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Sufficient corrective mechanisms needed to enforce the rule of law

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Greetings of Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the first anniversary of the NCA

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First Anniversary of Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement held



Dignitaries including President U Htin Kyaw, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and Commander-in-Chief Senior General Min Aung Hlaing pose for photos at the ceremony to celebrate the first anniversary the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement. PHOTO: MNA

A CEREMONY to celebrate the first anniversary of signing the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement was held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The ceremony was opened with an address by Daw Aung

San Suu Kyi, Chairperson of the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre and State Counsellor, greetings of Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung

Hlaing and Saw Mutu Sae Poe, Chairman of KNU, on behalf of the signatories to the NCA.

(The addresses are covered separately.)

Following the addresses,

Chairman of the Peace Commission Dr Tin Myo Win and General Secretary of the KNU Pado Saw Kwe Htoo Win read out the summary of the NCA.

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The government's roadmap for national reconciliation and union peace

1. To review the political dialogue framework
2. To amend the political dialogue framework
3. To convene the Union Peace Conference—the 21st Century Panglong in accordance with the amended and approved political dialogue framework
4. To sign union agreement—the 21st Century Panglong Conference Agreement based on the results of the 21st Century Panglong Conference
5. To amend the constitution in accordance with the union agreement and approve the amended constitution
6. To hold the multi-party democracy general elections in accordance with the amended and approved constitution
7. To build a democratic federal union in accordance with the results of the multi-party democracy general elections

LET BYGONES BE BYGONES

The following are salient points from the speech delivered by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the State Counsellor and chairman of NRPC, at the first anniversary of the NCA.

I BELIEVE progress has been made over the past year. I would like to appreciate and honour the previous government led by former president U Thein Sein for their (important) contribution to the signing of this NCA.

As known to all, the first step is the most important step when treading on a path. And this step has already been taken to move forward. We are all aware that those who we would like to participate and those who are worth participating are not yet included. All inclusiveness is very important to our country. Peace is a treasure which cannot be exchanged for whatsoever thing. Reflecting in the wording NCA, the notion of fire struck my

mind. Should we want peace and ceasefire, we had better start with extinguishing of anger and prejudice which are likened to fire burning inside our heart and soul. So, only when all the individuals and organizations involved can subdue their fire-like anger and prejudice, will we be able to achieve the genuine peace.

And only when these fire-like mindsets can be calmed down within our organizations, will the worries of the (entire) people can be relieved to naught. So, ceasefire should be meant for extinguishing the fiery concerns of our people. All organizations are wanted to reflect on this very notion of the two semantic components of cease and fire. We

have our own opinion, we can't deny. But I'm confident we are all able to overcome these bitter experiences. What we ought to compete is who the most forgiving individuals and / or organizations are. We are not to compete in our firing power. We need to vie with one another for our fire-extinguishing power. The whole country is watching us with great expectation.

There is a world famous saying: Many can be deceived for a while, some, forever but all cannot be done so forever. People will know in the long run. What appeals to me more is an advice by a senior monk from Inle region in around 1988.

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Saw Mutu Sae Poe, Chairman of KNU, extends greetings at the first anniversary of signing NCA

Following is the excerpts of the greetings of Saw Mutu Sae Poe

THE NCA is essential for the correct path to maintain all-round stability in Myanmar, which is important to regional stability geopolitically. We are proud and glad to be able to participate with EAOs to restore genuine peace and to find a political solution to the conflicts based on the NCA. It is necessary for all of us to envision a democratic federal union. The NCA and the peace process also serve as an important pillar for international support and lifting of sanctions we are now enjoying. Although the international community is supporting us, everything depends on the NCA, including how much effort we can exert to bring about positive development, how serious we are on national reconciliation and which tasks and mechanisms we will develop.

It is necessary to avoid the use of force in our attempts to adopt and

exercise the new political culture of the NCA and in finding political solutions through political means. I would like to call for all to develop precise reform policies to enable us to escape from the influence of the past experiences and lessons. For instance, it is necessary to stop the ongoing armed conflicts in northern Myanmar. Will the inclusive reform path be clear only when the public is allowed to take part in the genuine reform. Only then, can success be achieved.

It is necessary for various levels of all signatories to the NCA to understand and accept the essence of the agreement such as equality, cooperation and negotiation and to implement the agreement without derailing from the essences at any situation.

Although incidents are understandable, intentional attacks are not acceptable. Leaders from both sides

are responsible to reach an agreement on interpretation of the NCA. I would like to call for all to continue to negotiate with all seriousness some parts of the NCA that have yet to be implemented for various reasons.

Though, Myanmar is enjoying the diplomatic support and international recognition for commencing political dialogues within the one year's period of the NCA and holding the Union Peace Conference — 21st Century Panglong, it should also be remembered that there are still weaknesses in implementing the NCA.

Although efforts are being made to hold political dialogues to rebuild the nation in accordance with the provision of the NCA, I would like to call for continued strengthening of dialogue space among NCA signatories. In spite of the fact that joint committees are dialogue spaces for leaders of both sides,

I would like to point out that it is important to hold meaningful political discussions.

Although dialogues spaces exist to some extent at the union level, there are weaknesses to create dialogue spaces for region and state levels. Therefore, it is necessary to move from what seems to be elite peace process to inclusive peace process.

National reconciliation is of utmost importance for the success of the peace process. Therefore, on behalf of NCA signatories, I would like to call for the government and the Tatmadaw with all seriousness to ease policies and suspend the use of force in order to pave way for non-signatories to sign the NCA.

It is also necessary for both sides to negotiate and make bargains in political dialogues to build enduring peace desired by the people through the



KNU Chairman Saw Mutu Sae Poe.

process of respect, recognition and joint implementation of the NCA among the government, the Tatmadaw and ethnic armed groups.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate at the first anniversary of the NCA to pursue the political solution through political

means without resorting to the use of force and call on all to build together a new, stable, harmonious and peaceful democratic federal union that will enable Myanmar to enjoy its previous prestige not only in Asia but also in the world. (An unofficial translation)

Statement of the First Anniversary of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement

15th October, 2016

1. The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and ethnic armed groups signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement, an important historic milestone of peace efforts, on 15th October, 2015.

2. The government and representatives of seventeen ethnic armed groups participated in drafting the agreement, and the draft was handed over to the president on 31 March, 2015. The draft was approved as the final document of the agreement at the Lawkhila Conference on 7 August. After seventeen months of negotiations, the government and eight ethnic armed groups signed the NCA, which included seven chapters and 33 major points, in the presence of local and international witnesses. The NCA, which was drafted by all parties, was approved unanimously by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in December 2015 and it was recognized as the historic foundation for the entire peace process of Myanmar.

3. During the one year's period after signing of the agreement, all parties to the agreement tried as much as they could to implement

the provisions of the agreement. Abiding by the NCA, joint implementation of the peace tasks is being carried out phase by phase, based on trust built on patience, mutual understanding and respect.

4. To ensure that military rules and code of conducts included in the NCA, the ceasefire Joint Monitoring Committee was formed and monitoring efforts are being exerted in an accountable and transparent manner.

5. As developing a roadmap to implement the entire peace process was agreed in the NCA, the Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee was formed to hold all inclusive political dialogues and work is being carried out. As a result, a framework for political dialogue was drawn and the First Union Peace Conference was held from 12 to 16 January, 2016.

6. In line with the changing situation of the State, a framework for political dialogues is being developed. The Union Peace Conference — 21st Century Panglong was successfully held from 31 August to 3rd September. The conference was all-inclusive and discussions were made independently.

It was also turning a new chapter to implement the entire peace process from the Union Peace Conference — 21st Century Panglong to the national level political dialogues.

7. By respecting the provisions of the NCA and finding political solutions through political dialogues peacefully, further steps will be taken to move forwards on the way to build a union based on federalism. It has also been agreed not just to implement ceasefire but also to monitor it. In addition, parties made guarantees for political dialogues. As provisions of the NCA are foundations for peace agreed upon by all parties, implementation of the provisions will be an important step towards the future union. By jointly implementing tasks included in the NCA, a lasting new peace process aiming at resolving conflicts will be developed and a union based on democracy and federalism can be built in accordance with the outcomes of the union peace dialogues.

(An unofficial translation of the Statement of the First Anniversary of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement)

Excerpts of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement

1. This agreement is targeted at implementation of NCA and it will be in effect in every part of the country thereupon.

2. This agreement, that includes 7 chapters and 33 paragraphs, has strengthened and further approved the previous agreements signed by the government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and ethnic armed groups.

3. This agreement, with the aim of non disintegration of the Union, non disintegration of the national solidarity and the perpetuation of sovereignty, is targeted to build a federal democratic State endowed with rights to social equality, freedom and self determination, that is the essence of the Panglong Spirit, based on the results of the political dialogues.

4. Besides, parties agree to set up a political culture to deal with any political issues by political means, void of the use of military forces so that we can achieve eternal peace and tranquility which guarantees equal

rights for every individual. In doing so, it agrees to include all persons who are worth participating in political dialogues, based on needs and wishes of all national races.

5. It is definitely described in the agreement necessary facts for both sides to abide by in military matters and to protect the people, so as to be able to make the ceasefire a success. Both sides agree to provide humanitarian aids to IDPs and victims of the conflicts in consultation with each others.

6. For military rules, regulations and military ethnic to be effective in every corner of the country, a joint observatory committee on nationwide ceasefire is to be organized/formed and the process is to be implemented with the responsibility and accountability.

7. A political road map has been approved in order to be aide to accomplish the whole peace process. We agree to form a joint committee for national peace dialogue, consisting of all persons,

worth participating for successful implementation, and to compile a framework on political dialogue and hold dialogue at all levels here after.

8. The government had erased the illegal organizations that signed in the agreement from the black list so as to build the trust in the peace process as agreed initially.

9. As the armed ethnic groups which signed the agreement are responsible bodies in their respective ceasefire areas for the progress and security matters, they are simultaneously to cooperate in the implementation of education, economy, social welfare, environmental conservation, ethnic languages, literature and culture progress and eradication of drug, it is agreed.

10. With effect from the signing from leaders of the State, leaders of ethnic armed groups, the agreement will come into effect as an eternal historic agreement of the Union of Myanmar. (An unofficial translation)

Let bygones be bygones

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He gave me two case studies of U Poe Sein, a great theatrical artiste of his days, and Sein Bayda, the leader of a famous Myanmar orchestra. The former is noted for his skills in negotiation of steps whereas the latter is a world famous performer. Our reverend monk said that although Poe Sein, the great, is highly skillful in negotiation of steps, the audience know when he misses one movement in performance. Similarly, although the audience cannot perform as good as Sein Bayda, they know when he misses a beat. The message he would like to give to me is to never think lowly of my supporters, followers and fans.

So, I'd like to advise you all not to underestimate the reasoning power of our people. So,

I want you all to take steps forward with the popular support. In this regard, we need to be courageous enough to tread on the path of change. Naturally, we are more convenient with our daily routine activities. But to start something new, we need courage, (correct) thinking, qualification. I believe we are all possessed with this ability.

It is sorrowful to learn that there are still some organizations who have not signed NCA yet. What I'd like to say is who harbours greater magnanimity--the government, the Tatmadaw or the indigenous organizations? Who are more forgiving? Who are living in the present, forgetting the past? Instead of competing with one another in firing power, we'd better vie in fire-fighting power.

Then the state counsellor

talked about the seven-point roadmap(separately reported on the front page).

Concerning the democratic federal union, I've repeatedly explained what democracy means. But I don't think it is still not enough. So, I'd like to reiterate that democracy has both rights and responsibilities. The rule by people is a system of governance under which each individual is responsible. So, I'd like all those involved in this peace process to bring the responsibilities to the fore, leaving the rights behind. Let bygones be bygones.

Nothing is permanent, it is said. So, we'd better ponder over what kind of heritage we'll leave to the country when we leave (this earth). I'd like you all to leave legacy that will have a historical value. It's

easier said than done. It's really difficult (to admonish oneself), to extinguish the internal fire. As known to you all, the flames of war are raging rather wildly in Rakhine State which we need to put out.

The external fire can be extinguished in no time but the anger and hatred burning in our heart and soul will be rather difficult to bring under control. So, subduing these evil feelings is incumbent upon each and everybody. We're all responsible to avoid talking hate speech, putting the fuel into the fire, fanning the flame, saying the frost is fire. We are brave enough to take drastic, legal action within the framework of law. I'm confident we'll be supported by our people.

So, who want the genuine peace? Who don't want it? These people will know soon. And the people will be watching closely. As we're treading on the path to democracy, we'd lay emphasis on public opinion,

public idea and public view. I don't say our people are always right. They may stay on a wrong path for some period of time. But they will not always be in wrong direction. If there are things they don't understand, it is our duty to clarify things. As long as people understand (the situation) well enough, they are believed to support the peace process in a correct manner.

May I conclude by saying that I understand you brethren might have harboured some bitter feelings.

I request you not to look back at the past, just draw lessons from it. Just think of our future generations in a manner in which they will not suffer the woes and sorrows we have felt in our past. Leave the best heritage to your nation i.e. peace. To achieve it, put out the fire burning in your heart and soul. This is my request.

I thank you. (An unofficial translation)

First Anniversary of Nationwide...

>> From page 1

(The summary of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement is covered separately.)

The ceremony is attended by President U Htin Kyaw, State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Vice Presidents U Myint Swe and U Henry Van Thio, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Win Myint, Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw Mahn Win Khaing Than, Union Chief Justice U Htun Htun Oo, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal U Myo Nyunt, Chairman of the Union Election Commission U Hla Thein, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice Senior General Soe Win, leaders from eight signatory groups to the NCA, Union ministers, chairmen and members of the parliamentary committees, members of the Union Peace Working Committee, members of the Peace Commission and supporting committees, MPs, military representatives, representatives of the political parties, diplomats and NCA witnesses and officials.

— Myanmar News Agency



President U Htin Kyaw and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, two vice presidents and Senior General Min Aung Hlaing arrive to attend the ceremony to celebrate first anniversary of signing the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement.

PHOTO: MNA

Peace Commission, DPN hold 2nd meeting

PEACE Commission and the Delegation for Political Dialogues held their second meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, Chairman of the Peace Commission Dr Tin Myo Win called for finding common solution for achieving peace in the country, stressing the need to hold meetings frequently between the two sides to achieve success as the peace making process is on the right path.

U Khu Oo Rae, Leader of DPN also called for holding the negotiation with mutual understanding.

The meeting was attended by members of the Peace Commission, chairman and members of the advisory committee and members of the DPN. Representatives of the signatories to NCA including the Restoration Council of Shan State-RCSS, Karen National Union-KNU, the All Burma Students' Democratic Front and the Pa-O National Liberation Organization-PNLO were also present at the meeting as observers.

The meeting focused on proposals of the United Nationalities Federal Council-UNFC.—Myanmar News Agency

Four violent attackers captured in Maungtaw

SECURITY forces captured four violent attackers including Corlimulla, Commarlhuda, Nanduhuda and Habutashein near Rida village in Maungtaw yesterday. They were transferred to the Kyaingchaung Police Station. Meanwhile, violent attackers am-

bushed U Than Tun and U Khaing Thway from Kanthaya (Upper) Village, at about 10 am yesterday. They were on their way to cut bamboo in the forest while they were attacked and U Than Tun was injured in his stomach. Security forces were combing the

area to find the violent attackers. Meanwhile, Security forces had to shoot to capture three violent attackers in Lakeaing Village in Maungtaw Township yesterday.

While they were conducted area clearance operation in the village, the three violent attack-

ers including one man and two woman attacked Police Corporal Thaug Nyo and Police Privates Htet Zaw Oo and Khin Soe with swords and tried to flee. The security forces had shoot them. No police were injured in the incident.—Myawady

Meeting held to implement peace, stability, development in Rakhine State

CENTRAL Committee on Implementation of Peace, Stability and Development of Rakhine State held its meeting at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, union ministers, who toured Rakhine State, clarified recent deadly attacks in the state and discussed their experiences of the mission and suggestions for stability of the state with participants of the meeting including State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

Present at the meeting were Union Ministers Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, Lt-Gen Sein Win,



Meeting being held to implement peace, stability, development in Rakhine State .
PHOTO: MNA

Lt-Gen Ye Aung, Dr Pe Myint, Thura U Aung Ko, U Thein Swe, Dr Win Myat Aye

and U Kyaw Tint Swe, Union Attorney-General U Htun Htun Oo, Deputy Ministers U

Kyaw Tin, Maj-Gen Aung Soe, Maj-Gen Than Htut, U Khin Maung Tin, Chief of Myanmar

Police Force and departmental officials.— *Myanmar News Agency*

Peace Commission and DPN hold second meeting

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making process is on the right path.

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NCA including the Restoration Council of Shan State-RCSS, Karen National Union-KNU, the All Burma Students' Democratic Front and the Pa-O National Liberation Organization-PNLO were also present at the meeting as observers.

The meeting focused on proposals of the United Nationalities Federal Council-UNFC.— *Myanmar News Agency*



The second meeting between Peace Commission and DPN in progress. PHOTO: MNA

Blacklist for entrepreneurs who fail to pay jetty taxes

MANDALAY Region authorities will blacklist entrepreneurs who fail to pay their jetty taxes within a specified time frame, says U Toe Aung Lin, Director of the Department of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems in Mandalay.

According to the official figures released by the department, there are about 30 entrepreneurs who failed to pay their taxes on

businesses which used the Mandalay Jetty, Shwekyetyet Jetty and Nyaung U Jetty during the last two fiscal years.

U Toe Aung Lin said authorities plan to place these businessmen on the blacklist as allowed in current law, adding that no blacklisted persons can operate their business on any jetty within the region.

The department collects

three different types of jetty tax from local entrepreneurs. The revenues are used to fund development projects by regional government. The department received around 120 applicants wishing to operate in those three jetties for the year 2016-2017. Priorities will be given to those who are can reduce negative environmental impacts.—*Aung Thant Khaing*

Media invited to press conference on Rakhine State

PRESS conference on the tour of the delegation led by Union Ministers Dr Pe Myint, to Rakhine State will be held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of

Information at 2 pm on 17 October.

Local and foreign media are invited to the press conference.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Tatmadaw helicopter evacuate 42 more people in Maungtaw

THE Tatmadaw is evacuating government staff and local people to safe places with helicopters and motor vehicles due to violent attacks in Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State.

Yesterday, Tatmadaw helicopters evacuated 42 people from Ywetnyotaung Village including

teachers to Maungtaw.

Tatmadaw helicopters also transported mamee noodles, soft drinks, biscuits, tins donated by the families of the Defence Service (Army, Navy and Air Force) and the food was delivered to Taungpyowe, Thayet and Ywetnyotaung Villages by officers.—*Myawady*

Ferry capsizes in Chindwin River, several feared dead

A crowded passenger ferry capsized in the Chindwin River in Kanni, Sagaing Region, after hitting a rock, killing several people and leaving at least a dozen missing, according to local people.

The ferry was reportedly carrying about 300 passengers, and so far 155 survivors have been pulled from the river after the ferry capsized. Four were confirmed dead, according to lo-

cal authorities.

The private ferry left from Homelin to Monywa, Sagaing Region. Search-and-rescue operation is still being carried out in the river.

Local philanthropic organizations are also participating in the search-and-rescue operations being closely supervised by the Sagaing Region Government.—*Thi Thi Min*



Search and rescue operation in the Chindwin River.
PHOTO: MIN THANT NAING

Greetings of Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at the first anniversary of the NCA



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing. PHOTO: MNA

TODAY the Nationwide Cease-fire Agreement—NCA reached its first anniversary. The NCA was signed by the Government of the Republic of Union of Myanmar and armed ethnic groups with the aim of restoring a durable eternal peace through all-inclusive political dialogues. I feel honoured to have the opportunity to extend greetings on this auspicious occasion. At the same time, I wish all the participants and the entire national brethren peace and tranquillity.

Our country faced bitter experiences of the colonial administrative machinery, and when we regained independence the country was in chaos alongside the internal disagreements which indeed was the evil legacy of colonialism. Of the peace processes carried out all along the successive periods since the regaining of independence, the NCA, which marks the first anniversary ceremony at present, in fact is the first ever accord signed by a greater number of multiple organizations and forces and international representatives. I would like to thank the organizations to carefully abide by and implement the NCA which was hardly signed. It is visible that the process of the NCA has successfully accomplished without any difficulties due to solving the misunderstanding cases at the basic level. I would like to suggest we need to carry on the tasks to have better situation.

The most basic and the principle requirement for the durability and success of people-aspired multiparty democracy we are exercising at present is peace and stability. The previous Tatmadaw government in laying sound foundations for multiparty democracy also prioritized the work of ending armed conflicts. Motivated by the conviction that the internal peace process was indivisible with and parallel to the reforms, the government elected for the first term

of the multiparty democracy administration in 2011 endeavoured with might and main to terminate ethnic armed conflicts.

A new chapter was opened on 18 August 2011 by inviting all the armed ethnic groups to the peace talks. It took more than four years to reach the NCA signed on 15 October 2015 from the said date. With the genuine desire for peace and with much patience and tolerance, negotiations were made again and again till mutual understanding and trust could be built and accords reached between individuals and between groups.

All ethnic armed groups included in the NCA process have agreed to the fact that the 70-year-long internal armed conflict is a political issue which has to be solved through political dialogues. As a first step of the peacemaking process, the Tatmadaw made respective state-level ceasefire agreements with ethnic armed groups. Secondly, the union-level ceasefire agreements were made. In short, the step-by-step peace-making process was implemented. On 8 March, 2014, the Union Peacemaking Work Committee and the Nationwide Ceasefire Coordination Team held a first-ever coordination meeting. On 8 April, 2014, the NCA Single Text was drafted by compiling the discussions from both sides. The draft NCA was written on 31 March, 2015 and finalized on 7 August, 2015. What I am saying aims to remember how we did not make strenuous efforts for the peace process hastily and overcame difficulties we faced through united and collaborative efforts and to be strength for the future peace-making processes.

The NCA was drafted through a series of discussions between the Union Peace-making Work Committee and representatives from ethnic armed groups. The NCA was drafted only after all participants reached a detailed

agreement on each chapter, section, paragraph and wording. Under various circumstances, some organizations included in the NCA drafting process were not ready to sign the NCA. Primarily some groups signed the NCA.

So, we are trying for the participation of all the non-signatories. The door is still opened and they are always welcomed. As the foundation of the peace process was laid on the facts negotiated and agreed by them, their aspiration can be reflected through their participation in the process. The agreements contained in the NCA are broader than the term “cease-fire”. It can obviously be seen that the chapter 1 and chapter 5 of the NCA describe “Our Three Main National Causes”, which are the country’s national needs and interests, twice.

Our country is a Union which has been formed since yore. Any regions and states in the Union are home to all ethnics, not for a single ethnic specifically. For example, more than 1.6 million of population are living in Kachin State with 29.2 percent of Bamar, 23.6 percent of Shan, 18.97 percent of Jaingphaw, 7 percent of Lisu, 5.5 percent of Rawam, 3.33 percent of Lawwaw, 2.89 percent of Lacheik, 1.57 percent of Zaikwa, and 8 percent of other ethnics in population ratios in line with the census enumerated in 2014.

Kayah State has a population of over 260,000 in which Kayah accounts for 59.45 percent, Shan 16.05 percent, Bamar 15.44 percent, Kayin 7.04 percent, other ethnics 2.02 percent. More than 5.8 million of population are scattering in Shan State with 35.23 percent of Shan, 11.44 percent of Bamar, 8.94 percent of Pa-O, 7.06 percent of Palaung, 6.41 percent of “Wa”, 4.46 percent of Danu, 3.22 percent of Kokang, 4.05 percent of Lahu, 2.35 percent of Jaingphaw and 16.84 percent of other ethnics. There are eight major tribes but over 130 ethnics are living in our country. Some ethnics have larger number of population but some are lesser number of population. Although there are differences in the size of states, population and demographic patterns, all the ethnic peoples are enjoying equal rights and anyone is not favoured. Democracy is a system in which the majority wish is observed under the law and the minority wish respected. So, it can be seen that equal rights of power is shared to respective regions and states under the Schedule Two of the Region or State Hluttaw Legislative List prescribed in Section 188 of the State Constitution (2008) as well as Schedule Three for Self-Administered Zones. All these are based on federal system. To be able to fully enjoy rights of power and opportunities, ethnics must carry out

legislative processes through different levels of Hluttaw. It means democracy practice.

I would like to say the attempts to grasp the opportunities through armed struggle line by turning a blind eye to the actual rights and opportunities is opposition to the people’s desire. The principle duty of the Tatmadaw is to defend the State. Defending the State is to take security measures for the country and to protect the people, life and property of the people and the people’s desire which is in line with the law. So, I would like to reveal the Tatmadaw will surely prevent all attempts opposing the people’s desire and exerting pressures of the people under various reasons by standing on the public issue.

Peace process will be stable and secure only when it is implemented systematically step by step. Politics is the Art of Possible, but not about wishes. In implementing the peace process, only when we focus on possible and pragmatic things rather our wishes, will we be able to achieve permanent peace which we eye for in certain period of time. Peace and stability is precondition for establishment of a genuine democracy. For our country to obtain peace and stability, ethnic armed conflicts must be ended. It needs to carry out the processes to bring ethnic armed conflicts to an end in line with the international procedures. The NCA (Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement) is the initial step of processes. The meetings and negotiations without the ceasefire would be for sure filled with mistrust, doubts, and the tendency to take up arms again in the face of some small difficulties. As we built trust in making peace process based on honesty of ethnics, it is important for further cementing the process and maintaining the pledge. Therefore, if we accept democracy, we need to abandon the obsession to the armed struggle line which is the opposition of democracy. For this to happen, we have the NCA which has been agreed by many forces. The NCA clearly states ceasefire process and future plans.

Therefore, the Tatmadaw has adopted and upholds six-point peace policy in its strenuous efforts for building true, permanent peace. The six-point peace policy is the ‘awareness’ of the Tatmadaw from its historic experiences of peace struggle in successive periods while it is also the ‘reality’ to strengthen the peace building process. The six-point peace policy of Tatmadaw and the NCA pave way to peace from armed path and from peace to a genuine democratic Union based on the federal system as well. It is also the answer to serve the interest of the people and Union without presenting any

trouble to any force. Therefore, the Tatmadaw call for respecting six-point peace policy and urge the ethnic armed groups to sign the NCA.

Signing the NCA will bring many benefits, already proven by such things as clashes have ended and peace has prevailed in the regions of signatories and local people can earn their livelihood safely while trust has grown between the forces of two sides. Therefore, I would like to urge the non-signatories to follow the good example.

In marching toward multiparty democracy which people aspire, it is important that we take steps in line with democratic practices. The solutions to demands of respective organizations must be found through dialogue and negotiation. And the door has been kept open for this. Turning a blind eye to those open doors and making demands out of a gun barrel is just the reverse of democracy. These demands cause damage to the peace process and push the country into vicious circle. So, I would like to note that relevant organizations need to carefully assess these demands.

The government elected by the people in 2015 has been giving priority to implementing internal peace building process on a wider scale. On August 31 this year, Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong was held and wishes of respective forces could be discussed, making the process transparent to the people across the country. The strength of the nation lies within. And it could also present the fundamental principle that peace process would be continued based on the NCA. However, if it takes a long time for implementing the peace processes, people will face loss of life and property as well as the State will be lagged behind development. As such, it needs to complete the Peace Conference through signing the NCA as quickly as possible by serving the interest of the State and the ethnics.

In conclusion, the NCA is not the standpoint of the government or the Tatmadaw alone or of a particular ethnic armed group, but is the outcome of the negotiations between the government and ethnic armed groups about the State’s demands. It should not try for heading towards the national level meetings beyond the NCA issues without signing the NCA. History will witness what we did, which policy we upheld and how peace was built. I would like to conclude here by calling for joining and continued implementation of the NCA to set an example to future generations as the persons who had built peaceful and strong Union. Thank you! (**From Senior General Min Aung Hlaing Facebook**)

Two new Zika cases occur in Viet Nam, raising total number to seven

HO CHI MINH CITY — Two women from Viet Nam's Ho Chi Minh City have been tested positive to Zika virus, raising the total number of Zika patients in the country to seven, the Ho Chi Minh City Pasteur Institute said on Saturday.

The two new cases include a 22-year-old woman from the city's District 2 and a 43-year-old woman from District 12; both of them have recovered.

Among the seven Zika

cases, four are from Ho Chi Minh City, and one from southern Binh Duong Province, and the two central provinces of Khanh Hoa and Phu Yen each. Viet Nam's Health Ministry has urged health departments and localities nationwide to keep surveillance on suspected cases, take samples for testing, kill mosquitos and larvae, and pay due attention to pregnant women and those who plan to conceive.—Xinhua

Two Polish men arrested in A\$145 million Australian MDMA bust

SYDNEY — Australian Federal Police said on Saturday they had arrested two Polish men in connection with the seizure of 1.2 tonnes of crystal MDMA, the main chemical used in ecstasy pills.

A raid on a storage facility in Sydney's north on Thursday uncovered the drugs — Australia's largest seizure this year — in a consignment of aluminium rollers imported from

the Czech Republic, police said. The haul equates to more than 4.1 million ecstasy tablets, with an estimated street value of \$145 million.

"Not only is it the largest drug seizure we've seen in 2016, it's the fourth-largest MDMA haul in Australian history," AFP Deputy Commissioner of Operations Justine Saunders said at press conference.—Reuters

India, Russia agree missile sales, joint venture for helicopters

GOA, (India) — India and Russia on Saturday announced plans to set up a joint venture to build helicopters in India, which will also buy surface-to-air missile systems from its former Cold War ally, as the two tighten their military relationship.

The pacts were signed after summit talks between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in India's western resort state of Goa, where leaders from the BRICS group of emerging nations

are meeting.

Indian military officials have said the plan is for the joint venture to build at least 200 Kamov helicopters required by the country's defence forces, and is part of Modi's drive to build a defence industrial base in the south Asian nation.

The S-400 surface-to-air missiles are meant to strengthen India's defences along its borders with China and Pakistan, Indian military officials have said.—Reuters



India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi (R) shakes hands with Russian President Vladimir Putin during a photo opportunity ahead of India-Russia Annual Summit in Benaulim, in the western state of Goa, India, on 15 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Regent to stand in as grieving Thailand awaits new king

BANGKOK — The head of Thailand's royal advisory council will stand in as regent while the country grieves over the death of King Bhumibol Adulyadej and awaits for his son to formally succeed him, the government said.

Mourners lit candles and recited prayers before dawn on Saturday outside Bangkok's riverside Grand Palace, where the remains of the king will lie for months before a traditional royal cremation, and thousands joined them during the morning.

The world's longest-reigning monarch, King Bhumibol died on Thursday in a Bangkok hospital, at the age of 88.

The government has said Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn wants to grieve with the people and leave the formal succession until later, when parliament will invite him to ascend the throne.

Deputy Prime Minister Wissanu Krea-ngam said in an interview broadcast on state television late on Friday that there was no uncertainty about the succession but, in the interim, the head of the powerful Privy Council would have to step in as regent.

"There must be a regent for the time being in order not to create a gap," Wissanu said.

"This situation will not be used for long," he added, without mentioning by name Privy Council head 96-year-old Prem Tinsulanonda, a former army chief and prime minister.

Prince Vajiralong-



Thailand's Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn takes part in a ceremony honouring Thailand's late King Bhumibol Adulyadej at the Grand Palace in Bangkok, Thailand, on 14 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

korn does not enjoy the same adoration his father earned over a lifetime on the throne. He has married and divorced three times, and has spent much of his life outside Thailand, often in Germany.

The king's remains were taken in a convoy on Friday through Bangkok's ancient quarter to the Grand Palace, winding past thousands of Thais dressed in black, many of them holding aloft portraits of a monarch who was revered as a father figure.

Buddhist monks chanted prayers beside his coffin on Saturday as Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn came to pay her respects.

"I didn't ever want to hear this news although it couldn't be avoided. All

we can do now is hope that he will rest in peace," said Sakhon Sondee from the eastern province of Surin, one of thousands who gathered outside the Grand Palace despite the 32 Celsius (90 Fahrenheit) temperature and humidity.

General Sansern Kaewkamnerd, a spokesman for the prime minister's office, said 30 bus routes and some canal boat services would be free to take people to Sanam Luang, an open area near the Grand Palace. The king had been in poor health the past several years and his death plunged the Southeast Asian nation of 67 million people into grief.

Most Thais have known no other monarch and King Bhumibol's pic-

ture is hung in almost every house, school and office.

People in the capital and in towns across the country dressed in black.

Shopping malls were open on Saturday and the government said bars could continue doing business, but it decreed that no entertainment events and festivities should be held outside for 30 days, the first month of one year of official mourning. A number of domestic sport competitions, including soccer and golf tournaments, have been cancelled or postponed, and the Football Association of Thailand said it was seeking to move a home World Cup qualifier against Australia on 15 November out of the country.—Reuters

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Chief Editor - Khin Maung Aye

ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Deputy Chief Editor - Aye Min Soe

dce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Expatriate Consultant Editors

Alec Wilmot

cconsultanteditor2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Mark Angeles

markrangeles@gmail.com

Senior Translators

Khin Maung Oo, Myint Win Thein

editor2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Editor

Ye Htut Tin (Local News)

editor1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

International Editors

Tun Tun Naing (Editor)

intlnews@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Nwe Nwe Tun (Sub-editor)

Translators

Khaing Thanda Lwin,

reporter1@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Hay Mar Tin Win,

translator@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Ei Myat Mon, Tin Nwe Lynn

Chief Reporter

Tun Aung Kyaw,

reporter2@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Computer Team

Tun Zaw (Chief of Computer Team), Thein Ngwe,

Zaw Zaw Aung, Ye Naing Soe, Nyi Zaw Moe,

Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win, Sanda Hnin, Zu Zin Hnin

Circulation

San Lwin (+95) (01) 8604532, Hotline - 09 974424114

Advertising inquiry

01 8604530, Hotline - 09 974424848

marketing@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

subscription@globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

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Floods kill 11 people in central Viet Nam, storm approaching

HANOI — Floods in Viet Nam's four central provinces have killed at least 11 people and displaced thousands, with a storm in the South China Sea approaching the central coast.

Flooding from very heavy rainfall brought by a tropical low pressure system since Wednesday have cut food supplies to thousands of people and blocked north-south traffic, the government said in a statement on Saturday.

Seven people drowned or were electrocuted in Quang Binh province, four others were killed in three nearby provinces, and at least 30,000 homes were submerged, state-run Viet Nam Television (VTV) said, citing gov-

ernment reports.

"It is our priority now to save people's lives," Chairman Nguyen Huu Hoai of the provincial People's Committee in Quang Binh said on a VTV bulletin.

Dozens of foreign tourists were among passengers stranded on 22 trains in the affected region, prompting provincial authorities to provide food and water, while many flights to the region were canceled, VTV said.

Tropical storm Sarika, now in the Philippines, is moving toward Viet Nam's central region, and could bring more rain to the affected areas, the website Tropical Storm Risk and VTV said.—

Reuters



People fish on a flooded street in Quang Binh province, Viet Nam, on 15 October 2016. Heavy rain and fierce winds in Viet Nam's central region over the past three days have led to the death of five people with 12 others injured. Over 30,000 houses in Quang Binh and Ha Tinh province were submerged deeply in water.

PHOTO: XINHUA

Industry minister Seko inspects Ikata nuclear plant

MATSUYAMA, (Japan) — Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshige Seko on Saturday inspected a recently restarted reactor at the Ikata nuclear power plant in western Japan to assess the safety measures there.

Seko visited an observation deck that overlooks the entire complex of Shikoku Electric Power Co.'s plant in Ehime Prefecture, as well as a facility to store spent nuclear fuel in the radiation-controlled area and other locations.

Seko was briefed on a system to provide electricity in the event of earthquakes and other emergencies by Seizo Masuda, the chief of the plant, and expressed satisfaction at the multiple backups available.

The No. 3 reactor at the Ikata plant was reactivated on 12 August, having cleared a set

of safety requirements imposed in the wake of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant disaster in 2011.

The 890-megawatt reactor shifted to commercial operation on 7 September following final checks by the Nuclear Regulation Authority. The unit had not operated since it was taken offline in April 2011 for regular checks.

Some snags occurred around the time of its reactivation, including a problem with a pump for the reactor's primary cooling water and a leakage in a drainage pipe in related equipment.

The reactor is currently the sole unit in operation in Japan running on plutonium-uranium mixed oxide fuel, which contains plutonium extracted from reprocessing spent fuel.—

Kyodo News



Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshige Seko (R) inspects a recently restarted reactor at the Ikata nuclear power plant in western Japan, on 15 October 2016, to assess safety measures. The No. 3 unit was reactivated on 12 August having cleared a set of safety requirements imposed in the wake of the 2011 Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant disaster. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Stampede kills 19 pilgrims in ancient Indian city

NEW DELHI — At least 19 people died in a stampede in the ancient northern Indian city of Varanasi on Saturday, officials said.

Panic spread as hundreds of Hindu pilgrims tried to cross a bridge to a sacred site in one of the world's oldest inhabited cities, at the heart of the constituency of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"Rumors about the bridge collapse led to chaos after a man fell down in a crowd," said police officer Javeed Ahmad.

Millions of Hindus go to Varanasi every year to pray and wash away their sins by taking a dip in the sacred river Ganges.

Modi, who was hosting a meeting of BRICS nations in Goa, expressed his condolences to the

victims' families and promised help. Two police officers at the scene of the stampede said about 50 people were injured and that officials were now struggling to deter pilgrims from entering a religious site near the bridge. "We are deploying over 100 police officers to control the crowd. People are in a state of panic," said Ravi Tyagi, a police officer.—

Reuters

Suicide bombing, shootouts kill around 55 in Iraq: police

BAGHDAD — Around 55 people were killed in Iraq in attacks on Saturday that targeted a Shi'ite Muslim gathering, a police check-point and the family of a Sunni paramilitary leader opposed to Islamic State, according to security and medical sources.

The escalation comes as Iraqi forces are getting ready to launch an offensive to take back Mosul, the last Iraqi city still under control of Islamic State, in northern Iraq.

The heaviest toll was caused by a suicide bomber who detonated an explosive vest in the middle of a Shi'ite gathering in Baghdad, killing at least 41 people and wounding 33.

The explosion went off inside a tent filled with people taking part in Shi'ite Ashura rituals, which mourn the killing of Prophet Mohammad's grandson Hussein in the 7th century.

Islamic State claimed the attack in an online statement.

Some people were also in the tent to mourn the death of a local resident, authorities said. The tent was set up in a crowded market in the city's northern al-Shaab district.

Gunmen believed to belong to Islamic State, a Sunni group, earlier in the day staged two attacks



People gather at the site of a suicide bomb attack in the city's northern al-Shaab district in Baghdad, Iraq, on 15 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

north of Baghdad, one targeting a police check-point and the other the house of a Sunni militia chief who supports the government, police sources said.

Eight policemen were killed and 11 others wounded in the first attack which took place Mutaibja, south of the city of the city of Tikrit, while the militants had three dead in their ranks.

In the second, the wife and three children of Numan al-Mujmaie, the leader of the Ishaqi Mobilization militia, were killed when gunmen stormed his house in the town of Ishaq in his absence.

The assailants fled, chased by security forces, and later killed themselves by detonating explosive belts, police said.

Islamic State has intensified bomb attacks in government-held areas this year as it loses territory to US-backed Iraqi government forces and Iranian-backed Shi'ite militias.

The group claimed a truck bombing in July that killed at least 324 people in the Karrada shopping area of Baghdad - the deadliest single attack in Iraq since the US-led invasion that toppled Saddam Hussein in 2003.—

Reuters

Opinion

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Sufficient corrective mechanisms needed to enforce the rule of law

Khin Maung Aye

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi once said at a seminar on the rule of law in her capacity as the Chairman of the committee for the rule of law that she would like to urge the participants to be mindful of the difference between the rule of law and rule by law. She explained that the rule of law is the legal principle that law should govern a nation in opposition to a nation being governed by arbitrary decision of individual government officials.

In fact, the rule of law implies that every citizen is subject to the law inclusive of the law makers i.e. the members of parliament themselves. In this sense, the rule of law is contradictory to an autocracy, dictatorship or oligarchy where the rulers are held above the law. Nevertheless, it is worth remembering that lack of the rule of law can also be found in the democratic countries. Neglect or ignorance of law can make the rule of law decay should a government not have sufficient corrective mechanisms for restoration of the rule of law.

In this regard, it is important that a clear distinction is needed to be made between the rule of law and rule by law. The former is, in fact, an intrinsically moral notion whereas the latter is prudential. One rules by law not because the law is higher than oneself but because it is convenient to do so and inconvenient not to do so. In rule of law, the law is something the government serves while in rule by law, the government uses law as the most convenient way to govern.

While the two phrases--- rule of law and rule by law -- may seem like a flip-of-the-coin, they actually have very different connotations. Under the system of the rule of law, the power of the political leaders is restricted by laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, by laws and procedures. Besides, rule of law implies fairness and predictable application, says Victor Mair, a professor of Chinese language at the University of Pennsylvania while the rule by law would include, for example, rule under Hitler's Nuremberg Laws, which were neither fair nor predictably applied. In a country ruled by a dictator or in a country ruled by one party, the law courts, the police and the prosecutors are under the control and command of the communist or socialist party, and thus freedom is shunted aside when it conflicts with the party interests.

To sum up, much of what we call the rule of law today is the rule by law; a very serious equivocation given that they tend in entirely different directions.

ABHIDHAMMA DAY AND SIMEE-MYINTMOE LIGHT FESTIVAL OF THE MONTH THIDINGYUT

Maha Saddhamma Jotika Dhaja Sithu
Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

THIDINGYUT, the seventh monk in Myanmar Lunar calendar approximately corresponds to October. Literally interpreted Thidin Kyut means the end of Buddhist Lent. Buddhist monks are set free from their rainy retreat Vows of 3 months stay in their respective residential monasteries. Monks can now go out and stay overnight away from their residences.

This month is astrologically called Tula [Libra] with its zodiacal sign of a man holding a balance. In the nocturnal firmament, the moon and an asterism "Asavani" rival their powers of radiance. Aquatic bodies, ponds and lakes are filled with lotus flowers of five different species namely, 1. White lotus [Nymphaea alba] 2. Red lotus [Nymphaea Rubra] 3. Blue lotus [Nymphaea Stellata] 4. Padma lotus [Nelumbium Speciosum] and 5. Poun Najei [Lxora Arborea].

Hence lotus is traditionally designated as the flower of Thidingyut. Lotus flower is perfect in beauty, fragrance and purity that stems out of the muddy water. It is the symbol of purity-hence the sacred flower for the Buddhists.

There are archaic names for this month. Early stone inscriptions of Bagan Period used the name "Thun Tu La" for this month. Scholars give two different interpretations of this name. Firstly, "Than" is a derivative of a Pali word "Wa Than" meaning rainy season. Tu is the astrological name Tula and La is Myanmar word for month so it is a combination of 3 words Pali astrological name and Myanmar word. Secondly "Than" means "paddy" the staple crop of Myanmar Tu means "erect" or "upright" and La is month Than tu la. The month in which paddy plants grow erect or upright.

The earliest use of the word Thidingyut is found in Tuyin Taung Saw Rahan Thein stone Inscription dated Sakaut year 574 [1212 A.D]. The spelling of the name reads Tha Tin Chut meaning lent is off.

Light festival of this month is religious in origin, character and significance. On the full moon day of Waso [July] in the mahasakaut year 109. Lord Gotama Buddha performed the great miracle in Savathi Kingdom under a white mango tree in the Royal Park of King Kosala. The miracle was in the form of emissions of water and fire in pairs from the eyes, ears and nose of Lord Buddha to subdue the sectarian opponents who refuse to

listen to Buddha's dhamma.

After the miracle, Lord Buddha ascended to the Celestial Kingdom of Tavatimsa where his mother Maha Maya became Santussita Deva in her next existence. Lord Buddha wanted to fulfill his filial gratitude to his mother by preaching to her Abhidhamma [Buddhist dhamma philosophy]. So in that year Lord Buddha had his seventh lent in Tavatimsa preaching the whole 3 months of Lent Period. Saka Deva, Thunder God offered Lord Buddha Iris brown emerald throne "Pandukambala" to be seated under the shade of a 'Pinle Kathit Tree [Erythrina indica] Lord Buddha expounded the seven sections of Abhidhamma to a vast gathering of devas and Brahmas of all universes with his mother Santussita deva in the centre. The preaching throughout the Lent came to an end on the full moon day of Thadingyut. So the full moon day of Thidingyut is designated and celebrated by the Buddhists as Abhidhamma Day.

Lord Buddha told Saka deva that as he had finished his mission he would return to human world. Where upon Saka deva created three stairways --one of gold on the right side for the devas, one of Silver on the left side for the Brahmas and one of rubies in the middle for the Lord Buddha to descend upon. Many deities accompanied Lord Buddha. They held several celestial regalia and paraphernalia. Panca Thinkha deva with five hair knots on his head on the right side played "Veluva" harp in praise of Lord Buddha. Matali deva on the left side carried flowers and fragrances to honour the Lord Buddha Suyama deva on the right side carried a yaktail fly whisk, Santussita deva on the right side held a ruby-studded gold fan, and Saka deva on the right side blew the conch. The three stair ways being illuminated by the lights radiated from the deities led to the gate way of the city of Sankassa nagara on earth. When the Lord Buddha set foot upon the earth, the crowd that awaited at the city gate paid obeisance to the Lord Buddha with oil lamp lights. A grand Ceremony was held to welcome Lord Buddha back to earth.

To commemorate this great event in the life of the Lord Buddha which took place on the full moon day of Thadin Gyut Myanmar people hold Simee Myint Moe or Tawedetha [Tavatimsa] Light Festival. Because Tavatimsa is said to be on the summit of Mt Meru [Myint Moe in Myanmar] it was called Simee Myint Moe Light Festival [Lighting Mt. Meru by means of Oil Lamps].

Fantastic replicas of Myint Mo [Mount Meru] are artistically constructed of bamboo, rattan and colourful cloths and papers with three stair ways. When darkness fell, lights were lit on them. The great event of the descent of Lord Buddha, with deities accompanying in full regalia was depicted with the statues, and devotees paying homage to the image of the Buddha in a descending posture on the middle stair way. Hymns were sung in praise of the Buddha and his Dhamma teachings. Offertories were made at shrines and pagoda and alms given to the monks. A public reception was held to feed all comers with fruits, snacks and light refreshments.

In the mural paintings of monuments at Bagu and at other old capitals Thadin Gyut Light Festival was depicted. On the inner wall of Myin Khaba, Ku Byauk Kyi Temple at Bagan. Tavatimsa Festival of that time is vividly depicted Lord Buddha descending from Tavatimsa to the gate of Sankassa city. In other paintings earthen oil lamps were illuminating religious monuments. "Simee gwats" are Myanmar traditional small circular flat cups to contain oil in which cotton wickers are soaked and lighted Myanmar people still use them.

In later historic periods- Inwa, Taungoo and Nyaungyan Periods, Thadin Kyut light festival came to be called "Simee Myint Mo Pwe" [Festival of illuminating Mt. Meru by oil lamps] bold by the king. A lofty replica of Mt Meru made of bamboo and papers was built in the courtyard and the entire scene of Lord Buddha's descent from Tavatimsa was artistically presented.

The following is an excerpt from Loka Byuhar Kan [Treatise on the Court Ceremonies and festivals compiled by Minister Thiri Uzana of Inwa Period recounting the holding of Simee Myint Moe Pwe by the royal order:--

"Beginning on the 8th waxing moon of Thidin Gyut the King's officers constructed replicas of Mt Myint Mo in the foreground of Hluttaw. The royal store issued oil lamps on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th waning moon nights of Thidin Gyut. Soldiers built four big tents on the left side of Hluttaw foreground and five big tents on the right side in which entertainments took place".

"On the 14th waxing moon, 1st and 2nd waning moon nights, Shwezigon, Ku Taw Thit, Man Aung Yatana, Shwe Yin Ye, Yan Aung Myin, Maha Myat Muni,



Kyaukpun Pagoda in Bago. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Tada U Mingala Zedi, Panya Shwe Zigon, Tuywin Chey Phaya, Sagaing Chan Tha Gyi, Shin Hpyu Shin Hla, Ponnya Shin Zedi, Patamya Zedi and Yaza Mani Cula Pagodas were illuminated. King's men and equestrian soldiers were given for each pagoda 100 oil lamps, 100 cotton wickers and 3 viss of oil to illuminate".

In spite of political turmoil and economic downturn in his kingdom, the last Myanmar king, King Thibaw never failed to hold traditional monthly festivals. Given below is an account of light festival of Thidin Gyut held by him in 1883 A.D related graphically in vol. 3 of Konbaung Set Maha Yaza Wun Taw Gyi [The Great Royal Chronicle of Konbaung Dynasty].

"In accordance with the tradition of holding Simee Myint Mo festival and royal ceremony in the month of Thidin Gyut, preparations were made such as the construction of East Myint Mo and a puppet stage in front of the Western Smoke Saung Taw, four Tazaung buildings and a puppet stage at four royal yards, a temporary palace on the right side of Mye Nantaw and East Maze, Myint Mo and a Maze on both sides of the western Smoke Saung Taw, a mechanically operated Parsee Theatre in front of the Southern Theatre Hall, a puppet stage on wheel in front of it, puppet stages at 16 Pagodas, one life ele-

phant fully caparisoned, four gold elephant dummies and one red elephant dummy to be made by the officers of the workshops. Officers in charge of elephant stables were to keep in readiness the white and red elephants and their attendants. Officers in charge of royal steeds were to keep in readiness the state coaches. Officers in charge of royal flotilla were to keep in readiness royal rafts, boats, ships and sampans. Officers in charge of royal granary were to keep themselves in readiness for distributing paddy ration to the monasteries".

"Chinese, Indian, Siamese, and Linzin [Loatiam] officers in charge of illumination, set up rows of lights of different colours at 16 Pagodas, rows of coloured glass lanterns with lit candles along the road between the Palace and Maha Muni Temple. Foreign made festoons and paper streamers and homemade floral umbrellas, floral flugs and garlands were issued from the royal store to decorate the pagodas, shrines, temples and streets.

Officers in charge of Royal Treasury issued money for all expenses of advanced preparations. Puppet shows were performed at four royal yards from the 9th to the 14th waxing moon".

"Three successive nights 1st to 3rd waning moon East Myint Mo, West Myint Mo, East Maze and West Maze were illuminated. In the evening till 4 p.m. Myanmar and Siamese music, dance and drama were performed. Somersault, climbing greasy poles, acrobatics, rope walking Chinese dragon dance and music were displayed and performed".

"From 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. the following morning puppet shows were staged every night".

"All government departments staged their respective theatrical performances every night at 16 Pagodas. At 16 places of the palace city music was played. Over 50 drums of different sizes and kinds and over 500 dancers, singers and instrumentalists were employed to perform by turn on the streets. They were awarded each a pusoe or htamein, a scarf, a jacket and a nightly fee of 2 kyats in silver. They strolled the streets to perform their talent. At the stations they stopped to report for duty. Officers in charge of royal tea, betel and drinking water, umbrella and sword were assigned to the supervision of illuminating the streets between the Palace and Hluttaw".

"Their Majesties made rounds at East and West Mazes [Wungaba] where people go in and trying to get out of them. At the first marquee were displayed varieties of fruits, at the second, third and the fourth marquees were displayed cakes, jams, sweets, creams of various kinds. At the Myint Mo marquee cigars with fire crackers concealed inside, cheroots, pickled tea and betel leaves and nuts were displayed".

"At the left Myint Mo and Maze in the first marquee, tins of biscuits and bottles of perfume were displayed. In the second marquee were displayed rolls of linen, wooden cloth, velvet, and felt of multicolours. In the third marquee were displayed paper boxes of identical size, design and colour, each containing different materials such as cotton scarves and silk scarves in some, velvet in others, cotton materials in some, silk and embroidered materials in others and so on.

At the fourth marquee were displayed similar "boxes containing different men's wears and women's wears of silk, cotton, foreign and local made, good and poor quality- all mixed up. At the fifth marquee sacks of 1000 kyats in silver, 1000 copper coins all concealed in the boxes of identical size and design. At all the marquees, sweets and refreshments were served to the guests".

"Their Majesties visited every marquee and every reception centre. The courtiers and their attendants were invited to take away any thing and any amount of the displays in the marquees. Their Majesties were amused to observe human greed and vanity when everyone tried to take as much as possible from every marquee but was unable to carry the load. Some fell down under the weight since it was forbidden to abandon the parcels on the way, many labored hard to carry them on head, shoulders and in hands. When the parcels were open in the presence of Their Majesties it was exciting and amusing to find that ministers and men attendants received feminine clothings and paraphernalias, whereas dames and ladies landed on heaps of men's wears. But some were lucky to get the right useful lots. Their Majesties were much amused and happy".

The light festival took the local character outside the capital and in the countryside. In waterfront towns and villages illuminations were made on the water. When darkness fell, people rowed out to the middle of the stream or river and lit up little oil lamps on the floats made of banana stems, bamboo or reeds and let them adrift in the water, creating a spectacular scene. Through the foliage of swaying palm, coconut, banana and mango trees the rising full moon shaded its silvery rays creating artistic black and white designs on the water surfaces while the flickering flames of oil lamps on the floats cast shimmering reflections in the ripples. In Shan states, fire balloons are let loose, and in Pa-O villages, locally made bamboo fire rockets were shot into the sky to pay homage to Sulamani Pagoda in the Celestial kingdom of Tavatimsa, in which were enshrined the hair of Prince Siddhartha and sacred tooth relic of Lord Gotama Buddha.

Pawarana and Puja are the two religious ceremonies of Thidin Gyut. At the end of the Buddhist Lent, Buddhist monks performed Pawarana. Every monk has to request other monks to reprimand him for any sin he might have committed. It takes place on the full moon day, in the ordination hall of the monastic precincts. Junior monks prepare this occasion, by sweeping the floor, cleaning the place, filling pots with drinking water and arranging seats for monks to sit on. Then the monks led by senior monks assembled to perform Pawarana.

Pawarana originated in the life time of Lord Gotama Buddha. While Lord Buddha was residing in Jetavana Vihara at Savatthi, some monks observed their lent at a village in Kosala. These monks believed that unity and happiness among them could be achieved by not talking to one another because talking could cause argument and dispute. Speech is silver but silence is gold. So they kept mum throughout the Lent. When the Lent was over they went to pay homage to Lord Buddha, who greeted them by asking after their wealth, happiness

and unity. The monks explained that they kept silent to gain unity and happiness. Lord Buddha objected to their method saying that keeping mum was like a dumb and that kind of behavior was disrespectful to the donors and supporters of Sangha. The monk who behaves like a dumb is sinful. The best way to achieve unity and happiness among monks was by means of Pawarana- by inviting the monks to assemble and letting each monk by turn ask other monks to point out if he has been seen, heard, or suspected of committing any sin, if so, letting other monks reprimand the sinful monk. By so doing the sinful monk will be repented and pardoned and the monks would live in harmony, unity and happiness. [In the parlance of modern democracy, transparency, accountability and responsibility?]

"Puja" means worship or making a devotional offering. According to Buddhism there are five infinite debts of gratitude.

1. The gratitude owed to the Buddha

2. The gratitude owed to the Dhamma [his teachings]

3. The gratitude owed to the Sangha [the monks]

4. The gratitude owed to the teachers and

5. The gratitude owed to the parents.

It is a religious obligation to worship and make devotional offering to them. In addition, those who are senior in age, rank, position, and those who have helped you while you are in difficulty should be respected worshipped and given due Puja.

The full moon day of Thadin Gyut is an auspicious occasion for Myanmar Buddhists to visit the aged, the seniors, the teachers, true friends and bosses to pay them respect and devotional gifts. In return they receive blessings and loving kindness from them, to the minor small pocket money may be given by the aged for their enjoyment of the Festival. The procedure of Puja is simple. The performer reverently sits in front of the aged or senior or superiors and elapses his or her hands together in the form of a lotus bud and bows three times begging for forgiveness for any offense he or she may have committed physically, verbally or mentally. The aged, the seniors, superiors bosses or teachers give their pardon, blessings and words of advice on moral conduct in a good way of living as expounded in Mingala Sutta preached by Lord Buddha.

The festival of light in Thadin Gyut is an occasion for rejoicing and merry-making. But in essence it is an auspicious occasion for spiritual delight and merit making.

Hacked emails raise possibility of Clinton Foundation ethics breach

SEATTLE, (Washington) — Hacked emails published by Wikileaks this week appear to show Qatar pledging to donate \$1 million to Hillary Clinton's family's charitable foundation, despite her promise to curb new donations by foreign governments while US secretary of state.

In an email from 2012, a senior official from the Bill, Hillary & Chelsea Clinton Foundation informs colleagues that a planned donation by Qatar's government to mark Bill Clinton's birthday came up in a meeting he had with the Gulf state's ambassador in Washington.

The ambassador said that he asked "to see WJC 'for five minutes' in NYC, to present \$1 million check that Qatar promised for WJC's birthday in 2011," Amitabh Desai, the foundation official, writes in his email, using the former US president's initials.

Hillary Clinton, who is the Democratic nominee for the 8 November presidential election, served as secretary of state from 2009 until 2013.

The hacked email is among thousands published over the last week by the pro-transparency group Wikileaks from the account of John Podesta, the chairman of Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential campaign.

Clinton's campaign has been embarrassed by this and similar recent hacking attacks on other Democratic Party officials, some of which appear to show Clinton and her aides saying things in private that contradict their public positions. Her spokesmen have not disputed the authenticity of the hacked emails. The emails released by Wikileaks do not appear to confirm whether Qatar gave the promised \$1 million, although the foundation's website lists the State of Qatar as having given at least that amount. There is no date listed for the donation. A spokesman for the foundation declined to confirm the donation.



US Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton speaks at a fundraiser in Seattle, Washington, US, 14 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Reuters could not rule out the possibility the \$1 million was intended as a birthday present for Clinton personally, not for the foundation. His spokesman did not respond to questions.

Hillary Clinton promised the US government that while she served as secretary of state the foundation would not accept new funding from foreign governments without seeking clearance from the State Department's ethics office.

The agreement was designed to dispel concerns that US foreign policy could be swayed by donations to the foundation, which is known for its work on reducing the cost of HIV medicine in sub-Saharan Africa. Clinton's Republican rival in the presidential election, Donald Trump, has seized on the foundation for political attacks, calling it a front for corruption. Clinton's campaign dismisses this as a political smear.

The State Department has said it cannot cite any instances of its ethics officials reviewing or approving new donations from foreign governments to the foundation while Clinton served as the country's top diplomat from 2009 until 2013.

"You would need to ask the Foundation whether there were additional matters that it should have submitted for State Department review," the department said in a

statement.

The ethics agreement allowed foreign governments that already supported foundation projects to continue while Clinton was at the State Department. However, if one of those governments wanted to "increase materially its commitment," then the foundation was required to ask the department first.

Craig Minassian, a foundation spokesman, declined to confirm if Qatar gave the \$1 million described in the 2012 email. Even if it had, he said he questioned whether the money would be considered a "material increase." He said Qatar has been donating since 2002, and that some of those donations have been greater than \$1 million.

Qatar's embassy in Washington did not respond to questions. A spokesman for Clinton, who was campaigning in Seattle on Friday, also did not respond to questions.

Last year, Reuters found that at least seven other foreign governments made new donations to the foundation without the State Department being informed, partly, foundation officials said, because of "oversights."

President Barack Obama is campaigning for Clinton to be elected his successor, and the White House has repeatedly declined to discuss the breaches of the agreement Clinton signed with Obama's administration.—Reuters

UN Secretary-General's Message on World Food Day

16 October 2016

As the global population expands, we will need to satisfy an increasing demand for food. Yet, around the world, record-breaking temperatures, rising sea levels and more frequent and severe droughts and floods caused by climate change are already affecting ecosystems, agriculture and society's ability to produce the food we need. The most vulnerable people are world's poorest, 70 per cent of whom depend on subsistence farming, fishing or pastoralism for income and food.

On this World Food Day, we highlight the close link between climate change, sustainable agriculture and food and nutrition security with the message that "The climate is changing. Food and agriculture must too." Without concerted action, millions more people could fall into poverty and hunger, threatening to reverse hard-won gains and placing in jeopardy our ability to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Agriculture and food systems must become more resilient, productive, inclusive and sustainable. To bolster food security in a changing climate, countries must address food and agriculture in their climate action plans and invest more in rural development. Targeted investments in these sectors will build resilience and increase the incomes and productivity of small farmers, lifting millions from poverty. They will help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and safeguard the health and well-being of ecosystems and all people who depend on them.

Next month, the historic Paris Agreement on climate change will enter into force. This will provide a much-needed boost to global efforts to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions, limit temperature rise and promote climate-compatible sustainable agriculture.

On this World Food Day, I urge all Governments and their partners to take a holistic, collaborative and integrated approach to climate change, food security and equitable social and economic development. The well-being of this generation and those to come depends on the actions we take now. Only by working in partnership will we achieve a world of zero hunger and free from poverty, where all people can live in peace, prosperity and dignity.—UNIC/Yangon

NEWS IN BRIEF

Nine arrested after South Africa police, students clash again in Johannesburg

JOHANNESBURG — Nine people were arrested after overnight clashes in Johannesburg between police and students demanding free education, police said on Saturday.

The latest skirmishes capped a week of protests on campuses across the country and came just days after President Jacob Zuma appointed a special team to try to diffuse the escalating situation that threatens the academic year at several schools.

Police spokesman Wayne Minnaar said a supermarket had been looted and three cars set alight in an area of Johannesburg adjacent to the University of the Witwatersrand, which has been the scene of some of the most violent demonstrations.

The flare ups over the cost of university education, which is prohibitive for many black students, have highlighted frustration at enduring inequalities more than two decades after the end of apartheid.—Reuters

Scotland could control its own migration after Brexit, says Scots minister

GLASGOW, (Scotland) — Scotland may try to wrest control over migration as part of a new enhanced devolution deal once Britain leaves the European Union, Scotland's minister for EU negotiations said on Friday.

Britain's vote in June to quit the EU has put renewed strain on the 309-year union between England and Scotland, barely two years after a referendum in which Scots rejected independence.

Scotland voted in the June 23 referendum to stay in the EU, while England voted to leave, partly due to concerns over large-scale immigration from other EU coun-

tries. British Prime Minister Theresa May has promised to launch the two-year legal process of Brexit by the end of March 2017.

Immigration is one area where the British government has leeway to accommodate Scotland's different economic and demographic needs within a new constitutional set-up, Michael Russell told Reuters in an interview on the sidelines of a conference of his Scottish National Party (SNP).

"Free movement of people, technically, is reserved (for the national government) but actually it's vitally important for us," said Russell, charged with trying to en-

sure that London respects Scottish interests in the Brexit negotiations.

"You don't need a hard border (between England and Scotland), you just have to make sure that people don't have the same entitlements on one soil and on another," said Russell, a pro-EU minister in the devolved Scottish government in Edinburgh.

Scotland, the sparsely populated northernmost part of the UK, says it needs immigrants to shore up its economy and boost skills in remote rural areas. The pro-independence SNP has criticised May's government for trying to limit immigration.—Reuters

Obama eases restrictions on Cuba, lifts limits on rum and cigars

WASHINGTON/HAVANA — Americans travelling to Cuba will be allowed to bring home more of the communist-ruled island's coveted cigars and rum under new measures announced by the US government on Friday to further ease trade, travel and financial restrictions that have been in place for decades.

Cuba welcomed the steps, part of President Barack Obama's effort to make his historic opening to Cuba "irreversible" by the time he leaves office in January, but said they did not go far enough.

The latest in a series of new rules since the former Cold War foes began normalizing relations in 2014 will allow Cubans to buy certain US consumer goods online, open the door for Cuban pharmaceutical companies to do business in the United States and let Cubans and Americans do joint medical research. For American travellers, the biggest change is the removal of limits on the amount of rum and cigars they can pack in their luggage, strictly for personal use.

"You can now celebrate with Cuban rum and Cuban cigars," US National Security Adviser Susan Rice quipped as she laid out the policy changes in a speech to a Washington think tank.—Reuters

Let's Practice Spoken English: Present Continuous Tense Vs Simple Present Tense

Have a look at the example conversation.



A: What are you doing?
B: I'm washing the dishes in the bathtub.
A: That's strange! Do you usually wash the dishes in the bathtub?
B: No. I never wash the dishes in the bathtub, but I'm washing the dishes in the bathtub today.
A: Why are you doing that?
B: Because my sink is broken.
A: I'm sorry to hear that.
Exercise: Say aloud putting the following phrases in the blanks.
A: What are you doing?
B: I'm _____
A: That's strange! Do you usually _____?

B: No. I never _____, but I'm _____ today.
A: Why are you doing that?
B: Because _____.
A: I'm sorry to hear that.



1. -sleep/sleeping on the floor
-bed is broken



2. -study/studying with the flashlight
- lamp is broken



3. -walk/walking to work
- car is broken



4. -sweep/sweeping the carpet
- vacuum cleaner is broken



5. -use/using the typewriter
- computer is broken

How to Say It!

Reacting to Bad News

A. My sink is broken.
B. { I'm sorry to hear that.
That's too bad!
What a shame!

Practice conversations with other students.
Share some bad news and react to it.



Targeted Reader: Lower-Preintermediate level
Targeted Skill: Speaking Practice

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS SCHEDULE

YANGON TO BANGKOK				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
TG-304	09:50	11:45	Daily	
TG-2302	15:00	16:55	Daily	
TG-306	19:45	21:40	Daily	
PG-706	6:15	8:30	Daily	
PG-702	10:30	12:25	Daily	
PG-708	15:20	17:15	Daily	
PG-708	18:20	20:15	3	
PG-704	20:00	21:55	Daily	
8M-335	7:40	9:25	Daily	
8M-331	16:30	18:15	Daily	
UB-017	15:10	19:20	1,3,5	
UB-017	17:50	19:20	2,4,6,7	
UB-019	8:05	9:35	7	
UB-019	6:30	8:00	1,2,3,4,5,6	

BANGKOK TO YANGON				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
TG-303	7:55	8:50	Daily	
TG-2301	13:15	14:10	Daily	
TG-305	17:50	18:45	Daily	
PG-701	8:50	9:40	Daily	
PG-707	13:45	14:35	Daily	
PG-703	18:25	19:15	3	
PG-703	16:45	17:35	Daily	
PG-705	20:30	21:45	Daily	
8M-336	10:40	11:25	Daily	
8M-332	19:15	20:00	Daily	
UB-020	11:00	11:30	7	
UB-018	20:20	20:50	Daily	
UB-020	9:15	9:45	1,2,4,5,6	

RGN TO DMK				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
FD-252	8:30	10:15	Daily	
FD-256	13:25	15:10	Daily	
FD-254	17:30	19:05	Daily	
FD-258	20:05	21:55	Daily	
DD-4231	08:00	9:50	Daily	
DD-4235	12:00	13:45	Daily	
DD-4239	21:00	22:45	Daily	
SL-201	11:00	13:00	Daily	
SL-207	20:05	21:45	"Daily"	

DMK TO RGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
FD-251	7:15	8:00	Daily	
FD-255	12:05	12:55	Daily	
FD-253	16:20	17:00	Daily	
FD-257	18:05	18:55	Daily	
DD-4234	10:25	11:15	Daily	
DD-4230	6:20	7:05	Daily	
DD-4238	19:30	20:15	Daily	
SL-200	9:05	10:00	Daily	
SL-206	18:15	19:05	"Daily"	

RGN TO CAN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
8M-711	20:30	01:05+1	5	
8M-711	8:40	13:15	2,4,7	
CZ-3056	11:25	16:15	3,6	
CZ-3056	17:30	22:35	1,5	

CAN TO RGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
8M-712	2:45	4:20	6	
8M-712	14:15	15:50	2,4,7	
CZ-3055	8:50	10:25	3,6	
CZ-3055	14:40	16:30	1,5	

RGN TO SIN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
8M-231	8:20	12:50	Daily	
SQ-997	10:35	15:10	Daily	
MI-515	14:20	18:50	1,5	
MI-519	17:35	22:10	Daily	
MI-522	15:45	20:15	4,6	
MI-533	13:10	20:15	2	
3k-584	19:15	23:50	2,5	
3K-582	11:15	15:50	1,3,4,5,6,7	
TR-2823	9:45	2:15	Daily	
UB-001	7:30	12:00	Daily	

SIN TO RGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
8M-232	13:50	15:20	Daily	
SQ-998	07:55	09:20	Daily	
MI-522	11:00	12:20	4,6	
MI-518	15:15	16:40	Daily	
MI-516	12:00	13:25	1,5	
MI-533	11:00	12:20	2	
3K-583	17:05	18:35	2,5	
3k-581	8:55	10:25	1,3,4,5,6,7	
TR-2822	7:20	8:45	Daily	
UB-002	13:15	14:45	Daily	

RGN TO NRT				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
NH-814	21:45	06:50+1	Daily	

NRT TO RGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
NH-813	11:00	15:40	Daily	

RGN TO ICN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
KE-472	23:30	7:50	Daily	

ICN TO RGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
KE-471	18:45	22:25	Daily	

RGN TO KUL				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
AK-505	8:30	12:45	Daily	
AK-503	19:30	23:45	Daily	
8M-501	7:50	11:50	1,3,5	
MH-741	12:15	16:30	Daily	
MH-743	15:45	20:05	1,4,6,7	

KUL TO RGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
AK-502	6:55	8:00	Daily	
AK-502	17:50	19:00	Daily	
8M-502	12:50	13:50	1,3,5	
MH-742	13:40	14:50	1,6,7	
MH-740	10:05	11:15	Daily	

RGN TO KMG				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
CA-416	12:15	15:45	Daily	
MU-2032	15:20	18:40	2,4,5,6,7	
MU-2012	12:25	18:40	3	

KMG TO RGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
CA-415	10:45	11:15	Daily	
MU-2031	14:00	14:30	1	
MU-2011	08:15	11:25	3	
MU-2031	13:55	14:30	2,4,5,6,7	

RGN TO TPE				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
CI-7916	10:45	16:15	1,2,3,4,6	

TPE TO RGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
CI-7915	7:00	9:45	1,2,3,4,6	

RGN TO PEK				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
CA-906	23:50	0550+1	3,7	

PEK TO RGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
CA-905	19:30	22:50	3,7	

RGN TO HAN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
VN-956	19:10	21:30	1,3,5,6,7	

HAN TO RGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
VN-957	16:50	18:10	1,3,5,6,7	

RGN TO SGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
VN-942	12:10	15:00	2,3,4,5,7	

SGN TO RGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
VN-943	9:35	11:10	2,3,4,5,7	

RGN TO HKG				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
KA-251	1:10	5:45	1,2,3,4,6,7	
KA-251	1:30	5:55	5	
UB-8027	9:45	14:15	1,5,7	

HKG TO RGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
KA-250	21:45	23:30	1,2,3,5,6,7	
KA-252	22:50	00:30+1	4	
UB-8028	15:15	16:55	1,5,7	

RGN TO DOH				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
QR-919	8:15	10:55	1,4,6	

DOH TO RGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
QR-918	20:40	6:25	3,5,6	

RGN TO CNX				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
PG-724	13:10	15:05	Daily	

CNX TO RGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
PG-723	11:40	12:35	Daily	

RGN TO DAC				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
BG-061	16:15	18:00	1,3,6	

DAC TO RGN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
BG-060	12:45	15:30	1,3,6	

AIRLINE CODES

8M = Myanmar Airways International	AK = Air Asia
BG = Biman Bangladesh Airlines	CA = Air China
MH = Malaysia Airlines	CZ = China Southern
MU = China Eastern Airlines	FD = Air Asia
NH = All Nippon Airways	KE = Korea Airlines
SQ = Singapore Airways	QR = Qatar Airways
PG = Bangkok Airways	TR = Tiger Airline
UB = Myanmar National Airlines	
VN = Vietnam Airline	
3K = Jet Star	
AI = Air India	
CI = China Airlines	
DD = Nok Airline	
KA = Dragonair	
MI = Silk Air	
TG = Thai Airways	

DAY	4 = Thursday
1 = Monday	5 = Friday
2 = Tuesday	6 = Saturday
3 = Wednesday	7 = Sunday

Argentina demands UK halt military exercise in disputed Falklands

BUENOS AIRES — Argentina complained on Friday about military exercises that Britain is planning this month in the disputed Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic.

Argentina has for decades claimed sovereignty over the British-run islands it calls the Malvinas and the dispute led to a brief war in 1982. The overwhelming majority of the islands' 3,000 inhabitants say they want the islands to remain a British overseas territory.

Argentina's foreign ministry said in a statement that it had sent a letter to the British ambassador demanding the country call off the "illegitimate" exercises, which are scheduled for 19-28 October and include the launching of Rapier missiles. A spokeswoman for the British embassy in Buenos Aires called it a "routine exercise" that takes place about twice a year.

Argentina lodged its



Argentine President Mauricio Macri speaks during news conference at the Olivos presidential residence in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 28 September 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

complaint just a month after the two countries agreed to work together toward removing measures restricting the oil and gas, shipping and fishing industries on the remote islands.

Pro-business President Mauricio Macri has sought to improve relations since taking over in December after diplomatic tensions mounted under his predecessor, populist Cristina Fernandez.

But in a blunder that embarrassed the administration last month, Macri claimed he and British Prime Minister Theresa May had agreed, during a brief encounter at the United Nations General Assembly, to discuss the sovereignty claim.

Argentina's Foreign Minister Susana Malcorra later walked back the remarks after Britain denied that the issue of sovereignty had come up.

In Friday's statement, the foreign ministry said it had learned of the planned military exercises on Thursday. It said the exercises "contradict the principle of peaceful conflict resolution" and called the Falklands "Argentine territory illegitimately occupied by the United Kingdom."

In last month's agreement, the two sides also agreed to establish additional flights between the Falklands, located about 435 miles off the coast of southern Argentina, and third countries in South America.

The last bout of serious tension over the Falklands occurred in June last year when an Argentine federal judge ordered the seizure of millions of dollars in assets owned by oil drillers operating in the area.—Reuters

Some Calais migrants accept resettlement before bulldozers clear 'Jungle'

CALAIS, (France) — In thick fog, Nasir helped load his young family's scant possessions into a van and turned his back on the beaten-up caravan that has been home for the past nine months in a migrant camp known as the "Jungle" in northern France.

In a few days, the French government will begin dismantling the filthy, ramshackle camp outside Calais that has become a searing symbol of Europe's struggle to respond to an influx of migrants fleeing war and poverty.

Nasir, a 23-year-old Afghan, doesn't want to wait for the bulldozers to move in and raze the camp as winter approaches. Instead, he, his wife Nabila and their 7-month old infant are joining one of the last voluntary resettlement convoys bound for reception centres across France.

"We just want a life,

nothing more," Nasir told Reuters in broken English.

A Union Jack flag painted on his caravan is a poignant reminder of Nasir's now-dashed dreams of a better life in Britain, barely 21 miles (33 km) away across the English Channel and the preferred destination of almost all migrants in Calais.

No one knows for sure how many have made the perilous crossing from France to Britain, sometimes stowed away in the back of lorries or clinging to the undersides of trains.

Thousands have however failed, including Nasir, thwarted by barbed wire-topped fencing lining the highway between the camp and the Calais ferry port, by police patrols as well as a battery of security cameras. Now a wall is being built on the port's approach road to serve as a further deterrent.—Reuters

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ASIATIC CLOUD VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIATIC CLOUD VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.10.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

AGENT FOR: M/S WAN HAI LINES PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MAERSK ABERDEEN VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MAERSK ABERDEEN VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.10.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/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 MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE)
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

Trump — Sexual-assault accusers 'want to stop our movement'

CHARLOTTE, (N.C.) / LOS ANGELES — Republican US presidential candidate Donald Trump on Friday charged that the women accusing him of sexual misconduct fabricated their stories to damage his campaign after two more women came forward with allegations that he had groped them.

The new accusations were made by a contestant on his reality TV show "The Apprentice," who cited a 2007 incident, and by a woman who described an incident from the early 1990s.

With the allegations against Trump dominating the campaign, opinion polls show Trump trailing Democratic rival Hillary Clinton. A Reuters/Ipsos opinion poll taken 7-13 October and released on Friday showed Trump behind Clinton by 7 percentage points among likely voters in the 8 November election.

Trump has spent more and more time at his rallies denying allegations of groping since a video from 2005 became public a week ago showing him bragging about groping and making unwanted sexual advances.



Summer Zervos, a former contestant on the TV show The Apprentice, is embraced by lawyer Gloria Allred (L) while speaking about allegations of sexual misconduct against Donald Trump during a news conference in Los Angeles, California, US, on 14 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

On Friday, in addition to his denials, he suggested that he never would have found two of the women who have made allegations attractive.

Summer Zervos, who competed on the fifth season of "The Apprentice" in 2006, appeared at a news conference with celebrity attorney Gloria Allred in Los Angeles, saying Trump kissed her, touched her

breast and tried to get her to lie down on a bed with him during a meeting about a possible job. "He put me in an embrace and I tried to push him away. I pushed his chest to put space between us and I said, 'Come on man, get real.' He repeated my words back to me, 'Get real,' as he began thrusting his genitals," Zervos said.

Zervos said she thought

Trump was going to take her to dinner to discuss a job, but the meeting took place in his bungalow at the Beverly Hills Hotel.

"I wondered if the sexual behaviour was some kind of test and whether or not I had passed" by rejecting it, she said, but Trump later offered her a job at a golf course for half the salary she had requested.—Reuters

Famine fears rise after hurricane wrecks Haiti's bread-basket

LES CAYES — Hurricane Matthew tore up large tracts of food crops as well as mature coffee and cocoa plantations when it ravaged Haiti's fertile south last week, with a UN official expressing concern about possible famine in the poorest nation in the Americas.

The destruction of crops like rice, corn and beans in the area puts more than 100,000 children at risk of acute malnutrition, the United Nations said on Friday, in a Caribbean country where half the population already was underfed before the powerful hurricane hit.

While about half of Haiti's food supply is imported, much of what it does produce is grown in the south.

As well as tearing up food staples and filling fields with sea water and trash, the storm uprooted plantations of cocoa, coffee and fruit trees, cash crops that are exported and that experts said will take at least five years to grow back.



Women do their laundry at the shores of a river after Hurricane Matthew hit Jeremie, Haiti. PHOTO: REUTERS

“This is devastating, and it basically could mean that we have a famine in six months,” said Yvonne Helle, Haiti’s senior country director for the United Nations Development Programme.

Helle said preliminary figures indicated 60 to 80 percent of crops in the affected area had been lost to

the storm.

“Not only has the harvest been lost, there also has been tremendous damage to fruit trees,” Helle added, mentioning the mango, one of Haiti’s primary exports.

Paul Joseph Maxel, a 75-year-old farmer based in the town of Saint-Jean-du-Sud, said he lost all but one of his 20 mango trees on a

15-acre (6-hectare) property he manages. He said coconut palms and avocado trees also were lost to the hurricane.

In front of a tent that his children, who live in Haiti’s capital Port-au-Prince, bought and set up for him beside his hurricane-damaged house, Maxel said he hoped for aid in rebuilding the farm.

“Our worries are about how to begin planting trees again,” he said.

The path to the farm, located on the side of a rolling hill and accessible only by foot, was littered with cracked coconuts and spoiled mangoes from uprooted trees.

On the other side of the hill, Auguste Donnay, a 30-year-old agronomy student, sat outside his family’s damaged house.

It was the only structure standing remotely intact on the property, although it was missing most of its roof. Fallen trees covered the land, and two other buildings were reduced to wooden frames.—Reuters

Nearly 200 nations agree binding deal to cut greenhouse gases



US Secretary of State John Kerry arrives during visit to Kigali Genocide Memorial centre in Rwanda’s capital Kigali, on 14 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

KIGALI — Nearly 200 nations hammered out a legally binding deal to cut back on greenhouse gases used in refrigerators and air conditioners, a Rwandan minister announced to loud cheers on Saturday, in a major step against climate change.

The deal, which includes the world’s two biggest economies, the United States and China, divides countries into three groups with different deadlines to reduce the use of factory-made hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) gases, which can be 10,000 times more powerful than carbon dioxide as greenhouse gases.

“It’s a monumental step forward,” US Secretary of State John Kerry said as he left the talks in the Rwandan capital of Ki-

gali late on Friday.

As Rwanda’s Minister for Natural Resources, Vincent Biruta, began spelling out the terms of the deal shortly after sunrise on Saturday, applause from negotiators who had been up all night drowned out his words.

Under the pact, developed nations, including much of Europe and the United States, commit to reducing their use of the gases incrementally, starting with a 10 percent cut by 2019 and reaching 85 per cent by 2036.

Many wealthier nations have already begun to reduce their use of HFCs.

Two groups of developing countries will freeze their use of the gases by either 2024 or 2028, and then gradually reduce their use.

India, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan and the Gulf countries will meet the later deadline.

They needed more time because they have fast-expanding middle classes and hot climates, and because India feared damaging its growing industries.

“Last year in Paris, we promised to keep the world safe from the worst effects of climate change. Today, we are following through on that promise,” said UN environment chief Erik Solheim in a statement.

The deal binding 197 nations crowns a wave of measures to help fight climate change this month. Last week, the 2015 Paris Agreement to curb climate-warming emissions passed its required threshold to enter into force after India, Canada and the European Parliament ratified it.

But unlike the Paris agreement, the Kigali deal is legally binding, has very specific timetables and has an agreement by rich countries to help poor countries adapt their technology.

The United Nations says phasing out HFCs will cost billions of dollars.—Reuters

Wildfire burns 22 homes in Nevada

CARSON CITY (Nevada) — A wildfire fanned by high winds destroyed 22 homes in a wooded area of northern Nevada on Friday, among them a mountain property belonging to the owner of a famous brothel in the state.

Dennis Hof, the owner of the Moonlite Bunny Ranch in the Carson City area, revealed in a message on his Twitter page that one of his houses was destroyed by the blaze, which fire officials said had scorched 2,000 acres (809 hectares) in the area of Washoe Valley just south of Reno.

Hof, who is profiled along with workers at his legal brothel in the television series “Cathouse” on cable channel HBO, posted a photo of the house reduced to rubble. More than 360 firefighters were battling the blaze, which has been dubbed the “Little Valley Fire” and has destroyed 22

homes and 17 outbuildings, officials said on the fire tracking website InciWeb.

The cause of the fire, which was first spotted early on Friday, being investigated, they added. The blaze, located near the border with California and northeast of Lake Tahoe, has spread erratically because of the high winds driving it, and complicated firefighters’ efforts to contain it, officials said.

—Reuters

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(13 / 2016)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

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

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

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

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph . +95 67 - 411097 / 411206

Kangana Ranaut injured during shoot of 'Simran'

MUMBAI — Actress Kangana Ranaut suffered a minor injury while shooting for "Simran" in the US.

According to sources, a minor accident happened yesterday in Atlanta while the 29-year-old actress was shooting.

The actress has got a small cut near her eyebrows.

"While shooting one of the scenes she got a small injury. Nothing major though, luckily it

is just a small cut near her eyebrows but she is fine now and will resume back shooting," sources close to Kangana said in a statement.

In Hansal Mehta's directed film "Simran" the National Award-winning actress will play Praful Patel, a 30-year-old divorcee. Kangana will next be seen in Vishal Bharadwaj's period drama "Rangoon" alongside Saif Ali Khan and Shahid Kapoor.—PTI



Natalie Portman gets Oscar buzz for Jacqueline Kennedy role

NEW YORK — Natalie Portman is drumming up Oscar buzz in her latest role as the iconic Jacqueline Kennedy in the new movie "Jackie" which was shown as part of the New York Film Festival this week.

Portman, 35, already a best

actress Oscar winner for the 2010 ballet film "Black Swan," plays Kennedy in the days immediately after the 1963 assassination of her husband, US President John F. Kennedy.

Battling conflicting emotions of grief, anger and loss of faith,

Portman's performance is seen by awards watchers as a leading contender in the Hollywood awards season that ends with the annual Oscar ceremony in February.

"Jackie" opens in US movie theaters on 2 December.—Reuters



Italian playwright Dario Fo dies

LONDON — The star passed away of a respiratory disease in Milan on Wednesday, reported *The Guardian*.

Fo, who was known for his political satires, began his career in the 1950s and went on to write over 80 plays.

He was best known for "Accidental Death of an Anarchist" and his one-man show "Mistero Buffo" (Comic Mystery), which jokingly criticised politics and religion. After its release, a spokesperson for the Vatican called it "the most blasphemous show in the history of television."

In 1997, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature.

In addition to his writing work, Fo was also a theatre director and he worked on several TV and movie productions, including "La voz humana", "Hohn der Angst", and "It Happened in Rome."

He also acted in projects including "The Betrothed", "It Happened in Rome", and "Francesco, lu santo jullare."

Fo frequently collaborated with his actress wife Franca Rame, who died in 2013. The couple married in 1954 and formed the Dario Fo-Franca Rame Theatre Company in 1958.—PTI

Amazon to fund follow up to 'Deutschland 83' Cold War drama

BERLIN — Amazon Prime Video said on Friday it will fund a second season of the award-winning German Cold War drama "Deutschland 83" under the sequel name "Deutschland 86," with filming to start next year.

The eight episodes of the first television series tracked an East German spy under cover in the West German army and focused on the threat of nuclear war and German pop culture in the 1980s.

The new show will premiere on Amazon in 2018, the company said in a statement.

It is set three years after the first season, with the East German

agent Martin Rauch once again recruited by his aunt Lenora to fight for Communism in cities such as Johannesburg, Paris and West Berlin at a time when Europe is facing a series of terrorist attacks.

The first season, which debuted at the 2015 Berlin film festival, was aired to great success by European broadcaster RTL Group in German markets and, with subtitles, in Britain and the United States.

"Deutschland 83" won numerous prizes in Germany and was recently nominated for the international Emmy award.—Reuters



The cast of 'Deutschland 83' accepts the award for Best German Mini-series during 'Die Goldene Kamera' (Golden Camera) awards ceremony in Hamburg, Germany, on 6 February 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Marion Cotillard on social disconnect in 'The End of the World'

LONDON — French actress Marion Cotillard said society is becoming more isolated, as she discussed her latest film "It's Only the End of the World" on Friday at the London Film Festival.

The film, directed by Canadian filmmaker Xavier Dolan and based on the French play "Juste la fin du monde," features love and communication as major themes as it follows a terminally ill writer who returns home to tell his family he is dying.

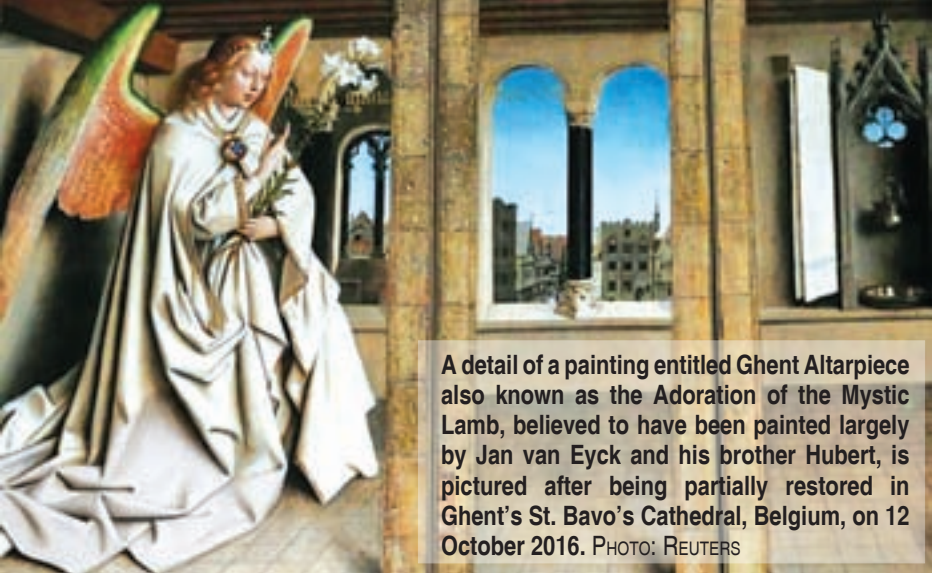
"The solitude in our society is a real problem and the fact that we don't know how to commu-

nicate our feelings is obviously something that is very interesting," Cotillard told Reuters on the red carpet.

"We're like people who just run into each other without noticing, so obviously it causes a lack of communication and even within a family," she added. The film, which also stars Lea Seydoux, Vincent Cassel and Gaspard Ulliel, won the Grand Prix at this year's Cannes Film Festival and is Canada's official entry for the Oscars. It debuted in France and Quebec last month but is yet to garner theatrical distribution in the United States.—Reuters



Flemish altarpiece masterwork part-restored to former glory



A detail of a painting entitled Ghent Altarpiece also known as the Adoration of the Mystic Lamb, believed to have been painted largely by Jan van Eyck and his brother Hubert, is pictured after being partially restored in Ghent's St. Bavo's Cathedral, Belgium, on 12 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

GHENT, (Belgium) — Scientists and art historians in Belgium on Wednesday finished the first restoration stage of one of the most important pieces of early Renaissance art: the Van Eyck brothers' altarpiece in Ghent. Completed in 1432, the "Adoration of the Mystic Lamb" is a complex painting

ing some four and a half meters (14.75 ft) wide by three and a half meters tall, consisting of 12 panels, eight of them painted on both sides to enable the whole work to be opened and closed up.

The first stage of the restoration took four years to complete and focused on the outside panels, which depict the Annunciation — the angel Gabriel telling Mary she will give birth to Jesus — as well as showing prophets and two portraits of the praying donors of the painting. "This is not about Belgium or the Low Countries, this is world heritage," said Sven Gatz, minister of culture for Belgium's Flanders region.

The painting has had a

tumultuous history, surviving not only the destruction of religious images which swept through the Low Countries in the summer of 1566. It was also taken as loot by invading French and German forces in different wars, ending up in an Austrian salt mine at the end of World War II.

The painting has undergone several restoration attempts over the past 600 years, which is why difficult decisions on which layers to remove and which layers to amplify needed to be taken.

It was not always clear which strokes were made by Hubert Van Eyck, which by his younger and better-known brother Jan and which by others, requiring

an international team of scientists to assess the painting meticulously. The result is a much brighter image with much more depth, shedding a yellow hue that had built up, said Anne van Grevenstein, an emeritus professor at the University of Amsterdam who advised on the project. "We now see what Van Eyck did," she said, referring to Jan, who completed the work after his brother died. The project has gone into the second phase of restoring the inner sections, with the central panels scheduled to be finished in 2018 and the outer panels to be completed in time for a year of exhibitions in 2020 centered on Jan Van Eyck.—Reuters

Chiba mayor kick-starts 2020 Games prep campaign in London

LONDON — Chiba Mayor Toshihito Kumagai on Friday got off to an early start in his preparations for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics, travelling to London to learn from the experience of the previous host city.

Kumagai reconfirmed the need for "coexistence in society" after meeting with Simon Cooper, head of sport at the Greater London Authority, and others who took part in delivering London's successful Olympics in 2012.

Chiba Prefecture will host three Olympic sports — fencing, wrestling and taekwondo — and four Paralympic sports — wheelchair fencing, taekwondo, goalball and sitting volleyball — in 2020, with the majority of events taking place in Tokyo.

The town of Ichinomiya in Chiba Prefecture has also been selected as a candidate venue for surf-



Toshihito Kumagai (L), mayor of the city of Chiba, east of Tokyo, meets with Simon Cooper, head of sport at the Greater London Authority, in London, on 14 October 2016, as part of his preparations for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

ing, one of five new sports added to the Olympic programme in August.

Kumagai, who has expressed his hope to turn the

city east of Tokyo into "the sacred site of wheelchair competitions," also visited Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, which incorporated

the athletes' village and several sporting venues for the 2012 Games.

"In an ideal society there will be an environment where those with disabilities and those without play sports together. We have to consider the Olympics and Paralympics as a package, and try to leave a legacy as the host of both events," Kumagai said.

During his inspection tour the 38-year-old, who became Japan's youngest mayor when he was elected in 2009, pointed out that changing the minds of the general public is far more important than creating barrier-free facilities.

Chiba Prefecture, less than an hour away from central Tokyo and site of Narita International Airport, announced in May that the US athletics team will set up pre-Olympic training camp in the prefecture.—Kyodo News

Japanese Pianist Tsujii performs at Australia's parliament

CANBERRA — Japanese pianist Nobuyuki Tsujii performed at Parliament House on Friday in celebration of the 40th anniversary of a friendship and cooperation treaty between Japan and Australia.

Tsujii, 28, played Claude Debussy's "Arabesque No. 1," Frederic Chopin's "Heroic Polonaise" and his original "Still We Live," a work he composed after the massive 2011 earthquake and tsunami in northeast-

ern Japan, in front of an audience of about 200.

After the performance, Tsujii, who is blind, said he was "highly honored as a Japanese citizen to have played in a grand parliament building."

Tsujii won first prize at the 13th Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in Texas in 2009.

He has since been performing in Japan and other countries.—Kyodo News



Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull (L) meets with Japanese pianist Nobuyuki Tsujii on 14 October 2016, in Canberra. Tsujii, who is blind, performed at Parliament House the same day to celebrate the 40th anniversary of a friendship and cooperation treaty between Japan and Australia. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

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Myanmar International

(16-10-2016 07:00am ~ 17-10-2016 07:00am) MST

Today Fresh

07:03 Am News

07:27 Am Kyauk Se Elephant Dance

07:50 Am Myanmar Traditional Bullock-Cart & Equestrian Racing

08:03 Am News

08:26 Am Thadingyut .. Beautiful Night With Colourful Lights

08:44 Am The Caves

09:03 Am News

09:26 Am The Hills Of Phowintaung And Shwebataung

09:44 Am Mogok: The Colourful Land of Rubies

10:03 Am News

10:26 Am A Snake Catcher

10:38 Am Myanmar Street Foods

10:41 Am Lucrative Myanma Rattan Industry

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

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

Prime Time

07:03 Pm News

07:26 Pm A Journey To Southern Shan State (Episode-2)

07:46 Pm Dengue Fever

07:53 Pm Today Myanmar "Community based Tourism Development"

08:03 Pm News

08:26 Pm National Literary Icon and Guiding Light of Myanmar Literature "National Literary Icon In His Old Age" (Episode-3)

08:54 Pm Myanmar Masterclass: Fantastic Art

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

(11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am) - Saturday 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)

Chelsea hammer Leicester in battle of last two champions

LONDON — Chelsea demolished the team that succeeded them as Premier League winners when champions Leicester City succumbed tamely 3-0 at Stamford Bridge on Saturday.

Goals from the Premier League's leading marksman Diego Costa, Eden Hazard and Victor Moses ensured Leicester boss Claudio Ranieri's visit to his old club was a far cry from five months ago when the Foxes received a guard of honour for their title triumph.

The unmarked Costa's seventh-minute strike was his seventh goal of the season, before Chelsea's dominance was further rewarded, following more comedy defending, by Hazard's expertly-taken second.

Moses finished a brilliant one-two 10 minutes from time to leave Leicester as the first English top-flight champions since Blackburn Rovers 21 years ago to lose their opening four away games of the season.

Leicester's 2015-16 fairytale

always looked an impossible act to follow but the tame nature of their fourth defeat in eight games was alarming for their fans who witnessed just three league losses over the whole of last season.

The visitors, who seemed to have half an eye on Tuesday's Champions League clash with FC Copenhagen as Riyad Mahrez was rested, were largely outclassed, leaving Ranieri perturbed.

"Yes, I didn't recognise them (his players) and I must speak to them about why (this happened)," the Italian said.

"Copenhagen is a well-organised team and if we do not react, it will be a very bad match on Tuesday."

Leicester faltered quickly. A low corner from Hazard was flicked on by Nemanja Matic through to Costa, who had all the time and room in the world to hammer home with his left foot.

After David Luiz had hit the post with one of his searing free kick specials, Chelsea's supremacy was further aided by Robert



Chelsea's Eden Hazard scores their second goal against Leicester City during Premier League at Stamford Bridge, London, on 15 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Huth and Luis Hernandez getting in each other's way when trying to cut out a Matic pass.

The ball bobbed off Hazard's head and into his predatory path with the Belgian nipping around the onrushing Kasper Schmeichel before slotting home.

Leicester, now possessing the worst defensive record away from home in the league, showed more

resolve after the break and came close to narrowing the gap when Luiz deflected a Marc Albrighton cross against his own post.

Chelsea's mastery was almost underlined with a goal for former Leicester hero, man of the match N'Golo Kante, but his goal-bound strike was kept out by Wes Morgan. "We miss him," Ranieri said of his French international

midfielder.

For under-pressure Chelsea manager Antonio Conte - several British bookmakers had in the week suspended betting on him being the next Premier League manager to lose his job — there was welcome relief with the Italian hailing the performance as his side's best of the season. —Reuters

Bolt sets last race in Jamaica for June



Gold medalist Usain Bolt (JAM) of Jamaica. PHOTO: REUTERS

KINGSTON, (Jamaica) — Jamaica's Olympic sprint champion Usain Bolt will run his last race on home soil at June's Racers Grand Prix before retiring from competition two months later, he said on Friday. The 30-year-old, who won the 100 metres at this year's Racers Grand Prix, has already said he plans to retire from the sport after the 5-13 August world championships in London having won nine Olympic gold medals.

"The Racers Grand Prix will be my last race in Jamaica people, it will be the last time I run in Jamaica," Bolt told Television Jamaica's "Smile Jamaica"

morning magazine programme. The Racers Grand Prix will be held on 10 June.

The Jamaican, who drew down the curtain on his Olympic career in August by securing a sweep of the sprint titles for a third successive Games, will resume training next month.

Bolt has wild card entries for both the 100 and 200 metres at the worlds but remains undecided on whether he will run one or both events, saying only it will be his last competition.

"Yes I am definitely going to retire after the world championships in London, that will be my last one," said Bolt.—Reuters

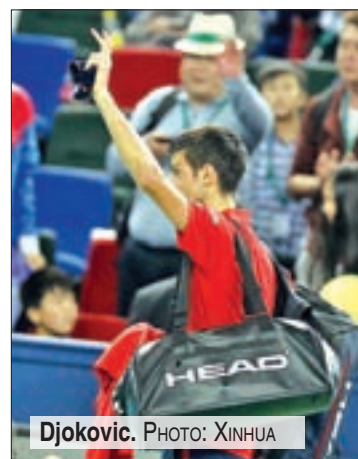
Djokovic stunned by Bautista Agut in Shanghai semi-finals

SHANGHAI — World number one Novak Djokovic suffered a shock 6-4, 6-4 loss to Spaniard Roberto Bautista Agut in the Shanghai Masters semi-finals on Saturday.

Serbian Djokovic, 12-times grand slam champion, made 29 unforced errors against the 15th seed and converted just two of nine break points.

He saved three match points before Bautista Agut broke his serve for the fourth time to wrap up victory in one hour 48 minutes.

Bautista Agut, who beat Djokovic for the first time in six attempts, will face world number two Andy Murray or France's Gilles Simon in the final on Sunday.—Reuters



Europe can only bid for 2026 World Cup as standby — FIFA

ZURICH — European countries will be able to bid to host the 2026 World Cup only if none of the eligible candidates are good enough, soccer's governing body said on Friday.

In a further boost to a possible joint bid from the United States, Mexico and Canada in 2026, FIFA said that co-hosting would be permitted and there would be no restriction on the number of countries in a given bid.

The FIFA Council agreed to the "general principle that member associations from confederations of the last two hosts of the FIFA World Cup will be ineligi-

ble to host the 2026 FIFA World Cup," FIFA said. As Russia and Qatar will host the 2018 and 2022 World Cups respectively, the decision means that neither European nor Asian countries will be eligible to stage the tournament in 2026. "It limits the numbers of confederations that are bidding," Sunil Gulati, president of the United States Football Federation, told reporters.

"We will look at it, we have got great relationships with Canada and Mexico, we also have a country with 320 million people that has hosted a World Cup with a lot of terrific stadiums and great infrastructure." However, no bid

will be formally made until the process has been finalised.

"We won't make a decision until hosting until we know what the rules are," he said. "We now know some of those rules, about the eligibility, we don't know the size of the tournament and until we see those and there is a lot of clarity....in the process, then we'll make a decision about it."

The US hosted the 1994 World Cup and made an unsuccessful bid for the 2022 tournament. Mexico hosted the 1970 and 1986 World Cups. The only World Cup to have been co-hosted was in 2002 when Japan and South Korea shared it.—Reuters