

## Second draft single text to be finalized in June: UPWC-NCCT meeting

By Ye Myint

Following three days of talks between the Union Peace-Making Work Committee-UPWC and the Nationwide Ceasefire Coordination Meeting-NCCT, a joint statement released on Friday stated that a single text document for a nationwide ceasefire agreement has been approved with a second draft document set to be finalized in June.

Both sides stressed in the joint statement that "great strides are being made in pursuit of political dialogue" with the nationwide ceasefire agreement to be signed as soon as the text is finalized.

According to the statement, the second draft single text document was approved at the meeting on Friday, with the next meeting to be held at Myanmar Peace Centre in Yangon in June.

In his concluding speech at the final day of the meeting, Union Minister U Aung Min, UPWC Vice-Chairman, vowed to support and provide necessary assistance to a planned summit of leaders of ethnic



Participants to UPWC-NCCT meeting party pose for documentary photo after approving second draft single text for realization of nationwide ceasefire.—PHOTO: YE MYINT

armed groups. He also said that the coordination meeting can be declared a constructive one as full and frank discussions were held on approving the second draft.

During a media briefing, Pado Saw Kwe Htoo Win, NCCT's deputy leader (1), and U Hla Maung Shwe of MPC confirmed that more than half of the 45 points on which both sides had focused during the meeting were approved,

with a consensus on the remaining points expected to be reached at the next meeting. The officials expressed their belief that participants to the next meeting will be able to translate the third draft into a final one, paving the way to sign a ceasefire agreement and hold political dialogue.

According to Pado Saw Kwe Htoo Win, a conference by ethnic armed groups will be held before the next UPWC-NCCT

meeting.

Union Minister Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win, one of the representatives from the Armed Forces, called on all national ethnic leaders to make more efforts for sooner completion of the process. In an interview with local reporters, Dr Salai Hlyan Hmon Sar Khaung said the NCCT explained the meaning of a genuine federal union based on democracy, equality and self-determination to the UPWC at the

meeting, clearly stating that self-rule proposed by ethnic groups is not a secession attempt. Both sides at the meeting agreed the whole process will continue outside Hluttaw, he added.

The UPWC-NCCT meeting on drafting the text was held at Myanmar Peace Centre in Yangon and began Wednesday, with officials saying it helped to "build more mutual understanding between the government and ethnic armed groups."

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### Bay Bulletin

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—According to the observations at 12:30 hrs MST on Friday, the depression over East Central Bay of Bengal has moved to Southwestwards and downgraded into a low pressure area over Central Bay of Bengal.

Under the influence of the low pressure, squalls with rough sea are likely at times Deltaic, off and along Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach 40 m.p.h, the Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced.—MNA

## Feeling insecure is a normal life for most of Myanmar workers in Thailand

### Interview with Project Director of Migrant Worker Rights Network

By Aung Khin

Thailand Army on Thursday announced coups d'état after the six months of political turmoil in the country. Although the army chief said that his National Peace and Order Maintaining Council (NPOMC) will restore the stability and quickly bring the situation back to normal, the military takeover has some impacts on migrant workers. Under this circumstance, The New Light of Myanmar has made interview with Ko Kyaw Zaw Linn, the project director of Migrant Worker Rights Network (M.W.R.N) which is located in Samut Sakhon Prov-



Ko Kyaw Zaw Linn, project director of Migrant Worker Rights Network (M.W.R.N)

ince, Thailand, regarding the situation of Myanmar workers there.

**NLM:** What will the military coup have impact on Myanmar migrant workers?

**KZL:** Myanmar migrant workers are working across Thailand, and they are encountering different impacts. They are experiencing tighter security in Bangkok and Chiang Mai

where many of them are working at restaurants and night markets. Although they have not suffered considerable losses at the moment, they could not avoid a certain losses in the long-run. So, we will have to wait and see the situation.

**NLM:** As they can work only between 5 am and 10 pm, will their daily wages decline due to the lack of overtime fees?

**KZL:** Most of the Myanmar workers in Thailand are factory workers. The working time of day-shift workers is from 8 a.m to 5 p.m. They can work about 2 hours for overtime. However, those who are working at the night markets will have to change their working

hours. If the political crisis lasted a certain months, the production of Thailand would decline and Myanmar workers will mostly suffer the consequences.

**NLM:** Is there any possibility of returning home for migrant workers if the coup lasted for months?

**KZL:** It is expected that Myanmar workers in Thailand will not go back home within one year. Thailand could form a civilian government within one year after the coup. Every Thai incumbent government never let the country's economy decline for a long time. They seriously consider about it. So, the political situation will not worsen too much. Moreover, My-

anmar workers in Thailand have not gone back home although they have some difficulties here as it is not easy for them to find better jobs in their country.

**NLM:** Do Myanmar workers feel insecure under this situation, especially for undocumented ones?

**KZL:** Feeling insecure is a normal life for most of the Myanmar workers in Thailand. And they will not regard this situation as a major threat to them. But just to live more cautiously at present.

**NLM:** Has any announcement of notification made by Thai employers for migrant workers?

**KZL:** Yes, the employers made the notification of prevailing situation all the time. Even Thai workers or shopkeepers alert the changing situation to Myanmar workers.

## 8<sup>th</sup> ALMM+3 focuses on enhancement of competitive labour force



Union Minister U Aye Myint poses for documentary photo with ASEAN labour ministers.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—The 8<sup>th</sup> ASEAN+3 Labour Ministers' Meeting took place at Myanmar In-

## Public urged to participate in campaign for school enrollment

YANGON, 23 May—Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe urged all to participate in the campaign for the enrollment of all school-aged children at the ceremony to assign duty for the campaign held at No (2) Basic Education High School in Latha Township this morning.

The chief minister said cooperation between the ministry of education and region/state government for the first phase of national education campaign including movements for literacy and nurturing all-round talented students,

outstanding Red Cross members and scouts was able to attract the broader participation of the public in the campaign. The chief minister said that the purpose of the ceremony was to encourage the public to participate in the second phase of the campaign which focused on enrollment of all school-aged children, informal education for children who fail to enroll for various reasons, arrangements for occupation subjects for middle and high school students and encouraging monastic education.—MNA

ternational Convention Centre-MICC in Nay Pyi Taw on Friday.

Officials of the ASEAN

partnership countries discussed progress of the cooperation under frameworks of ASEAN Plus Three cooperation. They exchanged views on exchange views on strategies and initiatives to strengthen the cooperation particularly relating to the enhancement of competitive labour force for harmonious, progressive and prosperous workplace and topics that emerged from the ASEAN+3 senior labour officers' meeting, approved the joint communiqué of the 8<sup>th</sup> ASEAN+3 Labour Ministers' Meeting, designated the schedules for the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN+3 Labour Ministers' Meeting and discussed compilation of the minute of the 8<sup>th</sup> ASEAN+3 Labour Ministers' Meeting.—MNA

## Capital city getting ready for Gems Emporium

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—The Central Committee for the 51<sup>st</sup> Myanmar Gems Emporium held its first meeting at Mani Yadana Jade Hall here on Friday afternoon, sources said.

Addressing the meeting, Patron of the Central Committee and Union Minister Dr Myint Aung urged that work committees should all strive to make the event more impressive and more successful by reviewing the strengths and weaknesses of the previous exhibitions, as the success of the

gems emporium relates to the prestige, politics and economy of the country.

He also pointed out the need to balance demand and sale, noting that gems are by nature irreversible once cut.

Work committees and gems merchants gave reports on preparatory measures being taken for the exhibition and difficulties encountered. The 51<sup>st</sup> Myanmar Gems Emporium is scheduled to be staged from 24 June to 6 July at Mani Yadana Jade Hall.

MNA

## Journey Wukong Character visits Myanmar



West" Mr Lia Xiao Ling Tong met with his audience at Sky Star Hotel in Tamway in Yangon on Thursday.

At the event, the Chinese actor made a cash donation and accepted a painting as a gift and a certificate, presented by Myanmar-China Friendship Association Chairman U Sein Win Aung.

"It took about 17 years to produce the film "Journey to the West", the Chinese said. He expressed his hope for producing another film with participation of Myanmar film stars.

It is learnt that the film Journey to the West was broadcast for three thousand times at home and abroad. In the past, the film was broadcast through MRTV. But now, it is being broadcast through Channel-9 of Sky Net as of 12 May.—MNA

## Myanmar stock exchange plan delayed

A Japanese plan to help open a stock exchange in Myanmar in October 2015 is stalling due to difficulty recruiting suitable personnel and soliciting companies with potential to list on the market.

Among Japanese securities companies, Daiwa Securities Co pioneered an attempt to develop a stock market in Myanmar by leading its affiliate Daiwa Institute of Research to sign a relevant memorandum with the Myanmar government in 1993. In three years, the institute founded a joint securities company with a Myanmar state-run bank in that country.

In 2010, the Tokyo Stock Exchange joined Daiwa to prepare for opening the stock exchange in Myanmar.

"Myanmar has great

potential," said Ryota Sugishita, who is in charge of Asian business development at the institute, citing prosperous farming and diligent people in that country.

Myanmar has accelerated its democratization since its shift to civilian rule in 2011 and is called the last Asian frontier because of its large population, above 60 million, and cheap labour costs.

Myanmar has already enacted a securities and exchange law in cooperation with Japan's Finance Ministry. The Myanmar government is set to create a securities and exchange commission by this summer before launching the stock exchange next year. But personnel procurement is unlikely to make smooth progress, another Daiwa official said.

Daiwa has trained

mid-career government officials since around 2011, while the Japanese Financial Services Agency has dispatched officials to Myanmar.

"But the trained officials may not necessarily take jobs at the planned stock exchange," the Daiwa official said, noting that workers in Myanmar predominantly view government jobs as better than private-sector jobs, including those at the exchange.

In addition to the personnel procurement problem, stock exchange planners face a challenge to develop a computerised trading system.

Another tough problem is how to motivate Myanmar companies to list on the stock exchange.

South Korea helped Laos and Cambodia open stock exchanges in 2011 and 2012. But only a few

companies are listed each on these exchanges now.

Companies that go public on a stock exchange must disclose their financial details. "Many companies choose to remain private rather than becoming transparent to go public," a stock market source said.

Daiwa has proposed a system for listed companies to enjoy some tax benefits.

The Japanese side is willing to help Myanmar open the stock exchange even while shouldering relevant costs in a bid to allow Japanese companies to expand into that country more easily. "It may be easier for Japanese companies to expand into foreign markets with legal and administrative systems close to those in Japan," a senior FSA official said. "It's a chance for us to share Asian energy."—Kyodo

**Famous Chinese Mr Lia Xiao Ling Tong meets with his audience at Sky Star Hotel.**—MNA

YANGON, 23 May — Famous Chinese actor of the TV play "Journey to the



Members of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association Ma Soe Soe Than, Ma Yin Kay Khaing, Ma Hnin Htut Swe and Ma May Hnin Nu seen at Yangon International Airport on 21 May before departure for Malaysia to attend Malaysia International Youth Exchange 2014 (MIYE 2014) in Kuala Lumpur of Malaysia from 21 to 26 May.—MNA



## NATIONAL

## Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets Chinese guests to discuss ASEAN affairs

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham met a Chinese delegation led by Mr. Ma Mingqiang, the Secretary-General of ASEAN-China Centre on Friday at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw to discuss ASEAN affairs, Myanmar-China culture exchange and issues on broadcasting.

Also present at the call was Chinese actor Mr. Zhang Jinlai/ Liu Xiao Ling Tong who is famous for his role of Monkey King in the film "Journey to the West".—MNA

**Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham holds talks with Mr. Ma Mingqiang, Secretary-General of ASEAN-China Centre and party.**—MNA



## U Nyan Tun says economic growth comes with visible, invisible effects



**Vice-President U Nyan Tun delivers speech at 23<sup>rd</sup> World Economic Forum on East Asia.**—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—Vice-President U Nyan Tun of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar delivered an address at the 23<sup>rd</sup> World Economic Forum on East Asia, which started on Thursday at Shangri-La Hotel in Metro Manila, the Philippines, media reports said.

The economic forum drew leaders of ASEAN countries, ministers, heads and CEOs of companies, and specialists from various fields.

Mr Klaus started the forum with an address. President of the host country Mr Benigno Aquino, Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Vietnamese Prime Minister Mr Nguyen Tan Dung also addressed the forum.

In his speech, Vice-President U Nyan Tun said economic development makes tangible and intangible impact on the social environment, noting that

development projects have caused people to move their places and that industrial waste clearly affects the environment.

Economically-emerging countries have come to accept the essentials of sustainable development, which he noted is easier to talk about than to do. He continued economic development brings with it environmental setbacks, triggering inequality in social development.

He stressed an effective poverty reduction strategy can help accelerate economic development as well as shrink inequality, adding that his country has prioritized rural development and poverty reduction since practising the open market policy in 2011.

He thanked foreign and local social organizations for their assistance in the process.

Some countries in the region have developed to

a certain level but still find themselves stuck in the fight against inequality, he stated, pointing out the need to change the operation systems but with great care as some of the changes prove to be sensitive.

He pledged his willingness to cooperate with anyone interested in the development of his country.

Vice-President U Nyan Tun, together with ASEAN heads of State, attended a

dinner hosted by the Philippine president.—MNA

## Two Chinese navy vessels call at Thilawa

YANGON, 23 May—Two Chinese naval vessels carrying 721 crew members called at the Myanmar International Terminals Thilawa (MITT) in Yangon on Friday morning.

The two vessels, Zheng He and Wei Fang, are on a goodwill visit, and are spending five days until 27 May in Myanmar.—MNA

## Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission

Nay Pyi Taw

**Announcement No. 16/2014**

10<sup>th</sup> Waning of Kason, 1376 ME

(23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2014)

## One representative of Armed Forces substituted

According to a request made in accordance with Section 33 of the Upper House Election Law to substitute one representative of the Armed Forces who is parliamentarian, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted the following one Upper House of representative under the Notification No. 23/2012 of the commission dated 22-4-2012.

The Upper House representative to be substituted was nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the first multi-party general election held on 7 November 2010.

(1) BC 24192 Lt-Col Zaw Than Htike BC 26148 Lt-Col Kyaw San Oo

By Order,  
(Tin Tun)  
Secretary

Union Election Commission

## Humanitarian aid of UN, INGOs to IDPs discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—The coordination of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement with the United Nations and INGOs to provide humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Kachin State was the main topic at the meeting between the Min-

istry and the UN delegation on Friday.

During the meeting at the Ministry in Nay Pyi Taw, Union Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin and Mr. Mark Edward Cutts, Head of Office of United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

(UNOCHA), also discussed the action of Myanmar humanitarian strategic response plan in 2014 and Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator Ms. Kyung Wha Kang's official trip to Myanmar.

MNA



**Union Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin meets Mr. Mark Edward Cutts, Head of Office of UNOCHA.**—MNA

## Unlicensed motorcycles legalized in Kyaukpadaung



KYAUKPADAUNG, 23 May—Officials of Directorate of Road Transport in Myingyan District issued licences to motorcycles without licences

through one-stop service to the locals at No 2 Basic Education High School in Kyaukpadaung of Myingyan District in Mandalay Region on 19 May.

The combine team comprising personnel of Directorate of Road Transport, Customs Department, Myanmar Insurance and Myanmar Economic Bank gave issuance of licence for the motorbikes to the people with the assistance of Township General Administration Department, Township Bus Line Control Committee and Myanmar Police Force from 19 to 23 May.

*Ko Nay (Kyaukpadaung)*

## District officials focus on decline in traffic accidents

MYAWADY, 23 May—A coordination meeting on reduction of traffic accident was held at the hall of Transport Planning Department in Myawady of Kayin State on Friday.

District level officials discussed supervision, inspection and taking action in line with the road transport and inland water transport.

In-charge of District Myanmar Insurance Daw May Thet Mon explained insurance services for all.

Township level officials and responsible persons of bus lines participated in the discussions.



The meeting was aimed at conducting management for necessary policies in transport and road-

side safety.

*Thuzar (Myawady Town)*

## Locals discuss poor road transport in Mohnyin Township at mass rally



MOHNYIN, 23 May—Maintenance of the road section of Shwebo-Myitkyina Road is very slow, and especially the 22 miles long Mohnyin-Hopin section takes two hours due to poor transport, said U Tin Shwe of Hopin at the mass rally at the office of Mohnyin Township Hlutta-

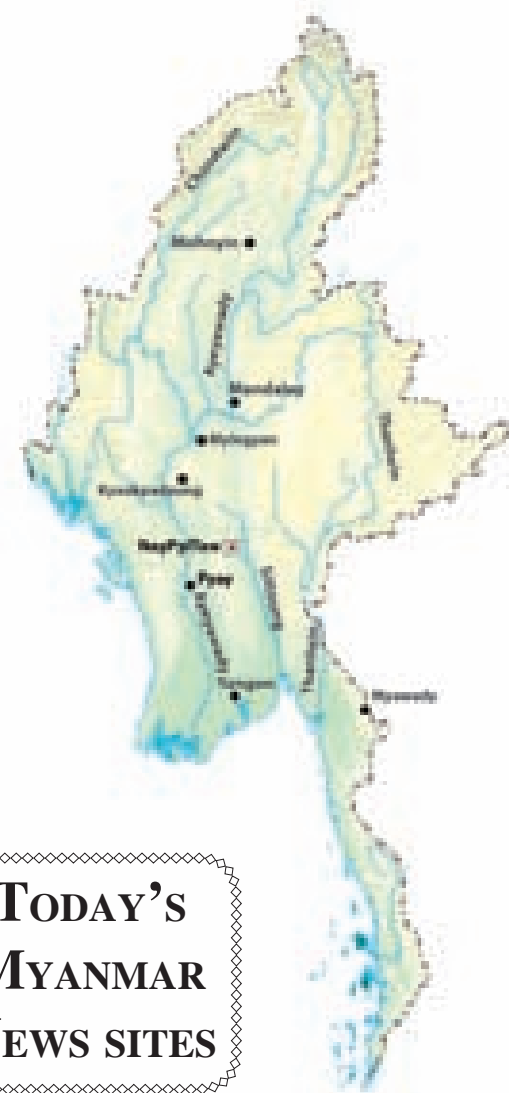
taw Representative on 20 May.

The quality of road is gradually declining due to lack of systematic maintenance. Although the government has allotted millions of kyats as fund for construction of the road, the local people cannot see transparency, respon-

sibility and accountability for such tasks, he added.

At the ceremony, local people from 46 wards and villages in Hopin and Mohnyin Township discussed regional development tasks to be submitted to the 10<sup>th</sup> regular session of the first Hluttaw.

Lower House MP U Kyaw Soe Lay explained that he will gather the wishes of the local people to the Lower House and some matters will be coordinated with departments concerned.—NLM-001



## TODAY'S MYANMAR NEWS SITES

## Timely delivery of newspapers to villages discussed

MYINGYAN, 23 May—Head of Mandalay Region Information and Public Relations Department U Kyaw Than Tun and Deputy Chief Editor U Nyunt Zaw of Mandalay Sub-Printing House held a talk at Myingyan Township

IPRD of Mandalay Region on 20 May to discuss delivery of newspapers to the readers and subscribers in time.

They focused on rising subscribers, timely delivery of dailies donated by wellwishers to villages.

While in Myingyan, Natogyi, Taungtha and Ngazun Townships, they held similar discussions with locals and officials.

*Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)*

dent, Maung Kyaw Zin Hein, son of SIP Thant Zin, spoke words of thanks.

NLM-017

## Cash assistance provided for offspring of police

PYAY, 23 May—A ceremony to provide cash assistance for offspring of police was held at Nawin police avenue in Pyay of Bago Region on 20 May afternoon.

Commander of Pyay

District Police Force Police Lt-Col Nay Win gave cash assistance for the students who will attend the basic education school and universities in 2014-15 academic year.

On behalf of the stu-





## LOCAL NEWS

MYINGYAN, 23 May—The prize presentation for Buddhist culture course took place at the Dhammayon in Minkyaung monastery in Myingyan of Mandalay Region on 21 May.

Officials presented prizes to K 50,000 to the first prize winner, K 30,000 to the second, K 20,000 to the third and K 10,000 each to seven distinction winners. They offered alms to Theingon Sayadaw who gave lectures to the trainees. A total of 1867 trainees from 31 exam centres passed 639 trainees with distinctions and 316 other trainees, totally 955.—Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

### Outstanding trainees awarded in Buddhist culture course



### Tax laws, tax law amendment clarified in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 23 May—Internal Revenue Department in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay Region made a clarification on tax law and tax law amendment of the Union at the Zaygyo Hotel (Mandalay) in Mandalay on 21 May.

Head of Township Internal Revenue Department U Aung Moe said that the tax law of the Union for 2014 was enacted for creating the equality among the taxpayers and removing their burdens according to the Lower House Law No

20 dated 28 March 2014. The law amending the income tax was enacted as Lower House Law No 15 on 24 March and it came into force as of 2014-15 fiscal year.

The clarification was aimed at creating exemption for taxpayers and reducing tax rate in line with the prescribed laws, he added.

It was attended by township level authorities and staff, taxpayers and people.—Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)

### MPF, EU hold talks on information and public service



NAY PYI TAW, 23 May—The workshop on information and public service took place at Thinhaga Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on Thursday, with an address by Vice-Chief of Myanmar Police Force Police Brig-

Gen Thein Oo. Chief of Police Staff Police Brig-Gen Win Khaung, senior police officers, Component Leader of Media and Civil Society of European Union Ms Karin Deckenbach and Ms

Mechthild Henneke together with trainees discussed role of public relations in modern society, vision of the public relations, public relations, information and interview subjects.

Police Information

### Written test held for daily wage primary teachers

TATKON, 23 May—The written test for daily wage teachers (primary assistance teachers) was held on Friday for the second time at Nay Pyi Taw Education Director's Office of No 2 Department of Basic Education Department for



2014-15 academic year.

A total of 448 candidates of 474 took the examination, and 26 were absent, said the headmistress of No

2 Basic Education High School who was supervisor of the exam centre.

The result of the examination will be posted at the

board of the BEHS No 1 on 28 May.

The personal test will be held on 29 May.

Township IPRD

### Self-reliant school upgraded to Basic Education Primary School

NYAUNGLEBIN, 23 May—A ceremony to donate cash to the fund for upgrading of school was held at self-reliant Basic Education Primary School in Kyachaung Village of Nyaunglebin Township, Bago Region, on Thursday.

Wellwisher U Than Tun-Daw Aye Aye Than family of Kyachaung Village donated the new one-storey building worth K 30 million to the school.

Lower House MP U Soe Myint and officials



together with wellwisher opened the new school building. It is aimed at upgrading the self-reliant school to become BEPS.

The school building is 90 feet long and 30 feet wide to admit the students conveniently.

Nay Lin (Nyaunglebin)



People from Myawady stand in a queue to apply passports at the Myanmar-Thai border on 23-5-2014.

THUZAR (MYAWADY TOWN)



Trucks loaded with official imports from Thailand cross Myawady-Mae Sot friendship bridge between Myanmar and Thai border on 23-5-2014.

THUZAR (MYAWADY TOWN)

## Russia plans to build up to eight new nuclear reactors in Iran

Moscow, 23 May — Russia plans to sign a contract with Iran this year to build two more nuclear reactors at its Bushehr power plant as part of a broader deal for up to eight reactors in the Islamic state, a source close to the negotiations told *Reuters* on Thursday.

It was not immediately clear how this might affect

six global powers' talks with Iran addressing disputed aspects of its nuclear programme. Iran has resisted demands for cuts in its uranium enrichment capacity, pointing to plans for a future network of nuclear power stations.

Western powers want any lasting agreement with Iran to put to rest suspicions that it could develop

nuclear weapons-making ability through enrichment. Iran denies any such intent.

The talks ended last week with little progress; they are to resume in Vienna in June. Russia, one of the six powers, built Iran's only operating nuclear power reactor, at Bushehr.

"Russia and Iran may sign an intergovernmental agreement this year on

building from four to eight nuclear reactors, and, under the deal, the contract for the construction of the first two reactors as additions to Bushehr," the source said.

Russian state nuclear corporation Rosatom said earlier it was in talks with Iran on the potential construction of more reactors there but revealed no

details. Rosatom officials could not immediately be reached for comment on Thursday.

Longstanding Western fears that the Bushehr project could yield spent fuel of use in nuclear weapons — something it denies it is seeking to do — receded after Iran promised to send the material back to Russia.

Moscow voted for four rounds of UN Security Council sanctions against Iran over its contested nuclear activity but has sharply criticised additional measures imposed by the United States and European Union, calling them a hindrance to diplomacy in search of a permanent settlement with Teheran.

*Reuters*

## Bangladesh may not seek UNSC nonpermanent seat next year

DHAKA, 23 May — Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Thursday suggested that Bangladesh would not seek a seat on the UN Security Council as a nonpermanent member next year as Japan plans to run in an election for the 2016-2017 term.

"Japan is our tested friend and we have a wonderful relationship, and during my visit to Japan and after discussions with the Japanese prime minister, Bangladesh will take its decision," Hasina said ahead of her four-day visit to Japan from Sunday.

"We always value friendship and for friends Bangladesh can do any sacrifice, but it depends on the outcome of the discussions with Prime Minister (Shinzo) Abe," she told Japanese media about the UN council issue at her official residence in the capital Dhaka.

Hasina is expected to hold talks with Abe on Monday, with an audience with Emperor Akihito also scheduled during her stay. In March, Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida invited Hasina to visit Japan during his trip to Dhaka.

Hasina also expressed a desire to boost economic ties with Japan and a readiness to assist Japanese firms investing in Bangladesh, while predicting the country's economic growth will rise to 8 percent by 2021 and to 10 percent thereafter.

Hasina said Bangladesh has selected "some areas" for investment "where Japan will get first priority." She expressed hopes for investment by Japanese businesses particularly in port facilities and such sectors as energy, gas exploration, garments, machine tools and information technology. — *Kyodo News*

## UN Security Council committee blacklists Nigeria's Boko Haram

UNITED NATIONS, 23 May — The UN Security Council committee on al-Qaeda sanctions blacklisted Nigeria's Islamist militant group Boko Haram on Thursday after the insurgents kidnapped hundreds of schoolgirls, diplomats said.

Nigeria, which until recently had been reluctant to seek international help to combat Boko Haram, requested earlier this week the group be sanctioned. As a result, it is now subject to an international asset freeze, travel ban and arms embargo.

"What will the practical impact of that be? Hard to say but it's an essential step we had to take," said Australian UN Ambassador Gary Quinlan, al-Qaeda sanctions committee chair, adding that the aim was to "dry up support" for the group. "We will work to try and make sure that anybody supplying any material assistance to Boko Haram — whether funding or arms — will in fact be



*The Abuja wing of the "Bring Back Our Girls" protest group prepare to march to the presidential villa to deliver a protest letter to Nigeria's President Goodluck Jonathan in Abuja, calling for the release of the Nigerian schoolgirls in Chibok who were kidnapped by Islamist militant group Boko Haram, on 22 May, 2014. — REUTERS*

stopped, will be deterred by the fact they too will be eligible for listing on the sanctions list," he said.

Boko Haram kidnapped more than 250 girls from a secondary school in Chibok in remote north-eastern Nigeria on 14 April and has threatened to sell them into slavery. Eight

other girls were taken from another village earlier this month.

Boko Haram, which in the Hausa language means broadly "Western education is sinful," is loosely modeled on the Taleban movement in Afghanistan.

"Today, the Security Council took an important

step in support of the government of Nigeria's efforts to defeat Boko Haram and hold its murderous leadership accountable for atrocities," US Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power said in a statement.

"By adding Boko Haram to the UN's 1267 (al Qaeda) sanctions list,

the Security Council has helped to close off important avenues of funding, travel and weapons to Boko Haram, and shown global unity against their savage actions," she said.

Boko Haram's five-year-old insurgency is aimed at reviving a medieval Islamic caliphate in modern Nigeria, whose 170 million people are split roughly evenly between Christians and Muslims. The group is becoming, by far, the biggest security threat to Africa's top oil producer.

The UN listing entry describes Boko Haram as an affiliate of al-Qaeda and the Organization of al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM).

"Boko Haram has maintained a relationship with the Organization of al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb for training and material support purposes," according to the narrative summary accompanying the listing.

*Reuters*

## Euro zone crisis propels German immigration to 20-year high

BERLIN, 23 May — Net immigration to Germany leapt by over 18 percent to a 20-year high in 2013, fuelled largely by migrants from euro zone debt-crisis states Italy and Spain as well as a continued influx of Poles, data from the Statistics Office showed on Thursday.

With Germany's population shrinking and ageing, industry has actively called for immigration to help fill the gaps. But abuse of the welfare system has also been a hot topic, especially before European Parliament elections this week.

Net migration — the balance between immigration and emigration — rose to 437,000 people, the highest level since 1993. Net immigration to

Europe's largest economy from Italy was up 52 percent to 32,000, and from Spain it rose 19 percent to 22,000. But migration from Greece, where the euro zone debt crisis started, fell by 9 percent.

The biggest number of immigrants still came from Poland, with a net influx of 72,000 people. Germany mostly benefits from migration. By 2050, a third of Germany's population will be above the age of 65, according to government data, and the population is expected to shrink by a quarter.

In a speech to a group of people taking German citizenship, President Joachim Gauck urged more openness toward foreigners. "A look at our country shows ... how bizarre it is

that some people cling to the idea that there could be such a thing as a homogeneous, closed, single-coloured Germany," he said. "It's not easy to grasp what it is to be German — and it keeps changing."

But welfare abuse by immigrants has been an issue in campaigning for this weekend's European Parliament elections. "The EU is not a welfare union," Chancellor Angela Merkel was quoted as saying on Thursday, just as voting kicked off in the Netherlands and Britain. Germans go to the polls on Sunday along with most other EU member states. The news website Spiegel Online quoted Merkel as saying Germany wanted to limit the payment of unemployment benefits to EU



*Jose Manuel Abel, 46, walks to the flight to Munich at San Pablo airport in Seville on 29 June, 2012.*

*REUTERS*

citizens who had come to Germany to seek work.

A German draft law seen by *Reuters* this week also envisages blocking EU citizens from returning to Germany for a period if they have abused welfare benefits.

More than 7.6 million

foreigners were registered as living in Germany at the end of last year, the highest number since records started in 1967. Some hot spots, such as Cologne and Dortmund, have struggled to cope with with a large number of poor immigrants. — *Reuters*



## HEALTH &amp; BUSINESS

# Housing sector turning the corner; jobs market firming

WASHINGTON, 23 May — US home resales rose in April and the supply of properties on the market hit its highest level in nearly two years, hopeful signs for the stalled housing market recovery.

The National Association of Realtors said on Thursday existing home sales increased 1.3 percent

to an annual rate of 4.65 million units, marking only the second gain in sales in nine months.

While that was a bit less than the 4.68-million unit pace economists had expected, it suggested the sector was regaining its footing after stumbling in the second half of 2013 under the weight of higher

mortgage rates and house prices.

"This report provides the first crucial sign that the housing recovery may be on the verge of a rebound," said Millan Mulraine, deputy chief economist at TD Securities in New York.

Sales remain down 15 percent from a peak of 5.38 million units hit in July. Compared to April last year, sales fell 6.8 percent.

Housing is one of the main channels through which the Federal Reserve is seeking to boost growth via its monthly bond purchases. The housing slump has prompted Fed Chair Janet Yellen to caution it could undermine the economy.

Expensive home loans and rising house prices have sidelined first-time buyers. Investors, who had buoyed the market by buying homes

to rent them out, also are stepping back.

Though an usually cold winter depressed activity, a dearth of homes for sale also stymied demand. Sales are expected to gradually trend higher for the rest of 2014 as job growth and the overall economy accelerate.

Other reports on Thursday showed manufacturing activity accelerated in May, with financial data firm Markit's "flash" US manufacturing purchasing managers index rising to 56.2 from 55.4 in April.

Labour Department data showed initial claims for state unemployment benefits rose 28,000 to 326,000 last week. The four-week average, which irons out week-to-week volatility, rose by only 10,500, indicating the underlying jobs market trend remains strong.—Reuters



An employee arranges bottles of Coca-Cola at a store in Alexandria, Virginia on 16 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

## Coca-Cola to launch 'glacéau smartwater' in Britain

LONDON, 23 May — Coca Cola (KO.N) is expected to launch a new product — "glacéau smartwater" — in Britain, aimed at the country's 1.4 billion pound (\$2.4 billion) bottled water market, a decade after its Dasani brand failed in the region, *The Times* reported on Friday. Coca-Cola GB, which also owns Fanta, Sprite and Dr Pepper, will spend 3 billion pounds to promote the launch in August, the newspaper said.

Jon Woods, general manager of Coca-Cola GB & Ireland, told *The Times* it had learned its lesson from the experience with Dasani, which was made from purified tap water from Sidcup yet sold at a then-premium price of 95 pence.

Woods told the newspaper that although glacéau smartwater would be a pre-

mium product, it would be sold "without the premium price", and that it would be made from natural spring water. The recommended retail price for a 600 ml (20 fluid ounce) bottle would be 57 pence, the same price charged by rivals for a 500 ml bottle, while an 850 ml bottle would sell for 89 pence, the price of rival brands' 750 ml bottles, *The Times* reported.

Coca-Cola, which has 106 water brands, already sells glacéau vitaminwater, a range of fruit-flavored drinks, in Britain.

*The Times* cited marketing industry sources as suggesting that the company was considering using Jennifer Aniston, who has been hired to promote smartwater in America, to promote the product launch.

Reuters

## Scientists identify potential vaccine candidate for malaria

WASHINGTON, 23 May — US researchers have identified an antigen that generates antibodies to hinder the ability of malaria parasites to multiply, an advancement that could lead to the development of a malaria vaccine.

The discovery of the antigen, known as PfSEA-1, is a critical addition to the limited pool of antigens currently used in candidate malaria vaccines, the researchers reported on Thursday in the US journal *Science*.

An estimated 627,000 people die from malaria each year according to the World Health Organization, with most deaths from the mosquito-borne parasitic disease occurring among young children living in sub-Saharan Africa.

People who live in areas where malaria is common frequently develop protective immune system responses that can limit malaria parasite levels in the blood and prevent the high fever and illness associated with

malaria infection.

Using plasma samples from 2-year-old Tanzanian children who were either resistant or susceptible to malaria infection, researchers performed gene-screening experiments and a series of laboratory tests that identified PfSEA-1. Multiple tests confirmed that antibodies to PfSEA-1 halted malaria infection at the point when the parasite leaves one red blood cell to invade a new one, which may protect against severe malaria infection.

"Many researchers are trying to find ways to develop a malaria vaccine by preventing the parasite from entering the red blood cell, and here we found a way to block it from leaving the cell once it has entered," said Jonathan Kurtis, director of the Center for International Health Research at Rhode Island Hospital, and the study's principal investigator. "If it's trapped in the red blood cell, it can't go anywhere... it can't do any further damage."—Xinhua



A man grabs his briefcase as he waits in line to speak with employers at the UJA-Federation Connect to Care job fair in New York, on 21 March, 2012.—REUTERS

## Wastewater a source of antibiotic-resistant bacteria

NEW YORK, 23 May — Wastewater from cities and hospitals releases some antibiotic-resistant bacteria into the environment, according to a new French study.

And although wastewater treatment plants cut the number of bacteria overall, the treatment process boosts the proportion of bacteria resistant to some antibiotics, the research found.

The study focused on *E coli*, a type of bacteria that commonly inhabits the intestines of many healthy animals, including humans,

although certain strains can cause food poisoning.

Drug resistance among many types of bacteria, including *E coli*, is a growing problem. Previously unaffected bacteria can pick up resistance genes from other bacteria that carry them, and resistance can also spread through food crops irrigated with affected water.

"These multi-drug resistant bacteria are now the most frequently isolated ones in French hospitals, and in many countries," said Xavier Bertrand, an

author of the study and a microbiologist at Université de Franche-Comté in Besançon, France. Because *E coli* commonly lives in the human digestive tract, the organism finds its way into wastewater, for example, when waste is flushed down the toilet.

"The extent to which the discharge of (antibiotic-resistant *E coli*) into the environment contributes to its global spread remains uncertain," Bertrand wrote in an email to Reuters Health.

For the study, published in *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, Bertrand and his team collected and analyzed samples from 11 sites in the Besançon wastewater network.

Two of the sites contained wastewater from university hospitals. Some of the other wastewater came from the city, while a fraction was from rainwater. No water in the study had been used in livestock farming. The samples were collected each week for 10 weeks.—Reuters

## HP may cut up to 16,000 more jobs as results disappoint

SAN FRANCISCO, 23 May — Hewlett-Packard Co plans to cut as many as 16,000 more jobs in a major ramp-up of CEO Meg Whitman's years-long effort to turn around the personal computer maker and relieve pressure on its profit margins.

Whitman said the turnaround remained on track and her raised target reflected how HP continued to find areas to streamline across its broad portfolio, which encompasses computing, networking, storage and software. But some analysts wondered whether it signaled a worsening outlook for the coming year, or if more jobs may be cut.

"The rationale makes sense," said RBC analyst Amit Daryanani. But "you do worry if there's a

finality to this process, or if it's an ongoing thing that may affect morale at the end of the day. So far the trend has been worrisome."

HP, whose sprawling global operations employ more than 250,000, estimated about three years ago when it first hatched its sweeping overhaul that it would need to shed 27,000 jobs. That number rose to 34,000 last year.

On Thursday, it estimated another 11,000 to 16,000 more jobs needed to go, scattered across different countries and business areas. That took the grand total under Whitman's restructuring to 50,000.

The Silicon Valley company is trying to reduce its reliance on PCs and move toward computing equipment and networking

gear for enterprises, part of Whitman's effort to curtail revenue declines and return the world's No 1 PC maker to growth.

But that goal remains elusive. The company posted a disappointing 1 percent drop in quarterly revenue, as it struggled to maintain its grip on the shrinking personal computer market

and weak corporate tech spending.

That marked its 11th consecutive quarterly sales decline.

Shares in HP closed down 2.3 percent at \$31.78, after the company inadvertently posted the results on its website more than half an hour before the closing bell.—Reuters



A view of the Hewlett-Packard headquarters in Palo Alto, California on 23 Nov, 2009.—REUTERS

## PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 24 May, 2014

**Military coup: A nightmare for Thailand's tourism industry?***By Aung Khin*

**T**hailand's ruling military on 22 May announced the military coup in the country, with the curfew of 10 p.m to 5 a.m. The kingdom with its coup-prone history has now attracted concerns and disappointments from the countries including the United States, Japan and Australia, with the U.S saying "no justification" for the takeover.

After the coup in September 2006, the country

had suffered the short-term economic consequences, resulting in stock fluctuations and possible credit rating changes. Moreover, long-term economic consequences caused several radical policy changes, including a drive to a self-sufficiency economy and economic protectionism.

The military is now controlling the newsrooms of media outlets, and no information is to be broadcast or distributed without the approval of Army—a media blackout.

The U.S has warned it was considering cooperation with its ally Thailand after a military coup. US Secretary of State John Kerry urged the restoration of a civilian government, respect for press freedom and "early elections that reflect the will of the people."

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon also expressed his serious concerns after the coup.

Thailand's tourism industry accounts for as much as 10 per cent of the nation's economy. After

recent political impasse of the country, Thai authorities said that tourist arrivals had already dropped 4.9 per cent in the first four months from a year before, to 8.62 million. As both tourists and nationals are subject to the nationwide curfew, they must not be on the streets to enjoy their usual nightlife.

Even on the day ahead of military coup, tourists were already shunning Bangkok's bustling night life.

Although the army chief has insisted the military takeover is aimed to restore the order of the country following six months of protests and unrest, the kingdom is unlikely to avoid the downturn in tourism industry together with the loss of civil rights.

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## The auspicious and respectful Paying Homage ceremony for presenting religious titles and certificates to outstanding Buddhist-monk candidates who distinctively got through the 66<sup>th</sup> Sacred Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination in the year of 2014

**W**E all Buddhists across the Republic of the Union of Myanmar know that the 66<sup>th</sup> Sacred Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination was successfully held at the Mahapassana (Great) Cave on the Siri Mangala Kaba Aye Hillock, Yangon, Myanmar from 8<sup>th</sup> December 2013 to 9<sup>th</sup> January 2014 and it took 33 days.

It is further learnt that altogether 480 entitled Buddhist-monk candidates sat for this 66<sup>th</sup> Sacred Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination. Out of them, 300 Buddhist-monk candidates took the oral examination and 180 Buddhist-monk candidates took the written examination respectively. The 300 candidates took the oral examination and out of them, only 64 candidates passed the oral examination. The 180 candidates took the written examination and out of them, only 14 candidates passed the written examination.

In this regard, the auspicious and respectful Paying Homage ceremony for presenting the religious titles and certificates to those 78 outstanding Buddhist-monk candidates who distinctively got through the 66<sup>th</sup> Sacred Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination in the year of 2014, will be grandly held at the Mahapassana (Great) Cave on the Siri Mangla Kaba Aye Hillock, Yangon, Myanmar on

the 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2014. It is further learnt that 260 Mahatheras (Chief monks) will be present at this very auspicious and respectful Paying Homage Ceremony including 78 outstanding Buddhist-monk candidates.

In order to hold successfully this ceremony, all necessary arrangements and requirements have already been conducted by the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of Yangon Region.

It is known that the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has been a predominantly Theravada Buddhist nation in the world for nearly one thousand years, and over (90) percent of nation's population has taken faith in Theravada Buddhism since then. Furthermore, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has been recognized as a permanent higher learning centre of genuine Theravada Buddhism not only in the Buddhist world but also throughout the world. According to historical records of Buddhism, the Fifth and Sixth Great Buddhist Councils (Synods) were successfully convened in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar with a view to purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana (the Buddha's teachings) all over the world. The Sixth Great Buddhist Council, which was attended and participated by Mahatheras (Chief monks) from Five Thera-

vada Buddhist Nations, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, Sri Lanka and Myanmar, was successfully held in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in 1954.

In order to carefully preserve genuine Theravada Buddhism, a great number of Buddhist Monastic Institutions and learning Centers of Buddhist Scriptures have been established in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for years. For the time being, the two Pariyatti Sasana Universities, one in Yangon and another in Mandalay have been so far established to promote and propagate the Theravada Buddhism throughout the world. At present, Buddhist monk students are attending these two universities, and if they have got through the prescribed examinations held by these Universities, they will be conferred Takasila Dhammacariva Degree (Bachelor of Arts) in Buddhism and Tekkasila Maha Dhammacariya Degree (Master of Arts) in Buddhism respectively. And now, the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University, the very first one in the Buddhist world has been also already established in the Republic of the Union of the Myanmar in order to propagate, promote and flourish genuine Theravada Buddhism throughout the world, and to share the knowledge of Buddhism both in theory and practice with the peoples of the world to promote

their happiness and moral well-being.

According to the Pariyatti (learning canonical Texts) Education System of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, there are seven kinds of religious examinations including the Sacred Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination yearly held by the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. The seven kinds of religious examinations are as follows: -

- (1) Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination
- (2) Dhammacariya Examination
- (3) Pathamagyi Examination
- (4) Pathamalat Examination
- (5) Pathamange Examination
- (6) Abhidhamma/Visudhimagga Examination (only for Laymen and Nuns)
- (7) Five Nikaya Examination

Out of these seven kinds of religious examinations, the Sacred Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination has been separately held by the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar since sixty six years ago. Buddhist monk candidates who wish to appear for this Sacred Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination must have passed at least

**Ba Sein (Religious Affairs)**

the Pathamagyi Examination. In fact, the Sacred Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination is quite different from other religious examinations because the candidates have to take (33) days to sit for this examination. They have to take both oral examination consists of Pali Texts, 8026 pages of Tipitaka canons and the written examination consists of Pali Texts Athakatha (Commentaries) and Tika (Sub-Commentaries) of 9934 pages of Tipitaka canons respectively. Only the candidates who have got through both oral and written examinations will be presented the Title of Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida (the Title of Religious Heroes). Up to now, only thirteen outstanding members of Sangha (Bhikkhus) (Religious Heroes) were presented the Title of Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida within over 66 years' duration of the Sacred Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination.

It is learnt that many members of Sangha throughout the country appeared for the Sacred Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination from year to year. However, most of them were not successful. In fact, the Sacred Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination is the most difficult of the religious examinations which are yearly held in the

Republic of the Union of Myanmar. Such Sacred Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination can be held only in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar which has carefully preserved the genuine Theravada Buddhism for nearly one thousand years. It is learnt that such examination cannot be held in other Theravada Buddhist nations. Members of Sangha, multifarious Buddhist people and Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, hand in hand, are striving to propagate, promote and flourish the genuine Theravada Buddhism not only in homeland but also at abroad. We all Buddhists know that the Sasana is of the three kinds, viz (1) Pariyatti Sasana (Learning the Buddha's teaching), (2) Patipatti Sasana (Practical application of the Buddha's teaching) and (3) Pativedha Sasana (Realization of the Buddha's teaching). Out of them, the Pariyatti Sasana is the most important one which mainly leads to the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana (the noble teachings of the Buddha). The aims and objectives of holding the Sacred Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Selection Examination are to preserve, promote and flourish the genuine Theravada Buddhism all over the world.



# 21<sup>st</sup> century skills for learners from the viewpoint of an educationist

By Myo Myint

The 21<sup>st</sup> century is usually defined as the Knowledge Age due to the proliferation of knowledge in this century and its role in the economic and social development of nations. But it may also be called the Century of Competition as competitiveness is being advocated in the fields of economy and education in order that countries and their citizens have the competitive edge to successfully face the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The need for people to acquire new skills for greater competitiveness is due to a variety of reasons. It may be due to the shift in economy based on high productivity to one directed by technology, information, knowledge and innovation. It may be due to a rise in the number of competitors as the population of countries keeps growing. It may be due to the rise in the quality of competitors as there is increased investment in better training and education by parents, knowledge seekers and nations. It may be due to greater mobility of people from one profession to another, or from one region to another or from one country to another, in search of better paying and satisfying jobs. It may also be due to the upsurge in the use of technology which requires people have to compete not only with fellow human beings with better technological skills but also with machines. Whatever the reasons, there is undoubtedly an increase in competition among the population of a country for personal advancement as well as among countries in the enhancement of economic growth.

All countries, whether developed or developing, are facing competition. On the one hand, developed countries are competing among themselves to sustain their economic success by harnessing their advanced knowledge and the creative strength of its human resources. On the other hand, developed countries are experiencing the competition of devel-

oping countries with their low wage structure. At the same time, developing countries are contending among themselves to attract foreign investment, industries and businesses to their countries. In general, workers all over the world are facing stiff competition in their search for jobs with better salaries and prospects and are questioning the relevancy of the skills they possess for the 21<sup>st</sup> century jobs. Students preparing themselves for the job market are facing increasing competition to enter the universities of their choice and to pursue disciplines of their preference which can better prepare them for the 21<sup>st</sup> century workplace. Hence, what is obvious is that to be among winners in the 21<sup>st</sup> century race, countries and people have to develop their competitiveness. In building the necessary competitiveness, contenders as well as those involved in training and education must know what skills should be fostered for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills, Education & Competitiveness A Resource and Policy Guide mentions the seven survival skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> century that Tony Wagner advocates. These are:

- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Collaboration across Networks and Leading by Influence
- Agility and Adaptability
- Initiative and Entrepreneurialism
- Effective Oral and Written Communication
- Accessing and Analyzing Information
- Curiosity and Imagination

We could also add to this list, three other qualities such as creativity, positive attitude, and lifelong learning that educators and organization leaders have repeatedly mentioned.

We can identify three main reasons for the advocacy of building these skills and qualities in this century. The first is the shift from workforce driven manufacturing indus-

tries of the 20<sup>th</sup> century to knowledge and creativity based industries of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This shift is more rewarding financially as well as psychologically. However, it is also more demanding since creation and manipulation of knowledge demand critical thinking, information management and creativity. The second is the pooling of creative and information resources for the ever development of new products. This requires individual imagination, effective communication, multidisciplinary collaboration, and social and networking skills. The third is facing the challenges of the fast paced changes and developments accelerated by technological progress. This necessitates nimbleness, adaptability and spirit of entrepreneurship. In addition, successful acquisition of 21<sup>st</sup> century skills needs a positive attitude to change, the pursuit of lifelong learning and the will to push yourself harder and be challenged.

How can the education sector participate in promoting competitiveness? Traditionally, schools have emphasized knowledge acquisition rather than knowledge creation and application. Memorization and regurgitation of facts have been the main mode of instruction from the first year of schooling. One cannot deny the usefulness of rote learning in the acquisition of basic knowledge. However, it must be stressed that as they serve as basis for critical thinking, creativity, and problem solving, the curiosity, imagination and self-confidence that young children bring to school should be promoted through the use of teaching techniques appropriate to the age and the level. They should not be inhibited through continuous use of drilling, duplication and evening out of student performance. Students must also be given opportunity to develop their talents and interests. Hence, high schools and higher education institutions must serve as the apex of knowledge crea-

tion and manipulation so that graduates are well prepared for the competitive and continually changing 21<sup>st</sup> century world of work. Higher education institutions and training centres must broaden the spirit of entrepreneurship and its partners, creativity, risk taking and initiative, which need to be fostered using appropriate techniques.

Another quality necessary for the 21<sup>st</sup> century is adaptability. Being able to adapt oneself to new situations and new demands is one of the strengths of the Myanmar people. But we must ensure that we do not simply end with adaptation; we must train our young people to move on to creation and invention if they are truly to succeed.

Nations are experiencing changes in the way different sectors are expanding. Studies show that in this century the service sector continues to grow at the expense of the manufacturing sector in developed countries. As a developing country, with the adoption of market economy, Myanmar is seeing growth in both the production and service sectors and the time may well come when the service sector overtakes the manufacturing sector. An important requirement for those joining the service sector is the ability to communicate well. Effective communication does not mean just being able to talk with a high degree of fluency. The language used must be appropriate to the setting, participants, the topic and the purpose. The tone of voice, facial expression, and gestures are also important in successful interaction. Moreover, professional skills such as report writing and presentation skills, use of polite language and audience awareness also need to be promoted at appropriate levels as part of the enhancement of communication skills of students. In addition to being able to effectively communicate in one's mother tongue, a good command of English has also become a prereq-

uisite for career success as well as for lifelong learning. There is a general feeling that communication skills of young people need to be greatly enhanced. Is it because young people are communicating less through face to face interaction and more via various devices, or is it because they feel less comfortable interacting with their elders, or are education institutions not paying enough attention to training students in effective communication? Research should be conducted on the level of communication and interpersonal skills of young people and solutions sought. Schools and higher education institutions must consider this task seriously and not only language disciplines but also other disciplines must join in to create activities and opportunities to develop communication skills as it forms the core of success in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

In this age of networking and blending of knowledge, skills and creativity, the ability to carry out teamwork and collaboration are highly prized qualities. It has always been the tradition of Myanmar people residing in rural areas to assist each other and join hands in community development activities and this excellent habit can serve as a basis to promote collaboration, networking skills and dissemination of knowledge and information by harnessing modern technology.

In the development of 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, the education sector is expected to play the role of the main resource for long-term upskilling as lifelong learning has become a necessity to cope with the changes in the field of work. Education institutions can no longer remain aloof in their ivory towers observing the changing landscape with a telescope. Education must open its doors and establish strong partnerships with policy makers, the business community, educationists, curriculum developers, teacher trainers, education administrators, teachers, students, parents and the community.

Education policy makers, teachers and curriculum developers must go out to the workplace and learn and discuss actual needs and wants of employers, the ultimate users of their graduates, and employees, persons who at one time have attended their institutions. The education sector must develop visions and strategies for the future in partnership with stakeholders in order to develop and sustain competitiveness. Partners of education in the development of 21<sup>st</sup> century skills of learners should also not wait to be consulted but must compel the education sector to pay attention to their needs which of course, must contribute in some ways, to the development of the country and its citizens.

The call to develop 21<sup>st</sup> century skills in learners have been made since the 1990s and more and more countries are paying serious attention to it. Educators are forming partnership with the business community and employment related agencies and organizations that focus on this matter have been formed. Therefore, it is the responsibility of educators in Myanmar to study how other nations are promoting 21<sup>st</sup> century skills in education and training institutions. As the skills needed for the 21<sup>st</sup> century are usually discussed in broad terms, educationists need to work out the details, shape a curriculum that would spread the skills in terms of complexity among the different levels and introduce appropriate teaching methods and techniques that would fit Myanmar's development level and its education and economic needs.

As education specialists of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, Myanmar educationists need to be not only nimble, imaginative, and creative, but must also be lifelong learners and conscious of the fast paced developments and changes taking place in the neighbourhood and beyond so that they can come up with solutions appropriate for the education sector of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

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## Park expresses “strong regret” over N Korea’s artillery firing

SEOUL, 23 May — South Korean President Park Geun Hye on Friday expressed strong regret over North Korea’s firing of artillery shells near a South Korean patrol ship in the Yellow Sea on Thursday.

“The president expressed strong regret over North Korea’s provocation made at a time the entire (South Korean) nation is in deep grief over the sinking of the ferry *Sewol*,” presidential spokesman Min Myung Wook said in a statement.

Park’s remarks were made at a meeting of top-ranking officials responsible for national security held at the presidential office. Park “ordered the military to maintain a water-tight defence stance (against North Korea’s further provocations),” the statement said.

More than 300 passengers, mostly high school

students on a school excursion, died or went missing after the ferry *Sewol* capsized on 16 April off the country’s southern coast.

Earlier Friday, South Korean Defence Ministry spokesman Kim Min Seok dismissed a North Korean claim it had not fired the artillery rounds.

“(The North’s claim) is to evade responsibility for provocation,” Kim said during a Press briefing.

Kim said the North Korean side sent a message at around 8:20 am on Friday claiming it had nothing to do with the artillery firings as was reported by the South.

Kim said the South could not determine the exact place the artillery shells were fired. Asked about whether a radar system for artillery shells was out of order, he declined to go into details, saying it pertains to intelligence matters.

*Kyodo News*

## N Korean envoy leaves for Sweden to hold talks with Japan



*Song Il Ho (front), North Korea’s ambassador for talks to normalize relations with Japan, is pictured at Pyongyang airport on 23 May, 2014, before leaving for Sweden via Beijing for talks with Japan.*

**KYODO NEWS**

BEIJING, 23 May — A North Korean ambassador in charge of Japanese affairs on Friday left Pyongyang for negotiations next week in Sweden with senior officials from Tokyo.

“We are ready to discuss all kinds of issues,” Song Il Ho, North Korea’s ambassador for talks on normalizing ties with Japan, told reporters at Beijing’s international airport on his way to Stockholm.

Japan and North Korea, which have no diplomatic relations, are scheduled to hold a three-day meeting from Monday in the Swedish capital.

Song held a similar meeting in late March in Beijing with a Japanese delegation led by Junichi Ihara, director general of the Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau at the Foreign Ministry. During the meet-

ing, the first governmental one since November 2012, Song expressed concern about the possibility of North Korea losing its de facto embassy building in Japan. North Korea is opposed to a Japanese court’s decision to allow the sale of the General Association of Korean Residents’ headquarters site and building in Tokyo, which had been put up for auction due to financial problems, to a realtor. Ihara, meanwhile, has been focused on making progress in resolving the issue of North Korea’s abductions of Japanese nationals in the 1970s and 1980s. Japan wants North Korea’s commitment to reinvestigating the whereabouts of its nationals that Pyongyang agents had abducted and allowing all victims to return home.

*Kyodo News*

## Thai coup leader declares himself as acting PM



*Thai army chief General Prayuth Chan-ocha*

BANGKOK, 23 May — Thailand’s military junta chief Prayuth Chan-ocha has declared himself as acting prime minister until

someone can be found to serve the post full time.

Prayuth, who is also the army chief, will act as acting prime minister for administrative purposes, Bangkok Post on Friday quoted as saying an announcement by the National Peace and Order Maintaining Council set up following Thursday’s military coup.

The announcement was made late Thursday night.

Prayuth Chan-ocha on Thursday declared a coup, saying it was aimed at stopping further loss of life and preventing the conflict in the country from further escalating. In an address to the nation, he said to restore order in the country, the Thai armed forces needed to seize power.

“In order for the country to return to normal quickly, the National Peace and Order Maintaining Council comprised of

the army, the Thai armed forces, the Royal Air Force and the police need to seize power as of May 22 at 4.30 p.m.”

Prayuth said that the council was formed to seize power and the power seizure was necessary to protect the life of the people. He asked the public to go on their daily lives as usual.

He also said the takeover would not affect international relations.

## Ousted Thai PM answers general’s summons a day after coup

BANGKOK, 23 May — Thailand’s Army chief Prayuth Chan-ocha summoned ousted Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra to a meeting on Friday, a day after he seized power in a bloodless coup and said he wanted to restore order following months of turmoil.

General Prayuth launched his coup after the rival factions refused to give ground in a struggle for power between the royalist establishment and a populist government that had raised fears of serious violence and damaged Thailand’s economy.

Soldiers detained politicians from both sides when Prayuth announced the military takeover, which drew swift international condemnation, after talks he was presiding over broke down. Leaders of pro-and anti-government protest groups were still believed to be in detention, said an opposition lawmaker who declined to be identified. The military banned 155 people, including politicians and activists from leaving the country.

The military also censored the media, dispersed rival protesters in Bangkok and imposed a nationwide 10 pm to 5 am curfew.



*People buy breakfast food from street vendors in Bangkok, Thailand, on 23 May, 2014.—KYODO NEWS*

It then called Yingluck and 22 associates, including powerful relatives and ministers in her government, to a meeting at an army centre in the capital.

Yingluck is the sister of Thaksin Shinawatra, a billionaire telecommunications tycoon turned politician who won huge support among the poor but the loathing of the royalist establishment, largely over accusations of corruption and nepotism. He was ousted as premier in a military

coup in 2006.

Yingluck arrived at the army facility at noon, shortly after some of her aides, a Reuters witness said.

Prayuth was also present. He was expected to meet King Bhumibol Adulyadej on Friday at the royal palace in Hua Hin, south of Bangkok, to explain the army’s move.

Yingluck was forced to step down as prime minister by a court on 7 May but her caretaker government, buffeted by more than six

months of protests, had remained nominally in power, even after the army declared martial law on Tuesday.

The meeting could set the tone for army rule as Prayuth tries to steer the country out of crisis and fend off international criticism of the latest lurch into military rule.

Bangkok was calm and life appeared normal, although the military ordered all schools and universities to stay closed.

*Reuters*

## Gunfight near Indian consulate in Afghan city ends, four gunmen killed

HERAT, (Afghanistan), 23 May — At least four gunmen were killed while two policemen were wounded in an attack against Indian consulate in western Afghan city of Herat on Friday, sources said.

The attack took place on early Friday morning when four gunmen seized and took position in a house near the consulate building.

They began firing weapons in addition to

using grenade launchers to target the compound in the city, which is the provincial capital of western Herat Province, 640 km west of Afghan capital of Kabul.

“All foreign personnel of the consulate are safe and sound. The attackers failed to inflict casualties on Afghan and Indian security personnel guarding the building. Only two Afghan policemen were slightly wounded in the incident,” a

security source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

“Shortly after the firing, the Afghan special operation forces arrived at the scene. They evacuated civilians from houses near the attack site. No civilians were hurt in engagement lasting for hours,” the source said.

No group claimed responsibility.

The Taliban-led insurgency has been rampant since the militant group

launched rebel offensive against Afghan government forces and more than 51,000 NATO-led troops stationed in the country earlier this month.

The Taliban urged civilians to stay away from official gatherings, military convoys and centres regarded as the legitimate targets by militants besides warning people not to support the government and foreign troops.

*Xinhua*



## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY



Yu Shuzhang (2nd R), president of Fuji Xerox China Incorporation, attends the launching of Fuji Xerox's new product DocuCentre SC2020 in Beijing, capital of China, on 22 May, 2014. Fuji Xerox launched a new product DocuCentre SC2020 in Beijing on Thursday.—XINHUA

## Swedish researchers use GNSS signals to measure sea level change

STOCKHOLM, 23 May — Researchers from Chalmers University of Technology in Sweden have developed and tested a GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite System) tide gauge that measures the sea level, said the university in a statement on Wednesday.

The GNSS tide gauge uses radio signals from satellites in orbit around the Earth that are part of satellite navigation systems like GPS and Glonass (Russia's equivalent of GPS).

"We measure the sea level using the same radio signals that mobile phones and cars use in their satellite navigation systems," Johan Lofgren, researcher from the university was quoted

as saying in the statement.

"As the satellites pass over the sky, the instrument 'sees' their signals — both those that come direct and those that are reflected off the sea surface," Lofgren added.

Two antennas, covered by small white radomes, measure signals both directly from the satellites and signals reflected off the sea surface, and by analyzing these signals together, the sea level and its variation can be measured, up to 20 times per second.

As the sea level time series is rich in physical phenomena such as tides (caused mostly by the gravitational pull of the Moon and

the Sun), meteorological signals (high and low pressure), and signals from climate change, these signals can be studied further through advanced signal processing.

The new ways of measuring sea level could become important tools for testing climate models and for investigating how the sea level along the world's coasts is affected by climate change.

"The global mean sea level is rising because of climate change, but the change depends on where you are in the world," Rudiger Haas, another researcher in the program was quoted as saying in the statement.

Xinhua

## NASA unveils Earth Day 'global selfie' mosaic

NEW YORK, 23 May — NASA unveiled its "global selfie" on Thursday, a mosaic of more than 36,000 pictures uploaded to social media showing people and places around the world in commemoration of Earth Day, the US space agency said. NASA asked people on 22 April, Earth Day, to upload pictures tagged with #GlobalSelfie to social media sites like Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Users on every continent and 113 countries or regions — including Antarctica, Yemen and Peru

— joined in. After weeks of collecting and curating the more than 50,000 submissions, the so-called "global selfie" was released.

"We were overwhelmed to see people participate from so many countries. We're very grateful that people took the time to celebrate our home planet together, and we look forward to everyone doing their part to be good stewards of our precious Earth," said Peg Luce, deputy director of NASA's Earth Science Division.

The 3.2-gigapixel zo-

omable mosaic shows the tens of thousands of selected pictures arranged to look like Earth as it appeared to the Suomi National Polar-orbiting Partnership climate satellite orbiting the planet on Earth Day. NASA has 17 Earth-observing satellites in orbit, and five more missions to gather data on the planet are slated to launch this year, NASA said. The agency said it will be the first time in more than a decade that so many NASA earth science missions have been launched in a single year.

Reuters

## ZTE, Huawei win bulk of China Mobile's second batch of 4G contracts

HONG KONG/SINGAPORE, 23 May — China Mobile Ltd has awarded its second batch of 4G telecom equipment contracts, with ZTE Corp and rival Huawei Technologies Ltd securing the bulk of the deal, two industry sources with direct knowledge of the situation said.

Telecom equipment makers, such as global leader Ericsson and Huawei, have been vying for a larger share of China Mobile's 4G tender in an industry that has been hit by lackluster spending worldwide.

The company awarded ZTE and Huawei 34 percent and 31 percent of the batch, respectively, said the indus-

try sources, who declined to be named as they were not authorized to speak to the media. ZTE and Huawei declined to comment when contacted by Reuters.

Ericsson and Alcatel-Lucent SA both won 9 percent of the batch, while Nokia secured 8 percent, the sources said.

Alcatel-Lucent confirmed that it was part of the award but declined to comment on the share allocation.

Ericsson said it could not comment on the report, adding: "We can confirm that the central parts of the negotiations are finalized. But there still are negotiations locally and that part is



A sign with the logo of China Mobile at a downtown area of Shanghai on 22 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

not finished yet." Nokia had no comment.

China Mobile, with more than 784 million mobile customers and 4.8 million 4G subscribers in April, is the world's largest telecoms company by subscribers.—Reuters

## Little kiwi, huge extinct elephant bird were birds of a feather

WASHINGTON, 23 May — They might be the odd couple of the bird world.

Scientists on Thursday identified the closest relative of New Zealand's famed kiwi, a shy chicken-sized flightless bird, as the elephant bird of Madagascar, a flightless giant that was 10 feet (3 metres) tall and went extinct a few centuries ago.

The surprising findings, based on DNA extracted from the bones of two elephant bird species, force a re-evaluation of the ancestry of the group of flightless birds called ratites that reside in the world's southern continents, they added. The group, which boasts some of the world's largest birds, includes emus and cassowaries in Australia, rheas in South America, ostriches in Africa and kiwis in New Zealand. Ratites that have disappeared in recent centuries include the moa of New Zealand and the

elephant bird.

The researchers compared elephant bird DNA to the other birds and saw a close genetic link to the kiwi despite obvious differences in size, body shape and lifestyle — and the fact they lived about 7,000 miles (11,500

km) apart. The largest elephant bird species weighed more than 600 pounds (275 kg). Kiwis reach around 11 pounds (5 kg). There has been a lively debate among bird experts about the origins of the ratites and how they came to live where they do.

The world's first birds arose about 150 million years ago. Over the eons, some species lost the ability to fly but became large and formidable.

Many scientists have thought the ancestors of today's ratites were already

flightless when they were isolated in their current locations by the separation and drift of the southern continents over the past 130 million years.

The new findings indicate the continents had already separated before ratite ancestors showed up, meaning the forebears of these flightless birds reached their current homes by flying.

"It does seem a little ironic, but in fact it's the simplest explanation for the facts we observe," said Kieren Mitchell of the University of Adelaide's Australian Centre for Ancient DNA. Alan Cooper of University of Adelaide said the new data suggest that flying ratite ancestors dispersed around the world right after the mass extinction killed the dinosaurs 65 million years ago and before mammals became dominant.

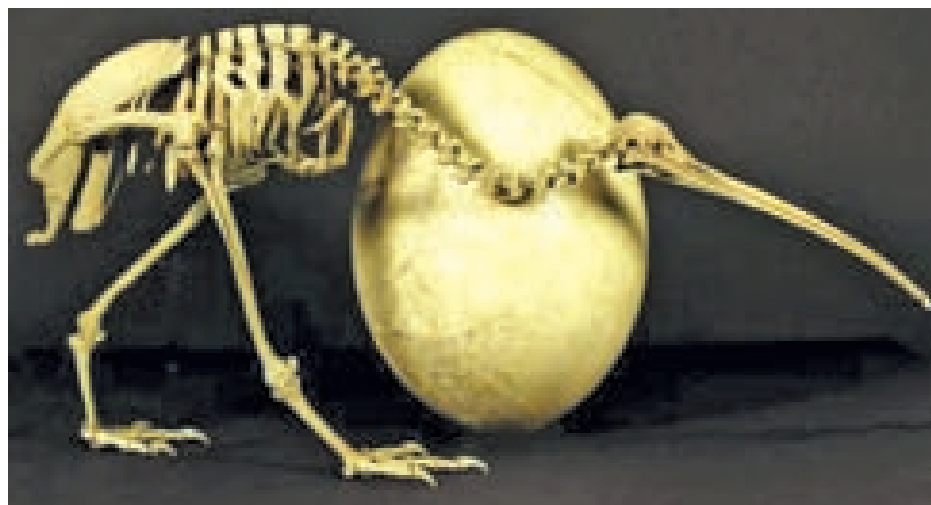
Mitchell said the researchers had expected to find that the elephant bird

and ostrich were the most ancient lineages of ratite because Africa and Madagascar were the first landmasses to separate from what had been an ancient super-continent.

Instead, they found that elephant birds and kiwis arose from a common ancestor around 50 million years ago after even New Zealand had become isolated. Previous research had suggested Australia's ratites as the kiwi's closest relatives. "If the common ancestor of kiwi and elephant birds lived on Madagascar, then kiwis must have flown to New Zealand. If this ancestor lived on New Zealand, then elephant birds must have flown to Madagascar," Mitchell said. "Or perhaps the common ancestor of both elephant birds and kiwis flew to their final locations from somewhere else entirely."

The study was published in the journal *Science*.

Reuters



An adult brown kiwi (*Apteryx australis*) beside the egg of a huge elephant bird (*Aepyornis maximus*) is shown in this undated handout provided by Paul Scofield and Kyle Davis at the Canterbury Museum in Christchurch, New Zealand on 22 May, 2014.—REUTERS

## Vietnam PM says considering legal action against China over disputed waters

MANILA, 23 May — Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung said his government was considering various “defence options” against China, including legal action, following the deployment of a Chinese oil rig to waters in the South China Sea that Hanoi also claims.

Dung’s comments, given in a written response to questions from *Reuters*, were the first time he has suggested Vietnam would take legal measures, and drew an angry response from China, which insisted the rig was in its sovereign waters.

“Vietnam is considering various defence options, including legal actions in accordance with



*Vietnam’s Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung addresses the 68th United Nations General Assembly at UN headquarters in New York, on 27 Sept, 2013, file photo.—REUTERS*

international law,” Dung said in an email sent late on Wednesday, while on a visit to Manila. He did not elaborate on the other options being considered.

“I wish to underscore

that Vietnam will resolutely defend its sovereignty and legitimate interests because territorial sovereignty, including sovereignty of its maritime zones and islands, is sacred,” he said.

China accused Vietnam of stoking regional tensions.

“Now they are distorting the facts, conflating right and wrong on the global stage, blackening China and making unreasonable accusations against China,” foreign ministry spokesman Hong Lei told a regular news briefing.

“Just who is the one who is repeatedly challenging other countries’ sovereignty? Who is the one who is causing tensions in the seas? Who on earth is destroying peace and stability in the South China Sea? Facts speak louder than words.”

In March, the Philippines submitted a case to an arbitration tribunal in

The Hague, challenging China’s claims to the South China Sea. It was the first time Beijing has been subjected to international legal scrutiny over the waters.

Beijing has refused to participate in the case and warned Manila that its submission would seriously damage ties.

Anti-Chinese violence flared in Vietnam last week after a \$1 billion deepwater rig owned by China’s state-run CNOOC oil company was parked 240 km (150 miles) off the coast of Vietnam. Hanoi says the rig is in its 200-nautical mile exclusive economic zone and on its continental shelf. China has said the rig was operating completely within its waters.—*Reuters*

## Cambodian woman dies, five others injure after old mortar shell explodes

PHNOM PENH, 23 May — A war-left mortar round exploded on Friday morning, killing an old woman and seriously injuring five others in northern Kampong Thom Province, a provincial military police chief said. “The explosion occurred at 7:40 am local time in Kampong Svay District when a man was hitting a mortar shell with a hammer to remove saleable scrap-metal,” Gen Hang Thol, chief of Kampong Thom provincial military police, told *Xinhua*. “The hiter got seriously injured as an old woman, who was sitting close by, died and four other people were in critical condition during the explosion.”

He said the hiter found the mortar round in a nearby forest a few days ago and took it to his home in order to remove for saleable scrap.

Cambodia is one of the world’s worst countries affected by mines. An estimated 4 million to 6 million landmines and other munitions have left over from three decades of war and internal conflicts that ended in 1998.

According to a government report, from 1979 to March 2014, landmines and unexploded ordnance had killed 19,693 people and either injured or amputated 44,681 others.

*Xinhua*

## Guatemala extradites accused drug trafficker to US

GUATEMALA CITY, 23 May — Guatemala on Thursday extradited one of the country’s top suspected drug traffickers to the United States, more than two years after a court had ordered the move. Juan Ortiz Lopez, alias “Chamale,” who was arrested in March 2011, is wanted in a Florida federal court on charges of trafficking tons of cocaine into the United States. The 43-year-old faces a maximum life sentence if convicted. Rudy Esquivel, a spokesman for Guatemala’s prison system, said a police helicopter took Ortiz to a military air base before a plane bound for Tampa, Florida departed with him at around 9 am local time.—*Reuters*

## Balkans confronts risk of disease after devastating floods

BELGRADE, 23 May — Serbia’s agriculture ministry appealed for chlorine bleach, quicklime and disinfectant on Thursday to stem the risk of disease after the worst floods to hit the Balkans in living memory.

The regional death toll ticked up to 50, and may rise further given a list of missing in Serbia that runs into the hundreds.

With temperatures now pushing 30 degrees Celsius (86 degrees Fahrenheit), the smell of decay hung in the air in the worst-affected Serbian town of Obrenovac, 30 km (18 miles) southwest of the capital Belgrade.

“The stench is overpowering,” said Belgrade chemical technician



*A man walks past a house tilted by floods in the town of Valjevo, southwest from Belgrade on 21 May, 2014.*

*REUTERS*

Bratislav Cirovic, who volunteered to help with the clean-up. “We wore masks today - the more the waters recede, the more appalling it gets.”

Swathes of Serbia, Bosnia and Croatia have

been ravaged by flooding and landslides since the heaviest rainfall last week in more than a century caused rivers to burst their banks, sweeping away roads, bridges and homes.

Belgrade was braced

for a new floodwave from the River Sava, due on Friday, even as the clean-up began in other areas such as Obrenovac, where most of Serbia’s 27 dead were found. Twenty-one people have died in Bosnia and two in Croatia.

In the worst-stricken areas, waters have receded to reveal animal carcasses, food and waste rotting in rising temperatures. The ground shows evidence of a toxic mix of chemicals, fuel and sewage that leaked from industrial firms, sewers, gas stations and storage tanks. Obrenovac was a closed town, police limiting entry on Thursday to an organized group of shopkeepers allowed in to inspect the damage.

*Reuters*

## Workers flee to safe houses on South Africa’s strike-hit platinum belt

RUSTENBURG, (South Africa), 23 May — The chanting began around midnight, a chilling message through the cold of the early South African winter to those who had dared to cross the picket lines at platinum producer Lonmin.

“The rats must come out of their holes. We are going to kill this NUM,” the crowd chanted as it approached the home of ‘Mary’, a member of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) who had kept working at Lonmin when the rival Association of Mineworkers and Construction Union (AMCU) was on strike.

Her real name cannot be revealed because she fears for her life.

“I heard singing in the distance. I thought I was actually dreaming, but it was getting nearer and nearer,” said Mary, who spoke to *Reuters* at an undisclosed location. The events she related unfolded outside her home near Lonmin’s Marikana mine on 14 May, which the London-listed company had declared a “return to work day” in the hope of persuading enough people to end the crippling AMCU strike.

The 17-week stoppage, which has also hit Anglo

American Platinum and Impala Platinum, did not end that night; AMCU members blocked roads, extending the longest and costliest industrial action in South African mining history. Fear is proving a potent weapon for the AMCU as it holds out for wage increases that the mining houses say they cannot afford.

Four NUM members were hacked or beaten to death in the run-up to May 14, and when Mary overheard someone at work - an AMCU “spy”, she feared - muttering “we must remove her head”, she thought she could be next.—*Reuters*



*Miners on strike chant slogans as they march in Nkaneng township outside the Lonmin mine in Rustenburg on 14 May, 2014. —REUTERS*



## ADVERTISEMENT &amp; GENERAL

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

## MV DANU BHUM VOY NO (368N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DANU BHUM VOY NO (368N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.5.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

## MV HAI PHONG 36 VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HAI PHONG 36 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.5.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W(3) 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 Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S G LINK EXPRESS PTE LTD**  
Phone No: 2301191/2301178/2301177

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

## MV INDUSTRIAL DART VOY NO (51024)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV INDUSTRIAL DART VOY NO (51024) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.5.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERMARINE, KUALA  
LUMPUR**

Phone No: 2301186

## Apology Announcement to Canon Inc., Japan.

We, **U Min Myat Aung** (NRC No. 10/Ya Ma Na (N) 162114), **U Khin Maung Than** (NRC. No. BTG 198682), **U Saw Naing** (NRC. No. 12/Ta Ga Ka (N) 151775 and **U Aung Nay Myo** (NRC. No. 10/Ya Ma Na (N) 083333) proprietor of Shops selling a variety of printers, accessories and ink cartridges at Seik Kan Thar Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar hereby apologize Canon Inc., Japan, for selling printing ink cartridges under the trademark 'Canon', although we were aware that the cartridges were not produced by Canon Inc., We sincerely did not know that our sales of imitation Canon cartridges would affect the Owners/manufactures of Canon and being first time offenders, we make this public apology and also agree to stop all sales of all imitation Canon products, remove all imitation Canon items from our shops. We thank Canon Inc., for their cooperation and understanding.

**U Min Myat Aung**  
Chan Myay

**U Khin Maung Than**  
Master

**U Saw Naing**  
Marvel Tech

**U Aung Nay Myo**  
Chan Mon

## Threatening phone call prompts lockdown at US military base

HOUSTON, 23 May—The US Army base of Fort Hood, located in central Texas, issued a partial lockdown on Thursday after receiving a threatening call. Fort Hood said in a brief statement posted on its website that commanders closed all inbound access gates on Thursday afternoon "due to a potential force protection issue," without further explanation. Hours later, it said the base had resumed its normal traffic flow.

"Officials on Fort Hood initiated a prudent security measure based on a telephone call received here. After a preliminary investigation, Fort Hood officials decided to reopen the installation," the statement said. Col Christopher Garver, a public affairs officer at the base, did not detail the phone call, but said they take force protection "very seriously" on Fort Hood and will take prudent measures when necessary.—Xinhua

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR  
MINISTRY OF ENERGY  
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE  
(10/2014)

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

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB -012(14-15)	10" ERW Steel Line Pipe (20 Miles) (API 5L, Grade X 42,3 LPE Coated)	US\$
(2)	IFB -013(14-15)	14" ERW Steel Line Pipe (33 Miles) (API 5L, Grade X 42,3 LPE Coated)	US\$
(3)	IFB -014(14-15)	Pipe Lifting & Aligning Equipments	US\$
(4)	IFB -015(14-15)	Spares for Jumbo Tube & Storade Cascade For CNG Stations	US\$
(5)	IFB -016(14-15)	Spares for ZJ 70L Drilling Rig Control Pannel	US\$
(6)	IFB -017(14-15)	Engine Spares for 30 Ton Mack Truck	US\$
(7)	IFB -018(14-15)	Spares for Mack Truck	US\$
(8)	DMP/L-006(14-15)	Tyre Assorted Size (8) Items	Kyats
(9)	DMP/L-007(14-15)	12V 21 Plate, 12V 17 Plate & 12V 13 Plate Battery	Kyats

-Tender Closing Date & Time - 18-6-2014, 16:30 Hr.

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2014 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.  
Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise  
Ph: +95 67 - 411097/411206

## Rebel attack during Syrian election campaigning kills more than 20

BEIRUT, 23 May—More than 20 people were killed when Syrian rebels shelled a tent being used for election campaigning in the southern province of Deraa, a monitoring group said on Friday.

At least 11 civilians, including a child, were among those killed in the attack which occurred in the al-Matar district of Deraa city on Thursday night, the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

Syria is holding an election next month that looks all but certain to give President Bashar al-Assad a third seven-year term. His opponents have dismissed the vote as a farce.

Images shared by anti-Assad activists online purportedly of the attack showed a burst of flame on a city street at night as people ran or stood nearby. The photographs could not be independently verified.

The death toll is expected to rise because about



**A man inspects a site hit by what activists say was a barrel bomb dropped by forces loyal to Syria's President Bashar al-Assad in Saida village in the eastern countryside of Deraa on 11 May, 2014. —REUTERS**

30 people were seriously wounded in the attack, the Observatory said.

More than 160,000 people have been killed in Syria's three-year-old conflict, according to the

Observatory, which monitors violence on both sides through a network of sources in the country. Millions more have fled their homes.

Reuters

## 22 killed in separate violent attacks across Iraq

BAGHDAD, 23 May—Twenty-two people were killed and 24 others wounded in separate violent attacks across Iraq on Thursday, police and medical sources said.

In northern Iraq, gunmen broke into a house of a policeman in south of the city of Mosul, and shot

dead the policeman, his brother and one of his relatives, before they fled the scene, a local police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. In a separate incident, a car bomb went off near a police patrol in the western part of Mosul, leaving two policemen and three passers-by wounded,

the source said.

Meanwhile, gunmen opened fire on a police vehicle on a main road near the city of Baiji, some 200 km north of Baghdad, killing a police officer and a policeman, and wounding another, a local police source told Xinhua.

Xinhua.

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## Jennifer Lopez didn't snub Jennifer Lawrence over met Gala Dance



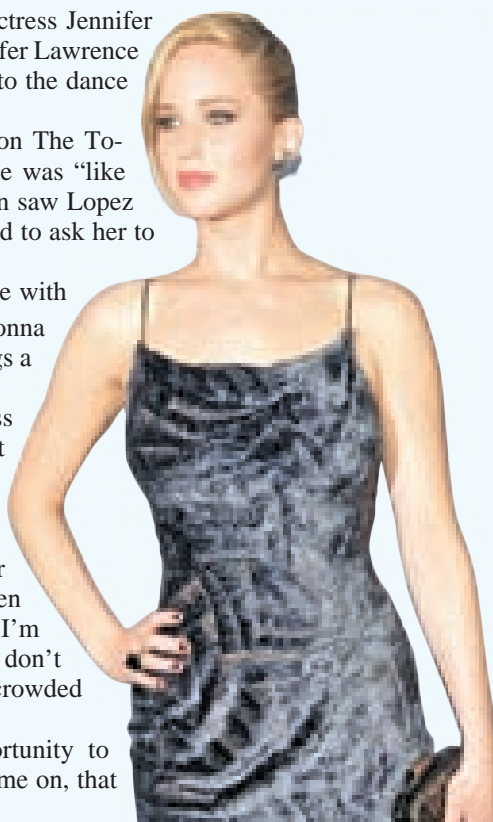
LOS ANGELES, 23 May — Singer-actress Jennifer Lopez says she didn't snub actress Jennifer Lawrence when the latter approached her to take to the dance floor recently.

The Hunger Games star revealed on The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon that she was "like 10 Jell-O shots in" when she and Fallon saw Lopez at the glittering fashion gala and decided to ask her to dance.

But her plan to get the star to dance with them failed when Lopez said: "I think I'm just gonna observe." Lopez now says that she remembers things a bit differently, reports showbizspy.com.

"This is how I remember it," Lopez told Access Hollywood. She said, "I remember that we were at the Met Ball and Kanye (West) was about to perform and it was like, a crazy moment. Then they came over — Jimmy Fallon, he started talking, and I was with Benny and Beau, and then she came over too. "And they were all, like, a little group. And then she was like, 'Let's go dance,' and I was like, 'No I'm good right here.' But I didn't mean it like, 'No I don't want to dance with you!' I just meant, like, 'It's so crowded in here let's just stay right here!'"

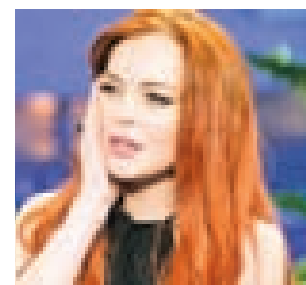
Lopez added that she would love the opportunity to dance with Lawrence. "Absolutely!" she said. "Come on, that would've been so sweet," she added.—PTI



## Lindsay Lohan not invited to Kim Kardashian, Kanye West's wedding

LOS ANGELES, 23 May — Plenty of celebrities, including Lindsay Lohan, Avril Lavigne, Ryan Seacrest, Mel B and Demi Lovato have been snubbed out of the invitees' list for Kim Kardashian and Kanye West's wedding, due to happen in France on 24 May.

It seems Kim is avoiding any similarities between her nuptials to her ex-husband Kris Humphries and her upcoming wedding with Kanye, as a whole lot of guests from



*Lindsay's family is close with the Kardashians, yet they have not been invited.—PTI*

her 2011 wedding have not been invited this time.

Lindsay's family is close with the Kardashians, yet they have not been invited, reports dailystar.co.uk. Meanwhile, the Kardashians have flown over to Paris for the weekend celebrations. Among the celebrities likely to attend the wedding are Beyonce and Jay Z. —PTI

## 'Star Wars' spin-off to be directed by 'Godzilla' filmmaker



*Director of the movie Gareth Edwards poses at the premiere of "Godzilla" at the Dolby theatre in Hollywood, California on 8 May, 2014.—REUTERS*

LOS ANGELES, 23 May — With J J Abrams kicking off the first of three new "Star Wars" films, Disney announced on Thursday that "Godzilla" filmmaker Gareth Edwards will direct a separate spin-off installment of the franchise, scheduled for December 2016.

The yet-to-be-titled "Star Wars" film, which is being written by "The Book of Eli" screenwriter Gary Whitta, is being described as a stand-alone movie in addition to the next three installments beginning with Abrams's "Star Wars: Episode VII," to be released in December 2015.

British director Edwards made his feature film debut with his re-imagining of "Godzilla," which stormed the North American box office with \$93.2 million in sales over the past weekend. Walt Disney Co purchased "Star Wars" creator George Lucas's production company LucasFilm for \$4.05 billion in 2012 and announced it would release spin-off films between the releases of three new films in the popular sci-fi series.—Reuters

## 'American Idol' finale draws lowest audience with 10.1 million viewers

LOS ANGELES, 23 May — The finale of Fox's singing competition show "American Idol" drew the lowest viewership in its 13-year history, with only 10.1 million viewers, down 29 percent from last year's record low, according to early ratings figures from the network.

"Idol," which crowned North Carolina singer Caleb Johnson the winner in a two-hour finale on Wednesday night, was once an industry powerhouse for Fox and watched by more than 30 million viewers at its peak. But it has steadily declined in ratings in recent years, averaging around 8 million viewers per episode over the current season despite

featuring celebrity judges Jennifer Lopez, Keith Urban and Harry Connick Jr.

The "Idol" finale also saw a significant slump in its 18-49 demographic that advertisers covet, drawing 3.3 million this year.

Last year, the finale garnered a low of 14.2 million viewers, the first time the show's finale failed to draw 20 million people, despite bringing in high-priced celebrity judges Mariah Carey, Nicki Minaj and Urban to boost sagging ratings.

In comparison to "Idol's" on Wednesday finale, NBC's singing competition "The Voice" drew 11.6 million viewers during its Tuesday finale and continues to be a hit for the

Comcast Corp.-owned network.

"Idol" will be scaled back for its next season from approximately 50 hours to 37 hours, Fox Broadcasting entertainment chairman Kevin Reilly said earlier this month.

Last year, longtime "Idol" producer Nigel Lythgoe was fired from the show last year due to low ratings, and replaced by Swedish producer Per Blankens.

Reuters

*Winner Caleb Johnson poses backstage at the American Idol XIII 2014 Finale in Los Angeles, California on 21 May, 2014.*

REUTERS





## GENERAL

## Camera lost at sea in 2012 found in Canada with photos intact

VANCOUVER, 23 May — A camera lost in a shipwreck off the west coast of Vancouver Island, Canada, two years ago was found this month — remarkably with its memory card and images intact.

The owner of the camera, Paul Burgoyne, lost the camera in 2012 when his boat was shipwrecked on a 500-km voyage from Vancouver to his summer home in Tahsis, British Columbia, according to a report from Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC).

“That just shocked me,” Burgoyne was quoted as saying on Thursday. “Getting the camera, or the photos back, that’s really quite wonderful.”

Earlier this month, Bamfield Marine Sciences Center students Tella Osler and Beau Doherty discovered Burgoyne’s camera 12 metres down while conducting research dives off Aguilar Point, BC. The Lexar Platinum II, 8 GB memory card still worked and the photographs on it were posted online in hopes of finding the owner.

Luckily, a member of the Bamfield coast guard station, who had rescued Burgoyne when he was shipwrecked, recognized him in the pictures and as a result, Burgoyne is due to be reunited with his photographs soon. “I have a new respect for these electronics,” Burgoyne said. “You throw most of it away every two years, but that little card is an amazing bit of technology.”—Xinhua



Azhar University students wait for buses while leaving campus in Cairo, Egypt, on 22 May, 2014. Egyptian universities will be closed from 22<sup>nd</sup> through 31<sup>st</sup> of May due to the presidential election, according to the state-run Ahram website.

XINHUA

## One-third of Burundi’s population suffers from food insecurity

BUJUMBURA, 23 May — At least one-third of the Burundian population suffers from food insecurity, a study conducted by the United Nations World Food Programme said here on Thursday in a workshop.

“A survey recently conducted and whose results have been presented during this workshop shows that at least one third of the Burundian population is suffering from food insecurity. The most affected areas include the provinces of Muramvya, Mwaro,

Karusi and Rutana,” said Jean Mahwane, head of Food Security unity at the World Food Programme (WFP) in Burundi, citing the content of the global analysis of nutritional and food security and vulnerability in Burundi.

Mahwane indicated that the country’s central Mwaro and Muramvya Provinces have, in the past, been performing well in terms of food security.

He said “Both provinces didn’t get interventions and food assistance like

other provinces.”

Mahwane indicated that the priority was given to northern and eastern provinces.

Burundi has a population of 8.38 million in 2010 according to the revision of the World Population Prospects.

In 2013, Burundi has been ranked as the third most food insecure country in the world out of 79 countries surveyed by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).

Xinhua

### MYANMAR TV

(24-5-2014, Saturday)

- 6:00 am
- 1. Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 6:30 am
- 2. Nice & Sweet Songs
- 7:00 am
- 3. News / Weather Report
- 7:40 am
- 4. Hyper Sports
- 8:00 am
- 5. News/ International News
- 8:30 am
- 6. India Drama Series
- 9:00 am
- 7. News/ International News
- 10:00 am
- 8. News
- 10:40 am
- 9. Teleplay
- 11:00 am
- 10. Joint Performance by State Orchestra and State Traditional Orchestra
- 12:00 pm
- 11. News / International News / Weather Report
- 12:25 pm
- 12. Round up of The Week’s TV Local News
- 1:30 pm
- 13. Teleplay
- 3:00 pm
- 14. News
- 3:15 pm
- 15. Teleplay
- 4:30 pm
- 16. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) Third Year (Philosophy)
- 5:00 pm
- 17. News
- 5:30 pm
- 18. Golden Music of Old Stars
- 6:00 pm
- 19. News / Weather Report
- 6:20 pm
- 20. MRTV’s Youth Programme
- 7:20 pm
- 21. Teleplay
- 8:00 pm
- 22. News/International News/Weather Report
- 8:45 pm
- 23. Business News
- 9:30 pm
- 24. Myanmar Series

### MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(24-5-14 07:00am~ 25-5-14 07:00am) MST

- \* Local News
- \* Great Shwedagon - The Religious Insiginias of Pagodas i
- n Myanmar
- \* World News
- \* In The Studio : L CO
- \* Local News
- \* Sagaing: Po Kwel Kone Net Festival
- \* World News
- \* Scented Buddha Images
- \* Local News
- \* Pada Ceti, The Buddha’s Foot-Prints
- \* World News
- \* Myanmar Movie Review - Mar Gyi Shay ... “Best of health”
- \* Local News
- \* Pagoda Forest in Pa-O Land
- \* World News
- \* Myanmar Master-class: Art Teacher
- \* Local News
- \* Distinct People, Different Lifestyles (Pan-Pack Village)
- \* World News
- \* The Photographer
- \* Local News
- \* Myanmar Social & Charitable Association (Episode-2) (Jivitadana Hospital)
- \* World News
- \* Entrepreneur “Kala-yar Pyi Wai Shan”
- \* Local News
- \* Myanmar Wedding Dresses
- \* World News
- \* Director: Maung Myo Min (Yin Twin Pyit)
- \* Local News
- \* Let’s visit Flower

## Newcastle’s Dummett gets death threats over Suarez injury

LONDON, 23 May — Newcastle United defender Paul Dummett has received death threats from angry Uruguay fans who blame him for the injury that has put striker Luis Suarez’s World Cup campaign in doubt, British media reported on Friday.

Liverpool striker Suarez had keyhole surgery on his left knee on Thursday and faces a race to be fit for the World Cup in Brazil, with Uruguay playing Costa Rica in their opening Group D game on 14 June and England in their second match on 19 June.

Suarez complained about the problem during his first day of training with the Uruguay squad.

The country’s FA

(AUF) said he first suffered the injury in the final Premier League game of the season at home to Newcastle as Liverpool chased the title.

Dummett was sent off for fouling Suarez late in the match.

“It should be highlighted that the player received a direct blow to his left knee in the last game of the Premier League season with Liverpool, on 11 May, with pain which eased with rest from sporting action after the season had ended,” the Uruguayan FA said on Thursday.

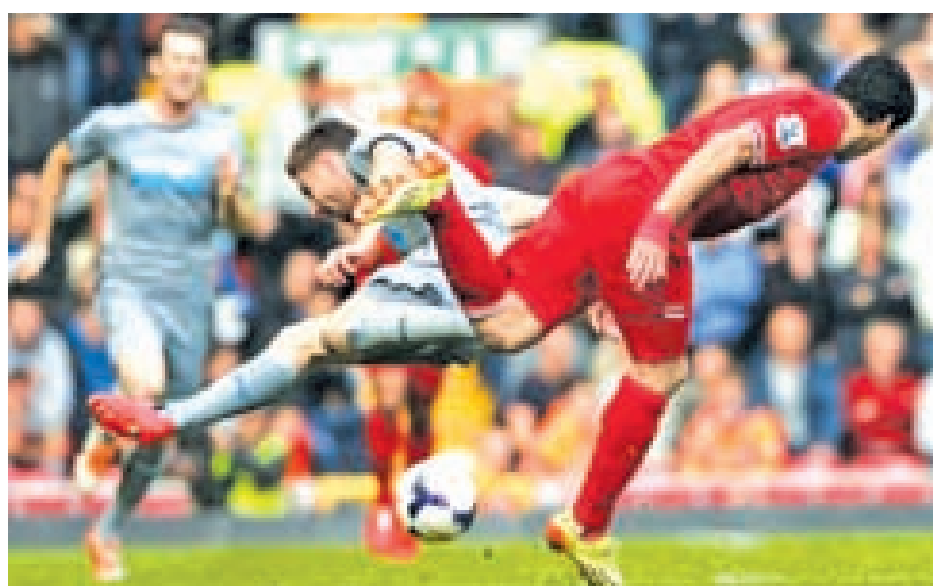
Dummett, whose red card in the 82nd minute of Newcastle’s 2-1 defeat was later rescinded on appeal, on Thursday was the victim of death threats on social

media from local fans as the AUF seemed to blame Newcastle for Suarez’s operation.

The 22-year-old Newcastle defender, who was called up by Wales on Thursday for a friendly against the Netherlands on 4 June, has referred the threats to soccer authorities.

Suarez will need up to 20 days to recover but Uruguay team doctors have not ruled him out of the 12 June to 13 July finals.

“The challenge was inadvertent. I hit him and the ball with my left foot and he went down under the challenge,” Dummett told the *Daily Mirror* on Thursday. “I hope he makes the World Cup because he is one of the best players in



Liverpool’s Luis Suarez (R) is fouled by Newcastle United’s Paul Dummett (L), earning Dummett a red card during their English Premier League soccer match at Anfield in Liverpool, northern England on 11 May, 2014.—REUTERS

the world so he should be there.

“Having said that, I

injured my meniscus three years ago and I was out for three months, so it will

depend on the injury and exactly where it is on the knee.”—Reuters



# Pacquiao vs Mayweather will happen, says Arum



*Manny Pacquiao of the Philippines*

LOS ANGELES, 23 May — The prospect of a long awaited mega-bout between Floyd Mayweather Jr and Manny Pacquiao may have receded in recent years but promoter Bob Arum believes the fight will take place, most likely before the end of 2016.

A duel between the defence-minded Mayweather and the aggressive Pacquiao, the biggest draw-cards of their generation, has long been savoured by boxing fans, if only to decide the mythical title of the world's best pound-for-pound fighter.

Filipino Pacquiao lost much of his appeal after successive defeats to

American Timothy Bradley and Mexican Juan Manuel Marquez in 2012, prompting talk of his possible retirement, though he has since bounced back with two impressive wins.

"I think that fight will eventually happen," Arum, Pacquiao's promoter, told *Reuters* on Thursday in a telephone interview. "We are certainly open to the fight happening and we are prepared to sit down with (the Mayweather team) at any time and work out terms."

Five-division world champion Mayweather, who is known for his shrewd business acumen, had been expected to meet

Pacquiao in 2010 until negotiations collapsed over the American's demand for random drug testing.

Mayweather, who has hinted at illegal methods by often questioning how Pacquiao could have won world titles in an unprecedented eight weight classes, has since said he would not fight the Filipino as long as Arum is his promoter.

Veteran Arum, however, has his own theory about that.

"Frankly, it's the same as it always was," said the 82-year-old promoter, who has worked with giants of the ring such as Muhammad Ali, Sugar Ray Leonard, Marvin Hagler and Roberto Duran.

"The idea that Mayweather says, 'Well, I'm not going to fight Pacquiao because Bob Arum is involved,' is the latest in a whole line of excuses.

"If you look at it from Mayweather's standpoint, he has this unbelievable deal with Showtime (satellite television network), paying him all this money ... so he would probably figure, 'I have three more fights under the Showtime

contract'."

## STRONG FEELING

Assuming that Mayweather wins those next three fights to improve his perfect record to 49-0 and conclude his Showtime deal, Arum has a strong feeling that the flamboyant American would then agree to a mega-fight with Pacquiao (56-5-2).

"He (Mayweather) would figure, 'Why don't I do those (three) fights for the easy money and then in 2016, with my 50th fight, I could beat the (49-0) record of (Rocky) Marciano by fighting Pacquiao'," said Arum.

"That would be a huge fight, and I believe it will happen."

Should that bout take

place, it could well be the last fight of Pacquiao's career as the Filipino agreed earlier this week to extend his promotional agreement with Arum's Top Rank company until the end of 2016.

Between now and then, Pacquiao is likely to fight twice each year and he will next step into the ring on 8 November, in all likelihood in Macau and probably against his old foe, Mexican Marquez, a four-division world champion.

"Marquez has not, as of yet, committed to the fight so we will be talking to him in the days ahead," said Arum. "I am going to be over in Macau next week (for a fight) and I

have invited Juan Manuel and his wife to come. I believe they will."

Marquez, who knocked out Pacquiao the last time they met in December 2012, beat welterweight Mike Alvarado by unanimous decision in his most recent fight, last week.

Should Marquez decline the opportunity to take on Pacquiao for a fifth time, Arum said he would probably then target Ruslan Provodnikov of Russia as the Filipino's opponent in November.

When Pacquiao's promotional agreement with Top Rank ends at the end of 2016, the Filipino southpaw will be 38 years old, the perfect time for him to end his glittering boxing career.

"That's what we figured and that's why we made it to the end of 2016," said Arum. "Hopefully by that point he would have been elected to the Philippine senate and that's very time consuming. That would be the signal for him to hang up his gloves."—*Reuters*



*Floyd Mayweather Jr*

## FIFA issues World Cup ticket warning

RIO DE JANEIRO, 23 May — Football's governing body FIFA has warned that fans with unauthorized tickets will be barred from entering stadiums during the World Cup. In a statement released on Thursday, the Zurich-based body expressed concern at illegitimate ticket sales for the



12 June-13 July event.

"Over the last few weeks we have unfortunately seen more and more people leaving our ticket centers disappointed as they failed to collect their tickets purchased through unofficial websites," FIFA said in the statement.

According to FIFA

"companies, websites and individuals" are "offering tickets to unsuspecting fans through unauthorised resells at exorbitant prices."

Online events ticket vendor Stubhub has quoted resold tickets for the Brazil-Croatia tournament opener on 12 June at 2,300 US dollars.—*Xinhua*

## Japan book final berth on Iwashimizu's extra-time goal

HO CHI MINH CITY, 23 May — Defender Azusa Iwashimizu delivered a header from a corner kick from captain Aya Miyama in the dying seconds of extra time as Japan beat China 2-1 to book a spot in the final at the Women's Asian Cup on Thursday.

The reigning World Cup champions, who came first in Group A in the group stage and reached the final for the first time in five tournaments, are seeking their first Asian title.

"The players kept running until the end," said Japan coach Norio Sasaki. "It was their persistence to win. The cheers from fans were encouraging. We

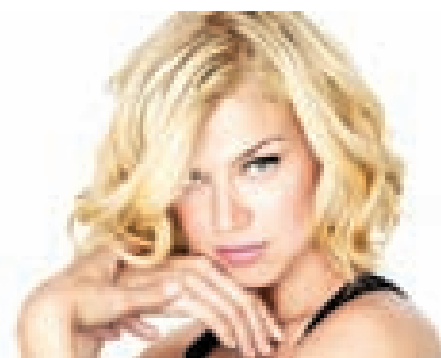


*Homare Sawa (front) of Japan celebrates after scoring the opening goal on a header in the second half of a semifinal match against China in the Women's Asian Cup in Ho Chi Minh City on 22 May, 2014.—KYODO NEWS*

want to respond to expectations in the final."

Japan, who will face Group A runner-up

## Wozniacki takes comfort from Liverpool connection



*Danish tennis player Caroline Wozniacki*

VIRGINIA WATER, (England), 23 May — Danish tennis player Caroline Wozniacki said she was drawing comfort from her fellow supporters of Liverpool football club in her first public comments since golfer Rory McIlroy announced their wedding had been called off.

The 25-year-old Northern Irishman issued a statement on the eve of the BMW PGA Championship at Wentworth, saying he was not ready for marriage.

"It's a hard time for me right now," former world number one Wozniacki said on Twitter on Thursday.

"Thanks for all the sweet messages! Happy I support Liverpool right now because I know I'll never walk alone," she added in reference to the famous anthem of the five-times European soccer champions. McIlroy is a lifelong fan of Liverpool's arch-rivals Manchester United and played in the same group as former Old Trafford favourites Peter Schmeichel, Teddy Sheringham and Phil Neville in Wednesday's pre-tournament pro-am.

World number 10 McIlroy said the split came just a few days after wedding invitations had been sent out.

"There is no right way to end a relationship that has been so important to two people," explained the twice major winner. "The problem is mine. The wedding invitations issued at the weekend made me realise I wasn't ready for all that marriage entails.

"I wish Caroline all the happiness she deserves and thank her for the great times we've had."—*Reuters*