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A TIME FOR ORDER

Yangon Chief Minister pledges crackdown on gangs

Ko Moe

THE Yangon Region government is set to focus on bringing about the full strength of the police force in order to guarantee the safety of the people, said Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein, pledging to end the gang threats against law enforcement officers in the city.

The Chief Minister gave his vow to curb organised gang violence and crimes in Yangon Region at a meeting on the regional government's 100-day program and reduce crime in the commercial city of the country yesterday.

An effective administrative mechanism will be set up to combat gang presence in designated areas of the region, said the Chief Minister, adding that he is committed to rooting out gangs that threaten public safety and make death threats to police.

As gangs and crimes are a danger to the rule of law, it is imperative to ensure effectiveness of police services by increasing police strength, equipping them with modern devices that aims to ensure the rule of law and funding operations, said the strength of 5,780 officers in Yan-Yangon Region Police Force.

During the meeting, Col Tin Aung Tun, Yangon Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs, called for mass participation in the 100-day plan in cooperation with authorities con-

A system of reward and punishment will be exercised, said the minister, adding that it is unacceptable to keep accepting bad members that can affect the whole organisation.

gon Region is set to be used for security measures together with 200 additional police members from police battalions, said Action Police Brig-Gen Win Naing of Myanmar Police Force.

According to the MPF, there is a rate of one police officer per 1,274 people in Myanmar due to a decline in police strength.

Since the start of the plan as of 1 May, a total of 495 cases including 51 cases of gambling and 63 cases of narcotics were filed While the plan is put into and 70 suspects were arrested up effect, 70 per cent of the police until Monday according to the

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves **Myanmar-Russia military** cooperation

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has agreed to ink an agreement for Myanmar-Russian military cooperation following discussion of the proposal put forward by President U Htin Kyaw.

U Saw Tun Mya Aung of Papun Constituency expressed support for the signing of the military cooperation agreement with the Russian Federation, recounting the situation in the country's past in which Myanmar fell under the yoke of colonialism as it lagged behind the western imperial powers in industrial and defence technology.

In his discussion, U Tun Wai of Phaungpyin Constituency stressed the need for building up the Myanmar Tatmadaw to become a standardised, modern and effective defence force for the

Brig-Gen Than Lwin, Defence Services personnel Hluttaw representative, echoed the sentiment that the agreement will help transform the Myanmar Tatmadaw into a standardised Army through better understanding of modern military tactics and practices which can be learned through the proposed bilateral military programme with Russia. The deal to be signed with Russia is the result of recent Russian outreach to the ASEAN community and Myanmar in particualr on matters relating to military defence, national security and counter-terrorism with Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu stating on 26 April,

"We are focused on expanding contact with ASEAN counties in a bilateral format. For this purpose, a series of meetings with the defence ministers of

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves formation of State Counsellor's Ministry

THE Pyidaungsu Hluttaw yesterday approved the proposal of President U Htin Kyaw to form a ministry of the State Counsellor.

The decision came about at the parliament yesterday with the unanimous approval of attending MPs.

The ministry will become the 22nd ministry in the cabinet of the new government.

President U Htin Kyaw said in his proposal to form the ministry of the state counsellor on 4 May that it is a measure intended to speed up the government's internal peace, national development and the rule of law.

president with the power to designate ministries as necessary and make changes and additions to the number of ministries with

efforts at national reconciliation, the approval of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The new government took The constitution vests the office on 1 April with 21 ministries run by 18 ministers, cutting the number down from the previous government's 36.—Thein Ko Lwin

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Fishing quota set at one hundred thousand tonnes

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US will not interfere with peace process: US Ambassador

THE United States will neither interfere with the internal peace process of Myanmar nor give pressure but provide technical assistance, said the US Ambassador to Myanmar at a meeting held at 10 am yesterday at the American Centre.

Ambasssador Scot Marciel said America has always given its support to the ceasefire effort and peace process of Myanmar and it lays special emphasis on the peace process.

As a foreign government, the US has no plans to interfere with the peace process of Myanmar and it does not intend to influence or pressure Myanmar either, he added.

He continued to say that Myanmar's peace process is something that Myanmar people have to decide on, and on its part, the US are willing to provide whatever is necessary in addition to technical assistance, said the US ambassador.

The ambassador, during his meeting with representatives from Civil Service Organisations,



US Ambassador Mr Scot Marciel talks to journalists at American Centre in Yangon. Photo: Pho HTAUNG

the education sector, government officials and the media said that there are still many challenges in regard to the reformation process and that the US is willing and ready to cooperate with the new government, Civil Society Organisations and entrepreneurs.

Concerning bilateral cooperation in trade and education sectors, the ambassador said the

local entrepreneurs, people from United States is promoting bilateral trade.

> As an education exchange programme promoter, we will make arrangements for Myanmar students to be able to study in the US. At the moment, the US is building a new American Centre to enable Myanmar citizens to have greater access to educational resources.—Ye Khaung, Myat-*ThandarMaung*

Hail storm destroys Shan tea plantations

upper Myanmar last month have had unforeseen side effects on the tea plantations of the Nam-Shan township village of Mahnlone, Shan State, which started to wither up and die during the end of April, according to plantation owners.

"Our whole village makes a living off the tea plantations on this mountain side. We were still picking tea leaves in the few days after the hail storm. It wasn't long after that when the tea crops slowly started drying out, to the point whereby the whole plantation has now withered up with nothing left to pick." said U Thein Zaw, a

A SPAT of hail storms which hit tea plantation owner from Mahnlone village.

> He continued by stating that the drying up of tea plants during the start of May, the time when tea leaves are soft and ripe for picking, has effectively ended the 2016-17 tea picking season, rendering local tea pickers in dire straits for whom tea picking is their sole form of employment.

U Mya Kyaw, head of the Department of Agriculture for Lashio, explained the wilting up of tea crops is likely the combined result of the velocity with which the hail stone impacted the tea plants, bacteria in present within the hail stones themselves,

together sweltering summer temperatures.

"Our homes were destroyed by the gale force winds. Now without a place to live and the death of our tea crops, I don't know how we're going to survive anymore. I'm just going to have to order my sons and daughter to go seek work in China." said Daw Dipogyein, a local tea picker. A local youth charity group has made it know tea crops were not the only victims of the hail storms, with approximately fifty households in the village tract, together with a local primary school, flattened by the storm's ferocious winds.—Myitmakha

Rakhine State needs industrial zone to reboot trade development: UMFCCI

THE implementation of an In- region. "Trade between India and hold appliances, it is known. five year period, according to the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) for Rakhine

The implementation of an Industrial Trade Zone would help to restart the development of trade in the region that declined in the wake of communal violence which broke out in the region back in 2012, only to take another hit last year by severe flooding which swept through

dustrial Trade Zone within Rakh- Bangladesh, which share a boardine State could see development er with Rakhine State, became hind it's neighbours. The primary in the region rise again within a sluggish because of both sectari- factor is the need to find business an violence and natural disasters. There's a need for the development of industry within the state to be able to once again have a hold over trade with neighbouring countries." said a fish and shrimp entrepreneur and member of Rakhine State's UMFCCI.

Trade between Myanmar's Rakhine State and the neighbouring countries of India and Bangladesh consists of the export of local fishery products and importation of foreign clothes, textiles and house-

"Rakhine State has fallen besolutions for residents. There's pretty much no other industries in the region except for fishing." said U Win Bo, a fisheries entrepreneur from Rakhine State.

The new government's threefold export increase policy has meant the current trade situation within Rakhine State is ripe for development, but there is still a real need for the creation of job opportunities within the region, according to fishery entrepreneurs. —Myitmakha News Angency

Myanmar students leave for scholarship programme in China

from universities, colleges and schools under Myanmar's Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries left for China on Sunday for further studies under a scholarship programme between Myanmar and China.

The programme is coordinated by the Myanmar's Ministry of Education, the Education Department of China's Jiangsu Province, the Myanmar-China Friendship Association (Central) and the Myanmar-China

AN initial batch of 36 students Friendship Association (Bei-

Under the programme, Myanmar students were selected to pursue higher learning at the Nanjing Institute of Industrial Technology, Yangzhou Polytechnic Institute, Changzhou Vocational Institute of Engineering and Jiangsu Agri-animal Husbandry Vocational College in China.

Following the first batch of 36 students, the second batch of 51 students left for China today.—Myanmar News Agency

MFF instructed by Ministry of Health to develop football in schools

THE Ministry of Health has instructed the Myanmar Football Federation (MFF) to draw up a program for the development of football within government schools across the country.

"We've yet to receive any kind of instruction as to what we're supposed to do. We've just been told to put together a program for the development of football within basic education schools," said U Than Zaw, general secretary and CEO of the MFF.

Football is the most loved sport in Myanmar but with no funding provided by the previ-

ous government, the game within the country currently relies solely on the combined financial support of MMF and the world football governing body (FIFA).

"The success of football as a sport is dependent upon the extent of the interest of the Department of Health." said U Tin Myint Aung, technical director of MFF. The Myanmar national team's FIFA world ranking is currently on the decline, with a present ranking of 167, compared to the country's average position since FIFA's world ranking was established of 141.—Myitmakha News Angency



School children receive soccer skills in summer in Yangon. PHOTO: MYITMAKHA NEWS AGENCY

Snakebite death rate remains high

dences occur every year across the country, especially in rural areas, with a morality rate of 10 per cent, doctors say.

ures against snakebites have been Hlaing, the factory manufactured carried out, annual snakebite morbidity and mortality show no apparent decrease during last decade," said former deputy health minister Dr Win Myint.

"The cause may be multi-factorial. One of the reasons is victims' delaying in receiving anti-venom, as well as the limited availability of safe and potent anti-venom in our country."

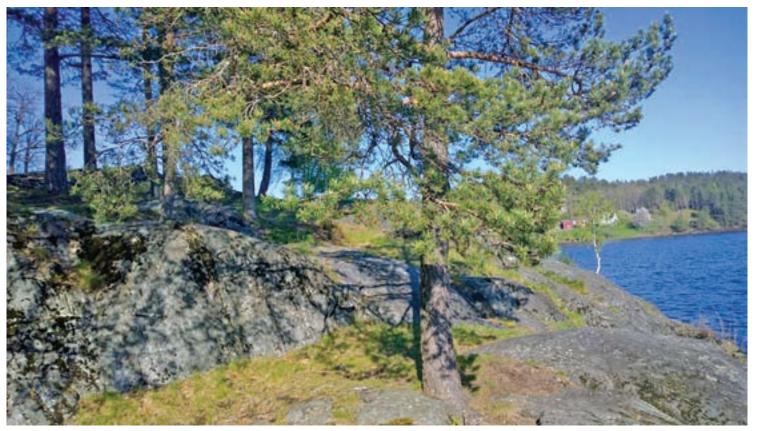
With the aim of bringing down the country's high rate of snakebite fatalities, the govern-

ABOUT 10,000 snakebite inci- ment-owned Myanmar Pharmaceutical Factory (Insein) has increased its anti-venom produc-

According to the factory's "Although varieties of meas- deputy manager Dr Moe Moeapproximately 80,000 doses of both liquid and freeze-dried venom for cobras and vipers last fis-

> It produced 70,000 doses of anti-venom in the 2014-2015 fiscal year and over 30,000 in 2012-2013.

> The freeze-dried form is better than liquid in storage and transportation. The former sells for K390,000 per dose, and the liquid goes for K31,000 per bottle.—ZarZar



The park which is named after Nobel Laureate State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. Photo: Salai Maung Ling Kintha

Handover of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi Park in Norway set for Saturday

THE HANDOVER ceremony of a park that was named after Nobel Laureate State Counselltor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will take place on Saturday in Froland, Norway, according to sources.

As the necessary procedures for naming the park after Daw Aung San Suu Kyi have been completed Froland Mayor Ove Gundersesn will officially hand over the park to the new park organising committee.

Froland Verk Park is situated in the centre of Froland and was chosen to be renamed to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi Park by officials including the mayor about two weeks ago.

Torgeir Oveland of International Caffe-Froland which is organising the establishment of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi Park in Norway said that the centuries-old park was chosen among three or four other possible locations.

A statue of Daw Aung San

Suu Kyi and memorial stone plaques from Myanmar people in Denmark are set to be installed at the park, he added.

According to sources, a wax statue of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi made by U Nge Zaw who is living in Norway is set to be unveiled on the occasion of the opening of the park on her birthday which falls on 19 June.

Later, a bronze statue which will be similar to the Bronze Statue of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at the Nobel Peace Centre in Oslo will be installed at the park. The new bronze monument will be sculpted by Norwegian architect and artist Magnar Kjeldsmo.

Former Norwegian Prime Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik, who is also the current chairman of the Noble Peace Prize Committee, will be present together with Norwegian MP Kjell Ingolf Ropstad and diplomats at the opening ceremony of the park, according to sources.—Ko Nyo (Oslo)

Builders who overstep road boundaries to be penalised

THE Ministry of Construction has announced that legal action, in accordance with road laws, will be taken against building contractors in the Taninthayi Region district of Dawei who build buildings that overstep road boundaries.

However, it is known that this does not apply to buildings that were built prior to the enactment of amendments to road laws.

"Buildings constructed before the amended legislation will buildings over which legal action will be taken are those built in the wake of amended and enacted road legislation," said U Ko Ko Naing from the office of the deputy director of the Road Transportation Administration Department.

A total of four formal reminders will be made towards those involved in on-going building construction and newly constructed buildings on the new legislation. Failure to adhere to be put aside for the moment. The the warnings will result in legal charges being pressed, while it is known that the burying of telecommunication cables will also not be permitted along road boundaries.

"We are also informing those involved in burying telecommunication cables beneath the road to refrain from continuation such activities. This also goes for those constructing buildings beyond road boundaries. It won't be good for either side should construction continto stop," added U Ko Ko Naing.

Violators of the newly amended road legislation will face fines between K100,000 and K500,000, and repeat offenders will face a one-year prison sentence as well as a fine ranging from K100,000 to K1 million.

Road legislation was first enacted on 17 November 2000, and amendments were made in 2014 before being signed off by then-president Thein Sein on 17 November 2015.— Myitmakha ue after they've been informed News Agency

President sends message on ratification of BIMSTEC Convention to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

PRESIDENT U Htin Kyaw sent a message to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on the ratification of entry into the BIMSTEC Convention on Cooperation on Combating International Terrorism, Transnational Organised Crime and Illicit Drug Trafficking yesterday.

In his clarification of the President's message, Maj-Gen Aung Soe, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs, said that Myanmar, Bhutan and Nepal have not ratified the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMS-TEC) while Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand have ratified it. Myanmar joined the BIMS-TEC on 22 December, 1997.

Laws necessary for the ratification of the BIMSTEC Convention have been enacted in Myanmar, said the deputy minister, adding that the convention is not legally binding and is not in contradiction with the country's laws or regional attitudes.—Myanmar News Agency

Union Information **Minister** meets French **Ambassador**

UNION Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint received French Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Oliver Richard at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

They held discussions on ongoing cooperation between the countries in information and the movie industry and opportunities for further cooperation in those sectors.—Myanmar News Agency

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves Myanmar-Russia military cooperation

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the Association member states have been scheduled, during which military and military-technical cooperation will be discussed in particular"

Myanmar-Russian The military cooperation agreement resulting from this outreach includes in its stated goals the exchange of views and information on military and political matters including matters related to international security, anti-terrorism operations and the military health system, further cooperation in sport, culture and rehabilitation of military personnel, an exchange of views on United Nations peacekeeping missions, bilateral cooperation in the field of peacekeeping operations, maritime search, rescue works and military drills.

A Russia-ASEAN summit is scheduled to be held in the resort city of Sochi, Russia on 19-20 May.—Myanmar News Agency

Dredging makes for easier access to Yangon Port

from this month after dredging near the port's inner bar known as Monkey Point has been completed, said an official from the Myanma Port Authority.

The dredging project was jointly conducted by Starhigh Asia Pacific Pte Ltd and the Myanma Port Authority from 30 March to 10 April, said U Mya Than, chief engineer of the Myanma Port Authority.

"Dredging was mainly conducted at the entrance of Yangon

MORE container ships can en- Port because the port is silted the development of the economy ter and exit Yangon port starting up in the open season. We can with more vessels able to get in cut down on the time needed for dredging with the assistance of dredgers. Sometimes, the ships cannot enter and exit as the river is too shallow. We need to remove concerns over the breakdown of ships which can be attributed to blocked propellers due to refuse in the waters.

The dredging project has increased the draft by 1.5 metres, or from 3.5 to 5 metres at Monkey

This project can effectuate

and out of Yangon Port, said U Phone Khine Shwe, the general manager of Starhigh Asia Pacific

Previously, Yangon River was too shallow and vessels could enter and exit only at high tide. Now there will be no delay for ships wishing to pass through the port waters. The extended river's depth will allow more vessels to enter and exit in addition to reducing the overall traffic. — Zar Zar

Loom training courses to create job opportunities



A woman students seen learning how to weave. Photo: YE Naung (Loikaw)

WEAVING training courses are being opened at the weaving training school in Loikaw, Kayah state with the objective of creating job opportunities for locals.

At the training school, the trainees can learn free of charge as the government is providing funds for the running of the

courses. There were 13 registered trainees in the first batch during the 2015-2016 fiscal year while there were four students in the second batch. The next training course will start on 1 July for 2016-2017 fiscal year.

The training school, established in 1951, under the name of the basic government weaving training school. In 2014-2015 the name was changed into the loom and livelihood training school to create more opportunities for local youth. The centre is now conducting two kinds of training, namely Myanmar traditional loom and ethnic traditional loom. -Ye Naung (Loi-

Crime NEWS

landmines Hand-grenades, destroyed in Hpakant

THREE hand grenades were found at a police outpost near Uruyadana Kyauk Sein Taung Bridge, Myoma Ward, Hpakant Township, Moehnyin District, Kachin State on Monday.

One hand-grenade was found one foot away from No 26 police outpost, while another hand-grenade was found eight feet away from the front of police outpost and the third hand-grenade was found 30 feet away from the police outpost.

Similarly, a motorcyclist with two others on board threw two six-inch long hand-grenades at a two-storey building inside the Myoma Police Station compound. Another motorcyclist with one passenger onboard threw a hand-grenade into police outpost near the Kyauk Sein Taung Bridge. The explosive, however, failed to explode.

One woman was injured by the explosion of landmines in Seikmu village on 8 May.—064



Three hand grenades being seen. Photo: 064

Vehicle turns over on Yangon-Mandalay Highway



Hi-Ace turns over on Yangon-Mandalay Highway. Photo: Chan Tha (Meiktila)

A VEHICLE turned over be- gation, a vehicle with ten pas-Highway on Monday leaving nine passengers injured.

According to an investi-

tween mileposts 278/1 and sengers on board which was en 278/2, on the Yangon-Mandalay route to Mandalay from Yangon man and eight women. and being driven by one U San Paw, 50, turned over when the driver lost control because of a

The accident injured one

The driver has been charged by police.—Chan Tha (Meikti-

Vehicle catches fire on Inya Road, Kamayut Township

A VEHICLE exploded without warning in front of the Myanmar Rowing and Canoeing Federation building on Inya Road, Kamayut township, Yangon at about 7 pm on 8 May.

According to an investigation, the accident was caused by fuel leaking onto the exhaust

The fire was brought under control by firefighters from

Sanchaung Fire Station. The vehicle was owned by one U Khin Maung Thein, 63, en route from 7th mile to Kamayut.

Police have filed charges against the owner.—Ko Gyi Tin

Fire destroys three houses in Pyin Oo Lwin

A FIRE reportedly broke out jured in the accident. at about quarter to one in the morning in Pyin Oo Lwin on Monday and quickly spread to surrounding homes.

According to an investigation the fire was due to electric short circuiting at the Sein Chai Gas shop owned by one U Sai Wunna, 38.

Fire fighters rushed to the scene and extinguished the blaze at 2 am. No one was in-

The blaze destroyed the Sein Chai Gas shop, a 20 feet high, 30x50 one-storey pucca building, a 20x40x50 two-storeyed building owned by one Daw Nan Ngwe Kyi, the proprietress of the Sabai Byu Sweater Business, and a 20x25x50 one-storeyed building.

Police are still investigating the case.— Thet Naing (Pyin Oo Lwin)



Fire devouring three houses in Pyin Oo Lwin . PHOTO: THET NAING (PYIN OO LWIN)

Business

Green gram growers expand cultivation to fulfill demand from China, Thailand

TO fulfill the rising demand from China and Thailand farmers from Yinmabin, Salingyi, Pale and Kani townships are planning to cultivate more green grams for export.

'We export green grams to China and Thailand. The green gram growers are doing well currently with a high price offered", said Ma San Khine, a green gram brokerage owner.

Green grams are normally cultivated in March and sent to Monywa, Mandalay and Yangon. The growers from four townships of Yinmabin District, Sagaing Region cultivate green grams on 700 acres of land even up to the end of April, hoping to cash in on what is currently a handsome rate for the

The price of green grams was only K40,000 per basket in 2015 while the price rose up to over K50,000 per basket in April. The export volume of green grams reached 1,000 baskets and this year it is expected to reach 1,500 baskets.—Chan Chan



A farmer tosses peas into the wind to remove sand and other impurities before transport. Photo: Aye Min Soe

Bison Expands myNEWS.com To Myanmar

PRESS and convenience retail group Bison Consolidated Bhd (Bison), via its wholly-owned subsidiary, Bison Stores, will begin the operation of two press and convenience retail outlets in Myanmar under its main brand name myNEWS.com, according to the Bernama News Agency.

a management agreement with SMI Retail Pte Ltd (SMI Retail), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Singapore Myanmar Investco Ltd, a company listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange(SGX)

"This exciting collaboration kick starts our first business venture outside of Malaysia," said Group Managing Director Dang Tai Luk in a statement.

He said the collaboration pro-The group has entered into ject would enable the two entities to make use of each other's expertise and resources in the press and convenience retail industry of

Myanmar. Under the agreement, Bison Stores would be appointed an independent consultant to provide management services and advisory support in relation to business in Myanmar for five years, according to a statement announced by Bison on Monday.

In return, Bison Stores will be paid a percentage of the gross revenue or a monthly management fee, whichever is higher.— GNLM with BERNAMA

Japan, China to purchase hybrid catfish under 3-year contract

approved by the Myanmar Fisheries Federation (MFF) to purchase hybrid catfish under a three-year contract, said U Han Tun, executive vice president of

African catfish grow faster and reproduce more quickly than local fish, which are smaller in size and slower to reproduce, though they are of high quality. The fish quality rises when the two species are cross-breed. Foreign countries plan to purchase the hybrid catfish through a longterm deal.

"Previously, local breeders only kept African catfish be-

JAPAN and China have been cause of their high production and rapid growth. African catfish breeding can also save the cost of aquatic feed. But these catfish cannot meet local consumers' demand, so the breeders started to do cross-breeding," said U Han Tun.

> "It takes only about seven months for this hybrid to be bred. They sell for high prices, so breeders are doing well. This hybrid catfish will be exported starting from October 2016," he

> "These hybrid catfish will be sent to domestic markets, too. The volume of breeding will extend to meet the needs of demand", he added.—200

Quail breeders suffering losses

FOLLOWING a reported avian flu outbreak at a farming zone in Monywa last month, quail breeders in Monywa have suffered losses because of the dropping price of quail eggs in the market.

The Monywa Fowl and Quail Livestock Special Zone is situated north of the Thapyae-Kyaukmine road in Mayoetaw Village-tract, Monywa Township, Sagaing Region. The price of quail eggs dropped after the alleged outbreak of bird flu.

"Actually, the bird flu did not break out at the Monywa Fowl and Quail Livestock Special Zone. But there was news about the outbreak of bird flu at the zone. This announcement might have resulted in suppressing consumption of

quail eggs. Normally, the price of a quail egg is not lower than Ks20. But the current prevailing market price is K19 for a quail egg. The price might decline, so quail breeders are suffering from heavy losses.

"The cost of quail feedstuff is K852 per viss (1.6 kilos). Around 150 visses are fed to a total of 10,000 egg-laying quails. At the moment, the money quail breeders earn can only cover the cost of feed. Breeders might continue to suffer more," said U Tin Win, the joint secretary of the Monywa Fowl and Quail Livestock Special Zone.

There are a total of 92 plots of land on 58.77 acres of land in the zone. There are 24 farms in the zone, each with over 200,000

Fishing quota set at one hundred thousand tonnes

AN official estimate of the national fishing quota is set at 100,000 tonnes according to a survey of fish resources in Myanmar water territory, said an official from the Department of Fisheries.

acceptable level of commercial fishing that can be allowed without causing animal endangerment or extinction. The department will further explore Myanmar aquaculture with the assistance of a research vessel offered by the Institute of Marine Research, Norway.

'Calculating the estimated volume of fishing is based on surveys conducted in 2013 and 2015. Out of the current fish population of 560,000 tonnes, a hundred thousand tonnes has been prescribed as the estimated fishing quota by local and foreign experts including experts from FAO, said U Win Kyaing, the

Surveys have been conduct-The fisheries department ed in 1979, 1980, 2013 and 2015. tonnes to 110,000 tonnes according to the 1979-1980 and 2013 surveys, with a decline of 90 per cent while the volume at the seabed dropped from from 750,000 tonnes to 280,000 tonnes, with a decrease of 75 per cent.

> There might be a gap between the monsoon and post rainy season numbers because of possible changes in aquatic species and the ecosystem. For this reason, the survey was conducted again in 2015 and similar surveys

will continue to be conducted.

The decline in Myanmar fish resources has resulted from the increased number of fishing enterprises and the growing number of fishing boats on the seas and rivers, increasing from will continue to conduct research The volume of fish floating above 700 to 2,500-2,600, said U Myprojects in order to estimate the water dropped from 1 million int Thu, deputy director of the Department of Fisheries. "There are fishermen who do not abide by the prescribed rules. One reason for the decline might be the net-fishing, which sometimes captures fingerlings.

Myanmar still sits at the top of the list in terms of fish numbers with the highest possession of aquatic resources among the ASEAN partners. However, there is a large gap in fish exports compared to Thailand and Viet Nam as Myanmar suffers from weak



Fish are seen in a net at a fish farm in Yangon. Photo: Reuters

investment, manufacturing processes and technical know-how.

Myanmar aquatic resources such as sea fish, freshwater fish, prawns, crabs, eels, dried prawns and other fishery products are exported to 30 countries including China, Japan, South Korea, America and various European nations.—Zar Zar

Philippines' election victor Duterte plans government overhaul

DAVAO, (Philippines) — The Philippines' president-elect, rough-talking city mayor Rodrigo Duterte, announced plans on Tuesday for an overhaul of the country's system of government that would devolve power from "imperial Manila" to long-neglected prov-

Duterte's win in Monday's poll has not been confirmed, but an unofficial count of votes by an election commission-accredited watchdog showed he had a huge lead over his two closest rivals, both of whom conceded defeat.

By Tuesday afternoon, the ballot count showed Duterte had almost 39 per cent of votes cast. He was more than 6 million votes ahead of the second-placed candidate with 92 per cent of votes counted from an electorate of 54 million.

It is not clear when Duterte's victory will be officially declared but he is expected to take office on 30 June.

Votes were also cast on Monday for vice-president. One day on, counting

showed the outgoing administration's candidate, Maria Leonor Robredo, ahead of the son and namesake of late dictator Ferdinand Marcos. Duterte's spokesman, Peter Lavina, told a news conference that the new president would seek a national consensus for a revision of the constitution which would switch from a unitary form of government to a parliamentary and federal model.

The proposal to devolve power from Manila fits with Duterte's challenge as a political outsider to the country's establishment, which he has slammed as self-serving and corrupt.

"The powerful elites in Manila who will be affected by this system will definitely oppose this proposal," said Earl Parreno, an analyst at the Institute for Political and Electoral Reforms.

Duterte's spokesman

said he would also seek peace agreements with rebel groups in the south of the archipelago, where the outgoing government has been using force to quell militancy. The 71-year-old's truculent defiance of political tra-



drawn comparisons with US Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, as have his references to his libido.

That tapped into popular disgust with the ruling class over its failure to reduce poverty and inequality despite several years of robust economic growth.

Duterte's vows to restore law and order also resonated with voters. But his incendiary rhetoric and advocacy of extrajudicial killings to stamp out crime and drugs have alarmed many who hear echoes of the country's authoritarian past.

US Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and the Pacific Daniel Russel told reporters in Viet Nam that Washington respected the choice of the Philippine people and "will gladly work with the leader that they select".

Duterte made a succession of winding, bellicose and at-times comical remarks late on Monday as the votes were being counted,

venting over corruption and bad governance and telling anecdotes from his 22 years as mayor of Davao city.

Wearing checked shirt and slouched in a chair, he said corrupt officials should "retire or die" and reiterated his support for police to use deadly force against criminals.

"I'll behave if I become president," he said, adding that he would not make state visits to countries with cold

In an early indication of

his unorthodoxy, Duterte told reporters on Monday that if he became president he would seek multilateral talks to resolve disputes over the South China Sea.

The outgoing administration of President Benigno Aquino has asked a court of arbitration in The Hague to recognise its right to exploit waters in the South China Sea, a case it hoped could bolster claims by other countries against China in the resource-rich waters.

Duterte said negotiations should include Japan, Australia and the United States, which is traditionally the region's dominant security player and contests China's development of islands and rocky outcrops in the sea. The influential Chinese state-run tabloid the Global Times, said that Beijing would not be naive enough to believe that a new president would bring a solution to the South China Sea dis-

"Only time will tell how far the new leader, be it Duterte or not, will go toward restoring the bilateral relationship."—Reuters

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China to relocate 2 million people this year in struggle to banish poverty

BEIJING — China, fighting to stamp out poverty, will this year move more than two million of its poorest citizens from remote, inland regions to more developed areas, an official of the cabinet, or State Council, said on Tuesday.

The mass relocation of people is a strategy targeted at lifting 10 million citizens out of poverty by 2020, state news agency Xinhua

Some of the villagers will move to areas with better social services, such as schools and hospitals, while others in remote areas will move to places with better roads and water supply, the official, Liu Yongfu, told a briefing.

The numbers would be stepped up gradually and may eventually hit 3 million, added Liu, who heads the cabinet's Leading Group Office of Poverty Alleviation and Develop-

"We will talk it over with the localities and accu-

mulate some experience, after that we will increase step-by-step," he said.

Despite two decades of rapid economic growth, poverty remains a huge issue in China, mainly in rural areas, where a lack of jobs drives out adults, leaving behind children and the elderly, often with limited access to schools and healthcare.

China's poor, who make up about 5 per cent of a population of nearly 1.4 billion, live mostly in the countryside, and earn less than 2,300 yuan (\$362) a year, government and state media say.

In March Premier Li Keqiang promised a boost of 43 per cent in funding for poverty relief programmes. Last October, the cabinet said China aimed to lift all its 70 million poor above the poverty line by 2020.

In December, Li urged local authorities to provide housing, healthcare, schooling and employment for relocated citizens.—Reuters

South Korea will never accept DPRK as nuclear state: FM



Photo taken on May 6, 2016 shows the April 25 House of Culture, where the 7th Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) is held in Pyongyang, capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). PHOTO: XINHUA

SEOUL — South Korea will never recognise Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) as a nuclear-weapons state, the foreign ministry said on Tuesday.

During the 7th congress of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) that ended Monday, DPRK's leader Kim Jong-un reaffirmed that the country would push forward economic growth and nuclear development at the same time. "Our government and the international community will never accept the North as a nuclear power," ministry spokesman Cho Junehyuck said during a regular

press briefing. "We will continue to impose sanctions and pressure on it so that it can wake up from the illusion of nuclear development and show its willingness to denuclearize through actions," said the spokesman.

South Korean President Park Geun-hye also blasted DPRK Tuesday for claiming it is a nuclear state and for announcing its plan to strengthen its nuclear weapons capability. Seoul and the international community at large do not recognise the DPRK as a nuclear power, she told a cabnet meeting.— Xinhua

Climbers near Everest summit for first time in three years



Light illuminates Mount Everest (C) during sunset in Solukhumbu District, also known as the Everest region. Photo: Reuters

KATHMANDU — Climbers on Mount Everest are on the brink of the first attempts in three years to make the final ascent to the world's tallest peak, after fatal avalanches cut short the 2014 and 2015 campaigns.

Teams at forward camps are looking for a weather "window" to open in the next few days, clearing the way to the 8,850 metre (29,035 foot summit) along the Southeast Ridge first climbed by New Zealand's Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay in 1953.

The southern route, on the Nepali side of the mountain, has suffered tragedy over the past two years, with 16 sherpa guides killed by an avalanche in the treacherous Khumbu Icefall in

Last year, an earthquake that killed 9,000 people across Nepal sent a massive snowslide crashing into Base Camp, killing at least 18 climbers and guides and putting an end to that year's campaign.

At least 289 climbers and their guides are in different high camps waiting for a weather window and jostling to become the first to scale the peak. Nearly 700 people summitted in 2013.

Tourism Department official Gyanendra Shrestha said climbers had fixed ropes up to the South Col, the final camp, at about 8,000 metres (26,246 feet), and were stocking it with sup-

"Climbers have begun to move from the base camp to higher camps for the summit," Shrestha told Reuters from Base

Ang Tshering Sherpa, chief of the Nepal Mountaineering Association, who is in touch with climbers at Base Camp, said in Kathmandu that, weather permitting, the route from the South Col to the summit would be fixed on Wednesday.

"Climbers will then start making summit attempts from Thursday," Sherpa told Reuters.

Veteran mountaineer and blogger Alan Arnette, tracking the campaign, said in a post eight teams had slept at Camp 3 — at 7,162 metres (23,497 feet).

Unpredictable weather remains a challenge though this year's campaign has been free of

Climbers from around the world spend tens of thousands of dollars to try to climb Everest every year though none reached the summit in last year's spring

Last September, Japan's Nobukazu Kuriki, 33, had to call off his solo attempt when he was beaten back by wind and snow at 8,150 metres (26,738 feet).

Wang Jing, a 40-year-old Chinese woman, was the only person to climb Everest in 2014 but her ascent sparked controversy amid reports she took a helicopter over the Khumbu Icefall, in what many Everest climbers saw as a violation of their code.—Reuters

Cambodia frees eight protesters, including two foreigners

PHNOM PENH — Cambodia released eight protesters hours after police detained them for demonstrating against what activists described as the politically motivated imprisonment of a group of rights workers and an election official.

Two of the protesters were foreign men, one Swedish and one German.

They were freed on Monday night after being questioned for supporting rights activists who were jailed over an ongoing sex scandal investigation involving opposition politician Kem Sokha.

"They released us after over 10-hour detention," Ee Sarom, one of those detained, told Reuters on Tuesday.

A series of legal cases filed against prominent members of the main opposition party have raised tensions in Cambodia, where selfstyled strong man Prime Minister Hun Sen has held power for 30

Rights groups have accused the government of using the legal system to neutralise the opposition to give Hun Sen an advantage in the run up to the next general election in 2018.

Sam Rainsy, the leader of the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP), is in exile to avoid prison on charges that were reactivated last year and for which he had previously received a royal pardon.

Kem Sokha, the party's acting president in Rainsy's absence, is facing charges for defamation and procurement of prostitution after recordings of a telephone conversation purportedly between Sokha and a woman were leaked.

Six other people — including a United Nations employee — allegedly paid the woman to deny she had a relationship with Sokha, and are facing trial on bribery charges.

The UN worker has not been detained.—Reuters

Thai officials test-ride Japan-made train

BANGKOK — A group of Thai be completely operated according officials on Tuesday test-rode a new Japan-made train in the first full trial run of the Purple Line, set to begin service between Bangkok and Nonthaburi Province in August.

A free-of-charge test run for the public will take place from 13 June to 22 July on the 23-kilometer-long line with 16 stations, including Bangkok's Tao Poon and Nonthaburi's Klong Bang Phai, prior to the official opening scheduled for 6 August.

is to make sure that the trains can system.—Kyodo News

to the work plan," said Gen. Yodyuth Boonyathikarn, president of Mass Rapid Transit Authority of Thailand.

The Purple Line, with 21 trains made by Yokohama-based train manufacturer Japan Transport Engineering Co., is expected to serve 120,000 commuters daily and help mitigate traffic congestion in Bangkok.

The project marked the first time for Japan to export trains to Thailand for use on the "The purpose of the test run latter's urban rapid transport

Obama weighs historic decision on whether to lift Viet Nam arms ban

WASHINGTON — US President has long sought — would sweep Barack Obama is considering whether to lift a three-decade-old arms embargo on Viet Nam, US officials say, as he weighs calls to forge closer military ties with Hanoi against concerns over its poor human rights record.

The debate within the US administration is coming to a head amid preparations for Obama's trip to Viet Nam this month to bolster ties between Washington and Hanoi, former wartime enemies who are increasingly partners against China's growing territorial assertiveness in the South China Sea.

The full removal of the embargo — something Vietnam

away one of the last major vestiges of the Viet Nam War era It would also likely anger Bei- edge of the discussions. jing, which condemned Obama's partial lifting of the arms ban in lies and partners has been a ma-2014 as an interference in the region's balance of power.

On one side of the internal debate, some White House and State Department aides say it would be premature to completely end restrictions on lethal military assistance before Viet Nam's communist government has made more progress on hu-

officials, including many at the Pentagon, who argue bolstering Viet Nam's ability to counter a and advance the normalisation rising China should take priority, of relations begun 21 years ago. according to people with knowl-

Boosting the security of aljor thrust of Obama's strategic 'pivot" toward the Asia-Pacific region, a centrepiece of his foreign policy.

Even as Viet Nam seeks warmer relations with the United States, though, US officials are mindful that suspicions linger among Communist Party conservatives that Washington wants to undermine their coun-They are at odds with other try's one-party system.—Reuters



US Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Daniel Russel speaks at a news conference, as part of his visit to Viet Nam, ahead of a visit by US President Barack Obama later this month, in Hanoi, on 10 May 2016. Photo: Reuters

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

What counts is the heads of departments

Khin Maung Aye

have one thing in common with their public service personnel be they military or civilian—i.e. working for the country and the countrymen. However, what makes governments main unchanged. different from the public service personnel is the fact that the governments can stay in power only for one term whereas the public service personnel can remain in the workforce until they retire from service. This being so, it is the public service not need to know the technipersonnel who are running the administrative machinery for about four decades in the dos and the don'ts, the

governments or so of they start to join the procedures and processes, service in late teens or early twenties and continue to work until retirement with superannuation. **Despite** changes in cabinet members, the government servants re-

> Such being the case, it is the public service personnel who know better the laws, rules, regulations, procedures and directives than the cabinet members, who are more concerned with policy making. Thus, they do cal details like service personnel who are well-versed

the rules and regulations. In this regard, the most responsible officials are the managing directors of enterprises trading, the directors-general of the departments and the chairmen of the boards who are directly appointed by the president with recommendations from the cabinet ministers.

Obviously, the success of the administrative machinery is totally dependent upon the expertise, experience and egocentrism. As long as these heads of departments are not egocentric, using their expertise and experi-

ence rightfully in the interest of their country and countrymen, the administrative machinery can be run smoothly with the result that the people can be best served.

This being so, the Global New Light of Myanmar would like to urge the heads of departments/enterprises/ boards to recommend to the cabinet ministers the best suggestions, options and operational procedures in order that the policy makers can make the ideal decisions in the interests of the nation and the people for whom they are accountable.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)

Dr. Khine Khine Win

INCE 1945, the scope of human rights has been elaborated and the concept now permeates the fabric of international society. Now a day it is bandwagon in all over the world. Human rights are basic rights and freedoms that belong all of us from birth until death. However, due to having divergent views on human rights there is no precise meaning and the meaning of human rights is still controversial. Different people see human rights in different way. Very basic thing is that you have human rights and fundamental freedom because you are human being. If you talk about human rights you must know the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, UDHR.

The United Nations came into existence on October 24, 1945. Human rights movement developed in the aftermath of Second World War and the atrocities of the Holocaust culminating the adoption UDHR. In June 1946, the UN Economic and Social Council established the Commission on Human rights and this commission established a special Universal Declaration of Human Rights Drafting Committee. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of US President Franklin D. Roosevelt is the Chair to write the articles of declaration. The UN had numerous discussions (187 official meeting, 1400 discussions) and consultations that took into consideration political, social, culture and religious backgrounds in order to de-

Scope of Human Rights Civil and Political Rights Social, economic and cultural rights Basic rights

clare as the universal standard of UDHR. This is the milestone and the international community. I feel very proud being a Myan-During drafting process, more mar in this regard. than 1700 times for voting on practically on every word and every clause of the text.

On 10 December, 1948 three year after the forming of United Nations, UDHR was adopted by the United General Assembly in Paris by a vote of 48 in favor, 8 abstentions and 2 failed to vote or abstain. Since Myanmar became the member Stats of UN in 1948 April, Myanmar had a chance to vote and voted in favor for

UDHR is the milestone and important document in the history of human rights and is the world's first declaration that recognizes that all human being must enjoy their human rights and fundamental freedom whenever they are. It explicitly stipulates individual freedoms and rights. The Declaration consists of thirty articles and it enumerates civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. If you classified those 30 articles from human rights perarticle 1 and 2 are the foundation blocks and fundamental of all human being, article 3 to 21 are civil and political rights, article 22 to 27 are economic, social and culture rights and article 28 to 30 are responsibilities of all human be-

Here it is noteworthy that, UDHR set a world record in 2009 for being the most translated document in the world. At present there are 467 different languages available in HTML and/or pdf format according to OHCHR. In this regard Myanmar National Human Commission has translated the text of UDHR from English and Myanmar in 2013 and also from Myanmar to Kachin, Shan and Mon languages in 2015.

Nevertheless UDHR regarded as binding on all member States of the United Nations, it is just declaration and non-binding resolution. UDHR constructed the foundation for international human rights law, and its ideology and content have been incorporated into the constitutions and part of customary laws of many coun-

In comparison with Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (2008), I am proud to say that Constitution (2008) is directly or indirectly related with UDHR. Here are the some examples. Chapter I, Basic Principles of the Union of Constitution (2008) have 48 articles. Among them 10 articles fully or partially reflected with spectives, there you can see that UDHR. Moreover there are 46 articles in Chapter VIII, Citizen, Fundamental Rights and Duties of the Citizens and almost all articles fully or partially reflected with UDHR either. Here are the some examples, article 4 of UDHR states " No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms " while article 358 of Constitution (2008) states "The Union prohibits the enslaving and trafficking in persons",

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Union Minister U Aung Thu meets mission of WCS



Union Minister Dr Aung Thu meets a mission of the Wildlife Conservation Society in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.—Photo: Departments of Fisheries and Rural Development

Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Dr Aung Thu received a mission from the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yes-

discussed Oceanic research works and the works of forest conservation to be carried out by the WCS after signing a Letter of Agreement (LoA).

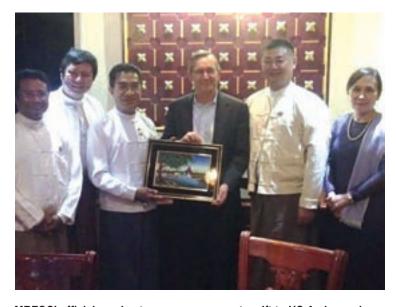
WCS have been conduct- GNLM

At the meeting both sides ing research projects as well as Ayeyawady Dolphins conservation works in Ayeyawady Dolphin conservation areas in line with instructions from the Department of Fisheries.-

US ambassador meets entrepreneurs in Mandalay

A GROUP of entrepreneurs led by the vice chairman and the secretary of the Mandalay Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MRC-CI) in Mandalay met US ambassador to Myanmar Mr Scot A Marciel and embassy officials David Galbraith and Satrajit Sardar at the Mingalar Restaurant in Mandalay on Saturday 7 May.

At the meeting, the participants exchanged views on the impact of Myanmar's democratic transition on business in Myanmar. The ambassador said the US will be a partner in the country's reform process, which is expected to bring economic development to the country. The MRCCI vice chairman and the entrepreneurs presented gifts to the ambassador and his party.—Thiha Ko Ko



MRFCCI officials and entrepreneurs present a gift to US Ambassador Scot A Marciel.—Photo: Thiha Ko Ko

Water distributed to villages in drought-stricken Mon State



GROUNDWATER resources are facing depletion throughout the country as the effect of El Niño set in across the country.

Members of the Myanmar Police Force donated 7300 gallons of water for drinking and bathing to residents in drought-hit areas in Bilin and Paung Townships, Mon State on

The Myanmar Police Force already donated a total of 280,556 gallons of drinking and bathing water between 24 April and Monday. —Ye Zarni

POINTS TO PONDER

POEM:

U Ba Than

Poet Zawgyi hath said, Your land where you are born, Should prosper and thrive; Your knowledge, your integrity Shall forever glitter in glory... Now may you ponder On this precious moment, The third stage of life, Passing the octogenarian mark, Of what you have done, The good, the bad and the ugly; How have you lived Through all these years? What have you learnt From Arts, Sciences, and Humanity To benefit mankind? What have you given To the world at large, For your loved ones, And yourself, Along present and future existences In the unending Samsara? What will you leave for posterity? An honorable virtuous life, Of service to humanity, Charity, knowledge and wisdom, Tender-loving and compassionate, Recognition, and worthy legacy, Which you may proudly bequeath, To the next generations? What will you take To your after-life? Charity and contemplation, Mindfulness and Meditation, Finally spiritual courage, To look death in the Face Without fear, Beyond this frail body and soul!

May you be blessed with peace of mind.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)

>> from page 8

article 5 of the UDHR states " No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment" while article 44 of Constitution (2008) states " No penalty shall be prescribed that violates human dignity" and article 7 of UDHR states "All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection" while article 21(d) and 347 of Constitution (2008) states " Necessary law shall be enacted to make citizens' freedom, rights, benefits, responsibilities and restrictions effective, steadfast and complete" and " The Union shall guarantee any person to enjoy equal rights before the law and shall equally provide legal protection" respectively.

UDHR is worldwide document and it has come to be regarded as the single most important document. Indeed International Bill of Human Rights consists of Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the international Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (IC-CPR) and the international Covenant on Economic, Social

and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).

Since 1950, human rights day is celebrated annually across the world on 10 December. The date was chosen to honor the United Nations General Assembly's adoption and proclamation, on 10 December 1948, of the Universal Declaration of Human rights. Human rights day promote awareness of human rights issues around the world and high light the efforts of the United Nations in improving global human rights conditions for all.

Let me conclude the article by expressing article 29 (b) of the UDHR which states "In the exercise of his rights and freedoms, everyone shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society". This article shows the responsibility of every human being whenever they are. Bear in mind that two side of the same coin is rights and responsibility.

Clinton and Sanders face off in West Virginia as Trump looks on



US Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton address the crowd while visiting La Escuelita School in Oakland, California, US, on 6 May, 2016. Photo: Reuters

WASHINGTON — Bernie Sanders has another chance on Tuesday to slow Hillary Clinton's march to the Democratic presidential nomination as West Virginians vote in their state's primary, a week after Donald Trump became the presumptive Republican nominee.

Clinton, a former secretary of state and US senator from New York, has a commanding lead in the pledged delegates needed to clinch her party's nomination for the 8 November election to succeed Democratic President Barack Obama.

The outcome in West Virginia, where only 29 delegates are at stake and opinion polls show Sanders with a slight lead, is unlikely to alter the course of the Democratic race.

But Clinton's battle with Sanders, who defied pollsters to win in Indiana last week, has become a source of gloating for Trump. The New York real estate developer has taunted Clinton in recent days by saying she "can't close the deal" with Sanders, her only rival since 1 February. Clinton has said she will ignore Trump's personal insults and instead criticize his policy pronouncements.

Clinton apologized in West Virginia last week after being confronted by angry voters for her remark in March that she would "put a lot of coal miners and coal companies out of business" with her plans to increase renewable energy sources.

She said her comment had been taken out of context and that she wanted to help retrain people who worked in the industry, one of the state's biggest employers.

Sanders, a US senator from Vermont, has reminded his supporters at crowded rallies that most polls show him beating Trump by a larger margin than does Clinton.

A win on Tuesday would bolster his decision to keep fighting for votes through 7 June, when nearly 700 delegates are at stake, including 475 in California where Sanders is now focusing his efforts.

Sanders, who has been embraced in particular by younger, more left-leaning Democratic voters, has vowed to take his campaign to the party's nominating convention in Philadelphia at the end of July, and wants a say in shaping the party's platform.

Although Trump is the last man standing in what was once a 17-candidate Republican field, Republican voters in West Virginia and Nebraska will get a chance to register their preferences on Tuesday, with the names of most of his vanquished rivals still appearing on ballots.—Reuters

Erdogan seeking injunction against German media executive

ANKARA — Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan is seeking a preliminary injunction against German publisher Axel Springer's chief executive Mathias Doepfner, Erodogan's lawyer said on Tuesday.

Ralf Hoecker, the lawyer, told Reuters the Turkish leader wanted the injunction due to Doepfner's support for a poem read out by comedian Jan Boehmermann on German national television in March. In the poem Boehmermann suggested Erdogan hits girls, watches child pornography and engages in bestiality

In an open letter published in German newspaper Welt am Sonntag in April, Doepfner expressed solidarity with Boehmermann, saying he had laughed out loud over the poem and "wholeheartedly" supported what the comedian had said.

Hoecker said he would recommend that Erdogan pursue his case with a higher German court if the preliminary injunction was rejected, as expected. He said he expected a quick decision.

Erdogan's office was not immediately available for comment when contacted by Reuters.

A spokeswoman for Springer said: "We do not yet have any information about this at all. It's important to note that Mr Doepfner wanted to defend the freedom of art and satire in his open letter — that was the reason for his letter."

Hoecker's law firm published a statement on its website on Monday saying it had suc-

ceeded in getting a preliminary injunction against German director and producer Uwe Boll, who in a video posted online, defended Boehmermann's poem and said Erdogan should be shot.

"Mr Erdogan is a human being and human dignity is inviolable," Hoecker said in that statement, adding that this was placed above the freedom of press, art and opinion in the German constitution.

Erdogan is known for his sensitivity to criticism and Turkish prosecutors have opened over 1,800 cases against people for insulting him since he became president in 2014.

Chancellor Angela Merkel drew heavy criticism for allowing German prosecutors to pursue a case against Boehmermann.—*Reuters*

NEWS IN BRIEF

Italy arrests two people suspected of planning attacks in Rome, London

ROME — Italian police on Tuesday arrested two people as part of an investigation into a militant cell suspected of planning attacks in Rome and London, an investigative source said on Tuesday.

The cell had been established in Puglia, in southeastern Italy, "to carry out violent attacks with the purpose of international terrorism, in Italy and abroad", the arrest warrant read.

In all, the warrant calls for the arrest of five people, four Afghans and a Pakistani, three of whom are still at large. They are all officially resident near Bari, the main city in Puglia, but two are currently in Afghanistan, the source said.

Three of the suspects are accused of international terrorism and two of aiding illegal immigration.—*Reuters*

At least two confirmed dead as tornadoes touch

HOUSTON — At least two people were killed and several others hurt as tornadoes hit near Oklahoma City, capital of the US state of Oklahoma, and the rolling hills south of the city Monday afternoon.

According to the local daily *The Oklahoman*, one man died at his home in Garvin County, where hailstones as large as golf balls came pounding down. Another person died after being trapped in the rubble near Connerville.

Several people were injured, and major damages to a radio station and several buildings were reported in counties. Television images showed that houses were destroyed, several vehicles overturned and trees uprooted.

The National Weather Service earlier on Monday issued five tornado warnings, four of which have been confirmed.—*Xinhua*

US, Afghan forces free kidnapped son of Pakistani ex-premier

ISLAMABAD — The kidnapped son of a former Pakistani prime minister has been rescued in Afghanistan in a joint operation by Afghan and US forces, three years after gunmen abducted him in his Pakistani home town, Pakistan said on Tuesday.

Ali Haider Gilani, son of ex-premier Yusuf Raza Gilani, "has been recovered today in a joint operation carried out by the Afghan and US security forces in Ghazni, Afghanistan," the Pakistani foreign office said in a statement.

It added that he would be transferred to Pakistan after a medical check-up.

In a separate statement posted on Facebook, Afghan ambassador to Pakistan, Omar Zakhilwal, said Ali Haider was freed "in an operation by Afghan Special Forces in Ghazni Province this (Tuesday) morning". His statement made no mention of US forces' involvement in the rescue. The US-led NATO mission in Afghanistan said it was aware of the reports, but had no immediate comment.

Local media reported that the freed captive had been shifted to Bagram airport in Afghanistan and would reach Pakistan in a few hours.—*Reuters*

Two killed, 10 injured as blast hits SW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD — At least 2 policemen were killed and 10 others injured when a blast hit a police check post in Pakistan's southwest city of Quetta on Tuesday afternoon, reported local Urdu TV channel Samaa.

The nature of the blast is yet to be determined.—*Xinhua*

Iran denies recent test of ballistic missile

TEHRAN — Iran's Defence Minister Brigadier General Hossein Dehqan denied that the country has recently test-fired a 2,000-km range of ballistic missile, Tasnim news agency reported on Tuesday.

On Monday, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Iranian Armed Forces, Brigadier General Ali Abdollahi, said that the Islamic republic testfired a ballistic missile two weeks ago with an "insignificant error margin," Tasnim news agency reported.

"We test-fired a missile with the range of 2,000 km two weeks ago, which had an error margin of eight metres," Abdollahi was quoted as saying. "An eight-metre error margin means no error, means without error," Abdollahi said. "This missile can be guided to out of atmosphere and back to atmosphere, to hit its target with accuracy." "We had no missile test recently with the range published in media on Monday," Dehqan said according to Tasnim news agency.—Xinhua

Air strikes kill 10 in Syria's Idlib Province — monitoring group



Residents and civil defence members look for survivors at site damaged by an airstrike in Hafsarja, in the insurgent stronghold of Idlib Province, Syria, on 9 May 2016. Photo: Reuters

BEIRUT — Air strikes on a the British-based group said. town in Idlib Province in Syrpeople on Tuesday, monitoring group the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported.

Low-level fighting also appeared to continue inside the city of Aleppo, 50 km (30 miles) from Idlib city, and there were heavier clashes around Aleppo,

ia's northwest killed at least 10 the extension of a ceasefire in Aleppo late on Monday.

> The airborne raids, by either Syrian or Russian warplanes, struck the town of Binnish, 6 km (4 miles) from the provincial capital Idlib. They wounded a number of others, the Observa-

It said a local insurgent The Syrian army announced commander was among those killed. There were no immediate details about other casualties.

Idlib Province, which borders Turkey, is almost completely controlled by insurgent groups, including the al Qaeda-affiliated Nusra Front and powerful Islamist group Ahrar al-Sham.—*Reuters*

Saudi intercepts missile from Yemen but truce holds

RIYADH — Saudi Arabia intercepted a ballistic missile fired from Yemen on Monday, but a Saudi-led military coalition said it would maintain a shaky truce despite the "serious escalation" by the Houthi militia and its allies, state news agency SPA said.

The Iran-allied Houthis and Yemen's Saudi-backed exile government are trying to reach a peace agreement in talks in Kuwait aimed at ending the year-long war and easing a humanitarian crisis in the Arabian Peninsula's poorest country.

The Saudi-led coalition intervened in Yemen a year ago mainly with air strikes in support of the Yemeni government. A tentative UN-backed ceasefire has been in place since last month to give the peace talks in Kuwait a chance at progress. Both sides have regularly accused each other of violations.

Yemen's government wants the Houthis and forces loyal to former President Ali Abdullah Saleh to hand over weapons and withdraw from cities captured last year.

Saudi air defence forces destroyed the missile without it causing any damage, the coalition said, according to SPA. It gave no further details about the missile or the target. Similar incidents have occurred periodically over the past months.

"The coalition announces that it will continue to maintain the cessation of hostilities," it said, reiterating that it retained the right to respond as appropri-

Brigadier General Sharaf Luqman, a spokesman for Yemeni forces fighting alongside the Houthis, said the missile was aimed at a military base in Khamees Mushait in southwest Saudi Arabia, a location previously targeted.

The missile was in response to coalition air strikes in Yemen since the start of the truce that have killed and wounded dozens, Luqman said in comments to Saba, the Houthi-run news agen-

He said that despite this the forces were committed to the truce but would respond if there were further raids.

The Saudi-led coalition ended a previous ceasefire in January saying that its enemies had fired missiles targeting its border posts and shelled civilian areas where the Houthis were fighting pro-Saudi Yemeni forces

On Monday, representatives of the Yemeni government and Houthis met in Kuwait and a United Nations special envoy urged them to make more progress to end a war which has killed more than 6,200 people and displaced some 2.5 million others.—*Reuters*

Aleppo fighting rages as US, Russia try to revive Syria truce

BEIRUT/PARIS Syrian government forces and their allies fought insurgents near Aleppo on Monday and jets conducted raids around a nearby town seized by Islamist rebels, a monitoring group said, as Syria's military said a ceasefire in Aleppo would be extended by 48 hours starting on Tuesday.

A recent surge in bloodshed in Aleppo, Syria's largest city before the war, wrecked the 10-week-old, partial truce sponsored by Washington and Moscow that had allowed UN-brokered peace talks to convene in Geneva.

The United States and Russia, which support rival sides in the civil war, said they would work to revive the February "cessation of hostilities" agreement that reduced fighting in parts of the country for several weeks.

US Secretary of State John Kerry said all parties had to press the sides they back to turn "words on a piece of paper" into actions to reinstate the truce.

Syria's military high command was quoted by state news agency SANA as saying the Aleppo ceasefire would be extended by 48 hours in the northern city beginning at 1 a.m. local time on Tuesday (2200 GMT on Monday).

A number of short-term local

truces have been in place since 29 April first around Damascus and northern Latakia and then in Aleppo, but there has still been fighting between rebels and government

The cessation of hostilities and local truces do not include Islamic State or al Qaeda's Syrian branch, the Nusra Front.

Asaad al-Zoubi, the chief negotiator for the main Syrian opposition at the Geneva talks, criticised the extended Aleppo truce, telling Al Jazeera television that such measures served only to allow thousands of reinforcing troops to be sent from Iran, which is supporting Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. Warplanes struck the town of Khan Touman, southwest of Aleppo, the British-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said. Rebels also fought government forces east of Damascus, and jets hit the rebel-held towns of Maarat al-Numan and Idlib. Russia and the United States said in a joint statement they would step up efforts to persuade the warring parties to abide by the ceasefire agreement.

"We have decided to reconfirm our commitment to the (ceasefire) in Syria and to intensify efforts to ensure its nation-wide implementation," they said. "We demand that parties cease any in-



A general view shows a damaged street with sandbags used as barriers in Aleppo's Saif al-Dawla district, Syria in 2015. Photo: Reuters

Paris, Kerry said a reduction of violence in line with the US-Russian joint statement depended on field commanders as well as interested parties including the United States. "These are words on a piece of paper. They are not actions," he said. We have a responsibility to make certain that the opposition lives up to this, and Russia and Iran have a responsibility to make sure the Assad regime lives up to this."

Basma Kodmani, a member of the opposition High Negotia-

discriminate attacks on civilians, tions Committee, expressed hope including civilian infrastructure of a return to the Geneva peace and medical facilities." Visiting talks if the US-Russian agreement is swiftly implemented.

Russia's military intervention last September helped Assad reverse some rebel gains in the west of the country, including in Aleppo Province. But insurgents captured the town of Khan Touman last week, inflicting a rare setback on government forces and allied Iranian troops who suffered heavy losses in the fighting. Several Iranian soldiers were captured in the clashes, a senior Iranian lawmaker said on Monday. The city of Aleppo is

one of the biggest strategic prizes in a war now in its sixth year, and has been divided into government and rebel-held zones through much of the conflict. The Observatory said warplanes struck rebel-held areas of the city early on Monday, and rebels fired shells into government-held neighbourhoods.

Al Manar, the television channel of Damascus's Lebanese ally Hezbollah, said on Monday troops had destroyed a tank belonging to insurgents and killed some of its occupants. On the eastern edge of Damascus, government forces and their allies shelled rebel areas and clashed with insurgents, the Observatory and the rebel force Jaish al-Islam said. Three people were killed and 13 wounded in air strikes on Idlib, it

Jaish al-Islam agreed with a rival rebel group, Failaq al Rahman, that both would vacate a town they have been fighting over for almost two weeks, the Observatory said.

The groups, two of the strongest operating in the area, agreed to make no more attempts to occupy the town of Misraba in the Eastern Ghouta suburb of Damascus, and return it to civilian rule. After 13 days of heavy artillery exchanges, Jaish al Islam took control of the town over the weekend, capturing around 50 rival fighters.—Reuters

Repair crews assess Canada wildfire damage, oil firms plan restart

FORT MCMURRAY, (Alberta) — Repair crews were expected to assess wildfire damage to the Canadian energy boomtown of Fort McMurray on Tuesday as the oil sands companies surrounding the ravaged city looked at bringing production back on line.

Political leaders got their first glimpse of the city on Monday since wildfire forced 88,000 residents to flee for safety. Alberta Premier Rachel Notley said they were encouraged by how much of it escaped destruction, estimating almost 90 per cent of its buildings were saved.

But the tour also revealed scenes of utter devastation, with blocks of homes reduced to blackened foundations, front steps and metal barbecues.

Notley said 2,400 structures had burned within the city while almost 25,000 were saved.

The fire, expected to grow further on Tuesday, ravaged some 204,000 hectares (504,000 acres) of Alberta. But it also moved far



Charred vehicles and homes are pictured in the Beacon Hill neighbourhood of Fort McMurray, Alberta, Canada, on 9 May 2016 after wildfires forced the evacuation of the town. Photo: Reuters

enough away from the evacuated town to allow an official delegation to visit on Monday.

Officials warned it was not safe for residents

to return, with parts still smoldering and large areas without power, water and gas. Notley said repair crews will have weeks of work ahead of them to make the city safe. The assessment by officials came a few hours after insurance experts revised sharply downward their estimates of the cost of damage from

the blaze, which began on 1 May. Cooler weather, which has helped firefighters battling the blaze, was expected to linger through Thursday, according to Environment Canada. Still, much of Alberta is tinder-box dry after a mild winter and warm spring.

Fort McMurray is the center of Canada's oil sands region.

About half of its crude output, or 1 million barrels per day, has been taken offline, according to a Reuters estimate.

Oil sands companies, which have high fixed costs, are expected to work as quickly as possible to get production back online, but face the challenge of many staff and suppliers being displaced by the evacuation. In one encouraging sign for industry, Royal Dutch Shell Plc said on Monday it restarted production at a reduced rate at its Albian oil sands mining operation in Alberta, adding it plans to fly staff in

But Imperial Oil said late on Monday it completed a controlled shutdown of its Kearl oil sands mining project, blaming the uncertainties associated with logistics.—*Reuters*



Police officers look for evidences at the train station after an attack in Grafing, southeast of Munich, Germany, on 10 May 2016. Photo: Reuters

Knife attacker kills one at Munich train station

MUNICH — A German national stabbed four passengers at a train station near Munich early on Tuesday, killing one man and injuring three, in an attack police said appeared to have an Islamist motive.

Witnesses said the assailant, a 27-year-old man, shouted "Allahu Akbar" ('God is Greatest' in Arabic), according to police.

"The perpetrator made remarks during the attack which point to there being a political motive," Bavarian police said in a statement, adding he had been arrested and there were no further suspects.

A 50-year-old died of stab wounds in hospital shortly after the attack. The other stabbed men, aged between 43 and 58, sustained lighter injuries, police said.

The attack took place at about 5am local time (0300 GMT) at the train station at Grafing, a commuter town about 32 km (20 miles) southeast of the Bavarian capital in southern Germany.

Germany, which is playing a supporting role in the fight against Islamic State, has not suffered a major attack by Islamist militants on the scale of those that have hit neighboring France and Belgium.

But ministers have repeatedly warned an attack is possible and German security services are on alert. Over 800 home-grown radicals have left Germany to join jihadist groups in Syria and Iraq and about 260 have returned.

Germany has also been a transit country for militants who carried out attacks in Belgium this year and Paris last year. There are concerns that some of the more than 1 million migrants who arrived in the country last year have slipped off officials' radar.—Reuters

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (113N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (113N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.5.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV FABULOUS SW VOY NO (32)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FABULOUS SW VOY NO (32) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.5.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-4 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S TOKO KAIUN KAISHA

Phone No: 2301191/2301178

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV IRRAWADDY STAR VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV IRRAWADDY STAR VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.5.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: M/S CONTINENTAL SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 2301185

LTD.

UN to campaign against xenophobia, racism in dealing with refugees

UNITED NATIONS — The United Nations on Monday proposed that its member countries create and agree upon a system to share responsibility more fairly for the hundreds of

millions of refugees and mi-

grants around the world.

The global compact would be accompanied by a UN-led campaign to combat the xenophobia and racism that have tainted discussions of the refugees and migrants, UN officials said at a briefing to release a report on the global migration

The UN estimates there are 20 million refugees worldwide and another 40 million people displaced inside their own countries. Of the refugees, 86 per cent live in developing countries, often near the countries they came from, it says.

Added to those figures are 244 million migrants who live and work in countries where they were not

born, it says

The campaign would attempt to counter an increasingly negative attitude and tone in debates over how to deal with the crisis, the UN said.

"I am concerned at the increasing trend of member states to erect fences and walls," UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said in the report.

"Xenophobic and racist responses to refugees and migrants seem to be reaching new levels of stridency, frequency and public acceptance."

The proposals come ahead of a summit meeting planned at the UN in September to address the global refugee crisis.

The UN-led campaign will promote such steps as more direct, personal contact between refugees, migrants and people in their host countries, said Karen AbuZayd, UN special adviser on the summit.

Also, nations will be



Migrants and refugees walk through a field to block the road during a protest near the Greek-Macedonian border, near the town of Polykastro, Greece, on 2 April 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

called upon to develop plans for including refugees and migrants in education, language and skills training and employment opportunities.

The global compact would require nations to share responsibility in a variety of ways so that a few nations do not shoulder much of the burden while others do far less, the UN said

It might include resettlement policies, financing arrangements, aid to host countries and technical assistance, AbuZayd said.

"States will share re-

sponsibility for refugees more fairly. Host countries will receive immediate support for their development needs. International migration will be governed better," she said.

Amnesty International called the plan a potential "game changer", but said its

success depends upon nations agreeing on a permanent system for sharing responsibility.

"World leaders cannot go on lurching from crisis to crisis, haggling over numbers and fiddling while parts of the world burn," Amnesty said.—*Reuters*

Venezuela extends two-day workweek for state employees to save energy

CARACAS

Venezuela's socialist government has extended a two-day workweek for public sector employees for another two weeks because of a drought that has sapped hydroelectric power generation in the OPEC country.

The South American country's 2.8 million employees already have Fridays off during April and May. President Nicolas Maduro in late April gave them Wednesdays and Thursdays off too, and canceled school on Fridays. Maduro's rivals have called the shortened workweek foolhardy, arguing that sending employees home will not solve the power

crunch and halting activity will merely worsen Venezuela's deepening recession

But the ruling Socialist Party said on Monday the measures would last until at least 27 May.

"The Bolivarian government has decided to extend the special policy of non-working days," Aragua state Governor Tareck El Aissami said in a speech on state television from the Miraflores presidential palace in Caracas.

"These measures are due to insufficient rains. The rains were very light, and the situation at Guri remains critical," he said.

Drought has reduced

water levels at Venezuela's main dam and hydroelectric plant in Guri, which covers about two-thirds of the country's energy needs, to near-critical levels.

Water shortages and electricity cuts have added to the hardships of Venezuela's 30 million people, already enduring a brutal economic slowdown, shortages of basics from milk to medicines, soaring prices and long lines at shops.

Officials have blamed the El Niño weather phenomenon for Venezuela's electricity woes and said they have avoided painful measures such as hiking hugely-subsidized energy bills to protect the poor.

But critics say the blame lies with inadequate government investment, corruption, inefficiency and a failure to diversify energy sources.

Maduro has changed the clocks so there is half an hour more daylight in the evening, while also urging women to reduce use of appliances like hair dryers and ordering malls to provide their own power generators.

The opposition, which won control of the National Assembly in a December election, is pursuing a multi-pronged approach to remove Maduro from office this year.—*Reuters*

TRADEMARK CAUTION

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Date: 11.5.2016

La Niña eyed, as Pacific cooling signals El Niño nearly over: Australia

SYDNEY — The Pacific Ocean has cooled to near neutral levels over the past two weeks, the Australian Bureau of Meteorology said on Tuesday, as the end of the strongest El Niño weather patterns in nearly 20 years creeps closer.

El Niño's are associated with hot, drier conditions, especially across Australia's east coast and Southeast Asia, but can produce higher precipitation on the west coast of South America.

As the El Niño draws to an end, the bureau said

there remains a 50 per cent chance of the opposite La Niña pattern emerging during 2016.

The La Niña weather phenomenon is a cooling of the Pacific Ocean waters off the coast of South America that tends to follow the El Niño pattern, a warming of those waters.

La Nina events are associated with the increased probability of wetter conditions over much of Australia, particularly over the eastern and northern areas, and increased numbers of tropical cyclones.—*Reuters*



Singer Selena Gomez. PHOTO: REUTERS

Selena Gomez throws away **'Marry Justin** Please' sign during concert

LOS ANGELES — Pop star Selena Gomez has been captured crushing and throwing a "Marry Justin Please" sign during her concert in California.

Gomez and singer Justin Bieber dated on-and-off from 2011, before finally calling it quits in 2014.

Videos that have surfaced online show Gomez, 23, asking a fan to hand over the sign during a show on May 8, reported Aceshowbiz.

She then crushed it and threw it on the ground before resuming the show.—PTI

AC/DC's first concert with new member Axl Rose



Axl Rose of Guns N' Roses performs during the Sweden Rock Festival 2010 in Solvesborg, Sweden, in 2010. Photo: Reuters

LISBON — Guns N' Roses front man Axl Rose made his debut with AC/DC while standing in for lead singer Brian Johnson at a concert in Lisbon on Saturday, as a part of the band's world tour.

AC/DC, known for songs such as "Highway to Hell" and "Back in Black", had to reschedule dates on the US leg of the "Rock or Bust" tour in March after Johnson, 68, was

advised by doctors to stop touring "or risk total hearing loss".

Rose was announced as a replacement a month later.

Fans from around Europe traveled to Lisbon to watch the concert, giving Rose the

"You couldn't even tell the difference in the vocals," one Portuguese fan said. "You just have to like and love it." -Reuters

Cannes on high alert ahead of film festival opening

CANNES — Security at the Cannes film festival, which opens on Wednesday, will be intense as France is still facing a high risk of attack, French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said on Monday.

With 45,000 people expected to visit the 11-22 May event, French authorities are on high alert with some 400 security agents, hundreds of police deployed and special forces ready to intervene, Cazeneuve told a news conference.

France has been under a state of emergency since attacks claimed by Islamic State killed 130 people in November at entertainment venues in and around Paris including a concert hall, cafes and the Stade the France

"As we are about to open this festival and as I come here to check the security protocol, we are ... facing a risk that is higher



Palm fronds and trees frame a giant canvas of the official poster of the 69th Cannes Film Festival in Cannes, France, 9 May, 2016. Photo: Reuters

than ever," Cazeneuve said.

"And against an enemy who is determined to strike at any time, we must be extremely vigilant at all times."

France has already announced plans to extend the state of emergency to cover the Euro 2016 soccer tournament that begins next month and announced stricter security for venues.

In 1978, French authorities thwarted an attack on the film festival when they discovered a bomb on the Palais des Festivals stage.

Woody Allen's "Cafe Society" opens the 69th edition of the festival on Wednesday.—Reuters

Rihanna launches college scholarship programme

LOS ANGELES superstar Rihanna has announced a college scholarship programme, where she will be offering scholarships of up to USD 50,000 for students who need financial sup-

The "Work" hitmaker is offering scholarships for students on a need basis through her Clara Lionel Foundation, reported USA Today.

"To be able to give the gift of an education is actually an honour. Higher education will help provide perspective, opportunities, and learning to a group of kids who really deserve it. I am thrilled to be able to do this,"

Students have a change of receiving USD 5,000 to USD 50,000 of financial support towards their studying for a fouryear course in a college based in the Untied States.

Applicants for the bursary must be a resident of either the United States, Barbados, Cuba, Brazil, Jamaica, Guyana or Haiti and the fate of the top 50 will be decided by a committee, who are looking for "academic performance, demonstrated leadership and participation in school and community activities, work experience and a personal essay".

A post on the charity's of-

ficial website read: "The Clara Lionel Foundation Global Scholarship Program awards full

scholarships to highly motivated youth in Barbados, Brazil, Cuba, Haiti, Guyana, Jamaica and the United States.

"Designed to assist students who are aspiring to reach their fullest potential, the program will provide recipients with the opportunity to receive an education anywhere in the United States.

The goal is to create a cyclical effect with CLF Scholars eventually being able to help others become thriving professionals, educators, and philanthropists."—PTI

Richard Gere to star in Jon Avnet's 'Three Christs'

LOS ANGELES — Actor Richard Gere will star in Jon Avnet's "Three Christs", in the role of a doctor treating three paranoid schizophrenic patients who all believe they are Jesus Christ.

"Three Christs" marks Gere and Avnet's second collaboration. The first was "Red Corner" in 1997, a film that led to Chinese

star Bai Ling having her Chinese citizenship revoked.

Based on a biographical novel by Milton Rokeach titled, "Rokeach's Christs of Ypsilanti: A Narrative Study of Three Lost Men", the film has been adapted by Eric Nazarian and Avnet, said The Hollywood Reporter.

Avnet is producing along-

side Brooklyn Films' Aaron Stern and Highland's Arianne Frasier and Delphine Perrier. Molly Hassell (Terminal) also is

The doctor treated the trio of patients at the Ypsilanti State Hospital in Michigan, and what transpired is both comic and deeply moving.—PTI

Eurovision Song Contest kicks off with opening ceremony

STOCKHOLM — Contestants from 41 European countries and Australia walked the red carpet outside Stockholm's Royal Palace on Sunday, kicking-off Eurovision Song Contest week, which culminates in the grand finale on roes". Saturday.

Sweden is hosting the competition after Mans Zelmerlow won last year's contest in Vienna with the electro-pop ballad "He-

Hundreds of fans gathered outside the palace to catch a glimpse of the contestants as they arrived to the EuroClub which has been set up just in front of the palace especially for the contest.

The draw to determine in which half of the grand finale the Big Five and Sweden will perform in also took place. The so-called Big Five - Italy, France, Germany,

Great Britain, Spain - as well as hosting country, Sweden - qualify for the final automatically and do not compete in the semi-finals.

Only 26 countries will compete in the final.—Reuters

Syrian refugee brings his art to Lithuania

VILNIUS — A faceless skull with a crown of spikes and blood pouring from its wounds, symbolizing a Syrian caught in the horror of civil war, stares out from a painting on the wall in a student theater in the Lithuanian capital Vilnius.

This is just one image by artist and refugee Majd Kara, now holding his first exhibition in his adopted home, where he arrived just a month ago.

"I can draw anywhere. I was drawing in Homs, in the middle of the war. It's not hard," said Kara, who fled the civil war with his girlfriend just two weeks after they met and fell in love.

Kara, a 29-year-old Christian, and his Muslim girlfriend Farah Mohammed, 27, left their homes last August as the fighting became unbearable, paying \$600 each to board an overcrowded lifeboat with a faulty engine to make the crossing to Greece.

"I decided to get out from Syria not just because of the war. Before the war we had difficulties to deal with our society, and of course the war became more reason to just get out,"

They then submitted themselves to a legal resettlement scheme which sent them to Lithuania, of which they knew nothing but the name. Lithuania has agreed with the European Union to accept 1,105 refugees from

Syria and Iraq, although so far only a handful have been willing to settle there.

Painting has since been one of very few ways to fill the time in the refugee center in a tiny village where Kara lives, in the middle of a wood. Learning languages — Lithuanian, Italian, German and English — and cooking and practicing yoga take up the rest of the time.

In the month since he arrived, he has produced 26 paintings, some on canvases he brought with him from Syria.

"Back home I was very nervous to speak about my art, but after the journey, after living in Istanbul and Athens, I became more

Salvador is surrounded by

gang-infested areas where

daily turf wars have made

the small Central American

nation among the world's

the center stands a teenage

girl with red hair, a sign she

is a gang member, a mobile

phone glued to her ear,

On the road leading to

most deadliest.





A photographer takes a picture of a painting by Syrian artist Majd Kara, who fled his country, in Vilnius, Lithuania, on 5 May 2016. Photo: Reuters

open. I can discuss it freely", Kara said.

But after his long journey he said it was hard to adjust to life in such a quiet corner of the country, and the couple are hoping to

move on to somewhere else in Lithuania.

"You can't hear any sound, there is just silence. After living in Istanbul and Athens, after all its crowds and traffic, we were a little

bit afraid. But then we visited Vilnius, and Vilnius is much better," he said.

LIFESTYLE 15

"We don't have any plans for now, we want just to discover Lithuania."-Reuters

Youth orchestra plucks oasis out of gangland El Salvador

SAN SALVADOR — The sweet sounds of classical music float across a sunny courtyard as a group of teenagers pluck the strings of violins and cellos.

But beyond the high gates enclosing the courtyard of the Don Bosco In-

The centre on the eastern side of the capital San

dustrial Polygon Centre, home to El Salvador's first and only youth orchestra, the sounds most likely to be heard are of gunshots.

> checking every person and car that enters. But inside the building, there are no such con-

The orchestra has become a safe haven from the surrounding violence for hundreds of children who live in gang-controlled neighbourhoods.

The Don Bosco Youth Symphony Orchestra and Chorus aims to keep teenagers off the streets and away from the gangs by offering them an alternative to gang life and culture.

Through music and being part of an orchestra, teenagers find a sense of identity and purpose, countering some of the push factors that cause young people to join gangs.

"There are few spaces and options for children in poor neighborhoods dominated by gangs," music coordinator Daniel Ayala told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

"The levels of violence we have reached is absurd. It's senseless. For me violence is also about having a child stuck at home because it's too dangerous for them to be on the street. And the street means gangs."—Reuters



News Channel in Brief

(11-5-2016, Wednesday)

6:00 am

• Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw

7:35 am

· Money Talks Myanmar (Part-3)

8:35 am

Travelogue

9:35 am

Documentary

10:35 am

· Teleplay

11:35 am

· MRTV Education

12:50 pm

· TV Drama Series

1:35 pm

· TV Drama Series 2:15 pm

• Kyae Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than

3:35 pm

· Money Talks Myanmar (Part-3)

4:35 pm

 Football Magazine (Yangon United)

5:15 pm

· Traditional Boxing 5:35 pm

· The World of Robots "Robots and the Senses"

• Real Story Real Movie 7:15 pm

• TV Drama Series

8:00 pm

· News / International News/ Weather Report

9:00 pm

- News
- TV Drama Series
- · Musician's Talk

Note / Hourly News Bulletins (Local + International)

vador on 20 April 2016. Photo: Reuters

Channel

7:40 pm

8:30 pm

8:50 pm

(Review-I)

Life (Ep-2)

Entertainment

· International Drama Series

• English Premier League

• Life In NightArt In

Orchestra members from the Don Bosco Youth and Choir

Orchestra participate in a practice in San Salvador, El Sal-

6:00 pm

- Weather Report
- Music Programme

6:20 pm

- Pyi Thu Ni Ti
- 6:30 pm
- "Space Chimps" (Part 1)

- International Drama Series Myanmar Video

- Cartoon Programme
- 9:40 pm 7:00 pm

From 11-5-2016 (Wednesday) 6:00 Pm To 12-5-2016 (Thursday) 6:00 Pm

Myanmar

(11-5-2016 07:00am ~ 12-5-2016 7:00am) MST

07:03 Am

07:26

07:35

Shrinking Footprints 08:03

08:26 Am

08:52 Sagaing: Guitars Am

09:03 Am News 09:26 Am

Am Buddha Image Built Of Bamboo Strip

Today Fresh

Wet Market in Yangon: Shwe Pa Dauk Fish Am

Market Am

Am Director: Kyi Phyu Shin

08:37 Myanmar Betels Am

Local Tour Guide: Pho Khant 09:39

10:26

All About Orchids 10:39 Around The Maha Boditahtaung

Great Minds Of Myanmar - U Kyaw Win 10:51

(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm) - Tuesday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am) $(03:00 \ Pm \sim 07:00 \ Pm)$ - Today Repeat $(07:00 \ Am \sim 11:00 \ Am)$

07:03 Pm News

Live: AFC Cup 2016 (Lao Toyota FC Vs 07:15 Pm

Ayeyawady United FC)

(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am) (11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am) - Tuesday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am) (03:00 Am ~ 07:00 Am) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)

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

^{5th} Waxing of Kason 1378 ME

Wednesday, 11 May, 2016



Ranieri could one day win World Cup for Italy — Tavecchio

ROME — Leicester City's triumphant coach Claudio Ranieri could one day win a World Cup for his native country, Italian Football Federation president Carlo Tavecchio said on Mon-

The 64-year-old coach has led unsung Leicester, 5,000-1 outsiders at the start of the campaign, to the Premier League title this season, the first top-flight crown in the club's 132-year his-

"I hope Ranieri can win a World Cup with Italy, that would be the best," Tavecchio told re-

"I'm speaking in an abstract way, of course, and not necessarily about the next World Cup (in 2018). Claudio is still young and will have time on his side."

Italy will be coached by Antonio Conte at next month's European Championship in France before the former Juventus supremo leaves to take charge of Chelsea, Ranieri's old club.

(Ranieri) as a replacement for Conte?" said Tavecchio.

"It's him who should be thinking about us.



Leicester City manager Claudio Ranieri talks after receiving the Enzo Bearzot award, for the best Italian coach of the season, during a ceremony in Rome, Italy on 9 May 2016. Photo: Reuters

"We're thinking about a lot of different things right now but those in his second sporting homeland are wishing him every success."

Earlier on Monday, Ranieri was honoured as Italian football's coach of the season.

Two days after lifting the "Have we thought about him league title, he was back in his home city of Rome to collect the Enzo Bearzot award, named in honour of Italy's late 1982 World Cup-winning coach.—Reuters

Milestone for Ronaldo but another Pichichi unlikely

Ronaldo achieved another milestone in his Real Madrid career when he scored his 200th goal at the Bernabeu on Sunday but he looks like failing in his bid to become La Liga's top scorer for the third season in a row.

The prolific Portuguese struck twice in Real's 3-2 win ing scorers' trophy), but be- ter United in 2009.—Reuters

over Valencia to move on to 33 cause he wants to score in every league goals this season, four behind Barcelona's Luis Suarez the Frenchman added. with one match left.

fighting until the end," Real coach Zinedine Zidane told the Real's home stadium, averaging club's website on Monday.

"Not for the Pichichi (lead-

game, to score more and more,"

"As always, it's the team "Knowing him, he'll keep that reaps the benefits of this."

> Ronaldo has been prolific at 1.16 goals a game since joining the Madrid side from Manches-

Murray splits with coach Mauresmo

LONDON — Andy Murray and his coach Amelie Mauresmo have agreed to end their twoyear working relationship, the British world number three said on Monday.

Twice grand slam winner Murray lost the Madrid Open final to Novak Djokovic on Sun-

"I've learned a lot from Amelie over the past two years,' Murray said in a statement.

"She's been a calming influence in the team and we'll miss having her around.

"I'll take some time to consider the next steps and how we progress from here, but I'd like to thank her for everything she has done, she's been an invaluable member of the team."

Mauresmo described working with Murray as being a fantastic experience.

"I've thoroughly enjoyed being part of the great team of people he has around him," she

"Dedicating enough time along with the travel has been a challenge for me. I wish him and the team well and I hope he goes on to win any more titles."

The partnership between the two Wimbledon champions — Murray won the men's singles in 2013 and French former



Andy Murray and coach Amelie Mauresmo. Photo: Reuters

triumphed at the All England Club in 2006 — seemed a surprise alliance when it was announced after the 2014 French

Yet the pair have enjoyed plenty of success with the 36-year-old Mauresmo helping guide the Scot to seven titles and to two Australian Open fi-

However, the 28-yearold Murray has not been able to quite reach the peaks he

world number one Mauresmo climbed when Ivan Lendl was his mentor, winning Olympic gold in 2012 as well as the US Open later that summer before his historic Wimbledon suc-

Mauresmo has not been regularly on the circuit with Murray since giving birth to her son Aaron last August and had indicated then that she would have to see how she could cope with being both a parent and a globe-trotting coach.—Reuters

Indonesia wants 'Special One' to train national team

JAKARTA — Indonesia wants former Chelsea coach Jose Mourinho to train its beleaguered national football team, the country's sports minister said on Tuesday.

Minister Imam Nahrawi said he had discussed the idea with President Joko Widodo, who is trying to revive Indonesian football after years of underperformance.

"This idea has been discussed... even though it's not easy," Nahrawi said, according to state news agency Antara.

He added the government had also discussed hiring interim Chelsea manager Guus Hiddink.

FIFA last year banned Indonesia from international football, citing government interference in

The government had refused to withdraw their demands that local football association (PSSI) block two clubs from taking part in the top flight domestic league, because of concerns about their ownership.

The PSSI stood firm but the league was halted after two rounds and eventually cancelled after the government stepped in.

One of the world's most successful coaches, Mourinho said last month that while he had not signed a contract with anybody, he expects to be back in football in time for the start of next season.



Former Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho. Photo: Reuters

"I'm in a position to be open to any club, to any national team, but to be honest if possible I'd like a club, and analyse and think what's best for my career and to be back with everything I have," he said.

Mourinho was sacked by Chelsea in December after the Premier League champions started the season with nine defeats in their first 16 matches.

The 53-year-old, who has also coached Real Madrid, Inter Milan and Porto, has been strongly tipped in media reports to take over from Louis van Gaal at Manchester United next season.

Indonesia, ranked 185th in the FIFA world rankings, are one of four countries vying to host the 2023 Asian Cup.—Reuters

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