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Saturday, 26 November 2016

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# **KIA, TNLA** set fire to vehicles

TROOPS of KIA and the TNLA stopped vehicles on Union Highway near Nangphalon village thirteen miles away from Kutkai yesterday morning and torched two 22-wheel vehicles and a passenger bus, according to the Information Committee of the State Counsellor's Office.

Another group of the combined KIA/TNLA armed groups also set a Prado on fire on the highway about sixteen miles away from Kutkai.

The armed groups also sabotaged bridges and destroyed trucks on the Union Highway since fightings with the government troops broke out last weekend. At least 11 civilians have been killed and 29 others injured so far. ---Myanmar News Agency

Armed groups

KIA, TNLA & MNDAA coordinated armed groups comprising 150 troops blew up

the Namsa wooden bridge at 3 pm yesterday, according to the Information Committee of

the State Counsellor's Office. The bridge with 12 feet each in length and width, is situated on

Tarmoenye-Monesi street near

Namsa village of Namma vil-

lage-tract, Kutkai, it is learnt.-

Myanmar News Agency

**Armed Group** 

in mufti attacks

government troops

AN armed group comprising

about seven in civilian clothing

fired on the government troops

serving security duty of the

bridge at about 2 pm on 24 No-

vember 500 meters far away

the government troops, the

are pursuing the group, it

is learnt.-Myanmar News

Due to the cross-fire from

The government troops

from the north of the bridge.

group fled to the north.

Agency

sabotage

**Bridge** 

# Armed groups set fire to trucks on the Union Highway. PHOTO: THE MYANMAR REVIEWS JOURNAL

#### 3rd Myanmar-EU Human Rights Dialogue issues press release

3rd Myanmar-EU Human Rights Dialogue which was held in Nay Pyi Taw on 22nd November issued a press release today.

Following is the full text of the joint press release of the dialogue.

#### **Joint Press Release**

#### Myanmar and the European Union hold third bilateral Human Rights Dialogue (22/11/2016)

1. The Third Myanmar-EU Human Rights Dialogue was opened on 22 November 2016 by State Counsellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and cochaired by European Union Special Representative for Human Rights, Stavros Lambrinidis and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar, U Kyaw Tin. 2. During the dialogue, both sides reaffirmed their com-

mitment to strengthen cooperation in the field of 3. human rights on the basis of shared values and international human rights standards. The EU commended Myanmar's peaceful transfer of political power and the early steps taken by the Government

to advance democracy and fundamental freedoms following competitive and credible elections in November 2015. The EU underlined its strong and continuing commitment to intensify support for reforms in Myanmar, as outlined in the EU Joint Communication 'Special Partnership for Democracy, Peace and Prosperity and endorsed by EU Foreign Ministers on 22 June 2016.

Discussions between the parties covered a wide range of human rights issues, including land rights, labour rights, bilateral investment agreements, the situation in Rakhine State, rights of national minorities in EU Member States, preventing religious intolerance and incitement to hatred, the human rights of migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons, human trafficking, cooperation in international human rights fora, and accession to core international human rights conventions.

- Both sides provided up-4. dates on efforts to enhance the protection and promotion of human rights, exchanged best practices, and identified ways of strengthening cooperation in areas of mutual interest.
- 5. Myanmar informed about its implementation of the ILO conventions and labour laws review process. The EU encouraged Myanmar to join the remaining ILO fundamental con-

ventions and welcomed the progress Myanmar has made in the advancement of labour rights including its tripartite engagement.

- On land rights, both sides 6. recalled the importance of resolving land conflicts in line with international human rights obligations, and Myanmar presented its strategy and ambitions regarding land rights, including addressing forced evictions.
- 7. Myanmar and the EU discussed the Investment Protection Agreement (IPA) which is currently under negotiation, and agreed on the importance of transparency through public consultations, including on human rights matters.

# More rations provided to villages in Maungtaw district

A responsible person said that food and other necessary commodities bought with the national fund on natural disasters were provided to villages situated in the southern part of Maungtaw by the ministry of social welfare, relief and resettlement and the cabinet of Rakhine State, under the supervision of national management committee for natural disasters on November 25.

Dr Min Thein, director, the ministry of social welfare, relief and resettlement said, "The present provisions were made in cooperation with responsible officials including Administrator of Maungtaw District. Food and other necessary commodities bought from the national fund on natural disasters to 4 villages in southern part of Maungtaw. In October provisions that are worth Ks 700 lakh were given out, as were Ks 700 lakh worth goods in November as well. The subventions were handed over to Rakhine State Cabinet and the cabinet supported rationsrice, cooking oil, salt, pea and etc. under the arrangement of responsible personnel including district administrator. Daw Htay Htay Khin aged 30 residing in Shwebaho village said, "This is the fourth time that provisions were given out to



Locals receive aid presented by authorities . PHOTO: A ONE SOE

our village. Living in the daytime although they have got such prois convenient for us, but we are still feeling insecure at night. My husband is a car driver, having no occupation for the time being."

According to U Tun Hla Aung of Khayemyaing village, they found it difficult to deal with paddy harvest, living and travelling

visions. Daw Ma Che of Oudaung village also said, "We thank a lot for such a donation. We feel happy and sorry simultaneously. Sadness was caused by inconvenience of living and working. We are not

safe in going to forests and climb-

ing up hills. We want to live in our home and village in peace."

The villages include Shweyinaye, Khayemyaing, Shwebaho and Oudaung. U Ye Htut, district administrator, and Dr Min Thein gave words of encouragement in the tour of support. -A One Soe

# **Road network** in Maungtaw district to be upgraded

U Aung Kyaw Zan, minister for electricity and road transport of Rakhine State Cabinet said, "Roads in Rakhine State were mostly built by ministry of construction. Though being endowed with road network, quality of those roads was in poor state. Most are gravel paths. It is possible to implement safety and development of the area by upgrading as roads usable for all seasons. Depending upon budget allotted for roads, all the roads will be likely to be built with aggregates."

It is learnt that roads will be upgraded as aggregate roads to be able to lengthen road as much as possible as the first stage in developing the road network. And in this open season, the project for upgrading the road network will be launched as soon as the area gains peace and stability. -A One Soe

# Cash provided to the injured in northern Shan State clashes



Responsible personnel present cash assistance to a civilian receiving medical care at the hospital. Photo: INFORMATION COMMITTEE OF THE STATE CONSELLOR'S OFFICE

A ceremony to provide cash for people who have sustained injuries during the fighting in Shan State (North) was held in a ward at Muse Hospital yesterday afternoon, according to the Information Committee of the State Counsellor's Office.

A total of K 5.8 million was provided to 28 wounded people. Those who were seriously injured were provided with K 300,000 each while those who were injured were presented K 100,000 each. The chairperson of Muse District Women Affairs Committee also donated K 20,000 to each injured patient.—Myanmar News Agency

### A house destroyed in an arson outbreak in Norular village in Maungtaw township

INFORMATION Committee of the State Counsellor's Office released the news that police of Norular police outpost extinguished a house fire that broke out because of the arson in Norular(south) village as no one came to extinguish the fire.

Seeing an unoccupied house owned by Adul Rawhein in Norular village catching fire,

police forces from Norular police outpost called to inform the head of the village named Maujibul Rakaman to collectively extinguish the fire, but no one extinguished the fire. Thanks to timely action to extinguish, the fire did not spread to other houses. The arson destroyed only one human dwelling, it is learnt.—Myanmar News Agency



The fire in Norular Village totally destroys a house in the village. PHOTO: INFORMATION COMMITTEE OF THE STATE CONSELLOR'S OFFICE

### Fire destroys shops, house in Minbya

TWENTY shops and one house were destroyed and five people were injured by a fire in Minbya, Rakhine State, yesterday.

The fire started while Maung Phyu Hla (a) U Tin Hlaing of TadaU Street poured

gasoline into a plastic container. The fire brigade, the police and the public put out the fire in 45 minutes.

About K 9 million was lost due to the fire.—Myanmar News Agency

# 16 more suspects involved in a series of armed attacks seized apprehended

THE State Counsellor Office's pm today between Thetkaipyin involved in October 9 attack at 3 Maunghnama/south.

Fagutuphya. Photo: INFORMATION COM-

MITTEE OF THE STATE CONSELLOR'S OFFICE

police forces arrested 16 suspects mar residing in the village of

The detainees have been Information Committee released and Maunghnama villages during handed over to respective borthe news that the government the area clearance operation in der guard police force in actroops and border guard control Maungtaw, including Norukar- cord with the prescribed rules and law, it is *—Myanmar News Agency* 

### One Bangladeshi entering illegally arrested during patrol

ACCORDING to the Information Committee of the State Counsellor's Office, border guard police forces arrested a Bangladesh national trespassing Myanmar land illegally from backdoor near Myanmar-Bangladesh demarcation

milestone 50, during the regular patrol at 12:30 p.m yesterday. He is said to be a Bangladeshi named Fagutuphya aged 40 residing in the village of Barchari, Natchaungsari township.-Myanmar News Agency

## First Myanmar- China (2+2) **High-Level Consultations held**

THE First Myanmar- China (2+2) of China. High-Level Consultations led by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence was held yesterday 10 am at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nay Pyi Taw.

The meeting was co-chaired by U Kyaw Tin, Minister of State of Foreign Affairs and Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung, Commander of No.(1) Bureau of Special Operation, Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and H.E. Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, and General Xu Fenlin, Deputy Chief of the Joint Staff Department of the Central Military Commission of the People's Republic

During the meeting, the two sides cordially exchanged views on matters of security and development along borders of the two countries including stability along Myanmar-China border areas, China's constructive support for the Peace Process of Myanmar, prevention of illegal entries, and development of legal trade in the border areas.

After the meeting, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin hosted a luncheon in honour of the Chinese delegation led by H.E. Mr. Liu Zhenmin and General Xu Fenlin at Thin Ga Ha Hotel.

The (2+2) High-Level Con-



sultations meeting was aimed at strengthening the cooperation in security and management in the Myanmar-China border areas, and both sides agreed to hold the meeting annually in Myanmar and China alternatively.

Before the First Myanmar-China (2+2) High Level Consultations led by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defence, advanced meetings between Minister of State U Kyaw Tin and Deputy Minister H.E. Mr. Liu

Zhenmin, and between Lt-Gen Tun Tun Naung and General Xu Fenlin were held in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Defence separately on 24th November 2016.— Myanmar News Agency

#### **3rd Myanmar-EU Human Rights Dialogue** issues press release

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- 8. The EU expressed concern about the recent security and human rights situation in northern Rakhine State, reiterating calls for an independent, credible investigation into both the initial attacks and the subsequent actions as well as for the urgent re-opening of humanitarian access to the populations in need. Myanmar provided an update on recent violent armed attacks, while assuring that subsequent actions were carried out with maximum restraint. Myanmar also explained that humanitarian assistance was being provided and that additional access to humanitarian partners would be granted in the areas as appropriate; Myanmar further informed about the imminent establishment of a national investigation commission into the incidents. The parties discussed concrete steps to work towards a long-term political, security and socio-economic strategy for Rakhine State. Both sides also discussed the
- 9. rights of national minorities in EU Member States. The EU shared its policy and measures in addressing the challenges. Myanmar and the EU also provided updates on the legal framework for the protection of persons belonging to minorities and ongoing efforts to promote non-discrimination. While underlining their full commitment to freedom of expression, both sides agreed on the need to fight intolerance and the incitement to hatred and violence in order to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights for persons belonging to minorities, as well as freedom of religion and belief.
- 10. The EU shared lessons learned from recent developments of migration to Europe

and provided an update on policy initiatives.

- 11. Both sides underlined the need to enhance dialogue and support in the area of human trafficking. Myanmar reiterated its commitment to combat human trafficking, including placing a special emphasis on protecting and promoting the rights of women and children.
- 12. Multilateral issues were discussed to help deepen mutual understanding, and to enhance cooperation, including by reinforcing common positions in favour of strengthening international human rights standards. Myanmar shared its consideration to develop a national plan of action for the implementation of accepted UPR recommendations and the EU expressed its support and readiness to share its experiences with Myanmar in this regard. The parties also discussed the cooperation with the OHCHR and the ratification of remaining core international human rights instruments.
- 13. Both sides agreed that the next dialogue round would be held in 2017 in Brussels.
- 14. The Director-General for International Organizations and Economic Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, U Kyaw Moe Tun, EU Ambassador to Myanmar, Mr. Roland Kobia, Myanmar Senior Officials from eleven different government agencies, EU Officials and senior diplomats from European Union Member States also attended and contributed to the Dialogue.
- 15. The Dialogue was preceded by a Civil Society Forum in Yangon on 21 November 2016, where the EU's and Myanmar's achievements and remaining challenges in the area of human rights were discussed with civil society and human rights defenders.

## No conflict in surprise area clearance raid in Longdon and Sinthabyin villages

THE State Counsellor's Office Information Committee released the news that security forces launched a surprise raid into Longlon and Sinthabyin villages on receipt of the information that there were attackers involved in a

series of armed attacks hiding in the village at 6 a.m or so today, those villages, facing no conflicts in the raid.

During the surprise area clearance raid, the government troops ensured the security of the village outside, inspecting accompanied by villageelders IIlia aged 63, Nobosaung, 67 and U Ye Kyaw, administrator of the village. There were no armed conflicts in the inspection, it is learnt.— Myanmar News Agency

### Myanmar hosts ASEANPOST++ Business Meeting



Union Minister U Thant Zin Maung and representatives of ASEAN countries pose for photo. PHOTO: MNA

THE ASEANPOST++ Business Meeting was held at Hotel Novotal in Yangon on Tuesday morning.

Union Minister for Transport and Communication U Thant Sin Maung and Mr Mohd Salleh Mohd Shukrie, the chairman of the meeting, delivered opening

speeches and presented the heads of postal service from ten ASE-AN countries and their partners.

Participants discussed cooperation among all the relevant countries, regulations on bilateral express mail, issuance of ASEAN stamps, implementation of programs of the Universal Postal Un-

ion and financial services. Heads of postal services form partner countries like China, Japan and Korea and Hong Kong also took part in the discussions. The meeting, attended by over 30 representatives, is held alphabetically among ASEAN countries.-Myanmar News Agency



### A suspected driver arrested

THE State Counsellor's Office Information Committee released the news that security forces found 3 suspected pajero vehicles going to and fro in front of 105-Mile Muse Trade Zone's gate 4 at 7 a.m today and stopped them for inspection but they fled to Pansang Maungtan Gate, due to the fire from the security forces in the pursuit of them.

On receipt of the news that one San Aye aged 24 residing in Namhwei village was hospitalized with a bullet wound on the right shoulder at Muse hospital, responsible officials inquired him, finding the injured person to be the pajero driver who fled without being inspected at gate 4 of the Muse 105-mile trade zone.

The security officials are investigating the suspect as to whether he was involved in the armed groups, it is learnt.---Myanmar News Agency

# 500 people's hospitals to be established in Yangon under new urban plan

#### Zin Oo, Nay Win Tun

IN COOPERATION WITH the Ministry of Health and Sports, Yangon Region government plans to expand or open at least 500 hospitals to provide better healthcare to the growing urban population, said U Win Khaing, Union Minister for Construction.

With regards to strategic urban development of greater Yangon, U Win Khaing said the population of Myanmar's largest commercial city is estimated to increase to about 12 million by 2040. That is why the government makes concerted efforts to implement new urban planning, which will include establishment of new towns with a good public transport system.

The government plans to carry out sector-wide development of the region within the next five years, planning to try to strike a balance among the health, education and social needs of urban residents.

With respect to the new transportation plan, authorities are implementing projects to construct bridges across the Yangon River as well as the Bago River, according to the cabinet member.

The region government will also develop a good transporta-

tion route to connect Thilawa to the towns of Taninthayi, Mon, Thanatpin and Thonegwa over the next five to seven years, the Union Construction Minister said.

He also disclosed housing plans that will provide about 8,000 apartments within two years, with plans to sell them at a price less than Ks10 million through an installment system.

The new plan will increase the number of low-cost housing units to 200,000 in five years. The government plans to construct up to 1 million low-cost flats in Yangon and Mandalay by 2030.

# **Crime** NEWS



Security forces checking the drugs seized. Photo: Information Committee of the State Counsellor's Office

# Over 800 jade lots sold out in Mid-year Gems and Jewellery Emporium-2016

THE 6th day of mid-year Gems and Jewellery Emporium for 2016 where jade lots displayed in the Maniyadana Jade Hall was crowded with foreign and local gem merchants in Nay Pyi Taw on 25 November.

Starting from the morning, traders went round the emporium to observe the jade lots displayed within the compound and submitting the tender for the jade lots which they want to buy at Myanma Gems Emporium.

The event attracted 772 gems and jewellery companies from foreign countries and 608 gems and jewellery companies from within the country as well as 1,796 foreign gem merchants and 1,743 local traders.

A total of 828 gems and jade lots were sold out for 77.26 million euros at mid-year gems and jewellery emporium for 2016 yesterday.

The jade lots ranging from No.3601 to No.4800 will continue to be sold on 26th November, it is learnt.—*Myanmar News Agency* 



The gems merchants being seen observing the jade stones for appraisal.  $\mathsf{P}_{\mathsf{HOTO}}$ : MNA



# Handmade bomb blasts at Yangon Regional Government Office

A HANDMADE bomb made of an energy drink bottle and chemicals exploded at the Yangon Regional Government Office yesterday.

There were no fatalities nor injuries in the blast that occurred around 5.30 pm.

Security forces also found another handmade bomb near the site of the blast and detonated it safely.

The blast came as the latest in a series of similar explosions to hit Yangon following one that occurred at a local immigration office on Thursday and another explosion at a hypermarket on November 17. — Myanmar News Agency

### W Y-Brand Amphetamine Tablets numbering 68,250 Seized In Maungtaw Township

ACCORDING to the Information Committee of The State Counsellor's Office, security forces seized 68,250 tablets of WY brand amphetamine on board a long boat in Maungtaw township, Rakhine State.

During a riverine-patrol tour from Kanyinchaungwa to Tatchaung, security forces found a suspicious looking boat with 3 people on board. In spite of calling them by

signaling with lights to come for inspection, they failed to do so. In pursuit of them by firing 5 scare shots, they fled into the Nipa Palm grove. While pursuing them, 6,8250 WY brand pink amphetamine tablets in 7 packets packed with yellow tape on board the boat abandoned near the bank, costing Ks 1365 lakh of street value, it is learnt.—*Myanmar News Agency* 

# Myanmar traditional boxer killed in car accident

A 19-YEAR-old Myanmar traditional boxer was killed in a car accident on Wednesday in Mandalay, it is learnt.

"A motorbike collided with a vehicle. The accident occurred at 84th street traffic lights. He is a member of Swam Kay Kay United boxing club. He is a very promising boxing player. I really feel sad for him," said U Dattha, secretary of Mandalay Region Boxing Sub-Committee.

According to the investigation, the motorbike driven by Min Naing Tun crashed with a car around 6 pm at the corner of 41st street x 84th street, Mandalay citey. The police are still investigating the case.—Aung Thant Khine



Min Naing Tun. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

# Six injured in a car accident on Yangon- Mandalay highway

A VEHICLE en route to Yangon from Mandalay turned over between mileposts 205/6 and 205/7, on Yangon-Mandalay highway on yesterday, leaving six injured.

According to the investigation, a vehcle driven by Than Zaw Oo with the passengers on board capsized when the driver lost control. Six people were injured in the accident. The Red Cross Brigade members arrived at the scene and took the victims to the 1000-bed general hospital in Nay Pyi Taw.—*Than Oo (Lay Myethnar)* 

# Business

# Truck drivers continue to send crabs to Muse despite attacks

#### **Aung Thant Khaing**

TRUCK DRIVERS continue to send the crabs to 105-mile trade camp in Muse from Mandalay in spite of the fact that a combined force of ethnic armed groups launched attacks near Muse border town, killing innocent civilians including a driver, say local traders.

U Ya Zar Tun, manager of Shwe Myanmar Sales Center said the exporters are facing difficulties to hire drivers to send

the crabs in time to the buyers although the authorities reopened the Muse road on 23 November.

Since the next day after the attacks, border authorities granted trucks loaded with crabs before starting to go rotten, said U Ya Zar Tun, pointing out the importance of time to send the live crabs to Chinese market.

U Min Min from Htin Kyaw Sales Center said crab dealers faces losses because of the recent attacks that force crabs to go rotten.

The long delay on Muse



Crabs being picked to transport to Muse. Photo: Aung Thant Khaing

road killed 30 per cent of total crabs being sent from Mandalay to Muse. A truck is normally loaded with over 100 baskets of crabs weighing 2,600 kilos.

Different kinds of marketable crabs have been sent to Mandalay from Sittway, Taungup and Pathein coastal towns.

this Because of the

month's attacks, the export volume of crabs has decreased by 25 per cent, according to the local exporters. —Aung Thant Khaing

### Export value of jade declines by USD 167 million this year

jade decreased by USD 167 million compared to the same period last year, according to the figures released by the Commerce Ministry.

Between April and mid-November this year, export earnings from Myanmar's jade reached over US\$370 million. The country received US\$ 544.157 million from the export of jade to foreign buyers for the same period last year.

Myanmar yearly exports over US\$ 1billion worth precious green stones uncovered from jade-producing Kachin State where a giant jade stone weigh-

THIS YEAR's export value of ing over 170 tonnes was found last month.

> Myanmar's jade mostly goes to China, the largest neighbouring country, followed by India.

> According to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, there are over 950 jade blocks in Lonekhin, Hpakant and other sites whose licenses will expire in November.

> The export value of jade and other mineral resources of Myanmar dropped by over US\$ 200 million in the first six months of 2016-2017 financial year, according to the Ministry of Commerce.—Khine Khant

# Mon State Chamber of Commerce and Industry to form anew

LED by Mon State government, Mon State Chamber of Commerce and Industry will be formed anew, said U Min Htin Aung Han, Minister for Electric Power, Energy and Industry.

With the request of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the state authorities have decided to reorganize the MSCCI, he explained.

According to the orgnaisation policy, the MSCCI will be

formed every three year. It is difficult to establish the team again after over four years because of disputes among members, said U Tin Myint Oo, chairman of the Mon State Rice Merchants Association.

He added that members of the MSCCI dislike the current executive body of the team that forces to decrease its participation rate in the UMFCCI's activities.

Another point is that township representatives are not in-

cluded in the existing state-level MSCCI, local merchants say.

The state authorities recently distributed applications to the Department of Consumer Affairs at each township to promote the involvement of township representatives, said U Min Htin Aung Han.

As of on 24 November, the MSCCI has over 400 registered members. The state-level economic organisation was established over the past 17 years. -Myitmakha News Agency

# **AYA Electronics Lifestyle** Fair 2016 on 26-27 November

ORGANISED by the AYA Bank, cased at the fair with special disthe two-day AYA Electronics Lifestyle Fair will take place in Mandalay Region on a grand scale.

The event is scheduled to be held on the fifth floor of Mandalay's Diamond Plaza starting on 26 November, planning to feature a wide range of electronic items produced by popular electronic companies.

Consumer electronic devices, mobile handsets and the AYA bank's services will be show-

count programme that provide up to 15 % discount to buyers who purchase any electronic products from partner shops of the bank with the use of AYA Credit Card including MPU, JCB and Union-Pay Brand cards.

Prof Dr Aung Tun Thet, a well-known Myanmar economist, will share his knowledge at MICT Park in Mandalay on the opening day of the event. The title of his presentation is "Towards a cashless economy".-GNLM

# Winter clothes from Mandalay sell well in Haka Township

ning of the cold season, according to dealers.

Those China-made warm coats for every age have been exported to Haka market through Monywa-Kalay Road from Mandalay.

Located in Northeast of Chin State, the town of Haka is more than 1.800 meters (6.000 feet) tall above the sea level.

The weather in the city is excruciatingly cold in winter

ital of Chin State, at the begin- Celsius. January is the coldest month of the year.

> People in Hakha need warm clothes every season. In winter, residents usually wear two or more coats to go around the town, U Tun Lin Oo from Mandalay, who visits Haka to sell warm coats.

> "The sale of winter clothes increased to 20 from 10 coats per week," said the seller, and "among different kinds of warm coats, people

CHINESE winter clothes have months. Sometimes, the temper- prefer leather jackets, bomber been sold well in Haka, the cap- ature drops to minus two degree jackets and fur coats than cotton ones."

A resident expressed his view that town dwellers need very warm clothes to protect against low temperatures this winter as the weather bureau has issued warning as regards the impending La Nina.

Starting from mid-December, the temperature of the city falls below zero, according to the Department of Metrology and Hydrology.-Myitmakha News Agency

## GLOBALNEW LIGHTOF MYANMAR\_

# Death toll in China power plant accident climbs to 74

BEIJING — Police took 13 people into custody as the death toll in the collapse of a platform under construction at a power plant in eastern China rose to 74, with two others injured, state media said on Friday.

Deadly accidents are relatively common at industrial sites in China, where anger over lax standards is growing. Three decades of swift economic growth have been marred by incidents ranging from mining disasters to factory fires.

State news agency Xinhua said 68 of the 74 dead have been identified so far, with victims ranging in age from 23 to 53.

The accident happened on Thursday morning in Fengcheng, in Jiangxi province, during work on a cooling tower for the coal-fired power plant.

The official China Daily newspaper said the accident happened when a tower crane collapsed, triggering the collapse of the entire construction platform as the night shift was being relieved by the morning shift.

'We will conduct a serious investigation into the cause of the accident and

Mark Angeles

Editor

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Ei Myat Mon

Circulation



Rescue workers search at the site where a power plant's cooling tower under construction collapsed in Fengcheng, Jiangxi province, China, on 24 November 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

hold those who are responsible accountable," Jiangxi vice governor Li Yihuang was quoted as saying.

The company in charge of the plant, Jiangxi Ganneng Co, said in a stock exchange filing on Thursday it was cooperating with authorities.

The China Daily cited a company statement from September as saying it had started a 100-day campaign to speed up construction of the plant and take advantage of days with "fine weather".

Yang Huanning, head of the State Administration of Work Safety, had already arrived on the scene to oversee an investigation into what happened and to collect evidence, the People's Daily said.

His administration held an emergency meeting with departments all over China to learn the lessons of the accident to root out "hidden dangers" and ensure people's safety, the newspaper said.

The official Xinhua news agency reported that police had taken 13 people into custody, but did not give further details.

China has vowed to improve its poor safety record.

President Xi Jinping has said authorities would learn the lessons paid for with blood after chemical blasts in the port city of Tianjin killed more than 170 people last year.

Shortly after those explosions, Yang Dongliang was removed from his post as director of the State Administration of Work Safety and later charged with corruption. He admitted during his trial on Thursday taking bribes and gifts worth 28.5 million yuan (\$4.1 million). He will be sentenced at a later date. The two Yangs are not related.-Reuters

Japan's MHI US Army vehicle suspension may mark milestone for defence exports

TOKYO — Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) (7011.T) has designed a new suspension for the US Army's Bradley Fighting Vehicle, said two sources with direct knowledge of the matter, potentially the first Japanese defence hardware built for export in decades.

The design is for an upgrade of the mainstay infantry carrier proposed by Britain's BAE Systems (BAES.L). If adopted, it would be the first Japanese component designed specifically for a foreign military to be exported in seven decades.

MHI and other Japanese defence companies are seeking overseas sales after Prime Minister Shinzo Abe lifted a ban on arms exports two-and-ahalf years ago. However, no significant export deals have been secured yet.

"It could be a pretty good deal for Mitsubishi Heavy," said one of the sources who know about the partnership with BAE, asking not to be identified

because he is not authorized to talk to the media.

The US Army currently has around 6,000 Bradley Fighting Vehicles, and has asked BAE and rival General Dynamics Corp (GD.N) to submit proposals for new or upgraded vehicles to improve mobility, fire power and survivability.

The sources did not say how much the Japanese suspension will cost. Twelve of the suspension components would be needed for the twelve road or "bogie" wheels per vehicle to cushion its tracks.

BAE displayed a prototype upgraded Bradley for the first time at the Association of the United States Army exposition in Washington in October, where it also displayed a mock up of MHI's suspension.

"It was simply displayed alongside the vehicle and at this time remains an early prototype, not a part of the vehicle," said a spokesman for BAE Systems.-Reuters

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South Korean health officials disinfect a vehicle to prevent spread of bird flu in Pocheon, South Korea, on 23 November

# South Korea issues temporary nationwide standstill order to contain bird flu

transport will take effect over the weekend in a bid to contain a wider spread of H5N6 bird flu, a severe strain of the disease.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs said in a statement that the movement control order will be put in place for 48 hours, effective from 1500

the number of cases of the highly pathogenic H5N6 strain rose to six on Friday since the first cases were reported a week ago. About 730,000 birds have been killed to prevent the spread of the disease as of Friday, according to the ministry - under 1 per cent of the country's poultry population of 84.7 million.

A new case was con-

the country, where 16,700 ducks had been culled as a precautionary measure, according to the statement.

Kim Yong-sang, a senior official at the ministry's animal health management division, said six cases were confirmed as of Friday with four other suspected cases still being tested.

"We believe infected migratory birds have spread the virus and each case oc-

the southwestern part of said at a briefing. "Currently we are looking into whether the virus also has been spread between farms."

Cases of human infections from the H5N6 virus have previously been reported elsewhere, including China and Hong Kong, with the virus killing at least 10 people in China since April 2014. No cases of human infection have been detected in South Korea.—Reuters

# **China considers granting Philippines access** to disputed shoal — adviser

BEIJING — China is considering a "wholesale" deal that will grant Philippine fishing vessels access to disputed Scarborough Shoal waters in the South China Sea, an influential Chinese academic and government adviser said on Friday, as relations between the two countries improve.

China has been thinking of means to grant Philippine fishing vessels access to the island's waters since President Rodrigo Duterte visited Beijing in October, said Wu Shicun, head of government-run National Institute for South China Sea Studies.

"A wholesale bilateral fishing industry deal is still being discussed, an agreement has not yet been reached," Wu said at a forum in Beijing. China's bitter squabble with the Philippines over the waters has subsided since Duterte's visit, which came shortly after a Netherlands-based arbitration court ruled in favour of the Philippines, undermining China's territorial claims.

Since 2012, China had used its coastguard to block the waters around the shoal from Filipinos, but Chinese vessels reportedly left the region after Duterte's visit, allowing fishermen to return.

Last week, Duterte made a unilateral declaration barring fish-



ermen from exploiting marine life at a tranquil lagoon that was central to years of bitter squabbling, a sharp reversal in the Philippines' previous policy.

At this time, the waters within the shoal are not accessible to either Chinese or Filipino fishermen, Wu said. Fishermen would be granted access to the shoal for humanitarian reasons if a typhoon hit the waters, he added.

Wu has been involved in diplomatic efforts to bring China and the Philippines closer together

since Duterte's election.

Zhu Feng, director of the South China Sea Centre at Nanjing University, said there had been a "fundamental change" since Duterte came into office. The "Scarborough Shoal push", if successful, would give hope that the disputes within the South China Sea may be diplomatically resolved, he added, speaking at the same forum.

China has sought to underscore its sovereignty over the shoal, and in public has been less specific about how arrangements allowing Philippine fishermen to operate there will work.

Asked about Wu's comments, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said that China would make "appropriate arrangements" to allow Filipino fishermen access to the waters, but did not give any further details.

China claims most of the energy-rich South China Sea. As well as the Philippines, neighbours Brunei, Malaysia, Taiwan and Viet Nam also have claims.-Reuters

### North Korea blasts Japan-South Korea military intelligencesharing pact

BEIJING - North Korea on Friday denounced a recent agreement between Japan and South Korea that will allow the sharing of military intelligence, calling it a "hostile act."

A Foreign Ministry spokesman released a statement threatening that the signing of the pact on Wednesday will prompt North Korea to redouble its efforts to strengthen military power centred on nuclear weapons.

The statement, carried by the state-run Korean Central News Agency, warned that the accord will lead to further destabilization on the Korean Peninsula and in its surrounding areas.

With the General Security of Military Information Agreement, Japan and South Korea are hoping to exchange with each other more sensitive information on North Korea, which has been trying to bolster its nuclear and missile capabilities at a fast pace, in defiance of international condemnation and sanctions.—Kvodo News

# South Korea political crisis hits Park rating, consumer confidence

SEOUL — South Korean President Park Geun-hye's approval rating fell to 4 per cent amid a deepening political crisis, marking an all-time low for any democratically elected leader in the country, according to an opinion poll released on Friday.

Fears of policy-making paralysis prompted by the political crisis also dealt a blow to consumer confidence, which fell to its lowest in more than seven years in November, South Korea's central bank said.

Park's presidency has been rocked by allegations that a close friend used her ties to the leader to meddle in state affairs and wield improper influence. Prosecutors investigating the case have indicted her friend, Choi Soonsil, and are seeking to question the president about her role in the scandal.

Park's approval rating slipped one percentage point after hovering at 5 per cent for three consecutive weeks, while her disapproval rating rose three percentage points to 93 per cent, according to a poll by Gallup Korea showed.

Gallup Korea, based in Seoul, is not affiliated with USbased Gallup, Inc.

Choi was indicted along

with a former presidential aide on Sunday on charges of colluding with Park to pressure companies to contribute funds to two foundations controlled by Choi.

South Korean investigators have since widened their anti-graft probe into Park's aides and businesses, raiding the offices of Samsung Group, South Korea's largest family-run conglomerate, and Lotte Group this week.

Mass protests against Park over the past four weekends have been the biggest public demonstrations seen in South Korea since the 1980s.

On Saturday, more than a million people are expected to gather again, including about a thousand farmers, raising concerns of a clash with police trying to prevent the crowd from marching on the presidential Blue House.

Park, whose five-year term ends in February 2018, has apologised twice over the affair but is resisting calls for her resignation. Even some members of her ruling Saenuri Party have said she should step down, but she would risk losing immunity against prosecution if she did.

Meantime, opposition parties are canvassing for support to impeach her. While the oppo-



South Korean President Park Geun-hye delivers her speech during a plenary session at the National Assembly in Seoul, South Korea, on 16 February 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

sition parties control parliament, Hansung University economics they would have to garner votes from Park's own party to secure policymaking seems to be in the two-thirds majority needed to pass a motion to impeach her.

Some media have reported that could well happen.

The political turmoil has exacerbated fraying business confidence in Asia's fourth largest economy, which is already suffering from slowing growth and rising household debt.

"This is a serious problem because companies are delaying all their business decisions due to political uncertainties,"

Professor Kim Sang-jo said. "All pause."

South Korea's export-driven firms are also worried by the potential impact of US President-elect Donald Trump's protectionist stance on trade issues.

The Bank of Korea is due to publish its next business confidence survey next week, but a consumer confidence survey released on Friday showed South Koreans were at their most gloomiest in 7 1/2 years. -Reuters

### **Over half** Cambodia's adults use financial services

PHNOM PENH — About 54 per cent of Cambodia's adults have access to formal financial services, including money deposit, borrowing and transfer, Neav Chanthana, deputy governor of the National Bank of Cambodia (NBC), or the central bank, said here on Friday.

The Southeast Asian country has a total population of approximately 15 million, of which nearly 10 million are adults.

"Currently, some 54 per cent of the adults have been using formal financial services, remarkably up from roughly 17 per cent in a decade ago," she said during a macroeconomic conference, attended by some 300 economists, researchers, and company representatives.

The deputy governor said that the growth clearly reflected the rapid development of banking and financial sector in the kingdom. Cambodia has 36 commercial banks, 14 specialized banks, 8 representative offices of foreign banks, 57 microfinance institutions, and 160 rural credit operators, according to a NBC report.-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.

# **Responsibilities and the society**

**Myint Win Thein** 

Human society is made up of its basic units known as families. A family will be peaceful and prosperous only when each member of the family performs their responsibilities. If someone fails to carry out his or her family duties, other members of the family will have to bear the brunt of the failure.

As the society is made up

of families, a burden on a family due to only one member of it has an impact on the society as a whole. It will affect the family life first, and then the community and the country and the society. Responsibility means duties that must be performed by someone, and everyone has responsibilities to perform for their families, communities, organizations, towns, countries and

the society.

Therefore, it is important that each and every one executes their responsibilities for their families as well as for their communities, towns, countries and the society. Those who shun their responsibilities even at the family-level will not be able to fulfill his or her obligations to the society. That is why politicians, although they are serious about their responsibilities to the people and the country promise to take duty for all while vying for votes but have to remind the supporters after victory of their rightful share of responsibilities for a better family, a better community, a better country and a better world. Everyone should satisfy their responsibilities and should not place a burden on others.

# **Balance of Power and Peaceful Co-existence**

#### U KHIN MAUNG (A retired diplomat)

#### Introduction

To be frank and honest, I am not a linguist nor am I a language expert. I consider myself, in spite of my old age, still a student. A student, in the sense that I am "studying" language, law, diplomacy etc. And as far as I know, in some languages, for example, the English Language and our mother-tongue (Myanmar Language) a single word may take different meanings according to the context and in its way of usage. We will be able to guess the meaning of the word from the context and in its usage and collocation. For example, the phrase- "balance of power" takes different meaning from "abuse of power", "power crazy" "power struggle, "power sharing" "power of light, "knowledge power", etc.

In one usage of the word "power", we have famous quotations. They read: "Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely". "The greater the power, the more dangerous the abuse," In these quotations "power" means the right or authority of a person or a group to do something. For example, the President has the veto over all legislations. The 5 permanent UN security council members have veto powers. But in the usages of nuclear power and solar power, "power" means energy. Now, "balance of power". What does the phrase mean? **Balance of power** 

Balance of power" is a situation in which political or military strength is divided between two countries or two groups of countries. Another political principle which is worth mentioning in this article is "checks and balances".

This principle is practised in a country's domestic affairs. In the United States of America, this principle means the principle of government by which the President, the Congress, the Supreme court, each have some control over the others. It is the principle of the United States constitution that the political power of the government is divided between the President, the Congress and the Supreme Court, Only with an academic interest, may I present to you that in 1947 constitution, we had the principle of checks and balances under which the political power of the government was divided, between the Prime Minister, head of the government, the Parliament, and the Judiciary. As far as I could recall, under that 1947 Constitution, the Supreme Court of the Judiciary was the guardian or the watch-dog of the constitution. In those days, in some parliamentary sessions, the then honourable Prime Minister U Nu used to mention his request to the Supreme Court to kindly point out and advise if some of the government actions were not in accord with the provisions of the constitution. Under the 1947 Constitution there were such writs or legal documents which the supreme Court was entrusted with the power to issue to ensure the rule of law prevailed and the provisions and the principles of the constitution were well respected and strictly obeyed by executive organ and by the subordinate courts. Those writs were certiorari,

Well, now, please allow me to explain what those writs or legal documents mean. "Certiorari', it is an extra ordinary writ issued by the appellate court/ the High Court or the Supreme Court at their discretions, directing a lower court to deliver the record in the case

habeous corpus and mandamus.

for review. "Habeas Corpus': it is a writ employed to bring a person before a court most frequently to ensure that the party's imprisonment or detention is not illegal" "Mandamus"3 it is a writ issued by a superior court to compel a lower court or a government officer to perform mandatory or purely ministerial duties correctly."

I am afraid, I may have consumed quite some of your precious times. So, I would like to present to you the principle and practice of balance of power in today's world of ours. The world is now called a globalized world, in which all countries, big or small, developed or developing are interdependent, But on the other hand, some big powers are getting involved in power struggle, power rivalry with each other. Thus, in this highly competitive world of ours, there are instances of balance of power attempts and exercises, with threat or use of force, nuclear deterrents and shifting alliances, etc.

Well, first and foremost, let's take a look at the Philippines, a member-country of Asean. The Philippines and the United States have had the security alliance since 1954. But, since when MR Rodrigo IDuterte was elected as the Philippine President, there came out media reports that the Philippines was taking measures to shift alliances with China and Russia. The Philippine President even declared that this year 2016 would be the last joint military exercises between his country and the United States in the South China Sea, mostly claimed by a rising China. And I have read a news item which mentioned that Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe had agreed to provide planes, patrol ships to the Philippines.

In the economic sector too, we have read those news items about 'balance of power' exercises. As

known to you all, China is now the second biggest world's economy, overtaking Japan. To achieve further economic development, China has also set up AIIB, Asia Infrastructure and Investment Bank with billions of dollar capital. China has wooed developing countries to put in shares and become share holders of AIIB. The United States of America has also initiated T.P.P: Trans-Pacific Partnership (Trade Pact). According to the Strait Times news report, the T.P.P is a core pillar of America's rebalance in the Asia Pacific. In one of the breaking news items. Channel News Asia has reported that U.S has warned that China will take export market if there is no T.P.P. As regards TPP, Singapore Institute of International Affairs head, MR. Simon Tay has said "the TPP is every bit as significant as military engagement and more enduring. MR Tay added that TPP causes the Chinese more concern than anything else.

In essence, in "the balance of power" exercises such instances of power rivalry, power struggle, power deterrents, mistrusts, threat or use of force are highly involved. However, in the principles of peaceful co-existence, none of these negative elements are involved. Mutual trusts, mutual benefits, and peaceful co-existence, mutual respect for each other's national or vital interests are well propounded and practiced.

The Union of Myanmar really values and strictly adheres to the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence. These five Principles were expounded by Myanmar, together with her two big neighbours, India and the People's Republic of China, in 1954. The principles are. "Mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty, Non-aggression, Non-interference in each other's internal affairs, Equality and mutual benefit, Peaceful co-existence and Peaceful settlement of disputes.

As regards these five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence, may I present to you, just for the record and also with deep respects that these principles were jointly propounded by the first Prime Ministers of Burma (Myanmar) China and India, namely, U Nu, MR.Chao Enlai and Mr.Nehru. And these principles form one of the main pillars of Myanmar's foreign policy. It is a source of satisfaction that these principles have also become universally accepted and that they were incorporated into the Ten Principles, laid down at the 1955 Bandung Conference of Afro-Asian states, which in turn led to the formation of the Non-Aligned Movement.

In my opinion, these five principles of peaceful co-existence are well in accord with our age-old custom and tradition which can be translated in English as, "Let amity be eternal and enmity be ephemeral". Well, my dear reader, what do you say, sir? Does the principle, "balance of power" involve strategies, tactics, or does it involve positive or negative elements, or do the principles and practices of "peaceful co-existence involve diplomacy and positive elements, but not any iota of negative elements? Thank you, sir-

Reference (1) Diplomatic Handbook, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Myanmar, Yangon.

(2) Black's Law Dictionary, Bryan A. Garmer.

(3) The Straits Times(4) A book of essential quo-

tations

(5) C.N.A Satellite news

(6) ဒေါက်တာဘဟန်၊ အင်္ဂလိပ်-မြန်မာ အဘိဓာန်

# **Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services receives Chinese delegation**

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received a Chinese delegation led by Vice Foreign Minister Mr Liu Zhenmin and General Xu Fenlin, Deputy Chief of Join Staff Department under China's Central Military Commission (CMC) of the Chinese Communist Party in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, Mr Liu Zhenmin expressed China's respect for Myanmar's sovereignty and its support to peace and stability and national reconciliation efforts in Myanmar.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing clarified the backgrounds of KIA, TNLA and MNDAA armed groups which are fighting the government troops in northern Shan State and their violent attacks, and area clearance operations by the government troops there.- Myanmar News Agency



Senior General receives chinese vice foreign minister. PHOTO: COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S OFFICE

## Training aims to turn out skilled welders: Education Ministry

WITH the aim of turning out qualified welders in the country, the Ministry of Education has started a training programme as a pilot project in Yangon, with plans to expand the new programme plan across the nation.

Supported by Total Myanmar Yadana project, the Yadana Welding Training School was officially opened in Aungsan Ward, Insein Township, on 23 Wednesday by the ministry with its partners so as to share welding techniques free of charge.

Trainees will receive certificates which will help them land jobs in local factories as skilled welders.

Priority will be given to 15 people who have no job at the present time. People above 18 years of age who passed the Grade 10 examination under the government education system are eligible to apply, said U Win Maw Tun, deputy education minister.

Mr Xavier Preel, the general manager of Total E & P Myanmar, said the support programme aims to develop the country's human resources in the welding sector, with plans to provide further assistance for livelihood programmes.

The supporter spent around US\$400,000 on the new programme, sources said.

Both men and women in good health are urged to apply for the course at the training school, said U Nay Htet Kyaw, one of trainers at the school.

Every selected person will attend the 10-month course to learn basic and advanced welding techniques through theoretical and practical lessons.—Myitmakha News Agency

# Peace forum held in Yangon



PEACE MAKERS PARTICIPATE IN PEACE FORUM IN YANGON: PO HTAUNG

Dr Tin Myo Win, chairman of peace commission, urged all participants of a public peace forum yesterday to help build trust among all stakeholders.

Yangon, he said that all participants are capable of restoring peace as belief is based on sympathy, loving-kindness and honesty.

Representatives of the government, ethnic armed groups, displaced persons including the

civil society organizations, political parties and international experts attended the forum held at the Inya Lake Hotel.

Expectations for peace, the At the peace forum held in peace process, and participation of women in the process, inclusiveness of ethnic armed groups and benefits of peace were discussed at the forum.

He also pointed out that as they were discussing, internally

elderly were fleeing their homes for their lives. Then, he asked if any stakeholder had sympathy for internally displaced persons or family members of Myanmar and if any stakeholder could subdue up their individual feeling in the interest of the country.

Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo (Retd) pointed out the importance of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement at the forum, saying that the truce was not the policy of the government but the outcome of negotiations between both sides. He also expressed his belief that peace would be achieved soon.

Daw May Sabai Phyu of the Gender Equality Network, U Khun Okkar of PaO National Liberation League and Dr Arthur DeFehr of DeFehr Foundation discussed their opinions. In the evening session, peace experts, veteran peace-makers and scholars from the international community took part in the discussions. -Ye Kaoung Nyunt

# **Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Ambassador of India and FSMTC Director**

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF of bility, peace and development of ity. We are making our utmost Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Indian Ambassador to Myanmar H.E. Mr Vikram Misri and Director Alexander Fomin of the Federal Service for Military-Technical Cooperation (FSMTC) yesterday at the Bayintnaung Guest House in Nay Pyi Taw separately.

At the meeting with Ambassador of India H.E. Mr. Vikram Misri, the two representatives discussed matters relating to stathe border areas between the two countries, exchange of information between the armed forces of the two countries, engagement of the two armies and promotion of cooperation between the two armed forces and promotion of co-operation in related sectors inclusive of training courses.

"The incidents taking place in Northeastern Shan State, Rakhin State and Kachin State are challenging the political stabileffort to end the armed conflicts peacefully and through political means.", said Commander-in Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

At the meeting with Director Alexander Fomin of FSMTC, they discussed matters relating to military technology co-operation being implemented by the two armed forces and enhancing the training courses.-Myanmar News Agency

### **Defence Services C-in-C Senior General Min Aung** Hlaing meets KNU Chairman Saw Mutu Say Poe

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives KNU Chairman Saw Mutu Say Poe and his delegation at the Bayintnaung Guest House in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday afternoon.

Also present at the meeting were: Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Armv) Vice Senior General Soe Win, Chief of General Staff (Army, Nay and Air) General Mya Tun Oo and senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), KNU Chairman Saw Mutu Say Poe, KNU general secretary Pado Saw Kwal Htoo Win and high-ranking officials from KNU.

At the meeting, both parties discussed the measures to convene the Union Peace Conference — 21st Century Panglong, matters to be discussed at the political dialogues and arrangement for deployment of troops from both sides.-Myanmar News Agency

### **Owners of Aung Soe Moe Kyaw** 2 ferry to face new count

A NEW count will be filed against Seik village, Kani township. the two owners of Aung Soe Moe Kyaw (2) ferry which capsized in Kani townsip, Sagaing region on 15 October, it is learnt from Kani Myoma police station.

The police filed a new count against the ferry owners on Wednesday because the police during interrogation found that the former do not have a transportation license. The two owners of Aung Soe Moe Kyaw (2) ferry are Ko Htay Zaw alias Zaw Zaw, 40, and Ko Myint Kyaw, 27, from Ohn Pin

"We don't change the section. We just filed a new charge under the Maritime law, said Police Captain from Kani Myoma police station

The ferry's owners have already been charged with sections 280 and 304(A) of the penal code by the police in Kani township. The police will file a new charge against them under section 23(A) of the Myanmar Coastal and Maritime transportation Law.-Mvitmakha News Agency



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and KNU Chairman posing for a documentary photo after the meeting. PHOTO: COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S OFFICE



A Russian vessel is seen off the coast of the Southern Kurile Island of Shikotan in 2015. PHOTO : REUTERS

# Japan PM says Russian missile deployment on disputed isles 'regrettable'

TOKYO — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said on Friday Russia's deployment of missile systems on islands in the western Pacific isles that are also claimed by Tokyo was "regrettable".

His comments came less than a month before Russian President Vladimir Putin is to visit Japan for talks aimed at progress on the decades-old territorial row. Moscow has already said it hoped the deployment would not damage efforts to settle the dispute.

Russian media reported on Tuesday that Bastion and Bal anti-ship missile systems were now in operation on the islands, part of an archipelago in the Pacific Ocean over which Russia and Japan have staked rival claims for 70 years.

The feud over the islands, called the southern Kuriles in Russia and the Northern Territories in Japan, has kept Tokyo and Moscow from signing a peace treaty to formally end World War II.

"The four islands are our country's inherent territory. We have conveyed through diplomatic routes that this ... is not compatible with our country's position and is regrettable," Abe told parliament's upper house. Delicate diplomacy is underway to prepare for the meeting between the Russian and Japanese leaders in Japan on 15-16 December. Both sides have said they hoped progress could be made towards settling the dispute.

Abe, who sees improved ties with Moscow as a counter-balance to a rising China, hopes the lure of economic cooperation will help ease a breakthrough when he meets Putin, given the hit to Russia's economy from sluggish oil prices and Western sanctions imposed after its annexation of Crimea.—*Reuters* 

## NEWS IN BRIEF

# Fire breaks out in Mumbai suburb, no reports of casualties so far

MUMBAI — A massive fire broke out in a furniture market in Mumbai's western suburb on Friday afternoon, but there has been no reports of casualties so far, the fire department said.

Sixteen fire engines and 12 water tankers were rushed to the spot, a Mumbai Fire Brigade Control Room official said. There was no clarity on how long it would take douse the fire,

The furniture market is in the Gulshan Nagar area of Oshiwara, a suburb in Western Mumbai.—*Reuters* 

# Djuric: Community of Serb Municipalities must be formed

BELGRADE — The director of the Office for Kosovo-Metohija, Marko Djuric, met with Portuguese Ambassador to Serbia Augusto Peixoto to brief him on the current state of the Belgrade-Pristina dialogue, stressing the importance of a prompt formation of the Community of Serb Municipalities for the normalisation of relations.

The Community must be formed pursuant to the agreements reached in Brussels and any potential attempt of avoiding these obligations by Pristina would be an attack on the negotiation process and the authority of the EU as a facilitator, said Djuric.

The community will only serve to protect the Serbs and will in no way violate the rights of other nations in Kosovo-Metohija, he said. Djuric expressed the expectation that Portugal will use its influence in the UN and the EU to contribute to the protection of the rights of Kosovo-Metohija Serbs. — *Tanjug* 

# Two dead in gas blast at Greek refugee camp causing protest

ATHENS — Two refugees died and another two were seriously injured during a fire which broke out following a gas blast at Moria camp on Lesvos island, Greek police said on Friday.

Turmoil followed overnight with dozens of refugees setting tents on fire and scuffling with police in protest of living conditions.

A 60-year-old grandmother and her six-year-old grandson were the victims, according to local police sources.

Her 25-year-old daughter in law and her second grandchild suffered extensive burns and are hospitalized, while six other refugees have been lightly injured, according to the same sources.

According to police investigation, the fire started from a gas canister which exploded when the grandmother tried to cook. —*Xinhua* 

# Thai assembly to hold urgent meeting next week

BANGKOK — The head of Thailand's National Legislative Assembly (NLA) Friday said the NLA has called a special meeting on next Tuesday morning to consider an urgent motion from the government.

NLA deputy chairman Peerasak Porjit was quoted by Thai media that there are not details of important law to be proposed by the government, what the special meeting will handle is still unclear.

The meeting, which will be broadcast live, is expected to be attended by all members of the NLA, according to the NLA chief Pronpetch Witchicholchai who has instructed the lawmakers not to leave the country next week.—*Xinhua* 

#### Flu season begins nationwide in Japan

TOKYO — The influenza season has arrived nationwide in Japan, more than a month earlier than last winter, with the type A Hong Kong strain the most reported variety so far, the health ministry said on Friday.

The Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare is calling on the public to wash their hands after going outside and wear masks to prevent the virus from spreading. According to the ministry, about 5,000 designated clinics nationwide reported an average of 1.38 cases in the week between 14 and 20 November. The ministry judges the flu season has commenced when the average number of cases per clinic exceeds 1. The flu season last winter began in January. An estimated 70,000 people with flu visited medical institutions in the week, the ministry said. —*Kyodo News* 



HOKSHE (Nepal) — Farmer Ganesh Prasad Gautam beamed as the young woman behind the desk littered with files called his name out at the rundown government office in the mountains of central Nepal.

After 18 months of living in a shack made of corrugated iron, tarpaulin and bamboo amid the ruins of his earthquake-hit house, he is finally receiving long-promised government funds to start rebuilding his home.

The 54-year-old farmer was

one of eight million people affected in April last year when a 7.8-magnitude quake struck the Himalayan nation - leaving 9,000 dead and destroying one million homes as well as schools, businesses roads, and bridges.

"The money is late and it's not enough to build what I had before, but at least the government has given it," Gautam said to nods from fellow villagers gathered at the office in Hokshe village, 64 km (40 miles) east of Kathmandu. "We've already endured one winter and two monsoons like this — out in the open with no protection from the rain and cold."

But Gautam is one of the lucky ones.

Constant feuding between a myriad of political parties has fuelled political turmoil and weak governance in Nepal, delaying efforts to rebuild the country of 28 million people despite an outpouring of aid, analysts said.

Ongoing political instability in a country which has seen 24 governments in 26 years has stymied reconstruction efforts.

"You are looking at a country that has had three governments since the earthquake - all coalitions and none with a solid majority," said Renaud Meyer, Country Director for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Nepal.

"There is no doubt the political landscape is the biggest barrier for the recovery and reconstruction of Nepal to take place. It requires consistency, it requires determination and the less open it is to spoilers, the better." —*Reuters* 



A general view of displacement camps for earthquake victims at Chuchepati in Kathmandu, Nepal, on 19 September 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

### GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR\_\_\_\_\_

# Scientists say gut microbes may play role in yo-yo dieting, obesity

LONDON — Scientists studying yo-yo dieting in mice say the tendency for people to regain excess weight rapidly after successfully slimming may well be due to their microbiome - the trillions of microorganisms in the gut.

The researchers found that changes in the gut microbiome that occur when an obese mouse loses weight can persist for many months, and that this contributes to accelerated weight regain later if the diet lapses.

If, as the researchers believe, a similar thing happens in obese people, they said, it could help explain why so many of them fail to keep their lost weight off, and often put on more than they lost in the first place.

In a telephone briefing about their work, professors Eran Segal and Eran Elinav of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel, said that while there has been good progress in studying obesity and its causes, relapsing obesity is poorly understood.

"People go on diets over and over again — and keep failing," Segal said. "It's a very common problem. Up



A man crosses a main road as pedestrians carrying food walk along the footpath in central Sydney, Australia, in 2015. PHOTO: REUTEERS

Flight no

FD-244

Dep Arv 10:50 12:15

Daily

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to 50 per cent of obese people suffer this relapsing pattern." To try to find out why, Segal and Elinav experimented with mice, giving them cycles of high fat diets interspersed with periods of lower-fat normal diet.

They found that the gut microbiomes of the mice who lost weight were altered, and that these changes remained in place for many months and contributed to rapid and excessive weight gain if the mice were given high-fat diets again. To test whether it was due to the microbiome, the research-

MDL TO KMG

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ers transferred the altered microbiomes into mice that had not previously been exposed to yo-yo diets - and here too they found unusually rapid and excessive weight gain when the mice were given high-fat foods. "The microbiome by itself is not sufficient to produce this (rapid weight again) effect, but it's the diet plus the microbiome," Segal explained.

The scientists were not able to say exactly what the mechanism is or how exactly the microbiome's persistent post-diet state increases weight gain.-Reuters

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#### INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS SCHEDULE ... F YANGON TO BANGKOK BANGKOK TO YANGON YGN TO ICN Dep Day Dep Day Flight no Flight no. Dep Arv Days 23:30 7:50 K 09:50 11:4 8:50 Daily KE-472 Daily TG-2302 15:00 16:55 Daily TG-2301 13:15 14:10 Daily YGN TO KUL 19:45 21:40 Daily TG-305 17:50 18:45 Daily Flight no. Dep Days Ar∖ 1-522 6:15 8:30 PG-701 8:50 9:40 Daily Daily 12.45 A 8.30 Da 13:45 14:35

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PG-708	15:20	17:15	Daily
PG-708	18:20	20:15	3
PG-704	20:00	21:55	Daily
8M-335	7:40	9:25	Daily
8M-331	16:30	18:15	Daily
UB-017	15:10	19:20	1,3,5
UB-017	17:50	19:20	2,4,6,7
UB-019	8:05	9:35	7
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-258	20:05	21:55	Daily	FD-2
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-4235	12:00	13:45	Daily	DD-4
-4239	21:00	22:45	Daily	DD-4
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515	14:20	18:50	1,5	MI-52
519	17:35	22:10	Daily	MI-51
522	15:45	20:15	4,6	MI-5
533	13:10	20:15	2	MI-53
584	19:15	23:50	2,5	3K-5
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**IGNAL FLIGHTS SCHEDULI** 

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# Central Americans surge north, hoping to reach US before Trump inauguration

TEGUCIGALPA/GUA-TEMALA CITY - Central American countries warned on Thursday that large numbers of migrants have fled their poor, violent homes since Donald Trump's surprise election win, hoping to reach the United States before he takes office next year.

Trump won the 8 November vote by taking a hard line on immigration, threatening to deport millions of people living illegally in the United States and to erect a wall along the Mexican border.

Trump's tough campaign rhetoric sent tremors through the slums of Central America and the closeknit migrant communities in US cities, with many choosing to fast-forward their plans and migrate north before Trump takes office on 20 January.

During fiscal year 2016, the United States detained nearly 410,000 people along the southwest border with Mexico, flocking north has surged,



Immigrants from Central America and Mexican citizens, who are fleeing from violence and poverty, queue to cross into the US to apply for asylum at the new border crossing of EI Chaparral in Tijuana, Mexico, on 24 November 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

up about a quarter from the previous year. The vast majority hail from Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.

Since Trump's victory, the number of people

Central American officials say, contributing to a growing logjam along the southern US border.

"We're worried because we're seeing a rise in the flow of migrants leaving the country, who have been urged to leave by coyotes telling them that they have to reach the United States before Trump takes office," Maria Andrea Matamoros, Honduras' deputy foreign minister, told Reuters, referring to people smugglers.

Carlos Raul Morales, Guatemala's foreign minister, told Reuters people were also leaving Guatemala en masse before Trump becomes president.

"The covotes are leaving people in debt, and taking their property as payment for the journey," he said in an interview.

Last week, US Customs and Border Protection opened a temporary holding facility for up to 500 people near the Texan border with Mexico, in what it said was a response to a marked uptick in illegal border crossings.

US Department of Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson said earlier this month immigration detention facilities were holding about 10,000 more individuals than usual, after a spike in October of migrants including unaccompanied children, families and asylum seekers.—Reuters

# South Africa's scandal-plagued Zuma to face ANC integrity panel

**JOHANNESBURG** South African President Jacob Zuma will be questioned next week by the African National Congress' (ANC) integrity commission following persistent allegations of corruption and poor election results, the party said on Friday.

Zuma's appearance before the panel could deepen divides within the ANC as it gears up for a national conference next year when Zuma, 74, is expected to stand down as party leader.

"He will be having a meeting with the IC," ANC Secretary General Gwede Mantashe confirmed to Reuters, referring to the integrity commission. Zuma's meeting with

the commission is expected to be held on 3 December behind closed doors. Members of the ANC have been removed from their posts as a result of the commission's recommendation.

The ANC formed the commission in 2013 to help protect its image and take "urgent action" to deal with members of the party who face allegations of improper conduct.

The Mail & Guardian newspaper reported on Friday that the commission, headed by anti-apartheid stalwart Andrew Mlangeni, would question Zuma over a slew of corruption scan-

dals and the party's worst local election results in August.

Mantashe did not say what would be discussed at the meeting.

Several senior members of the ANC have called for Zuma to resign in recent months after scandals rattled markets in Africa's most industrialized economy and cost the party votes. A constitutionaly-man-

dated anti-graft watchdog this month called for a judge to investigate allegations Zuma provided special favors for wealthy friends and allowed them to choose ministerial appointments. Zuma denies any wrongdoing.—Reuters

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from 25<sup>TH</sup> November, 2016 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar. Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise Ph. +95 67 - 411274 / 411206 Hurricane Otto hits Nicaragua, Costa Rica as quake shakes region

BLUEFIELDS (Nicaragua) — Hurricane Otto battered Nicaragua and Costa Rica with powerful winds and torrential rains on Friday, damaging homes, forcing thousands to evacuate and causing an undetermined number of deaths.

The hurricane, which weakened rapidly after hitting the southeastern coast of Nicaragua, became a tropical storm by early Friday, the US National Hurricane Centre said, as dangerous flooding continued in both countries.

In Costa Rica, President Luis Guillermo Solis said late Thursday there had been a number of deaths, but added it was too early to say how many people had died.

"I regret to inform you ... that there are people dead and missing," Solis told a news conference.

Otto, the seventh Atlantic hurricane of the season, landed north of the town of San Juan de Nicaragua as a Category 2 storm on the five-step Saffir-Simpson scale of intensity, the Miami-based hurricane center said.

Thousands of people were evacuated from its path.

It weakened to a tropical storm, with top sustained winds of 70 mph (113 kph), about 55 miles (89 km) northwest of Liberia, Costa Rica.

Soon after the storm landed, a 7.0 magnitude quake struck 93 miles (149 km) southwest of Puerto Triunfo, El Salvador, at a depth of 6.4 miles (10.3 km), the US Geological Survey said.

There were no reports of major damage from the quake in El Salvador, but local emergency services ordered the coastal population to withdraw up to 0.6 mile (1 km) from the shore.

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega declared a state of emergency because of the storm and the quake, his spokeswoman and wife Rosario Murillo said.

Nicaraguan civil protection officials said the hurricane, which was moving west at 13 mph (21 kph), damaged homes and telephone lines but had not reported any victims as of early Friday morning. -Reuters

#### **CLAIMS DAY NOTICE** MV AOUAMARINE VOY. NO (1612)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV AQUAMA-RINE VOY. NO (1612) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.11.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of AIPT-2 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT **MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY** AGENT FOR: M/S RK SHIPPING & TRADING PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301928

#### **CLAIMS DAY NOTICE** MV TIAN SHAN VOY. NO ( - )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TIAN SHAN VOY. NO ( - ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.11.2016 and cargo will into the premises of AIPT-3 where it will signee's risk and expenses and subject t and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed da to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Cla declared as the third day after final discl from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be the Claims Day.

SHIPPING AGENCY DE MYANMA PORT A AGENT FOR: M/S HDNSSY SHIPPING PTE LTD.

Phone No: 2301928

# WTO chief says no indication that Trump wants to take US out of group

GENEVA - World Trade he said. Organisation chief Roberto Azevedo said on Thursday he had no indication that US President-elect Donald Trump wanted to withdraw the United States from the global trading body.

"I think that at this point in time what we have to do is be ready for a conversation," Azevedo told reporters, adding that he was convinced the United States could be a very important partner in reviving global trade growth.

Trump suggested during his election campaign that he could pull the United States out of the WTO if its rules stopped him renegotiating US terms of trade to his satisfaction.

"I haven't had any indication from anybody that that would be the case," said Azevedo, who added that he had not yet talked to Trump but was ready to do so.

If the United States were to pull out of regional trade deals, the WTO would continue doing what it does,

Nor would free trade necessarily be damaged if the United States withdrew from existing or new regional trade deals such as the North American Free Trade Agreement or the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), Azevedo said, since much depended on what might be put in their place, and regional trade arrangements often failed or were renegotiated.

"Trade is not for amateurs. Trade is tough," he said. "So we should not prejudge and jump to conclusions whenever any initiative is launched."

Trump has said he plans to kill the TPP, an ambitious Asia-Pacific trade pact, on his first day in office, although he appears to be treading more softly in other policy areas after months of combative campaign rhetoric.

Azevedo said every country had concerns about particular aspects of trade policies and trade deals but



World Trade Organisation (WTO) Director-General Roberto Azevedo attends a news conference in Geneva, Switzerland, on 24 November 2016. Photo: Reuters

he would wait for Trump's it was wrong to blame it for team to announce its strategy before evaluating it.

"I haven't heard, at this point in time, anybody say trade is bad for the United States."

liberalisation Trade has long been a target of anti-globalization protests and is often blamed in the United States for jobs and investment moving to Mexico or China.

Azevedo said trade is beneficial overall, and although it can be disruptive,

widespread unemployment, with 8 out of 10 job losses in advanced economies due to domestic-led drives for innovation, automation and productivity.

"If you don't have the right diagnosis you don't have the right medicine. If the medicine is simply protectionism the outcome will be that you will harm the patient," he said, adding that protectionism would hit poorer sections of the population hardest.—Reuters

# **New Zealand looks** offshore for workers to rebuild after quake

WELLINGTON — New Zealand is looking offshore for hundreds of workers to rebuild roads, railways and buildings after this month's earthquake amid a shortage of local workers in an overstretched construction industry.

But while importing more workers from countries including South Africa and the Philippines may fill the gap, there are some concerns that it will add to New Zealand's already surging immigration levels, which are in turn fuelling an overheating property market.

Highly-qualified professionals such as engineers could get skilled migrant visas that allow them to settle in the country adding some extra demand to the housing market.

Foreign labourers would usually receive year-long temporary permits to work in New Zealand and are most likely to live in temporary accommodation.

New Zealand was still dealing with the aftermath of the 2011 quake that destroyed much of Christchurch when this month's 7.8 magnitude quake shook the country, killing two people, setting off destructive landslides and cutting of the country's main highway.

"We can't get enough people to fill the demand currently ... the earthquakes kick in and you need even more people," said Kevin Everett, director of Building Recruitment, an Auckland-based agency that finds the majority of its workers from overseas, mainly in South Africa.

"We're looking for hundreds of people, in all aspects of the industry."

Other sources of migrants for the construction industry were the Philippines, China and the United Kingdom.—Reuters

#### **CLAIMS DAY NOTICE** MV EVER APEX VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EVER APEX VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.11.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT **MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S EVERGREEN SHIPPING** LINE

Phone No: 2301185

#### **CLAIMS DAY NOTICE** MV PIYA STAR VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PIYA STAR VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.11.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT **MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S RK SHIPPING LINE** PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

#### **CLAIMS DAY NOTICE** MV HUNSA BHUM VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HUNSA BHUM VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.11.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/A.I.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT **MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER** LINES

Phone No: 2301185

#### **CLAIMS DAY NOTICE** MV KOTA HARTA VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA HAR-TA VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.11.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT **MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY** AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 2301185



#### **CLAIMS DAY NOTICE** MV CAPE FLORES VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CAPE FLORES VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.11.2016 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

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT **MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY** AGENT FOR: M/S COSCO CONTAINER LINES Phone No: 2301185

the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.



File photo taken 13 January 2016, shows a street TV in Tokyo reporting that pop group SMAP is on the verge of breaking up after more than 20 years. Photo: Kyodo News

### SMAP not confirmed for annual year-end music programme

least for the moment, to secure SMAP for its signature year-ending music programme, meaning one of Japan's most popular and longest-lived pop groups may not perform on the famous program before they break up.

The public broadcaster announced the lineup for this year's "Kohaku Utagassen" on Thursday, consisting of 23 singers and groups slated to represent each of the red and white teams, but SMAP, the now middle-aged boy band with a rabid fan base, was not among them.

After talent agency Johnny & Associates Inc. unveiled in August that SMAP will break up on 31 December, NHK President Katsuto Momii said, "SMAP is huge. Naturally, I want them to appear" on "Kohaku." He also said he was

TOKYO - NHK has failed, at willing to personally negotiate with the band's representatives to make it happen.

The lineup includes 10 individuals and groups who will be performing for the first time on the popular show featuring the year's most successful singers, including Kinki Kids, PUFFY, Hikaru Utada and Shinobu Otake. As SMAP's appearance is guaranteed to boost ratings, NHK, officially known as Japan Broadcasting Corp., is expected to continue negotiating with Johnny &Associates over a special performance on the annual programme, music industry sources said.

SMAP, which was formed in World).—Kyodo News

not detailed.

1988, has participated in "Kohaku" 23 times. Their best known song is "Sekai ni Hitotsu Dake no Hana" (The Only Flower in the

### 'Brady Bunch' mom Florence Henderson dies aged 82

LOS ANGELES — Veteran actress Florence Henderson, best known to a generation of baby boomers as all-American mother Carol Brady in the 1970s sitcom "The Brady Bunch," has died aged 82.

Maureen McCormick, who played Henderson's oldest daughter, Marcia, in the show and in many sequels, said on Twitter: "Florence Henderson was a dear friend for so very many years & in my (heart) forever ... I'll miss u dearly."

McCormick was a contestant in the dance competition "Dancing With the Stars" this season and Henderson attended a taping of the show just days ago.

Henderson died with family and friends at her side, the Associated Press reported, citing her manager Kayla Pressman. The cause of death was

Henderson starred in the ground-breaking television series about a woman with three daughters who married a widower with three sons.

She first graced television screens in the 1950s following a role in the musical "Carousel" in 1949 and other musical theater hits including "South Pacific" and the title role in "Fanny."

But it was the 1969 premier of "The "Brady Bunch," among the first US television shows to focus on a non-traditional family, that made her a household name.



Actress Florence Henderson poses at the Television Academy's Performers Peer Group cocktail reception to celebrate the 66th Primetime Emmy Awards in Beverly Hills, California, in 2014. PHOTO: REUTERS

On the show, Robert Reed's character, architect Mike Brady, was a widowed father of three boys. Henderson's character Carol Brady was a single mother ---the show was vague as to why --who had three daughters. They married in the first episode.

The series made its debut amid cultural tumult in the United States but remained invariably cheery and avoided controversy during its five seasons on the ABC network. It ran during a TV era populated with caustic sitcoms such as "All in the Family," "Maude" and "Sanford and Son."

After the cancellation of the original series in 1974, Henderson appeared on later incarnations of the show, including "The Brady Bunch Variety Hour," "The Brady Brides," "A Very

Brady Christmas" and "The Bradys."

Henderson, one of 10 children from a small Indiana town, went on to guest star on hit TV shows including "Murder, She Wrote," "The Love Boat" and "L.A. Law."

Henderson also appeared frequently on a host of game and talk shows, including serving as the "Tonight Show"'s first female guest host. She competed on "Dancing With the Stars" in 2010. Her film appearances included "Song of Norway," "Naked Gun 33 1/3: The Final Insult" and most recently, "Fifty Shades of Black." She also had a cameo on "The Brady Bunch Movie," a send-up of the original sitcom which continues to play in syndicated reruns.-Reuters

# Peter Jackson's **Mortal Engines** to release on **Christmas 2018**

LOS ANGELES - Filmmaker Peter Jackson's next movie Mortal Engines, an adaptation of Philip Reeve's award-winning novel of the same name, will hit the theaters on Christmas 2018. Universal studio has announced that the sci-fi movie will be released in theaters across the on 14 December, 2018, reported Variety.

Jackson is producing the movie along with Fran Walsh, his longtime collaborator behind The Lord of the Rings and "The Hobbit trilogy. The 55-year-old filmmaker will not direct the movie, but is serving as a co-writer along with Philippa Boyens.

Christian Rivers will make his feature directorial debut with the fantasy flick. Mortal Engines will be the first film of a planned movie series adapted from Reeve's novels, which also



Filmmaker Peter Jackson's next movie Mortal Engines, an adaptation of Philip Reeve's award-winning novel of the same name, will hit the theaters on Christmas 2018. PHOTO: PTI

include Predator's Gold, Infernal Devices and A Darkling Plain.

Set in a future world, Mortal Engines chronicles Earth's cities which now roam the globe on huge wheels, devouring each other in a struggle for ever diminishing resources. On one of these massive Traction Cities, a teen named Tom Natsworthy has an unexpected encounter with a mysterious young woman from a territory known as the Outlands, who will change the course of his life forever.

Peter Jackson also wants to take a break from making Hollywood blockbusters once he is done with The Hobbit trilogy. Jackson, who has helmed The Lord of the Rings series and The Hobbit trilogy, wants to come up with some projects based in New Zealand, reported Huffington Post. The New Zealand filmmaker along with Fran Walsh and many other have written the screenplay of the fantasy series. "We have got a few bits and pieces that we are working on, Fran and I. We just want to step off the Hollywood blockbuster thing for a while and we've had a few New Zealand stories in line for a while that we think would make great films," Jackson said.—PTI

#### Short film on climate changehit Sundarbans children

KOLKATA — A short film documenting the challenges faced by children in the climate change-hit islands of Sundarbans was screened recently at an international symposium.

The 27-minute film titled 'How Healthy are the Children of the Indian Sundarbans?' was one of the three films selected for screening at the Global Health Systems Research Symposium held last week in Vancouver.

Made by the Indian Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR) University and Future Health Systems (FHS), the film provide stark and illuminating audio-visual evidence of the plight of these isolated and vulnerable communities living in the UNE-SCO World Heritage site.

Prof Barun Kanjilal of FHS said the film focuses on the communities demand for healthcare and the complex interplay of roles of the different health providers against the backdrop of an inaccessible region prone to climate shocks.—PTI

# Frida Kahlo painting, unseen for 60 years, sells for \$1.81 million

NEW YORK — Mexican artist Frida Kahlo's "Nina con Collar," an early painting whose whereabouts had been a mystery for 60 years, has sold for \$1.81 million at a Sotheby's Latin American art auction.

Works by Mexican Rufino Tamayo and Colombia's Fernando Botero topped sales at the auction.

"We saw a series of exceptional prices for the giants of Latin American modern art," said Axel Stein, Sotheby's Latin American art chief, commenting on the \$16.84 million in total sales on Tuesday evening in New York.

Leading the sale was Tamayo's "Sandías naranja" (Watermelons and orange), a 1957 oil and sand on canvas once owned by



A man hangs a sign as artist Frida Kahlo's painting 'Nina Con Collar' sits on an easel at Sotheby's auction house in New York, US, on 14 November 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

film star Audrey Hepburn, Sotheby's said. It sold for \$2.29 million.

A Botero bronze sculpture, "Man on a Horse," fetched \$1.82 million, and

added.

his "Homage to Bonnard," a large-scale nude painting, went for \$1.39 million.

more popular, especially

more edgy and loose late-

ly in the last decade and a

half," he said. In the neigh-

borhood Kimberley, up to

six different languages are

spoken in one sentence, he

nacular can reach the broad-

er collective consciousness

and that's where the future

"As a result, my ver-

"Afrikaans has become

among the young.

Kahlo's "Nina con Collar," (Girl with Necklace), which had not been seen publicly for six decades, went to an unidentified European buyer. The 1929 oil on canvas is among the first 20 of the Mexican artist's 143 paintings, Stein said.

The work, whose subject is about 13 or 14. prefigures hallmarks of Kahlo's self-portraits, including winged eyebrows and a full frontal gaze.

Kahlo died at age 47 in 1954. The following year, her widower, the muralist Diego Rivera, gave "Nina con Collar" to one of her studio assistants, who hung it in her California home for 60 years, according to Stein.

The work came to light when the unidentified former studio assistant, now in her mid-90s, contacted Sotheby's last summer, Stein said.

In international art markets, works by Kahlo have fetched more than any other Latin American artist, according to Stein.

Last May, Christie's sold a 1939 Kahlo painting for \$8 million, an auction record for her work.

Sotheby's has privately sold Kahlo works for more than \$15 million each, said Dan Abernethy, an auction house spokesman.

One reason Kahlo's works are so valued in the international market is that Mexico barred their export for several decades under laws to conserve the country's cultural heritage, Stein said.—Reuters

### With rap and poetry, Cape Town tries to bridge racial divides

CAPE TOWN — A city surrounded by ocean and divided in two by the naked rock of Table Mountain, Cape Town's incredible natural beauty belies a past of hundreds of years of slavery and racial oppression.

Now a generation of artists, musicians, poets, and filmmakers is trying to overcome this legacy, and in South Africa, a country with 11 official languages, it is not just significant what they say, but how they say it.

Quintin Goliath, who goes by the stage name Jitsvinger, meaning 'The Dope One', is a rapper of mixed ethnic origin from Cape

Town. He performs in Afrikaans, a language spoken by 7 million South Africans that is derived from Dutch and draws on Malay, Portuguese, English, Xhosa, Chinese and Khoi influences.

Goliath, who raps about topics including politics, identity and love, said Afrikaans was becoming



Rapper and poet Jitsvinger performs at an open mic session at a cafe in Cape Town, South Africa. on 20 September 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

# Myanmar International

(26-11-2016 07:00 AM ~ 27-11-2016 07:00 AM)

Today	Fresh	
07:03	Am	News
07:26	Am	Great Shwedagon-The Architectural Heritage
07:53	Am	Writer
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	Kyauk Se Elephant Dance
08:49	Am	A Tea Business: Pankwan (Part-2)
09:03	Am	News
09:27	Am	Discovering Tribes "MUUN (Episode – II)
09:50	Am	Distinguished Myanmar Ladies "Tin Moe Lwin"
10:03	Am	News
10:27	Am	Next Generation "Skater"

10:36	Am	Yatana Theinga City and Shwe Bon Yatanamingala
		Palace
10:54	Am	Art Students: Sculpture

(1:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm) - Friday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)  $(03:00 \text{ Pm} \sim 07:00 \text{ Pm}) - 1 \text{ oday Repeat } (07:00 \text{ Am} \sim 11:00 \text{ Am})$ 

Prime	Time	
07:03	Pm	News
07:26	Pm	Yathe Taung Township In A Nut-Shell
07:51	Pm	Today Myanmar: Community Center &
		Mobile Library
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	"Myanmar Music Icon" Ko Nay Win, Creator of
		Myanmar Own Tune Songs (Episode-2)
08:49	Pm	Myanmar Masterclass: Artist Dr. Ko Ko Gyi
·		3:00 Am) - Friday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am) 7:00 Am) -Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)

(For Detailed Schedule - www.mvanmarity.com/schedule)

Christmas display shows **Trump dressed as Santa** playing 'Pokemon Go'

KOBE — A figure of US President-elect Donald Trump dressed in a red Santa Claus costume and playing the popular smartphone game "Pokemon Go" was displayed at a museum in Hyogo Prefecture on Friday.

In the period through Christmas, figures of various newsmakers are exhibited on the roof and outer walls of the Uroko no Ie (House of Fish Scales) house museum in the historical Kitano district of Kobe.

With "Pokemon Go" this year's theme, figures of Kohei Uchimura, who

won a gold medal in gymnastics at the Rio Olympic Games, and Japanese sprinter Asuka Cambridge, can also be seen playing the smartphone game on the wall.

Other people depicted include Tokyo Gov. Yuriko Koike and members of pop group SMAP, which will disband at the end of the year.

"It is fun to see such playful figures," said Kazuko Kikuchi, 67, from Kawasaki, near Tokyo.

The figures will remain on display through 25 December. -Kyodo News



A Santa Claus figure (C) modeled on US Presidentelect Donald Trump playing a game on a smartphone, along with other figures mimicking newsmakers in 2016, decorate "Uroko no le" (House of Fish Scales), a Western-style house museum in the historical Kitano district of Kobe, Hyogo Prefecture, on 25 November 2016. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

#### per cent of those who speak Afrikaans at home are white South Africans, according to the South Africa Race Relations Institute.—Reuters

lies for Afrikaans: inclusivity and the acceptance of one another's expression." While some see the future of Afrikaans as promising, its past is contested.

Afrikaans developed in the Cape Town region among slaves from West Africa, the indigenous Khoi and San tribes and Indonesia who adapted the Dutch spoken by slave owners and colonial settlers into a common

language. Today only around 40

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# Inter slump out of Europe as Rooney ignites Man Utd



LONDON - Inter Milan's calamitous season hit a new low on Thursday as they squandered a two-goal lead to lose 3-2 at Israeli club Hapoel Beer-Sheva and suffer the embarrassment of

November 2016. Photo: REUTERS

an early Europa League exit. After one of European football's giants capitulated, another flexed their muscles with an inspired Wayne Rooney becoming Manchester United's all-time leading goalscorer in European competition to ignite their crucial 4-0 trouncing of Feyenoord.

For a while, it seemed the struggling Italian giants Inter, who had begun the night propping up Group K and had to win to survive, would be given a reprieve thanks to first-half goals from Mauro Icardi and Marcelo Brozovic.

Yet in keeping with a season in which they had already sacked manager Frank de Boer and fans had turned on captain Icardi for his comments about them in his autobiography, everything started to go wrong after the break.

Hapoel, who had caused a sensation by winning at the San Siro in their opening group match, pulled one back with a header from Lucio Maranhao before Inter keeper Samir Handanovic was shown a second yellow in conceding a penalty that Anthony Nwakaeme converted.

Scenting another famous win, the Israelis poured on the pressure against 10 men and, in the 93<sup>rd</sup> and final minute, Ben Sahar slotted home a cool finish after one last slick attack.

The latest setback left Inter down and out on three points but breathed fresh hope into Hapoel, who moved on to seven points alongside second-placed Southampton, who blew their chance of qualifying in the penultimate round with a 1-0 defeat at Sparta Prague.

Sparta earned their passage into the knockout stages thanks to an 11th minute goal from their Zimbabwean defender Costa Nhamoinesu. It was the first time in nearly 33 years that the Czech club had downed top-flight English opponents.

The drama sets up a winnertakes-all final group match between Southampton and Hapoel for the second spot.

It was a landmark night for England captain Rooney at Old Trafford as he netted his record-breaking 39th European goal that took him past Ruud van Nistelrooy's milestone of 38 and left his side well-placed to progress to the last 32 from Group A.—Reuters

#### Welterweight champion Pacquiao knocks out retirement thoughts

Saturday, 26 November 2016



Manny Pacquiao celebrates his victory over WBO welterweight champion Jessie Vargas following their title fight at the Thomas & Mack Center in Las Vegas, Nevada, US, on 5 November 2016. Filipino trainer Buboy Fernandez is at lower right. PHOTO: REUTERS

TOKYO - Filipino boxer and Senator Manny Pacquiao said he would carry on fighting next year after unveiling a new boxing gym in downtown Tokyo on Friday. The 37-year-old southpaw returned to the ring after a seven month retirement to claim the WBO welterweight title by beating Jessie Vargas in Las Vegas earlier this month.

"I think about it, I can still fight and my body is still okay so I decided to come back and I'm here, my journey is continued," Pacquiao said in the Japanese capital.

The southpaw has a 59-6-2 win-loss-draw record and is the winner of world titles in eight different weight divisions and the first sitting Senator to win a world boxing title.

The new 'Pacquiao Gym', a collaboration with Japanese business man Yoshihiro Agata, will open in the new year and the Filipino said it was an opportunity to pass on his experience.

"(I opened this gym) to help the people to do exercise and also...to discover a good boxer," Pacquiao said.

"I can share my knowledge about boxing and my talents. I can teach them."—*Reuters* 

Indonesia fight back to make semis and send Singapore home

MANILA — A second-half turn around from Indonesia saw them earn all three points and a spot in the semi-finals coupled with Philippines' defeat to Thailand. The Lions have only them-

selves to blame for the result. Khairul Amri gave them the lead in the 27th minute, but it was also him who missed a superb opportunity to put them ahead by two goals after the restart.

Singapore would go on to pay for it, after slack marking allowed Andik Vermansyah to level matters.

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Poor defending five minutes from time saw Singapore pay the price eventually, with Stephano Lilipaly lashing in Boaz Salossa's cross to clinch all three points, along with the second spot in Group A. Goals

27' (1-0) A long throw from Madhu Mohana is flicked on by Safuwan Baharudin for Khairul Amri, who smashes it into the roof of the net with a scissors kick

62' (1-1) Slack marking from the Lions allows Andik to run in and slot in Rizky Pora's Singapore's first chance cross to level matters.

85' (1-2) Boaz is not stopped down the left side and both Bennett and Hariss fail to cut out his cross, allowing Lilipaly to volley it into the top corner.

#### Match Highlights

Great save from Hassan -Stephano Lilipaly curled the ball over the wall towards

goal from the free-kick, but Hassan read it well and pushed it onto the woodwork before Boaz Salossa sent the rebound over.

Yasir Hanapi aimed a cross towards Faris Ramli at the far post, but his volley in the seventh minute goes over. Lilipaly again -

Indonesia's early onslaught continued and this time midfielder Lilipaly shot straight at Hassan after eight minutes. Good build up from Lions -

Khairul Amri and Safuwan Baharudin exchanged passes before the latter released Yasir Hanapi, who sliced his shot narrowly wide. -- AFF



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