social institutions.

In his address, Vice President U Henry Van Thio disclosed, "According to index for potential losses due to natural disasters, 2016, Myanmar is ranked number 8 out of 191 countries, expected to be 6.8 potential index figures. As per the study of past events, natural disasters in the past two decades claimed heavy casualties totalling over 600,000, in which earthquakes stood first, followed by storms, heatstroke and drought. In terms of losses in the economy, the period from 1995 until now was the top, reaching an amount of US \$ 1 trillion and above. It was found that after 2000, there occurred disasters claiming the worst deaths. Undeniably, it is the result of worldwide climate change."

The Vice President added, "Observing annual ceremonies is to arouse the awareness of the populace in the campaigns against the reduction of natural disasters, assuming that success cannot be attained without active participation of the whole population in resettlement and rescue works. To become a disaster-resistant nation, a firm resolution in reducing

natural disasters is of great importance."

HE Mr Peter Batchelor, UNDP's representative to Myanmar read out the message sent by the UN Secretary-General, and a documentary video in commemoration of International Day for

Natural Disaster Reduction was shown to the audience.

At the end of the ceremony the VP invited guests to pose for a documentary photograph and inspected booths exhibiting activities carried out and emergency rescue equipment.

The UN General Assembly commenced to designate 13 October as the International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction on 21 December, 2009. The theme for 2016 is "Live to tell: Raising Awareness, Reducing Mortality."—*Myanmar News Agency*



Vice President U Henry Van Thio inspecting a booth. PHOTO: MNA

Real-time traffic lights installed at ten locations



A real-time traffic lights being seen in Mandalay. PHOTO: MYITMAKHA NEWS AGENCY

REAL-time traffic lights are currently being installed, connected with a control centre in ten places in Mandalay by the Mandalay City Development Committee in cooperation with Dream Light Technology Co.Ltd, according to the MCDC.

The project began in October, 2016 and is expected to be completed in March, 2017. Cur-

rently, an official from road and bridge department and an engineer from Dream Light Technology Co.Ltd are conducting field inspections before installing the lights.

The ten traffic lights will be installed on the main road and junction road. The estimated cost of the whole project is K1.1 billion. The project aims to re-

duce congestion.

The real-time traffic light will be fixed at 35x77 junction, 35x73 junction, 35x66 junction, 35x62 junction, 30x78 junction, 30x73 junction, 30x66 junction, 30x62 junction, 26x73 junction, 26x66 junction over the 2016-2017 financial year, according to the MCDC.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

17 trafficked Myanmar fishermen rescued from fishing boat in Thailand

SEVENTEEN trafficked Myanmar fishermen were rescued from a fishing port in Prachuap Township, Southern Thailand on Wednesday with the assistance of the Myanmar Association in Thailand (MAT), it is learnt.

MAT found the trafficked Myanmar men, including five children, with the assistance of the Thai anti-human trafficking police.

“We managed to save the fishermen shortly before the ship planned to depart,” said Ko Aung Myat Thu, member of the Myanmar Association of Thailand (MAT).

“A Myanmar woman had promised 17 of the men that they

could get jobs in Mawlamyine, but instead sold them into Thailand. The 17 trafficked men have been forced to work on the fishing boat for three months. One of them connected to some networking organisation and gave me this information.” he added.

“I don’t really know where we are. But, when we are fishing at sea it takes ten days (to make a round trip).

We usually go out into the sea twice per month. We don’t have any off days on the boat.” said Ko Nay Myo, one of the rescued workers.

MAT is still investigating the case.— *Myitmakha News Agency*



The trafficked Myanmar fishermen rescued from fishing boat being seen. PHOTO: PHOTO: MYITMAKHA NEWS AGENCY

66 coaches for RBE train to arrive in 2018

YANGON circular train coaches will be replaced with 66 DMU coaches from Japan which will arrive in 2018, according to Myanma Railway.

Train services will run as normal after the arrival of the new carriages; the only change will be improved train cars, said

U Kyaw Soe Lin, a Myanma Railways traffic officer.

Over 70,000 passengers use the Yangon circular train daily. At the moment, the line uses diesel locomotive trains with RBE coaches.

“I heard that the government will buy new trains from

Japan.

The government planned to buy new RBE carriages but they have a different engine system.” said a locomotive driver.

Currently, Myanma Railways has 23 trains making 125 rounds a day.— *Myitmakha News Agency*

Crime NEWS

Yangon Region Police detain suspect in Botataung murder case

YANGON police have reportedly detained a murder suspect who was receiving a surgical operation on his hand at Yangon General Hospital.

According to the police records, Paing Min Set, 20, the suspect and victim Aung Thu became known to one another on 5 October. The suspect visited the apartment of the victim where a dispute broke out. The suspect then attacked the victim with a steel knife from the kitchen. The suspect then took two mobile phones, one laptop and the victim’s car before leaving the scene to receive treatment for an injury on his left hand. Police found the abandoned car parked at the corner of 43rd Street and Strand Road in Botataung and discovered that the suspect may have been injured. The police investigation led to the arrest of the suspect at the hospital.—*Myanmar News Agency*



Paing Min Set. PHOTO: MNA

287 grammes of heroin seized in Bamauk

A COMBINED team comprising members of a local anti-narcotic squad and the local police, acting on a tip-off, searched the home of one Tun Shwe, 61, in Minthitgon Ywa Thit in Bamauk Township Wednesday.

During the search, police discovered 287.5 grammes of heron in 25 soap cans.

Action has been taken against Tun Shwe under the Anti-Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Law.



Tun Shwe bieng seen together with heroin and cash seized.

LOCAL Business

Myanmar's fisheries products able to be exported to the Netherlands

MYANMAR's seafood will soon be exported to the Netherlands, it is learnt from the Myanmar Fisheries Products Processors and Exporters Association.

Under the guidance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, fish and prawns that meet with market standards are currently being exported to China, Thailand, Singapore, Kuwait, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Japan, Bangladesh and the United Kingdom, it is learnt.

The government has been making a sustained effort to enhance the country's fisheries sector. As a result, fisheries businessmen from the Netherlands are considering investing in Myanmar's fisheries sector, said U Soe Tha, a seafood exporter.

Organisations such as the Fish Farmers Association, the Myanmar Marine Fisheries Association, the Myanmar Aqua-Feed Association and the Freshwater Capture Fisheries Association were formed to ensure self-suf-

ficiency in the country and to enable fisheries products to be systematically processed and exported to foreign countries.

A large amount of capital still needs to be invested into Myanmar's fishing industry, fisheries experts said. High-quality fish-processing factories and large-capacity cold storage, for instance, are required to manufacture the quality products, said U Tin Tun, a seafood exporter.

Over 90 tonnes of fisheries products, including various fish varieties, crabs, prawns and eel, were exported through the Myawady border trade camp, with an export value of US\$0.155million, while over 600 tonnes of fisheries products worth US\$0.559million were exported via the Kawthaung border trade camp. Nearly 2,000 tonnes of various fish, frozen soft-shell crab, saltwater prawn, squid, frozen fish and dried fish were exported through the Myeik border trade camp, amounting to US\$3.181million.—200



Sea fish are sorted at the Thida Jetty in Yangon. PHOTO: NYI ZAW MOE

Foreign trade value reaches US\$13 billion, with over 1.7 billion in deficit

THE external trade value as of 7th October in this fiscal year hit over US\$13 billion, with a trade deficit of over 1.7billion, it is learnt from statistics of the Ministry of Commerce.

The value of foreign trade from 1st April to 7th October in this fiscal year amounted to US\$13,607.140million, which was down from US\$13,883.566million in a similar period of the previous fiscal year 2015-2016. The figure slumped by US\$276.426million when compared to the last fiscal year. The export value as of 7th October totalled US\$5,935.009mil-

lion, while the import value was US\$7,672.131million. The trade balance is in deficit of US\$1,737.122million when the import value outdid the export value. External trade is flowing in and out through normal trade as well as border trade. In this period, the trade value via sea trade fetched US\$9,937.399million, while the border trade value was US\$3,669.741million.

According to the second five-year National Development Plan, to bring down the trade deficit, there is a plan to scrutinise imports of luxury commodities, excluding essential items.

To control the inflation rate, the trade deficit must be scaled down in order to boost the manufacturing.

The trade deficits were US\$91.9million in 2012-2013, US\$2,555.5million in 2013-2014, US\$4,912.559million in 2014-2015, US\$5,407.464million in 2015-2016 respectively, according to the statistics released by the central statistical organisation.

In this fiscal year, the trade deficit is estimated to be US\$3.1 billion, it is learnt from the statistics released by the budget department under the Ministry of Planning and Finance.—*Ko Htet*

Export value of mineral and industrial finished products slumped by over US\$500million

OUT of seven export groups, the export value of minerals and manufacturing goods as of 7th October experienced a decrease when compared to the similar period of the previous fiscal year, it is learnt from the Ministry of Commerce.

The export value of minerals as of 7th October in this fiscal year was US\$ 458.162 million, which was down from US\$739.231 million in the same period last year. In the similar period, the export value of finished industrial goods was US\$2,813.373 million, which

slumped by US\$3,042.684 million.

In the mineral products sector, the export volume of jade and jewelry decreased. In the finished industrial goods sector, the decline in export volume was attributed to the losses suffered in state-owned industrial enterprises, it is learnt.

The total export volume of minerals and manufacturing goods in this fiscal year was over US\$3,200million, while that of the previous fiscal year was over US\$3,700million, it is learnt from the Commerce Ministry.—*Mon Mon*

Tax levied on real estate dealing in Bago Region earned over US\$410million

THE tax levied on real estate transactions in Bago Region in the six months of this fiscal year has reached over US\$410million, it is learnt from the Bago Region Internal Revenue Department.

The tax has to be paid per the prescribed tax rate at the tax office in the regional government concerned when real property dealing is made. Additionally, real estate agents have to pay a stamp duty, which is 5 per cent of the income.

The stamp duty is needed to affix to the contract. The rate of the stamp is decided by six units

of the region. The contracts without stamp duty are illicit. If people are found in violation, they will be fined 10 times the amount of normal tax, said U Soe Hla Myint, the deputy director of Bago Region Internal Revenue Department.

The number of people evading the taxation has risen in the real estate sector, caused by the high tax rate on real property, it is learnt from the real estate agents.

According to the Union Tax Law, people do not need to pay tax in purchasing the real prop-

erty if they can present how they earn. If they fail to provide how they earned, the property worth under Ks100million is taxed at a rate of 3 per cent. Those who purchase property worth between Ks100 and 500 million are liable to pay a 5 per cent tax, while a 10 per cent tax is levied on property worth between Ks500 and Ks1,000 million, 20 per cent for property worth above Ks1,000 million, and 30 per cent for property worth above Ks1,500 million, it is learnt.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

2016 model buses to be sold in installment

THE Northern Yangon Bus Public Company Limited will sell 2016 model buses to bus line owners starting in December for bus lines running from Yangon.

Those who want to purchase the buses will have to make a down payment of 30 per cent of the value of the vehicles. The remainder will have to be paid in three-year instalments, it is learnt.

The owners of the buses will have to link with a bank to pay in three-year instalments, said U Aung Win, the managing director of this company.

The buses will be imported from Korea, but the price of the buses have not been finalised yet.

"Our bus line owners have been running the bus lines for a long time. We will slowly make the replacement of the new buses", said Daw Mya Ohn, a bus line owner.

The Northern Yangon Bus Public Company Limited was registered on 16th September, 2016 as the Bus Public Company at the office of Directorate of Investment and Company Administration.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

Thai King Bhumibol, world's longest-reigning monarch, dies

BANGKOK — Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej, who was the world's longest-reigning monarch, died in hospital on Thursday, the palace said in an announcement. He was 88.

King Bhumibol reigned for seven decades after ascending the throne in 1946. His loss will be deeply mourned in Thailand, where he was regarded as a pillar of stability during decades of political upheaval and rapid development.

The palace did not give a reason for his death but he has been sick in hospital with various ailments for much of the past year.

"His Majesty has passed away at Siriraj Hospital peacefully," the palace said, adding he died at 15:52 (0852 GMT).

His son and heir apparent, the 63-year old Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongko-



Well-wishers weep and pray for Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej at the Siriraj hospital where he is residing in Bangkok, Thailand, on 13 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

rn, is expected to become Thailand's new king.

Parliament was due to meet in a special session later on Thursday after a meeting of the cabinet, a

legislature official said.

Anxiety about the king's health and the succession has formed the backdrop to over a decade of political upheaval in

Thailand that has included two coups.

More than 1,000 people gathered at the hospital where the king had been staying. Many of them

started to cry as the news of his death broke.

"I feel so saddened by this news. He has given so many things to the country," said Apinut Jaroonpipatkul, a 25-year-old medical student.

King Bhumibol was seen as a force for unity, and there have long been concerns that without him the country's divisions could worsen.

That seems unlikely under the military government of Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha, who has kept a tight grip on power since toppling an elected government in 2014.

Prince Vajiralongkorn has yet to command the respect and adoration that his father drew after a lifetime on the throne.

He has kept a lower profile than King Bhumibol for most of his life but

in the past two years took on more of the public duties the king was no longer able to perform. The prince divorced his third wife in 2014.

Thailand's strict lese-majeste laws has left little room for public discussion about the succession. It has been so long since Thailand has had a succession, there is no modern precedent.

Thailand is expected to be in mourning for months and possibly longer, and the prince's coronation will not take place until that mourning period is over. When the king's sister died in 2008, a 100-day mourning period was declared. She was cremated 10 months after her death.

The king was seen as head of an institution central to Thai identity and as a father-figure to the nation.—Reuters

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Japan to expand Djibouti military base to counter Chinese influence

TOKYO — Japan will lease additional land next year to expand a military base in Djibouti, eastern Africa, as a counterweight to what it sees as growing Chinese influence in the region, three Japanese government sources said.

China is seeking closer ties with African nations that could help it gain access to natural resources and provide new markets. Beijing said late last year it would pump \$60 billion into development projects on the continent, cancel some debt and help boost agriculture.

Earlier this year, Japan also pledged to increase its support to infrastructure, education and healthcare projects in Africa, committing an extra \$30 billion in public and private support.

"China is putting money into new infrastructure and raising its presence in Djibouti, and it is necessary for Japan gain more influence," said one of the sources, with knowledge of the plan.

China in February began construction in Djibouti of its first overseas military facility, a coastal logistics base that will resupply naval vessels taking part in peacekeeping and humanitarian missions.

Djibouti, which is about the size of Wales, is strategically located at the southern



Japan's Defence Minister Tomomi Inada (front, R) is briefed by senior Self-Defence Forces personnel about their anti-piracy mission off Somalia, in Djibouti, on 15 August 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

entrance to the Red Sea on the route to the Suez Canal. The tiny, barren nation sandwiched between Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia, also hosts US and French bases.

Since 2011, a Japanese Self Defence Force contingent of 180 troops has occupied a 12 hectare (30 acre) site in Djibouti, next to Camp Lemonnier, the US base at the country's international airport.

From there, the SDF have operated maritime patrol aircraft as part of an international force, including China, that hunts pirates in the seas of the Gulf of Aden

and off the coast of Somalia.

A Japanese Defence Ministry spokesman confirmed discussions were taking place.

"In addition to the land Japan has borrowed, it is considering leasing the neighbouring land to its east," the spokesman said in response to a Reuters query. "Japan is now in negotiations with Djibouti government."

Asked about the plans, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said Japan's military and security policies had garnered attention in Asia for histori-

cal reasons.

"We hope Japan can draw lessons from history, conform with the times, and truly follow the path of peaceful development," Geng told a daily news briefing in Beijing.

Japan is considering deploying C-130 transport aircraft, Bushmaster armoured vehicles and extra personnel to the base but has not yet decided on how many, the sources said. The size of the extra leased land would be smaller than the existing base and was expected to cost around \$1 million a year, they added.—Reuters

Philippine police lower death toll in drugs war to below 2,300

MANILA — Philippine police have said nearly 2,300 people have died in President Rodrigo Duterte's war on drugs since July, down from an earlier estimate of 3,600, after investigations into the near-daily killings.

"Not all (the deaths) are related to the war on drugs," Philippine National Police spokesman Dionardo Carlos told Reuters late on Wednesday.

He added 1,566 drug suspects were killed in police operations and 722 deaths were still under investigation or had been already investigated.

Police had provided Reuters with data on 5 October showing 3,652 people had died since

Duterte launched his drugs war after taking office on 30 June, including almost 2,000 cases under investigation.

Carlos said recent investigations had found that only 722 of the deaths under investigation or investigated were drug-related. He did not give any motives for the other deaths but said they were homicides and murders.

Duterte won the May presidential election by a landslide on a promise to wipe out drugs and crime in Southeast Asia's second-most populous country within six months. But the president said in September that he needed another six more months for his campaign.—Reuters



Members of the Philippine National Police (PNP) ride on their motorcycles after an operation on illegal drugs in metro Manila, Philippines, on 13 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Deadly Bangladesh blaze shows up safety gaps 3 years after factory collapse

DHAKA — Bangladesh's safety inspectors twice extended an operating licence at a food and cigarette packaging plant in the capital Dhaka without making physical checks.

That breach of rules is now being investigated by the government after a fire at the Tampaco Foils factory killed at least 39 people last month.

The cause of the 10 September blaze, the country's worst industrial accident since the 2013 Rana Plaza tragedy in which more than 1,100 mostly garment workers died, is unknown. The plant's owner, a former member of parliament, has gone missing.

Flammable materials stored on the factory floor, a gas leak, excessive use of gas and poorly positioned boilers are all being looked at as possible reasons.

Syed Ahmed, head of the department charged with inspecting

factories and commercial buildings, said his inspectors should have visited Tampaco before renewing its licence, but did not, partly because of a shortage of staff.

"If we could have inspected the factory, then we may have noticed and could have taken action on those shortcomings, and this could have averted disaster," Ahmed told Reuters.

He said the department had launched an internal review to identify who was responsible for signing the documents.

Interviews with Ahmed and more than 20 regulators, investigators, technicians and witnesses involved in the fire at the factory reveal a lack of oversight that the government is scrambling to fix.

While inspections of plants making clothes for global brands have increased significantly since Rana Plaza — many carried out

by or on behalf of Western companies — other sectors that also supply international firms have had less attention.

"This disaster has opened our eyes to the fact that we must also focus on other factories," Ahmed said.

Mikail Shipar, secretary of the Labour and Employment Ministry, said the government was investigating why Tampaco's licence was renewed without a visit. The operating licence is one of several required, but among the most important.

"There will be a committee from this ministry and action will be taken if anyone is found guilty for this lack of oversight," he told Reuters.

Plans to expand Ahmed's department of about 250 inspectors by nearly tenfold have picked up pace since the fire, Shipar added.—Reuters



Firefighters extinguish a fire at a packaging factory outside of Dhaka, Bangladesh, on 10 September 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Indonesia plans to amend law on underage marriages

JAKARTA — The Indonesian government has planned to issue a Peperpu (regulation in lieu of law) on underage marriages in a bid to reduce sexual offense cases against women and children, a minister said here on Wednesday.

Women Empowerment and Children Protection Minister Yohana Yembise said that the process to draft the amendment on Indonesia's 1974 marriage law that allows 16-year-old girls to wed, was underway at present. The minister said that rate of underage marriages was high in several parts of the country.

"The issuance of the Peperpu was urgent to support our efforts in preventing underage marriages and to protect young girls from violence," the minister said.

Citing an example, the minister said that results of a research conducted by British group Coram Children's Legal Centre (CCLC) in Indonesia's West Java city of Bogor showed that in 2015, 38 per cent of women there were married before they turned 18.

Another data jointly issued by Indonesia's Central Statistics agency (BPS) and the UNESCO in 2015 showed that 23 per cent of Indonesian girls under 18 years old have already married. The average number of underage marriage couples stood at 340,000 per year.

The minister added that planned issuance of the Peperpu was related to the recently-enacted law on castration and death penalty against child sex crime convicts.—Xinhua

Laos begins upgrading water pipe system in capital

VIENTIANE — A ground-breaking ceremony for Vientiane's water pipe system extension and improvement of system management project was held in the Lao capital on Wednesday.

Tap water system in Vientiane is relatively backward as many areas in suburb and rural areas have no access to tap water.

In order to improve the quality of water for local residents, the China North Industries Corporation (NORINCO) and the Lao Ministry of Finance as well as Vientiane Water Supply Enterprise signed a contract on water pipe system extension and improvement of system

management project.

The 100-million-US dollar project includes extension of water pipe system, water pipe replacement, construction of water towers and water supply system in rural areas, among others.

Speaking at the ceremony, General Manager of Vientiane Water Supply Enterprise Khamphuey Vongsakhamphoui said this is a strategic task which will help turn Vientiane into a civilized city.

As many as 900,000-1,000,000 people will be able to access tap water once the project is completed, accounting for 95 per cent of population within pipe system coverage.—Xinhua

Opinion

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com with your name and title.

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.

Don't let the problem go from bad to worse

Tha Sein

VIOLENT armed attackers swarmed three border guard outposts in Rakhine State in the small hours of 9th October, killing nine policemen and injuring five, an act that is most reprehensible. The assailants also made off with arms and ammunition.

Soldiers providing security to residents were attacked by scores of armed assailants near Myothagyi Village in Maungtaw Township on 10 October. Four attackers were killed in the incident. On 11 October, soldiers conducting an area clearance campaign

were attacked by about 300 armed assailants. Four soldiers were killed in the fighting.

There was a growing sense — given what has happened — that Myanmar, for good or bad, is formulating a necessary response to the latest development. It is the right thing to do to ensure that the people of Myanmar are secure, and there is now great relief writ large on the faces of local people who were concerned over their security.

Former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan,

one of three foreigners on a nine-member commission, is leading a landmark effort to tackle the troubles in Rakhine State. The commission marks the first time international advisers have been invited publicly by the government to give their views on a subject so combustible in a country with a nascent democracy. The creation of the commission comes after thousands of people were trapped at sea last year amid a crackdown on the smuggling of Bengalis and others from south Asia through Thailand and Malaysia.

Myanmar maintains friendly relations with all countries since its foreign policy has embarked on diplomatic traditions that support better relations with foreign nations. But the foreign policy of some countries still gives rise to grave doubts in Myanmar's mind. As the other country could hold many of the keys to put an end to the current conflicts erupting in the western part of Myanmar, the government is exercising considerable restraint in addressing the problems in order to not let it go from bad to worse.

Let's adapt to the theme for World Food Day 2016: "Climate is changing. Food and agriculture must too"

Maung Maung

(continued from yesterday)

There are so many driving forces influencing the long-term prospects for food security and the actions needed over the next two decades to free humanity from the scourge of hunger. Accelerating globalization, without the right policies and institutions at both the national and international levels, globalization may either bypass or harm many poor people in developing and developed countries. The environmental degradation contributes to poverty and hunger. Food security solutions that fail to address natural resource issues effectively will not be sustainable. On the other hand, violent conflicts continue to cause severe human misery in many developing coun-

tries. Sustainable food security for all will not be possible in the midst of conflict. Everyone has a role to play in mitigating the effects of climate change. FAO is calling on countries to address food and agriculture in their climate action plans and invest more in rural development. World leaders have been aware of the growing threats to food security for several years. Recently, they began taking steps to address these looming perils. At the UN Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015, 193 countries pledged to end hunger in the next 15 years. In addition, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held its 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) in December 2015 at Paris, 195 countries, including Myanmar, adopted the first-ever universal, legally bind-

ing global climate deal, where food security is recognized as a priority area for action.

The global goal for achieving Zero Hunger is 2030, but without addressing climate change, it cannot be reached. The countries who took this commitment have never made it near the top of the agenda, unless governments, policymakers, private sectors, academics, farmers, international agencies, stakeholders, civil society organization, INGOs, Business and Industry, and individuals are willing to back their words with sustained actions on climate change.

Though previous governmental action has laid the framework for suitable climate adaptation measures, slow progress in past decades has left Myanmar highly vulnerable to the negative impacts

of climate change. Hence, the new emerging leaders now have the opportunity to make significant progress in climate change adaptation. Cooperation between Myanmar's new leaders and the international community could accelerate the nation's adaptation efforts and result in significant progress on climate change preparedness projects.

Future agricultural policies must focus on finding ways to keep agriculture productive as climate change continues. This is why FAO's global message for World Food Day 2016 is, "Climate is changing. Food and agriculture must too." Let's adapt agriculture to climate change to build the Zero Hunger Generation. World Food Day is also an important opportunity to send a strong message to the public but every-

one needs to work together to achieve this goal.

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New power plant to be established in Ayeyawady

THE AYEYAWADY Region government plans to build its own power plant capable of producing up to 50 megawatts of electricity with the aim of fulfilling the growing local energy demands in the coming summer.

The current daily consumption of electricity in the region is 97 megawatts. It is estimated that the consumption rate is likely to increase up to 159 megawatts during the hot season, as air con-

ditioners and fans in homes and businesses are used more often.

Negotiations have been made between the Ministry of Electricity and Energy and the regional government to begin the project before summer, according to U Win Htay, Ayeyawady Region Minister for Electricity, Industry and Transportation.

This comes from the latest discussion of the second regular session of the regional parlia-

ment, where a query relating to establishment of a new power factory with the use of natural gas from 1.5 mile south of Maubin Township was raised by U Zaw Moe, representative of the Maubin constituency. The Ayeyawady Region currently obtains energy from Lawpita, Yeywa and Paunglaung hydroelectric power projects through Hlaingthaya Power Station. — *Myitmakha News Agency*



The site of new power plant to be established in Kangyidaung in Ayeyawady region. PHOTO: MYITMAKHA NEWS AGENCY

C-in-C Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Cambodian Ambassador



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receiving Cambodian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr SOK Chea in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

COMMANDER-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Cambodian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr SOK Chea in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, the two representatives discussed matters relating to bilateral friendship and cooperation, the exchange of friendship visits and trainings between the armed forces

of the two countries, exchange of sports and cultural teams, exchange of experiences in medicine and cooperation in the medication sector.— *Myanmar News Agency*

Union ministers visit Kyikanpyin Police Headquarters

>> From page 1

He also added that the Union government would provide mental as well as physical support for the police units and urged them to

defeat the enemies together with the Tatmadaw.

Chief Minister U Nyi Pu said the State Counsellor had asked them to fulfil the needs of the el-

derly and children at the headquarters.

Later, deputy ministers explained the arrangements for long-term benefits for those who had lost their lives and treatments for those who sustained injuries.

Then, the officials presented cash assistance for relatives of those who died in action and those who sustained injuries.

A total of Ks33.125 million, including Ks25.875 million for the fallen police members and Ks7.25 million for the injured, was distributed at the meeting.

The union ministers and party warmly greeted all the members of the police and their families before inspecting the headquarters.—*Myanmar News Agency*



Union ministers meeting the locals at Kyikanpyin. PHOTO: MNA

5,000 health services centres aim to promote well-being of rural people

DOCTOR on Call, a healthcare service company, will launch up to 5,000 service centers across the nation before the end of 2018, with the aim of spreading health knowledge and information, its spokesperson said.

“The major purpose of opening the centres for healthcare services is to promote good health and well-being of the people residing in rural regions”, said U Tun Tun Naing,

manager of Doctor on Call Co.

He said those centres will provide general healthcare knowledge, services and the latest information. Enquirers will have an opportunity to directly contact the respective physician to talk about the disease for which they are being treated.

Since last December, the healthcare service company has already opened 50 centres in Yangon.

The project will promote the country's health status by raising health-related awareness and solving the health problems of rural communities to a certain degree, Dr Nay Win, member of Myanmar Medical Association, commented.

In addition, people may also dial the hotline number 1877 in emergency health situations, U Tun Tun Naing said.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

Tatmadaw, police repel multiple raids in Maungtaw

ABOUT 50 violent attackers attempted at least three times to raid the Alethankyaw Area Office, where members of the Tatmadaw and the police were stationed, in the small hours of 12 October, but were repelled by security forces with the use of light weapons.

Tatmadaw columns also captured a violent attacker named Phawsaulamauk(a)

Phweba in Warpape Village, Kyikanpyin Village Tract at 7.20 pm on 12 October. A Tatmadaw column also launched a search operation in Warpape Village, which had been set on fire by attackers. Authorities seized burnt an MA-11 gun, 11 various cartridges, 1,510 rounds of ammunitions, a uniform, 24 RSO flags, 40 RSO badges and a sword.— *Myawady*



RSO flags and RSO badges, and bullets being seen. PHOTO: MYAWADY



Burnt MA-11 gun being seen. PHOTO: MYAWADY

Master Plan for Korea's KOTRA to Myanmar submitted

KOREA International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) handed over a final master plan, which aims to activate the trade and investment sector in Myanmar and establish the Myanmar Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (MYANTRA), to the Myanmar government yesterday.

KOICA focuses on sharing the economic development experiences of Korea with Myanmar, which has the most promising growth potential among the South-east Asian Nations.

Through the Project for Establishment of a Master Plan for Myanmar Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (MYANTRA) and Capacity Development for Trade

Investment Promotion, KOICA has managed to establish a master plan to present a detailed action plan for Myanmar's six major export industries (Textile / Forestry / Fisheries / Tourism / Jewelry / Agricultural processing industry). This master plan also includes consulting on organisational design of Trade-Investment Promotion Agency as Korea's KOTRA. The ceremony was attended by by Dr. Than Myint, Union Minister for Commerce, Jaekyung Yoo, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea in Myanmar, Euicheol Shin, Chief Representative of KOICA Myanmar office, Wonseok Yoon, general manager of KOTRA and officials.—*KOICA*



Officials from KOICA and MYANTRA seen posing for a documentary photo. PHOTO: KOICA

Trump touched us inappropriately, two women tell New York Times



Republican US presidential nominee Donald Trump reacts to cheers from supporters as he departs a campaign rally in Lakeland, Florida, US, on 12 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

WASHINGTON — Two women accused Donald Trump of inappropriate touching in a story published on Wednesday by the *New York Times*, claims his spokesman called “fiction” but which may further damage the Republican presidential nominee’s chances of winning the White House just four weeks before the 8 November election.

The report was followed by a stream of similar allegations from other women, putting more pressure on the Trump campaign as it lags in national opinion polls and struggles to contain a crisis caused by the candidate’s comments about groping women without their consent which surfaced on Friday.

One of the women, Jessica Leeds, appeared on camera on the *New York Times*’ website to

recount how Trump grabbed her breasts and tried to put his hand up her skirt on a flight to New York in or around 1980.

The second woman, Rachel Crooks, described how Trump “kissed me directly on the mouth” in 2005 outside the elevator in Trump Tower in Manhattan, where she was a receptionist at a real estate firm.

Trump’s campaign denied there was any truth to the *New York Times* accounts. It made public a letter to the newspaper from Marc Kasowitz, a lawyer representing Trump, demanding it retract the story, calling it “libelous,” and threatening legal action if it did not comply.

“This entire article is fiction, and for the *New York Times* to launch a completely false, coordinated character assassination

against Mr. Trump on a topic like this is dangerous,” the Trump campaign’s senior communications adviser Jason Miller said in a statement.

Reuters could not independently verify the incidents. Leeds and Crooks did not immediately respond to requests for comment from Reuters.

“We stand by the story, which falls clearly into the realm of public service journalism,” a *New York Times* spokeswoman said.

The report comes just two days after a Reuters/Ipsos opinion poll showed one in five Republicans thought Trump’s comments about groping women disqualified him from the presidency, and put him 8 points behind Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton among likely voters.—*Reuters*

Philippines to maintain military alliance with US: Duterte

MANILA — Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said on Wednesday that he will not cut ties with his country’s long-standing ally, the United States, despite his plans to end all future joint military exercises with the western country.

Duterte made the remarks during the commissioning ceremony in Manila of a new patrol ship given in part by the Japanese government to the Philippine Coast Guard, in full view of US Navy and Coast Guard officials attending the event.

“We will maintain our military alliances because they say we need it for our defence,” Duterte said, adding that he has been advised of the importance of the security umbrella accorded by the US allies.

Still, Duterte reiterated that

he is ending the decades-long practice of annual joint military drills by the Philippines and the United States, saying that there will be a realignment of policies under his administration.

“I insist that we realign — that there will be no exercises next year. Do not prepare, I told Defence Secretary Lorenzana. Do not make preparations for next year. We do not want it anymore,” he said.

If Duterte makes good on his promise, the upcoming Balikatan (Shoulder-to-Shoulder) Exercises scheduled for 2017 will be the last during his six-year term.

The relationship between the two allied countries has been brought into question recently with Duterte making a series of anti-US remarks since US

President Barack Obama criticized the Philippine leader’s anti-illegal drugs campaign.

Duterte has responded to international criticism with expletives and derogatory remarks leveled at the United States and other critics, including the European Union and the United Nations. He has also threatened to pull American forces out of the southern Philippine region of Mindanao and has dared his critics to stop the flow of foreign aid to the southeast Asian country.

With the apparent distancing from the United States, Duterte has also promised to seek closer ties with China and Russia, including the forging new economic agreements and the planned procurement of military hardware from the two countries.—*Kyodo News*

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ecuador moves Assange questioning to November

QUITO — Ecuador has delayed until 14 November its questioning of Julian Assange in a Swedish rape investigation, at the Wikileaks founder’s request, the prosecutor’s office of the Andean country said on Wednesday. The questioning, led by an Ecuadorian prosecutor and originally scheduled for Monday, could help end a four-year-long deadlock since Assange took refuge in Ecuador’s London embassy.

“He made the request in a document, via the Ecuadorian ambassador in the United Kingdom, in which he sets out his reasons pertaining to protection guarantees and self-defence,” the prosecutor’s office said in a statement.—*Reuters*

Finger part found in ramen noodle soup at Shizuoka restaurant

SHIZUOKA — The tip of a human thumb appears to have been found in a bowl of ramen noodles served at a restaurant in Shizuoka Prefecture last month, a local public health centre said on Thursday.

A female part-time worker is believed to have mistakenly cut her thumb while slicing pork at the eatery in Shizuoka city, the centre said. At the outlet of the Kourakuen ramen noodle restaurant chain operator on 10 September, a female customer found what looked like a part of a thumb in a bowl of ramen soup served for a child, according to the health centre. The object was 0.7 centimetre long and 1 cm wide and a nail was attached to it.—*Kyodo News*

Australia charges two teenagers with planning Islamic State-inspired attack

SYDNEY — Australian police on Thursday charged two 16-year boys with planning an imminent, Islamic State-inspired terror attack.

The two teenagers, who were arrested in a western suburb of Sydney on Wednesday, were found to be carrying two knives, though police said the exact target of their alleged plot is unknown.

“We did prevent what we would suspect was going to be an attack,” said Catherine Burn, deputy commissioner, New South Wales Police. Australian police said they were aware of the two teenagers before their arrest. Local media reported one of the boys is the son of a man convicted of terror offences.

A staunch U.S. ally, Australia has been on heightened alert for attacks by home-grown radicals since 2014, having suffered several “lone wolf” assaults, including a cafe siege in Sydney in which two hostages and the gunman were killed. The country has seen a spate of arrests and charges against radicalised youths and more than 100 people have left Australia for Syria to fight alongside Islamic State.—*Reuters*

Timchenko: Gazprom-built South Stream to go through Serbia

ST. PETERSBURG — The South Stream gas pipeline will definitely be built by Gazprom and it will go through Serbia, says Gennady Timchenko, Serbia’s honorary consul in St. Petersburg.

The South Stream is not only important for Serbia as it is also a transit route to Europe, Timchenko said, adding that he believed Gazprom was definitely interested in building the gas pipeline.

Funding for the project is significant, but in this case it is a secondary matter, he said.

It is important to first obtain all the required documentation to build the pipeline itself and get the permits from the countries it will go through, but if we get as far as Turkey, reaching Serbia through the Balkans will be much simpler, and I think that is realistic, Timchenko said in an interview to Sputnik. — *Tanjug*

Yemen Houthi rebels deny attacking US warship

SANAA — Yemen’s dominant Shiite Houthi rebels on Thursday denied targeting a US warship off the Yemeni coasts from territories they control, Houthi-controlled state Saba news agency reported.

“These allegations were baseless and the army as well popular forces have nothing to do with targeting the US ship,” the Houthis said in a statement carried by the agency.

“The US allegations just came in the context of creating false justifications to pave the way for the Saudi-led coalition to escalate their aggression attacks (against Houthis) and to cover crimes committed by the aggression coalition against the Yemeni people and the all-out blockade,” the statement said.

The Houthis said that their army and popular forces are “in full readiness to confront any further aggression” under whatever justification. — *Xinhua*

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS SCHEDULE

YANGON TO BANGKOK				BANGKOK TO YANGON				RGN TO ICN				ICN TO RGN				MDL TO DMK				DMK TO MDL							
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days				
TG-304	09:50	11:45	Daily	TG-303	7:55	8:50	Daily	KE-472	23:30	7:50	Daily	KE-471	18:45	22:25	Daily	FD-245	12:45	15:00	Daily	FD-244	10:50	12:15	Daily				
TG-2302	15:00	16:55	Daily	TG-2301	13:15	14:10	Daily	RGN TO KUL				KUL TO RGN				MDL TO SIN				SIN TO MDL							
TG-306	19:45	21:40	Daily	TG-305	17:50	18:45	Daily	AK-505	8:30	12:45	Daily	AK-502	6:55	8:00	Daily	MI-533	15:20	20:15	2	MI-522	11:00	12:50	2,6				
PG-706	6:15	8:30	Daily	PG-701	8:50	9:40	Daily	AK-503	19:30	23:45	Daily	AK-502	17:50	19:00	Daily	MI-522	13:40	20:15	2,6	MDL TO BKK				BKK TO MDL			
PG-702	10:30	12:25	Daily	PG-707	13:45	14:35	Daily	8M-501	7:50	11:50	1,3,5	8M-502	12:50	13:50	1,3,5	MDL TO KMG				KMG TO MDL							
PG-708	15:20	17:15	Daily	PG-703	16:45	17:35	Daily	MH-741	12:15	16:30	Daily	MH-742	13:40	14:50	1,6,7	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days				
PG-704	20:00	21:55	Daily	PG-705	20:30	21:45	Daily	MH-743	15:45	20:05	1,4,6,7	MH-740	10:05	11:15	Daily	PG-710	14:05	16:30	Daily	PG-709	12:00	13:20	Daily				
8M-335	7:40	9:25	Daily	8M-336	10:40	11:25	Daily	RGN TO KMG				KMG TO RGN				NYT TO BKK				BKK TO NYT							
8M-331	16:30	18:15	Daily	8M-332	19:15	20:00	Daily	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days				
UB-017	15:10	19:20	1,3,5	UB-020	11:00	11:30	7	CA-416	12:15	15:45	Daily	CA-415	10:45	11:15	Daily	PG-722	20:25	22:35	2	PG-721	18:25	19:35	2				
UB-017	17:50	19:20	2,4,6,7	UB-018	20:20	20:50	Daily	MU-2032	15:20	18:40	2,4,5,6,7	MU-2031	14:00	14:30	1	PG-722	19:30	22:30	1,2,3,4,5,7	PG-721	17:00	19:00	1,2,3,4,5,7				
UB-019	8:05	9:35	7	UB-020	9:15	9:45	1,2,4,5,6	MU-2012	12:25	18:40	3	MU-2011	08:15	11:25	3	AIRLINE CODES											
UB-019	6:30	8:00	1,2,3,4,5,6					RGN TO TPE				TPE TO RGN															
RGN TO DMK				DMK TO RGN				RGN TO PEK				PEK TO RGN															
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days												
FD-252	8:30	10:15	Daily	FD-251	7:15	8:00	Daily	CA-906	23:50	0550+1	3,7	CA-905	19:30	22:50	3,7												
FD-256	13:25	15:10	Daily	FD-255	12:05	12:55	Daily	RGN TO HAN				HAN TO RGN															
FD-254	17:30	19:05	Daily	FD-253	16:20	17:00	Daily	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days												
FD-258	20:05	21:55	Daily	FD-257	18:05	18:55	Daily	VN-956	19:10	21:30	1,3,5,6,7	VN-957	16:50	18:10	1,3,5,6,7												
DD-4231	08:00	9:50	Daily	DD-4234	10:25	11:15	Daily	RGN TO SGN				SGN TO RGN															
DD-4235	12:00	13:45	Daily	DD-4230	6:20	7:05	Daily	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days												
DD-4239	21:00	22:45	Daily	DD-4238	19:30	20:15	Daily	VN-942	12:10	15:00	2,3,4,5,7	VN-943	9:35	11:10	2,3,4,5,7												
SL-201	11:00	13:00	Daily	SL-200	9:05	10:00	Daily	RGN TO HKG				HKG TO RGN															
SL-207	20:05	21:45	"Daily"	SL-206	18:15	19:05	"Daily"	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days												
RGN TO CAN				CAN TO RGN				RGN TO DOH				DOH TO RGN															
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days												
8M-711	20:30	01:05+1	5	8M-712	2:45	4:20	6	QR-919	8:15	10:55	1,4,6	QR-918	20:40	6:25	3,5,6												
8M-711	8:40	13:15	2,4,7	8M-712	14:15	15:50	2,4,7	RGN TO CNX				CNX TO RGN															
CZ-3056	11:25	16:15	3,6	CZ-3055	8:50	10:25	3,6	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days												
CZ-3056	17:30	22:35	1,5	CZ-3055	14:40	16:30	1,5	PG-724	13:10	15:05	Daily	PG-723	11:40	12:35	Daily												
RGN TO SIN				SIN TO RGN				RGN TO DAC				DAC TO RGN															
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days												
8M-231	8:20	12:50	Daily	8M-232	13:50	15:20	Daily	BG-061	16:15	18:00	1,3,6	BG-060	12:45	15:30	1,3,6												
SQ-997	10:35	15:10	Daily	SQ-998	07:55	09:20	Daily																				
MI-515	14:20	18:50	1,5	MI-522	11:00	12:20	4,6																				
MI-519	17:35	22:10	Daily	MI-518	15:15	16:40	Daily																				
MI-522	15:45	20:15	4,6	MI-516	12:00	13:25	1,5																				
MI-533	13:10	20:15	2	MI-533	11:00	12:20	2																				
3K-584	19:15	23:50	2,5	3K-583	17:05	18:35	2,5																				
3K-582	11:15	15:50	1,3,4,5,6,7	3K-581	8:55	10:25	1,3,4,5,6,7																				
TR-2823	9:45	2:15	Daily	TR-2822	7:20	8:45	Daily																				
UB-001	7:30	12:00	Daily	UB-002	13:15	14:45	Daily																				
RGN TO NRT				NRT TO RGN																							
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days																				
NH-814	21:45	06:50+1	Daily	NH-813	11:00	15:40	Daily																				

Tens of millions face poverty unless cities plan for disasters

NEW YORK — Climate change could plunge tens of millions of city dwellers into poverty in the next 15 years, threatening to undo decades of development efforts, the World Bank said on Wednesday.

Fast-growing cities particularly in the developing world are ill-prepared to deal with increasing climate-related disasters, according to a joint report by the Bank and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), which the Bank manages.

Globally more than one billion people — or one in seven people — live on less than \$1.25 a day. But that figure could increase by 77 million people by 2030, unless cities planned better for climate-linked disasters, the World Bank said.

The Washington D.C.-based institution called on governments to speed up investments in projects that shield the cities' poorest from the effects of climate change, such as sea-level rise.

"Investing today in resilience measures is funda-



A woman walks past a homeless man sleeping on the street. PHOTO: REUTERS

mental to secure a safe and prosperous future for cities around the world and for people living in them," Ede Ijjasz-Vasquez, a senior director at the Bank, told a press conference.

"We're approaching a tipping point for the safety of cities all over the world."

Experts say securing new urban infrastructure

against increasing climate risks will come with a price tag of roughly \$1 trillion a year worldwide, according to the Bank.

Failure to make these investments could cost cities \$314 billion a year by (which date) from \$250 billion per year today, the Bank said. To help pay the bill, additional private

investment will be needed to beef up funds available publicly, the Bank said.

The World Bank's warning came ahead of a UN conference on housing and sustainable urban development next week in Ecuador, which aims to set out guidelines for sustainable cities over the next 20 years.—Reuters

Gene editing offers hope for curing sickle cell anemia

WASHINGTON — Scientists said Wednesday they have used a popular gene-editing tool to successfully fix a genetic mutation that causes sickle cell anemia, taking a key step toward a cure for the blood disease. As described in the US journal Science Translational Medicine, the researchers used CRISPR-Cas9 to correct the disease-causing mutation in stem cells from the blood of affected patients.

Only "a proportion" of stem cells were fixed and produced healthy hemoglobin, but that is "high enough to produce a substantial benefit in sickle cell patients," they said. When implanted into mice, these corrected stem cells stuck around for at least four months, with no signs of side effects, a hint that they would also work in humans. "This is an important advance because for the first time we show a

level of correction in stem cells that should be sufficient for a clinical benefit in persons with sickle cell anemia," said co-author Mark Walters, director of Benioff Oakland's Blood and Marrow Transplantation Programme at the University of California (UC), San Francisco. Senior author Jacob Corn, scientific director of the Innovative Genomics Initiative at UC Berkeley, said they hope to re-infuse patients with the edited stem cells and alleviate symptoms of the disease. Corn and Walters will work together to initiate an early-phase clinical trial to test this new treatment within the next five years.

"There is still a lot of work to be done before this approach might be used in the clinic, but we're hopeful that it will pave the way for new kinds of treatment for patients with sickle cell disease," Corn said.—Xinhua



A view shows makeshift shelters, tents and containers where migrants live in what is known as the "Jungle", a sprawling camp in Calais, France, on 12 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Charity groups ask court to halt Calais migrant camp closure in France

LILLE/PARIS — Several charity organisations have asked a court in France to halt the imminent closure of the notorious "Jungle" migrant camp where thousands of refugees live in the port city of Calais, many of them desperate to get across the sea to Britain.

The organisations lodged their request at a court in Lille on Wednesday evening, according to an official in the region.

A judicial source said an emergency ruling should be delivered within 48 hours.

President Francois Hollande announced in late September that the camp, where the number of inhabitants was at one stage estimated at close to 10,000, would be shut down.

His Socialist government has already started moving groups of refugees

to new locations throughout the country ahead of a final phase in which the camp will be demolished. People involved in helping the camp dwellers spoke this week of a demolition date as early as 17 October.

Many of the people at the camp have fled war, persecution or poverty in countries such as Syria, Iraq, Sudan and Eritrea.— Reuters

'Greatest living poet' Bob Dylan wins Nobel literature prize

STOCKHOLM — Bob Dylan, regarded as the voice of a generation for his influential songs from the 1960s onwards, has won the Nobel Prize for Literature in a surprise decision that made him the only singer-songwriter to win the award.

The 75-year-old Dylan - who won the prize for "having created new poetic expressions within the great American song tradition" — now finds himself in the company of Winston Churchill, Thomas Mann and Rudyard Kipling as Nobel laureates.

The announcement was met with gasps in Stockholm's stately Royal Academy hall, followed - unusually - by some laughter.

Dylan's songs, such as "Blowin' in the Wind", "The Times They Are a-Changin'", "Subterranean Homesick Blues" and "Like a Rolling Stone" captured a spirit of rebellion, dissent and independence.

More than 50 years on, Dylan is still writing songs and is often on tour, performing his dense poetic lyrics, sung in a sometimes rasping voice that has been ridiculed by detractors.

Some lyrics have resonated for decades.

"Blowin' in the Wind", written in 1962, was considered one of the most eloquent folk songs of all time. "The Times They Are a-Changin'", in which Dylan told Americans "your sons and your daughters are beyond your command", was an anthem of the civil rights movement and Vietnam War protests.

Awarding the 8 million Swedish crown (\$930,000) prize, the Swedish Academy said: "Dylan has the status of an icon. His influence on contemporary music is profound." Swedish Academy member Per Wastberg said: "He is probably the greatest living poet."

Asked if he thought Dylan's Nobel lecture - traditionally given by the laureate in Stockholm later in the year — would be a concert, replied: "Let's hope so."

Over the years, not everyone has agreed that Dylan was a poet of the first order. Novelist Norman Mailer countered: "If Dylan's a poet, I'm a basketball player."

Sara Danus, Permanent Secretary of the Nobel

Academy, told a news conference there was "great unity" in the panel's decision to give Dylan the prize.

Dylan has always been an enigmatic figure. He went into seclusion for months after a motorcycle crash in 1966, leading to stories that he had cracked under the pressure of his new celebrity.

He was born into a Jewish family but in the late 1970s converted to born-again Christianity and later said he followed no organised religion. At another point in his life, Dylan took up boxing.

Dylan's spokesman, Elliott Mintz, declined immediate comment when reached by phone, citing the early hour in Los Angeles, where it was 3 a.m. at the time of the announcement. Dylan was due to give a concert in Las Vegas on Thursday evening. Literature was the last of this year's Nobel prizes to be awarded. The prize is named after dynamite inventor Alfred Nobel and has been awarded since 1901 for achievements in science, literature and peace in accordance with his will.—Reuters

Head of experimental nuclear fusion reactor confident about project

CADARACHE, (France) — The head of an international experimental nuclear fusion reactor project in France has expressed confidence that the reactor will be online by 2035, despite significant delays and soaring costs plaguing the project.

"It is still the best technically achievable schedule," Bernard Bigot, chief of the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor project, said in an

interview with Kyodo News last Friday. Still, Bigot did not totally rule out the possibility of further delays in the project, which he described as a "game changer" for the world's energy supply. The overall schedule still hinges on whether stakeholders will stick to their own schedules in contributing to the project, he said. ITER is being built in Cadarache in southern France but its estimated cost has soared about three-

fold to 20 billion euros, and full operations have been postponed from the initially scheduled 2027 to 2035.

The aim of the ITER project involving China, India, Japan, Russia, South Korea and the United States as well as the European Union is to show that fusion can be used to generate electricity and to gain necessary data for the design and operation of the first practical plant.

Scientists say nuclear



Photo taken on 6 October 2016, shows an international experimental nuclear fusion reactor under construction in Cadarache, southern France. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

fusion, which is how the sun produces energy, can help resolve the world's energy problems as it generates no greenhouse gas emissions and uses abundant seawater as a fuel source.

Tritium will be used as fuel and is believed to be safer than the uranium or plutonium used for nuclear fission at power plants. In Japan, ITER-related facilities are in Aomori and Ibaraki prefectures.—Kyodo News

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ANTOINE VOY. NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ANTOINE VOY. NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.10.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MIPL. where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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AGENT FOR: M/S COMET SHIPPING &
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Phone No: 2301928

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Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA HARTA VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.10.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BC MUMBAI VOY. NO (208W)

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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.

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

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ORIENT OVERSEA
CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 2301185

Haiti tries to get hurricane aid right, but cholera blamed on UN weighs

PORT-A-PIMENT, (Haiti) — Foreign medics with orange stretchers and gallons of chlorine are stemming a cholera outbreak on Haiti's hurricane-struck coast but the focus on a disease UN peacekeepers brought here six years ago is slowing the delivery of food and shelter for storm victims.

Hurricane Matthew ripped through this southwestern region of Haiti last week, killing at least 1,000 people and leaving 1.4 million in need of aid, including hundreds of thousands made homeless. It also trashed crops and unleashed a new cholera surge.

Along the shattered coastal landscape of virtually flattened villages, angry residents have set up blockades of broken trees and branches to try to stop the trucks of food and other aid they have seen speed past them.

The roadblocks reflect an anger that could quickly escalate if aid agencies and the government do not speed up relief efforts in the poorest country in the Americas.



Damage is seen from the air along the west coast of Haiti. PHOTO: REUTERS

"The donations keep passing and they don't stop. We need food and shelter," said Jean Jacques, 30, a fisherman and subsistence farmer. Around him, around 50

local residents complained nobody had helped them.

The United Nations and aid organisations are now rushing out across areas hit hardest by the hurricane,

the biggest relief operation in Haiti since a devastating 2010 earthquake.

But the massive effort needed to control a new spike in cholera since the

hurricane and the tensions over food deliveries are a reminder of the history of foreign help to Haiti that has at times done as much harm as good.

In October 2010, Nepali peacekeepers accidentally introduced cholera into Haiti when their camp emptied infected sewage into a river. The disease has since killed more than 9,000 people.

"They recognise they are guilty and for that reason they try to help," said Haitian doctor Marie Sophia Sanon, who heads the cholera unit in Jeremie, the largest town near the hurricane's path and now largely reduced to rubble. Since last week, she has saved 72 people suffering the disease that kills with diarrhoea.

At least \$9.5 billion of aid sloshed into Haiti in two years after the 2010 earthquake, which the government says killed more than 300,000 people. But many aid groups had priorities that often did not chime with the country's needs.

Too much food aid undercut prices for farmers' own produce and hit sales at stores, damaging the economy and making it harder for Haiti to get back on its feet.—Reuters

Thousands march for Colombia peace, rebel leader sees solution soon

BOGOTA — Thousands of Colombians wearing white and carrying flowers marched through Bogota on Wednesday demanding that politicians revive a peace accord to end five-decades of war after voters rejected the hard-fought deal in a referendum.

In a show of support for the agreement inked last month by President Juan Manuel Santos and Rodrigo Londono, head of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), the throng of students, farmers and indigenous leaders congregated in Plaza Bolivar, in front of Congress.

"All Colombians must work on building peace. We must strive for a better future and forgiveness is the best example we can give," said Carmenza Pinto, 64, who was displaced by the war, as she joined the so-called "March of the Flowers."

The demonstration took place as Santos and his team heard proposals from representatives of those who voted against the accord — rejected by a razor-thin margin of less than half a percentage point — as too lenient on the Marxist rebels.

Londono, known by his nom de guerre, Timochenko, said early on Wednesday he has met on numerous occasions with government ne-



Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) rebel leader Rodrigo Londono smokes a Cohiba cigar while watching a live transmission of the referendum on a peace deal, in Havana, Cuba, on 2 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

gotiators in Havana to find a way around the impasse and is confident the deal can be resuscitated.

"This is a conflict that has gone on many years and opened deep wounds ... We must join forces and together apply healing balm to the wounds," Londono, 57, told Caracol Radio. "We will have good news soon."

Led by hardline former President Alvaro Uribe, the "No" side wants FARC leaders to lose their freedom for five to eight years and be banned from elected office.

They were outraged that the accord offered ten congressional seats instead of prison cells in return for ending a conflict that has killed more than 220,000 people.

Uribe opposed FARC leaders receiving non-traditional sentences like clearing landmines, and instead insisted they be confined, even if they are held on farms. Although the FARC leadership has said it is willing to hear new ideas, Uribe's proposals may be difficult to accept, given they have repeatedly refused to consider jail time and want to form a political party.

Londono said he respects the views of the "No" camp, and even Uribe, whose two terms in office were spent in a fierce offensive against the FARC.

But he reiterated FARC's opposition to renegotiating the justice element of the accord.—Reuters

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TEAK CONVERSION ABOUT (334) TONS
HARD WOOD LOGS
- PYIN KADO / KANYIN / INGYIN
ABOUT (2518) TONS |
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Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB-059(16-17)	Spares for SAFE Daughter Compressor, 3 rd & 4 th Stage SAFE Compressor (170) Items	US\$
(2)	IFB-060(16-17)	Spares for HDD Rig (13) Items	US\$
(3)	IFB-061(16-17)	Spares for BF 8M 1015CP & BF 6M 1015 CP Deutz Engine Ex HDD Rig (18) Items	US\$
(4)	IFB-062(16-17)	Spares for BF 4L 2011 Deutz Engine Ex HDD Rig (28) Items	US\$
(5)	IFB-063(16-17)	Spares for UD Quester Tractor (41) Items	US\$
(6)	DMP/L-012(16-17)	Assorted Kinds of Engineering Hand Tools (3) Groups	Ks
(7)	DMP/L-013(16-17)	Assorted Kinds of Engineering Workshop Tools (3) Groups	Ks

Tender Closing Date & Time - 10-11-2016, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 12TH October, 2016 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

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Michael Jackson outstrips Prince, Bowie as top-earning dead celebrity

NEW YORK — Michael Jackson topped an annual list of the top-earning dead celebrities on Wednesday for the fourth straight year, far outstripping fellow musical icons Prince and David Bowie who passed away earlier this year.

Jackson, who died in 2009, raked in a bumper \$825 million in earnings for the 12 months ending 1 October, according to estimates from Forbes. That came mostly from the Jackson estate's \$750 million sale of the late singer's remaining stake in the Sony/ATV music publishing catalog — which includes the rights to many Beatles songs —

to Sony Corp.

Sales of Prince albums soared after the musician died of an accidental drug overdose in April. Forbes ranked him in fifth place overall with estimated earnings of \$25 million, just below Elvis Presley with \$27 million.

Bowie, whose surprise death of cancer in January came days after a new album release, out-sold both Presley and Jackson in albums and singles in 2016, but the British singer's overall estimated earnings were a comparatively small \$10.5 million, Forbes said.

Golf legend Arnold Palmer,

who died in September at age 87, claimed the No.3 spot with earnings of \$40 million, mostly from licensing and endorsements of his signature Arnold Palmer iced tea and lemonade drink, leisure wear label, and golf course designs.

Forbes' estimates were based on pretax income, before management and legal expenses, and were compiled through interviews with estate experts and data on record sales, touring, and movie earnings.—Reuters

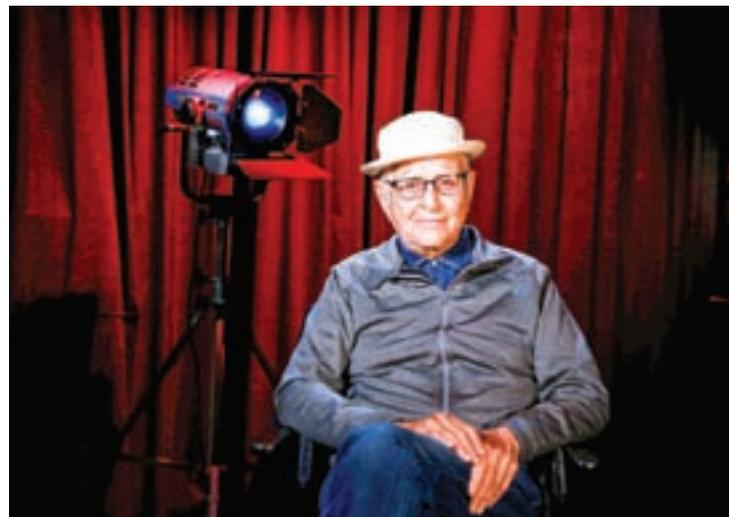


Rock star David Bowie's art collection on show in Hong Kong

HONG KONG — Auctioneers showcased a selection of art belonging to the late British rock star David Bowie in Hong Kong on Wednesday, ahead of a \$12.5-million London auction next month.

"Air Power", a painting by New York artist Jean-Michel Basquiat with an estimate of at least \$3.3 million, was among the handful of items featured by Sotheby's. The auctioneers placed a low estimate of 10 million to 15 million pounds (\$12.5 million to \$18.65 million) on the 10 and 11 November auction of a collection of more than 350 pieces. Bowie, the "Starman", "Rebel Rebel" and "Space Oddity" singer, died in January, aged 69, after an 18-month battle with cancer.—Reuters

At 94, veteran TV producer Norman Lear reflects on career in new film



Television producer Norman Lear poses for a portrait in New York, US, on 12 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

NEW YORK — Starting with the goal of simply earning a living and supporting his family, Norman Lear became one of the most influential U.S. television producers and at the age of 94, he has no intention of slowing down.

After more than six decades in the business creating situation comedies such as "All in the Family," Lear talks about the highlights of his career and personal life in the new documentary, "American Masters — Norman Lear: Just Another Version of You," airing on 25 October on PBS and available the same day on DVD.

Lear starts his mornings with stretching exercises and is still flexing his funny bone by continuing to create entertainment, most recently revamping his 1970s show "One Day at a Time" with a Cuban-American family for Netflix starring Rita

Moreno. Lear was born in New Haven, Connecticut in 1922 and the 90-minute film chronicles his stint in the US Army Air Force during World War II.

"I would watch hundreds of bombs dropping and wonder, what if one missed a target and hit a home. And I remember thinking, screw them I don't care," Lear told Reuters.

He added that the experience taught him that "in our common humanity we are all capable of the worst of anybody else's behaviour and the most transcendent also. We as human beings have the capacity for both."

After the war and with a growing family, Lear moved to Los Angeles and entered the world of show business by writing comedy sketches for television with a relative, saying it was the best way to make a living.—Reuters

Italian Nobel-winning playwright and master satirist Dario Fo dies

ROME — Nobel prize-winning Italian playwright, director and political activist Dario Fo, an acclaimed satirist who poked a finger in the eye of the church and state, has died aged 90, officials said on Thursday.

Famous for his cutting political satire in plays such as 'The Accidental Death of an Anarchist', Fo won the Nobel prize for literature in 1997.

He remained a committed activist right to the end, skewering Italian authorities with his sharp wit and appearing at a rally in support of the anti-establishment 5-Star Movement last month. He was admitted to hospital in Milan 12 days ago.

"With Dario Fo, Italy loses one of the great protagonists of theater, culture and the civic life of our country," said Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi, who was himself regularly ridiculed by the irreverent Fo.

"His satire, his research, his work on set design, his multi-faceted artistic activity remain



Italian 1997 Nobel literature prize winner Dario Fo reacts upon unveiling a commemorative postage stamp in Stockholm in 2008. PHOTO: REUTERS

the legacy of a great Italian in the world."

Fo and his wife, muse and leading lady Franca Rame, captured the hearts and minds of ordinary Italians, writing and performing for stage, radio and

television and regularly skewering political leaders with deft, clever dialogue.

His subversive humor won him a cult status, but also saw him periodically hounded off the stage and television in an attempt by the Italian establishment to muzzle him. He was barred from entering the United States in the early 1980s.

"The Accidental Death of an Anarchist", which brought him international fame, was based on the true story of a railway worker who fell to his death from the fourth floor of a Milan police station where he was being interrogated.

Police said he committed suicide, while Fo suggested he was killed. The play was first performed in Milan in 1970 and has since been performed in more than 40 countries.

Awarding him its literature prize, the Nobel Foundation said Fo "emulates the jesters of the Middle Ages in scourging authority and upholding the dignity of the downtrodden".—Reuters

UK firm fined over Harrison Ford injury on 'Star Wars' set

LONDON — A British production firm involved in making "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" has been fined 1.6 million pounds (\$2.0 million) for failing to protect actors and workers after an incident in which Harrison Ford's leg was broken, the BBC reported.

London-based Foodles Production (UK) Ltd, owned by Walt Disney Co, had admitted two breaches of health and safety laws. The sentence was handed

down at Aylesbury Crown Court in Buckinghamshire, southern England.

Ford, who plays the much-loved character Han Solo, was injured after he became trapped under a rapidly closing metal-framed door during filming in June 2014 at Pinewood Studios, near London.

The power of the door's drive system was comparable to the weight of a small car, according to Britain's Health and Safety

Executive (HSE), a state agency which enforces workplace safety regulations.

"This was a foreseeable incident," a spokesman for the HSE said in a statement at the time.

"Managing on-set risks in a sensible and proportionate way for all actors and staff regardless of their celebrity status is vital to protecting both on-screen and off-screen talent, as well as protecting the reputation of the industry," he said.—Reuters

Villagers in India's Himalayan landscape grapple with tourism boom

LEH (India) — Villagers nestled high in the Indian Himalayas are grappling with lifestyle changes in the world's fastest-growing major economy that are eroding their age-old Buddhist culture but opening up new opportunities.

People have long wrestled a living from herding goats and tending wheat fields ringed by 6,000-m (19,685-ft) snow-capped peaks, while Buddhist monasteries dotting the landscape are a reminder of the region's ties to its eastern neighbour, Tibet.

Traditions are fading fast as larger numbers of India's burgeoning middle class flock to holiday in the tranquillity of the lunar-like terrain.

Yet living in India's remote northwestern corner of Ladakh still has advantages, says Tashi Phutit, an 81-year old wheat farmer

and housewife.

"Now we can eat better vegetables and wear better clothes. The problem is people are becoming greedy," she said outside her stone-hut home in Stok, a village 15 kms (9.3 miles) distant from Leh, the region's largest town.

Residents of the village, 3,500 metres (3,800 yards) above sea level, use cow dung to heat their homes and solar power to warm water. They work together to harvest the fields of each villager, before moving on to the next.

Buddhists form the majority of those dwelling in Leh's rugged treeless deserts, but make up just 9 million of the 1.3-billion population of India, where Gautama Buddha, founder of the religion, is believed to have attained enlightenment.

Several thousand are

ethnic Tibetans who fled across the border after an abortive uprising against Chinese rule in 1959.

Today's biggest change is India's ballooning tourist industry, with the government forecasting arrivals in Ladakh to hit 313,000 in 2017, exceeding the region's 280,000 residents and ten times the number of visitors in 2002.

The resulting strain on resources leaves vehicles clogging narrow roads, spurring worries about growing pollution and the risk of receding glaciers. But tourism spells a more prosperous future for the youth.

Life has "become much easier and much more comfortable," says Tsering Gurmet, Phutit's 28-year-old grandson, who is a mountain guide. Mathematics teacher Phunchok Angmo stands proudly in the shadow of the 15th-century hilltop Thiksey



Phunchok Angmo, 33, a mathematics teacher, poses for a photograph at Thiksey monastery, near Leh, the largest town in the region of Ladakh, nestled high in the Indian Himalayas, India, on 28 September 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

monastery nearby, her head adorned with a fur-lined hat studded with turquoise stones that is a family heirloom. She says schooling has improved as wealth has

penetrated to the mountains from the Indian hinterland hundreds of kilometres to the south, but change has come at a cost.

"The children here no

longer care about the culture and they spend less time talking to each other," the 33-year-old said. "They spend their free time on laptops." —Reuters

Creepy clown sightings no laughing matter as Halloween nears

NEW YORK — Sightings across the United States of creepy clowns with red lips and fixed smiles have become anything but a laughing matter and have cast a menacing tone as Halloween approaches.

Since late August, the trend of trying to scare unsuspecting people has grown with scary-looking clowns lurking in woods, appearing on dark roads or driving in cars, some brandishing knives.

The spine-chilling sightings have been reported in states ranging from California and Minnesota to South Carolina, New Jersey and New York and have generated the hashtag #IfI-SeeAClown and @Clown-Sightings on Twitter, which has 335,000 followers.

Even the White House weighed in on the sightings. Press secretary Josh Earnest



A clown attends a seminar at an annual convention in Northbrook, Illinois, US, in 2014. PHOTO: REUTERS

told reporters in response to a question at a briefing that local police take it quite seriously.

"If anything is suspicious, anything, be it somebody verbally or physically acting menacing in any type of costume, notify the

police right away," said Capt. Laurence Martin of the Wayne Police Department in New Jersey, which responded to a report of a clown sighting last week. In nearby Fair Lawn, where young adults were stopped following a scary clown

sighting report, police said trick-or-treaters should be vigilant.

"Have a heightened awareness about what is going on around you," said Sgt. Brian Metzler of the Fair Lawn Police Department. —Reuters

Paris exhibition unveils methods, intrigues of 'secret wars'

PARIS — The "Secret Wars" exhibition of guides to sabotage, hollow high-heeled shoes, fake moustaches and code-deciphering machines opened on Wednesday in Paris, offering a glimpse into the often fantasized world of secret agents and intelligence services.

Within an international context carrying whiffs of the Cold War, the exhibition, at the Musée de l'Armée (Army Museum), traces the recruitment methods, training and tools put at the disposal of the great figures of espionage, such as Lawrence of Arabia and Russian KGB official Vladimir Vetrov — from France's Second Empire to the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991.

"The exhibition 'Secret Wars' presents the means of action at the disposal of political and military men in times of war and in times of peace," said the exhibition's curator, Christophe Bertrand. "In times of peace, to defend interests where diplomacy is inefficient and where heavily armed military intervention is unthinkable. And in times of war, it's also about wars (that) ... destabilize and disorganize the enemy before a major commitment of force."

With nearly 400 objects and archives on dis-

play, the exhibition boasts some of the greatest tools used for espionage, such as the Enigma machine employed by the Germans in World War II, as well as devices that enabled the interception and detection of enemy communications.

More modest tools include disguises, make-up kits packed with fake hair and moustaches, and books teaching the art of disguise.

"It (the exhibition) comes at just the right moment, because it is a time where France is thinking about and is engaging in legislative action on intelligence," Bertrand said. "And also at a time where France has suffered tragic attacks on its territory in the last few years," he added.

Six months after the January 2015 attacks on Charlie Hebdo magazine, the French parliament passed a law giving the state intelligence services more latitude to eavesdrop on the public. The law waives the need for judicial warrants to use phone taps, cameras, hidden microphones and other spying devices. The exhibition, which runs until 29 January, was visited on Tuesday by French Defence Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian, who said France's intelligence services were currently in full swing. —Reuters

		10:26 Am Green Corner (Ep-7) Cloth Fish
		10:38 Am YUFL
		10:53 Am Modifying Natural Thanakha Bark into Ready-make Skin Care Product
(14-10-2016 07:00am ~ 15-10-2016 07:00am) MST		(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm) - Thursday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am) (03:00 Pm ~ 07:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
Today Fresh		Prime Time
07:03 Am	News	07:03 Pm News
07:26 Am	Discovering Tribes "Gaybar Kayin"	07:27 Pm Memorable Yaw Region
07:47 Am	Lines & Wash Painting	07:45 Pm Lacquerware Technology College
07:54 Am	A Pilgrimage To Prominent Pagoda In Minbu	08:03 Pm News
08:03 Am	News	08:26 Pm National Literary Icon and Guiding Light of Myanmar Literature "Sayar Zaw Gyi" (Childhood and Student Life) (Episode-1)
08:26 Am	Thadingyut Festival, Heart & Soul	08:48 Pm Serene and Happy Rural Life in Myanmar
08:39 Am	Irrawaddy Dolphin (Part- 1)	
08:54 Am	Kid's Home	
09:03 Am	News	
09:26 Am	Cruising To Precious Islands (Part-2)	
09:47 Am	Elephant Catching and Scaring Trip Mile Stone 26	
10:03 Am	News	
		(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am) (11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am) - Thursday 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)

Mayor of Ishinomaki bids to host 2020 torch relay start

TOKYO — A city devastated by killer tsunami that struck northeastern Japan in March 2011 is hoping to be the starting point of the 2020 Tokyo Olympic torch relay.

On Thursday, Hiroshi Kameyama, the mayor of Ishinomaki in Miyagi Prefecture, visited Tamayo Marukawa, minister in charge of the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics, and requested the start of the torch relay be held in his city.

“It’s a major theme, using the lens of the Olympics, to allow people to see the re-birth of the disaster-stricken areas,” Marukawa said. “This is a suggestion to realise these revival Olympics.”

Games organisers are currently looking into possible routes for the torch relay, a legacy of Nazi Germany’s 1936 Berlin Games, with an eye on including areas hit by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami disasters.

“I’d like to keep presenting our request while thinking of routes through the three stricken prefectures (Miyagi,



Tamayo Marukawa (C), minister in charge of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and Paralympics, receives a written request in Tokyo on 13 October 2016, from Toru Asano (L), head of the Ishinomaki Chamber of Commerce & Industry, demanding the Olympic torch relay depart from the city, which has been recovering from the 2011 earthquake and tsunami disaster. Ishinomaki Mayor Hiroshi Kameyama can be seen at right. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Iwate and Fukushima),” Kameyama told reporters.

The cauldron from the main stadium of the 1964 Tokyo Games is currently on loan to Ishinomaki, where a committee was formed in 2014 by citizens

and local businesses in a bid to become the starting point of the torch relay.

The Ishinomaki city government launched a project team in August to reinforce the bid activities.—*Kyodo News*

Bale to extend Real contract to 2022

MADRID — Gareth Bale has agreed to sign a six-year contract extension with Real Madrid and the European champions are set to announce new deals for Cristiano Ronaldo, Pepe and Luka Modric, Spanish media reported on Wednesday.

Radio station Cadena Ser said Bale, who joined Real for a then world-record fee of 100 million euros (\$112 million) in 2013, will sign a new contract until 2022 in the next two weeks.

Central defender Pepe, whose existing deal was set to end next year, will extend his contract until 2018. Ronaldo, Real’s all time top scorer, is poised to sign a four-year contract until 2020 while midfield playmaker Luka Modric is also about to be offered a new deal.

Wales international Bale has won two Champions Leagues and a King’s Cup in three full seasons with Real, scoring 65 goals in all competitions.

France midfielder Paul Pogba replaced him as the world’s most expensive player when he completed a 89 million-pound (105 million euros) move from Juventus to Manchester United this year.—*Reuters*



PHOTO: REUTERS

Fury vacates world heavyweight titles to focus on recovery

LONDON — Tyson Fury’s troubled 11th month reign as world heavyweight champion came to an end on Thursday when the British boxer announced he would be vacating his WBO and WBA titles “to fully focus on his medical treatment and recovery”.

The 28-year-old has not fought since beating Ukrainian Wladimir Klitschko to win the titles in November 2015 and has since admitted taking cocaine to battle depression.

Fury has twice called off a fight against Klitschko, in July because of an ankle injury and last month for an unspecified medical condition, and also briefly retired from the sport.

“I feel that it is only fair and right and for the good of boxing to keep the titles active and allow the other contenders to fight for the vacant belts that I proudly won and held as the undefeated heavyweight champion of the world ...” Fury said in statement released by his promoter Mick Hennessy.

“I won the titles in the ring and I believe that they should be lost in the ring, but I’m unable to defend at this time and I have taken the hard and emotional decision to now officially vacate my treasured world titles.

“(I) wish the next in-line con-



Tyson Fury celebrates winning the fight for IBF & WBO Heavyweight Title’s at Esprit Arena, Dusseldorf, Germany in 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

tenders all the very best as I now enter another big challenge in my life which I know, like against Klitschko, I will conquer.”

Tyson’s points victory over Klitschko in Dusseldorf, Germany at the end of November last year was one of the biggest upsets in the long history of heav-

weight boxing.

It was a first defeat for Klitschko in 11 years and the now 40-year-old Ukrainian immediately demanded a re-match.

Klitschko expressed his frustration after Fury called off a fight for the second time last month and last week accused the Briton

of “dragging boxing through the mud”.

At the start of October, ESPN reported Fury had tested positive for cocaine, citing a leaked letter sent by the Voluntary Anti-Doping Agency (VADA) which Reuters has been unable to verify.

A couple of days later, Fury

announced his retirement in an expletive-laden tweet, only to abruptly reverse the decision hours later, saying he planned to carry on fighting.

In an interview with Rolling Stone published on 4 October, Fury admitted to drinking heavily and using cocaine to help him deal with depression, saying he had been diagnosed as “manic depressive”.

In the interview, he denied ever taking banned substances before he fought and said his cocaine use had started only after he beat Klitschko.

Fury has also been charged with an anti-doping rule violation by UK Anti-Doping after a urine sample from February 2015 — nine months before his victory over Klitschko — showed traces of the banned stimulant nandrolone. He denies any wrongdoing. Hennessy described the decision to vacate the titles as “heartbreaking” and Peter Fury, the boxer’s uncle and trainer, said he was convinced his nephew, who has a professional record of 25-0, would return to the ring.

“Tyson will be back stronger from this and I will make sure, no matter what we have to deal with, Tyson not only comes back but will reclaim what’s rightfully his,” he said.—*Reuters*