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Vol. III, No. 200, 3<sup>rd</sup> Waxing of Tazaungmon 1378 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Wednesday, 2 November 2016

## FURTHER COOPERATION WITH JAPAN

### Myanmar de facto leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in Japan for 1<sup>st</sup> visit since election

MYANMAR's de facto leader (Daw) Aung San Suu Kyi arrived in Japan on Tuesday for a five-day visit, during which she and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe are expected to affirm their cooperation in advancing Myanmar's democratization and development.

In her first visit to Japan since the longtime pro-democracy party took power in March following a landmark election, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is also scheduled to hold talks with Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida. Both Abe and Kishida will likely pledge various forms of assistance for Myanmar's new government.

**Both Abe and Kishida will likely pledge various forms of assistance for Myanmar's new government.**

In his talks with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Abe is expected to offer further cooperation toward the stability and development of regions home to Myanmar's ethnic minorities and seek improvements in the investment environment for Japanese companies, Japanese officials said.

(Daw) Aung San Suu Kyi, who holds the dual positions of state counsellor and foreign minister, last visited Japan in April 2013 when she was an opposition member of parliament.

While she is constitutionally prohibited from becoming president in Myanmar, her state counsellor position gives her a role similar to a prime minister.

Japan's offers of assistance to Myanmar come against a background of rivalry with China for economic and political in-



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is welcomed by Myanmar nationals in Tokyo, Japan. PHOTO: MNA

fluence among the Association of South-east Asian Nations members, particularly the less developed nations of the Mekong region.

(Daw) Aung San Suu Kyi chose China for her first overseas visit outside South-east Asia since her party's election victory.

During that trip in August, she discussed Chinese investment in Myanmar's infrastructure development with Chinese President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Keqiang.

(Daw) Aung San Suu Kyi will go to Kyoto on Thursday and is expected to visit Kyoto University, where she spent time

from 1985 to 1986 studying the life of her father, revolutionary leader Aung San.

She is scheduled to take questions at a press conference in Tokyo and participate in a forum on public-private cooperation in the Mekong region on Friday, Japanese officials said.—Kyodo News



သဒ္ဓါထက်သန် မြန်မာအားမန် ကမ္ဘောဇဘဏ်



# VP addresses land grab issues to central committee



Vice President U Henry Van Thio addresses the meeting of Central Committee on Confiscated Farmlands and Other Lands. PHOTO: MNA

Plots of land in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, states and regions confiscated by ministries, individuals and organizations for now-stalled projects are to be handed over to the Central Committee on Confiscated Farmlands and Other Lands in accordance with land management laws, rules and regulations for the interest of the country and local people, Vice President U Henry Van Thio said at Meeting 2/2016 of the Central Committee yesterday.

The central committee has already formed committees at Nay Pyi Taw Council, state and region levels, district level, township level and ward and village tract level to overcome the problems faced in

solving the complaints about land confiscation, according to the vice president.

The central committee has also developed a five-point policy for confiscated land and a three-point policy for land confiscated by the Tatmadaw and an eight-step procedure for returning released land to former owners, a seven-point work plan for land that cannot be released to former owners, a five-point guideline for released land and a fifteen-point guideline for committees at various levels, the vice president added.

A total of 2,056 cases of land confiscation were submitted to the central committee by Hluttaws

and states and regions and the cases were transferred to local committees. Thirty-three cases have been resolved so far, the vice president said.

In conclusion, the vice president said that committees at various levels are required to submit progress reports every month.

Union Ministers Lt-Gen Sein Win and Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe, the secretary of the central committee, the chairman of the central committee, and state and region chief ministers then reported on measures taken to redress the sufferings and difficulties of land owners.

The meeting concluded with remarks by the vice president. — Myanmar News Agency

## Vice Senior General Soe Win holds talks with Indian Navy Chief

DEPUTY Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice Senior General Soe Win met with Admiral Sunil Lanba, PVSM, AVSM, ADC, of the Navy of India, at the Credential Hall of the

Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, the two representatives discussed matters on further strengthening of relations between armed forces of the two countries, exchange of naval

ships and the relations of Myanmar's armed forces with armed forces of foreign countries in accordance with the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence and co-operation between Myanmar and India.— Myanmar News Agency

## Displaced locals return home 23 days after deadly violent attacks on Maungtaw

SOME displaced locals seelomg sheltered in temporary camps in Sittway returned home yesterday, 23 days after the violent attacks on Maungtaw Township.

In the small hours of October 9, violent attackers waged an armed surprise assault on the Kyikanpyin-Koetankauk police outpost that was under the control of No. 1 border guard police in Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State. During the attack, 9 policemen were killed and various arms and ammunitions were stolen.

In a news release issued by the President's Office on Octo-

ber 14, it is said that the series of armed attacks were aimed at inciting terrorism in the area where many Islamists reside, which was conspired by the Rohingya Solidarity Organization (RSO)-linked terrorist groups after taking time to organize them for long and aided by foreign-based terrorist groups."

Due to the attacks, local residents left their homes for safer places such as rescue camps. Now that the Tatmadaw and police forces are combined to conduct area clearance operations and have restored stability and peace, the displaced people can

return home of their own accord.

Rakhine State Cabinet Ministers and officials saw off some 100 locals from the Danyawady football playground rescue camp at Sittway jetty. They are returning home of their own will and are provided with financial aid, blankets and mosquito nets by the cabinet and civil societies.

Out of some 800 displaced locals at the Danyawady rescue camp, 100 or so are still left. At the camp there have been 36 tents for displaced people, but those are no longer needed and being dismantled, it is learnt. — Myanmar News Agency

## Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ministry of the State Counsellor Office Accepting People's Complaints

1. Republic of the Union of Myanmar promulgated the Law on the State Counsellor on April 6 of 2016 and formed the Ministry of the State Counsellor Office in accord with the law, with a view to building up a Democratic Federal Union of peace, development and modernization which people longed for, making efforts for the emergence of multi-democracy and exercising market economic system.
2. To rapidly develop the national economy and to be free from bribery and corruption, every individual has the right to make complaints either addressed to the deputy minister, Ministry of the State Counsellor Office, office No 20, Nay Pyi Taw by registered letters or email —compt. msco@gmail.com or fax No 067-409292, describing the following facts in detail:
  - (a) complainant's name, true copy of his or her nationalization scrutiny card, permanent address and contact address (residence or mobile phone number and fax or email address, if ever)
  - (b) to describe details about the accused who are departmental personnel at different levels with evidence attached.
- (3) In making complaints, cases of bribery and corruption committed by responsible officials of government services which affect the public shall be prioritized.
- (4) As the Ministry of the State Counsellor Office has made arrangements for not leaking their complaints the complainants need, not be worried about their safety.
- (5) It is deeply requested not to complain of cases sued in courts, cases under trial and against those who have already been convicted by courts of justice.

Ministry of the State Counsellor Office



Union Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint receiving a delegation from the Pakistan National Management College. PHOTO: MNA

## Union Minister Dr Pe Myint receives Pakistani delegation

UNION Minister for Information Dr Pe Myint received a delegation from the Pakistan National Management College led by the principal Mr Naeem Aslam at the ministry yesterday.

The union minister and the

delegation exchanged views on reforms in the ministry and challenges and experiences of the media in the two countries.

Officials from the ministry were also present at the reception.— Myanmar News Agency

## Information Ministry's media team in Maungtaw Region

A SPECIAL information team under the aegis of the Ministry of Information arrived in Sittway by air this morning and proceeded to the Maungtaw Region in northern Rakhine State by waterways via Buthidaung Township, it is learnt.

The ministry said that the team, comprising journalists and presenters from MRTV, MITV, Myanmar News Agency, Myanmar Alinn, the Mirror and Global New Light of Myanmar, led by General Manager U Ye Naing of the News and Periodicals En-

terprise under the Ministry of Information, will be able to issue accurate and reliable statements in an effort to clarify ground situation in Maungtaw and to refute accusations on the alleged racial and religious persecution by the Tatmadaw that has been conducting an area clearing campaign in northern Rakhine State recently.

Arrangements have been made for local and foreign media to be able to cover news in the affected areas through coordination with appropriate officials. — Kyaw Htiike Soe





## VP U Myint Swe receives Indian Navy Chief

VICE President U Myint Swe received Indian Navy Chief Admiral Sunil Lanba at the Presidential Palace yesterday. They discussed cultural relations and people-to-people relations between the two countries, friendship between the two defence services, implementation of agreements during the visits of the president and the state counsellor, stability and prevention of natural disasters, sea security, enhancement of skills of the Myanmar Police Force, technological and agricultural cooperation and scholarships for Myanmar students in India. The minister of state for foreign affairs and Rear Admiral Myint Nwe and officials attended the meeting.—*Myanmar News Agency*

# Vice President U Henry Van Thio asks for aid for disaster victims

Disaster Management Committee to spend Ks22 billion on rehabilitation

THE National Disaster Management Committee is seeking approval from the Union Government to spend more than Ks22 billion on rehabilitation and resettlement.

The remarks made by Vice President U Henry Van Thio in his address to the meeting of the committee in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday came 17 days after a crowded ferry capsized in the Chindwin River in upper Myanmar on 15th October, killing more than 70 passengers.

“Besides natural disasters, loss of travelers’ lives in a boat capsized in Sagaing Region last month was caused by negligence of authorities concerned. Similar cases were found in Rakhine and Ayeyawady regions, where the local populace mostly rely on water routes. These incidents should not happen in the future,” said the Vice President.

According to an overall analysis of natural disasters that occurred in 2016, water shortage problems connected with El

Nino were solved by the Ministry and the related ministries to support the people.

Vice President U Henry Van Thio has also urged the authorities concerned to conserve and discover water resources for long-term use, pointing out other disasters such as hailstones and strong winds which have caused much destruction countrywide.

In addition, more storm-proof dwellings need to be constructed, he said. Moreover, we found that local societies took part in giving aid to flood victims and to the local populace who are needed in agricultural sectors.”

“Under sections contained in chapter 7 of law on management funds for natural disasters, arrangements (exist) as to opening accounts, drafting financial rules, management of funds in accord with rules and regulations,” said the Vice President.

Committee officials said the effort would require nationwide cooperation.

“Today, countries across the world are facing erratic climate changes. There are two categories of disaster natural disasters and manmade disasters. The former includes wind storms, floods, earthquakes, landslides, wild fires, tsunamis and smog, with the latter including technological and industrial accidents and security-related accidents. The whole nation should take part in a 4-level management system—prevention, preparedness, emergency response and resettlement”, said Lt Gen Kyaw Swe, Union Minister and vice-chairman of the committee.

In concluding remarks, U Henry Van Thio urged the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forests and related ministries to consider the increase in alluvial deposits in rivers due to deforestation and mineral mining as a national concern because it has caused the level of rivers and creeks to rise, causing floods during the rainy season.—*Myanmar News Agency*

# Authorities clarify ground situations in Rakhine

THE coordinated violent attacks on the command center of No. 1 Border Guard Police Force (Ngakhuya) and Kotankauk posts claimed the lives of nine Myanmar Police Force members, with various weapons and ammunition looted.

Local people had to flee their homes in fear as a result of the violent attacks and the instability in the area. Security has been restored to the area and locals are returning home as the paddies they have planted are ripe for harvest and the cattle they left need tending.

The union government, the state government and donor organisations are cooperating in security, support and rescue of the local people. However, foreign-based organisations are distorting the truth through abuse of the media.

Myanmar News Agency interviewed officials and returnees about the situation on the ground.

“We are clearing the area in accordance with the law with three aims, including recapturing the weapons looted by violent attackers, legal action against those who were involved in the violent attacks and legal action against those who cooperated in the violent attacks. This is being done in cooperation with the Tatmadaw, the police and the local people,” Rakhine State Security and Border Affairs Minister Col Htein Win said.



Rakhine State Health and Social Affairs Minister Dr Chan Tha.

## Security and the rule of law strictly enforced

As for the agriculture sector in Maungta, Rakhine State Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry and Mining Minister U Kyaw Lwin said that there were over 80,000 acres of paddy fields in the district with about one thousand acres grown by Rakhine nationals and seven thousand acres by Muslims. However, it is difficult to reap the crops as it has become difficult to hire farm workers. Therefore, officials are arranging to provide 40 harvesting and winnowing machines along with technologies and inputs for them. It is an effort to avoid wastage in the agricultural sector, according to the state minister.

In addition, authorities are providing social and health services to the locals, regardless of their religion.

“We arranged for them to return home, as stability has been

restored to the area while field trips were made together with the chief minister of the state. Although staff from sub-township hospitals fled for fear of the violent attacks, township hospitals are still open and patients are still being provided with medical care. The Tatmadaw helped them with the use of helicopters. Now, all of them have been reorganised at Maungta and will be sent to clinics in northern Maungta including Khamaukseik, Tamintha, Ngakjuya and Taungpyoletwe, according to Rakhine State Health and Social Affairs Minister Dr Chan Tha.

“As for small ethnic villages, mobile health teams will be sent and schools have been reopened since 24 October. Schools at some places were reopened today. Moreover, we are arranging to send ethnic teachers to the schools, he added.

Those who fled their villages



Saw Win, in-charge of a camp. PHOTO: LIN KYAW



Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry and Mining Minister U Kyaw Lwin.

es in fear were permitted to stay at camps and provided food and other needs.

“Those who fled from Maungta were first accommodated in rescue camps under the arrangement of the government, which provided their needs. In Danyawadi camp, there were over 800 people in 36 tents. Now, there are only about 100 left as they have started to go home as stability has been restored to their areas. Foods that are still at the camp will also be sent to Maungta. Authorities allow everyone who wants to return home as their native homes are peaceful. We never force them to return home, it is their own wish, said Saw Win, who is in charge of the camp.

Today, about 100 local people returned their homes.

Ma Mya Htwe of Aungmyin-galar village, Maungta Township who took part in transporting

said she heard bursts of firearms at 1:15 am on October 9 and they didn’t sleep for the whole night in fear, but they did not dare to flee anywhere, hiding in a place of the village assumed to be safe. Fighting continued for the next day and they had to take their meals in early hours. Then they overheard the news that army troops cleared the village called Wetpeit. Some recounted that Tatmataw found many bullet shells in that village. Now fighting ceased and children and females except for males had to go to rescue camps. All fled their place risking their lives.

She added, “From there we arrived at Sittway rescue camp. We returned to Maungta for a few days hearing that there were rescue camps. There we are convenient in everything, provided with food, shelter and medical care. Now we are returning to Maungta rescue camp.”

Some returned to their origins for better situations of the area whereas some remained in rescue camps, according to their wishes.

Ma Aye Aye Aung of Maungta ward 4 said, “Everybody wants to go back home. While staying at Sittway relief camp, the government provided us with food, clothing, blankets and medical care. Now we are given out 10,000 kyats by the government and 30,000 kyats by CSOs.”—*Wai Yan Oo & Kyaw Hti Lin*



# Paintings by artists from Yangon, Mandalay at exhibit in Mandalay

A lead painting exhibition titled "A Bag of a Mad" was opened with a ceremony at the Shwe Dingar Hotel in Maha Aungmye Township in Mandalay on Sunday 30 October.

Lead paintings created by 3D Street Art Ko Nyi Hlaing, Graffiti Art Ko Lynn Pinn Zaw, Lead painting Artist Ko Lynn Lek Pyaing from Mandalay and Bokalay Htay Lwin, Ko Ye Yint Hein, Ko Soe Wai Yain Myint (3 Pencil Group) and Ko Zin (Blue Tree Art) from Yangon together with Ko Min Thaik Tun, Ko Hein Zaw Aung and Ko Nyein Chan Min who are lead painting artists, were displayed at the event.

U Zaw Win, chairman of Mandalay Art Association, and artists attended the ceremony. Painting special-



Visitors at the art exhibition "A Bag of a Mad" in Mandalay. PHOTO: THIHA KO KO (MDY)

isation students of National University of Culture and Arts (Mandalay), students from Fines Arts School, art

enthusiasts observed the lead paintings.

The three-day event ran from 30 October to

1 November. The artists made portraits of visitors to the event. —Thiha Ko KO (Mandalay)

## Over 60 factories in the City of Yangon charged with violation of labour rights

YANGON Region authorities took action against more than 60 factories for violation of labour rights, according to the Factories and the General Labour Laws Inspection Department.

A total of 64 factories have been charged under existing laws after authorities found that the employers of those factories broke labour-related provisions.

The investigators say that many workers, especially from garment factories, were forced to work over the set time frame.

According to the amendment of the 1951 Factory Act, overtime is limited to a maximum of 2 hours per day.

Under factory rules, working hours shall not exceed 8 hours per day or 44 hours a week and it shall not exceed 48 hours per week for the work which has to be done continuously. Also, the work week shall not exceed 6 days per week.

Among those factories, over 40 plants have already been punished. Authorities are still investigating the rest of the cases, most of which occurred in the Hlaingthaya and Shwepyitha industrial zones.

Action is being taken against two garment factories in Shwelinban and Dagon (East) industrial zones in October.—200

## Over Ks28 million fines earned from undisciplined drivers

OVER Ks28 million collected in the form of fines to undisciplined drivers in the 16-month period from June, 2015 to October 31, 2016 in Katha township, Sagaing region.

Traffic police stopped undisciplined vehicles and issued Ks3.953,000 in fines for 451 small vehicles, Ks285,000 for 48 trailer vehicles, Ks22,994,000 for 5669 motorbikes, and

Ks521,500 from three-wheeled vehicles.

"We normally arrest the operators of 25 vehicles per day. Some of the bike riders are not using helmets, some are driving without a license. Urban people are not following the rules. So we will continue to make arrests and take legal action", said Inspector Win San from No. 160 traffic police station.

The traffic police made efforts to educate people on traffic rules which allow a case file to be built and perpetrators to be taken to court and fined.

"We always use helmets when we are driving the motorbike. Using the helmet is safe for us", said Chan Chan from the Taung Paw Kyaung social organisation. —Myitmakha News Agency



The motorcycles seized as court exhibits being seen. PHOTO: MYITMAKHA NEWS AGENCY

## Over K25 million worth methamphetamines seized in Kengtung, Shan (East)

POLICE from Kengtung Myoma station seized methamphetamines worth over Ks25 million from two villagers at Naung Tung (Arkhar) village, Kengtung township, Shan State (East) on Monday.

Anti-narcotics police searched a house on Arrki Lae at Naung Tung (Arkhar) village and found methamphetamines known as "ice", or crystal meth.

"Arrki Lae ran into a room and threw away two small plastic bags from his hand when he saw the police," said Inspector Zaw Zaw Aung from Kengtung station. Police also found Chit Than, who was arrested and charged in relation to the drugs.



Arrki Lae and Chit Than. PHOTO: MYITMAKHA NEWS AGENCY

The police said the seized ice was estimated to be worth Ks25 million. Police have filed charges against both suspects un-

der sections 15/19(A)/21 of the Anti-Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Laws. —Myitmakha News Agency

## Crime NEWS

### Man attempted to kill another man for extramarital affair with his wife

A 44-year old man allegedly attempted to murder another man who had an extramarital affair with his wife by hitting him with a car in the town of Lashio, Shan State (North) on Monday.

The victim fell on to the ground when he was struck by the vehicle and shouted for help. After a few minutes, police arrived at the scene and arrested the driver of the car.

When interrogated, the driver of the car admitted that he had hit the other man with the vehicle. If hitting him with the car was not successful, he had planned to shoot him with a gun, he said. Police searched the house of the man and seized a gun with 13 bullets.

Local police filed charges against him under sections 307/323 of the Penal Code.—Myitmakha News Agency



The car used in the attempted murder.

PHOTO: MYITMAKHA NEWS AGENCY



# LOCAL Business

## 19 projects resulted in over 9,400 new jobs

A total of 9,412 job opportunities were created from enterprises approved by the Myanmar Investment Commission, it is learnt at a recent MIC meeting.

Among the new ventures were nine enterprises with foreign direct investment, seven with Myanmar citizen investment and three with joint venture investments, according to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration.

The permitted enterprises are Ocean Muse Fisheries, Swel Hein Group Company, Golden Myanmar-Tai Company, Rui-Ning (Myanmar) Garment Company, Dongyi (Myanmar) Company, Uteeli Garment (Myanmar) Company Limited, Myanmar Solamoda Garments Company (Factory-2), One of Front Company, Dishang Fashion (Myanmar) Company, Mahar Hpa An Production Company, United Precise Company, Huawei Technologies (Yangon) Company, KMA-Suzue Logistics Myanmar, Fiber link Myanmar Company, Convalt Energy (Myanmar)



Applicants look at job offers displayed on a board of a garment factory in Hlinethaya, Yangon. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH

Company, Amazing Holidays Hotels and Resorts Company and Phwint Phyo Thit Company.

The enterprises are engaged in processing, drying, freezing,

aluminium foil packing, packaging and marketing of aquatic products under normal system and contract processing system; manufacturing and marketing of

high-quality sawn timber, doors, parquet and furniture; manufacturing and marketing of sugar and molasses; manufacturing of garments under the Cut, Make and

Pack (CMP) system; manufacturing of all kinds and sizes of post bar, signboard frames on CMP Basis; providing Communication and Information Technologies-related services and equipment to licensed operators; providing consolidated logistics services with a container freight station (CFS) and warehouse; fiber infrastructure internet and telecommunication services; construction of two 150MW solar power plants for electricity generation, hotel services, construction and operation of an international golf club, hotels and service apartments in the form of B.O.T., Yedagun Taung private school and an international hospital.

MIC approved the investment businesses only after verifying investment proposals and regularly issuing notifications about sector-specific developments, plus evaluation of state revenue, domestic and foreign markets, local food consumption, technology sharing, innovation and environmental assessment in accordance with existing laws. —Ko Htet

## Myanmar-Bangladesh trade declines dramatically after border attacks

The number of businessmen engaged in border trade on a manageable scale is dropping, probably due to the border attacks in Maungdaw Township, it is learnt from area businessmen.

Previously, 60 to 80 people engaged in border trade daily using a border pass. After the 9 October attacks on three police outposts, the number of businessmen has dropped down to between 10 and 15 per day, said Ko Tun Aye, a businessman in Maungdaw.

The fightings have raised the local people's concerns.

Businessmen from Bangladesh do not enter Maungdaw, suspend trade because of the security risk to their well-being. The export price has risen and local businessmen have had to negotiate the price with the customers, said Daw Saw Than, a local from Maungdaw.

Legal border trade was suspended between 9th and 13th October due to the simultaneous attacks on the border outposts. Trade activity was resumed on 14th October, with expectations of previous levels of commerce, said U Khin Kyaw Myint, a per-

son in-charge of the Maungdaw border trade camp.

But the instability caused by the fightings made border trade difficult, with the local economy on decline and goods in low supply. The merchants normally earn from 1,000 to 1,300 Taka (BDT) depending on the volume of the products, it is learnt.

The businessmen from Maungdaw mainly export locally made clothes, htabi and Paso (nether garments), fishery products, agro-products and forest products.—Myitmakha News Agency

## Drop in fish exports to China a result of increased exports to SE Asia, US, Europe

THE volume of Myanmar's fisheries exports to China has been on the decline, resulting from increased exports to America, Thailand, Singapore and European countries, according to an announcement released by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.

The export volume of fish to foreign countries was on a downward trend over four consecutive years, so fish were exported mainly to China. But Myanmar restored an opportunity to make international links in the 2015-

2016 fiscal year and began to penetrate the international market, which offers a higher price than Chinese market, said an official from Myanmar Fisheries Products Processors and Exporters Association.

In the 2011-2012 fiscal year, 92,780 tonnes of fish products worth US\$259million were exported to China, whereas fish exports in the last fiscal year fetched only US\$161million with an export volume of 78,720 tonnes.—200

## Two sites for manufacturing rattan and bamboo products planned for next year

FINISHED rattan and bamboo products will be made in two places next year, said U Kyaw Thu, the chairman of the Myanmar Rattan and Bamboo Entrepreneurs Association.

The finished products will be exported to Europe, America, South Korea and Japan.

It is slated to carry out the boost in the production of rattan and bamboo in Rakhine State and Bago Region. Currently, local growers, related organisations concerned and the Myanmar Rattan and Bamboo Entrepreneurs Association are in negotiations.

The association will offer courses, provide technical assis-

tance and explore the market. The local organisations will also join hands in cultivation and production.

Myanmar Rattan and Bamboo Entrepreneurs Association and local growers are cooperating to bolster the production rate of finished rattan and bamboo. The production and selling of the finished rattan and bamboo products are being carried out in Taikkyi in Yangon Region; Minhla in Bago Region and Waingmaw and Myitkyina in Kachin State, it is learnt.

A similar plan to enhance the production volume will be conducted in Kachin State starting from January, 2017.—200

## Price of sesame seeds climbing due to demand from China

WITH rising demand from China and a lower yield this year, the price of sesame seeds from Kalay Township, Sagaing Region increased by more than Ks10,000 per basket starting in mid October, it is learnt from merchants.

The price of black sesame seeds was Ks21,000 per basket in early September. The price jumped to Ks32,000 per basket in mid October, it is learnt.

The rise in price is attributed partly to the steadily increasing demand from China. The price

at Mandalay market is Ks40,000 per basket weighing 15 viss, said U Tin Maung Win, an owner of the TMW crop depot from Mandalay.

The market price of red, white and yellow sesame seeds is Ks23,000 per basket. This year, the yield of sesame seeds dropped and so, the sesame growers are not making loss even with a price of Ks23,000 per basket, it is learnt.

"I made an advanced purchase at a price of Ks21,000 per basket. Some growers do not

want to give the sesame seeds because of the increase in market price. Instead, they want to pay back the money. However, they are not able to reimburse the money due to the contract.

It takes four months to cultivate sesame plants, usually from June to September. The yield of sesame seeds in Kalay is usually very high, but the sesame fields were destroyed by torrential rains and flash floods at harvest time, the sesame growers said.—Myitmakha News Agency



# China debuts J-20 stealth jet in show of strength at country's biggest air expo

ZHUHAI, (China) — China showed its Chengdu J-20 stealth fighter in public for the first time on Tuesday, opening the country's biggest meeting of aircraft makers and buyers with a show of its military clout.

Airshow China, in the southern city of Zhuhai, offers Beijing an opportunity to demonstrate its ambitions in civil aerospace and to underline its defence ambitions. China is set to overtake the US as the world's top aviation market in the next decade.

Two J-20 jets, Zhuhai's headline act, swept over dignitaries and hundreds of spectators and industry executives gathered at the show's opening ceremony in a fly-past that barely exceeded a minute, generating a deafening roar that was met with gasps and applause and set off car alarms in a parking lot at the site.

Experts say China has been refining designs for the J-20, first glimpsed by planespotters in 2010, in the hope of narrowing a



China's J-10 fighter jets perform during an air show, the 11<sup>th</sup> China International Aviation and Aerospace Exhibition in Zhuhai, Guangdong Province, China, on 1 November 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

military technology gap with the United States. President Xi Jinping has pushed to toughen the armed forces as China takes a more assertive stance in Asia, particularly in the South China and East China seas.

"It is clearly a big step forward in Chinese combat capability," said Bradley

Perrett of Aviation Week, a veteran China watcher.

It was China's second successive display of a new stealth jet at the biennial Zhuhai show, following the 2014 debut of the J-31.

After arriving as a pair at low-level, one of the J-20s quickly disappeared over the horizon, leaving the other to

perform a series of turns, revealing its delta wing shape against bright sub-tropical haze.

But analysts said the brief and relatively cautious J-20 routine — the pilots did not open weapon bay doors, or perform low-speed passes — answered few questions.

"I think we learned very

little. We learned it is very loud. But we can't tell what type of engine it has, or very much about the mobility," said Greg Waldron, Asia Managing Editor of Flight-Global. "Most importantly, we didn't learn much about its radar cross-section."

A key question whether the new Chinese fighter can match the radar-evading properties of the Lockheed Martin F-22 Raptor air-to-air combat jet, or the latest strike jet in the US arsenal, Lockheed's F-35. The F-22 Raptor, developed for the US Air Force, is the J-20's closest lookalike.

But the mere display of such a newly developed aircraft was a revealing signal, others said.

"It's a change of tactics for the Chinese to publicly show off weapons that aren't in full squadron service yet," said Sam Roggeveen, a senior fellow at the Sydney-based Lowy Institute, "and demonstrates a lot of confidence in the capability, and also a lot of pride." —Reuters

## Australia and China agree to share financial crime intelligence

SYDNEY — Australia and China agreed on Tuesday to share intelligence about potential financial crime as part of a crackdown on cross-border money laundering and terrorism financing.

Australian Justice Minister Michael Keenan, who is in Beijing, said the agreement between Australian financial intelligence agency AUSTRAC and its Chinese counterpart CAMLMAC would allow both countries to target and disrupt organised criminal networks.

"Following the money trail is an essential element in tackling serious and organised crime," Keenan said in an emailed statement.

China has been trying to get increased international cooperation to hunt down suspected corrupt officials who have fled overseas since President Xi Jinping began a campaign against deeply-rooted graft more than three years ago. —Reuters

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Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

## South Korean prosecutors arrest woman at centre of political crisis

SEOUL — The woman at the centre of a scandal that has plunged the South Korean presidency into crisis was held for a second day of questioning by prosecutors on Tuesday after being detained overnight to answer allegations of exerting inappropriate influence over state affairs.

Prosecutors have said they are investigating whether Choi Soon-sil used her friendship with President Park Geun-hye to gain access to classified documents that enabled her to influence government matters and benefited personally through non-profit foundations.

The swirling scandal has sparked public anger and sent Park's approval rating to a record low, with thousands of protestors gathered in Seoul on Saturday night calling for her to step down. Park accepted the resignations of eight of her top aides over the weekend.

Choi, 60, arrived at the prosecutor's office on Tuesday morning in handcuffs and a surgical mask and wearing a dark coat, escorted by correctional officers. A prosecution official and



Choi Soon-sil arrives for questioning at a prosecutor's office in Seoul, South Korea, on 1 November 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

her lawyer said she had been detained late on Monday.

Although Choi was being questioned at another location, a man used a heavy construction excavator to smash the front entrance of the Supreme Prosecutors' Office building in Seoul, injuring a security guard, in an apparent act of protest against Choi. He was arrested by police.

According to Han Jeung-sub, a senior official at the Seocho Police Station, the 45-year-old man told police: "Choi Soon-sil said she had committed a crime she deserves to die for, so I came here to help her die."

Park, 64, and Choi have known each other for decades, and Park said in a

televised apology last week that her friend had helped her through difficult times.

Park's father Park Chung-hee led South Korea for 18 years after seizing power in a military coup in 1961. Park Geun-hye served as acting first lady after her mother was killed by an assassin trying to shoot her father, who was himself murdered by his disgruntled spy chief in 1979.

Park is in the fourth year of a five-year term and the crisis threatens to complicate policymaking during the lame-duck period that typically sets in towards the end of South Korea's single-term presidency.

The scandal has weighed on the South Ko-

rean currency and stocks, as investors fret about political uncertainty, with the won falling 0.9 per cent last week while stocks slipped 0.7 per cent.

Worried that Choi may be a flight risk and could destroy evidence, prosecutors placed her under emergency detention without a warrant, South Korea's Yonhap News Agency reported.

Under South Korean law, a suspect can be held under emergency arrest without a warrant for up to 48 hours. A longer detention requires an arrest warrant issued by a court.

Choi begged forgiveness when she arrived to meet prosecutors on Monday.

In an interview with South Korea's *Segye Ilbo* newspaper published on Thursday, Choi said she received drafts of Park's speeches after Park's election victory but denied she had access to other official material, or that she influenced state affairs or benefited financially. Park said last week she had given Choi access to speech drafts early in her term and apologised for causing concern among the public. —Reuters



# Fifteen temples in Bangladesh vandalised, houses of Hindus looted

DHAKA — At least 15 Hindu temples in Bangladesh have been vandalised over allegations of disrespect shown to Islam on Facebook, triggering panic among the minority community in the Muslim-majority nation.

Temples in Brahmanbarhia district's Nasirnagar were vandalised on Sunday; besides over 100 houses of Hindus in the area have also been looted.

After the mayhem for hours, two temples in adjacent Habiganj's Madhabpur also came under attack, police and witnesses said.

Six persons were arrested for their alleged involvement in the attack.

Paramilitary Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB) have been deployed in Nasirnagar and Madhabpur Upazila headquarters along with the Rapid Action Bat-

alion, police and Armed Police Battalion, bdnews24.com reported.

The district's Deputy Commissioner Rezwanaur Rahman and Superintendent of Police Mizanur Rahman inspected the area later in the afternoon.

But the leaders of the local Hindu community say the panic that has gripped them is not going away.

## Ditto, attack on Buddhists

The attack was carried out in a style followed by the attackers of Buddhist community in Cox's Bazar in 2012 on a similar allegation of disrespect towards Islam through a Facebook post.

Locals said Nasirnagar incident started with a Facebook post by one Rasraj Das from Harinberh village under Haripur Union Parishad.

Police detained Rasraj on

Friday immediately after the allegation of blasphemy had surfaced against him. He was sent to jail following a court order, Mr. Mizanur Rahman said.

Protests against Rasraj's post were called under the banner of 'Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat' in Habiganj district headquarters and Nasirnagar. Demonstrations were also announced in Habiganj's Madhabpur.

## Madrasa students stage protest

A group of madrasa students demonstrated on the premises of Brahmanbarhia Press Club while hundreds of people blocked Sarail-Nasirnagar-Lakhai road by torching tyres on Sunday.

Mr. Mizanur, quoting witnesses, said a group of the demonstrators, armed with local weapons, vandalised the temples at Duttubarhi, Namashudraparha and Ghoshparha, and Jagannath



The photo posted on social media shows debris from a Hindu Temple vandalised by mobs.

Temple and Goura Temple.

They also vandalised and looted the houses of the Hindu families. Several priests were injured in the attack, he said.

One platoon of the BGB was deployed first to bring the situation under control. The other forces joined them later.

Mr. Mizanur said preparations to file separate cases over

the attacks were under way.

Mr. Rezwanaur Rahman told the media that those responsible for the attack would get 'exemplary' punishment after investigation.

Nasirnagar Upazila Parishad Vice-Chairman Anjan Deb said, "The situation is apparently calm now but the Hindu community is still panicked."—PTI



A Parsi man walks past a wall of a Parsi fire temple featuring huge carvings of ancient priests in Mumbai, India, on 30 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

# Feud at India's top conglomerate shocks a proud community

MUMBAI — The bitter public feud between the Tata family, which controls India's most respected conglomerate, and its now ousted chairman Cyrus Mistry has created an unwelcome stir in the tiny Parsi community to which both sides belong.

There are only about 58,000 Parsis in India, a nation of 1.2 billion people. Yet, the community has included some of India's biggest business names, its top nuclear scientists, world-class musicians and several senior military officers including the country's first field-marshal. Parsis are also known for maintaining their privacy. "They should have settled this between

themselves instead of what has happened so publicly," said a Parsi woman stepping out of the community's fire temple in downtown Mumbai.

The row between Ratan Tata, family patriarch of the sprawling \$100 billion salt-to-steel Tata Sons empire, and Cyrus Mistry, a scion of the billionaire Shapoorji Pallonji clan, erupted in public last week.

Both families are pillars of the Parsi community, comprised of descendants of Persians who first landed in India in the ninth century. Tata Sons announced on 24 October that Mistry had been removed as chairman of the company.

Sources close to the compa-

ny said Mistry's corporate strategy was seen as transgressing the core Parsi value of working for the greater common good. A five-page e-mail response from Mistry to the Tata board was leaked two days later, containing scathing criticism of the company's corporate governance practices and Ratan Tata's role in some of the company's costliest errors. The two sides have traded barbs on a near-daily basis since then.

While business spats are not uncommon in India's financial capital Mumbai, the public allegations of malfeasance and the central role of two billionaire Parsis has not gone down well in the community.—Reuters

# Japan to extend intercept order for North Korean missiles by three months

TOKYO — Japan has decided to extend by three months an order to its Self-Defence Forces to remain ready to shoot down potential ballistic missiles launched from North Korea, a Japanese government source said on Tuesday.

The order, issued 8 August, is set to expire early this month, the source said.

The decision to maintain intercept capability at all times was apparently based on Pyongyang's recent suspected use of mobile launching pads for ballistic missiles, making launch preparations hard to detect. The government had previously issued intercept orders on a case-by-case basis when it picked up on signs a launch was imminent. The Defence Ministry

does not make public the issuing or cancellation of the orders, which under the SDF law are given in response to either a recognised threat that a projectile could reach Japanese territory or an unspecified threat in volatile circumstances.

Defence Minister Tomomi Inada refrained from commenting on specific actions Tuesday, saying only that the ministry is "taking the appropriate measures." "If we make clear the specific measures we are taking, we run the risk of showing our hand," Inada told a press conference. The first known intercept order was given in 2009, when Pyongyang fired a missile ostensibly to launch a satellite into Earth's orbit.—Kyodo News

# Australia, Indonesia consider joint South China Sea naval patrols

SYDNEY — Australia is considering joint naval patrols with Indonesia in the contested South China Sea, Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop said on Tuesday.

Bishop said Indonesia's request for joint patrols at a bilateral meeting in Bali last week was "consistent with our policies of exercising our right of freedom of navigation." "That's in accordance with international law and our support for peace and stability in the region," Bishop told Australian Broadcasting Corp radio. Australia, a staunch US ally, has previously drawn criticism from China for running surveillance flights over disputed islands in the South China Sea and supporting US freedom

of navigation exercises there. China, which claims almost the entire South China Sea where about \$5 trillion of sea-borne trade transits annually, last month urged Australia to "speak and act cautiously" on the South China Sea. Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Viet Nam also have claims on parts of the sea, which is believed to have rich deposits of oil and gas.

Australia and Indonesia already conduct joint sea patrols in the Timor Sea as part of the countries' partnership on combating people smuggling and illegal fishing. Bishop said that Australia and Indonesia would notify other countries in the region of any planned exercise.—Reuters



# Opinion

## Write for us

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

## Concerted efforts in unison will result in positive motion

**Khin Maung Oo**

**I**N the past, the former kings of Myanmar used to levy land and poll taxes on their subjects. Afterwards, the system of levying a poll tax was substituted by introducing the system of collecting tax from the sale of lottery tickets. Nowadays, most people from all walks of life try their luck at the state lottery every month. They have no alternative but to do so, a small chance to liberate themselves from poverty. Winning the lottery is their dream, as if grasping at straws. We all know that only 60 per cent of the earnings from sales of tickets are disbursed to lucky winners. We wholly agree with collecting 40 percent of sales as revenue. That is, we are paying tax to the government monthly at 80 kyats a piece. So we can be said to be taxpayers, with no intention to evade tax. We can calculate the accurate amount of taxes the government gets monthly

from the lottery.

Yet, surprisingly enough, lottery ticket businessmen's monthly income exceeds the tax amount (40 per cent of the ticket sales) the government receives, with their names unrecorded in the list of the highest taxpayers of the year. Likewise, there are many businesses which fail to follow prescribed laws and regulations, for example restaurants' failure to give out bills by taking advantage of customers who are above asking for them. People used to think that once they become taxpayers, they have to pay forever. Thus, most money went into the pockets of dishonest staff. Otherwise, if the money would go into the State's revenue, it could be used in our educational, social and public health sectors. Had we really managed to recover the tax which dishonest entrepreneurs tried to evade,

this money would have been of great benefit to the nation's educational and social development projects.

Each country has its own laws. In ruling a country, there needs to be rule of law. Should a governing body enforce rule of law, the administrative machinery will be successful. However, many tax assessment cases as to undisclosed sources of income and capital gains go unreported these days, and it is learnt that most got away with paying a meagre amount of taxes, trying to evade the actual tax amount to be paid to the State. Money-hoarders primarily involve themselves in these cases, manipulating inflation and prices. We have to abide by the laws, rules and regulations, under responsibilities conferred upon us. In fact, retrospective investigations and retroactive actions should be made if there are misappropriation of

power. However, the NLD leader has shown magnanimity neither to be retrospective nor retroactive. On our way to a democratic nation, we are now facing deteriorating situations. To overcome these, we all are responsible for a concerted effort and we need not blame anyone. All the problems — bribery, corruption, unemployment, galloping inflation, increasing crime rate and national economic decline — can be mainly attributed to the lack of rule of law, which plays a key role in building up a nation. Without it, any country is destined to be a ruined state. "To err is human, to forgive divine", as the saying goes. We may be wrong in some way or another. But no age is too old to mend our ways, behavior and mind. With our efforts there will surely be positive movement forward, as long as our concerted efforts are in unison.

# Shake up now or it will break down!

**Khin Maung Myint**

**A**FTER the epic trips by the State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to the United Kingdom and the United States of America on diplomatic missions, which were widely chronicled in the world media, our country has gained much prestige on the international arena. Along with the attentions and respects accorded to her, the country gained many privileges too.

The lifting of the economic sanctions by the United States of America, financial assistances from United Kingdom and France and pledges of assistances from other European countries, the revoking of the human rights watch by the European Union are the most visible gains. The latest trip to India was also a success and the forthcoming diplomatic trip to Japan would undoubtedly be a productive one too.

With some of the main obstacles or the stumbling blocks from outside having been removed, it's now the duty of us citizens, to strive earnestly towards the development of the country in unity. However, I

hope I wouldn't be wrong if I say that there are still some domestic obstacles that need urgent clearing, to be able to realize our dreams of a peaceful and prosperous nation.

The first domestic obstacle that needs immediate removal is the armed conflicts, which are still raging on while the peace process is underway. All armed groups should join the peace process and find a solution to put an end to the hostilities that has been going on since our Independence. It's not an unachievable goal if all parties genuinely want peace. Hopefully, it would be achieved soon.

The second obstacle is complicated and poses more problems and could cause hindrances in the nation building process: **the deteriorated civil service system.** The civil service system is the foundation of any bureaucracy, which must be well maintained. As an ex-civil service personnel, I'm well aware of the many pitfalls in the present civil service system and the behaviours and mindsets of some undesirable personnels who are still in the services. Most of the readers may still remember the remarks made by the late Ex-Prime Minister and Minister Mentor of Singapore, in which he pointed

out that the civil service system in Myanmar had collapsed, while they had maintained theirs'. On first hearing that remarks I was not pleased at all, however, he proved to be right.

Now that the civil service rules and regulations are in the process of being amended, I wouldn't be touching that subject in this article. Thus, I will be discussing the need to cleanse the various government departments, commissions and entities, and those that are operating as joint ventures with the public sectors. In my opinion, there still remain many individuals who are clinging to their old practices. Most are corrupt, arrogant, incompetent, and worse of all they haven't changed their mindsets. They are either oblivious to the changes the country is undergoing or, unintentionally or otherwise, sabotaging the progress by carrying on as before. For instance, the mishandling of the human rights abuse case by the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) is one such example. Judging that incident, it can be deduced that there are still many such unethical individuals in every governmental and related organizations. Habits and behaviours are hard to change, but we cannot afford

to allow those with undesirable habits and behaviours to remain in our civil services anymore.

I had pointed out in one of my previous articles, "**Now It's the Floor's Turn**" (6/7/2016 GNLM), the necessity to replace the decayed floors to save the building from collapsing. What I intended to point out was to get rid of such undesirable persons from the ranks of our government organizations and entities if we earnestly want to make significant changes, but I must admit I had been hesitant to say it frankly in that article. It was a weakness on my part then, but now, I think I should be more open in expressing my opinions, which I did in good faith without animosity towards anybody, but for the good of the country.

It has been over six months since the new administration was at the helm and had already made public their policies and priorities, as to how to steer the country on to the right path to development and prosperity. Though there are many visible improvements in every aspects of governance, there are still many more to be done. The most urgent and pressing issue is the presence of some misfits who are corrupt, disloyal, unworthy, incompatible and undeserving to

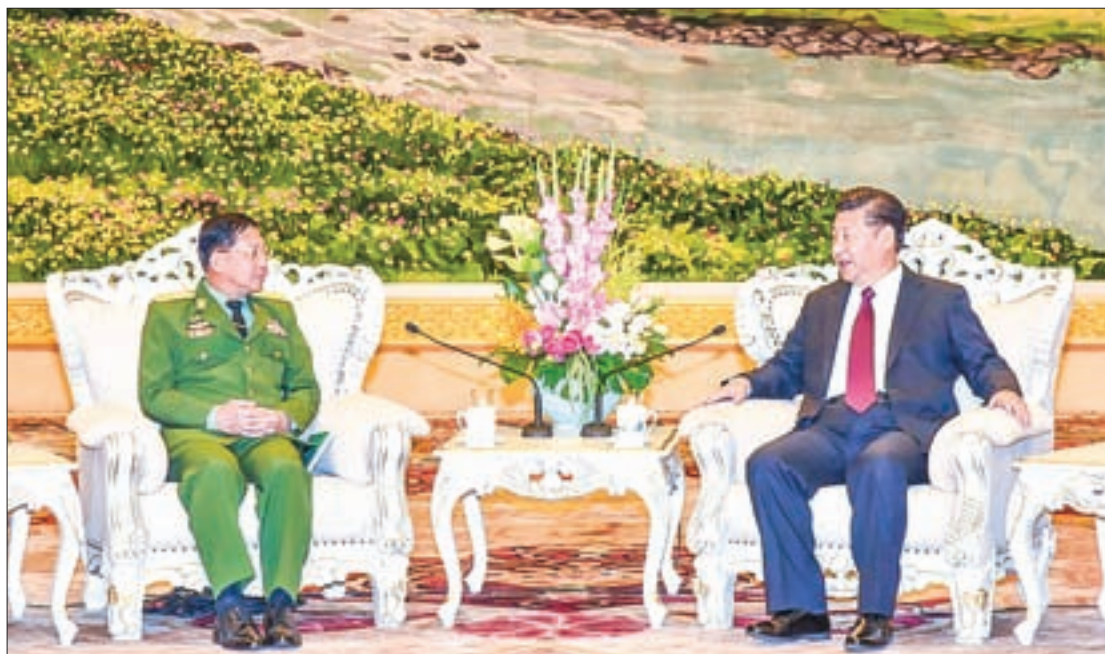
the ranks they hold at every level of the hierarchy in almost all the government organizations, entities, joint ventures and commissions.

The worst of all is, some of them are opportunists without any trace of loyalty, principle or integrity and would not hesitate to do anything for their gains. There are some who are dragging their feet purposely and are not cooperating with the new administration for various reasons. Such insincere individuals could do more harm than good to the nation building process. They have already been given enough time to change, so the best solution is **either they change or quit.**

Thus, it's high time for organizational cleansing to get rid of such undesirable elements. To be broad-minded and being lenient is a noble thing, but leniency should be shown only to those who deserve it. It would be better to train new bloods who are loyal than to depend on those disloyal old hands just because they are experienced. Embracing such insincere persons would be like "**breastfeeding the vipers**", as we use to say. **Shake up** now or the civil service mechanism will be headed for a **breakdown.**

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Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets with Chinese President Mr Xi Jinping. PHOTO: MNA

## Senior General Min Aung Hlaing Meets With Chinese President Mr Xi Jinping

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF of Defense Service Senior General Min Aung Hlaing currently on the State Visit to People's Republic of China, made a formal visit to Chinese President Mr Xi Jinping at the People's Assembly Hall in Beijing.

In the meeting, the Commander-in-Chief of Defense Service said, "During the 2013 goodwill visit to PRC, a noteworthy message by the President was that a reform is a driving force, peace and stability a necessity and development an ultimate destination. It is a great honour to see enormous progress of the

People's Republic of China as a fruit of its attempt in accordance with the President's motto. Myanmar also achieved successes while performing reforms but we still faced challenges. As regards the stability and peace of the nation, we achieved it to some extent, yet process of attempting to ensure the nationwide ceasefire with armed ethnic groups was under way. Anyway we appreciate the help of the People's Republic of China toward us."

Mr Xi Jinping also said, "The present meeting with the Commander-in-Chief of Defense Service is the 3rd meeting. Your

Excellency's present trip results from successful discussions between the two countries' armies, which may lead to refreshing the deep cooperation. We wish the success, stability, economic development of Myanmar in building nation. And we want to promote bilateral relation and friendship."

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said, "Bilateral operations between two countries and administrative bodies from both sides result in success and we will exert concerted effort more than usual."—*Myanmar News Agency*

## Senior general meets with Chinese president

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visited exhibition booths of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, after which he met

with the international relations minister.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and party also visited the China Precision Machinery Import-Export Corporation (CPMIEC) before meeting with the

Special Envoy for Asia Mr Sun Guo at the Shangrila Hotel in Beijing, where they discussed the ongoing peace process of Myanmar, including the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement. — *Myanmar News Agency*

## Bridge over Maeza Creek nearly completed

A NEW bridge being constructed over the Maeza Creek on Wuntho-Indaw Road in Indaw Township, Sagaing Region, is 75 per cent completed, the project manager said.

The new Maeza Creek bridge is being built near mile post No. 574/19 of the Mandalay-Myitkyina railroad. The new bridge and the old iron bridge

over the creek will run parallel to each other. The new bridge will be approximately 700 feet long and 24 feet wide, including two three-foot-wide shoulders, said U Kyi Win Hlaing, a junior urban engineer of the construction department.

The work began in November last year at a cost of Ks2.015 billion funded by the Sagaing

Region government, which allotted nearly Ks700 million in the 2015-2016 fiscal year and over Ks1.3 billion in FY2016-2017 for the development project. U Tun Lin, a local sunflower seed trader, said that he feels very fortunate to have the new bridge linking Wuntho and Kawlin, both very busy towns with merchants who transport a variety of commodities, crossing the creek every day.

"The normal driving distance from Maeza to Kawlin is 30 miles. After competition of the project, the new bridge will help people reduce their travelling time," said U Kyi Win Hlaing.

The authorities plan to provide new bus lines between Katha and Kawlin to provide better transportation services to residents.—*Maung Chit Lin*



New Maeza bridge under construction in Indaw Township, Sagaing Region being seen. PHOTO: MAUNG CHIT LIN.

## Japan Grants US\$ 460,621 for three schools and one bridge construction



Japan Ambassador Mr. Tateshi Higuchi providing the grant. PHOTO: MNA

MR. TATESHI HIGUCHI, Ambassador of Japan to Myanmar, and Chairpersons of the Committees from the State and Regions concerned signed the grant contracts for four projects on 27th October.

Under these contracts, Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Scheme will provide a total of US\$460,621 to three projects: the Project for Construction of Ye Ngan Village Bridge in Natmawk Township, Magway Region, the Project for Construction of Nam

Kaing Village Basic Education Branch Middle School in Tachilek Township and Project for Construction of Put Thar Village Basic Education Branch Middle School in Tamu Township.

The Government of Japan has assisted 778 various grassroots projects in Myanmar under the GGP scheme since 1993: the number consisting of 370 education projects, 196 healthcare projects, 138 public welfare and environment projects, 39 infrastructure projects and 35 other projects. — *GNLM*

## Vietjet launches two new routes from Hanoi to Taipei, Hue



Vietjet formally launching two new routes from Hanoi to Taipei and Hue. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

VIETJET, the fastest growing Vietnamese airline, has launched two new routes from Hanoi to Taipei and Hue to meet the increasing travel demands of individuals and tourists whilst boosting the region's trade and integration.

The Hanoi-Taipei route will operate on a daily basis starting 30 October with a flight time of about 3 hours. The flight takes off from Hanoi at 14:05 and lands in Taipei at 18:00 (local time). The return flight departs at 19:10 and arrives in Hanoi at 21:20 (local time).

The Hanoi-Hue route will commence operation on 1 November with a flight time of one hour and 10 minutes. The flight will depart from Hanoi at 12:35 and arrive in Hue at 13:45. The return flight will take off from Hue at 14:20 and arrive in Hanoi at 15:30.

Hanoi, the capital city of Viet Nam, is known for its thousand-year historical heritage and serenity. It is a safe and favorable investment destination and has been named "the city of peace" by UNESCO. — *GNLM*



# UK police seek tip-offs on guns to prevent Paris-style attacks

LONDON — British police appealed on Monday for tip-offs from the public on any illegal firearms in circulation, stepping up efforts to prevent what they described as a “marauding terrorist attack” similar to the Paris attacks a year ago.

London and some other major British cities have experienced a surge in gun crime in recent months, raising concerns that illegal weapons could filter from street gangs to extremists.

“We want to lessen the harm to our communities and to prevent the possibility of a marauding terrorist attack in the UK,” said Lynne Owens, director general of the National Crime Agency, which leads Britain’s fight against serious and organised crime.

“The UK’s illegal firearms market is still geared mainly to criminals using weapons to protect against one another or to target one another, but we must be clear that one gun in the wrong hands in a public space is all it takes to cause devastation,” she told reporters.

The threat level in Britain is officially set at “severe”, meaning that an attack is considered highly likely, and a dozen attack plots have been thwarted since 2013.

Owens said one area of particular concern was the flow of illegal weapons from eastern Europe, especially the Balkans.

She said that while auto-



Illegal guns seized by police in Britain are displayed at the National Crime Agency headquarters in London, Britain, on 31 October, 2016.

PHOTO: REUTERS

matic weapons remained hard to find in Britain, there had been increases in the availability of Baikal pistols and converted weapons from eastern Europe. Mark Rowley, the head of National Counter Terrorism Policing, said the availability of illegal guns and ammunition in Britain remained low compared with the United States and other European countries.

But he said police could not be complacent because guns were entering the illegal market through a variety of routes including the postal system and smuggling networks. He also said 800 legally owned firearms were going missing every year across the country.

Rowley said there had been instances where common criminals had drifted toward violent extremism, and this was one potential route for guns to reach radical groups.

“You do get gang members, criminals, people who are already angry, violent, difficult people causing problems in communities, who perhaps get given a clearer purpose for their violence by a terrorist ideology, whether they pick that up on the streets or in prison,” he said.

“Those gang criminality links are an issue that concerns us. We have seen evidence of it potentially linking firearms into terrorism.”—Reuters

## Uproar over whether FBI chief broke law by raising new Clinton emails

NEW YORK — Whether FBI Director James Comey broke the law may hinge on whether he had political motivations or was merely doing his job by reviving Democrat Hillary Clinton’s email controversy just days before the 8 November presidential election.

Richard Painter, a chief White House ethics lawyer to former Republican President George W. Bush, on Saturday accused Comey of violating the 1939 Hatch Act when the FBI chief wrote Congress on Friday that more of the candidate’s emails would be scrutinized.

On Sunday, US Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid wrote to Comey to accuse him of partisan actions that may have broken the law.

The Hatch Act bars government employees from taking part in political activities that include soliciting or accepting donations from a political party and using official authority to interfere with the outcome of an election.

Stephen Vladeck, a professor at the University of Texas School of Law, said, “I would be surprised if this complaint leads to anything significant, but I would also be surprised if Comey’s tenure as the FBI director will not be shortened.”

“Even if he didn’t violate the letter of the Hatch Act, he certainly violated the spirit of the Hatch Act, which should have prompted him to think twice before issuing that letter. Especially because the letter didn’t say anything,” he said.

Little is publicly known about the new email trove. Comey wrote Congress the FBI had yet to determine the significance.

Painter filed his complaint with the independent Office of Special Counsel (OSC) and the Office of Government Ethics. A spokesman for the OSC, which has a specialized Hatch Act investigative unit, declined to comment.

A Hatch Act investigation is an administrative,

not a criminal, matter. Penalties may include removal from office, a demotion or temporary suspension, or a civil penalty no higher than \$1,000. In cases of high-level officials, the disciplinary decisions on OSC actions are made by the president.

On Monday, the White House said President Barack Obama believes Comey is a man of integrity and is not trying to influence the election by announcing the scrutiny of additional emails.

Jan Witold Baran, a lawyer at Wiley Rein in Washington, suggested it would be hard to construe what appeared to be Comey’s engagement in normal government business as a violation of the Hatch Act.

But Kenneth Gross, former associate general counsel of the Federal Election Commission, said Comey’s letter fell outside the FBI director’s normal duties as there is no legal obligation to disclose details of an ongoing probe to Congress.—Reuters

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## Russia security official: US-Russia ties will improve — RIA

MOSCOW — A further worsening of relations between Moscow and the United States is in the interests of neither side, Nikolai Patrushev, the Secretary of Russia’s Security Council, was quoted as saying on Tuesday.

“As recent history shows, relations between Russia and the USA will sooner or later return to a normal level, all the more so since it is in the interests of neither Moscow nor Washington to have a further degradation (of relations),” Russia’s RIA news agency quoted Patrushev as saying.—Reuters

## US stopped Philippines rifle sale that senator opposed

WASHINGTON — The US State Department halted the planned sale of some 26,000 assault rifles to the Philippines’ national police after Senator Ben Cardin said he would oppose it, Senate aides told Reuters on Monday.

Aides said Cardin, the top Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was reluctant for the United States to provide the weapons given concerns about human rights violations in the Philippines.

The relationship between the United States and the Philippines, a long-time ally, has been complicated lately by President Rodrigo Duterte’s angry reaction to criticism from Washington of his violent battle to rid the country of illegal drugs.—Reuters

## UN Syria toxic gas inquiry extended 18 days to allow more talks

UNITED NATIONS — The UN Security Council on Monday extended for 18 days the mandate of an international inquiry charged with laying blame for chemical weapons attacks in Syria as Western states on the 15-member council attempt to negotiate a longer renewal.

The year-long inquiry by the United Nations and Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons has found that Syrian government forces were responsible for three chlorine gas attacks and that Islamic State militants had used mustard gas.

The mandate of the inquiry had been due to expire on Monday, but the council unanimously agreed to extend it until 18 November.—Reuters

## Vucic: We expect more German investments

HAMBURG — Serbia will continue its European path and the process of building a rule-of-law state, and strengthen its economy further to attract more investors, PM Aleksandar Vucic said in Hamburg on Monday.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting with Hamburg Mayor Olaf Scholz, Vucic said he hoped Serbia and Germany would have stable relations in the future and that Serbia would attract even more German investors.

We will do everything we can to build the best relations with Hamburg and all cities in that region of Germany, as that city alone has a GDP that is many times higher than Serbia’s, he said.

Vucic said he had noted Serbia’s resolve to continue on the European path, strengthen the economy and continue to build a rule-of-law state. We will also do that to attract more investors and businesspeople from Germany and ensure a secure economic environment, he said.—Tanjung

## Ten dead in blast at Pakistani ship-breaking yard, toll may rise

ISLAMABAD — At least 10 Pakistani workers were killed and more than 50 injured on Tuesday by huge blast in an oil tanker at a ship-breaking yard, trade union officials said, adding that the death toll could rise.

The leader of a ship-breaking workers union said a big explosion and fire engulfed the vessel moored in Gaddani, 45 km (28 miles) north-west of the port city of Karachi.

“Things are really bad here,” union president Basheer Mehmoodani told Reuters by telephone.

“There’s an unclear number of workers said to be trapped in the burning ship.” It was not clear what caused the blast.—Reuters



# 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	
PG-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 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	

MDL TO DMK				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
FD-245	12:45	15:00	Daily	

DMK TO MDL				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
FD-244	10:50	12:15	Daily	

MDL TO SIN				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
MI-533	15:20	20:15	2	
MI-522	13:40	20:15	2,6	

SIN TO MDL				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
MI-522	11:00	12:50	2,6	
MI-533	11:00	14:25	2	

MDL TO BKK				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
PG-710	14:05	16:30	Daily	

BKK TO MDL				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
PG-709	12:00	13:20	Daily	

MDL TO KMG				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
MU-2030	14:05	16:45	Daily	

KMG TO MDL				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
MU-2029	13:20	13:15	Daily	

NYT to BKK				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
PG-722	20:25	22:35	2	
PG-722	19:30	22:30	1,2,3,4,5,7	

BKK TO NYT				
Flight no.	Dep	Arv	Days	
PG-721	18:25	19:35	2	
PG-721	17:00	19:00	1,2,3,4,5,7	

AIRLINE CODES

8M = Myanmar Airways International

BG = Biman Bangladesh Airlines

MH = Malaysia Airlines

MU = China Eastern Airlines

NH = All Nippon Airways

SQ = Singapore Airways

PG = Bangkok Airways

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

AK = Air Asia

CA = Air China

CZ = China Southern

FD = Air Asia

KE = Korea Airlines

QR = Qatar Airways

TR = Tiger Airline

DAY

1 = Monday

2 = Tuesday

3 = Wednesday

4 = Thursday

5 = Friday

6 = Saturday

7 = Sunday

## AIRLINE CODES

8M = Myanmar Airways International  
BG = Biman Bangladesh Airlines  
MH = Malaysia Airlines  
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NH = All Nippon Airways  
SQ = Singapore Airways  
PG = Bangkok Airways  
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  
AK = Air Asia  
CA = Air China  
CZ = China Southern  
FD = Air Asia  
KE = Korea Airlines  
QR = Qatar Airways  
TR = Tiger Airline

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

## Zika causes infertility, lasting harm to testes in mice: US study

CHICAGO — A study of mice infected with Zika showed the virus caused lasting damage to key cells in the male reproductive system, resulting in shrunk-en testicles, lower levels of sex hormones and reduced fertility, US researchers said on Monday.

So far, the findings are only in mice, but the result is worrisome enough to war-rant further study because of possible implications for people, said Dr. Michael Di-amond of Washington Uni-versity in St. Louis, whose research was published in the journal *Nature*.

“It has to be corroborat-ed,” Diamond, a professor of pathology, immunology and molecular microbiolog-y, said in a telephone inter-view.

Much of the global effort to fight Zika has fo-cused on protecting preg-nant women from infection because of the grave impli-cations for their unborn chil-dren.

Zika infections in preg-



An aedes aegypti mosquito is pictured on a leaf in San Jose, Costa Rica on 1 Febru-ary 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

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

Previous studies have shown that Zika can remain in semen for as long as six months. But little is known about whether prolonged

exposure to the virus in the testes can cause harm.

To study this, Diamond and colleagues injected male mice with Zika. Af-ter a week, the researchers recovered infectious virus from the testes and sperm, and they found evidence of viral genes in certain cells of the testes. But overall,

the testes appeared normal compared with other lab mice.

After three weeks, however, the differences were stark. The testes in the Zika-infected mice had shrunk to a tenth of their normal size, and the internal structure was destroyed.— *Reuters*

## From gene editing to death traps, Seattle scientists innovate in race to end malaria

SEATTLE — When Kay-ode Ojo first fell sick with malaria as a young boy in Nigeria, his grandfather shunned modern medi-cine, venturing into the bush to search for herbs and plants to treat the dis-ease.

Having succumbed to malaria a further 50 or more times in his life, the United States-based scientist, now in his for-ties, is determined that his research — to develop a drug to stop transmis-sion from humans back to mosquitoes — will help to eradicate the



# US diplomat meets with Maduro to bolster Venezuela dialogue

CARACAS — A senior US diplomat on Monday met with Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro as part of an effort to support dialogue between the government and the opposition amid an escalating political standoff and a worsening economic crisis.

The arrival of Tom Shannon, US Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs and an expert on Latin America, may help spur negotiations between the two sides, which over the years have repeatedly held talks that generated few concrete results.

Venezuelan state television briefly showed images of Shannon shaking hands with Maduro and speaking informally with other ruling Socialist Party officials in the Miraflores presidential palace.

“I had a good conversation with Thomas Shannon.



Venezuela’s President Nicolas Maduro (R) shakes hands with US diplomat Thomas Shannon in Caracas, Venezuela, on 31 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

We spoke about bilateral relations, among other issues,” Maduro said on Monday in comments broadcast on state television.

“It’s good news for Venezuela that we achieved this dialogue process and that it started out well.” The United States has for more

than a decade been at ideological loggerheads with Venezuela’s socialist government.

Maduro and opposi-

tion leaders agreed to move ahead in talks that were organized with support from the Vatican following a meeting that began Sunday evening and stretched into dawn on Monday.

Maduro’s adversaries accuse him of creating a dictatorship by blocking a recall referendum on his rule and of illegally overriding the legislature, which was taken over by the opposition in a landslide election last year.

The opposition insists the government allow a recall referendum on the unpopular Maduro’s rule, release dozens of jailed opposition activists and respect congressional decisions.

Maduro, who is struggling to control shortages of consumer goods and soaring prices in an unraveling socialist economy, says he

is a victim of opposition conspiracies to overthrow him and of an “economic war” led by businesses with the backing of Washington.

Shannon has in recent years worked to ease long-running tensions between Caracas and Washington.

He helped contain fallout from US sanctions against Venezuelan officials in 2015, and last year spearheaded an effort to create informal channels of communication between the State Department and top Venezuelan officials.

The United States has stepped up diplomatic efforts with Venezuela since 2014, when US President Barack Obama put in motion a process of restoring relations with communist-run Cuba after more than 50 years of economic embargo.—Reuters

Ministry of Electricity and Energy  
Electric Power Generation Enterprise  
**INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION (EPGE G-02)**  
**Urgent Rehabilitation and Upgrade Project (Phase I)**  
**Loan Agreement No. MY-P2**

This invitation for prequalification follows the general procurement notice for this project that appeared in Development Business of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 on-line.

The Republic Of The Union Of Myanmar has received a credit from Official Development Association (ODA) of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) toward the cost of the *Urgent Rehabilitation and Upgrade Project (Phase I), (MY-P2)* and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the contract for Package 2 “Renovation Works of Transmission System” which includes Rehabilitation Work to four Substations at the existing Gas Turbine Power Plants (Ahlone, Hlawga, Ywama and Tharkayta) in Yangon Region. The Electric Power Generation Enterprise (EPGE) intends to prequalify contractors for supply and rehabilitating of four Substations which will supply as much electricity as possible to the grid.

It is expected that invitations for bid will be made after prequalification. Prequalification will be conducted through the procedures specified in JICA Guidelines: Procurement under Guidelines for Procurement under Japanese ODA Loans dated April 2012 and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries, as defined in the guidelines.

Prequalification notice with following contents;

1. Package Name:	Urgent Rehabilitation and Upgrade Project (Phase1) Package two (2) “Renovation Works of Transmission System”
2. Prequalification Document issuance time:	10:00 to 15:30 on 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2016.
3. Prequalification Document fee:	<b>Three Hundred Thousand (300,000) kyat only</b>
4. Application submission closing date and time:	26 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 by 14:00 (Myanmar Standard Time)
5. Submission place:	Procurement Department Electric Power Generation Enterprise, Ministry of Electricity and Energy Building No. 27, Nay Pyi Taw The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
6. Others:	Applications for prequalification should be submitted in sealed envelopes, and be clearly marked “ <i>Application to Prequalify for Renovation Work to Four Substations in Yangon Region (ICB EPGE-G-02)</i> ”

Interested eligible Applicants may obtain further information from and inspect the prequalification document between 10:00 -15:30 hrs at;  
Thermal Power Department  
Electric Power Generation Enterprise (EPGE),  
Building No. 27, Nay Pyi Taw  
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Phone : + 95 67 8104282  
Facsimile number : +95 67 810 4280  
E-mail : [epgethermal@gmail.com](mailto:epgethermal@gmail.com)

# Italy pledges to help displaced, rebuild after quake

ROME — Italy set out plans on Monday to help thousands of people staying in hotels and temporary accommodation in central Italy after the fiercest earthquake in decades struck regions already rocked by repeated tremors in the past two months.

No deaths or critical injuries have been reported after Sunday’s quake, measured at 6.6 magnitude by the US Geological Survey, partly because many had fled their homes after a smaller quake nearby killed almost 300 people in August.

Prime Minister Matteo Renzi pledged to rebuild the stricken areas, deploy more emergency and administrative officials, and speed up the provision of containers for people to live in, before eventually building wooden houses.

“We will do everything necessary to put your towns back together,” Renzi said at a news conference after a meeting with Italy’s reconstruction commissioner and civil protection chief.

Renzi said the exact number of people who had been evacuated was still not clear, 36 hours after the strongest quake in Italy since one of 6.9 magnitude killed 2,735 near Naples in 1980.

Italy’s civil protection authority said more than 4,500 people had been



The clock of the damaged town hall tower is seen in the ancient city of Norcia following an earthquake in central Italy, on 31 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

moved to hotels on the Adriatic Coast and around Lake Trasimeno, close to the university city of Perugia.

A further 10,000 had been put up in emergency centres in the Umbria and Marche regions, the authority said, adding to thousands already forced out of their homes by August’s quake.

Italy had submitted a budget plan to the European Commission before the latest strong seismic activity started on 26 October, citing reconstruction after August’s quake among the reasons for increasing its structural budget deficit.

An EU official said Italy’s response to the Commission’s concerns about its budget had been “unconstructive”, but Renzi brushed off the suggestion there was any tension with Brussels.

“There is no problem with Europe,” Renzi said.

He said there was already enough money in the draft budget to cover the plans unveiled on Monday, but this could be reviewed.

Aerial video footage released by the fire department showed long cracks running through the surface of Redentore Mountain near the epicentre close to the Umbrian walled town of Norcia.

In Norcia, firefighters inspected the damage around the 13<sup>th</sup> century Basilica of St. Benedict, which collapsed leaving only its facade standing, and the Cathedral of Santa Maria Argentea, whose belltower was severely cracked.

“We will try to rescue all the cultural heritage that has survived but we are right in the centre of seismic activity, the tremors are very, very intense,” fireman Domenico De Vita said. — Reuters



# Police swoop on Paris migrant camp after Calais Jungle clearout

PARIS — French riot police swooped on a makeshift migrant camp in northeast Paris on Monday, sparking a brief standoff at a site where numbers have soared since the closure of the Jungle shanty town in the northern port city of Calais.

The operation, largely consisting of identity checks on some of an estimated 2,500 migrants sleeping rough around a canal and railway bridge near Paris's Stalingrad metro station, came as pressure mounts on the government to shut the camp.

Tension has risen with the speculation that police will move in to evacuate and close the camp definitively in the coming days, as the Paris authorities are demanding.

A Reuters journalist at the scene said a digger moved in to clear a small part of the camp, a sprawl of tents, mattresses, blankets and the meager belongings of migrants who come mostly from war-torn countries such as Afghanistan.



Migrants stand near their tents at a makeshift migrant camp on a street near the metro stations of Jaures and Stalingrad in Paris. PHOTO: REUTERS

Migrants shouted at police as the digger swept debris and rubbish away. The camp was otherwise left largely intact. One policeman sprayed a migrant with teargas.

After a couple of hours, police allowed migrants to move back after a tidy-up by municipal cleaning workers.

In a letter sent to Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve, a copy of which was seen by Reuters, Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo requested that the camp be shut rapidly on humanitarian and sanitary grounds.

City Hall officials say the numbers sleeping rough in the area have swollen by about a third since the

evacuation last week of the Jungle camp in Calais, where more than 6,000 people were living, most of them in the hope of making it across the short Channel sea crossing to Britain.

The Calais camp, where demolition teams finished tearing down unoccupied shacks and tents on Monday, came to sym-

bolize Europe's fraught efforts to cope with a record influx of migrants fleeing strife in countries from Afghanistan to Sudan.

President Francois Hollande urged Britain at the weekend to shoulder its responsibility for some of the 1,500 minors housed temporarily in converted shipping containers in Calais following the clearout.

An Interior Ministry official said talks were continuing with Britain, which is obliged under EU rules to take in minors with verified family ties in Britain.

"It's up to Britain now to fully live up to its duty, that's not finished yet," added Pascal Brice, head of France's refugee agency, Ofpra.

The rest of the 6,000-plus inhabitants of the Jungle have been dispatched to lodgings across France, pending examination of their asylum cases. Cazeneuve says around 85 per cent of all migrants evacuated from Calais will likely secure refugee status.—

Reuters

## Thailand seizes 2.7 m meth pills on Mekong River bank

BANGKOK — Thai military seized 2.7 million methamphetamine pills, or ya ba, which was smuggled across Mekong River late Monday. An army patrol in the northeastern Loei Province was told at about 10 pm local time that a gang was going to smuggle a big amount of methamphetamine pills across the river that night. They later found that a boat carrying a group of men came to Thai side of the river, after which those men carried sacks to the shore. The soldiers identified themselves and those men jumped into the river and fled. The soldiers found out that 2,718,000 methamphetamine pills in those sacks, which are valued at 300 million baht (8.5 million US dollars). The methamphetamine pill is strictly prohibited in Thailand. Police and army seized hundreds of millions of these pills along with other drugs every year.—

Xinhua

## Explosion, fire in Alabama on gasoline pipeline kills one

HELENA, (Ala) — Colonial Pipeline Co shut down its main gasoline and distillates pipelines on Monday after an explosion and fire in Shelby, Alabama, killing a worker and sending five to the hospital — the second time in two months it had to close the crucial supply line to the US East Coast.

A nine-man crew was conducting work on the Colonial pipeline system at the time of the explosion, Alabama Governor Robert Bentley told a briefing. Seven of the crew members were injured, with two evacuated by air.

The explosion oc-

curred when a contract crew hit the gasoline pipeline (Line 1) with a trackhoe, igniting gasoline, Colonial said in an e-mailed statement late on Monday.

One worker died at the scene and five individuals were taken to Birmingham-area hospitals for treatment, the company said.

Four were taken to the UAB hospital in Birmingham, Alabama, hospital spokesman Adam Pope said.

A segment of pipeline was undergoing maintenance on Monday afternoon when it exploded.

The fire had been contained as of around 9 p.m. (0100 GMT on Tuesday), according to local media reports.

Crews built a 8-foot (2-metre) tall dirt dam to contain burning fuel, Bentley said on Twitter late on Monday.

The explosion sparked wildfires, burning 32 acres, the governor said.

Colonial said company personnel and emergency crews were responding to the incident. The US Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, or PHMSA, said it had personnel on the way to the site.

Bentley's office said on Twitter the site was about a mile west of a massive leak last month that closed the gasoline pipeline for over 12 days. A 3-mile (4.8-km) area around the site had been evacuated, the governor said.

A temporary flight restriction is in effect in the area around the pipeline explosion, the Alabama Emergency Management Agency said on Twitter.—

Reuters



Flames shoot into the sky from a gas line explosion in western Shelby County, Alabama, US, on 31 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

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Aung Naing Moe (Advocate)  
Ong Minn U (Advocate)  
May Phyo Kin (H.G.P)  
For Altior Inc.  
Myanmar Global Law Firm  
Ph:0973220023  
Dated. 2 November 2016

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

**MV MAX CRUSADER VOY. NO ( 019N )**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MAX CRUSADER VOY. NO ( 019N ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.11.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

**MV WEST SCENT VOY. NO ( 130N )**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY. NO ( 130N ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.11.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185



## Cuba ballet festival reflects diplomatic pas de deux with US



Dancers perform during the opening of the 25<sup>th</sup> International Ballet Festival of Havana, in Havana, on 28 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

HAVANA — A woman in a floaty dress wrestles a minotaur who reflects her inner demons in “Errand into the Maze”, one of the Martha Graham Dance Company works that made its Cuban premiere this weekend to thunderous applause at the Havana ballet festival.

The troupe was performing in the Communist-run island for the first time since 1941 and is one of seven American companies participating in the 10-day event, underscoring greater US-Cuban cultural exchange in the wake of the countries’ detente.

“The standing ovation said it all,” said a beaming Cuban spectator, 64-year-old Maria

Antonia Armas. “It was fabulous. I just hope this exchange will continue to flow.”

The Cuban and American ballet worlds have a deeply entwined history and the founding father of Cuban dance, Ramiro Guerra, studied under Graham in New York in the 1940s.

Yet ties suffered during the five decades of ideological hostility following Fidel Castro’s 1959 revolution.

“We keep hearing there is a Martha Graham world in Cuba that we have been apart from for decades,” the company’s artistic director, Janet Eilber, said in an interview.

“We know it has evolved in

its own way and in New York we have evolved in our own way, so to come together and meet our long lost relatives has been very interesting.”

While there have been some exchanges between Cuban and American dance in the last two decades, the detente announced nearly two years ago is enabling a broader opening, Eilber said.

For one, it has made traveling and securing financing much easier, she said. Regular commercial flights were re-established in August and American companies such as Jetblue are keen to provide sponsorship in order to gain market recognition in Cuba.—Reuters

## Pop singer Justin Bieber after walking off stage: ‘I’m not a robot’

LONDON — Canadian pop singer Justin Bieber said his abrupt departure from the stage during a recent concert in England was an act of frustration and not anger as his screaming fans made it difficult to connect with them.

The teen heartthrob dropped his microphone and walked off stage after begging fans to stop screaming between songs during a 23 October concert in Manchester, England.

“There’s going to be times where you know I say the wrong thing because I’m human

and I don’t pretend to be perfect ... I’m not a robot,” the 22-year-old singer told fans in Glasgow over the weekend while on his “Purpose” tour.

“There’s going to be times when I get upset, going to be times when I get angry, there’s times when I’m going to be frustrated, but I’m always going to be myself on this stage ... All I was simply doing was wanting people to listen; to kind of hear me out a little bit,” Bieber said, also posting his address to social media.—Reuters



Singer Justin Bieber performs on stage in Telia Parken Stadium in Copenhagen, Denmark on 2 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Adele says she battled depression, before and after son’s birth

LOS ANGELES — Singer Adele said in a magazine interview released on Monday that she suffered from post-partum depression after the birth of her son and had undergone therapy when younger for what she called her “very dark side.”

The British singer, who is nearing the end of a 10-month tour to mark her album “25,” told Vanity Fair in an interview for its December cover story published on its website on Monday that she would be happy if she never had to tour again.

“I’d still like to make records, but I’d be fine if I never heard (the applause) again. I’m on tour simply to see everyone who’s been so supportive. I don’t care about money,” Adele, 28, was quoted as saying.

The 10-time Grammy winner, known for heart-wrenching ballads such as “Someone Like You” and “Rolling in the Deep,” said she had always been drawn to sad music.

“I have a very dark side. I’m very available to depression. I can slip in and out of it quite easily. It started when my granddad died, when I was about 10, and while I



PHOTO: REUTERS

never had a suicidal thought, I have been in therapy, lots.

“But I haven’t had that feeling since I had my son and snapped out of my postpartum depression,” she added. Adele gave birth to son Angelo four years ago with boyfriend Simon Konecki.

“I had really bad postpartum depression after I had my son, and it frightened me... My knowledge of postpartum — or post-natal, as we call it in England — is that you don’t want to be with your child; you’re worried you might hurt your child; you’re worried you weren’t doing a good job. But I was obsessed with my child. I felt very inadequate; I felt like I’d made the worst decision of my life. It can come in many different forms,” the singer said.—Reuters

## Lady Gaga’s ‘Joanne’ debuts at top of Billboard album chart

LOS ANGELES — Lady Gaga notched her fourth chart-topping album on Monday as her rock-infused record “Joanne” debuted at the top of the weekly US Billboard 200 album chart, outpacing new entries by Michael Buble, Pentatonix and Leonard Cohen.

“Joanne,” the fifth studio album from Lady Gaga, sold 170,000 albums, 135,000 songs and was streamed nearly 26 million times in the past week, totaling 201,000 album units according to figures from Nielsen SoundScan for the week ending 27 October.

At No.2 is Canadian jazz-pop crooner Buble’s latest album “Nobody But Me,” selling 91,000 album units, while a capella group Pentatonix’s holiday record “A Pentatonix Christmas” debuted at No.3 with 60,000 album units.

The Billboard 200 album chart tallies units from album sales, song sales (10 songs equal one album) and streaming activity (1,500 streams equal one album).

Other new entries on the Billboard 200 chart this week include nu metal rockers Korn at No.4 with “Serenity,” Christian music artist Chris Tomlin at No.6 with “Never Lose Sight” and progressive rock band Trans-Siberian Orchestra at No.9 with “Ghosts of Christmas Eve.”

Rounding out the top 10 of the chart is 82-year-old Canadian folk artist Cohen’s latest album “You Want It Darker,” debuting at No.10 with 25,000 copies.

Last week’s chart-topper, Kings of Leon’s “WALLS,” dropped to No.20 this week.—Reuters



Lady Gaga is tied with a rope as she performs a medley of songs as a tribute to the late David Bowie at the 58<sup>th</sup> Grammy Awards in Los Angeles, California on 15 February 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS



# Dracula’s castle welcomes guests with coffins and no silver

BUCHAREST — As the sun set over Dracula’s castle in Transylvania, brother and sister Robin and Tami Varma slid into red velvet-trimmed black coffins, trying them for size before dining with gold-plated cutlery — not silver, of course, which hurts vampires.

“This might be more comfortable than my mattress at home,” said Tami, 31, who owns an event-planning firm in Canada’s Ottawa. “Although I don’t know how we’ll sleep tonight.”

“I actually might close the lid on my coffin,” said Robin, 30, who is working on his PhD in political philosophy.

The Varmas on Monday became the first overnight guests for some 70 years to stay at the medieval Bran fortress, the model for the “Dracula’s castle” of Bram Stoker’s Victorian-era novel.

After World War II, Romania’s communist regime expelled the owners, the Habsburg royal family. The castle was returned to Habsburg descendants in 2006.

The Varmas won a contest run by vacation rental marketplace Airbnb, which listed Bran Castle for Halloween and received 88,000 entries in 10 languages.

They arrived in a horse-drawn carriage and were welcomed by Dacre Stoker, the author’s great-grandnephew.

The Varmas’ grandfather, Devendra, a world authority in Gothic literature, walked the grounds in 1976.

“He said that on his way out he had heard these footsteps behind him and he said he could feel the evil in the air and in the walls,” Tami said.



Tami Varma is helped out of a horse-drawn carriage by guide near the northern facade of the Bran Castle, in Brasov county, Romania, on 31 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

“And here we are, the sun has just gone down and the witching hour has begun.”

Situated in the wooded foothills of the Carpathian mountains, Bran is now a museum and major tourist attraction.

“Halloween is certainly the number one event of the year for us,” said castle manager Alex Priscu. Bran had 632,000 paying visitors last year.—Reuters

## Denmark to build new Hans Christian Andersen museum

ODENSE (Denmark) — A new museum dedicated to the life and work of Danish fairytale writer Hans Christian Andersen, author of The Ugly Duckling and The Little Mermaid, is to be built in his birthplace of Odense, local authorities said on Monday.

A donation of 125 million Danish crowns (\$33 million) from the A. P. Moller Foundation, main owner of the shipping and oil group A. P. Moller-Maersk, will make the museum a reality after years in the planning, the city announced.

The Japanese architecture group Kengo Kuma & Associates presented a winning proposal that will create a new “magical” museum over a total area of 5,600 sq m (60,300 sq feet) — most of it underground, a statement said.

Officials said it would complement an existing museum in Odense, which charts Andersen’s personal life and travels, by focusing more on the magic of his fairytales.

It will provide “a unique possibility to create Andersen’s fairytale universe in a way that will appeal to both children and adults,” said a local cultural official, Jane Jegind.

Andersen’s fairytales have been translated into 160 languages.



A new Hans Christian Andersen Museum in Odense is seen in an undated artist’s rendering released by Odense City Museums in Odense, Denmark. PHOTO: REUTERS

Though he died more than 140 years ago in Copenhagen, where he lived most of his life, his works and related attractions such as the statue of the Little Mermaid in Copenhagen’s harbor still draw many tourists to Denmark.—Reuters

## China invests heavily to improve education in Tibet

LHASA — The central government has earmarked over 4 billion yuan (592 million US dollars) to improve education in agricultural and pastoral areas in Tibet Autonomous Region.

According to the regional education department, since 2014, 1,034 compulsory education schools in 74 counties and districts have been allocated funding to support renovation work and equipment purchasing, among other projects.

Internet classes are accessed by 731 students in a primary school in Maizhokunggar County, where 42 teachers now also use electronic whiteboards during lessons.

Headmaster Tsedan Tashi said the new equipment and facilities have improved teaching quality and attracted more students.

The region plans to spend over 6.7 billion yuan from 2014 to 2018 to build 1.56 million square metres of school and grounds, as well as purchase 23,426 computers, 159,000 sets of desks and chairs, 93,000 beds for students, 2.7 million books and 119,000 sets of instruments.—Xinhua

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Myanmar International

(2-11-2016 07:00am ~ 3-11-2016 07:00am) MST

Today Fresh

07:03AmNews

07:27Am19 Hours

07:51AmSagaing: Guitars

08:03AmNews

08:26AmBack To A Paradise (Ep-1)

09:03AmNews

09:26AmLady Pilot

09:37AmFive-Star Ocean Liners in Myanmar Waters

09:53AmPorcelain and Glass

10:03AmNews

10:26AmTrend of Kachin Dress

10:53AmBlack Gold (Part- I)

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

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

Prime Time

07:03PmNews

07:26PmTo The Land of Countless Temples- Bagan Trip (EP-1)

07:52PmCultural Show: Theatrical Make Up

08:03PmNews

08:26PmMyanmar Traditional Identity (EP- 4) Tumbling Doll, Pyit Tine Htaung

08:38PmCoin Collectors

08:46PmLife of Sea Urchin Diver

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

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

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

(For Detailed Schedule – [www.myanmaritv.com/schedule](http://www.myanmaritv.com/schedule))

## 43 countries to participate in 2017 Eurovision Song Contest in Ukraine

KIEV — Singers from 43 countries will participate in the 62nd edition of the annual Eurovision Song Contest slated for May 2017 in Kiev, Ukraine’s organisation committee announced on Monday.

“The Eurovision in Kiev will be another large-scale competition with the participation of 43 countries, equaling a record number of participants set in 2008 and 2011,” the committee said in a statement.

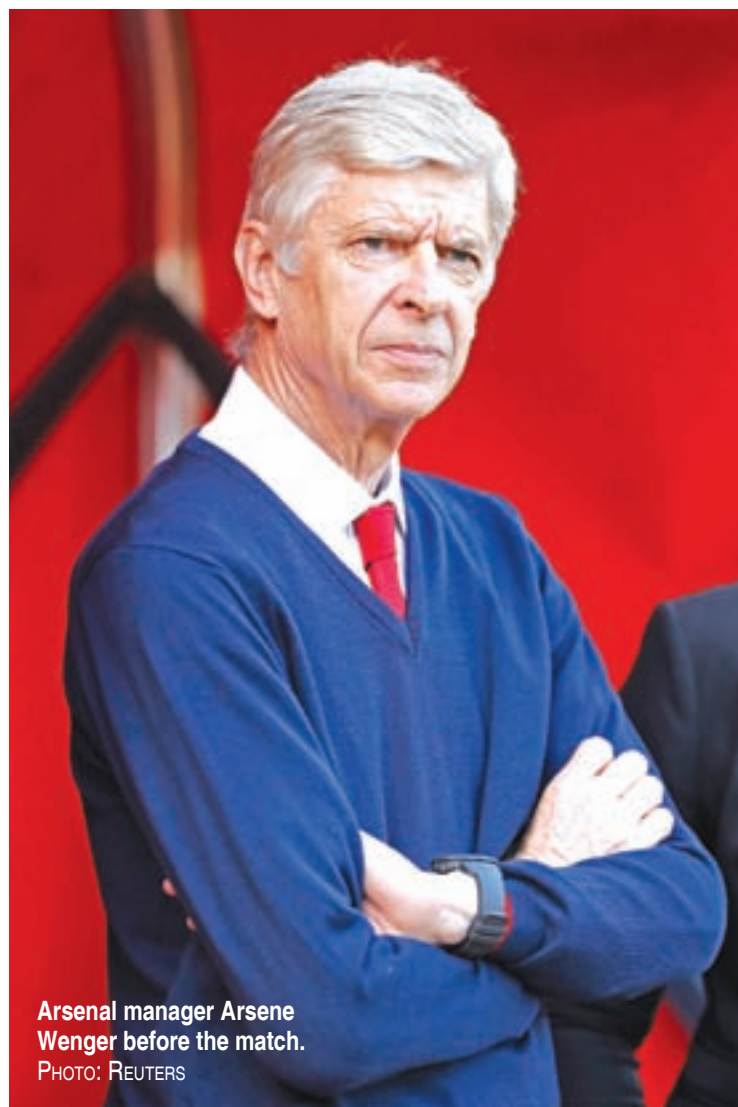
For the third year in a row, Australia will join the European countries in the 2017 Eurovision competition, the statement said.

In May, Ukraine was granted the right to host the Eurovision-2017 after its singer Susana Jamaladina, who uses the stage name Jamala, won the 2016 Eurovision edition in Stockholm, Sweden.

The semi-finals of the 2017 contest will take place on 9 May and 11 May, while the Grand Final will be held on 13 May.—Xinhua



# Arsenal must put November struggles to bed, says Wenger



Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger before the match.  
PHOTO: REUTERS

LONDON — November has not been the kindest month for Arsenal in recent seasons and while their schedule over the next four weeks offers plenty of opportunity to slip up again manager Arsene Wenger is determined to keep his players focused on the present.

Arsenal have taken an average of 1.59 points per November Premier League match during Wenger's 20-year tenure at the club, the worst of any month, according to British media.

Arsenal trail leaders Manchester City only on goal difference but face testing fixtures against Tottenham Hotspur and Manchester United in the league this month.

"We had some difficult Novembers but also positive ones. The most important thing is not to live in the past," Wenger said.

"You have to live with the team you have at the moment. Our destiny lies in the mind of the players: how strongly they are focused, how hungry they are in every single game."

"We have very important games in front of us. The best way for us is to try and win and continue this strong run. We have to keep a good balance between vigilance and confidence."—Reuters

# Olympic skeleton champion Yarnold may boycott Sochi world championships

LONDON — Olympic skeleton champion Lizzy Yarnold says she may boycott next year's world championships in the Russian resort of Sochi because she believes her sport is "not clean".

Britain's Yarnold won gold at the Sochi Olympics in 2014 — a Games that has since been overshadowed by the findings of the McLaren report which outlined state-sponsored Russian doping.

She has called on the International Bobsleigh and Skeleton Federation (IBSF) to have "serious conversations" about whether Sochi should be hosting the championships.

"The IBSF need to have some serious conversations over the next few months and decide what they are going to do," Yarnold, back from a year's sabbatical, told the BBC.

"I'm not sure whether I want to compete in Sochi or can compete in Sochi if I don't know it's a clean playing field."

"I'll leave it open. But I want the IBSF to make a decision that defends the true values of clean sport."



Olympic skeleton champion Lizzy Yarnold. PHOTO: REUTERS

The McLaren report, published in July, revealed a Russian doping programme that spanned the London 2012 Olympics and the 2014 Sochi Games. Evidence from former head of Russia's national anti-doping laboratory Grigory Rodchenkov claimed dozens of Russian athletes were doping at the Winter Games.

Another report is imminent. "We've had these McLaren reports which have lots of allegations and I just hope that if people can be convicted of doping they should serve their time," Yarnold said.

"It's very important to me to compete in sport for the right reasons, to have sportsmanship and to be clean; to stand on the start line and to trust in the system — and at the moment the system just isn't up to it."—Reuters

# Leicester seek to continue European stroll in Copenhagen

LONDON — Leicester City have turned their debut season in the Champions League into a cake-walk and victory over FC Copenhagen on Wednesday would seal their place in the last 16.

A narrow win over Copenhagen a fortnight ago made Leicester one of only five group stage debutants to win their first three games and should they make it four from four and Porto fail to beat Club Brugge they will secure top spot in Group G. That would, in likelihood, spare them a clash with one of the big guns in the first knockout round when the competition begins again in the new year.

How Arsenal, Manchester City and Tottenham Hotspur, England's other three representatives, would like to be in that position with two group games to spare?

Yet Leicester's European form has been in stark contrast to their domestic performances as they struggled to adjust to wearing the English champions' crown.

A 1-1 draw at Tottenham at the weekend, their first away point in the Premier League this season, following on from a home win over Crystal Palace has hinted at a

return to the kind of resilience that took them to an historic title last season.

Leicester are one of only four teams — Atletico Madrid, Juventus and Sevilla being the others — yet to concede a goal in the Champions League this season although Copenhagen had their chances at the King Power Stadium where they were beaten 1-0.

That defeat was the only loss in 24 matches in all competitions for the Danish champions who will still feel they have a great chance of progressing to the knockout phase for the second time, following their run in 2010-11.

All the more reason why coach Stale Solbakken is angry that his side had to play a Danish league game on Sunday — a 3-1 victory over FC Midtjylland.

"It's suicide for Danish football that we have to play a game like this on Sunday evening," Norwegian Solbakken, whose side are level with Porto on four points, said.

"Our opponents in Wednesday's Champions League group game could start preparing for the game on Saturday."—Reuters

# Mata says had nothing to fear from Mourinho's arrival at United

LONDON — Playmaker Juan Mata says he did not lose any sleep over Jose Mourinho's arrival at Manchester United despite longstanding and widespread rumours that the pair had fallen out when they were both at Chelsea.

Mourinho dropped the Spaniard during his time at Stamford Bridge before selling him to United in January 2014 for a then club record fee of 37 million pounds.

Mata has been a key player for the Premier League club this season, however, scoring twice and racking up an assist in eight league games.

"Too many things were said. Too many stories were created as well — lies," Mata, who was given the captain's armband for Saturday's goalless draw with Burnley, told British media.

"When the manager came in I was always thinking the same as I have always, I am going to give my best, and I believe in myself and I think this can work out."

"The truth is that nothing happened. I came here to play for Manchester United, as one more

of the players in the squad and that is it. I started training from the first day I arrived to get fit and be ready, and that is the case now."

Mata added that he did not have to sit down with Mourinho to discuss his future at United, with the former Chelsea, Real Madrid, Inter Milan and Porto boss saying in September that Mata "asked to leave".

"He didn't sit down with

me, no," Mata added. "I do feel an important part of this team, I do feel that. Since I came to Manchester United we had ups and downs but I always felt an important player under any manager, and I feel important now."

"But we didn't have any conversations. I have said this before and I will say it again — it is a professional relationship. That is it."—Reuters



Manchester United's Juan Mata in action with Burnley's Dean Marney during Premier League at Old Trafford, on 29 October. PHOTO: REUTERS