

## Respects paid to Latpadaungtaung village elders



*Union Minister U Hla Tun cordially greets village elders at respect-paying ceremony in Latpadaungtaung region.—MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Aug — A respect-paying ceremony for the village elders aged 75 and over in nearby villages of Latpadaungtaung copper mining project was held at a hall of Latpaduang Taunggya Pagoda on Friday, attended by Union Minister at Pres-

ident Office U Hla Tun together with Union Minister for Religious Affairs U Soe Win and Sagaing Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye and officials.

In his greetings, the Union minister, who is also the chairman of the Committee for Implemen-

tation of Investigation Commission's Report on Latpadaungtaung Copper Mine Project explained the purpose of holding the ceremony, saying that the committee was taking responsibility for the good of local people, promising all-round development of

Latpadaungtaung region.

During the ceremony, officials presented medicines and gifts to 662 village elders aged 75 and over from 49 villages near Latpadaungtaung, Sabeitaung and Kyaysintaung copper mining project.

MNA

## President U Thein Sein felicitates Ukrainian counterpart, PM

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Aug — U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent messages of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Petro Poroshenko, President of Ukraine and His Excellency Mr. Arseniy Yatsenyuk, Prime Minister of Ukraine, on the occasion of the Independence Day of Ukraine which falls on 24 August 2014.—MNA

## Suspected patient's health gets improved

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Aug — Health condition of the suspected patient who is receiving medical treatment at Waibargi Hospital in Yangon has improved on Saturday, becoming better than yesterday while his four close contacts are in good health, said the Ministry of Health.

According to the ministry, the male patient had normal body temperature and blood pressure at 120/80 millimeters of mercury (mm Hg) and he was able to walk and normally ate food on Saturday morn-

ing. The man has not experienced any bleeding symptoms since he was admitted to the hospital on Tuesday, it added.

The male patient who arrived in the country by air on Tuesday is being given appropriate treatments at the hospital in accord with the instructions of consultants as he was diagnosed with a severe and complicated malaria with mixed infection of Plasmodium falciparum and Plasmodium vivax by lab tests on Wednesday.

MNA

## Myanmar holds Hassanal Bolkiah Trophy

YANGON, 23 Aug — Myanmar holds the Hassanal Bolkiah Trophy 2014 champion after beating Vietnam 4-3 on Saturday night at the National Stadium in Brunei Darussalam.

Myo Ko Tun from Myanmar opened the scoring in the 17<sup>th</sup> minute to lead Vietnam 1-0 but Phan Van Long from Vietnam leveled the scores 1-1 in the 38<sup>th</sup> minute.

In the second half, Vietnam's Ho Tuan Tai kicked the ball into the net in the 48<sup>th</sup> minute, giving Vietnam a 2-1 lead.

Myanmar answered back with two consecutive goals of Myo Ko Tun and Maung Maung Soe in the 58<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> minute, securing a 3-2 lead over Vietnam.

Striker Cong Phuong from Vietnam scored in the 71<sup>st</sup> minute to draw

3-3. But in the 82<sup>nd</sup> minute, Myanmar's Aung Thu scored the winning goal to grab the trophy for Myanmar.

Myanmar claimed as the winner for the first time in this tournament.

Myanmar is also the only unbeaten team in the group stage of the event.

NLM

### Myanmar

Myo Ko Tun	17', 58'
Maung Maung Soe	60'
Aung Thu	82'

### Vietnam

Phan Van Long	38'
Ho Tuan Tai	48'
Cong Phuong	71'

*Myanmar celebrate victory after beating its counterpart Vietnam in Hassanal Bolkiah Trophy 2014 championship final match.—VFF*







H.E Dr. Ito Sumardi, Ambassador of Indonesia to Myanmar, and his wife welcome U Thant Kyaw, Deputy Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar at 69th Independence Day of Indonesia on 22 August.  
MNA

## Paukkon people appreciate replacement of worn power lines

Skilled workers of electronic engineering office in Mingaladon township replace old power lines to prevent threats of electricity.

KHIN ZAW  
(MINGALA)



YANGON, 22 Aug — In a bid to prevent potential threats of electricity, old power lines were replaced with insulated wires in Paukkon of Mingaladon township, Yangon Region, on Saturday.

According to an official, the replacement of worn power lines, a project

supervised by the township's electronic engineering office, will prevent power waste and enable local people to use electricity to its full potential.

A person who lives in the area expressed his delight on behalf of the townspeople.

*Khin Zaw (Mingala)*



A group photo of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association (MWEA) with Mi Kyi Kyi Han who won two-year Japanese Development Scholarship leaves for Japan on Saturday via Yangon International Airport to attend MBA (Economics).—MNA

## Myanmar, Japanese students build cultural bridge

YANGON, 23 Aug — Myanmar and Japanese students on Friday participated in a Cultural Exchange Programme at Sangyoung BEHS No (1) in Yangon,

performing traditional dances and music to build a cultural bridge between the two countries and bring about better understanding of the two cultures.

The ceremony took place, with Headmistress Dr Sandar Mya Nyein and Ms. Noniko Endo, official from Japanese International Co-operation Centre, extending

greetings. During the ceremony, Japanese students demonstrated ceremonies and traditional Japanese dances and music.

*Sangyoung Township IPRD*



Two Japanese students dance for a Myanmar song together with Myanmar students during Myanmar-Japan High School Students Exchange Programme.—NLM

## Workshop on health care for sub-urban population held in Yangon

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 22 Aug— A workshop on health care for the sub-urban population aimed at identifying and tackling health-related challenges was held on Thursday in Yangon, organized by the People's Health Foundation (PHF) and with support from the Three Millennium Development Goal Fund (3MDG).

In his speech at the workshop, Billy Stewart, Board Chair of the Three Millennium Development Goal Fund (3MDG), said, "It is essential to build health care systems that can adapt to the challenges of rapid urbanization".

"The 3MDG Fund—reducing child mortality and improving maternal health as well as combating HIV, tuberculosis and malaria—prepares to provide financing for health intervention for needy people in the region including refurbishment of existing public health centres", added Billy Stewart.

According to a 2012 survey in Yangon, Twantay township has the highest abortion rate among sub-urban townships in Yangon while South Dagon Township tops the chart of crude birth death rate, Dr Than Sein, President of People's Health



A participant from Yangon City Development Committee discusses improving health of people in sub-urban areas.—KHAING THANDA LWIN

Foundation (PHF), said at the workshop in Yangon.

The meeting also focused on reviewing roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder in governance and provision of health care of the sub-urban population.

Dr Than Sein also discussed the current situation and challenges in the health sector, strengthening health systems, public health management and role and responsibility of stakeholders as well as strategic interventions.

During the workshop, experts from different departments and agencies also made recommendation on policy options to improve health care.—NLM



LOCAL NEWS

## Upper Myanmar Journalists Association established in Mandalay



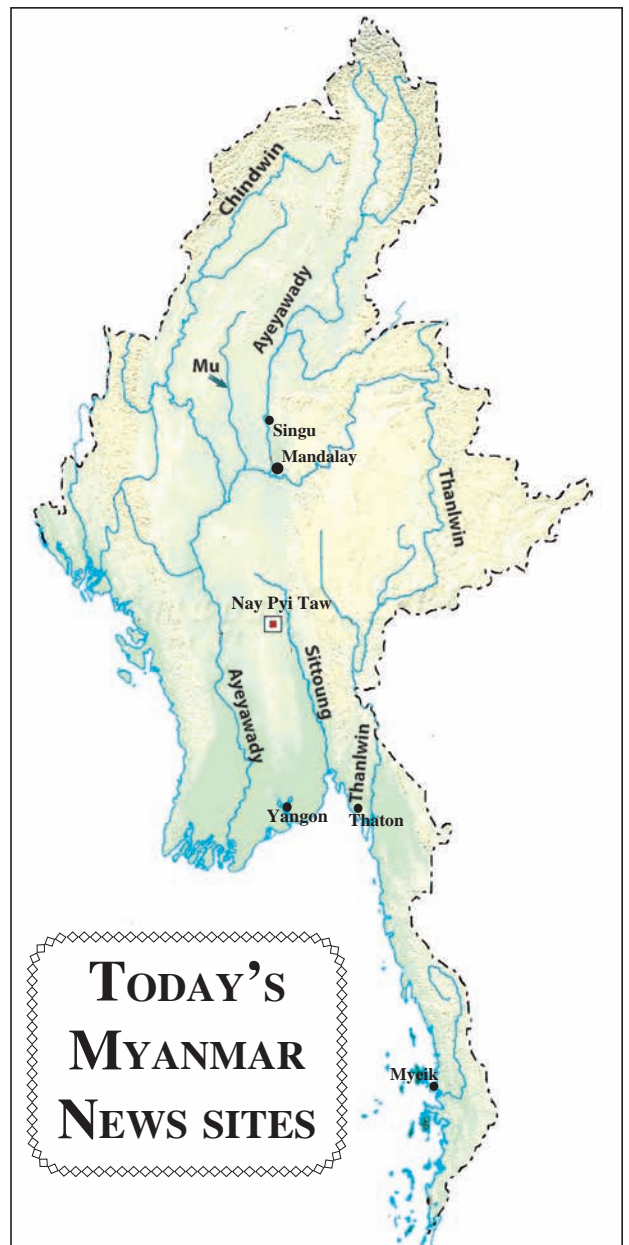
MANDALAY, 23 Aug — A ceremony to form Upper Myanmar Journalists Association was held at Oriental House in Mandalay on 20 August. In his address, Mandalay Region Minister for Finance and Information Dr Myint Kyu said he welcomed the formation of media organizations. The

media pillar should abide by the prescribed ethics and present correct news as well as rebut the wrong information.

Patron of the association U Sein Win Aung and chairman U Htay Aung gave speeches.

The association was formed by founder of the Mandalay Daily U Sein Win Aung (Sein Win Aung-Mandalay), who is former Ambassador and former Mandalay City Mayor, together with Chairman U Htay Aung of former chief reporter of the Mandalay Daily. The executive committee of the association released a five-point statement.

*Min Htet Aung  
(Mandalay Sub-printing House)*



## Myeik Township to get modern highway bus terminal



MYEIK, 23 Aug — Myeik Public Corporation Ltd has completed land preparations for construction of an international level highway bus terminal in Myeik of Taninthayi Region.

A ceremony to sign the contract for construction of the bus terminal and all-round development project was held at Mya See Sein Hotel in Myeik on 20 August.

Chairman of the corporation U Hla Than said that project will be implemented on 46.40 acres of land beside the road to the industrial zone in south Myeik village-tract within

three years.

Managing Director of Erawati Projects-Projects Manarement Ltd U Thaw Zin explained the drawing of a master plan and design for the project.

Managing Director U Soe Win and Managing Director U Thaw Zin signed a contract.

The highway bus terminal will comprise the highway bus compound, brokerage, warehouse, fuel station, residential buildings, supermarket, grocery and market.

*Khaing Htoo  
(Myeik District IPRD)*

## Foodstuffs provided to flood victims in Singu Tsp

SINGU, 23 Aug — Mandalay Region Minister for Transport U Kyaw Hsan provided foodstuff to flood victims from Sibinkyun Village of Hinthapo Village-tract in Singu Township of Mandalay Region on 21 August.

The Mandalay Region Government provided K50,000 to each flood victim household. The region government plans to prevent landslides in the region and will demand funds for prevention of bank erosion, said the minister.

As of 13 August, 47 houses of 75 have been



moved to the safe places due to landslides. The Township Administrator and officials of the Relief and Resettlement Department gave necessary sup-

plies to the flood victims.

*Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)*

## Thaton Township opens building of rural health branch

THATON, 23 Aug — A ceremony to commission the rural health branch into service was held in Donwun Village of Thaton Township in Mon State so as to give health care services to over 6,000 people from four villages.



On 22 August, Mon State Minister for Social Association Dr Hla Oo and officials formally opened the health unit.

Managing Director U Nay Myo Aung of Shwe Nay Yaung Construction Company handed over documents related to the building to officials of the Health Department.

The Ministry of Health funded K60 million for construction of the building for rural health branch in 2012-13 fiscal year.

There are 29 health branches in Thaton Township. Of them, Donwun Village health branch will be beneficial to over 6,000 people from Donwun, Yaywai, Kamasai and Zayatkyun village.

*Thet Oo (Thaton)*



## Thai junta leader tells nation to move on from coup

## Philippines recalls peacekeepers from Liberia over Ebola threat

BANGKOK, 23 Aug — Thai junta leader General Prayuth Chan-ocha, in an address to the nation a day after he was elected prime minister by a legislature he hand-picked, asked Thais not to dwell on the dramatic coup he led in May.

“There is no point saying whether a coup is good or whether it is bad,” Prayuth said in his Friday night speech.

“I have never said that all my actions are correct or incorrect. I take responsibility for my actions. Others must take responsibility for theirs,” he added without elaborating.

In a rambling, 90-minute speech Prayuth, who is also Thailand’s army chief, touched on a number of

topics ranging from Thailand’s illegal ivory trade to practices of human trafficking in the fishing industry.

Prayuth did not mention his appointment as prime minister.

His election, which still needs to be endorsed by Thailand’s king, adds a veneer of legitimacy to a military council, formally known as the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO), that has ruled unchallenged since it took control.

It comes at a time when Thailand’s economy, which narrowly avoided a technical recession in the second quarter this year, is struggling to get back on its feet after months of sometimes violent street demonstrations.

The military staged a coup on 22 May after months of turbulence pitting protesters, including the urban elite and southern Thais, against supporters of ousted Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra.

Prayuth has outlined a year-long roadmap including the appointment of a council to oversee national reforms, an interim government and elections in late 2015.

Reuters



Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha

## India launches maiden stealth anti-submarine warship

NEW DELHI, 23 Aug — India Saturday inducted its first home-made stealth anti-submarine warship *INS Kamorta* into its navy.

Indian Defence Minister Arun Jaitley commissioned the warship at the naval dockyard in the

southern state of Andhra Pradesh’s port city of Vishakhapatnam.

“*INS Kamorta* will serve this country effectively for a very long time. In recent months, amongst the various initiatives that the government has undertaken

is indigenous manufacturing of our defence deployment,” the minister said. The warship, which is first in a series of four planned corvettes, can carry short-range missiles and an integral anti-submarine warfare helicopter.—Xinhua

Some 300 students from 84 countries and regions attend an opening ceremony for a “Japan TENT” event in Kanazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture, central Japan, on 20 Aug, 2014. The weeklong event till 26 Aug is designed to allow the students to experience local culture and traditions. KYODO NEWS



Female members of a Philippine peacekeeping force bound for Liberia stand at attention during a send-off ceremony at the military headquarters in Manila on 28 January, 2009. —REUTERS

MANILA, 23 Aug — The Philippines on Saturday ordered 115 troops to return home from peace-keeping operations in Liberia, spurred by a worsening Ebola epidemic in West Africa that has killed almost 1,500 people.

The Philippines has about 800 to 1,000 soldiers and police officers serving under the United Nations flag in conflict and disaster-stricken areas, including Haiti, Sudan, East Timor, Cote d’Ivoire and the Korean peninsula.

“The president is getting worried over the Ebola outbreak in Liberia and has ordered all 115 Filipino troops to return home as soon as possible,” a senior defence official told Reuters.

The Philippine contingent would cut short its tour of duty, added the official, who declined to be named because he was not authorised to speak to the media.

The Philippines has been sending soldiers to Liberia since 2003. A

Philippine seaman is being monitored in Togo for signs of the disease but authorities say the country is still Ebola-free, despite dozens of workers returning from Liberia.

Another 331 Philippine troops deployed in the Golan Heights will return home in October after completing a tour of duty, defence ministry spokesman Peter Paul Galvez said.

“Amidst the volatile security environment in the Middle East and West

African region, the Philippines prioritises the safety and security of its troops, but remains committed to the peace keeping missions of the Union Nations,” he said in a statement.

The Philippines has been sending a battalion-size contingent to the Golan Heights since 2009. In March 2013, Syrian rebels briefly held 21 Philippine peacekeepers and kidnapped four more two months later. All Philippine peacekeepers have been freed.

Peacekeepers have been caught in the middle of fighting between Syrian troops and rebels in the area of separation, which had been largely quiet for nearly 40 years.

Israel captured the Golan heights from Syria in the 1967 “Six-Day” war, and the countries technically remain at war. Syrian troops are not allowed in an area of separation under a 1973 ceasefire formalized in 1974.

The United Nations Disengagement Observation Force (UNDOF), which has been monitoring the ceasefire, has about 1,000 peacekeepers and civilian staff from India, Nepal, Ireland, Fiji, Moldova, Morocco and the Philippines.—Reuters

## Japan eyes effective use of space to detect missiles

TOKYO, 23 Aug — The Defence Ministry plans to use space more effectively to detect early signs of ballistic missile launches by North Korea and bolster its defence capabilities, a draft of Japan’s new space policy showed on Friday.

In the basic policy to be formally adopted by the end of August, the ministry hopes to promote empirical research with the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency. It will also consider setting up a special force for space surveillance within the Self-Defence Forces, and developing smaller satellites that can be lifted off easily, according to the draft.

Currently, Japan has four information-gathering satellites.

The Defence Minis-

try plans to load its infrared sensors onto JAXA’s new satellite to conduct research and improve its capabilities to analyze satellite images, according to the draft policy.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is trying to rework the country’s defence posture as North Korea has repeatedly defied international pressure and launched missiles and other projectiles. Japan is also vigilant against China’s possible militarization of space.

Japan and the United States are set to revise their defence cooperation guidelines by the end of the year, with bilateral cooperation in space expected to be one of the key items.

So far, Japan has enabled JAXA to do research for the country’s defence

since the law concerning the agency was revised, and aimed for greater use of space under the latest defence programme guidelines.

The ministry and JAXA have been conducting joint research since April last year.

The draft states it is “extremely important to use space to prepare for various contingencies, including ballistic missiles.” It goes on to say there exist “grave threats to stable use of space,” citing factors such as an increase in space debris, and moves to develop weapons to shoot down satellites.

The ministry crafted the first basic policy in 2009 after Japan enacted the Basic Space Law in 2008.

Kyodo News



## WORLD

# Obama may seek new funds to battle Islamic State

WASHINGTON, 23 Aug — President Barack Obama could ask the US Congress in coming weeks to approve new funds for air strikes against Islamic State targets, according to a congressional aide, following the militants' beheading of an American journalist and activities in Iraq.

A Senate Democratic aide on Friday said the Obama administration could detail by early to mid-September the amount of additional money it wants for the military operations, although the aide did not estimate the size of the possible funding request.

The administration has indicated it does not want to put combat troops into the region, although it has said it is evaluating all options on how to deal with Syria.

The request would come as some influential members of Congress call

on Obama to step up U.S. military pressure against Islamic State fighters. On Thursday, Republican Senator John McCain of Arizona called for a significant increase in air strikes, including bombing missions against targets in Syria.

"You've got to dramatically increase the air strikes. And those air strikes have to be devoted to Syria as well," McCain told *Reuters* in a telephone interview.

Democratic Senator Bill Nelson of Florida, a senior member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, earlier this week said, "We have to continue to take the fight to ISIS, not only in Iraq but in Syria as well."

The Senate aide, who asked not to be identified, said additional funding for military operations over Iraq and Syria is likely to be one of a few unrelated spending matters Congress



*The wreckage of a car belonging to Islamic State militants lies along a road after it was targeted by a US air strike at Mosul Dam, northern Iraq on 21 Aug, 2014.*

REUTERS

could debate in September, after returning from a five-week summer recess.

One year ago, Congress returned from its long summer recess hav-

ing to deal with a request by Obama for the backing of US air strikes against Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's forces. The request came after the United

States alleged that Assad had used chemical weapons against civilians.

That effort sputtered following British opposition to air strikes and a

deep lack of support among US politicians.

General Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told a Pentagon news conference on Thursday that the Pentagon would examine whether additional funds were needed for operations in Iraq in the new fiscal year that begins on 1 October.

"I think we're fine for fiscal year '14 and we'll have to continue to gather the data and see what it does to us in '15," Dempsey told reporters.

Aides to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and House Speaker John Boehner were not immediately available for comment.

Don Stewart, a spokesman for Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell, said on Friday: "The administration still hasn't put forward a plan for dealing with the wider threat posed" by the Islamic State.

Reuters

## US deputy defence chief hails progress on Okinawa base relocation



*US Deputy Defence Secretary Robert Work (far L) holds talks with Japanese Senior Vice Defence Minister Ryota Takeda (far R) at the ministry in Tokyo on 22 Aug, 2014.—KYODO NEWS*

TOKYO, 23 Aug — US Deputy Defence Secretary Robert Work said on Friday there are "signs of tangible progress" toward realizing the long-stalled

relocation of a key US base in Okinawa Prefecture after Japan started a seabed survey despite local protests.

"This is a major accomplishment that opens

the way for us to make substantial progress in re-alignment of US forces on Okinawa," Work told reporters after meeting with Japanese Senior Vice De-

fense Minister Ryota Takeda in Tokyo.

Takeda said both countries reaffirmed their "commitment" to the relocation plan for the US Marine Corps' Futenma Air Station. To ease the burden on Okinawa of hosting the bulk of US military facilities and training, the two defense officials also reaffirmed plans to move some training exercises by *MV-22 Ospreys* out of the southwestern prefecture.

The Defence Ministry is now conducting a drilling survey at the relocation site off the coast of Henoko after Okinawa Gov. Hirokazu Nakaima approved a landfill project for building the replacement facility there in December.

Kyodo News

## European powers float idea of Gaza monitoring mechanism

UNITED NATIONS, 23 Aug — Britain, France and Germany have floated the idea of creating a monitoring and verification mechanism for any future ceasefire between Israel and the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip to prevent future conflicts, a senior British diplomat said on Friday.

The proposal was contained in an outline for a possible draft resolution prepared by the three European powers. UN Security Council diplomats said on condition of anonymity that the trio is discussing the proposal with several of the 15 council members, including the United States and Jordan, as well as non-council members Israel and Egypt.

"The European 3

countries have been discussing with other members of the Council elements for a resolution," Britain's UN Ambassador Mark Lyall Grant, council president this month, told reporters.

"We hope that the council will come together around a single draft resolution that can be adopted quickly," he said. "That is what we're working on."

Israel launched its latest offensive against Gaza on 8 July to halt missile salvos by Hamas militants, who have been angered by a crackdown on its supporters in the occupied West Bank and suffering economic hardship because of an Israeli-Egyptian blockade of Gaza.

Reuters

## First trucks from aid convoy to Ukraine cross back into Russia

DONETSK-IZVARINO BORDER CROSSING, 23 Aug — The first trucks from a Russian aid convoy started crossing back into Russia on Saturday after igniting a storm of anger in Western capitals a day earlier by driving into Ukraine without the permission of the government in Kiev.

The return of the trucks may help ease the tension to some extent in time for the arrival of Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel

in the Ukrainian capital later on Saturday for talks on how to end the crisis over Ukraine.

Western leaders had joined Kiev in calling the Russian convoy — about 220 white-painted trucks loaded with tinned food and bottle water — an illegal incursion onto Ukraine's soil, and demanded that they be withdrawn as soon as possible.

A Reuters journalist at the Donetsk-Izvarino

border crossing, where the convoy rolled into Ukraine on Friday, said about 10 trucks had passed back into Russia and more could be seen in the distance arriving at the crossing.

Russian state television had earlier broadcast footage of some of the trucks being unloaded at a distribution depot in the city of Luhansk, eastern Ukraine. The city is held by separatist rebels who are encircled by Ukrain-



*Trucks of a Russian convoy carrying humanitarian aid for Ukraine drive onto the territory of a Russia-Ukraine border crossing point "Donetsk" in Russia's Rostov Region, on 22 August, 2014.—REUTERS*

ian government forces, and has been cut off from power and water supplies for weeks. International aid agencies have warned of a humanitarian crisis.

NATO said it had evidence that Russian troops had been firing artillery at Kiev's forces inside Ukraine — fuelling Western allegations that the Kremlin is behind the conflict in an effort to undermine the Western-leaning leadership in Kiev.—Reuters



## Ferguson march muted, police officer disciplined over video

FERGUSON, 23 Aug — Protests in Ferguson, Missouri, were muted for a third straight evening on Friday as the National Guard began withdrawing from the St Louis suburb racked by racial turmoil after a white police officer shot dead an unarmed black teenager.

Hundreds of protesters marched in the hot summer night near the site of the 9 August slaying of 18-year-old Michael Brown, chanting “Hands up, don’t shoot,” while police vehicles observed the demonstration, without intervening. Clergy volunteers wearing bright orange T-shirts discouraged protesters who wanted to defy

police orders to keep moving, while live singing and drums boomed out from a flat-bed truck.

At St Mark Family Church, a hub for protest organizers, activists and residents met to pray and work on plans to improve the predominantly African American community of 21,000 in the wake of unrest that has focused international attention on often-troubled US race relations.

Despite a notable easing of tensions in recent days — police made only a handful of arrests on Wednesday and Thursday — authorities braced for a possible flare-up of civil disturbances ahead of

Brown’s funeral, which is planned for Monday.

Police in Ferguson came under sharp criticism, especially in the first several days of demonstrations, for arresting dozens of protesters and using heavy-handed tactics and military gear widely seen as provoking more anger and violence by protesters.

In the latest embarrassment for local law enforcement, an officer from the St Louis County Police Department was removed from active duty on Friday after a video surfaced in which he boasted of being “a killer.”

Officer Dan Page, a 35-year-veteran of the police force and a US



A member of the National Guard stands guard at a staging area inside a shopping centre parking lot in Ferguson, Missouri on 21 Aug, 2014. — REUTERS

military veteran, was relieved of patrol duties and placed in an administrative position pending an internal investigation, a police department spokesman

said.

In the video, Page is seen addressing a St Louis chapter of the Oath Keepers, a conservative group of former servicemen, saying,

“I’m also a killer. I’ve killed a lot, and if I need to I’ll kill a whole bunch more. If you don’t want to get killed, don’t show up in front of me.” — Reuters

## UN nuclear inquiry on Iran seen making slow headway — diplomats

VIENNA, 23 Aug — The UN nuclear watchdog appears to have made only limited progress so far in getting Iran to answer questions about its suspected atomic bomb research, diplomatic sources said on Friday, three days before a deadline for cooperation.

Under an accord reached by the UN agency and Iran in November in an attempt to revive the long-stalled investigation, Teheran agreed in May to carry out five specific steps by 25 August to help allay international concerns.

They include providing information about two issues — for example, alleged explosives experimentation — that are part of the inquiry by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) into what it calls the possible military dimensions of Iran’s nuclear programme, which Teheran says is peaceful.

The diplomatic sources said Iran and the IAEA may have begun discussing the two topics, but they did not believe Teheran had provided the requested information or explanations yet.

They said there was still time for Iran to implement the measures, noting that it had occasionally waited until the last minute to make concessions in the past.

But slow-paced cooperation would tend to reinforce Western impressions that Iran is reluctant to give the IAEA the information and access to sites and peo-



International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director General Yukiya Amano talks to the media as he arrives at Vienna’s airport on 18 Aug, 2014. — REUTERS

ple that it says it needs for its investigation.

There was no immediate comment from the IAEA or Iran.

Iran denies the nuclear programme has any military objectives, but it has promised since Hassan Rouhani, a pragmatist, was elected Iranian president in mid-2013 to work with the IAEA to clarify its concerns. Western officials say it is central for Iran to address the suspicions for the chances of a successful outcome of the parallel talks on a diplomatic settlement between Iran and the United States, France, Germany, Britain, China and Russia.

With major gaps remaining over what will be permitted in Iran’s uranium-enrichment programme — activity which can have both civilian and military uses — those negotiations on ending the decade-old dispute were extended last month until 24 November.

IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano said after

he held talks in Teheran on Sunday that implementation of the five steps had begun and that he expected progress to be made over the coming week, but he did not give details.

Speaking after talks with Rouhani and other senior officials, he said he had received a “firm commitment” by Iran to cooperate with the long-running investigation. He also said he hoped for an agreement soon on future steps by Iran. Amano’s trip to Teheran was an apparent attempt to push for progress, after diplomatic sources in July said that the IAEA was concerned about Iran’s lack of engagement with the probe. After years of what the West saw as Iranian stonewalling, Iran as a first step in May gave the IAEA information it had requested about Teheran’s reasons for developing exploding bridge wire detonators, which can be used to set off atomic explosive devices. Iran says they are for civilian use. — Reuters

## India minister stirs anger by making light of Delhi rape case

NEW DELHI, 23 Aug — Indian Finance Minister Arun Jaitley faced criticism on Friday for making light of the gang rape of a Delhi woman in 2012 and her subsequent death by saying it was a small incident that had cost India billions of dollars in tourism.

Jaitley, who is also defence minister and a key lieutenant of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, denied he was trying to lessen the magnitude of the crime which shook the country and turned the spotlight on women’s safety.

“I am sensitive to these issues myself, no question of trivialising any incident,” he said after his comments sparked outrage including from the victim’s mother, who said politicians had a tendency to forget. Five men and a teenager lured the 23-year-old physiotherapist and a male friend into an unlicensed bus and repeatedly raped and tortured her. She



India’s new Finance and Defence Minister Arun Jaitley speaks during a news conference in Srinagar on 15 June, 2014. — REUTERS

later died of her injuries, provoking an outpouring of anger and soul-searching about the place of women in Indian society.

Four men have been sentenced to death while a fifth suspect committed suicide. The teenager was remanded to a judicial reform centre. While laws relating to assault on women have since been toughened, the crime also exposed social attitudes in a country where the victim has often ended up being found responsible.

Jaitley, addressing a conference of state tourism ministers, said improving law and order was necessary to help bring visitors to India. “One small incident of rape in Delhi advertised world over is enough to cost us billions of dollars in terms of global tourism,” he said.

The assault and several similar attacks in Delhi and around the country have helped reinforce the image of India as unsafe for women visitors. — Reuters

## Brunei, Indonesia hold inaugural Joint Defence Cooperation Committee meeting

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 23 Aug — Brunei and Indonesia have held the inaugural Joint Defence Cooperation Committee (JDCC) meeting at the Bolkiah Garrison, according to a report posted on Saturday on the website of the Defence Ministry.

The meeting was co-chaired by the Permanent Secretary (Defence Policy and Development), Colonel (Rtd) Pg Dato Paduka Haji

Azmansham bin Pg Haji Mohamad, Ministry of Defence, Brunei Darussalam and Defence Secretary General of Indonesia Leftenan Jenderal Ediwan Probowo. The two sides discussed bilateral defence and military cooperation, including progress and activities under the BRUNESIA- High Level Committee, such as joint operations and exercises, as well as training and education. They were also briefed

on the upcoming event on the ADMM-Plus EWG MS/CT FTX and the Technical Workshop on Establishing A Direct Communications Link in the ASEAN Defence Ministers’ Meeting Process.

The meeting marked a significant milestone in the strong bilateral relationship between the two ministries and further enhanced cooperation between the two armed forces. — Xinhua



## WORLD

## UN says Syria death toll tops 190,000, rights envoy raps world powers

GENEVA, 23 Aug — More than 191,000 people were killed in the first three years of Syria's civil war, a UN report said on Friday, and the world body's human rights envoy rebuked leading powers for failing to halt what she branded a "wholly avoidable human catastrophe".

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay said war crimes were still being committed with total impunity on all sides in the conflict, which began with initially peaceful protests against President Bashar al-Assad's rule in March 2011.

"It is a real indictment of the age we live in that not only has this been allowed to continue so long, with no end in sight, but is also now impacting horrendous-

ly on hundreds of thousands of other people across the border in northern Iraq, and the violence has also spilled over into Lebanon," said Pillay.

Pillay, in a statement issued a week before leaving office, added: "The killers, destroyers and torturers in Syria have been empowered and emboldened by the international paralysis."

"It is essential governments take serious measures to halt the fighting and deter the crimes, and above all stop fuelling this monumental, and wholly avoidable, human catastrophe through the provision of arms and other military supplies."

The report by her Geneva office was based on data from four rebel groups and the Syrian government. They were cross-checked



A general view shows damaged buildings in Mleiha, which lies on the edge of the eastern Ghouta region near Damascus airport on 15 August, 2014. — REUTERS

to eliminate duplicates and inaccuracies, including non-violent deaths or alleged victims later found to be alive. It said the number of men, women and children killed in the conflict as of 30 April, 2014, totalled at least 191,369. Of them, some 62,000 — both ci-

vilians and combatants — were killed in the past year alone, Pillay's spokesman Rupert Colville said.

The figure is more than twice the number of deaths documented a year ago and is probably still an underestimate, Pillay said.

Colville told a news

briefing in Geneva that around 5,000 to 6,000 people were being killed on a monthly basis.

Men and boys account for the bulk of the deaths but nearly 18,000 women and more than 2,000 children under the age of nine are also among those killed, he said. Assad's government supplied just one set of figures on killings to the United Nations in March 2012, Colville said. "We consider their information important because it's a little bit of a different perspective and possibly different groups of people that they focus on," he said, adding they were "almost exclusively military or police".

All groups involved in the fighting — including the government, the army, police, Islamist militants

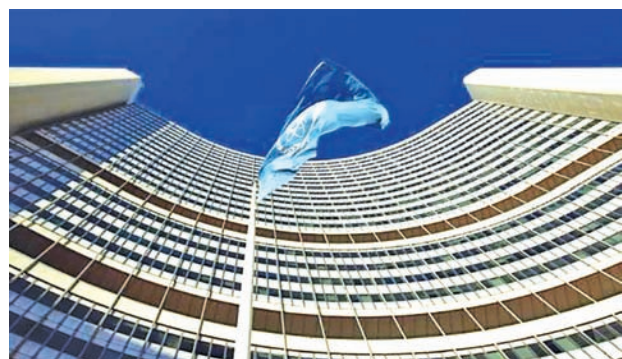
and other opposition groups — have committed killings, Colville said.

The UN report said it had excluded from its analysis an additional 51,953 killings that were reported but lacked required information of full name, date and location of death.

A further "significant" number may not have been reported by any of the five sources, it added.

The highest number of documented killings were recorded in Rural Damascus province, Aleppo and Homs. Pillay repeated her longstanding call on world powers on the UN Security Council to refer alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity committed by all sides in Syria's conflict to the International Criminal Court (ICC). — Reuters

## Arab states, Israel set to clash at UN nuclear meeting



The flag of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) flies in front of its headquarters in Vienna on 28 Nov, 2013. — REUTERS

VIENNA, 23 Aug — As war rages in Gaza, Arab states will likely try to heighten diplomatic pressure on Israel over its assumed nuclear arsenal at next month's annual meeting of the UN nuclear agency's 160 member states, diplomats said on Friday.

An Arab initiative to single out the Jewish state for criticism was defeated in voting last year. But Western diplomats opposed to the Arab move said the unresolved Gaza conflict may influence any wavering countries at this year's debate, although there was no direct link between the issues.

"It is all about getting out the undecided vote. And it will be all about Israel widely and not about the actual nuclear issue," one Vienna-based diplomat said. "I would expect ongoing conflict to lead many (Arabs and any others critical of Israel) to want to lash out in any forum available." Israel and Palestinian militants who dominate Gaza have been fighting for

most of the past six weeks. Over 2,000 Palestinians have been killed to 67 on the Israeli side, and Israeli shelling has destroyed wide areas of the small enclave.

An Arab resolution on what it calls Israeli Nuclear Capabilities would be non-binding even if it were to be approved by the 22-26 September General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

However, lobbying by both sides underlines its symbolic significance as well as deep divisions.

Israel is believed to possess the Middle East's only nuclear arsenal, drawing frequent condemnation by Arab countries and Iran which say it threatens regional peace and security.

US and Israeli officials — who see Iran's atomic activity as the main proliferation threat — have said a nuclear arms-free zone in the Middle East cannot become a reality until there is broad Arab-Israeli peace and Tehran curbs its programme. — Reuters

## Gaza gunmen execute "collaborators"; mortar kills Israeli boy

GAZA / JERUSALEM, 23 Aug — Hamas-led gunmen in Gaza executed 18 Palestinians accused of collaborating with Israel on Friday, accelerating a crackdown on suspected informers after Israeli forces tracked down and killed three senior Hamas commanders.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu threatened to escalate the fight against Hamas, vowing the group would "pay a heavy price" after a four-year-old Israeli boy was killed by a mortar attack from Gaza, the first Israeli child to die in the six-week conflict. Shortly after his remarks, Palestinian officials said Israel had flattened a house in a Gaza City air strike, wounding at least 40 people.

With protesters from rocket-hit southern Israeli communities gathered outside his residence in Jerusalem after the boy's killing, Netanyahu was under pressure to take tougher steps to end the rocket fire.

Israel's military spokesman said another ground war was possible if necessary to stop the rocket fire.

Earlier in Gaza, masked militants dressed in black executed seven suspected collaborators, shooting the hooded and bound victims in a busy square outside a mosque after Friday prayers.

Television footage showed a crowd of young

boys gathered where the executions took place moments afterwards, blood still running on the street and bullet casings scattered around. Those deaths followed the killing of 11 alleged informers at an abandoned police station outside Gaza City, marking the third time this month that Hamas-led operatives have executed people suspected of providing intelligence to Israel.

Al Majd, a website linked to Hamas's internal security service, said "the resistance" — a term for all Palestinian militant groups — had begun an operation dubbed "strangling the necks" to clamp down on anyone collaborating with Israel.

Over the years, Israel has established a network of

contacts in the Palestinian territories, using a combination of pressure and sweeteners to entice Palestinians to divulge intelligence.

"They provided the enemy with information about the whereabouts of fighters, tunnels of resistance, bombs, houses of fighters and places of rockets," read a conviction letter posted near those killed at the mosque and signed "The Palestinian Resistance", a term for the Hamas-led executioners.

"The occupation bombarded these areas, killing a number of fighters ... Therefore, the ruling of revolutionary justice was handed upon him," it said.

The Hamas crackdown on suspected collaborators follows the killing of three of Hamas's most senior mil-

itary commanders in an Israeli air strike on Thursday, an attack that required precise on-the-ground intelligence on their whereabouts.

After the executions, a statement obtained by Reuters from the "Palestinian Resistance" said "a number of" other collaborators had surrendered to the authorities. Human rights groups denounced the killings. Sarah Leah Whitson, Middle East director at Human Rights Watch, called it a "horrendous abuse."

Raji al-Surani, chairman of the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, demanded the Palestinian Authority and other armed factions "intervene to stop these extra-judicial executions, no matter what the reasons and motives are."

Reuters



Hamas militants grab Palestinians suspected of collaborating with Israel, before executing them in Gaza City on 22 Aug, 2014. — REUTERS



## PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 24 August, 2014

## Bitter lessons should be handled with positive approach

By Aung Khin

**L**ife is not too long for human beings. Good and bad deeds we have encountered in many occasions. We are cheered for good results, while frequently slammed for bad outcomes. An experience of one's own is the

best teacher for him. Through fairly negative sense, lessons seem to be quite bitter for us.

The Oxford Dictionary simplifies that 'an experience, especially an unpleasant one, that somebody can learn from so that it does not happen again in the future'. From this point, we want to learn by experiences, not by lessons, if possible.

However, both lessons and experiences are like day and night in our life. We cannot avoid both. Those who cannot stand firm among bad consequences will experience their end in failure. Lessons are nothing to be ashamed of. But we can avoid doing shameless behaviours.

Normally, we hope ways to enjoy greater happiness, create more leisure time, or increase our level of success. It will be more sensible to say we can take lessons from bad results. The benefits

of a negative life lesson are more subtle.

Lessons are quite bitter but are positive if we apply what we learn. Lesson or experience with negative or positive result is a personal development treasure in life. But just to manage them with optimistic approaches.

## Write for us

*We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email wallace.tun@gmail.com with your name and title.*

*Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish articles that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your article will be edited.*

## “An Advice for Beginner-readers As to What and How to Read English”

By Kin Mg Oo

**I**n answer to Sayar (U) Maung Hlaing's articles, "Aspirations for Future", "Pre-school books—A Prerequisite For Children's Literature" and the writing of U Nyunt Maung (Advocate), I would like to join them in their contributions. Though not being an educational specialist, I gained a vast knowledge on the language skills of the youngsters ranging from primary school level to graduate level through the experience of teaching English. Our country now abounds with thousands of graduates as well as high school students who are trying to follow higher education. Undeniably, all these students, apart from ambitious affordable ones, possess average level in language skill in English that is the only compulsory foreign language in our schools. It is not an exaggeration in such a claim that language skills of the many are found to be poorly bad. Among them, we must admit that remarkably smart boys and girls are eagerly learning English and reading a lot of English books. Admittedly, they are praiseworthy children, but I would not like to claim that they are prodigies. They were blessed with excellent families who can bolster their confidence for their ambitions. They were given the best education that money can buy. They are learning at overseas - educational - institution - linked elite private schools and getting state - of - the - art learning systems. They learnt to use a computer since their childhood days and they grasped very good language skills through studying under the guidance of native speakers. Here, I would like you to know that the student of that kind, ipso facto, cannot be assumed to be the best of all. Generally, we must admit that they are better at language competency compared to most of ours. We even daren't think of sending our

children to learn at these schools. Why? It will cost us at least 2.5 lakh kyats per month with transportation charges excluded, for a grade five student to be sent to a third-class private school. I had ever heard that parents must pay 100 lakh kyats or so, for an academic year if they decide to send their child at the most famous school. Only a few percentage of the populace can manage to do so. For ordinary people, such a school campus seems to be a forbidden area. Then, will we have to give up our aims and desires? No, no! There used to emerge and are appearing outstanding students out of poverty-stricken families and bourgeois ones.

I have been teaching English to various kinds of students for over a decade. Having assessed their language skills, sometimes I felt elated at their excellent results. Generally speaking, many are in an unsatisfactory state. They include graduates and many a university student. Some may disbelieve my saying. If so, I would like them to go into website and take a glance at face-book comments. They seem to neglect the importance of the articles, a, an, the, and determiners. They pay no attention to, or rather know little about grammar. That is to say, they cannot distinguish countable nouns from uncountable ones, transitive verbs from verbs intransitive and the use of passive forms and inflected forms of words. Believe it or not, I find such mistakes very often: will went, was stood, he beat me because his anger, and so on. For what did they make such mistakes? By seeing Future Perfect Tense in the sentence, "She will have done homework by now", they seemed to think that modal verbs can be used together with simple past tense verbs. It appeared that little was known about the difference between conjunctions and prepositions. I asked them whether they had

ever read other books such as stories and newspapers written in English. Unlike our childhood days, there are nowadays many readable books and bilingual reading material for beginners available around them. Not unlike us, today's youths as well want to know English. The difference, however, is that nearly all of us used to spend our leisure hours reading those days' papers—the WPD or the Guardian Dailies whereas the present days' youths prefer subscribing to a newsgroup to reading both Myanmar and English newspapers. For us who dwelt in a small town, it was less than available for us to get old books and back issues in English. Thus, we had clung on to our old habit of reading newspapers up to now.

I myself had ever conceived a thought that our country was facing a dying breed of language experts like our late famous figures and it was impossible to fill this shortage. Now we must get rid of that opinion. From news writings and articles written by our young prolific writers, reporters and newsmen from newsrooms, we came to know that they are vying for the top posts. It is a heartening thing for us so far as it goes, but we need more and more youths like them who know English, so as not to lag behind the advanced world. First of all, we must make them know that we can get all things we want to know through newspapers. From the side of our newspapers too, necessary arrangements should be made for our youngsters to become interested in their papers by including a special readable column for beginner readers like "Easy Listening Program" of the VOA, if possible. I dare say they will surely learn to love reading papers once reliable ones hop into their hands inasmuch as a mosaic of news items—sports, technology, culture, education, art, economics, politics, war af-

fairs and etc. reach before their eyes at the same time. For saying so, I do not mean that we no longer need to use Net.

I ever heard a noteworthy saying of a language expert that if we teach today's students as we taught yesterday's, we steal their tomorrow. I accept that idea to some extent. Getting used to our deep-rooted conventional methods and approaches to the study of the language, I may be named the one who cherishes the century-old method, "the Grammar Translation Method", which is detested by some linguists. As for me, I firmly believe that we must accept any ideas, advices and methods to make our language skills improve. Based on my findings about teaching English to students of different levels—from LEP [= Limited English Proficient] students to Mediocre or Advanced learners, let me disclose my personal attitude, opinion and advice, such as they are, toward the subject.

Why is the gap that great between their language competence levels? To my mind, children of the First Minority group have to read many English books under the guidance of hardworking teachers. For fear of losing their well-paid jobs, they themselves are trying their best to improve their abilities. Schools provide uniformly reading material for students to read and make them recount of what they have read, every week or fortnightly. Except for Myanmar subject, all others are taught in English, hence getting accustomed to the language and the possession of language proficiency. I asked one student of that kind to read a booklet by Lu Hsun, titled "Wild Grass". He is now studying in grade four of the above-said No.1 school. Wonderfully enough, he could retell about nearly half of the contents out of 23 short stories in the booklet just prior to the end of one lecture time. Knowingly

what his response will be, I asked him whether he knew all the words in the pieces he read. He replied, "No". He gave me brief accounts. He said that he did not understand the stories verbatim. According to the context, he came to know the words roughly. The same book was given to a student who recently passed his BEHS exam with 4Ds—2marks short of 25 scores in total. You can guess the result. As expected, he could retell me about two stories only, albeit reluctantly and vaguely. Not being in the habit of reading a good or interesting read apart from school subject books, he tried to find out the meanings of unknown words while reading. For that he read at a snail's pace. I am not blaming him for his slow reading speed. And I did not mean that all who passed from State High Schools would be the same like him. There were and are some who remarkably excel in English. We need to collectively find out the solution.

Most of the children in schools generally develop the habit of memorizing texts of all subjects, without trying to know the essence of the subject. As a result, those students can do nothing if they are assigned to write a paragraph or an essay ad lib. As known by all, today's children are trying to score high marks to be admitted to their favorite institutes under the present need-blind education system. So I would like them to commit all the texts to memory, having acquired all the grammatical knowledge. Then what s[he] is required to read for the exam can be said to be equivalent to several books of medium-sized volume. The worst thing is that most of the primary assistant teachers are very strict with the accuracy of the words so much so that they never allow their students to interchangeably use even the Myanmar verb - ending particles (ဆည်၊ ခ်).  
(to be continued)



## NATIONAL

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Aug— Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win held a coordination meeting with leading bodies of self-administered zones and regions on Friday in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, the Union minister reviewed border region development works being undertaken by the ministry in the self-administered zones and regions. After hearing reports of the coordinating teams, respective committees and leading bodies of self-administered zones and regions, he held talks with the chairmen of the leading bodies and the ministry's officials. Then the Union minister coordinated matters related to follow-up tasks and findings of the committees.

MNA

## Undertakings for border region development discussed



Coordination meeting held to undertake for border region development plans.—MNA

## FM felicitates Ukrainian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Aug — U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Pavlo Klimkin, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, on the occasion of the Independence Day of Ukraine which falls on 24 August 2014.—MNA

## China Union Pay International card to be introduced in Myanmar next month

YANGON, 22 Aug— China Union Pay International (UPI), in cooperation with Myanmar's Cooperative Bank (CB), will introduce EASi Travel Union Pay card for the first time in Myanmar starting on Sept. 1 to facilitate Myanmar citizens in domestic and international payment, a bank official said here Friday.

The EASi TRAVEL Union Pay Card issued in Myanmar is deposited with Myanmar Kyats and can be used in and outside China, U Kyaw Lynn, executive vice chairman and CEO of the CB, told a press briefing. Accepted by over 140 countries and regions, the China

UPI card is being issued in more than 30 countries including Myanmar.

In December 2012, China UPI and the CB signed an agreement to open ATM business in Myanmar. In May 2013, the UPI also signed agreement with Myanmar Payment Union (MPU) for payment at ATM and points-of-sale (POS) of its member banks.

At present, there has been 800 ATMs and 3,000 POS across Myanmar. Myanmar introduced Master Card as the first international electronic payment card in November 2012, followed by Visa card in December in the same year.—Xinhua

## South Korean embassy urged to summon fugitive Korean factory owner to settle labour issues

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 23 Aug— The Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security has urged the South Korean embassy to bring back the owner of Master Sports Factory, who returned to South Korea after closing his factory on the western outskirts of Yangon in June without paying outstanding salaries and compensation to more than 750 Myanmar workers.

Officials said the Yangon Region Labour Tribunal Board has ordered the factory owner to pay the salary for June and to compensate the workers according

to labour laws.

"The revenue officer of the Factories and General Labour Law Inspection Department sent a letter to the South Korean embassy today and urged the embassy to bring back factory owner Mr Jeong Hae Un to settle the issue," said U Win Shein, the Director-General of the Factories and General Labour Law Inspection Department under the ministry.

The revenue officer sent the notice from the Yangon Region Labour Tribunal Board to the factory's former export and import manager and also the representative of the owner of the factory on Wednesday. Ac-

cording to the notice, the tribunal made the decision that the factory owner must pay the salary for June to 757 workers as well as compensation stipulated by labour laws for closing the factory without giving prior notice.

As the representative of the factory owner denied to accept the notice, the officer has asked the Korean embassy to summon the man, authorities said.

The office has also sent the notice to other governmental departments concerned with settling the issue, according to the FGL-LID.

The Ministry filed a lawsuit against Master

Sports Factory on July 25 as it failed to pay the salaries for June and compensation to the workers after closing the facility on June 26, failing to comply with the regulations of the law.

Regarding the closure of the factory, which opened a year ago in the Hlinethaya Industrial Zone, Master Sports Myanmar Co Ltd issued an announcement at the beginning of July, saying the factory was experiencing financial problems due to the production of low-quality products which were not marketable, adding that agreements with potential buyers had to be revoked.—NLM

## Seminar on cancer awareness held in Yangon

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 23 Aug—As part of the effort to raise the awareness of cancer in Myanmar, the Shwe Yaung Hnin Si Cancer Foundation organized a health seminar at the University of Nursing here on Saturday, aiming at giving people a message that a healthy diet can stave off cancer.

Speaking at the seminar, Prof Dr U Myo Win, member of the foundation's executive committee quoted a WHO report as saying that thirty-five per cent of the cancer-related deaths are attributed to food, 30 per cent to cigarettes and tobacco, 10 per cent to vi-

ruses, and seven per cent to sexually transmitted diseases.

He advised people to balance their daily intake of vitamin and mineral obtained from wholesome vegetables so as to maintain health but urged them to avoid eating junk foods and carcinogens and aflatoxins in food.

Prof Dr Daw Yin Yin Tun, Chairperson of the foundation, also shared her knowledge on biological links between diabetes and cancer, adding that the high insulin level and the insulin-like growth factor in people with diabetes are the

main causes of cancer.

Dr U Ye Tint Lwin, Retired Deputy Director-General of the Medical Research Department (Lower Myanmar), urged people to weigh every early morning and take moderate exercises, such as a half-hour walk a day to prevent cancer-related diseases.

At the seminar, U Yan Linn, Chairman of the Myanmar Consumer Union, also shared his experience on how to choose a safe food as a customer, urging people to avoid drinking purified water from plastic bottles with prolonged exposure to sunlight.

Shwe Yaung Hnin Si Cancer Foundation has

future plans to provide training to enthusiasts for sharing knowledge of the awareness of breast cancer, Dr Moe Kyaw Naing, General-Secretary of the foundation, said.

Cancer is one of the most common non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Scientists estimate that only about five percent of all cancers have a genetic origin, meaning our nutrition and lifestyle choices play a major role in the fight against cancer.

A 2012 report shows that death rates from cancer in men and women in Myanmar is ranked third and fifth highest in South East Asian.—NLM

## Preparation made for ASEAN high-level economic officials

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Aug — Myanmar will host the 46 ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting and its sidelines from 23 to 28 August here.

During the first day of coordination meeting, ASEAN senior economic officials discussed and exchanged views on the reports to be submitted to the council of the 28th ASEAN Free Trade Area, the council of 17th ASEAN Investment Area and the 46th ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting, as well as the agenda and joint announcements to

be discussed at the second Regional multi-economic cooperation meeting of the 46th ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting and its sidelines.

The meeting was chaired by Daw Than Than Linn, senior economic official of Myanmar, with the present of senior economic officials from 10 ASEAN countries, vice-general secretary of ASEAN and 114 delegations of the bloc.

The coordination meetings will continue on 24 August.

MNA



Shwe Yaung Hnin Si Cancer Foundation gives message that a healthy diet can stave off cancer.

PHOTO: KHING THANDA LWIN



# Mammography false alarms linked with later tumour risk

NEW YORK, 23 Aug — Women whose screening mammograms produce false alarms have a heightened risk of being diagnosed with breast cancer years later, but the reason remains mysterious, researchers say.

An increased risk of breast cancer among women with a “false positive” mammogram has been reported before. What’s new about this study is that the authors tried to figure out how much, if any, of the extra risk is simply due to doctors missing the cancer the first time they investigated the worrisome mammogram findings.

But mistakes from doctors missing cancers explained only a small percentage of the increased risk, according to lead author My von Euler-Chelpin, an epidemiologist from the University of Copenhagen in Denmark.

She told Reuters Health in a telephone interview that she could not explain most of the increased risk of later breast cancer in women with false-positive mammograms. (A mammogram

is considered false positive when it suggests possible breast cancer but additional screenings or a biopsy fails to find it.)

Of more than 58,000 Danish women who had mammography between 1991 and 2005, her study identified 4,743 women with suspicious findings that were eventually declared negative.

By 2008, 295 of those 4,743 women had been diagnosed with breast cancer, von Euler-Chelpin and colleagues reported in *Cancer Epidemiology*.

Radiologists reread the original mammograms and found that doctors had actually missed the cancer in 72 of the 295 women, for a false-negative rate of 1.5 percent. Even after taking those missed cancers into account, however, the researchers found that women with false-positive mammograms were still 27 percent more likely to be diagnosed with breast cancer years later, compared to women with only negative test results.

The risk was slightly



higher in women who had surgical biopsies that turned out to be negative.

Von Euler-Chelpin thinks a smaller percentage of American women would have an elevated risk for breast cancer after a false-positive test because the US has a higher rate of false positives than Denmark. The risk of a false-positive test over 10 mammograms ranges from 58 percent to 77 percent in the US, while it is around 16 percent in Denmark, the study says.

Dr Michael Alvarado, a

breast cancer surgeon from the University of California, San Francisco, agreed that the risk of being diagnosed with breast cancer after a false positive mammogram is probably lower in the US than in Denmark.

“It’s hard to translate the data to the US population because we have such a different screening programme, we tend to biopsy everything, and we’re much more aggressive,” he told Reuters Health. Alvarado was not involved in the current study.

“Is there some inherent

biology of the breast that makes it suspicious and it puts you at higher risk? I don’t think anyone knows what it is,” he said.

Alvarado wondered if women who get false-positive mammograms should be followed more closely by their doctors, or if false-positive patients should be screened differently.

Von Euler-Chelpin told Reuters Health the excess rate of breast cancer among women who have had false-positive mammograms points to the need to personalize screening

programmes for women — and Dr Karla Kerlikowske agreed. Kerlikowske, from the University of California, San Francisco, is developing a risk calculator app to guide women in deciding how often to get mammograms. The calculator considers a range of factors, including age, race, previous breast cancer, family history and breast density. Kerlikowske was not involved in the current study.

Although having had a false-positive mammogram is associated with a woman’s breast cancer risk, Kerlikowske points out that the actual risk of being diagnosed with breast cancer remains low.

The average five-year breast cancer risk for a 50-year-old white woman with no prior family history of breast cancer is 1.25 percent, the calculator shows. It ranges from less than 1 percent, to 2.70 percent, depending upon breast density, for the same woman with a history of a prior breast biopsy, regardless of whether the biopsy was positive or negative.—Reuters

## Most German consumers rarely shop at big department stores



BERLIN, 23 Aug — Almost two-thirds of Germans rarely go shopping in big department stores, said a representative survey on the future of the German department stores on Friday.

According to the pollster YouGov, one in four respondents still goes regularly to shop at big German department stores Kaufhof and Karstadt, while one in ten respondents never does.

As the survey showed, especially young people aged between 18 and 24 years steer clear of the shopping malls in Germany, as more than 80 percent of them said they rarely or never shop in big depart-

ment stores.

Furthermore, people aged over 55 are found most frequently there in Germany.

With regard to the threatened closure of the Karstadt branches, 14 percent of respondents said that the time of the big department stores like Karstadt was definitely over, while 53 percent said that the branches should be maintained because they are an important part of attractive downtown areas.

For the survey, YouGov interviewed a total of 1,023 consumers in Germany from 19 August to 21 August.

Xinhua

## EU sets out roadmap to boost securitized debt market

LONDON, 23 Aug — The European Union will decide next year if legal changes are needed to boost the market for securitized debt, a sector seen as key to injecting funds into the economy and encouraging growth, an EU document showed on Friday.

The document is another indicator that concern over the level of funding to the EU economy, particularly in the flagging euro zone, has reached the highest political level.

The “Roadmap for Securitisation”, drawn up for the bloc’s finance ministers and seen by Reuters, says the recent economic and financial crisis had considerably reduced funding to the real economy.

The European Central Bank (ECB) is also mulling purchases of securitised debt such as asset-backed securities to help boost euro zone growth.

Securitization, which turns pools of loans into interest-bearing bonds to help raise further funds, has dwindled in Europe due to

the 2007-09 financial crisis.

The market was tarnished by the so-called sub-prime crisis, when securitised debt based on poor-quality US home loans became untradable in 2007, sowing the seeds for the ensuing global financial crisis.

The document, which EU finance ministers will discuss at a meeting in Milan next month, lists 19 initiatives underway in Europe and globally to kick-start securitization.

The EU’s executive European Commission is the best body to coordinate work on these initiatives, the document says.

The Commission, along with the ECB and the bloc’s markets, insurance and banking watchdogs, should review progress before the end of 2015, it added.

“The review should help identify persisting shortcomings and should help inform any further action where needed, including the merits of an EU harmonized framework,”

the document said.

The ECB and the Bank of England have already called for steps to boost “high quality” securitisation, noting the high capital charges on banks who issue securitised debt, and on insurers who buy it, are key impediments to the market.

Such a segment could be more leniently treated from a capital charges point of view.

But banks are worried about how the authorities will define “high quality”, fearing the rest of the mar-

ket will be permanently shunned by investors.

“A key ... step will be to agree at EU level upon the most appropriate criteria to designate ‘sound’ or ‘qualifying’ securitisation instruments across the board,” the document said.

These criteria could be included in the bloc’s new capital rules for insurers, and in new rules requiring banks to hold a buffer of bonds, including some debt backed by home loans, to withstand short-term shocks, it added.—Reuters



A huge euro logo is pictured next to the headquarters of the European Central Bank (ECB) before the bank’s monthly news conference in Frankfurt on 7 Aug, 2014.

REUTERS



## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

## Galileo satellites start operational deployment phase

PARIS, 23 Aug — A new pair of *Galileo* satellites, *Galileo 5* and *6*, has been successfully delivered into orbit on Friday, which marks the start of a new phase in the European satellite navigation program, said the European Space Agency (ESA) in a Press release.

*Galileo 5-6* satellites, which are the first two of a series of 22 satellites FOC (Full operational capability) built by prime contractor OHB-System (Germany) with the payloads being supplied by SSTL (Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd, UK), were carried aloft on a *Soyuz* rocket from Europe's Spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana, at 12:27 GMT on Friday.

All the stages of the *Soyuz* vehicle performed as planned, with the Fre-



gat upper stage releasing the satellites into their target orbit close to 23,500 km altitude, three hours 47 minutes after liftoff, said the ESA. On completion of the initial checks, run jointly by ESA and the French space agency CNES, the two satellites will be handed over to the Galileo Control Centre in Oberpfaffen-

hofen in Germany, and the Galileo in-orbit Testing facility in Redu in Belgium for testing before they are commissioned for operational service in the autumn, explained the ESA.

Following the successful qualification of the system during the In-Orbit Validation (IOV) phase, achieved with four satel-

lites launched in 2011 and 2012, the Galileo satellites are being produced and readied for the launch pad in series.

The deployment of the constellation will now gather pace, with six to eight satellites launched per year using a series of *Soyuz* and *Ariane* launchers from the Guiana Space Centre, along with finalisation of the remaining elements of the ground network, added the ESA, saying that the next Galileo launch is scheduled for the last quarter of 2014.

Galileo is Europe's own global satellite navigation system, providing a highly accurate, guaranteed global positioning service under civilian control. It will consist of 30 satellites and their ground infrastructure. — *Xinhua*

## Amazon developing own online advertising software

NEW YORK, 23 Aug — Amazon Inc is planning to develop its own software for placing advertisements online, *The Wall Street Journal* reported, citing people with knowledge of the matter.

While the in-house platform is initially planned to replace ads supplied by Google Inc on Amazon's own website, the new system could challenge Google and Microsoft Corp's advertising business in the future, the newspaper cited the people as saying.

Amazon's system would resemble Google's AdWords, and is planned to make it easier for mar-

keters to reach the company's users, the newspaper reported the people as saying. The retailer is also building a tool that would help advertising agencies buy in bulk for thousands of advertisers, the *Journal* said, citing the people.

Amazon is known as a sleeping giant in the ad industry because it has rich consumer data but has been tentative about using it for a lot of advertising.

The company already has an advertising service it employs chiefly on its own website.

Amazon did not immediately respond to requests for comment. — *Reuters*



A zoomed illustration image of a man looking at a computer monitor showing the logo of Amazon is seen in Vienna on 26 Nov, 2012. — *REUTERS*

## Obama tech policy maven moves to Silicon Valley role

WASHINGTON DC / SAN FRANCISCO, 23 Aug — Todd Park, President Barack Obama's chief technology officer who played a role in fixing the flawed Healthcare.gov website, is moving to a new job recruiting top Silicon Valley talent to government, a source familiar with the situation said on Friday.

Park, a successful tech entrepreneur who became a

top adviser to Obama, will move to the West Coast at the end of the month as part of a White House team, the source said on condition of anonymity because it has not been made public.

Park became a political target last fall as Republican lawmakers tried to assign blame for the glitch-ridden rollout of the website, the main portal to buy healthcare coverage

through federal exchanges. Park was heavily involved in the effort to try to fix the bugs. His move to California signals a growing effort by the government to try to recruit from Silicon Valley. Earlier this month, Park helped the White House lure Google engineer Mikey Dickerson to Washington to take a role bolstering the government's computer systems.

In his new assignment, Park will help channel ideas from the tech community, the source added.

It is unclear who will replace Park. The White House has held discussions with former executives at Google, LinkedIn and Twitter about a potential replacement, according to Fortune, which first reported his move on Friday.

*Reuters*

## Computers reshaping global job market, for better and worse

NEW YORK, 23 Aug — Automation and increasingly sophisticated computers have boosted demand for both highly educated and low-skilled workers around the globe, while eroding demand for middle-skilled jobs, according to research to be presented to global central bankers on Friday.

But only the highly educated workers are benefiting through higher wages, wrote MIT professor David Autor in the paper prepared for a central banking conference in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Middle- and lower-skilled workers are seeing their wages decline.

That is in part because as middle-skilled jobs dry up, those workers are more likely to seek lower-skilled jobs, boosting the pool of available labour and putting downward pressure on wages. "(W)hile computerization has strongly contributed to employment



People use computers at a job fair in Detroit, Michigan on 1 March, 2014.

*REUTERS*

polarization, we would not generally expect these employment changes to culminate in wage polarization except in tight labour markets," Autor wrote.

Any long-term strategy to take advantage of advances in computers should rely heavily on investments in human capital

to produce "skills that are complemented rather than substituted by technology," he said.

Recounting the long history of laborers vilifying technological advances, Autor argues that most such narratives underestimate the fact that computers often complement rather

than replace the jobs of higher-skilled workers.

People with skills that are easily replaced by machines, such as 19th-century textile workers, do lose their jobs. In recent years computer engineers have pushed computers farther into territory formerly considered to be human-only,

like driving a car.

Still, computer-driven job polarization has a natural limit, Autor argues. For some jobs, such as plumbers or medical technicians who take blood samples, routine tasks are too intertwined with those requiring interpersonal and other human skills to be easily replaced.

"I expect that a significant stratum of middle skill, non-college jobs combining specific vocational skills with foundational middle skills — literacy, numeracy, adaptability, problem-solving and common sense — will persist in coming decades," Autor wrote. Autor, who has been studying technology and its impact on jobs since before the dot-com bubble burst, notes that some economists have pointed to the weak US labour market since the 2000s as evidence of the adverse impact of computerization. — *Reuters*

## GM opens IT centre in Phoenix, Arizona

PHOENIX, 23 Aug — General Motors Co said it opened a fourth IT centre in the United States in Phoenix, Arizona as it aims to improve performance and cut operational costs.

The automaker said it expects to hire 1,000 employees at the centre over the next five years. It already has about 500 employees at the site.

*Reuters*



The General Motors logo is seen outside its headquarters at the Renaissance Center in Detroit, Michigan in this file photograph taken on 25 Aug, 2009. — *REUTERS*



## Poland keeping 'foot in door' to euro zone membership — Finance Minister

WARSAW, 23 Aug— Poland is keeping the door open to euro zone membership, but joining the common currency will not boost the country's status because it is already a stable and developed economy, Finance Minister Mateusz Szczurek was quoted on Friday as saying.

Poland, which joined the European Union in 2004, is legally obliged to join the euro zone at some point. But it has not set a target date and says it needs to see the final shape of new euro zone institutions before it takes further steps towards adopting the common currency.

"In 2004 the euro zone and Poland were different. Since then the balance of benefits and costs from switching the currency has changed," Szczurek told the wnp.pl website.

"Joining the euro zone in itself is no longer a trampoline to the status of a stable, developed economy — we have already become

one," he said.

"Adopting the euro will also not mean as significant a fall in interest rates as was earlier indicated. We are already financing ourselves more cheaply than euro zone countries with the same (credit) rating," Szczurek said.

Poland has enjoyed years of strong economic growth since joining the EU, even during the global financial meltdown of 2008-09 and the euro zone debt crisis that began in 2010.

Several other former communist countries that also joined the EU in 2004, including Slovakia and Estonia, have already joined the euro, but Poland is much larger.

Szczurek said he could imagine a situation where Poland's euro zone accession process would have to be accelerated for political reasons.

"If the conditions for using our strategy of 'keeping a foot in the door'



*Mateusz Szczurek is being sworn in as Poland's new Finance Minister during a ceremony at the Presidential Palace in Warsaw on 17 Nov, 2013.—REUTERS*

change to such an extent that these doors start to crush our foot, that is if

there is a need to maintain the position of Poland in Europe, then I would

allow the possibility of re-evaluating this strategy," Szczurek said.

"However, one cannot rule out a possibility (...) that the situation in the euro zone is so bad that the 'political benefits' (...) will not play a significant role," he added.

Some analysts argue that euro zone membership would anchor Poland more firmly in Western institutions, increasing its security and political clout.

In March, Poland's central bank governor Marek Belka said the crisis in neighbouring Ukraine made him more positive about the benefits for Poland of joining the euro.

But Prime Minister Donald Tusk then said Poland would not rush to join the euro zone just because of the crisis in Ukraine, where pro-Russian separatists are battling Kiev's forces in the east of the country.

Poland also faces a domestic political obstacle

to adopting the euro as it would need to amend its constitution, which now states that the zloty is its national currency.

Such a change would require a two-thirds majority in parliament, something Tusk's centre-right government now lacks. Opinion polls show a majority of Poles oppose joining the euro.

Asked if Poland should enter the euro zone or not, Szczurek reiterated the government's public position:

"Enter, but only when we are ready, when we meet the criteria in a sustainable way and when the euro zone passes effective institutional reforms."

"We must be convinced that the changes in the European Union and the euro zone — including the banking union — will allow for an effective reaction in case of a crisis situation in the future," Szczurek said.

*Reuters*

## Cuban fishermen discover underwater cache of artifacts

HAVANA, 23 Aug— Fishermen in Cuba's western Pinar del Rio province have discovered a cache of sunken artifacts believed to be from a 17th- or 18-century shipwreck, local daily reported on Friday.

The "important marine archaeological find" was recently discovered off the coast of Puerto Esperanza, a town in northern Pinar del Rio, the daily *Juventud Rebelde* said.

The find, which the daily said puts "the coasts of Pinar del Rio among the most historically relevant in regard to the pirate era," comprises some 60 artifacts, including firearms, cannon balls, swords and assault machetes, it added.

"While it's important to point out that this is an interesting discovery, it's crucial to insist that such finds of historical value must remain

and be preserved in their own setting," said Enrique Giniebra, a researcher and member of Cuba's Naval Maritime Historical Group.

The coasts around the province are littered with shipwrecks dating from the age of pirates on the high seas, said Juan Carlos Rodriguez, another member of the group. This particular find is considered as the most important to date in the province. —Xinhua

## Philippines launches nationwide drug-testing system

MANILA, 23 Aug—The Philippines has built a nationwide system of forensic laboratories on illegal drugs in all the country's 17 regions, a senior government official said on Saturday. Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) Director General Arturo Caddac Jr said this was after the inauguration of a drug-testing and examination facility in the Cordillera Administrative

Region (CAR) in northern Philippines this week.

Over the last 11 years, PDEA had only one forensic laboratory and it is located at the national headquarters in Quezon City, Metro Manila, he said.

"Now, each PDEA Regional Office has a fully operational laboratory. The agency can now independently conduct analysis on seized dangerous drugs and administer drug

tests on arrested suspects throughout the archipelago," he said. PDEA has highly trained chemists who conduct qualitative examination of illegal drugs that would be used later as evidence in court, he said.

"This hastens the process of filing drug cases in courts as seized suspected illegal drugs can be quickly examined anytime of the day after anti-drug operations," he added. —Xinhua

## Singapore, India have "good base" to build bilateral relationships

SINGAPORE, 23 Aug—Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said on Friday that he is optimistic that there are significant areas of potential cooperation between his country and India. The two countries have a "good base to work upon" when it comes to building future bilateral relationships, he said at a dialogue session of IIMPACT conference, an event of primarily the alumni of Indian business school the Indian Institute of Management, local broadcaster Channel NewsAsia quoted Lee as saying.

Lee said he is looking forward to meeting Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi before the year is out.

During the dialogue session moderated by Piyush Gupta, chief executive officer of DBS Bank, Lee highlighted urban development, water and sewage projects, port development, education and training as some of the areas where the two countries can cooperate. "What we would like to see from our point of view sitting outside, is that India is able to spare the bandwidth and the focus in order to extend your reach, your influence, your engagement with the region, and benefit from it," he said. Lee also said that the Little India riot in Singapore on 8 December last year "hasn't changed" how Indians are looked upon by the govern-

ment and the people in Singapore. "There was an incident, there was a riot. It is unfortunate. We have investigated it. I think the causes have been established, the follow-up actions have to be taken," he said. "There are also legal consequences — the justice system has to follow up, rioters have to be brought to justice and punished. But I don't think it has changed the situation," he added. The rare riot in Little India in Singapore, involving some 300 South Asian workers, broke out in the evening after an Indian worker was killed in a traffic accident. No one else was killed but some officers were injured and vehicles burned. —Xinhua



*Two young boys try to catch fishes in a flooded field in the Morigaon district of India's northeastern state of Assam, India, on 22 Aug, 2014. Many parts of Assam are affected by flood.—XINHUA*



## ADVERTISEMENT &amp; GENERAL

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV MERATUS GORONTALO VOY NO (076N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MERATUS GORONTALO VOY NO (076N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.8.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to 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 YANG MING LINE**

Phone No: 2301185

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV ANAN BHUM VOY NO (111N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ANAN BHUM VOY NO (111N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.8.2014 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 MOL (S'PORE) PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

### CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (1448)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (1448) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.8.2014 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 MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE)  
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

### THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION MYANMA RAILWAYS INVITATION TO SUBMIT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FROM DEVELOPERS FOR DRY PORTS PROJECT

1. In line with the National Development Plan, the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has been identifying the economic potentials to contribute to the country's economic development by providing business opportunities and investments for the local, international developers and private organizations. As our endeavor for freight transport sector development, Myanma Railways has committed to formulate dry ports and implement the functions of its at Ywarthargyi (Yangon Region) and Myitnge (Mandalay Region).
2. Myanma Railways now invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from reputable local, international or joint venture developers/investors to undertake design, build and operate works for the dry ports project.
3. The EOI form will be taken at Deputy General Manager, Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of Theinphyu Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung Township, Yangon, Myanmar. Phone +95-1-291985, 291994. Developers must submit EOI in original, a duplicate copy and electronic copy of a CD ROM not later than 14:00 pm, 19 September 2014. No submission by E-mail shall be entertained.
4. Myanma Railways shall determine to its satisfaction whether the EOI that is selected as having submitted the substantially responsive and then successful developers will be invited to submit for tender process. Enquiries can be made by calling telephones +95-67-77005, 77085, 77068.

**Managing Director  
Myanma Railways  
Ministry of Rail Transportation**

### INVITATION FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (ICB)

THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT has received the Grant from the International Development Association for National Community Driven Development Project and wishes to purchase for Kanpetlet Township, Namhsan Township, Kyunsu Township, Pinlebu Township, Lemyethna Township, Sitoktaya township, Ann Township, Htantabin Township, Tatkone Township and DRD Union the following package by international competitive bidding:

Lot 1: Type A Motorcycle 221 units

Lot 2: Type B Motorcycle 25 units

Sealed bids are to be submitted to U Khant Zaw, Deputy Chief Engineer, Department of Rural Development, Office No. (14), Nay Pyi Taw, no later than (23.9.2014) 10:30 hour, after which no bid will be accepted. No telegraphic/ telex proposal will be accepted.

For detail information please contact the Deputy Chief Engineer 067 409413.

Website: [www.drdmyanmar.org](http://www.drdmyanmar.org)

Email: [drdmyanmar@gmail.com](mailto:drdmyanmar@gmail.com)

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### Weather report

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 24th August, 2014:** Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Shan, Chin and Kayah States, scattered in Bago and Taninthayi Regions and fairly widespread in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Seas will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Continuation of weak monsoon.

### Gov't to disclose Fukushima nuclear plant chief's testimony

TOKYO, 23 Aug—The government plans to make public testimony regarding the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster given by plant chief Masao Yoshida, government and other sources said on Friday, possibly shedding light on whether Yoshida ordered staff to remain at their posts.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga will announce as soon as Monday the decision to release the testimony by mid-September or later, the sources said.

The testimony of Yoshida, who died in July 2013, was compiled by a government panel formed to examine the March 2011 disaster at the nuclear plant northeast of Tokyo.

The panel interviewed Yoshida for more than 20 hours from July to November 2011.

The government has thus far declined to make public Yoshida's testimony, citing a statement Yoshida signed saying he did not want it made available to any third party.

But interest in Yoshida's first-hand account of what transpired in the days immediately after 11 March, 2011, when a massive earthquake and tsunami knocked out power to much of the six-reactor Fukushima Daiichi power plant, leading to a series of explosions and the worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl, has been piqued by reports that most staff fled.

Kyodo News

### Vietnam monitors 83 passengers against Ebola, reporting no infections

HANOI, 23 Aug — Vietnam has monitored 83 passengers entering Vietnam from areas with the Ebola virus disease, but reported no infections so far, said a Vietnamese official on Friday.

Tran Dac Phu, head of the General Department of Preventive Medicine under Vietnam's Ministry of Health (MoH), made the remarks at a teleconference

of Steering Committee on Epidemic Prevention and Control on Friday, reported state-run news agency VNA.

Among the 83 monitored passengers, 79 arrived at southern Ho Chi Minh City's Tan Son Nhat airport while the remaining four people entered Vietnam via capital Hanoi's Noi Bai airport.

In addition, all other

border gates nationwide have reported no entry from disease-affected areas so far.

At Tan Son Nhat airport on Tuesday, two Nigerians arrived from Ebola-infected area with symptoms of fever. These passengers, who then were temporarily quarantined in Ho Chi Minh City's Hospital for Tropical Diseases, recovered from fever after 24 hours.

They will continue to have health monitoring in their living places in the coming 21 days, said Phu, adding that all passengers entering Vietnam from epidemic areas will have health monitored by provincial centers for preventive medicine in their residential areas.

In order to prevent and fight against the epidemic, the MoH has built and is-

sued technical documents on how to monitor, prevent, and treat diseases caused by Ebola virus.

All passengers from Ebola-infected areas have been warned to apply preventive measures against the virus in 21 days since they left the areas as well as contact healthcare agencies if necessary.

Xinhua



## So you think you can shock? Prizes take backseat at MTV awards

INGLEWOOD, (Calif), 23 Aug — Blood, buttocks, snakes and angry rants are just some of the surprises served up by the MTV Video Music Awards over the last three decades, and as Sunday's ceremony looms, there is stiff competition to deliver the show's next most outrageous stunt.

R&B star Beyonce and newcomer rapper Iggy Azalea lead the nominees at the Video Music Awards, or VMAs, with eight nods each, and winners will receive the "Moonman" statuettes at the newly renovated Forum arena in Inglewood, California.

But the night is rarely about the winners — rather, all eyes will be on the performances and the surprises.

Since launching in 1984, Viacom Inc.-owned MTV's VMAs is synonymous with irreverence and unscripted moments.

Key moments include Howard Stern baring his derriere as "Fartman" in 1992, Britney Spears' sultry dance with a snake in 2001, and 2009's eventful show where Lady Gaga smeared blood on herself and a ranting Kanye West ripped Taylor Swift's award out of her hand on-stage.

### Sandra Bullock to reunite with Gravity co-star George Clooney for political film



**Bullock, 50, will also serve as executive producer alongside Clooney and his producing partner Grant Heslov. — REUTERS**

LOS ANGELES, 23 Aug — Oscar-winning actress Sandra Bullock is set to reunite with her 'Gravity' co-star George Clooney for new film 'Our Brand is Crisis'.

The film, which will be directed by David Gordon Green, is based on the 2005 documentary of the same name, which focuses on the use of American political campaign strategies in South America, reported Variety online.

Bullock, 50, will also serve as executive producer alongside Clooney and his producing partner Grant Heslov.

The actress is currently attached to the Sony pic 'Tupperware Unsealed' which revolves around the inventor of Tupperware. — PTI



**Singer Miley Cyrus performs "We Can't Stop" during the 2013 MTV Video Music Awards in New York on 25 Aug, 2013. REUTERS**

Last year, pop star Miley Cyrus became the talk around water coolers after thrusting her latex lingerie-clad "twerking" dance moves both on stage and into the zeitgeist during a raunchy performance of "Blurred Lines" with Robin Thicke.

With Cyrus in attendance but not scheduled to perform, the achievement of 2014's most talked-about VMA moment is up for grabs to the boldest competitor.

"Every artist looks at the VMAs as one of the most competitive live performance moments, where everybody really brings

their A-game and comes to own the night," said Amy Doyle, executive producer of the live telecast ceremony.

"Knowing that a lot of historical music moments are made on this stage, they want to be part of VMA history," she said.

R&B star Beyonce, who last stole the VMA spotlight in 2011 when she revealed her baby bump on stage, is vying to outdo herself this year with "one of the most ambitious" performances the show has hosted, Doyle teased.

"She will be doing something that no other artist has ever tried to do before," Doyle said.

With a line-up of performances from Taylor Swift, Ariana Grande and

Nicki Minaj, this year's show is also dominated by the ladies of pop music, reflecting a growing prominence of solo female talent in the current music industry.

"Females are definitely making the most interesting music in the pop-sphere right now," said 22-year-old British singer Charli XCX, who is nominated in the Artist to Watch category and will perform her hit song "Boom Clap" at the pre-show.

"Women strive to control their own careers now and change the way people view them in the pop industry, and I think that's amazing because it's hard to be a woman in this industry."

Reuters

## Rani Mukerji: Can work while pregnant if director's ready

MUMBAI, 23 Aug — Newly married actress Rani Mukerji says her marital status won't affect her work and even a pregnancy won't come in the way as long as the director is comfortable.

After marriage, actresses often cut down on their work. Asked in a group interview if she too would do so, Rani Mukerji said: "Not really."

She tied the knot with Yash Raj Films' head honcho Aditya Chopra in a hush-hush ceremony in Italy in April.

"Women try to cut down on work because they are pregnant and during that time they are physically not capable. In Hollywood, many actors work when they are pregnant. If a director is ready to work with me during my pregnancy, I will surely work," added the actress, who has

recently shot down pregnancy rumours.

The actress, who continues to work post-marriage, admits a married actress' career hinges on "how supportive her husband is."

"Adi (Aditya Chopra) is a very supportive husband. I don't think he would want me to slow down. I don't know what my decision is going to be when I become a mother," said the actress whose "Mardaani", about trafficking of girls, hits screens today. "I don't know how I will continue my journey in films. But I am in love with my job," she added.

Although Bollywood has come a long way when it comes to on-screen kissing, there are actresses who aren't comfortable locking lips or doing intimate scenes after marriage.

PTI



**After marriage, actresses often cut down on their work. Asked in a group interview if she too would do so, Rani Mukerji said: "Not really." PTI**

## Actress Emma Stone to make Broadway debut in 'Cabaret'

NEW YORK, 23 Aug — Actress Emma Stone will replace Michelle Williams and make her Broadway debut as singer Sally Bowles opposite Tony winner Alan Cumming in the musical 'Cabaret', producers said on Wednesday.

The 25-year-old actress, who starred in Woody Allen's 'Magic in the Moonlight' and superhero action franchise 'The Amazing Spider-Man', will begin on 11 November in the musical set during the rise of Nazism in Berlin.

'Cabaret' is based on Christopher Isherwood's 1939 novel 'Goodbye to Berlin', which chronicles in part the seedy cabaret nightlife of the German capital in the final years of the Weimar Republic.

Williams has extended her run in the role made famous by Liza Minnelli to 9 November, and Cumming will continue to play the emcee at the Kit Kat Klub until 29 March. The revival of the 1998 Tony Award-winning production that opened on 24 April at Studio 54 has won rave reviews, with the *Hollywood Reporter* describing it as a "thrilling production, which is even sharper this time around." — Reuters



**Actress Emma Stone**



## GENERAL

# Swimming: Koseki, Hagino win more gold for Japan at Pan Pacs

GOLD COAST, (Australia), 23 Aug — Yasuhiro Koseki added to Japan's gold medal haul with victory in the men's 100 breaststroke in his first major international competition on Friday at the Pan Pacific Championships.

A day after finishing second in the men's 200 freestyle, Kosuke Hagino also emerged victorious in the men's 400 individual medley to take Japan's gold total to four after two days of action at The Gold Coast Aquatic Centre.

Koseki overtook Brazil's Felipe da Silva and powered through the last five meters to touch the wall in 59.62 seconds. Silva clocked 59.82 for silver and New Zealand's Glenn Snyders won the bronze in

1:00.18.

"I knew it would be a close race and swam with that in mind in the first half," said the 1.88-metre Koseki. "I was totally absorbed in the last five meters and wasn't aware of who was swimming beside me. I am pleased to win."

Koseki's gold was Japan's third of the meet after victories by Ryosuke Irie in the men's 100 backstroke and Daiya Seto in the men's 200 butterfly.

"Yesterday Irie and Seto won gold medals and I wanted to ride on the crest of that wave," said Koseki.

In the men's 400 IM, Hagino eased to victory with a time of 4:08.31. Tyler Clary was second in 4:09.03 and fellow American Chase Kalisz was third in 4:09.62.



Seto could only manage fifth.

"I felt good in the heats and tried hard to win the gold medal, but I am a little bit disappointed because I wanted my time to be a little better," said Hagino.

Hagino went on to take his third medal here

as Japan's men took silver in the men's 4x200-metre freestyle relay, won by the United States.

In women's races, Japan's Kanako Watanabe took the 100 breaststroke silver in 1:06.78, just behind American Jessica Hardy (1:06.74).—Kyodo News

## MYANMAR TV

(24-8-2014, Sunday)

- 6:00 am**  
\* Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 6:20 am**  
\* Myitta Pawana By Mingun Sayadaw Phayagyi
- 7:00 am**  
\* News/Weather Report
- 7:25 am**  
\* MRTV's Youth Programme
- 8:30 am**  
\* Amazing World
- 9:00 am**  
\* News/International News
- 9:30 am**  
\* The Nine Percepts
- 10:00 am**  
\* News
- 11:10 am**  
\* Gitadagale Phwintbaronhn
- 12:25 pm**  
\* Round Up of The Week's International News
- 12:40 pm**  
\* Myanmar Movie
- 3:15 pm**  
\* Mono Classical Songs
- 4:00 pm**  
\* News
- 4:30 pm**  
\* University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Fourth Years (Law)
- 5:00 pm**  
\* News
- 6:40 pm**  
\* Pyi Thu Ni Ti
- 7:20 pm**  
\* Weekly Entertainment News
- 8:35 pm**  
\* Documentary (Women in Myanmar Society)
- 9:00 pm**  
\* News  
\* Tamyethnar Takwetsar  
\* Teleplay

## MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(24-8-14 07:00 am~ 25-8-14 07:00 am) MST

- \* Local News
- \* Products of Myanmar - Seashells Products
- \* World News
- \* A Day Trip to Thanlyin
- \* Local News
- \* Shwe Maw Daw: The Glory of Bago City
- \* World News
- \* Cultural Show: Composer Ma Mya Lay
- \* Local News
- \* Me N My Travel With Maria (Night Market of Pyay)
- \* World News
- \* Orchid Lover
- \* Local News
- \* Herbal Medicine by Thurein (Ta Bin Dine Mya Nan)(Vitis)
- \* World News
- \* Paper Flower
- \* Local News
- \* Great Shwedagon - The Religious Insignias of pagodas in Myanmar
- \* World News
- \* Art Students: Sculpture
- \* Local News
- \* Waso Charity Feast
- \* World News
- \* Today Myanmar: "Market Respond to Ooredoo Launching"
- \* Local News
- \* Ngapali Beach: Fishing Villages
- \* World News
- \* Myanmar Invites You
- \* Local News
- \* Flying Without Wings-Inle lake (Part-2)
- \* World News
- \* Made in Myanmar "Mixxo"

## 40% of firms welcome restart of Sendai plant in Kyushu: Kyodo survey

FUKUOKA, 23 Aug — About 40 percent of major companies in the Kyushu and Okinawa areas in southwestern Japan said they welcome the proposed restart of Kyushu Electric Power Co's Sendai nuclear plant in that region, a Kyodo News survey showed on Friday.

The two-unit Sendai plant located in a region of active volcanic sites is the closest among Japan's 48 offline commercial reactors being allowed to restart as it is in the final stage of a safety review process by nuclear regulators.

Of the 54 firms that responded to the survey, 23 gave their nod to the restart while another 23 companies said they could not say whether they were for or against it, and the remaining eight chose not to answer.

The survey showed that while there was no firm that openly declared opposition to the restart, some questioned the safety of restarting the reactors when they were asked further about their neutral stance. All of the nation's nuclear reactors remain offline as utilities can only restart their reactors after passing

the nuclear regulators' safety screening based on new regulations introduced in the wake of the nuclear crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear complex, triggered by a massive earthquake and tsunami in March 2011.

The survey found that 15 firms said, in multiple answers, that they welcome restarting the Sendai plant because of the "need for a stable supply of electricity," while 11 firms said they hoped the restart would revitalize the economy in the Kyushu region. Five companies said they favor the restart be-

cause it could lead to lower electricity rates and help improve their businesses. For those who answered that they can neither support nor oppose the restart, five firms said the safety of operating the reactors would still be in question even after getting a safety clearance.

Four firms said that the restart has not been well coordinated with the local community yet and three companies said restarting the Sendai plant is a premature decision when the Fukushima crisis is still ongoing.

Kyodo News

## Atletico Madrid beat Real, to lift Spanish Super Cup

MADRID, 23 Aug — Atletico Madrid won the Spanish Super Cup 2-1 on aggregate following a 1-0 win over Real Madrid in the second leg of the competition in the Vicente Calderon Stadium on Friday night.

Following a 1-1 draw in the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium on Tuesday night, Real Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti made several changes to his side, most notably with James Rodriguez in the starting 11 along with Fabio Coentrao and Rafael Vane with Cristiano Ronaldo on the bench after suffering a muscle injury in midweek.

Meanwhile Angel Di Maria, who Ancelotti confirmed on Thursday had asked for a transfer over the summer, was dropped from the squad, despite a game-changing substitute display three days earlier.

Atletico Madrid meanwhile kept faith in the side which had stifled their neighbors so effectively on Tuesday night with two exceptions as Tiago Cardoso replaced Mario Suarez and Antoine Griezmann also forcing his way into the side. The only goal of the game came in the second minute when recent arrival Mario Mandzukic latched

onto a header from Griezmann after a long clearance from Atletico keeper, Miguel Angel Moya.

Atletico controlled the first 20 minutes, but saw coach Diego Simeone sent off for protesting after 25 minutes after an action which saw him give the 4th official a slight slap around the neck. In a frantic close to the second half, James and Gareth Bale, both had chances to level, while Raul Garcia could have doubled Atletico's lead at the end of the first half and the start of the second with a shot that hit the corner of the woodwork and bounced out.

Atletico had not beaten Real Madrid at home for over 15 years and the pressure built up as the game continued, although the home side worked hard to increase their lead with Koke and Griezmann closest to adding to their lead.

Real Madrid threatened at the end, but saw Luka Modric sent off for a second yellow card and although Sergio Ramos threatened to level deep in injury time, this time it was not to be and Atletico started the season with a dose of revenge for their defeat in the Champions League final last May.

Xinhua



Real Madrid's Gareth Bale (R) shoots during their Spanish Super Cup match against Atletico Madrid at the Vicente Calderon Stadium in Madrid on 22 Aug, 2014.—XINHUA



# Scott grabs share of lead, McIlroy recovers nicely



**Adam Scott hits his second shot on the fourth hole during the second round of The Barclays golf tournament at Ridgewood Country Club. — REUTERS**

PARAMUS, 23 Aug—Adam Scott used a run of four successive birdies on Friday to vault into a share of the halfway lead at The Barclays, and Rory McIlroy joined the fray at the

opener of the four-event FedExCup playoffs.

Scott, the Australian world number two, caught fire from the par-four fifth hole to post a 31 on the front nine and added two

more birdies including a nice finishing touch at 18 to complete a 65 for eight-under 134 along with American Cameron Tringale.

Scott was hitting the ball like a dream from tee to green, and reckoned he might have broken 60 if he had taken advantage of the par-fives and cashed in with his putter on a host of other scoring opportunities.

“Always hard to put numbers on it but six, seven,” Scott told reporters when asked how much better his score could have been.

“I played the par-fives one-over today. So I could find four there for you, and missed so many 10-footers it felt like.”

Asked if a 59 might have been possible for him, Scott said: “Well, ifs and buts, but I played well enough if I had it really going on the green today to do that for sure.”

Tringale, who last

week disqualified himself from the PGA Championship for signing an incorrect scorecard, shot a 68 to share a one-stroke lead with Scott on a jammed pack leaderboard.

World number one McIlroy, on a blazing three-tournament winning streak that included major triumphs in the British Open and PGA Championship, shrugged off an opening 74 with a sizzling six-under 65 to move up to three under par for the tournament.

The Northern Irishman, who took some time off from practicing after his brilliant run, went back to work after his poor round and got right back on track.

“I know how well I’m playing and how comfortable I am with my game, so even to miss a cut feeling like that would have felt really bad,” said McIlroy. “I put a little extra effort in yesterday and this morning

and made sure I was ready to go.”

One stroke behind the co-leaders were Jim Furyk (69) and fellow Americans Brendon Todd (69) and Kevin Chappell (67) on 135, one shot better than a group of six that included last year’s FedExCup champion Henrik Stenson of Sweden and Australian Jason Day, who both fired 64s.

Also at six-under-par 136 were South African Ernie Els (68), Scotsman Russell Knox (69), Kevin Na (66) and Bo Van Pelt (71), the overnight leader.

Others struggled despite softened conditions from overnight rain on the AW Tillinghast layout.

Three-time winner this year Jimmy Walker struck a spectator in the head with an approach shot, and five-times major champion Phil Mickelson hit his tee shot on the short par-four fifth hole onto a hospitality

dining deck and played on from there.

Mickelson went on to bogey the hole and shot a 72 but made the cut right on the number, while Walker posted a 74 to miss it by two.

The cut for the elite field was set at one-over-par 143, with 79 players carrying on to Saturday’s third round at tree-lined Ridgewood Country Club.

The top 100 players on the FedExCup points list after the tournament will qualify for next week’s Deutsche Bank Championship in Boston.

Among those missing the cut on an overcast but dry day, were European Ryder Cup veteran Ian Poulter (72) and 2012 FedExCup winner Brandt Snedeker (74), who both finished just outside the cut at 144. US Open winner Martin Kaymer of Germany soared to a second-round 77 for 148.

Reuters

## Robben, Mueller score as Bayern start with win

MUNICH, (Germany), 23 Aug — Champions Bayern Munich made a winning start in the Bundesliga on Friday, beating ambitious VfL Wolfsburg 2-1 with Dutchman Arjen Robben scoring one goal and setting up the other for World Cup winner Thomas Mueller.

The Bavarians, missing half a dozen players through injury, only briefly hit top form in the first half but it was enough to see them notch their first three points of the season.

With Germany coach Joachim Loew in the stands, Mueller flicked in a Robben cutback in the 37th minute after the winger spectacularly shook off two defenders.

Robben then added a goal himself two minutes after the restart with Croatian Ivica Olic cutting the deficit in the 52nd for the visitors as the German league season got underway.

“For every coach in the world victory is the most important thing,” Bayern coach Pep Guardiola told reporters. “After our 2-0 lead we did not control the game and we had power only for 65-70 minutes. We still need some time.”

Guardiola stuck to his new-look three-man defence despite the absences and with defender Holger Badstuber making his league comeback after two cruciate ligament tears



**Bayern Munich’s Robert Lewandowski jumps over VfL Wolfsburg’s goalkeeper Max Gruen during their German Bundesliga first division soccer match in Munich on 22 Aug, 2014. — REUTERS**

and an injury break of 20 months.

“We did it well today despite not having played with such a team before,” former Germany international Badstuber told reporters. “In the second half we ran a bit out of steam but overall it was a very good start.”

The hosts were missing among others Franck Ribery, Bastian Schweinsteiger and Thiago Alcantara, so 17-year-old Gianluca Gaudino, the son of former Germany international Maurizio Gaudino, and new signing Juan Bernat got the chance to shine.

With Bayern pressing high up the pitch, Wolfsburg had trouble carrying the ball forward and after 20 minutes Bayern in-

creased the tempo, twice coming close to scoring through Poland forward Robert Lewandowski.

Last season’s Bundesliga top scorer, who joined from Bayern’s rivals Borussia Dortmund in the close season, was denied by substitute goalkeeper Max Gruen on both occasions before Mueller tapped in to give the hosts the lead.

It only took two minutes of the second half for Bayern to add another goal, with Robben stealing the ball from France international Josuha Guilavogui in midfield and completing the swift move himself after a one-two with Lewandowski.

However, former Bayern forward Olic then silenced the 71,000 crowd

with a stunning left-foot shot from 18 metres to give the 2009 champions fresh hope.

Junior Malanda should have grabbed the equaliser 10 minutes from time when he raced into the box but saw his first effort deflected by keeper Manuel Neuer on to the bar before the ball then bounced off the Belgian’s foot and rolled wide.

“We played well for 30 minutes and then Bayern increased the pace but we still had the chances to come back,” said Wolfsburg coach Dieter Hecking. “We lost possession a bit too easily sometimes and that is something that makes me angry.” Last season’s runners-up Dortmund host Bayer Leverkusen on Saturday—Reuters

## I have gone from ‘king of Manchester’ to ‘devil’

LONDON, 23 Aug — Manchester United manager Louis van Gaal has poured scorn on critics who he says have made a “devil” of him after one defeat in his new job.

United’s 2-1 home defeat by Swansea City was the shock result on the opening weekend of the new Premier League season. They face a tricky game at Sunderland on Sunday and Van Gaal is appealing for patience.

“Two weeks ago I was the king of Manchester and now I am the devil of Manchester,” he told a news conference on Friday.

“It’s the football world and it is especially the media in this football world.

“I think the fans of Manchester are intelligent. I’ve already said that it shall be difficult in the first three months, for the players and also for the fans.”

Former United hero

Paul Scholes said in a newspaper column this week that he was “scared” for United’s immediate future, to which Van Gaal responded: “I can imagine the fans are scared. They have to believe. Paul Scholes has to believe.

“The club have hired me because of my philosophy, not because I am nice. Although I am. I am not hired to be fired. I am hired to build up a team. That process needs time.”

Supporters had been expecting a better start, however, after a hugely disappointing season in which United finished seventh in the table. It was their lowest final position since 1990 and the Swansea defeat was their first loss in an opening home game for 42 years.

They have won their last three league games at Sunderland but were beaten 2-1 in last season’s League Cup semi-finals.—Reuters



**Manchester United head coach Louis Van Gaal**