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Scenes from Maungtau: Students strive for normalcy

There were few signs of worry or fear on the faces of students at No. 4 State Middle School in Maungtau yesterday. A few minutes before the school bell tolled to mark the beginning of the school day, children played in the front yard of school campus. PHOTO: PHO HTAUNG **NEWS ON PAGE 3 >>**

59 more suspects in Maungtau armed attacks arrested

THE security forces led by an officer of the No. 1 border guard control office in Maungtau Township arrested 59 suspects believed to be armed attackers at 10am yesterday during their area clearance operations at Kyargaungtaung, Gwazone and Dargyizar villages, according to an announcement from the Information Committee of the State Counsellor's Office.

Out of the 59 suspects, 21 were from Gwazone, nine were from Kyargaungtaung, 15 from Gwa village, 12 from Kyargaungtaung village, one from Dargyizar village and one from Ooseinkya village.

Among the arrested suspects were Hamat Dular, 15 and Shashitarmak, 52, both of Gwazone. The suspects are being held at No. 3 and No. 4 border guard control offices for interrogation. — Myanmar News Agency

Detainees: Forced terrorist training and arsons under threat of foreign extremists

FOUR detainees suspected of being involved in the deadly 9th October ambushes on border police outposts in northern Rakhine claimed that they were forced to undergo the terrorist training and then join with violent attackers and set fire to their own villages.

The suspects, who were arrested during the clearance oper-

ations by the government troops and the border guards, made the claims while being questioned by the authorities in accordance with the law.

The testimony of the suspects revealed a systematic recruitment of members of the Muslim community in the northern Rakhine State by foreign Muslim extremists

that was carried out by the intimidation and the threat of execution.

"They said that they would shoot me or cut my throat and kill me if I did not do their course. Twenty people from our village had to attend the course, which was conducted at the back of the Mayin Mountain", said Jarbuman, a suspect who was detained from

Pwintphyuchaung village on 12th November. "On the day the fighting broke out, we fired to our villages and left. The group also had 10 guns and 10 swords".

Mammud Iserlan, another detainee from the same village, said that the Muslim cleric at the local mosque acted as an organizer. The cleric told villagers that peo-

ple from Bangladesh would come soon and we need to cooperate with them to attack the troops of the government, which would never recognize them as the Rohingya.

"He also said that one person from each household had to join in the attacks. Otherwise, all family members would be slashed at their throats.

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သဒ္ဓါထက်သန် မြန်မာအားမန် ကမ္ဘောဇဘဏ်

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Second Day Meeting, 3rd Regular Session of 2nd Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Held

U WIN KHAING, Union Minister for Construction, clarified the matter to get loans from Japan International Cooperation Agency sent by the President to build No.3 Thanlyin Bridge.

In the clarification at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw yesterday, Union Minister said, "Now that Thilawa SEZ has emerged in Thanlyin Township, traffic & commodity flows are increas-

ing, causing traffic jam. And, load capacity of the existing No 1 Thanlyin Bridge is only 32 tonnes, hence there arises the need to get loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency for the construction of No 3 Thanlyin Bridge, which will help the multi-sector development including social, economic, education, health and transport sectors. Thus the matter to grant loan

amounting to 31051 million Japanese Yen has been submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for the approval."

In this regard, it was announced that any interested persons to discuss the matter can enroll their names.

Similarly, U Kyaw Myo, Deputy Minister for Transport and Communication clarified the matter to get loans from RoK

economic development cooperation fund sent by the President.

In the clarification U Kyaw Myo said, "With the loan from the RoK economic development cooperation fund amounting to US \$ 61.3 million, Twante Canal development project can be implemented to ensure the safety of water transport in the canal, fast flow of commodity, progress of tourism industry, lessening loss

of growing acreage due to protection from bank erosion and over-floods and security of people's lives and property. Thus the matter to grant loan from RoK EDCF has been submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for the approval."

U Win Maw Tun, Deputy Minister for Education clarified the matter to allow the refilled

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Pyithu Hluttaw

Pyithu Hluttaw to debate legal protection for house maids



U Kyaw Myo. PHOTO: MNA

THE Pyithu Hluttaw regular session yesterday agreed to debate a motion urging the Union government to ensure that workers, including housemaids, are properly recruited through labour registration in accordance with the law.

Representative Daw Aye Mya Mya Myo of Kyauktan Constituency submitted the motion to prevent unlawful actions against workers, including forced labour and phys-



Daw Aye Mya Mya Myo. PHOTO: MNA

ical and emotional abuses. The representative further explained that she had submitted the motion because weaknesses in observance of the law by employers, a lack of understanding of the law by employees and the failure of authorities to inspect worksites on a regular basis lead to frequent labour disputes, forced labour and abuses against female workers and children. This requires a need to provide legal protection

and a safe working environment for all workers, Daw Aye Mya Mya Myo said.

The representative also suggested capacity building for committees for settlement of labour disputes in townships, frequent inspections, effective actions for offenders and creation of safe and healthy working environments for workers.

The session agreed to debate the motion at a later session.

Concerning a question raised by a representative on the use of motorcycles in the satellite towns of Yangon, Deputy Minister U Kyaw Myo of the Ministry of Transport and Communication said that it is too dangerous to use a motorbike in populous cities and the ministry has no plans at present to allow them. He also added that the Yangon Region Government has also announced publicly that they also have no plans to lift the motorcycle ban in the city. —Myanmar News Agency



Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Win Myint receives Mr Hideo Watanabe, Chairman of the Japan-Myanmar Friendship Association. PHOTO: MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets Vice President of German Federal Parliament, JPN-MYN Friendship Association Chairman

SPEAKER of Pyithu Hluttaw U Win Myint met separately with Mr Johannes Singhammer, Vice President of the German Federal Parliament, and Mr Hideo Watanabe, Chairman of the Japan-Myanmar Friendship Association, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting with Mr Johannes, they discussed matters related to cooperation between the two parliaments, Myanmar parliament's cooperation with Inter-parliamentary Union-IPU

and AIPU, measures taken for building a democratic federal nation, legislation at the Myanmar parliament and friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

At the meeting with Mr Hideo Watanabe, they discussed matters related to friendship and cooperation between Myanmar and Japan, humanitarian aids, human resource development and socio economic development in Myanmar.—Myanmar News Agency

Amyotha Hluttaw

Union Government to fund ethnic language, culture courses

Naing Thet Lwin, the Union Minister for Ethnic Affairs, supported funding of language and culture courses of ethnic people at the Amyotha Hluttaw session yesterday, saying that he welcomed the question of a representative asking whether the government has plans to fund ethnic language and culture courses as an extracurricular activity.

The union minister also said that the decision is in accordance with the provisions of the constitution to encourage and preserve the languages and cultures of ethnic people.

He said that the government would fund the courses partially due to lack of funds, but said this



Naing Thet Lwin. PHOTO: MNA

partial funding would be allocated in the annual budget.

In addition, he said his ministry informed respective regional governments on 30 August and 20 September of budgets for ethnic affairs in their respective regions and states. Moreover,

he said that he also urged the same of ethnic affairs ministers of states and regions at a recent meeting.

Naing Thet Lwin pointed out that the aim of the National Education Strategic Plan 2016-2021 is to integrate ethnic languages, literature, culture, arts, traditions and historical heritage into formal education and promised to allocate the appropriate amount of funds for the courses in coordination with the union government. Later during the session, Speaker Mann Win Khaing Than invited representatives to debate the bill amending the law for government employees. —Myanmar News Agency



Speaker Mann Win Khaing Than holds talks with Johannes Singhammer, Vice President of the German Federal Parliament. PHOTO: MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker meets Vice President of German Federal Parliament

SPEAKER of Amyotha Hluttaw Mann Win Khaing Than met with Johannes Singhammer, Vice President of the German Federal Parliament in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

At the meeting, they discussed matters related to promot-

ing friendship and cooperation between the two parliaments.

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

President attends 80th Anniversary of birth of Czech hero Vaclav Havel

PRESIDENT U Htin Kyaw and wife Daw Su Su Lwin attended the 80th Anniversary of the birth of the Former Czech President, Mr. Vaclav Havel, at the Lake Garden Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The event was also attended by State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin, MPs and guests.

At the ceremony, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Myanmar Mr. Jaroslav Dolecek extended greetings and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi recounted the background

history of Mr. Vaclav Havel.

Václav Havel was born on 5 October 1936. He was a “Czechs” writer, philosopher and politician. From 1989 to 1992, he served as the last president of Czechoslovakia. He then served as the first President of the Czech Republic from 1993 to 2003 after the Czech-Slovak split. Within Czech literature, he is known for his plays, essays, and memoirs.

He is considered by some to be one of the most important intellectuals of the 20th century. He passed away on 18 December 2011.—*Myanmar News Agency*



President U Htin Kyaw and wife Daw Su Su Lwin, and State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attend the 80th Anniversary of the birth of the Former Czech President, Mr. Vaclav Havel. PHOTO: MNA

President accepts credentials from newly-accredited ambassadors

PRESIDENT U Htin Kyaw accepted credentials from the newly-accredited ambassadors from Lithuania and Croatia yesterday at Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw separately.

Ms Ina Marciulionyte, the newly-accredited ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania to Myanmar, presented her credentials to the president at 10 am yesterday.

Mr Kreso Glavac, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia to Myanmar, presented his credentials to the president at 10.35 am yesterday.

Present on the occasion were Minister of State for Foreign Affairs U Kyaw Tin and Director-General U Ko Ko Naing of the Protocol Department.—*Myanmar News Agency*



President U Htin Kyaw accepts credentials from Mr Kreso Glavac, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia. PHOTO: MNA

Eighth meeting of JMC-U held

At its meeting yesterday in Yangon, the chairman of the Union Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC-U) said it was necessary to discuss deceleration of tensions and it was important to find out the root cause of the fighting.

Lt-Gen. Yar Pyae said that the meeting will point out the weaknesses and strong points of the JMC process, which was responsible for prevention of armed conflicts as much as possible. He added that teams had been sent to verify that the fighting took place for the first time with the aim of finding who was right and who was wrong and of receding tensions.

But the vice chairman of the body, Saw Issac Poe, said that it has been one year, one month and

two days since the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement was signed and all leaders who signed it were responsible for its implementation.

The meeting will last three days and leaders of JMC-Ss attended the meeting as observers.

The financial and implementation report of the temporary office of JMC's technical support committee, the draft budget drafted by the JMC-TSC and the UNDP, the implementation of the standard operating procedures, the implementation of ceasefire during the seventh meeting and the eighth meeting of the body, formation of JMC-S in Chin State and verification of fighting in Shan State will be discussed at the three-day meeting.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Scenes of Maungtaw which is more frenetic day by day!

Ko Thet and group

SINCE our arrival at Maungtaw, the block in which tea and coffee shops are situated on the construction road, west ward of Maungtaw sees customers having their first morning meal from 7 a.m to 9 a.m or so daily.

When we roamed about the town on the morning of November 17, we saw tea shops and rice-selling shops crammed with consumers. According to U Kyaw Htoo Mon, a local from Maungtaw, some shops remained close and now was less crowded compared to the situation of the past time.

I noticed Myoma Market run by board of township development committee has started to open since 6:30 or 7 a.m but nearly all shops started working just after 8 a.m. Shops usually close at 5 pm but these days at noon shops were closed as cus-

tomers from nearby villages did not come to the market to purchase commodities they needed, it is learnt.

Gold and jewellery shops, hardware shops, fishery stalls and groceries along the Member Gyi Street are active just in morning periods at the present time. They hope the business will return to the normal state very soon.

On the Anawrahta Street motor vehicles, motor trishaws, cycles, trishaws and pedestrians are moving to and fro. There cannot be signs of worries or fear seen on their faces with normal living styles found as usual. On my way in front of no 4 State Middle School(branch), I found students playing happily in the school campus just prior to school bell toll.

During my brief observation at the check point of the Maungtaw toll gate this morning, I saw passenger buses plying between

Maungtaw and Buthitaung, cargo trucks, sellers and purchasers from nearby villages by motor trishaws. According to passengers and drivers, their income is much less than ever and they want peace and stability as usual as soon as possible.

Farms and fields just outside Maungtaw and at both sides of the road were crowded with paddy harvesters, cattle and farming workers.

District Judicial Court Office, township education office and other buildings under construction are being built again.

Daw Ma Oo disclosed that she has grown many crops—pea, cabbage, chilli, cauliflower, egg plants and so on. She also wants peace and stability of the area.

During today's trip to Buthitaung, I found more and more passenger buses and motorcycle carriage plying more than before.

Detainees: Forced terrorist training and arsons under threat of foreign extremists

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They also told us that we needed to shout words like ‘Muslim’, ‘Rohingya’, ‘Nakaburi’ and ‘Wutsforce’. Courses were conducted in the valley. They said they waited a long time as they were promised the recognition of the Rohingya, but that never happened. When the attacks broke out, we were at our village with our swords. Some villages were set on fire by people who infiltrated from Bangladesh and some local rogues. Villagers had to take to the streets with swords when the attacks broke out”, Iserlan said.

Another detainee, Eielhar, who was arrested in Yedwinge village, said that “Muslim Bengalis set fire to the village on 13th November. I think about one hundred houses were burnt down”.

A fourth suspect, Sauduarmein of Kyaingchaung (North) village, said: “We were gathering people with swords, slingshots and wooden clubs to rob the weapons of the security forces. Before the night of the attacks, they took our elders into the jungle. They also put fire on our village and went into the forest.”

The interrogation of the

detainees revealed that the violent attackers forced one man from each local family to join with them under the threat of the slashing death of their family members, according to the information committee of the State Counsellor's Office. The detainees told the committee and interrogators that the local Muslim villagers were instructed to wait to attack the government troops with swords and sticks. The detainees also said the arsons in the villages were done by the violent attackers themselves, or by those under their direction. —*Myanmar News Agency*

Mandalay's Chanmyashwepyi Bus Terminal to be upgraded



Photo shows Chanmyashwepyi Highway Bus Terminal in Mandalay. PHOTO: ATK

MANDALAY City Development Committee plans to improve the Chanmyashwepyi (Kywesekan) Bus Terminal located about 10 km (8 miles) central Mandalay, before the end of this year.

The M-development Corporation Myanmar will improve the 14.2-acre bus terminal through the Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) system. The project will start after an agreement is signed between the company and the authorities.

The upgraded terminal will include restaurants, four or five-storey condos, hotels and supermarkets.

Situated in Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay Region, the Chanmyashwepyi Highway Bus Terminal is the main bus terminal in the region to travel to all major destinations in the country including Yangon, Taunggyi, Kalaw, Nay Pyi Taw, Monywa, Hpa-An, Pyay, Bago and Lashio.

The bus terminal is projected to be upgraded to look like an airport, said U Zaw Win from the MCDC, who added that authorities are searching for a new runway area that can host the highway buses while the improvement project is being done.

U Zaw Win explained that the current condition of the terminal is always busy with people and commodities transported by over 350 express buses from 156 bus lines.

From the bus terminal, there are over 1,700 registered vehicles, including over 100 buses, that operate the Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw-Mandalay routes, he added.

The new plan will enable travellers to enjoy smooth, quick and safe public transport service under systematic arrangements.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

Statue of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi up for auction at Miss World 2016 contest

A STATUE of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the State Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, will be sold at an auction during the Miss World 2016 contest to be held next month in the U.S., according to a local organizer.

Myat Thiri Linn (aka Bella) was crowned Miss Myanmar World 2016 in June. She also won Best Personality and the People's Choice Award. She will represent her country at the 66th edition of Miss World, which is planned to take place in Washington DC, the capital of the United States, on 18 December.

Myat Thiri Linn said she has decided to bring a sculpture of the Nobel peace prize winner for auction, a special programme of the competition, which allows all participants to display the objects of value to them, including ancient culture and things related to their homeland.

Miss Myanmar 2016 plans to leave for the U.S. on 26 November. She will compete with more

than 100 delegates from around the world to win the crown, hoping to be the ambassador of "Beauty with a Purpose".

Mireia Lalaguna Rayo from Spain was named the winner of the Miss World 2015

competition in China. Venezuela is the most successful country at the Miss World pageant with six crowns, followed by India and United Kingdom, with five crowns each.—*Myitmakha News Agency*



Miss Myanmar World 2016 winner Myat Thiri Linn. PHOTO: MMK

Over 1,200 trafficked to Thailand in six years

OVER 1,200 Myanmar citizens were trafficked to Thailand in various ways over the last six years, according to U Aung Myat Thu, a member of the Myanmar Association in Thailand (MAT).

"DSI, Anti-Human Trafficking Division (AHTD) of the Royal Thai Police and the immigration department rescued the trafficked Myanmar national from time to time. Mostly, the traffickers were forced to work aboard fishing boats as slaves,"

U Aung Myat Thu said.

The increasing number of trafficked persons can be directly attributed to the lack of employment opportunities in their motherland.

According to MAT statistics, there were a total of 1,237 people illegally trafficked to the other countries; 50 victims in 2011, 292 in 2012, 264 in 2013, 120 in 2014, 174 in 2015, 337 in 2016.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

Action taken against unlicensed car dealers in Myitkyina

POLICE have recently taken action against four car dealers who sold 12 unlicensed vehicles in Myitkyina township, Kachin state.

Police from Myitkyina Myoma station confiscated illegal vehicles and took action against the dealers under section 8 of the export and import control Act.

"We received information from local people that the dealers were selling and buying the unlicensed vehicles at the brokers' market. So we took action

against them in accordance with the law," said Sub-inspector of police Aung Kyaw Min, the leader of control team.

The seized vehicles are: three Mitsubishi Pajeros, one Toyota Land Cruiser Prado, four Toyota Ipsums, one Toyota Mark II, one Toyota Wish, one Honda Odyssey and one Toyota Kluger.

Local police will continue to seize unlicensed vehicles and take action against the dealers, authorities said.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

Crime NEWS

Court to sentence seven policemen for detainee's death

ON 23 November, the court will hand down the sentences for seven policemen deemed responsible for the death of a detainee while they were investigating his case, according to Thaton district court.

"The policemen do not admit, just saying that it is not their fault. They have the right to deny. But, the detainee died during investigation. They are found guilty, so they will have punishment, said an official called U Tin Maung.

On 2 March, 2016, Kyaw Thet Aung, 32, was charged with theft at Thaton town. When the police were investigating, Kyaw Thet Aung died in the prison. According to the post-mortem examination, the victim died of internal bleeding in the abdomen.

"I want only the fair judgment", said the victim's wife, Daw Nan Thidar Hlaing. The seven policemen were charged under section 302/114 of the criminal law. — *Myitmakha News Agency*

Woman robbed of jewellery in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area

THREE robbers wearing masks entered a house in which there was only one woman inside on 16 November in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, Pobbathiri Township. The victim, Ma Mon Mon Zaw, was alone inside the house when the men entered from two different doors and robbed her of jewellery.

One of the robbers threatened her with a sharp weapon while the other turned off the electricity and pocketed jewellery at around 6 pm.

"They didn't hurt me", said Ma Mon Mon Zaw. The robbers

took a ring, a bracelet, two earrings and a gold chain worth Ks10 lakh, she said.

Ma Mon Mon Zaw lives with her husband at Wunnadipa Ward, Pobbathiri Township. Her husband goes to work in the morning and comes back home in the evening. Ma Mon Mon Zaw reported the robbery to the local police station. "There have never been such cases like this before", said a local resident in the ward.

Htonebo Police will take action against the robbers under Section 386 of the Criminal Law.—*Zay Yar Tun/Nay Yaine*

LOCAL Business

Flower crab exports declined by half this year

DESPITE the continued high demand for flower crab from Thailand, this year's export volume of the blue crabs has declined by half compared to the same period last year, exporters say.

"The price of flower crabs produced from Kyaukpuru, a major town in Rakhine State, is increasing due to Thailand's growing demand. However, it is not easy to raise the export volume while the supply exceeds than demand," one of local exporter said.

The decrease of export volume is directly linked to lower production of flower crabs, which are starting to move down to the deep sea water to breed in the winter, making them harder to

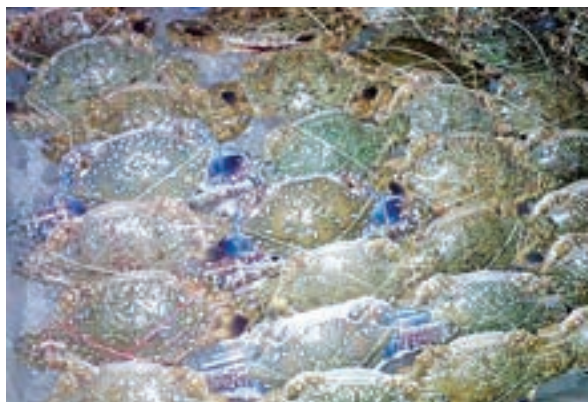


Photo shows Rakhine State's flower crabs.

catch, fishermen said.

Located on the north-western corner of Rambre Island on Combermere Bay, Kyaukpuru is one of the areas where flower crabs can be found. But over-fishing may have ad-

versely affected the crab population in Kyaukpuru.

"The negative impacts on natural environment caused by some fishermen, who use prohibited methods to catch, leads to a decrease in pro-

duction rate," said U Khin Aye Maung, chair of the Fish and Shrimp Producers Association for Kyaukpuru Township.

Depending on the weather, the exporters get varying volume of crabs from offshore fishing boats. The supply of flower crabs has gradually declined year after year.

There are about 10 wholesale dealers in Kyaukpuru who export crabs to Thai market.

According to the exporters, between seven and ten tonnes of flower crabs have been sent to the foreign buyers per week. Last year, they exported 13 to 18 tonnes of crabs per week.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

Myanmar's dried tea leaves to go to Germany before Christmas Eve

GERMANY pledged to purchase almost all the good-quality dried tea leaves produced from Shan State before Christmas, according to a spokesperson of the Ministry of Industry.

The demand from the western European countries will help grow the presence of Myanmar's products in the international market, exporters say.

Producing quality dried tea leaves is a top priority of the local manufacturers wishing to expand their businesses into global market.

Under its small-and-medium enterprise development plan, the government has assisted in the manufacturing process by supporting modern drying machinery and related equipment to local firms.

The authorities provided about Ks10 million worth purifying machines to 10 villages. The machine can produce high-quality products to help local tea producers increase production and income. Tea leaves produced traditionally are sold for around Ks5,000 per viss, but the price is doubled for high-quality products produced by modern manufacturing machines.

In cooperation with relevant business organizations, the industry ministry continued its support for growers and producers in Pindaya, a town in Shan State, which is famous for its commercial tea plantations. Currently, about 30 villages in Pindaya can mass produce tea leaves with the use of modern equipment.—200

Low-cost flats to be built in Yangon

Ko Moe

NEW plans are underway to build over 3,000 low-cost housing units in Dagon Myothit (East) and Dagon Seikkan townships in Yangon to meet the growing demand, said Col Tin Aung Tun, Yangon Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs.

This comes from the Yangon Region Hluttaw meeting on 16 November, where U Kyaw Zeya raised a question relating to the management of squatter settlements.

In his reply, Col Tin Aung Tun said the region government plans to construct 1,040 low-cost housing units in Dagon Seikkan Township

and 2,300 units in Dagon Myothit (East) in cooperation with the Construction Ministry and relevant departments.

The Yangon Region government recently invited tenders for projects to develop low-cost housings in Hlaingthaya and Thanlyin townships. The project is estimated to generate around over 4,600 units.

The government already had several housing projects with 2,208 low-cost apartments in Hlaingthaya and Dagon Seikkan townships. Those flats have been sold through an installment payment plan and full settlement plan by the region government, the Ministry of Construction and the Construction

and Housing Development Bank.

The bank launched on 1 August its service to open housing savings accounts. Over 5,000 customers have opened accounts at the bank with the purpose of buying a house.

The CHDB allowed buyers to purchase a low-cost apartment via eight-year installments, with plans to extend the term to 15 years. The buyer needs to pay 30 per cent of the total expenses to the bank first.

The Ministry of Construction is planning to build over 8,000 low-cost housing units within the next four years. Each new apartment will be sold for less than Ks10 million.

Tenders invited for water taxi vessels

YANGON Region Transport Authority (YRTA) invited tenders on 16 November for vessels that will be used as water taxis on the Hlaing River and Nga Moe Yeik creek, it is learnt.

The water buses will hopefully contribute to a reduction of traffic congestion and to ensure convenience of the passengers

travelling around the Yangon region.

The YRTA plans to introduce two separate routes along the Hlaing River and Nag Moe Yeik creek.

The tender applications and regulations are available during office hours in room 216 of Yangon Region Government

office starting from 21 November up to 20 December.

Interested businessmen should submit tender applications not later than 26 December to the Yangon Region Transport Authority, which will consider the applications in accordance with the tender rules and regulations.—*Min Min*



SEDONA

Fundraiser & Auction - 'Black Tie' Dinner Event

An evening of Charity Fundraising and Auction in support of the Daw Khin Kyi Foundation.

Non-Profit all proceeds goes to the assistance of the underprivileged in Myanmar.

USD 100 Nett Per Person

25 November 2016 (Friday), 6.30pm to 9.00pm, Grand Ballroom

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No 1, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin Township, Yangon.

China sees THAAD deployment as 'weather vane' under Trump

BEIJING — Whether President-elect Donald Trump goes through with a deployment of a US anti-missile system in South Korea will be a key indicator to how political ties unfold with China, sources with ties to the leadership in Beijing said.

Beijing will also be keeping a close eye on Trump's meeting on Thursday with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan, its key regional rival, for clues on how the President-elect, who has never held public office, is likely to conduct foreign policy, they said.

South Korea and the United States have agreed to deploy a Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD) anti-missile system to counter missile threats from North Korea. It is expected to be in place within eight to 10 months, the commander of US forces in South Korea said earlier this month. China has argued the planned deployment undermines strategic stability in Northeast Asia, and worries that THAAD's powerful radar provides coverage of



A Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD) interceptor is launched during a successful intercept test, in this undated handout photo provided by the US Department of Defence, Missile Defence Agency. PHOTO: REUTERS

China's missile installations.

"Whether deployment of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defence is delayed is a political weather vane," one source said.

A security adviser to Trump said last week his meeting in New York with Abe on Thursday may mark the start of talks to garner Tokyo's support for a push-back against China's growing influence in Asia.

"We have heard what he said. We will now watch what he does," said the source, requesting anonymity because he is not authorized to speak to media.

"We will play it by

ear," the source said, invoking an idiom that translates to blocking a punch or a kick as it comes.

Trump has created doubts over his commitment to security alliances with Japan and South Korea, suggesting they need to pay more for a US military presence and even hinting they should develop their own nuclear weapons capability.

Japan going nuclear would be China's worst nightmare and is likely to provoke strong reaction, diplomats and analysts have said. China's relations with Japan have long been poisoned by what Beijing sees

as Tokyo's failure to fully atone for its invasion and occupation of parts of China before and during World War II as well as competing claims over a group of East China Sea islets.

"Northeast Asia would be a powder keg," a second source said, referring to a nuclearized sub-region including China, Japan, North and South Korea.

The State Council Information Office, or cabinet spokesman's office, had no immediate comment.

China is generally opposed to military alliances, seeing them as Cold War relics.—Reuters

Philippines' Duterte says may follow Russia's withdrawal from 'useless' ICC

MANILA — Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte on Thursday said he might follow Russia and withdraw from the International Criminal Court (ICC), citing criticism from Western nations for a rash of killings unleashed by his war on drugs.

Duterte described the ICC as "useless" and expressed frustration about the West's allegations of extrajudicial killings and its failure to understand his crackdown on narcotics. He also appeared to blame the United Nations for failing to prevent wars all over the world.

Russian President Vladimir Putin signed an executive order removing Russia's signature from the founding treaty of the ICC on Wednesday, and Duterte said he might consider doing the same.

"They are useless, those in the international criminal (court). They (Russia) withdrew. I might follow. Why? Only the small ones like

us are battered," Duterte said before his departure for Lima to attend an Asia-Pacific summit.

Duterte is seeking a meeting with Putin in Lima this weekend, which comes as he pursues an independent foreign policy aimed at weaning the Philippines off dependence on longtime ally the United States. He has frequently praised Russia and China. Duterte, known for his frank statements, speculated that Russia's ICC move might be because of its air strikes in Syria.

"What could be the reason? I really would not know," he said. "Maybe to protect what they are doing in Syria, the incessant bombing and the killing of civilians."

Russia is under international pressure over the Syria air strikes, with some human rights activists and US officials accusing it of bombing civilians and civilian targets. Russia has denied those allegations.—Reuters

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Storm lashes New Zealand quake zone, more buildings evacuated

CHRISTCHURCH, (New Zealand) — Rain and strong winds battered central New Zealand on Thursday, threatening further damage just days after a powerful earthquake killed two people and devastated parts of the country's South Island with huge landslides.

More than 1,000 tourists and residents have been evacuated from the small seaside town of Kaikoura by a fleet of helicopters and a New Zealand naval vessel since the 7.8 magnitude quake struck early on Monday.

Kaikoura, a fishing town and popular whale-watching base ringed by steep mountains, was completely cut off by landslides covering the coastal road and rail corridor.

Further helicopter evacuations from Kaikoura on Thursday had been disrupted due to the bad weather, said Sarah Stuart-Black, director of the Ministry of Civil Defence Emergency Management.

"We are really concerned about the changing weather situation," she told reporters. "It could mean that there's an increased risk



Royal New Zealand Air Force personnel lead those stranded by an earthquake to an NH90 helicopter to evacuate them from Kaikoura on the South Island of New Zealand, on 16 November 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

of further landslides, obviously surface flooding, so we want people to be safe."

An inland road to Kaikoura, briefly reopened to emergency vehicles, was closed due to more landslides, officials said.

Warships from Australia, Canada and the United States, in the country for the Royal New Zealand Navy's 75th anniversary, had arrived in Kaikoura to assist with the recovery.

"The ships, crews and maritime helicopters provided by our partner militaries have given us a great deal of flexibility in supporting the

national relief effort," said New Zealand Joint Forces Commander Major General Tim Gall.

Most of the tourists evacuated to Christchurch, the South Island's largest city about 150 km (90 miles) south of Kaikoura, had continued their journeys but around 130 people were being housed temporarily in Canterbury University's student halls.

With damage expected to take months to repair, the government announced a NZ\$7.5 million (\$5.3 million) wage subsidy package to support small businesses

in Kaikoura for two months.

"These companies ... are going to have a sustained reduction in their turnover to the point of almost nothing for a long period of time and that's why we think it's appropriate for the government to step in," Economic Development Minister Steven Joyce told reporters.

Analysts at ANZ Bank said that, while the local economic hit would be significant, there would only be a "small dent" in New Zealand's overall activity, far lower than the 2011 quake in Christchurch that killed almost 200 people.—Reuters

India acts to help farmers hit by black money crackdown

NEW DELHI — India's government on Thursday announced immediate steps to ease a cash crunch for farmers amid widespread criticism of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's shock decision to withdraw high-value bills in the middle of the sowing and wedding season.

Farmers have been left stranded as traders have no cash to pay for their produce, while millions of Indians lined up outside banks and post offices for the ninth day to exchange old banknotes or withdraw rationed money from their accounts.

Modi dropped a bombshell on 8 November by abolishing 500 and 1,000 rupee notes that accounted for 86 per cent of cash in circulation. The move was aimed

at cracking down on the shadow economy but has brought India's cash economy to a virtual standstill.

In the latest in a series of ad hoc steps, Modi allowed farmers to withdraw up to 25,000 rupees (\$368) a week against their crop loans to ensure that sowing of winter crops "takes place properly", a senior finance ministry official said. Economic Affairs Secretary Shaktikanta Das also said a time limit for farmers to pay crop insurance premiums has been extended by 15 days. Many of India's 260 million farmers have no bank accounts and depend on local money lenders to fund sowing, which means those that have to borrow to sow winter crops like wheat or rapeseed



A farmer smokes while sitting on sacks of paddy crops as he waits for customers, one week after the Indian government withdrew the circulation of high denomination banknotes, in Sanand village on the outskirts of Ahmedabad, India, on 15 November 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

could face debt trouble without a good harvest.

The government also slashed the amount of old money people can exchange for new notes to

2,000 rupees — or just under \$30 — from a limit of 4,500 rupees.

The move sought to deter huge numbers of people queuing to swap cash repeatedly, some of

whom are suspected to be acting on behalf of racketeers trying to launder "black cash" before a 30 December deadline for depositing or swapping old notes.—Reuters

Testing times as South Korean students sit for college exam

SEOUL — Financial markets stayed closed and aircraft grounded as students in South Korea sat down on Thursday morning for the annual college entrance exam that could make or break their careers.

Some 600,000 high school students will take the grueling eight-hour exam to determine if and where they will spend four years in higher education, with anxious parents heading to places of worship to pray for their children.

The students, including those retaking the exam, were overwhelmed with well-wishes and gifts of sticky rice cake, said to bring good luck. "My little boy is taking the exam for the third time," said Kim Yong-woo, a 59-year-old mother, who joined other parents at cathedral to pray for their children. "All I can do is pray as his mom and I came out here hoping that he can manage his condition well and get a good score he wants," she said.

The November event, which includes mathematics, sciences and languages tests, sees the country ground to a halt each year.

For 25 minutes, when the listening portion of the English test is administered, the takeoff and landing of aircraft are put on hold and bus drivers traveling near test sites are discouraged from sounding their horns.

Police vehicles and motorcycles were enlisted to escort students running late to the exam.

Financial markets opened an hour later and office workers were advised to be at work later than usual to allow students to get to the exam venue in smoother traffic.

At test sites, students arrived with mixed feelings of concern and anticipation of liberation when the exam is behind them.

"I won't get nervous and I will work hard to solve problems in exams as I've been preparing," said Lee Se-la, 19, steeling herself for the day-long test.—Reuters



A woman prays for her grandchild taking the annual college entrance examinations at a Buddhist temple in Seoul, South Korea, on 17 November 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Viet Nam PM backs off from US-led TPP, emphasises independent foreign policy



Viet Nam's Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc speaks during a news conference after the 8th Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Viet Nam Summit (CLMV-8) and the 7th Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy Summit (ACMECS-7) in Hanoi, Viet Nam, on 26 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

HANOI — Viet Nam will shelve ratification of a US-led Pacific trade accord due to political changes ahead in the United States, but wants to maintain good relations with Washington as much as it does all other countries, its prime minister said on Thursday.

Viet Nam's legislature was almost certain to ratify the 12-nation Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreed last year but had deferred it until after the US presidential election won by Republican Donald Trump, whose protectionist agenda on the campaign trail has unnerved Asian economies.

The TPP, the signature economic policy of President Barack Obama's Asia-Pacific rebalance, looks increasingly uncertain with a Republican Congress and an incoming president who had called

the agreement a "disaster".

The TPP would be a big boon for Viet Nam's exports and manufacturing economy, which is receiving record foreign investment due to its numerous trade accords, cheap labour and relative stability.

"The United States has announced it suspends the submission of TPP to the parliament so there are not sufficient conditions for Viet Nam to submit its proposal for ratification," Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc told the National Assembly.

Post-US election responses by the Asian countries on the TPP varied, from suggestions by Malaysia that it would focus efforts on wrapping up a multi-nation trade pact led by China, and Japan trying to stick with the TPP and push ratification.

According to TPP's stat-

utes, it can only be adopted if the United States is part of it, given its economy represents about two thirds of the combined GDP of the original 12 members.

The TPP was a major factor in the rapid strengthening of ties between former war enemies Viet Nam and the United States. The relationship has gained momentum over the past two years, coinciding with fissures between Hanoi and neighbour Beijing over troubles in the disputed South China Sea.

But that has complicated the balancing act that Viet Nam's Communist Party has for years carefully managed as it seeks to expand its economy and build alliances while not becoming too dependent on one country for security, trade or investment.

Phuc said that with or without the TPP, Viet Nam was committed to further opening up its economy to the world. Earlier on Thursday he raised his forecast for Viet Nam's annual export growth this year to 8 per cent.

"We already have signed 12 free trade agreements, so joining the TPP is good, but without joining TPP we will still continue to further the economic integration under programmes we have joined," he said. His comments echoed those last week by the country's trade minister, who said the textiles, seafood and footwear sectors would still stay competitive on global markets without the TPP. Phuc said relations with the US administration would remain strong, but he emphasized how Viet Nam was committed to sticking by its longstanding foreign policy.—Reuters

European leaders and Obama to discuss Russia sanctions in Berlin

BERLIN — European leaders and President Barack Obama on Friday will discuss extending sanctions imposed on Russia for its intervention in Ukraine, and possible new sanctions for its bombing in Syria, sources familiar with the plans said.

The meeting in Berlin, hosted by German Chancellor Angela Merkel and including the leaders of Britain, France, Italy and Spain, comes a little over a week after Donald Trump's victory in the US presidential election.

Trump has indicated that he will seek a rapprochement with Russia, raising doubts in Europe about the future of the sanctions regime introduced by Washington and Brussels in 2014 following Russia's intervention in eastern Ukraine.

A German official said the plan was to agree a rollover of EU sanctions against Russia, which are due to expire at the end of January, in the coming weeks.

There is concern that Trump might move in the opposite direction after his inauguration on 20 January. European leaders will therefore be seeking clarity from Obama, who met Trump last week and said afterwards the president-elect would maintain core relationships around the world, including with NATO.

Obama arrived in Berlin on Wednesday evening after visiting Greece.

"We're in a really critical situation," said the German official.



US President Barack Obama arrives at the Tegel airport in Berlin, Germany, on 16 November 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

"We have to prevent a situation where the EU rolls over the sanctions and then the new US president comes in and lifts them."

Obama and Merkel are expected to hold talks on Thursday followed by a news conference at which they will raise the issue of Syria, a source said.

European officials fear that Russia will use the time before Trump's inauguration to launch new offensives in Syria and Ukraine. Two diplomatic sources said the issue of Syria would also come up at the Friday meeting.

"Syria will definitely be on the agenda," said one, citing co-ordinated Russian missile strikes against rebels in Syria launched on Tuesday from an aircraft carrier in the Mediterranean.

The Kremlin has said it is maintaining a moratorium on air

strikes in the city of Aleppo.

European Union leaders last month condemned Russia for its bombing of civilians in Aleppo and signaled that they could introduce new sanctions for its actions there if the bombing continued.

The Syrian opposition has been pressing Western countries to expand sanctions to include some Russian firms that are supplying weapons and bank notes to Syria. Syrian opposition leaders are due to meet with EU leaders, including EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini, in Brussels on Friday.

Another source said European leaders were keen to send a signal to Trump, making it more difficult for him to reverse US policy and cosy up to Russia. —Reuters

British voters' Brexit wishlist — free trade, EU immigration controls, survey shows

LONDON — British voters want to maintain free trade with the European Union after Brexit but also want to limit immigration from countries in the bloc, according to a survey on Wednesday. In the United Kingdom's 23 June referendum, a total of 17.4 million people, or 51.9 per cent, voted to leave the EU while 16.1 million, or 48.1 per cent, voted to remain.

The survey, which reflected the demographic profile of the British population and the referen-

dum divide, is based on research conducted by independent social research institute NatCen during September and October via the internet and by phone with a panel of 1,391 people.

"There is nearly universal support for maintaining free trade between the UK and the EU," John Curtice, a senior research fellow at NatCen and professor of politics at Strathclyde University, wrote of the survey. "On the other, around seven in 10 voters believe

that the UK should be able to limit immigration from the EU, while a similar proportion believe there should be customs checks at the border with an EU country," Curtice said.

The survey also found a majority of Leave voters backed free trade, financial passporting and following EU manufacturing regulations, while a majority of Remain voters supported limiting immigration and introducing customs. Prime Minister Theresa May, who quietly argued to remain in the EU ahead of the vote, has argued that she must implement the wishes of the British people and control immigration while preserving as much access as possible to EU markets. But EU leaders have repeatedly said that access to the EU's single market is contingent on free movement of people. If May is forced to make a choice, the survey has a difficult fact for business: Of those who say they would vote for her ruling Conservative Party at the next election, 60 per cent are against allowing freedom of movement in return for free trade. —Reuters



Illustration picture of postal ballot papers 1 June 2016 in London ahead of the 23 June BREXIT referendum when voters will decide whether Britain will remain in the European Union. PHOTO: REUTERS

NEWS IN BRIEF

South Korea parliament approves bill for special prosecutor in political scandal

SEOUL — South Korea's parliament on Thursday approved a bill to appoint a special prosecutor to investigate a corruption scandal engulfing President Park Geun-hye, sharply raising political pressure on her to step down.

The motion proposed by the main opposition Democratic Party passed by a vote of 196 in the 300-seat assembly, indicating some members of Park's ruling Saenuri Party backed the bill.

The government has been rocked by allegations that a friend used her ties to Park to meddle in state affairs and wield improper influence, triggering calls for the president to be impeached or step down. —Reuters

Dacic meets with Canadian Foreign Minister, Serbian caucus

BELGRADE/OTTAWA — On the last day of a visit to Canada, Serbian FM Ivica Dacic met with his counterpart Stephane Dion after attending the inaugural meeting of the parliamentary friendship group for cooperation with Serbia.

Dion stressed that both sides recognised the potentials for further improving friendly relations through future development of trade, economic, university and cultural cooperation.

He also stressed that existing bilateral agreements are a good foundation for further cooperation, a Ministry of Foreign Affairs statement said. The ministers, who signed a declaration of intent on an agreement on air transport, expressed the hope that the agreement will be signed soon — by the end of 2016 or in early 2017. —Tanjung

South Korea to develop long-range rocket to counter North Korea

SEOUL, — South Korea on Wednesday approved a project for a new long-range rocket system to help bolster its capabilities to counter North Korea's artillery threats, Yonhap News Agency reported.

The report, citing the Defence Acquisition Program Administration, said South Korea will develop and deploy an unguided projectile that can be mounted on a new 230-millimeter multiple rocket launch system. "If deployed and launched, the new unguided projectile MRLS could wreck considerable havoc on exposed targets deep within enemy territory," DAPA spokesman Kim Si Cheol was quoted as saying, adding that one such rocket could lay waste to an area roughly the size of three football fields.

The system is reportedly scheduled to be deployed by 2020. —Kyodo News

Two injured in gunfire near Russian consulate in Istanbul

ISTANBUL — Two persons were wounded on Thursday in a gunfire that erupted in front of the Russian consulate general in Istanbul, local media reported.

The Haberturk daily said a man opened fire in a quarrel among three people in front of the Russian mission located in Istanbul's busy Istiklal Street, shooting the other two in the foot.

Police teams were sent to the scene, and the incident was not related to the Russian consulate, the daily said, citing a preliminary police report. —Xinhua

Italy's Renzi rules out government role if he loses referendum

ROME — Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi said on Thursday he would not take any part in efforts to form a temporary or technocratic government if he loses next month's referendum on constitutional reform.

Renzi has promised to resign if he loses the vote, and with the majority of polls pointing to that outcome, attention has focused on what may happen after the 4 December ballot.

Many observers expect a temporary government to be formed, charged with drafting a new electoral system, or a so-called "technical" government of experts without party affiliation.

Renzi said the electoral law would have to be changed whatever the outcome of the referendum, but indicated he would not be the person to re-write the legislation if his flagship constitutional reform is rejected.

"I can't be someone who negotiates a deal with the other parties to create a little government or one with a limited goal (to change the electoral system)," he told radio station RTL. —Reuters

Opinion

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Housemaids need legal protection

Myint Win Thein

ONE of the reasons for frequent maid abuses in Myanmar is the lack of labour contracts between housemaids and their employers. Almost all housemaids, most of whom do not have any legal knowledge, are hired through unregistered brokers who know little about laws related to their roles. Moreover, they fail to understand that they are responsible for the safety and well-being of the housemaids that they help look for jobs, mak-

ing the housemaids vulnerable to unlawful treatment by their employers.

To aggravate the situation, housemaids are not registered with employment offices as other workers are required to. It is thus difficult for authorities to know how many housemaids are working in a ward or township under their purview. In addition, unlike other workers, the housemaids usually have to work by themselves in a home far away from their families,

without anyone to consult with. As a result, most of them are overlooked when worksite inspections are carried out by authorities.

People know that housemaids are forced to work long hours under abusive circumstances only when such unlawful treatment is exposed. More and more inhumane abuses against housemaids have recently been uncovered by neighbours and local residents. It is clear that the public has become more aware of

the depth of the problem and is beginning to do everything they can to help protect housemaids. The public can expose one case after another with no end in sight. What is more important than public awareness in this problem is the provision of the same legal protection to housemaids as to other types of workers. As pointed out by a Pyithu Hluttaw representative at a recent Hluttaw session, they are eligible for the same legal protection as everyone else.

The Rights of Shareholders of a Public Company

Win Sein

MYANMAR is now launching a large scale economic development for the whole country so that she may catch up with her neighboring countries, who have had an early start many years ago in their reconstruction endeavor. For Myanmar, she has encountered with the misfortune of hindering her way to improve the improvised newly independent young country by the successive authoritarian regimes for almost 45 years, leaving the country as poor branded as the "least developed country" in the whole world.

Now, with developed countries and the United Nations promising aids to our country after she has adopted the democratic political ideology for governing the country, a change in all spheres for a much desired social, political and economic reformist government, turning a new leaf to create a better country for her citizens in Myanmar. But the country has been a standstill in progress because of the previous regimes. Lagging behind in infrastructure facilities, resulted in a chaotic condition in which to accommodate all foreign investors scrambling to get a better share of the Myanmar investment opportunity pie.

Myanmar has carefully charted the best area of land for setting up economic zones for development of the country. The favorable conditions have allured Myanmar citizens' com-

panies as well as foreign companies to start operating in the various industrial, services and food production sectors.

Judging from this perspective of a crowded condition of various companies to outdo each other, we can imagine the tremendous task for the Directorate of Companies Management Department to settle the big pile of problems with the only help from the out of date book "Myanmar Companies Act—1914". Whereas countries like U K, India, Singapore and Malaysia have had their Companies Act revised, amended and rewritten to bring it update already.

A person who has purchased shares of a public company shall be entitled to receive a certificate from such company, where in the certificate held by the member shall be prima-facie evidence of the title of the member to the shares therein specified the name, address, nationality and occupation of the shareholder shall be entered into the Register of Members of the company.

As a member of a public company, it is obvious that a shareholder, would like to know all about the activities of the company in which he has invested his money, so that a shareholder shall have the statutory rights conferred on him as a shareholder. He shall have the rights to:

- Appoint directors
- Attend and vote at General Meeting.
- Receive a copy of Mem-

orandum and Articles of Association of the company.

- Inspect the statutory Registers and Minutes books.
- Receive copies of financial statements.
- Initiate winding up of the company.

As a shareholder of a public company, it is most important for each and every shareholder to get hold of a copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the company. [Section 25 {1} of the Myanmar Companies Act] In other words, this book contains the constitution of the company. In which the operation and management of the company is run in accordance with the regulations listed as Articles in such Memorandum and Articles. These Articles are based and derived from the Myanmar Companies Act when first drafted in the manner of serial order during the time of formation of the company.

However these regulations can be added and deducted, substituted and deleted and amended from time to time during the operation of the company when they think that needed to change on them. Thereby the company shall have to hold a General Meeting, discussing the matter at first or if required to get the final resolution by show of hands or if otherwise by holding a poll with casting of votes. Once the resolution is settled, a copy of the resolution should be filed with the Registrar of Companies Administra-

tion Office for approval. Until and unless the resolution of the company has been approved by the Registrar, then the rewritten regulations or Articles shall have effect to be enforced as an Article in the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the company finally

Another distinctive aspect for the shareholders to keep in mind is the rights of shareholders to appoint directors in the General Meeting and in rotation of directors [Section 83 B {2} of Myanmar Companies Act] stipulated "not less than two-third of the whole member of directors shall be persons whose period of office is liable to determination at any time by retirement of directors in rotation." However many companies have constituted this Article with the statement from the First Schedule, Table A of regulation 78 of Myanmar Companies Act, as [At the first ordinary meeting, the whole of the directors shall retire from office and at the ordinary meeting in every subsequent year. One – third of the directors for the time being or if their number is not three or a multiple of three, the number nearest to one –third shall retire from office]

Take for instance, the voting rights of shareholders have been stipulated in Article 60 of the The First Schedule of Table A of Myanmar Companies Act as "On a show of hands every member present in person shall have one vote. On poll. Every member shall have one vote in respect of each share held by

him." Looking from this point, if a company has resorted to polling on a problem, it would surely give an upper hands for the majority shareholders group over the minority shareholders group in contest of the matter concerned. Because more votes would be gathered in the hands of the majority shareholders. We often heard a lot of shareholders of public company came back from their companies' Annual General Meeting recently reluctantly confided among themselves, that their companies have already nominated and appointed the new Boards of Directors without even a single shareholder casting a single vote at all.

As now, Myanmar has enjoyed the luxury of more foreign investors and local investors establishing private and public companies, that sprout up inside every corner of Myanmar doing all sorts of business in Myanmar would create a difficult situation for the Directorate of Companies Administration Department to keep a tight rein on the crowded companies big and small which hardly can be considered as under control with the old Myanmar Companies Act alone.

Until a rewritten Myanmar Companies Act is coming out fast in time to curb the increasing number of companies who are operating daily not in conformity with the old Myanmar Companies Act or otherwise the situation would be flared up with such magnitude beyond control.

Two men suspected of involvement in Maungtaw armed attacks receive medical treatment

TWO men arrested in separate incidents over the past week have required medical treatment during their incarceration, according to the State Counsellor's Office.

Mammed, 28, of Wetspyin village, who was detained at the Maungtaw police station on suspicion of his involvement in the Maungtaw violent attacks, was sent to the Maungtaw hospital at 4 pm November 16 for medical treatment, according to the information team of the State Counsellor's Office.

The suspect is one of 41 people believed to be involved in armed attacks who were arrested in the village of Pwintphyuchaung during an area clearance operation by the government troops on November 12. The information team of the State Counsellor's Office also said yesterday that the combined forces led by a junior police officer of the No. 2 border guard control office caught

14 suspects red-handed with swords and sticks in the house of Aduharmi during their clearance operation in Mya Zin village, area 5 of Maungtaw region 2 at 7:45 am on 14th November.

Among the suspects, Idiyes, 25, son of Longdon Kyetchaung village, was given medical treatment for hypotension during his detention at Kyikanpyin station. — *Myanmar News Agency*



The suspect receives medical check-up from a nurse.
PHOTO: MYAWADY

BFM's warm clothing donations reach IDPs in Kachin State



Kachin State Chief Minister Dr Khet Aung presents certificate of KBZ's Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

WARM clothes donated by KBZ's Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation have reached internally displaced persons and disaster victims in Kachin State in advance of the predicted extreme cold weather this winter.

Responsible personnel of the foundation handed over 30,000 warm clothes for the IDPs and the people to the Kachin State Gov-

ernment on 17 November through Kachin State Chief Minister Dr Khet Aung.

The philanthropic foundation imported 300,000 warm clothes and has delivered to the areas which are expected to be hit by extreme cold weather due to La Nina. So far, more than 250 articles of warm clothing have been delivered to the IDPs from Keh-

si and Mongkai townships in northern Shan State; more than 3,000 pieces of warm clothes and 10,080 packs of dried instant noodles to IDPs in Myaing Gyi Ngu and Maethawaw in Kayin State; more than 36,500 pieces of warm clothing to ethnic people including monks and nuns in the Mandalay Region; more than 3,500 pieces of imported warm clothing to Naga ethnic people in Lahe, Naga Self-administered Zone in Sagaing Region; more than 7,650 articles of warm clothing to IDPs in Namtu in northern Shan State and more than 470 pieces to the local people in uneasily accessible areas in Kalay Township. So far, the BFM has spent more than K109 billion on evacuation, relief and resettlement of people nationwide who are affected by disasters.

The money is also spent on disaster preparedness, education, health, religion and sports in communities across the country. — *Thura Lwin (Eco)*

1st phase of the "Rural Development Programme at Taungni-Taung Lay Lone road in Taunggyi Tsp completed

INAUGURATION Ceremony for the finishing of the first phase of the Rural Development Programme (RDP) at Taungni-Taung Lay Lone Road in Taunggyi Township was held yesterday.

It was attended by Dr Lin Htut, Chief Minister of Shan State Government, Mr Weber Lortsch, the German Ambassador to Myanmar, Dr Khin Zaw,

Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, U Khant Zaw, Director General of Department of Rural Development, Mrs Dagmar Wohrl, member of the German Parliament and Chairwoman of the Committee of Economic Cooperation and Development and Mrs Eva Schneider, KfW Country Director to Myanmar.

The programme has been

implemented within the framework within the framework of German Financial Cooperation via KfW Development Bank by the Department of Rural Development-DRD of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation. The programme comprises rural roads of more than 150 km, which will benefit more than 100,000 people living close to the roads.—*GNLM*

Second Day Meeting, 3rd Regular Session of 2nd Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Held

>> FROM PAGE 2

budget amounting to K 99411.920 million. He went on saying that under the heading of ordinary expenditure for the ministry of education, salary and standard of living allowances, budget allowance for commercial tax, annual fees, stipend and scholarship allowance, provision, advertisement fees, foreign aids. Lump sum expenditure includes commercial tax and land compensation money. Thus, the matter to grant the additional budget has been submitted to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for approval."

Afterward, U Soe Min, Vice Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar explained that revised estimate budget exceeded the budget estimate because of construction of more buildings and purchase of motor vehicles.

U Aye Tha Aung, Deputy Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, U Maung Maung Win, deputy minister for planning and finance, responsible persons of ministries and various organisations clarified their respective submissions for granting additional budgets. — *Myanmar News Agency*

New Myaungmya bridge to be built in 2017-18

THE Ministry of Construction will build a new bridge that can withstand vehicle loads of up to 60 tonnes. The two-lane bridge will be built alongside the existing bridge.

The estimated cost of the bridge is Ks6,000 million, it is learnt from U Win Khine, Union Minister for Construction on Wednesday at the 2nd Yangon Region Hluttaw Third regular session.

"The new two-lane bridge will be built in parallel to the old one as quickly as possible. Regarding the renovation of the old one, we have already renovated the platform, fixed the safety signs, and laid down

three-foot steel plates on both sides of the road under the first 100-day-project," said U Win Khine, Union Minister for Construction.

Construction of the new bridge will start in the 2017-2018 fiscal year at an estimated cost of Ks6,000 million. It is expected to be completed in the 21018-2019 fiscal year.

The old Myaungmya Bridge was built more than 20 years ago in 1996. The old bridge was weakened by heavy vehicles and machinery crossing during rescue activities in 2008, when Myaungmya was hit by the Cyclone Nargis. — *Myitmakha News Agency*

Police training aims to raise security in Rakhine State

SPECIAL police training has been given to new police members who will be assigned with duty in one of the townships of Rakhine State on the western coast of Myanmar.

The authorities allowed a total of 116 police to attend security training 297/2016 as of 15 November, in order to protect local people from various forms of crimes. Those new members will be assigned security duty across the state after the four-

month course.

Pol Brig-Gen Thura San Lwin, the chief of the No. 1 BorderGuard Police Force, said every Rakhine national wishing to protect their state will have a chance to become part of the local armed police.

Healthy Rakhine women and wives of the members of Rakhine State Police Force have also received basic military training 1/2016. — *Myitmakha News Agency*

Rakhine State Advisory Commission members visit Sittway Hospital

MEMBER of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State met with local people and internally displaced persons receiving medical care at the Sittway People's Hospital yesterday.

During the visit, they also viewed the patients from Thakalpyin, Darpaing and Bumay relief camps in Sittway Township and from relief camps from

Myaybon and Pauktaw Townships.

Head of Rakhine State Health Department Dr Shwe Thein conducted them around eye unit, delivery unit and pediatric unit of the hospital.

The commission returned to Yangon by air following the visit to the hospital.— *Tin Tun (IPRD)*

In battered town seized from IS, Iraq's Yazidis dream of return

BASHIQA, (Iraq) — For the first time since Islamic State militants swept into Bashiqa two years ago forcing him to flee, 61-year-old Barakat has finally found work — on Sunday he will be coming back to help clear debris from the destruction wrought upon his home town.

He and others who have been living in exile gathered in the town on Wednesday, just over a week after Kurdish peshmerga forces drove the jihadists out.

Yazidi, Christian and Muslim former neighbours and old friends kissed and greeted each other. But it will be a long time before they can move back for good.

Homes have been flattened by bombardment, shopfronts and garages gutted, burnt and looted, and black patches from mortar explosions scorch the ground along the main road.

Bashiqa's residents fled in different directions and at different speeds when the militants took over in 2014 after sweeping into Iraq from Syria.

"We left immediately," said Bakarar, a Yazidi like most people from the town.

Islamic State has killed Muslims and non-Muslims alike, but has been particularly brutal with the Yazidi minority, whose beliefs combine elements of several



A Yazidi man inspects a temple destroyed by the Islamic State militants in the town of Bashiqa, after it was recaptured from the Islamic State, east of Mosul, Iraq, on 10 November 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

religions. Thousands have been killed, captured and enslaved by the group in what the United Nations says is genocide.

Bakarar said some Muslim inhabitants had stayed on for a while, but Christians and Yazidis knew exactly what their fate would be if they did not get out

straight away.

Those who were better off rented homes in other towns, and those without the means went to camps.

Bakarar and his family still live in the northern city of Duhok. With most of Bashiqa destroyed and no services or supplies, they

expect it will be a long exile.

"We can begin to clean up this mess, but there's no point returning to live until there's electricity, water, and most importantly full security," he said on his first trip back, declining to give his full name in a sign of lingering concern.—Reuters

Escaped Chibok girls overcome doubts and jealousy to attend university

ABUJA — When a colleague asked Margee Ensign to help her sister who had been snatched by Boko Haram from her school dormitory in Chibok and escaped, the president of the American University of Nigeria could not refuse.

Ensign decided to offer scholarships to girls who managed to flee the Islamist militant group after it abducted more than 270 of their classmates in April 2014, its most high-profile assault in a seven-year insurgency to create an Islamic caliphate.

Of the 57 girls who escaped after the night-time raid in northeastern Nigeria, 24 accepted the university's offer.

But not everyone celebrated their return to education in Yola, the capital of a state neighbouring Borno where they were seized.

"People (in Chibok) told us that we are stupid for sending our children to school again after what happened," said the father of one girl who took up a scholarship at the university in a video recording of her first day there. Scarred by his daughter's ordeal, he was one of many parents who stayed with their children in the dormitories during the first few weeks.

Boko Haram has abducted hundreds of men, women and children, killed thousands and displaced more than 2 million people during its insurgency.

But it was the kidnapping of the Chibok girls which prompted outrage worldwide and spurred a campaign, #bring-backourgirls, backed by celebrities and US first lady Michelle Obama.

The Islamist militants released 21 of the girls last month after the Red Cross and the Swiss government brokered a deal with the group, but some 200 remain missing.—Reuters

Kosovo arrests 19 on suspicion of planning IS attacks

PRISTINA — Police in Kosovo said on Wednesday they had arrested 19 people in the past 10 days on suspicion of having links with Islamic State and planning to carry out attacks in Kosovo and in neighbouring Albania.

The police said the suspects were in contact with an Islamic State member, the self-declared "commander of Albanians in Syria and Iraq", Lavdrim Muhaxheri, from whom they received orders to attack.

"They were planning to com-

mit terrorist attacks in Kosovo and also (an attack) against Israeli football team and their fans during the Albania-Israel match," Kosovo police said in a statement in the evening.

Albania moved a World Cup European qualifying match with Israel on 12 November from the northern city of Shkoder to a venue near the capital Tirana because of fears of a possible attack by militants. Four people were arrested on terrorism charges.

The police said the suspects

had planned to carry out "synchronized terrorist attacks", but it did not give any details. It said explosives, weapons, ammunition and a drone had been seized.

At least 200 people have been detained or investigated in Kosovo over their alleged links with Islamic state in recent years. A total of 300 Kosovars went to Syria to fight alongside Islamic state troops and more than 50 have been killed there.

International and local security agencies in Kosovo, including

NATO mission and the EU police mission, are worried that many of those returning home from combat zones could pose a security threat.

Most of Kosovo's ethnic Albanian majority are nominally Muslim but overwhelmingly secular.

Kosovo declared independence from Serbia in 2008 with the backing of the West. In 2015 it adopted a law introducing jail sentences of up to 15 years for anyone found guilty of fighting in wars abroad.—Reuters

Islamic State killed 300 former policemen south of Mosul, HRW says



A member of Iraqi security forces gestures towards a mass grave for corpses in the town of Hammam al-Alil which was seized from Islamic State last week, Iraq, on 9 November 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

BAGHDAD — Islamic State militants probably killed more than 300 Iraqi former police three weeks ago and buried them in a mass grave near the town of Hammam al-Alil south of Mosul, Human Rights Watch said on Thursday.

A Reuters reporter visited the site of the mass grave, where residents said the ultra-hardline militants buried victims who had been shot or beheaded. The residents said they believed up to 200 people were killed in the weeks before Islamic State withdrew from the town.

Human Rights Watch said

some of the former policemen were separated from a group of about 2,000 people from nearby villages and towns who were forced to march alongside the militants last month as they retreated north to Mosul and the town of Tal Afar.

It quoted a labourer who said he saw Islamic State fighters drive four large trucks carrying 100 to 125 men, some of whom he recognised as former policemen, past an agricultural college close to the site which was to become the mass grave. Minutes later, he heard automatic gunfire and cries of distress, he said. The next night, on 29 Oc-

tober, a similar scene was repeated, with between 130 to 145 men, he told HRW.

Another witness, a resident of Hammam al-Alil, said he heard automatic gunfire in the area for approximately seven minutes, three nights in a row. "This is another piece of evidence of the horrific mass murder by ISIS (Islamic State) of former law enforcement officers in and around Mosul," said Joe Stork, deputy Middle East director at Human Rights Watch. "ISIS should be held accountable for these crimes against humanity."—Reuters

Minnesota officer charged with manslaughter in death of black motorist

ST. PAUL, (Minnesota) — A Minnesota police officer was charged with second-degree manslaughter on Wednesday for the fatal shooting of a black motorist that sparked outrage when the moments that followed were broadcast on social media.

St. Anthony police officer Jeronimo Yanez broke the law when he shot and killed Philando Castile in Falcon Heights, a St. Paul suburb, during a traffic stop, Ramsey County Attorney John Choi said.

Yanez's attorney could not be reached for comment but Dennis Flaherty, head of the Minnesota police union, said the police community was disappointed and expected Yanez to plead not guilty.

Choi said Yanez feared Castile was reaching for a gun he had just calmly said he had in his possession, moments before being shot seven times by the officer.

A moaning Castile's



Marques Armstrong chants in support of Philando Castile, who was fatally shot by Minneapolis area police during a traffic stop on Wednesday, at a 'Black Lives Matter' demonstration, in front of the Governor's Mansion in St. Paul, Minnesota, US, on 7 July 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

final words after being shot were, "I wasn't reaching for it," according to Choi, who said the conversation was picked up by a microphone Yanez was wearing.

Starting about 40 seconds after the shooting, Cas-

tile's girlfriend, Diamond Reynolds, who was sitting in the vehicle's passenger seat, streamed images of a bloody Castile on Facebook live, and the recording went viral on social media.

The incident began

shortly after 9 pm local time on 6 July, when Yanez pulled Castile over on suspicion of involvement of a robbery, Choi said. Castile had no involvement in the robbery, he added.

Castile, in a non-threat-

ening manner, told the officer about the firearm he was carrying, Choi said.

Yanez interrupted and replied, "OK," placed his hand on his gun, and then said, "OK, don't reach for it then."

Castile tried to respond but was interrupted by Yanez, who said, "Don't pull it out." Castile and Reynolds both responded he was not.

Yanez then screamed, "Don't pull it out," drew his own gun, and fired.

Another officer standing on the car's passenger side said he did not see Castile make any sudden movements and was surprised by the shots, Choi said.

When officers and paramedics were moving Castile, they found a 40-caliber semiautomatic handgun in his right front pocket that had a loaded magazine but no round in chamber.

At the hospital, Castile's wallet contained a driver's license and his permit to

carry a pistol.

"I cannot allow the death of a motorist who was lawfully carrying a firearm under these facts and circumstances to go unaccounted for," Choi said.

Before Yanez, no officer had been charged in more than 150 police-involved deaths in Minnesota since 2000, according to the *Star Tribune* newspaper.

If convicted of the manslaughter charge, Yanez could serve almost 5 years in prison.

Yanez was also charged with two felony counts of dangerous discharge of a firearm that endangered the safety of Reynolds and her four-year-old daughter, who was also in the car.

Asked why he did not charge Yanez with more serious offense, Choi said this was the "highest, most provable offense."

Choi said he met with Castile's family on Tuesday night and informed them of the charges.—*Reuters*

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES-Individual Consultants)

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar Agricultural Development Support Project (ADSP)
Credit No. : 5624 MM

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar is in the process of receiving funds from the World Bank toward the cost of the ADSP Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The Project Management Unit now invites expressions of interest from qualified candidates for the below positions. Interested consultants must provide their updated curriculum vitae, indicating personal and technical skills, qualifications and experience in similar assignments. In submitting their expressions of interest, consultants are kindly requested to indicate the positions they apply and the reference numbers stated below.

1. National Finance Officer (Ref # SC-15)
2. National Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist (Ref # SC-13)
3. National Environmental Safeguards Specialist (Ref # SC-11)

The Services are expected to be carried out over a period of 12 months with the possibility of extension depending on the performance. The location of work will be the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) Loans and International Development Association (IDA) Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers dated July 2014 ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with procedures set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information and a copy of the detailed Terms of Reference (TORs) can be obtained at the address below during working days from 10:00 to 15:00 hours.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail, or by Fax) not later than November 30, 2016.

Attn: U Tint Lwin, Director of Procurement

Department: Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation

Phone: +95-67 -4100 19, Fax: +95-67 -410102

Email : tlwin4.irr@gmail.com ; hatint2009@gmail.com

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"Non-metallic building materials; jointing compounds [building materials]; building boards, not of metal; building laths, not of metal; partitioning, not of metal; coving, not of metal; non-metallic ceilings; wall linings, not of metal; building paper; all included in this class" in class 19.

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WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange makes a speech from the balcony of the Ecuadorian Embassy, in central London, Britain, on 5 February 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Ecuador says Sweden should promise Assange will not be extradited

QUITO — Ecuador said on Wednesday that WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange should receive guarantees that he will not be extradited if he faces justice in Sweden after four years of living in the South American nation's embassy in London.

Assange, who enraged Washington by publishing a flood of secret US diplomatic cables, fled to the embassy for fear that Sweden could end up sending him on to the United States where he could face prison for leaking US secrets.

"If we can obtain guarantees that Mr. Assange will not face extradition to the third country,

I think it's fine for him to face Swedish justice — if there are charges, because are there still no charges," said Foreign Minister Guillaume Long in an interview with an Ecuadorian radio station.

Swedish Chief Prosecutor Ingrid Isgren spent several hours at the embassy on Tuesday where she posed questions through an Ecuadorian prosecutor, before leaving without making comment.

Assange, who has repeatedly denied the rape allegation, sought refuge in Ecuador's embassy in August 2012. He is wanted in Britain for breaching bail.—*Reuters*

Court rejects demand for flight suspension at US base in Okinawa

NAHA, (Japan) — The Naha District Court on Thursday ordered the Japanese government to pay around 2.46 billion yen (\$22.6 million) in damages to 3,395 residents due to aircraft noise from a key US air base in Okinawa Prefecture, but rejected the plaintiffs' demand for a halt to flights at the base.

Presiding Judge Tet-suya Fujikura of the court's Okinawa branch recognised the emotional distress and negative impacts on the health of residents around the Marine Corps Air Station Futenma caused by the aircraft noise that he says has disrupted sleep and people's daily lives.

Fujikura said the government "has left the problem unaddressed" without taking effective measures even though the noise from the Futenma base has been an issue since the 1970s.

The plaintiffs demanded a total of about 10 billion yen in damages.

It dismissed the plaintiffs' request to suspend flights with noise levels exceeding 40 decibels early in the morning and at night as well as 65 decibels at other



Lawyers representing those seeking a halt to flights at the US Marine Corps Air Station Futenma in Japan's southernmost island prefecture of Okinawa show banners proclaiming the content of a ruling by the Okinawa branch of the Naha District Court on 17 November 2016. While ordering the government to pay damages over aircraft noise around the base, the court rejected the demand for a flight halt. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

times, saying the Japanese government "is not in a position to regulate the operation of US military aircraft."

The plaintiffs said they plan to appeal to a higher court.

The ruling comes as the Japanese and US govern-

ments are seeking to move the Futenma base from a crowded residential area in Ginowan to the less-populated Henoko coastal area of Nago within Japan's southern island prefecture.

But the relocation plan has drawn opposition from the people of Okinawa,

home to the bulk of US military facilities in the country, as they want the Futenma base to be relocated outside the prefecture.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said the government's stance on the planned relocation remains "completely un-

changed" despite the ruling, calling the Henoko plan the only solution that balances national security concerns and the elimination of the risks at the current site.

"I understand that (the ruling) means the state's arguments did not gain the full understanding of the court," the government's top spokesman told a press conference. "The relevant government ministries and agencies will make arrangements to deal appropriately with (the issue) from here on," Suga said.

The central and Okinawa governments have been in legal battles after Tokyo filed a lawsuit against Okinawa as Gov. Takeshi Onaga, who was elected on an antibase relocation platform, revoked in October last year his predecessor's approval for landfill work required for the relocation plan.

The Naha branch of the Fukuoka High Court ruled in September the governor's decision was "illegal," prompting him to appeal to the Supreme Court.—Kyodo News

Bob Dylan says will not come to Stockholm for Nobel Prize ceremony: Swedish Academy

STOCKHOLM — Swedish Academy said on Wednesday that Bob Dylan has decided not to come to Stockholm to attend the Nobel Prize Ceremony.

The Academy said, in a personal letter from Bob Dylan, "he explained that due to pre-existing commitments, he is unable to travel to Stockholm in December and therefore will not attend the Nobel Prize Ceremony. He underscored, once again, that he feels very honoured indeed, wishing that he could receive the prize in person."

"That laureates decide not to come is unusual, to be sure, but not exceptional," the Academy said, adding that the prize "still belongs to Bob Dylan."—Xinhua

Correction Notice
In this Trademark cautionary notice for **NUTRILITE** published in this newspaper on 10 November 2016, on page 13, please read as 4/12541/2013 instead of 4/12542/2013.



A Mexican migrant talks to a family member through the border fence between Ciudad Juarez and El Paso, United States, after a bi-national Mass in support of migrants in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, on 15 February 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Mexico boosts support for its migrants in the US after Trump win

MEXICO CITY — Mexico's foreign ministry announced fresh steps on Wednesday to provide support to Mexican citizens living in the United States following the victory in last week's US presidential election by Donald Trump, who has promised to crack down on immigrants in the country illegally. The ministry said it was acting to help Mexicans avoid fraud and abuses in the United States. It said it would expand the availability of mobile consulate services to reach more migrants in their communities, establish a 24-hour telephone line for questions about immigration, and provide more appointments for migrants to get passports,

birth certificates and consular identification cards.

The ministry also said Mexico will "strengthen dialogue" with US state and local authorities to protect its citizens, and added that migrants in the United States should "avoid any conflict situation" and stay out of trouble with the law.

Trump, who takes office on 20 January, said in an interview with the CBS program "60 Minutes" that his administration would focus on deporting immigrants with criminal records. Trump said during the campaign he would deport the estimated 11 million immigrants in the United States illegally.—Reuters

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MV MALACCA STAR VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MALACCA STAR VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.11.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

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

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Japan anime film 'your name.' tops box offices in Hong Kong, Thailand



Japanese animation film director Makoto Shinkai (L) and RADWIMP singer Yojiro Noda appear in an event in Tokyo, 27 on October 2016. Shinkai's film "your name." was featured at the Tokyo International Film Festival from 25 October to 3 November. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

TOKYO — Having taken Japan by storm, the animated film "your name." continued on its soaring popularity to top the box offices in both Hong Kong and Thailand over the past weekend, the film's distributor Toho Co. said on Wednesday.

Makoto Shinkai's blockbuster love story opened 10 November in Thailand and the following day in Hong Kong. Meanwhile in Taiwan, where the film opened in October, its soaring box office revenues overtook the 1998 horror film "Ring" to become the highest-grossing Japanese film in Taiwan of all time, according to Toho.

The time-travel romance is slated to be released in a total of 89 countries and regions. It will

open in Australia and Britain in November, followed by China, France and Malaysia in December, as well as South Korea in January. The story depicts the strange body-swapping between Mitsuha, a high school girl living in the countryside and yearning for life outside, and Taki, a high school boy in Tokyo, in their dreams, as their fates become intertwined by the once-in-a-thousand-year fall of a comet.

Featuring beautiful cinematography and music by popular Japanese rock band RADWIMPS, the award-winning film surpassed 15 billion yen (\$138 million) in box office revenues by mid-October since its 26 August release in Japan, drawing 11.84 million people in just 52 days.—Kyodo News

SRK does not carry the baggage of being a star: Gauri Shinde



MUMBAI — Director Gauri Shinde, who has directed Shah Rukh Khan in her second film "Dear Zindagi", said initially she was enamoured by the superstar but discovered that he doesn't throw his weight around.

"We did meetings and readings together before we started shooting. The first day of shoot was like Oh My God both for me and Alia Bhatt. It strikes you this is Shah Rukh Khan and you become aware of his personality," Gauri told PTI.

"But because of the person he is, he doesn't come there with the baggage of being a star but he comes as an actor and puts in his best and helps all of us. He is so supportive. The first day went and it was stress free," she said.

When Gauri narrated the story of "Dear Zindagi" to the "My Name Is Khan" star he liked the idea and agreed to come on board.

Ask her if it was a immediate yes from SRK, she said, "Yes it was fortunately and luckily."

After getting Shah Rukh on board for the film Gauri did not alter the story or plot line of this film.

"He (Shah Rukh) is a director's dream. If he had anything to do (add or remove or change to the story) he would have done it early at the basic stage. We agreed on almost everything. We worked as a team and not thinking he is a super star." The 42-year-old director revealed that SRK never directed to make changes to the script. "He (Shah Rukh) never comes and tells you to change the script, he will never do that. If he feels he has to change certain things he will tell it politely, he will ask your permission. He is respectful of the boundaries of an actor and director. It shows trust and faith he has in the project."

While working on the film so closely with Khan, the "English Vinglish" helmer said she subconsciously learned the basic things of acting and filmmaking.—PTI

Prints and permits: graphics help bring Rowling's magical world to life

LONDON — On a table in a London studio, copies of "The New York Ghost" newspaper lie beside a pile of applications for wand permits. Nearby a "Witch's Friend" magazine teases winter fashion trends.

The items by graphic designers Miraphora Mina and Eduardo Lima are among the fantastical creations helping bring to life "Harry Potter" author J.K. Rowling's latest offering from her magical world of witches and wizards, movie "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them".

The duo, who met on the "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" set, worked on eight films in the hugely popular series, designing items like "The Daily Prophet" newspaper with moving pictures to the magically revealing "Marauder's Map".

Along with other creative teams from the "Harry Potter" films, they have returned with more intricate designs for spin-off "Fantastic Beasts" to help tell the new story of "magizoologist"

Newt Scamander.

The movie, set 70 years before the first "Harry Potter" books, unfolds in 1926 as Scamander, played by Oscar winner Eddie Redmayne, arrives in New York with a case of magical creatures.

"It was quite an organic transition for most people because quite a lot of the people who had worked on the 'Harry Potter' films stayed together for 'Fantastic Beasts'," Mina told Reuters in the graphic designers' MinaLima studio.

"The things that made it naturally easy for anyone creatively was that it was a new location, a specific period in time as opposed to a contemporary period referencing historical periods (like in 'Harry Potter') so having those markers...are actually kind of really good anchors to build on."

The duo came up with all sorts of graphic designs for the movie - from a poster for "The Blind Pig" speakeasy to the

Magical Congress of the United States of America's insignia.

"Newt's...passport, like all his little belongings and all the medicines labels he uses to treat the beasts, we had to do one by one," Lima said.

The designers start work six months before shooting with visual research and questions for

Rowling to get more information for items like Scamander's passport.

"We need to ask Jo those things like what's his birthday, where was he born, all those details that you might not see," Mina said. "We have to create the integrity of a piece." —Reuters



Graphic designers Miraphora Mina and Eduardo Lima pose during an interview with Reuters at the 'House of MinaLima' shop at Covent Garden in London, Britain, on 15 November 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Prince record label sues Jay Z's company for song streaming

LOS ANGELES — The record label for Prince has sued rap star Jay Z's entertainment company for copyright infringement, saying it illegally offered the late musician's songs on its music streaming service, according to court records.

The lawsuit filed in the United States District Court in Minnesota on Tuesday by NPG Records, claims Jay Z's Roc Nation illegally offered such Prince hits as "If I Was Your Girlfriend" and "1999" on its subscription-based streaming service, Tidal.

"Roc Nation, through its Tidal service, is exploiting many copyrighted Prince works," according to the lawsuit. While Tidal was authorized to offer some Prince songs to its customers, the service expanded the number around the

time of the musician's death on 7 June without approval from the Prince estate trust, it claims.

Roc Nation was not immediately available for comment on the lawsuit, which seeks undisclosed damages. A musical innovator, Prince notably blended elements of jazz, funk, R&B, disco and rock in a prolific career of more than 30 albums that have sold over 36 million copies in the United States alone since 1978. His hits included "Purple Rain," "When Doves Cry," and "Little Red Corvette."

He was also known as fiercely determined to maintain creative control over his music, famously changing his name to an unpronounceable symbol for several years during a bitter contract battle with Warner Bros.—Reuters



US musician Prince performs at the Hop Farm Festival near Paddock Wood, southern England in 2011. PHOTO: REUTERS

Centuries-old Ten Commandments tablet goes under hammer for \$850,000

DALLAS — A 1,500-year-old stone tablet with the earliest known chiseled inscription of the Ten Commandments was sold at a US auction on Wednesday for \$850,000.

The two-foot (61 cm) square slab of white marble that weighs about 115 pounds (50 kg) was sold in Beverly Hills, California, by Dallas-based Heritage Auctions to a buyer who not to be immediately identified.

The tablet was put up for sale by Rabbi Shaul Deutsch, founder of the Living Torah Museum, in Brooklyn, New York, with the stipulation that the buyer must put it on public display, the auction house said.

The tablet is chiseled with 20 lines of Samaritan script with principles that are fundamental to Judaism and Christianity. The inscription lists nine of the 10 commandments in the Book of Exodus, omitting “Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain” and replacing it with a rule for Samaritan worshippers, the auction house said.

It was probably chiseled during the late Roman or Byzantine era, between 300 and 500 A.D., and marked the entrance of an ancient synagogue that was likely destroyed by the



A stone tablet thought to be about 1,500 years old with a, worn-down chiseled inscription of the Ten Commandments is seen in this photo released in Dallas, Texas, US, on 21 October 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Romans, according to the auction house.

The tablet was discovered in 1913 during excavation for a railroad line near the modern city of Yavneh in Western Israel. Someone, possibly a construction worker, acquired it and set it in a courtyard where it remained until 1943 when it was acquired by an archeologist, who owned it until his death in 2000.

Deutsch acquired the tablet for temporary display through an agreement with the Israel Antiquities Authority and then bought it outright after a legal settlement, Heritage officials said. Deutsch said he wished to sell the tablet and other artifacts from his collection chronicling Jewish life and history back to antiquity to raise money for a makeover of his museum. He said he plans to trans-

form the museum with more hands-on exhibits to attract younger visitors. “The new owner is under obligation to display the tablet for the benefit of the public,” David Michaels, director of antiquities for Heritage Auctions, said in a statement.

Two phone bidders pushed the sale price up from an opening live bid of \$300,000, Heritage officials said.—*Reuters*

Millions of yen possibly withdrawn using fake UnionPay cards in Japan

TOKYO — At least several hundred million yen may have been withdrawn from bank ATMs in Japan using counterfeit Chinese UnionPay cards, a source at a major Japanese bank said on Thursday, with police having arrested four Taiwanese men in connection with the fraud over the past six months.

UnionPay cards are widely used among Chinese people to make purchases. Cash withdrawals using fake UnionPay cards have been reported at numerous Japanese banks, leading the police to suspect the involvement of an overseas crime ring.

Among the four arrested, Chen Cheng-hsien, 22, was arrested on suspicion of unlawfully withdrawing a total of 450,000 yen (\$4,100) by using three forged UnionPay cards at a bank ATM in Tokyo's Shinagawa Ward on 25 October. He has admitted to the allegation, the police said.

Two other men were

arrested in May and another man in July. All three, who are also 22 years old, have been indicted on charges including theft.

The four men came to Japan after being recruited in Taiwan to make cash withdrawals, the police said. When arrested, they had with them roughly 200 UnionPay cards that were fake or belonging to someone other than them.

They have told the police that a man with a supervisory role gave them the cards. Tracking the cards' use, the police have built cases for suspected fraudulent cash withdrawals worth 15.7 million yen so far. UnionPay is a bank card association established in 2002. Its cards have both credit and debit functions and can be used to withdraw money from cardholders' accounts at the ATMs of partnered financial institutions and make purchases at businesses that accept them.—*Kyodo News*

Pure gold ‘takoyaki’ dumpling maker on display in Osaka



Cooking of “takoyaki” dumpling is demonstrated with a 43.2 million yen pure gold hot plate at Takashimaya Co. department store in the western Japan city of Osaka on 17 November 2016. Takoyaki, ball-shaped flour dumplings filled with minced octopus and other ingredients, is one of the emblems of Osaka’s food culture. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

OSAKA — Gold products worth over 4 billion yen (\$36.82 million), including a pure gold “takoyaki” dumpling maker, were put on display Thursday at a Takashimaya department store in Osaka.

The exhibit through Monday showcases about

1,000 gold products, some of which are for sale, including the 43.2 million yen grill cooker for takoyaki, ball-shaped flour dumplings filled with minced octopus and other ingredients — one of the emblems of Osaka’s food culture.

The grill is 21 centimeters in diameter and weighs about 3 kilograms. It comes with golden toothpicks to flip and eat the dumplings with. Kensuke Kakiuchi, a 44-year-old takoyaki shop owner who offered a cooking demonstration using the grill, said it produced great dumplings with thinner outer layers than he can make with his own cooker.

Also on display is a 2-metre-tall figure of a phoenix gilded with some 5,000 gold leaf sheets, though it is not for sale.

The exhibit also showcases a pure gold rugby ball priced at 38.88 million yen, an oval gold coin with an image of Yukimura Sanada, legendary Japanese samurai warrior of the 17th century, sold for 205,200 yen, and Buddhist altar articles.—*Kyodo News*

Keyboard Days festival to open in Belgrade 18 November

BELGRADE — A concert of the LP Duo ensemble will open the Keyboard Days Festival at Belgrade’s Kolarac on 18 November.

Sonja Loncar and Andrija Pavlovic, who make up the LP Duo, will perform pieces by contempo-

rary composers as well as original music.

The Quantum music project, which will be the main topic of this year’s festival, will be presented.

Vlatko Vedral and Dragan Nikolic will speak about the project, quantum

physics and quantum music as a new genre, being the leaders of a team tasked with developing a hybrid piano — a new “quantum” instrument. Vlatko Vedral is the professor of quantum physics at the Oxford University and Serbia’s most

famous quantum physicist.

Before the LP Duo concert, visitors will have the chance to see the hybrid piano, which is a combination of an acoustic piano and an analog and digital synthesizer, with professional guidance. — *Tanjug*

mitv Myanmar International

(18-11-2016 07:00am ~ 19-11-2016 07:00am) MST

Today Fresh

07:26	Am	Discovering Tribes “Rawang” (Part-1)
07:51	Am	Colourful Threads
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	Strolling Along A Memory Link — U Pein Bridge
08:44	Am	Karaweik Palace-A Symbol of Glorious Myanma Culture
09:03	Am	News
09:25	Am	News Extra — Singapore-Myanmar Bilateral Ties
09:52	Am	Sagaing: Gold Leaf
10:03	Am	News

10:25	Am	The Green Corner (Ep-2)
10:36	Am	Newspaper Flower
10:50	Am	A Way of Life: Karate-do
		Sagaing: Youth Leader

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

Prime Time

07:03	Pm	News
07:27	Pm	Travelogue to the coastal region (Myeik — Kawthoung) (Part-2)
07:43	Pm	Myanmar Traditional Thatched Roofs: IN-LEAF
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	The Writer: Chit Oo Nyo (Part - I)
08:51	Pm	Myanmar Masterclass: Artist Khin Maung Zaw

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

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

Murray wobbles but hangs on to beat Nishikori in thriller

LONDON — Andy Murray has already scaled the tennis summit but Japan's Kei Nishikori did his best to loosen his footing before falling in a three-hour thriller at the ATP World Tour Finals on Wednesday.

Home favourite Murray's insatiable will power allowed him to prevail in a brutal encounter 6-7(9), 6-4, 6-4, keeping him on course for his first title at the year-end.

Should he achieve that in his eighth attempt it would guarantee the 29-year-old end the year as world number one ahead of Novak Djokovic who would steal back the crown if he manages a fifth straight title at the O2 Arena.

The path will be a rocky one though if Wednesday's cliff-hanger — the longest match in the event's seven-year residence in London — is anything to go by.

Misfiring Murray looked in trouble when Nishikori edged a 20-point tiebreak to win an 85-minute opening set.

But he clawed his way back to claim a 21st consecutive victory in three hours and 20 minutes.

It avenged his five-set defeat at the hands of Nishikori in the US Open quarter-finals — from which he has since embarked on the run that snapped Djokovic's 122-week hold on power.

"I wasn't able to dictate many of the points," Murray



Great Britain's Andy Murray and Japan's Kei Nishikori shake hands after their round robin match during Barclays ATP World Tour Finals at O2 Arena, London, on 16 November 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

said. "More so in the third set. But not in the first couple. I was having to run, fight, get as many balls back as I could."

"I eventually got over the line. These are the sort of matches you work so hard for."

With two wins from two, Murray would have been assured a semi-final berth had Marin Cilic beaten Stan Wawrinka in the later group match but Wawrinka recovered from his drubbing by Nishikori to win 7-6(3), 7-6(3).

Murray will now face US Open champion Wawrinka on Friday knowing anything but a straight-sets defeat would suffice.

"Hopefully there will be another three days to this season and I'll do my best to get through them," Murray said.

Murray's game was out of kilter throughout a first set in which Nishikori's punchy groundstrokes led the Scot a merry dance. But he stubbornly kept

his nose in front.

He saved break points in the third, fifth and 11th games, aimed verbal volleys at coach Ivan Lendl and at one point the wedding ring he ties to a lace of his military style black shoes broke loose and threatened to roll away.

It was that kind of day and Murray scolded himself for wasting a set point at 6-5 on the Nishikori serve.

He then found himself 6-3

down in a tiebreak prompting a passage of play that had the crowd on the edge of their seats.

Nishikori missed a forehand by a whisker on his first set point and Murray tucked away a forehand to save a second. At 6-5 Nishikori, with acres of blue court gaping, chose wrong on an easy volley and Murray guessed right, clawing the ball past the Japanese from almost the front row of seats.

A dumbfounded Nishikori then saved two set points — at 6-7 and 8-9 — the second when he needed two smashes to get the ball past a clambering Murray. He then converted his fifth set point when Murray yanked a forehand wide.

Murray promptly broke at the start of the second set but let his lead slip when Nishikori fizzed a backhand pass to break for 4-4. Murray was reeling and Nishikori was scented victory.

But Murray won a couple of lung-burning rallies to poach another break then held firm to take the second set.

Murray drew first blood in the third thanks to a netcord, then saved yet more break points — he fought off 9 from 11 in the match — in the next game before forging 5-1 ahead. Even then there was a twist as Nishikori mounted one last assault to reel off three games before Murray sealed victory.—Reuters

Wenger eyes golden chance to put one over Mourinho

LONDON — Arsene Wenger has probably never had a better chance of finally beating a Jose Mourinho side than when Arsenal visit Old Trafford on Saturday to face a Manchester United team in underwhelming form and ravaged by injuries and suspensions.

The Frenchman has never trumped Mourinho in 13 competitive games since they first clashed in 2004 and he has often been the loser off the pitch as well, with Mourinho taunting him about Arsenal's lack of title success over the past decade.

But Arsenal have a good opportunity to register their first Premier League win at Old Trafford since 2006 when they face a United team that could be without six players, including their first-choice defence.

Striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic is suspended and centre halves Eric Bailly and Chris Smalling are injured along with right back Antonio Valencia who is recovering from surgery on a broken arm.

There are also doubts about



PHOTO: REUTERS

midfielder Marouane Fellaini and full back Luke Shaw as Mourinho grapples with the most serious injury crisis of his time at United.

Ibrahimovic's absence will give Marcus Rashford the chance to move to his natural position as central striker for the first of four straight United home games in all competitions.

The Old Trafford faithful will be looking for signs that Mourinho is making progress despite a disappointing start to his reign which has left them sixth in the table, six points behind fourth-placed Arsenal and eight adrift of leaders Liverpool.

Wenger's main injury doubt cleared up on Tuesday when forward Alexis Sanchez, whom he had urged to miss Chile's World Cup qualifier with Uruguay after tweaking a hamstring, showed no ill-effects after scoring twice in a 3-1 comeback win.

For once, Arsenal, who had 11 other players on full international duty last week, will be confident of winning on a ground where Wenger has often emerged an angry second best, most notably in 2011 when they were humiliated 8-2.

Liverpool travel to Southampton with a major doubt over their former Saints midfielder Adam Lallana, who suffered a groin injury after scoring a penalty for England in their 2-2 friendly draw with Spain on Tuesday.—Reuters

Price of watching Premier League falling — BBC study

LONDON — The cost of watching Premier League football has fallen according to a BBC survey, which found that more than two thirds of ticket prices have been either cut or frozen this season.

The BBC's Price of Football survey found that an away ticket in the second tier Championship can now be more expensive than for a Premier League match, with top-flight clubs having capped prices for visiting fans at 30 pounds (\$37.32).

"Clubs are listening to their fans and working hard to make sure that Premier League football is accessible as well as competitive and compelling," the Premier League said in a statement.

The fall in ticket prices comes in the first season of the Premier League's bumper new 8 billion pounds global television rights deal.

The survey found that the average cost of the cheapest adult

home Premier League ticket has decreased by six per cent (from 30.95 pounds to 29.05), while a cap of 30 pounds on away tickets has led to the average cost of the most expensive away ticket dropping 37 per cent (from 46.44 pounds to 29.44).

This is lower than the average cost of the most expensive away ticket in the Championship (31.57 pounds).

Malcolm Clarke, chairman of the Football Supporters' Federation, however, suggested prices could still be cut further and not harm clubs financially.

"On their current 8.3 billion pounds deal, the Premier League could afford to let every single fan in free for every game and still have as much money as they had under the previous deal," he was quoted as saying by the BBC.

"That gives you an idea of the scale of the amount of money they have got."—Reuters