

Myanmar, Finland focus on peace process, anti-human trafficking issues

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb—President U Thein Sein received a delegation led by Mr Erkki Tuomioja, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland, at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, at 11 a.m. on Tuesday to hold talks on cooperation in education, trade, investment and development tasks.

They also exchanged views on natural resources management, peace process and prevention of trafficking in persons.

Also present at the call were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Aung Min, U Khin Yi, Dr Myint Aung and U Ye Htut. The guests were ac-



companied by Finish Ambassador to Myanmar Ms. Kirsti Westphalen.—MNA

President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo together with Mr Erkki Tuomioja, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland and party.—MNA

(The following is the unofficial translation of the Ordinance No. 1/2015. Ed)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

President Office

Ordinance No. (1/2015)

14th Waning Day of Tabodwe, 1376 ME

(17 February 2015)

Declaration of State of Emergency

1. The Government announced Article 144 of Criminal Procedure on 12 February 2015 after clashes resulted from attacks of Kokang renegades in Kokang Self-Administered Zone in Shan State beginning February 9, 2015.
2. However, tension has escalated in the area and it was found that Article 144 of Criminal Procedure alone is not effective to control chaos and to manage administration sector amidst lives and property of civilians are under threat from conflicts. By means of this, the State of Emergency in Kokang Self-Administered Zone is declared as per Sub-Section (a) of Section 412 of The Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
3. This ordinance will take effect 90 days from today.

Sd/Thein Sein
President

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

(The following is the unofficial translation of the Ordinance No. 2/2015. Ed)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

President Office

Ordinance No. (2/2015)

14th Waning Day of Tabodwe 1376 ME

(17 February 2015)

Military Administrative Order issued

1. In order to bring back normalcy in Kokang Self-Administered Zone where a state of emergency is declared under the Ordinance No. (1/2015), military administrative order is issued under Sub-section (b) of Section 413 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
2. The executive powers and duties and judicial powers and duties concerning community peace and tranquility and prevalence of law and order in Kokang Self-Administrative Zone are conferred on the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services.
3. The Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services may exercise the said powers and duties himself or empower on any suitable military authority to exercise thereof.

Sd/Thein Sein
President

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

UEC agrees to extend poll campaign period to 60 days



Union Election Commission Chairman U Tin Aye.

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 17 Feb—The Union Election Commission agreed Tuesday to ex-

the UEC and the political parties.

The chairman of the UEC has pledged to legalize the extension of the poll campaign period as soon as possible, said U Kyaw, secretary of the New National Democracy Party. During the meeting with the UEC, representatives from the political parties expressed their voices for deciding which voting system would be practiced in the upcoming 2015 election by next month.

In November last year, the Electoral System Review Commission of the Pyithu Hluttaw objected the Amyotha Hluttaw's approval in June of a proportional

(See page 2)

tend the election campaign period from 30 days to 60 days, according to politicians who attended a co-ordination meeting among

(The following is the unofficial translation of the Announcement No (1) on Military Administration. Ed)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army)

Announcement No. (1) on Military Administration

14th Waning Day of Tabodwe, 1376 ME

(17 February, 2015)

Military Administrative Authority empowered on BC 20830 Col Saw Myint Oo, Commander of Regional Control Command (Laukkai)

Under paragraphs 2 and 3 of Ordinance No. (2/2015) issued by the President Office of the Republic of Union of Myanmar on Tuesday, 14th Waning Day of Tabodwe, 1376 ME (17 February 2015) as per Sub-Section (b) of Section 413 of State Constitution, I, the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services, exercising the authority conferred on me, empower BC 20830 Col Saw Myint Oo, Commander of Regional Control Command (Laukkai) to exercise the executive powers and duties and judicial powers and duties concerning community peace and tranquility and prevalence of law and order in Kokang Self-Administrative Zone where military administrative order is announced, as of Tuesday, 14th Waning Day of Tabodwe, 1376 ME (17 February 2015).

S/d Min Aung Hlaing
Senior General

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

MPs seek clear instructions of central committee on land reallocation processes



Representatives of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw debate land allocation processes.—MNA

UEC agrees to extend

(from page 1)
representation (PR) system, deciding that a “first-past-the-post” (FPTP) voting system is best suited in Myanmar. The issue will be put to the vote at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Regarding the issue of temporary national registration card or “white cards” holders who have been dis-

enfranchised, U Tin Aye, chairman of the UEC, said those who are eligible under the 1982 Citizen Law can apply for a national citizenship registration card at respective national registration offices, according to the participants in the meeting.

A next co-ordination meeting between the UEC and the political parties is

expected in April, according to the participants. Representatives from 62 political parties and two international non-governmental organizations participated in the meeting with the UEC.

At UEC branch in Yangon, the chairman of UEC and party discussed voter education with the chairman of Myanmar Press Council (Interim) and officials.

GNLM

U Tha Aung Nyun presents Credentials to President of South Africa

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Feb — U Tha Aung Nyun, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the

Union of Myanmar to the Republic of South Africa, presented his Credentials to His Excellency Mr Jacob Gedleyihlekisa

Zuma, President of the Republic of South Africa, on 6 February 2015 in Pretoria.

MNA

Collective efforts imperative to achieve Myanmar’s National Plan of Action for food and Nutrition



Launch of the Scaling Up Nutrition Civil Society Alliance (SUN CSA) hosted by the Save The Children in progress at Summit Parkview Hotel in Yangon on Tuesday. —PHOTO: SAVE THE CHILDREN

YANGON, 17 Feb — The Scaling Up Nutrition Civil Society Alliance (SUN CSA) hosted by the Save the Children in Yangon on

Tuesday called on civil society organizations to join the movement to eradicate malnutrition in Myanmar.

Across the country, at

least 1 in 3 children under age five are stunted, which means they are too short for their age. In some parts of the country, more than

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

the supporting sub-committees at respective areas.

The central committee has implemented the instruction of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to return the confiscated lands to the owners after informing public through media.

Brigadier General Kyaw Zan Myint also said the committee handed over the lands released by government ministries and private firms to original owners, and they have been informed to reclaim their lands with ownership documents.

U Khaing Maung Yi, a member of Yangon Region Farmland Investiga-

tion Commission, suggested Pyidaungsu Hluttaw’s investigation commission and Land Utilization Management Central Committee should meet to solve remaining problems.

U Kyaw Myint, a member of Yangon Region Farmland Investigation Commission, also said mismanagement of land investigation bodies at village and township levels, asking clear instructions of central committee.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw kept the records secretary of Land Utilization Management Central Committee.

MNA

Deputy Pyidaungsu Hluttaw speaker meets Swedish Red Cross officials



Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa meets officials of Swedish Red Cross.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb — Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa received Legal Adviser and International

Director to Swedish Red Cross Mr Dick Oskar Anders Clomen and Ms Eva Ingela Holmertz and party at the hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, on Tuesday.

They focused on further strengthening relations between Myanmar and Swedish Red Cross societies and cooperation.

MNA

half of children are stunted. Stunting at a young age can result in irreparable damage on a child’s physical and mental development. Among pregnant women, over 70 per cent are found to be anaemic, which means mothers do not have enough healthy red blood cells to carry oxygen around the body and to the baby. All these affect the country’s sustainable development.

“We know that investing in nutrition works. On average, for every dollar that governments around the globe invest in nutrition to reduce stunting, they see a return of 16 times as much due to increased productivity,” said Dr San San Myint, programme manager for the SUN CSA.

“However, as individual organizations serv-

ing mothers and children around the country, we have not been able to tackle the prevalence of stunting, wasting and anaemia in Myanmar. A collective effort across all civil society organizations in support of the National Plan of Action for food and nutrition is needed if we are to achieve our goal of eradicating malnutrition in Myanmar.”

The Myanmar government set out its National Plan of Action for food and nutrition in 2013, with the aim of reducing child stunting from 35 per cent to 30 per cent, and the number of anaemic women from 70 per cent to 60 per cent by 2016, among other goals.

“We have seen some success in improving the nutrition status of women and children in recent years,

so we know that better nutrition for all is possible. We are calling on civil society organizations to join us in our commitment to scale up nutrition in Myanmar.” Dr San San Myint added

The Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement is a global movement led by countries for bringing different groups of people together – governments, civil society, the United Nations, donors, business and scientists – in a collective action to improve nutrition. Myanmar government in May 2013 signed up to the SUN Global Movement, clearly demonstrating high-level ownership and responsibility for delivering sustainable solutions for addressing the nutrition problems.

GNLM/Save the Children Myanmar

Government strives with all its might for rural development and poverty alleviation: Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham



Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham visits booths of agricultural machinery at the ceremony of socioeconomic development of people in Mawlamyine.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb — Myanmar has set its hope on reducing poverty to 16% in 2015 in a bid to meet the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, with Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham saying that the country's poverty index was 32% in 2005 and it was down to 26% in 2010.

An event took place in Mawlamyine, Mon State, on Tuesday, focusing on rural development and higher socioeconomic status, officials said.

According to the vice president, Mon State saw 22% of poverty rate in 2005, which dropped to 16% five years later. Poverty rate must be brought down to 11%, he said, referring to the UN MDG.

He called for collective cooperation of the local government and people in the struggle, describing regional stability as essential to regional prosperity.

He explained how the government is striving with

all its might for rural development and poverty alleviation and how agricultural machinery will be sold in installments.

He stressed the need to replace ancestral farming equipment with modern machinery for a nation to be prosperous.

As part of developing the cooperative sector and boosting the agricultural sector, the government has pledged thousands of millions of kyats as agricultural spending for farmers to pur-

chase machinery in installations, including agricultural loans, reports said.

The vice president expressed his belief that such sales would enable farmers to save time, money and energy and as a result earn more income so as to afford health, education and social expenses.

Technical skills and capitals are major concern for urban and rural people, he said, adding that cooperative associations are disbursing low-interest loans in a bid to help them stand on their own feet.

He admitted the need to reclaim new farmland and distribute farming techniques that ensure high yields.

The Ministry of Cooperatives, in partnership with Korea's Daedong Industrial Co., has introduced the installment plan for purchase of agricultural gear.

On the occasion, Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan presented loans of over K864m for 33 cooperative associations in Mawlamyine township, over K711m for 40 associations in Mudon township, over K379m for 44 associations in Chaungzon township, over K210m for 37 associations in Kyaukmaraw township, and over K132m for 29 associations in Thanbyuzayat township.

Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint presented over K295m for 32 associations in Ye township, over

K783m for 40 associations in Thaton township, over K596m for 43 associations, over K858m for 79 associations in Bilin township, and over K882m for 44 associations in Kyaikto township.

Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham in a meeting at Yangon General Hospital here on Tuesday urged officials to be frank about what has hindered the speedy completion of the extension and renovation of the hospital, which had been expected to complete last October.

The vice president stressed the need for the speedy completion of the buildings for an emergency unit and a five-storey block, pledging the government's assistance to overcoming the obstacles encountered during construction.

He heard reports on major and minor repair works, installation of two elevators and a 1000KVA transformer, provision of affordable healthcare to patients and organizational restructuring plans.

He was given a guided tour of the hospital, where he comforted patients and their families.—MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw speaker meets Finland Minister for Foreign Affairs

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb — Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received Mr Erkki Tuomioja, Minister for Foreign Af-

fairs of Finland and party at the Hluttaw Building, here, on Tuesday.

Also present at the meeting were chairman and member of Hluttaw com-

mittee and commission. The Finland's minister was accompanied by Finland Ambassador Ms Kirsti Westphalen.

MNA



Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann cordially greets Mr Erkki Tuomioja, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland.

MNA

Myanmar, India to promote marine transport, trade between port cities

Vice President U Nyan Tun meets Minister of State for Commerce & Industry Ms Nirmala Sitharaman of India.

MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb — Vice President U Nyan Tun held talks with a delegation led by Minister of State for Commerce & Industry Ms Nirmala Sitharaman of India at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, on Tuesday afternoon.

They discussed Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit

Transport Project, smooth flow of commodities between Myanmar and India, promotion of marine transport and trade between port cities in eastern coast of India and Myanmar, implementation of transport projects like Imphal-Mandalay bus service for smooth transport of peoples from two countries, systemat-

ic establishment of border trade camps and promotion in increasing trade volume in 2015.

Also present at the call were Deputy Ministers U Thant Kyaw, U Myo Aung and Dr Pwint Hsan. The Indian Minister was accompanied by Indian Ambassador Mr Gautam Mukhopadhyaya.—MNA

Mandalay Region authorities, wellwishers transport people coming back from Laukkai

MANDALAY, 17 Feb — The people who left Laukkai region arrived at Chanmya Shwepyi (Kywehsegan) highway bus terminal in Mandalay as of 13 February.

Mandalay Region government and social organizations gave foods and transported them to their native regions. On 16 February, a total of 3,307 people have been transported to their native areas free of charge.

“Under the arrangements of the region government, we gave accommodation to them at first. Moreover, we served them with breakfasts, meals and purified water. Not only departmental officials but social organizations give a helping hand to them. Health Department provides health care services to the ailing people. Both



departmental vehicles and that of wellwishers are used in transport of those people to their native regions free of charge,” Head of Mandalay Region Transport Department U Zaw Win Naing told media.

A motorcycle taxi

team from Kywehsegan bus terminal said that they are ready to give foods to the people who returned from Laukkai.

The people from central Myanmar worked at sugarcane plantations and construction sites in

Laukkai. Up to 16 February, local authorities and wellwishers transported the people who came back from Laukkai to their homes with the use of 115 vehicles.—*Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)*

Israeli medical delegation “Eye from Zion” arrives in Myanmar



Dr. Shmuel Levartovski (in the Photo) at his sixth time in Myanmar, leading eye operations and training sessions.

YANGON, 17 Feb — As part of the programme, the Israeli medical team led by Dr. Shmuel Lavertovski, MD, Head Department of Ophthalmology, Barzilai Medical Center, Ashkelon and specialists in Ophthalmology, Dr. Nir Shoam Hazon and Dr. Eyal Aloni, MD, Head of Neuro-ophthalmology service, Department of Ophthalmology, Barzilai Medical Center, Ashkelon and Dr. Elina Landa MD, Pediatric Ophthalmology unit, Western Galilee Medi-

cal Center, Naharia who arrived in Yangon on February took the lead at complicated eye surgeries of adults and children with unique cases that were chosen by the staff of North Okkalapa General Hospital. The surgeries involved a live training sessions and demonstration for interns and doctors from the different eye departments.

Following the surgeries and training sessions, the Israeli doctors held a two day medical seminar for doctors and interns from different

eye departments at Myanmar Medical Association Hall on 12 and 13 February 2015. The seminar was attended by over 50 members of the medical association, headed by the president of the Myanmar Medical Association.

This year is the 6th year of Eye from Zion’s project in Myanmar, which marks the long term cooperation between the two countries in the field of health and specifically Ophthalmology.

GNLM

Indian Industrial Expo in Mandalay 27 Feb-1 March

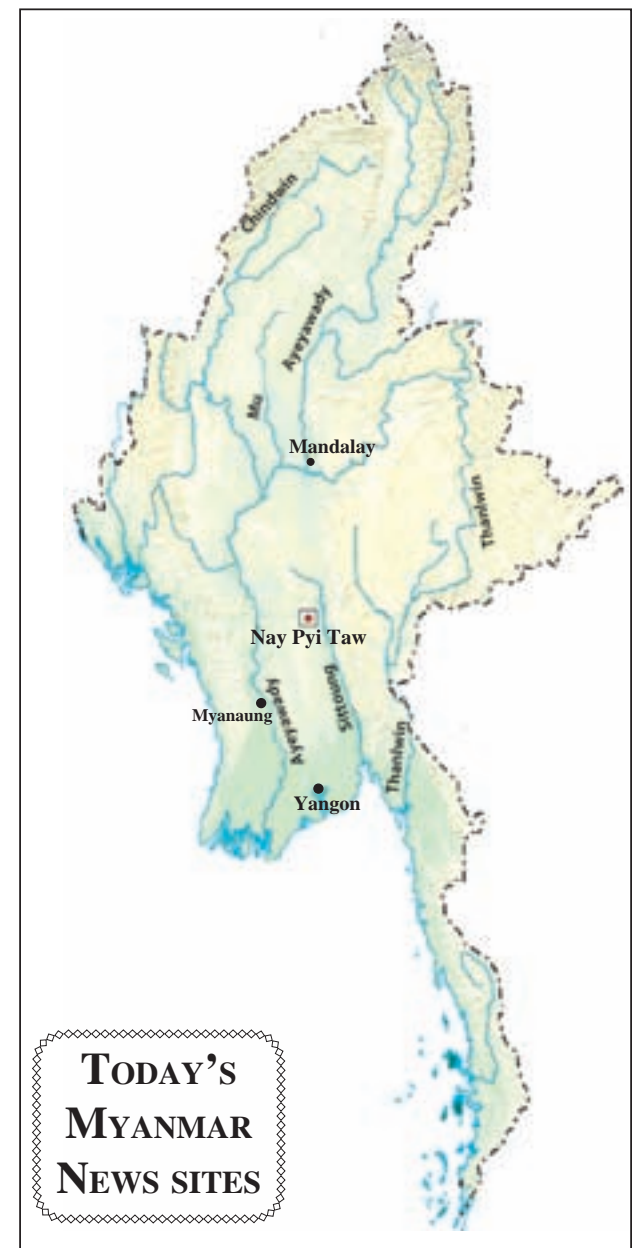
MANDALAY, 17 Feb — Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Mandalay-based Indian Consulate General will jointly stage the Indian Industrial Expo at the city hall in Mandalay from 27 February to 1 March.

Over 70 industrial companies from northeast India and Kolkata will display small- and medium-scale industrial equipment, agricultural machinery, construction materials, electronic equipment and foodstuff production machines at the expo.

The expo will be the first of its kind in Mandalay. A similar expo was held in Yangon in 2014.

India allows 96 percent of tax exemption over Myanmar products. Myanmar and India trade is increasing year by year. In 2013-14 fiscal year, both countries’ trade reached US\$ 2.1 billion.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



Homeless to get apartments under plans of MCDC

MANDALAY, 17 Feb — Basic workers such as those from freight-handling works are living at Chawseik, Gawwun, Mayanchan, Kyaukthabeik and Nyaung jetties along Ayeyawady river bank in Mandalay.

Under the arrangements of Mandalay Region government, the Mandalay City Development Committee plan to build the housings for them to have clean and hygienic environments in the city.

It will be the first pro-

ject for homeless in Myanmar and the project will be implemented in 2015.

About 8,000 from about 1,000 temporary sheds are residing from Chaw Jetty in Chanmyathazi Township to Nyaungkwe in Aungmyethazan Township.

The MCDC will build the rental housings for them and allot the apartments depending on their daily incomes, according to an official of MCDC.

Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)



LOCAL NEWS

Specialists discuss arrangements for leprosy exposure post prophylaxis project

MANDALAY, 17 Feb — Jointly organized by Mandalay Region Health Department and Upper Myanmar Leprosy Elimination Group, the advocacy meeting on leprosy exposure post prophylaxis (LPEP) project was held at the hall of the region department in Chanayethazan Township on 16 February. Head of Mandalay Region Health Department Dr Than Win and Leprosy

project in-charge Dr Tin Shwe gave speeches. Leprosy elimination national adviser Dr Kyaw Kyaw Lin and leprosy disease medical officer Dr Maung Maung Htoo explained plans to search suspected patients and give the combine medicines to them.

The number of leprosy patients is on decrease in Mandalay Region.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Traditional cultural performances attract tourists in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 17 Feb — The Myanmar traditional performance was presented to tourists once in two every weeks at the National Theatre in Mandalay for promoting tourism industry.

On 15 February, the artistes presented traditional dances and songs to the tourists in addition local enthusiasts.

In addition to traditional dances, Daw Ma Ma Naing's troupe presented a drama of marionette performances to the audiences.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



MYANAUNG, 17 Feb— Myanaung Township War Veterans Organization of Ayeyawady Region donated cash for military personnel at frontier areas.

Chairman of the Township WVO Captain Myo Kyi (Rtd) accepted K150,000 donated by Township WVO.

The cash donation will be handed over to military servicemen who are discharging security and defence duties at frontier areas.

Win Bo (Township IPRD)

War veterans donate cash to military personnel



Victorious Wushu athletes of Mandalay Region selected to take training in China

MANDALAY, 17 Feb — Mandalay athletes bagged 15 gold, 11 silver and seven bronze medals in the men's and women's events of Wushu sports in the 4th National Sports Festival, head coach U Kyaw Aye told media on 16 February.

Hnin Thiri Maung won three gold in the Taolu event, Thura Tun two gold and one silver, Hsaung Hnin Phyu and Thanzin Naung one gold, one silver and one bronze, Thet Naing Win, Myat Noe Ein, Thura Ko Ko and Hnin Wutyi Aung

one gold and one silver, and Khaing Kyi Phyu one gold and two bronze.

In the Sanshou event, Than Naing Soe, Wai Lin Tin and Yu Yu Naing secured one gold each.

Myanmar Wushu Federation chose gold medalists Hnin Thiri

Maung, Thet Naing Win, Hsaung Hnin Phyu, Myat Noe Ein, Thura Ko ko, May Thanzin Naung, Yu Yu Naing and Ye Yint Thaik Tun as selected players to take training in China.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)



Firefighters show brilliant skills in firefighting and rescue drill



MANDALAY, 17 Feb — Organized by Upper Myanmar Fire Brigade Supervisory Office of Fire Services Department under the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Mandalay District Fire Drill was held in front of the Mandalay Region FSD on 29th Street in Chanayethazan Township, on 15 february.

Firefighters participated in the firefighting and

rescue drill with the use of fire extinguishers and modern equipment.

Director of Upper Myanmar Fire Brigade Supervisory Office U Kyi Win presented the first prize to Chanmyathazi Township, second to Upper Myanmar Fire Brigade Supervisory Office and gthird to Mahaungmye Fire Brigade respectively.—*Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)*

Major quakes hit northeastern Japan, minor tsunami observed



Local resident evacuees are seen at the gymnasium of Kamaishi elementary school after an evacuation warning was issued for coastal towns in Iwate prefecture in northeastern Japan after a tsunami warning was broadcast following a 6.9 magnitude earthquake, in Kamaishi, Iwate prefecture, in this photo taken by Kyodo on 17 Feb, 2015.—KYODO NEWS

TOKYO, 17 Feb — Earthquakes with a preliminary magnitude of 6.9 and 5.7 struck the Pacific off northeastern Japan on Tuesday, with slight tidal waves observed in some coastal areas following the first temblor.

The first quake occurred at 8:06 am in the Pacific Ocean about 210

kilometres east of Miyako, Iwate Prefecture, at a depth of around 10 km and registered 4 on the Japanese seismic intensity scale of 7 in parts of Aomori, Iwate, Miyagi and Akita prefectures.

Before a tsunami advisory was lifted later in the morning, a 20-centimetre wave was observed at

Kuji port in Iwate roughly an hour later and a 10-cm wave in Miyako, according to the Japan Meteorological Agency.

Evacuation orders were temporarily issued in parts of Iwate, including the city of Kuji, for people near the coast. No injuries or damage to buildings from the quake has been reported, according to the government.

The second quake, which hit at 1:46 pm, originated off the Iwate coast at a depth of around 50 km and registered upper 5 in some areas of Aomori and lower 5 in parts of Iwate, but no tsunami warning was issued this time.

The weather agency warned after the first quake that temblors registering 3 or higher on the Japanese intensity scale could occur over the next week or so.

No abnormalities have been observed at the Onagawa nuclear power plant in Miyagi Prefecture and

the Higashidori power plant in Aomori Prefecture after the quakes, according to their operator, Tohoku Electric Power Co.

Japan Nuclear Fuel Ltd said it has not experienced anything out of the ordinary at its nuclear fuel reprocessing plant in Rokkasho, Aomori.

A power outage following the first quake temporarily halted service on the Tohoku Shinkansen Line, according to its operator, East Japan Railway Co. The operation of Sanriku Railway Co's entire coastal line in Iwate was also suspended temporarily.

The coastal areas of Aomori, Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures were devastated on 11 March, 2011, when a magnitude-9.0 earthquake struck the Pacific off the northeastern Japan areas, and caused a massive deadly tsunami.

Kyodo News

Bangladesh opposition extends nationwide strike till Friday morning

DHAKA, 17 Feb — Ex-prime minister Khaleda Zia's 20-party opposition alliance on Tuesday announced to extend its ongoing 72-hour nationwide strike till Friday morning in protest against political repression.

Khaleda Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) spokesperson Salahuddin Ahmed made the announcement in a press release on Tuesday, saying the alliance decided to extend its ongoing 72-hour strike by 48 hours protesting what it said killing party men in the name of shootouts, mass arrest of leaders and activists, controls on media and the "government interference in judiciary".

The BNP and its allies

on Saturday declared the 72-hour road, rail and waterway strike from Sunday morning amid its ongoing blockade campaign that entered the 43rd day on Tuesday.

The opposition alliance has been observing the nonstop blockade across the country since 5 January, demanding fresh elections under a non-party caretaker government system.

On top of its blockade campaign, the BNP and its 19 allies including key Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami party have been observing strike at regular intervals since the last month.

The fresh wave of violence has left scores of people dead and hundreds of others injured.—Xinhua

Afghan, Pakistan Taliban kill 28 in attacks on provincial police HQs

KABUL, 17 Feb — Four suicide attackers on Tuesday stormed a provincial police headquarters in eastern Afghanistan, killing 22 police, an official said. Taliban insurgents immediately claimed responsibility.

The attack in Logar Province outside the capital, Kabul, was the latest to target Afghan security forces following the withdrawal of most foreign combat troops at the end of last year.

In neighbouring Pakistan, another Taliban suicide attack on a provincial police headquarters killed at least seven people in the eastern city of Lahore, in what militants called a revenge bid for the recent hangings of their colleagues.

The Afghan and Pakistani Taliban are separate groups that share the goal of establishing hard-line Islam-

ic rule.

In the Afghan assault, the four attackers rushed the gates of the police compound in early afternoon, with one detonating his explosives-filled vest at the main gate and killing one policeman, Logar government spokesman Din Mohammad Darwish said.

The attack triggered a 25-minute battle with police, he said.

Another of the militants reached the station's dining hall, killing 21 police and wounding seven when he detonated his vest, said Abdul Wali Toofan, Logar's deputy police chief. The other two attackers were killed with no further casualties. Zabihullah Mujahid, a spokesman for the Taliban, claimed responsibility on his official Twitter feed.—Reuters

Indonesia's Widodo tested as anti-graft chief named suspect in tit-for-tat feud

JAKARTA, 17 Feb — Indonesian police named the head of the anti-graft agency a suspect in a corruption case on Tuesday, the latest twist in a tit-for-tat feud between the rival law enforcement agencies that has presented the new president with his biggest challenge to date.

Hostilities between the police and Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) have gone unchecked by President Joko Widodo, whose perceived indecisiveness has dented his popularity and raised questions about his anti-graft credentials in one of Asia's most corrupt countries.

The two most senior KPK officials have now been identified by police as suspects in different criminal cases, casting doubt over the future of the agency. After questioning more than 20 witnesses, police said they had enough evidence to name KPK head Abraham Samad as a suspect in the falsification of a passport

back in 2007.

"Abraham Samad has been named a suspect for falsifying a document," Endi Sutendi, spokesman for South and West Sulawesi police, told reporters.

Widodo, the popular former governor of the capital, narrowly won a July election with the promise to jaded voters of bringing clean, effective government.

But a survey published by a local pollster this month showed just 45 percent of Indonesians were satisfied with Widodo's performance, down drastically from 72 percent in August.

"If we hope to attract large private investment in the current conditions, with corruption rampant, will it be successful?" said John Rachmat, head of research at local brokerage Mandiri Sekuritas.

Samad has also faced accusations in parliament of taking part in politics while serving as KPK chief, casting doubt on the agency's neutrality.



Chief of Indonesia's Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) Abraham Samad speaks during a news conference in Jakarta on 26 Jan, 2012. REUTERS

Samad's deputy, Bambang Widjojanto, was named as a suspect by police last month in a 2010 perjury complaint. Widjojanto has offered to resign temporarily, but that has yet to be approved by Samad or Widodo.

Police had earlier threatened to name the agency's four most senior commissioners as suspects in various criminal cases. Under Indonesian law, police can name individuals as suspects without detailing charges.

KPK officials could not immediately be reached for comment.

The moves against the KPK are widely seen as retaliation for the agency's decision last month to name police chief nominee Budi Gunawan a suspect in a bribery case, which forced Widodo to delay his appointment indefinitely.

But a court this week invalidated the KPK's decision, claiming it had no legal basis. The KPK has yet to respond.—Reuters



Residents carry an injured man from the site of an explosion outside the police headquarters in Lahore on 17 Feb, 2015.—REUTERS

Abe eyes legislation for SDF to rescue Japanese citizens abroad



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe

TOKYO, 17 Feb — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said on Tuesday he plans to prepare legislation so the Self-Defence Forces can be sent overseas to rescue Japanese nationals in danger,

after a recent hostage crisis increased calls for such a legal framework.

“We will develop legislation to enable the SDF to rescue Japanese nationals on the premise that we can gain approval” from the host country, Abe said during a session of the House of Councillors.

“It’s unacceptable that we cannot protect the lives of Japanese nationals because of a flaw in the country’s legal system,” the prime minister said.

Since the crisis involving two Japanese nationals

taken hostage by Islamic State militants surfaced on 20 January during Abe’s trip to the Middle East, there have been growing calls for allowing the SDF to engage in rescue operations overseas. Under the current law, the SDF can only transport Japanese nationals abroad.

Abe’s Cabinet made a landmark decision last July to rework the country’s postwar security policy, which involves a reinterpretation of the pacifist Constitution to enable the country to exercise the right to collective self-defence.

The Cabinet decision says Japan should be allowed to use weapons to rescue its nationals abroad provided it can gain consent from host countries and “a state or a quasi-state organization does not appear as the adversary.”

During Tuesday’s question and answer session, Abe said SDF’s rescue operations will be within the limits of “police-like activities” and should not be interpreted as use of force.

The Constitution bans the use of force to settle international disputes. Using

weapons against a state or a quasi-state organization could be interpreted as use of force by Japan.

The Islamic State militant group killed the two Japanese hostages — 42-year-old Haruna Yukawa and 47-year-old Kenji Goto — despite days of diplomatic efforts to win their release. Abe said Japan needs to review its anti-terrorism measures “tirelessly,” as the government has launched a probe into its handling of the hostage crisis, with a report likely to be compiled as early as April.—*Kyodo News*

S Korea urges North to come to table for talks “without hesitation”

SEOUL, 17 Feb — South Korea on Tuesday urged North Korea to respond to its offer for high-level talks “without hesitation,” especially considering this week marks the anniversary of a landmark agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression and increased exchanges and cooperation reached between the two Koreas in 1992.

“19 February marks the 23rd anniversary of the entry into force of the North-South Basic Agreement, which is the basic charter for inter-Korean relations,” the Unifica-

tion Ministry said in a statement.

With that in mind, the ministry said, the two sides should resolve pending issues between them, such as reunions of families separated by the 1950-1953 Korean War, through dialogue and negotiations, as agreed in 1992.

It urged the North to “show a responsible attitude to overcome inter-Korean division” by responding “without hesitation” to its 29 December offer for high-level talks.

Through such talks, Seoul had earlier hoped

to arrange another meeting between war-separated families before the Lunar New Year holidays, which have already started.

“The government respects all the agreements reached between North and South, including the Basic Agreement, and reiterates its consistent stance of building trust by abiding by and implementing them,” it said.

The last high-level talks between the two sides were held in February 2014, covering a wide range of issues including family reunions.

Last month, at a New Year Press conference, South Korean President Park Geun-hye similarly urged the North to “come to the table without further hesitation.”

“I hope the South and North will be able to open the door to unification together, by jointly seeking a fundamental solution to the issue of separated families, and discussing ways to improve the quality of life for the North Korean people and recover the sense of common identity between South and North Koreans,” she said.—*Kyodo News*

Sri Lanka wins delay over UN war crimes report

GENEVA, 17 Feb — Sri Lanka’s new government won a six-month delay on Monday in the publication of a report on alleged war crimes, after the UN human rights chief praised its willingness to open the country up to scrutiny.

Sri Lankan government forces have been accused of widespread human rights violations in the final stages of the civil war that ended in May 2009, including most of about 40,000 killings of Tamil civilians in the final weeks of the conflict.

The UN Human Rights Council voted last March to investigate war crimes in Sri Lanka, saying then President Mahinda Rajapaksa had failed to do so properly. The UN inquiry, advised by three experts led by former Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari, was due to report back next month.

UN rights chief Zeid Ra’ad al-Husseini said he had recommended deferral of the team’s report until September, and the president of the Human Rights Council had agreed, given “the changing context in Sri Lanka, and the possibility that important new information may emerge which will strengthen the report.” The new government had given clear commitments indicating it was prepared to cooperate “on a whole range of important human rights issues — which the previous government had absolutely refused to do — and I need to engage with them to ensure those commitments translate into reality.”

Zeid stressed it had been a difficult decision to allow the delay and he vowed not to let wrongdoers off the hook. “I am acutely aware that many victims ...



Jordan’s Prince Zeid Ra’ad Zeid al-Husseini.

REUTERS

might see this is as the first step towards shelving, or diluting, a report they have long feared they would never see,” he said. A senior official of the US State Department welcomed the move and pledges made by the Sri Lankan government.

The official, who did not want to be identified by name, said the United States was “encouraged that a way forward has been agreed upon that satisfies the concerns of all parties” and the delay would “allow space for the new government to demonstrate their willingness to cooperate on human rights issues”.

A Sri Lanka Foreign Ministry official welcomed the deferral. “This is timely and coincide with the new government’s move to establish democratic process for accountability issues,” the official said. “This will give space for the domestic investigation process.” Sri Lanka had said it needed the delay to give it time to establish a new judicial mechanism to deal with the allegations.

In a letter to Zeid seen by *Reuters* on Monday, Foreign Minister Mangala Samaraweera set out reforms the government planned to implement within 100 days, including ensuring justice for war crimes.—*Reuters*

Indonesia delays transfer of two Australian drug offenders for execution

JAKARTA, 17 Feb — Indonesia has postponed the transfer of five convicts, two Australian drug offenders among them, to another prison for execution, prompted by medical concerns and families’ requests for more time with the prisoners, authorities said on Tuesday.

Australia has been pursuing an eleventh-hour campaign to save the lives of Myuran Sukumaran, 33, and Andrew Chan, 31, two members of the so-called Bali Nine, convicted in 2005 as the ringleaders of a plot to smuggle heroin out of Indonesia.

Indonesia has harsh penalties for drug trafficking and resumed executions in 2013 after a five-year gap. Five foreigners were among six people executed last month, the first executions since President Joko Widodo took office in October.

The two Australians

were among a group due to be moved this week from prison in Bali to a maximum security prison at Nusakambangan Island in central Java, ahead of the execution by firing squad.

“The executions are, until today, on schedule which means there are no cancellations,” said Tony Spontana, a spokesman for the attorney general’s office.

“The change is only in the transfer (of the prisoners). This is our response to requests by the Australian government and the families to give them more time.”

It was not clear when the prisoners would be moved or when the executions would take place.

Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott and United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon have appealed to Indonesia not to execute the prisoners on death row



Australian death row prisoners Myuran Sukumaran (L) and Andrew Chan.—REUTERS

for drug crimes, among them citizens of Australia, Brazil, France, Ghana, Indonesia, Nigeria and the Philippines.

Indonesia’s president, however, has defended its right to use capital punishment against drug convicts and has denied requests for clemency.

The case has enormous resonance as a domestic political issue in Australia, and Abbott ratcheted up the rhetoric at the weekend amid a growing campaign to boycott travel to Bali, a destination

favoured by Australian tourists.

Spontana said prison officials needed more time to arrange the executions of a large number of convicts at the same time.

“The location makes it difficult to execute more than five inmates, so the size of the location and the isolation cells will be adapted,” he said.

The transfer of a Brazilian convict was also delayed for a medical examination after the prisoner showed signs of “psychological stress”.—*Reuters*

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 18 February, 2015

Our word is our worth

By Kyaw Thura

WE are supposed to be held to our promises when it comes to our daily social interactions. Nothing can build confidence more than well-kept promises can. In the same way, nothing can dent our reputation faster than broken promises. Every promise we make can spell doom or boon for us. That is why our word is our worth.

Our commitment to practising as we preach is vital to our success. We are prone to fall into an easy trap of jumping to conclusions when our emotions run high. To avoid this, we need to develop the habit of taking into consideration beforehand whether we can meet the obligation.

More often than not, we have a tendency to regard small promises as trivial in the thought that they would not harm our reputation even if we failed to take them seriously. In reality, a promise, either small or big, is a promise. Naturally, nobody will be foolish enough to believe those who cannot be trusted with small things. Nobody will be foolish enough to trust such promise breakers with important things either. Trust, once lost, is hard to be earned again. That is why our word is our life.

Overall, we should all build our reputation as trustworthy people. After all, keeping our word to ourselves and others can be seen as an important measure of how much we care about our commitment. Then we will find our life much more fulfilling. That is why our word is our worth.

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 "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

A quick fascinating glimpse inside the library of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore

(The opinions expressed here are those of the author.)

By Sayar Mya

(Continued from yesterday)
Prepayment procedures

For overseas requests, payment should be in the form of bank draft drawn in Singapore currency made payable to "Institute of Southeast Asian Studies".

Orientation/Guided Tours

From time to time, the Library professional staff members are available to brief individual or group visitors on the Library's collection and services. Interested persons may write to the Head, ISEAS Library.

Networking

Training and Attachments

Practical training and attachments of professional staff of libraries in the region and elsewhere are provided upon request. The duration may be from one day to one month at a stretch. Some are from training programs organized by the "National Library Board" (NLB) for developing countries under ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) sponsorship. Institutions and individuals may write to the Head, ISEAS Library to make a request.

Collections

The ISEAS Library has more than 600,000 items in a multilingual and multi-format collection. The collection, with emphasis on current and contemporary information resources in the applied social sciences on Southeast Asia, is closely tied to the research programs of the Institute. As a research library, it also

holds a large archival collection on the region.

Collections: A Gateway to Southeast Asian Affairs
General Collection

The General Collection comprises books on Southeast Asia. Titles published after the 1950s will be available for loan.

Reference

The Reference Collection consists of various reference tools, including dictionaries, encyclopedias, directories, indexes, handbooks and guides.

Statistics

Statistical works of Southeast Asian countries are major components of this collection classified according to countries.

Documents

The Documents Collection consists of pamphlet-type materials, articles and other items of less than a hundred pages. These are mainly "grey" or "fugitive" literature.

[Note: "Grey literature" is generally defined as academic literature that is not formally published. It is an expanding field in library and information science that deals with the supply and demand side of publications not controlled by commercial publishing. "Fugitive literature" is the research findings that have not been published in archival sources, dissertations, papers presented at meetings, papers either not submitted or rejected for publication and technical reports].

Current Periodicals

The Library subscribes to about 2,000 current serial titles, both in English and in the vernacular languages.

Map Collection

The Map Collection which comprises contemporary maps of Southeast Asia is located at the Reference Area. From time to time, an old or antiquarian map which has research value is acquired.

Microform Collection

The Microform Collection includes published and unpublished materials, including back issues of selected newspapers, journals, theses, rare books and retrospective newspaper clippings files.

Library Office Collection
"The Library Office"

(LO) Collection consists of unpublished dissertations and other semi-restricted publications.

Rare Books

The Library's collection of rare and antiquarian books on the region that have been acquired based on their high research value. Most have been converted into microform or digital format to facilitate user access. The Library has compiled a list of rare books ranging from 1688-1930.

Private Papers

A number of prominent individuals have deposited their private papers at the Institute. The private papers provide vital historical perspectives. Library users are welcome to refer to the papers.

Cultural Collection

"The Southeast Asian Cultural Collection" (SE-ACC) of multimedia mainly on documentation of the region's ethnic, anthropological and cultural norms comprises a core collection of color slides, black and white negatives and photographs.

The materials collected from time to time either through the depositions by researchers, or library acquisitions. The materials describe and document the cultural traditions of Southeast Asia. Apart from photographs, color slides, and negatives, the SEACC also has audiocassettes, video recordings, prints and posters.

Journals/Newspapers/
Databases

The ISEAS Library subscribes to a number of electronic resources in support of the research needs of our staff and researchers.

Newspapers & Magazines

The Asahi Shimbun AJW (IP Access)

Business Times (Available at the Library)

Financial Times (Available at the Library)

The Edge Markets (Available at the Library)

Malaysiakini (Available at the Library)

Straits Times Online (Available at the Library)

South China Morning Post (Available at the Library)

Time (Available at the Library)

The Wall Street Journal (Available at the Library)

Zaobao (Available at the Library)

[Note: Some Myanmar newspapers and journals (English / Myanmar) are seen at the Library].

Free Online Resources

The ISEAS Library subscribes to a number of databases to support the research of ISEAS staff and researchers.

Access to "NewsLink"

"NewsLink" covers a



Entrance at the front of ISEAS Complex
(PHOTO: GOOGLE.COM)

wide range of archived newspapers such as : The Straits Times (Including Digital Life, Mind Your Body, Urban, Little Red Dot and IN), The Straits Times Education Program, The Sunday Times, The Business Times, The Business Times Weekend, The New Paper, The New Paper on Sunday, Tabla, Berita Harian (including Gen G/I-Cube), Berita Minggu (Malay), Lianhe Zaobao, Lianhe Zaobao Sunday, My Paper (Chinese and English), Shin Min Daily News, Lianhe Wanbao, Friday Weekly (Chinese), Thumbs Up (Chinese) & Thumbs Up Junior (Chinese).

The English archive goes back to July 1989 while the Chinese archive starts from January 1994. The archived news has a time delay in uploading of up to 3 calendar days.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: Is ISEAS Library open to the public?

A: Yes, since 2013 the Library is open to the public who are interested in the studies of Southeast Asian region. There is no special permission required to access the library except a simple registration form to be filled up for the first time user.

Borrowing/ Loan Fees

Q: Why the Library does needs to charge a refundable deposit of Singapore \$200 for certain type of users?

A: For loan of books outside the Library, a refundable (subject to loan items returned without damages) security deposit of Singapore \$200 might be required according to the loan policy available at

This is to cover the cost of repairing or replacing the borrowed books should the borrower lose or damage them. It also acts as a financial reminder for the borrower to take proper care when using the books.

Library Membership

Q: Is there any payable membership/annual fee?

A: No.

Q: I am from a private company, if I wish to make use of the facilities at the library, how much is the annual membership fee?

A: Effective from June 2014, corporate users no longer needs to pay an annual/monthly/weekly subscription fee to access ISEAS Library and consult its reference materials on site. Upon completing registration, the user can proceed to browse the Library collections on open shelves.

(To be continued)

NATIONAL

UEC explains 2015 electoral process to Italian delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb — Union Election Commission member U Myint Naing received Italian delegation led by Mr Benedetto Della Vedova, Italian Deputy Foreign Minister at the office of electoral body on Tuesday.

At the meeting, U Myint Naing explained

commission structure, compilation of voter lists, preparations for voter education and voter training with the assistance of international organization, having suggestions of political parties and civil service organizations in creating electoral bylaws, possible invitation of electoral ob-

server groups and detailed plans for 2015 general election.

Benedetto Della Vedova also offered to send observers from EU and Italy for the upcoming election.

The meeting was attended by Secretary U Tin Tun of UEC and responsible persons.—MNA

Solar Impulse-2 in Myanmar on 8 March

YANGON, 17 Feb — Solar Impulse-2 from Switzerland will arrive in Mandalay on 8 March. The plane built with solar cells and carbon plates three times lighter than paper will start its journey from the Gulf and it will pass through Arabian Sea, India, Myanmar, China, Pacific Ocean, the United States, the Atlantic Ocean and southern

Europe or northern Africa.

After arriving in Mandalay it will demonstrate its skill while landing and the crew will give talks regarding using of solar power and solar technology on 9 and 10 March in Mandalay International airport. It will also conduct flight demonstration on Bagan. As regards the plane press conference will be held on

24 March in Yangon. The press conference will also take place in Mandalay.

During his visit to Switzerland in September last year, President U Thein Sein agreed to give necessary assistance to the plane's journey as the Swiss President requested U Thein Sein to allow the stopover of the plane in Myanmar.—GNLM

Union FM receives Finland's FM, Italian Dy FM

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Feb — U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs received Mr Erkki Tuomioja, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland at the ministry on Tuesday morning. They discussed strengthening of bilateral ties and cooperation between Myanmar and Finland.

In the afternoon, the union minister also received Mr Benedetto Della Vedova, Italian Deputy Foreign Minister at the same venue and focused further strengthening bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries.—MNA

Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin greets Mr Benedetto Della Vedova, Italian Deputy Foreign Minister.—MNA



Striking workers, employers warned of legal action if they break the law

YANGON, 17 Feb — Yangon Region Government has issued a statement warning striking workers and employers in the northern district of Yangon Region that it will take actions against those who break the law. The statement said striking workers demanding better payment in Shwepyitha Industrial Zone and Hlinethaya Industrial Zone have blocked the entrance to factories, prevented other workers who want to go their jobs not to enter factories, not allowed employers and staff to go outside of the factories and stopped con-

tainer vehicles of the factories, causing losses to both the workers and the employers.

Still, the labour disputes between the workers and employers are at a negotiation table sponsored by officials of the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security and local authorities, the statement said.

Without discriminating between workers and employers, authorities will take action against those who violate the existing law and damage the community peace and the rule of law, the statement said.—GNLM

First batch called for interview for presidential scholarships

YANGON, 17 Feb — The first batch of applicants for presidential scholarships was called for personal interview in separate places here on Tuesday, according to officials.

A total of 138 candidates- 72 in bachelor's degrees, 44 in master's degrees and 22 in doctorates- attended the interviews, with specializations in medicine, engineering, arts, science, information technology,

law, hotel and tourism, computing, livestock breeding and vaccination, economics, pedagogy, English and linguistics. The interviews for the second batch of 172 candidates are reported to follow soon. Nearly 800 candidates will be interviewed.

Discussions are underway for eligible candidates to study in the United States, England, Australia, Germany, Italy, Singapore, China, Japan and Korea.—MNA



Photo shows Solar Impulse-2 from Switzerland in the air.—MNA

Population survey on Baer's Pochard in Myanmar postponed to next year

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 17 Feb — The Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association (BANCA), a local non-governmental organization, has postponed its plan to conduct a population survey of Baer's Pochard (*Aythya baeri*) in Myanmar to next mid-winter season (January, 2016), the body reported.

"This is due to the association being busy doing other works at the planned

time," Daw Thiri Dae Wei Aung of BANCA told the Global New Light of Myanmar. Last month, BANCA said the population survey project with the aid of the World Wildlife Trust (WWT) was to take place this month in Kyayni, Myittha, Taungpyansedawgyi, Paleik and Inlay lakes in Myanmar's central dry zone by meeting with local people. "It is not sure whether

or not birds are still present there. Normally birds return to their birth places in late February," said Daw Thiri Dae Wei Aung.

Baer's Pochard is a type of duck found in eastern Asia that breeds in south-east Russia and northeast China, migrating in winter to the countries in the Central Asian Flyway, including Myanmar. "There is no estimation of the duck population in the survey, but foreign ornithologists expect those ducks are likely to ex-

ist in the country," BANCA said.

According to estimations, the global population of Baer's Pochard is barely more than 700. It is 50 per cent sure to go extinct in the coming five years and has been classified as a critically endangered species as the population has been in a global decline since 2012.

More than 80 kinds of water bird species usually migrate to Myanmar for wintering. Baer's Pochard migrates to Myanmar in the mid-winter season. But according to bird observers, the species was last seen in Inlay Lake in Shan State in 2006.—GNLM

US set to deploy littoral combat ship to NE Asia

SINGAPORE, 17 Feb — The US Navy will deploy a littoral combat ship to Northeast Asia for the first time since it began sending LCSs to Asia in 2013, a senior US military official said on Tuesday.

Rear Adm Charles Williams, commander of the Logistics Group Western Pacific that manages logistics for the US Navy's 7th Fleet from Singapore, said the *USS Fort Worth* will leave Singapore this week for Northeast Asia where it will take part in a military exercise with South Korea later this year and make port visits to Japan. The *USS Fort Worth* is the second LCS the navy has deployed to Singapore.

It arrived in Singapore at the end of last year for a 16-month mission as part of the 7th Fleet, taking over from *USS Freedom*, the first LCS sent to Singapore.

Unlike the *USS Freedom*, which operated mainly in Southeast Asia during its 10-month mission in 2013, *USS Fort Worth*, which is on a 16-month rotational deployment, will also operate in Northeast Asia. LCS vessels are home-ported in San Diego in the United States, but use Singapore as their central logistics and maintenance hub in Asia.

In Northeast Asia, Fort Worth will take part in the annual Foal Eagle military exercise with South Korea.

"We are deploying the LCS throughout the 7th Fleet instead of just here in Southeast Asia," Williams told reporters on board the ship berthed at Sembawang

wharves in Singapore. "The role of the US navy in both Northeast Asia and Southeast Asia is all about presence, it's being where it matters and when it matters, and establishing and maintaining partnerships with other countries...working together to maintain maritime security at sea."

"We are expanding the reach of LCS," said Clay Doss, the US Navy's public affairs officer based in Singapore.

Since its arrival, Fort Worth had taken part in multinational search efforts in the Java Sea after the crash of an AirAsia flight.

The navy expects to have four LCSs in the region in 2018.

Singapore is a key US ally in the region and has close ties with the United States. In 1990, the two governments signed an memorandum providing US fighter planes and warships access to Singapore's military facilities.

In 2012, Singapore and the United States announced Singapore had agreed in principle to a US request to deploy up to four LCS to Singapore on a rotational basis.

The littoral combat ship is a new and technologically advanced vessel designed for operating close to shore in support of land-based operations.

Meant to be flexible, it has the capability to thwart obstacles such as underwater mines, cope with multiple attacks from smaller and swifter boats and detect diesel submarines.

Kyodo News

Merkel, Putin, Poroshenko agree steps on ceasefire — Germany

BERLIN, 17 Feb — German Chancellor Angela Merkel agreed on concrete steps with the leaders of Russia and Ukraine to allow the OSCE to observe the situation in eastern Ukraine given the fragility of the agreed ceasefire, a German government spokesman said on Tuesday after the three leaders held a conference call.

"The German Chancellor and Ukrainian President called on the Russian President to exercise his influence on the separatists to enforce the ceasefire," said German government spokesman Steffen Seibert in a statement.

"Further, the withdrawal of heavy weapons should be started on Tuesday, as agreed in Minsk," he added.—Reuters



Ukraine president-elect Petro Poroshenko (L), German Chancellor Angela Merkel (C) and Russian President Vladimir Putin talk after a group photo in Benouville, France on 6 June, 2014. —REUTERS

Separatists to battle on for east Ukraine town — senior rebel



Denis Pushilin

DONETSK, (Ukraine), 17 Feb — Pro-Russian separatists cannot "morally" stop fighting for control of a town in east Ukraine where they have encircled government troops despite a peace deal, a senior rebel representative said on Tuesday.

Denis Pushilin also told Reuters before a scheduled conference call on implementation of the agreement that the rebels could not withdraw heavy weaponry, as set out in

the deal, unless Ukrainian forces did so as well.

Fighting subsided in many parts of eastern Ukraine under the ceasefire that came into force on Sunday but not around the town of Debaltseve, which

sits on a railway junction.

"We do not have the right (to stop fighting for Debaltseve). It's even a moral thing. It's internal territory," Pushilin said in the rebel stronghold of Donetsk.

"We have to respond to fire, to work on destroying the enemy's fighting positions."

Asked about plans to carry out the agreement to withdraw big guns, he said: "We are ready at any time, we have everything ready for a mutual withdrawal. We will not do anything unilaterally — that would make our soldiers targets."

The Ukrainian military said on Monday its forces could not carry out the agreement to pull back big guns unless fighting stopped.

The Kremlin said the leaders of Russia, Germany and Ukraine had discussed the situation around Debaltseve, the role played by monitors from the OSCE security watchdog and the planned withdrawal of big guns by phone. It gave no details.

Reuters



A truck with a multiple rocket launcher used by the separatist self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic army drives near Donetsk on 16 Feb, 2015.

REUTERS

Suspect package found at Copenhagen shooting cafe: police

COPENHAGEN, 17 Feb — A suspect package has been found outside a cafe in Copenhagen, the scene of an attack during a free speech event on Saturday, and the area has been evacuated, police there told a Reuters television reporter on Tuesday.

The suspected gunman in that attack and another on a synagogue was shot dead on Sunday but Copenhagen has been on high alert since and two people were arrested on Monday, accused of helping the attacker.

Sniffer dogs and about

25-30 police officers were present at the cafe while vans with more officers were arriving, the TV reporter said. They were waiting for a bomb disposal team, police told the witness.

A 22-year-old gunman opened fire on a cafe hosting a free speech debate on Saturday, killing one. He then attacked the synagogue, killing a guard. The shootings sent shockwaves through the country, proud of its open society.

Police later shot dead the man suspected of the killings in a shootout in

his neighbourhood of Nørrebro, a largely immigrant part of the city with a reputation for gang violence.

Police have still not named the shooter but media outlets have widely reported that he was Omar Abdel Hamid El-Hussein, a son of Palestinian immigrants known to the police due to his weapons violations, an assault conviction and membership of a gang.

On Monday, police confirmed that the shooter visited an internet cafe where later they detained the two men accused of aiding him. —Reuters



A member of the police guards the scene of a shooting at cafe 'Krudttønde,' which was hosting a free speech event, in Oesterbro, Copenhagen, on 16 Feb, 2015.

REUTERS

WORLD

Egypt's Sisi urges UN mandate for Libya coalition



Egyptian President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi

PARIS, 17 Feb — Egyptian President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi called for a United Nations resolution mandating an international coalition to intervene in Libya after its jets bombed Islamic State targets there. “There is no other choice, taking into account the agreement of the Libyan people and government and that they call on us to act,” he told France’s Europe 1 radio in an interview aired on Tuesday. Asked if it would recommence its own action: “We need to do it again, and all of us together.” Islamic State released a video on Sunday showing the beheading of 21 Egyptian Christians, drawing Cairo directly into the conflict across its border and raising concerns the Islamist insurgents, already active in Syr-

ia and Iraq, were spreading their influence further.

Referring to the 2011 Libyan war in which France was part of an international coalition backing forces that deposed former leader Muammar Gaddafi, Sisi called it an “unfinished mission”. “We abandoned the Libyan people as prisoners to extremist militias,” he said. Sisi called on militias to hand in their arms but urged weapons to be supplied to Libya’s internationally recognised government, based in the eastern city of Tobruk after rivals seized power in Tripoli.

The Tobruk government has already asked for the lifting of an international arms embargo to help it take back control of the country.—Reuters

Military chopper crash kills four in training in Saudi Arabia

RIYADH, 17 Feb — A military chopper crashed late on Monday in an eastern Saudi city during a training, killing four crew members, local media quoted Saudi defence ministry as saying.

The ministry said an investigation is underway to looking into the crash, said Saudi Press Agency.

The oil-rich Middle East country has seen such similar mishap in training

sessions before in the past. In 2013, a Tornado fighter of the Saudi royal air forces fell during a routine training, and the crew survived.

In 2012, two back-to-back crashes occurred. The first accident led to the death of one pilot who was flying an F15 jet on a training mission. In the following day, a Hawk aircraft crashed while training and the pilot survived the accident.—Xinhua



An actor in the costume of Super Mario throws candies during the traditional Rose Monday carnival parade in the western German city of Mainz on 16 Feb, 2015.—XINHUA

Nigerian troops recapture two towns from Boko Haram

MAIDUGURI/MAROUA, 17 Feb — Nigerian soldiers recaptured two towns from Boko Haram on Monday as US and regional troops began war games in neighbouring Chad in a growing international campaign to counter the Islamist group.

But militants from Boko Haram, which has killed and kidnapped thousands in a six-year-old insurgency in Africa’s most populous nation, still managed to attack a military camp near Waza in northern Cameroon, killing five soldiers.

After coming under fire, the soldiers in Cameroon, where 100 people were massacred in a Boko

Haram border raid two weeks ago, hit back in an intense battle lasting hours, army sources said.

“Five soldiers killed, seven wounded and over 80 Boko Haram assailants (were) killed in the waves of attacks,” Colonel Didier Badjeck said in Maroua, a town just south of the Lake Chad region where Nigeria, Niger, Chad and Cameroon meet. Monday’s strike beyond Nigeria’s borders is typical of Boko Haram’s recent tactics, hitting troops gearing up for a coordinated campaign against its effort to build an Islamic caliphate in northeastern Nigeria. In Nigeria itself, where the insurgency was

cited as the main reason for postponing a 14 February election by six weeks, the military said it was going on the offensive after months of criticism that its response has been insufficient and inefficient.

Troops backed by air strikes recaptured the northeastern town of Monguno, on the shores of Lake Chad, it said in a statement. Monguno was seized by Boko Haram in an offensive last month that also targeted Maiduguri, the regional capital.

“The air and land operation is continuing with aggressive advance towards other designated communities and locations meant

to be cleared in the ongoing offensive against the terrorists,” defence spokesman Major-General Chris Olu-kolade said.

The army had also seized the nearby town of Marte, the statement said.

In a sign of growing regional solidarity in the face of Boko Haram, presidents from the 10-nation Economic Community of Central African States (CEE-AC) pledged on Monday to create an emergency fund of 50 billion CFA francs (56.63 million pounds).

The funds would go towards military, medical and logistical support, members said in a statement.—Reuters

Japan to extend \$15.5 m in antiterrorism aid

TOKYO, 17 Feb — Japan unveiled a set of measures on Tuesday to help tackle terrorism including financial aid of \$15.5 million, or 1.83 billion yen, to build counterterrorism capacity in Africa and the Middle East where Islamic State and other terrorists are active.

Japan will outline the measures during an international antiterrorism meeting slated for Thursday in Washington, Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida told reporters.

The aid, of which \$7.5 million was already pledged by Kishida during his visit to Brussels in January, is aimed at strengthening border control and investigation capabilities in recipient countries, according to the minister.

Along with the aid, to be channeled through international organizations, Japan will implement \$200 million in nonmilitary aid that Prime Minister Shinzo Abe pledged in January to countries contending with Islamic State.

Japan will consider further expanding humanitarian assistance, Kishida said.

In the wake of the recent killing of two Japanese men by Islamic State militants and other cases involving the terrorist group, Kishida said Japan will increase communication with other countries at the leaders and foreign ministerial levels in tackling extremism.

Japan will increase people-to-people exchanges with the Middle East, including inviting regional leaders to Japan, he said. Japan will also boost cooperation with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the fight against terrorism. Yasuhide Nakayama, who is Kishida’s deputy, will represent Japan at the Washington meeting.—Kyodo News

Syrian army advances north of Aleppo, blocks road



Children walk on the debris of a damaged building at al-Myassar neighbourhood of Aleppo on 16 Feb, 2015.—REUTERS

BEIRUT, 17 Feb — The Syrian army backed by allied militia has captured several villages north of Aleppo from insurgents and blocked a main supply route leading into the northern city amid heavy fighting, a group monitoring the war said on

Tuesday. Government forces had long been expected to encircle Aleppo completely, aiming to drive insurgents from Syria’s second city and block their main supply road. A UN mediator has been struggling to broker a ceasefire deal

there.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said pro-government forces had blocked a road leading north from the city towards the Turkish border and heavy clashes continued. They took villages including Bashkuwi

and Sifat, while battles raged in Hardatain, the Observatory said.

Aleppo is at the heart of clashes between pro-government forces and a range of insurgents which include al-Qaeda’s Syria wing the Nusra Front, Islamist brigades, foreign fighters in other groups and Western-backed rebels.

Syrian state television said five people had been killed and 18 others wounded in “terrorist” rocket attacks in Aleppo neighbourhoods.

The pro-government *al-Watan* newspaper reported on Monday that government forces aimed to completely surround the city this week in a major offensive against insurgent groups.

Recent Syrian army progress in the area has reduced the chances of a truce between the government and disparate insurgent groups, diplomats say.—Reuters

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION
MYANMA RAILWAYS

INVITATION TO EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
FROM CONSULTING FIRMS FOR OPTICAL FIBER CABLE PROJECT

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. As our endeavors for national development, **Myanma Railways (MR)** is committed to establish potential Rail Concerned Businesses.

MR has built over 6,000 Km route Length of Rail Lines from North to South, East to West and over 900 Railway Stations to cater rail operation throughout The Country and average distance for railway station is about 8 Km. **MR** is planning to install Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) along railway lines. **MR** is the **Executing Agency for OFC Project** and is responsible for the implementation of OFC Project and selecting a short-list of eligible applicants for Consulting Services for Optical Fiber Cable Project.

To form the short-list, **MR** now invites consulting firms or joint venture entities who are interested in the Project to submit **Expression of Interest (EOI)** for the above mentioned Consulting Services.

Expression of Interest (EOI) Document of the above said works could be obtained from **Deputy General Manager**, Supply Department, **Myanma Railways**, Corner of **Thein phyu Street** and **Kon The Street**, Bo Ta Htaung Township, Yangon, Myanmar, **Phone +95 1 291991, fax +95 1 291994** starting from **18th February, 2015**.

Enquiries can be also made by contacting, **Project Office (Yangon)** +95 1 246939, (**Nay Pyi Taw**) +95 67 77070, +95 67 77155, (**Project Director, Senior General Manager**) +95 9 8300073, (**Deputy Project Director, Assistant General Manager**) +95 9 5066197, (**Project Engineer**) +95 9 5066191.

The Expression of Interest (EOI) in one original and two duplicates, copies shall be submitted to the **Deputy General Manager**, Supply Department, **Myanma Railways**, Corner of **Thein Phyu Street** and **Kon The Street**, Bo Ta Htaung Township, Yangon, Myanmar, Phone +951 291991, fax +95 1 291994 **not later than (14:00Hr) 2.00pm**, on Friday **20th March 2015** and be clearly marked **"Expression of Interest for "Consulting Service for Optical Fiber Cable Project"** The Bidder must also submit three electronic copies of the EOI Documents in the CD ROMs. No submission by **e-mail** shall be entertained.

Managing Director

Myanma Railways.

Ministry of Rail Transportation

Job Vacancy for Marketing & Research

The Commercial Section (KOTRA) of the Embassy of the ROK is now recruiting for the following positions.

- **Project Researcher 1 post**
- **Marketing 2 posts**

Interested individual who has related bachelor degree or higher and enough experience in these fields, may apply to KOTRA at #0706, Sakura Tower, Bogyoke Road not later than **25th Feb**.

Only the selected candidates will be invited for interview.

TRADEMARK CAUTION

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U Kyi Naing, LL.B., LL.M., (H.G.P.)

For **SANOFI**

Tilleke & Gibbins Myanmar Ltd. No. 1608, 16th Floor, Sakura Tower, 339 Bogyoke Aung San Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar.

Email address: myanmar@tilleke.com

Dated: 18.2.2015

Icy storm paralyzes central US, pummels nation's capital

BOSTON, 17 Feb — Record-breaking cold gripped the eastern United States on Monday while an icy winter storm crippled the nation's central states and then plowed into the mid-Atlantic, dumping snow ahead of Tuesday's morning commute.

Heavy snowfall and ice moving from the Southern Plains eastward pounded Missouri, Arkansas, southern Illinois, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio, the National Weather Service said.

With the storm headed east and sleet and freezing rain expected to also take a swipe at the South, states of emergency were declared in North Carolina, Virginia, Mississippi, Georgia, Kentucky, as well as in Washington, DC.

Airlines canceled more than 1,800 US flights, with the hardest hit airports in North Carolina and Tennessee.

Freezing rain encased Tennessee in ice, closing roads, schools and tourist attractions, including home

of the king of rock 'n' roll - Elvis Presley's Graceland mansion in Memphis.

Sleet in Arkansas shut schools and Governor Asa Hutchinson told nearly all government workers to stay home.

Cars skidded off roads near Louisville, Kentucky, where there were six times the usual number of accidents and a fleet of more than 1,000 snow plows tried to clear slick roads, officials said.

"It's been all hands on deck," said Chuck Wolfe, spokesman for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.

Citing nasty weather, Kentucky's state legislature said it would not reconvene until Wednesday at the earliest. The storm dumped 10 inches (25 cm) of snow on Cincinnati and then headed east to Washington, DC, slamming the nation's capital with heavy snow that could pile as high as 12 inches, said NWS meteorologist Brian Hurley. "Washington and Baltimore - that's where the bulls eye's going to be," Hurley said.—Reuters

French anthropologist awarded for study on Amazonian people

TOKYO, 17 Feb — Philippe Descola is the winner of the 2014 International Cosmos Prize founded by Expo '90 Foundation for his research on the Jivaroan Achuar indigenous people in the Ecuadorian Amazon, a group whose life was unknown to the rest of the world.

"It was an eye-opening discovery when I witnessed their activities in interacting with nature, completely different from the Western view of nature that dichotomizes humans and nature," the 65-year-old professor at the College de France in Paris said during a visit to Tokyo. Descola, who studied under renowned anthropologist Claude Levi-Strauss,



French anthropologist Philippe Descola

lived in the Achuar communities from 1976 to 1979 to carry out ethnographic fieldwork on their coexistence with nature.

"Through slash-and-burn horticulture and hunting, they collected and buried droppings of animals and

created a forest with much more varieties of plants than those found in surrounding areas," Descola said.

He also explained that the Achuar people communicate with animals in dreams and have a unique relationship with nonhumans. In awarding the Cosmos Prize, the Osaka-based Commemorative Foundation for the International Garden and Greenery Exposition, also known as Expo '90 Foundation, said Descola's achievements are "deemed to have universality that can be applied to various parts of the world in addressing environmental challenges." The foundation also said that Descola has explored "the fundamental relation-

ship between humans and nature as the 'anthropology of nature,' from a global perspective, thereby establishing a new model regarding nature and culture." Descola first studied philosophy but developed a desire to experience how other people live life. "Life (in the Achuar communities) was hard but I never felt intimidated by the people," Descola said. "I was much more afraid of being lost in the deep forest." Regarding Japanese people's view of nature, Descola said, "Japanese people should have their own way to interact with nature and I believe diversity is more important than anything else on Earth today."

Kyodo News

One month before launch of new bullet train line



This 5 Feb, 2015, photo shows a bullet train of the Hokuriku Shinkansen Line, scheduled to be launched on 14 March, 2015, arriving at JR Omiya Station in Saitama Prefecture, near Tokyo.—REUTERS

TOKYO, 17 Feb — Countdown boards, balloons and flags are decking two of the key train stations in the Hokuriku region as a new bullet train line, bringing Tokyo much closer to this snowy region, will begin operation in less than a month on 14 March. The Hokuriku Shinkansen Line, connecting Nagano, central Japan, and Kanazawa on the Sea of Japan coast, is an extension of the existing route between Tokyo and Nagano, enabling passengers to travel from Tokyo to Kanazawa in two hours and 28 minutes.—*Kyodo News*

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

**THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(3 / 2015)**

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

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB-147(14-15)	Cement Additives (5) Items	US\$
(2)	IFB-148(14-15)	Mud Chemicals (4) Items	US\$
(3)	IFB-149(14-15)	Class "G" Cement (500) Ton	US\$
(4)	IFB-150(14-15)	30 Ton Mobile Hydraulic Crane (Wheel Type) (1) Unit	US\$
(5)	IFB-151(14-15)	2900 Series Well Head Equipments & Spares (7) Sets	US\$
(6)	IFB-152(14-15)	900 Series Well Head Equipments & Spares (2) Sets	US\$
(7)	IFB-153(14-15)	Truck Mounted Double Drum Well Servicing Unit (1) Unit	US\$
(8)	IFB-154(14-15)	30 Ton NGV Tractor (1) Unit & 30 Ton Cascade(2) Units	US\$
(9)	IFB-155(14-15)	GM 6V 71 Engine Assy (1) Unit	US\$
(10)	IFB-156(14-15)	Fire fighting Truck (1) Unit	US\$
(11)	IFB-157(14-15)	Welding Electrode (E6011)(50) Ton	US\$
(12)	IFB-158(14-15)	Heat Shrinkable Sleeves & Closure Patches (2)Items	US\$
(13)	IFB-159(14-15)	Mobile Welding Machine with Accessories (3)Sets	US\$
(14)	IFB-160(14-15)	Portable Welding Machine with Accessories (4)Sets	US\$
(15)	IFB-161(14-15)	Pressure Gauge (6) Sets	US\$
(16)	IFB-162(14-15)	Assorted Sizes of Steel Line Pipes (3) Items	US\$
(17)	IFB-163(14-15)	Assorted Sizes of Steel Ball Valves (2) Items	US\$
(18)	IFB-164(14-15)	Assorted Sizes of Pipe Fittings (1) Lot	US\$
(19)	IFB-165(14-15)	13 5/8" 5K Double Ram Blow Out Preventers (2) Nos	US\$
(20)	DMP/L-035(14-15)	MUD Testing Equipment (10) Items	Ks
(21)	DMP/L-036(14-15)	Telephone Cable (4) Items	Ks
(22)	DMP/L-037(14-15)	Electronics Private Branch Exchange 128 Lines Capacity, 8 CO Trunk Line with Phone (3) Sets	Ks
(23)	DMP/L-038(14-15)	50 HP Electric Motor (400 V, 3 Phase, 50 Hz, 1500 RPM) (2) Sets	Ks
(24)	DMP/L-039(14-15)	Transformer Welding Set with Accessories (Dry Type) (5) Lots	Ks
(25)	DMP/L-040(14-15)	Centrifugal Pump with Motor (5 HP) (1) Lot	Ks
(26)	DMP/L-041(14-15)	315 KVA and 500 KVA Transformer (2) Items	Ks
(27)	Container(1/2015)	ရန်ကုန်ဆိပ်ကမ်းများမှ သာကေတကမ်းလွန်ရန်အခြေစိုက်စခန်းသို့ Container သယ်ယူပို့ဆောင်ခြင်းလုပ်ငန်း (၁-၄-၂၀၁၅ မှ ၃၀-၉-၂၀၁၅ ထိ)	Ks

Tender Closing Date & Time - 16-3-2015, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 16th February, 2015 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

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

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MERATUS GORONTALO VOY NO (093N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MERATUS GORONTALO VOY NO (093N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.2.2015 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 LINES**
Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (7JO25R)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (7JO25R) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.2.2015 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 CMA CGM LINE**
Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (RSU-431)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (RSU-431) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.2.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES**
Phone No: 2301185

**Suicide
attackers kill
11 at Afghan
provincial
police
headquarters**

KABUL, 17 Feb — Four suicide attackers killed 11 policemen at a provincial police headquarters in eastern Afghanistan on Tuesday, provincial spokesman Din Mohammad Darwish said.

The attack in Logar Province outside of Kabul was the latest to target Afghan security forces in the wake of the withdrawal of most foreign combat troops at the end of last year.

Reuters

**Pillar
supporting
Tokyo station
for 100 yrs
removed**

TOKYO, 17 Feb — East Japan Railway Co on Tuesday removed one of 14 cast-iron pillars that have been supporting Tokyo station since its opening in 1914.

The 3-metre-tall column at the station's platform No 5-6 bears relief art on the upper part, reminiscent of the days a century ago when the station opened as a focal point of the capital in the early stages of Japan's modernization.

The pillar, which helped the station survive the Great Kanto Earthquake in 1923 and also survived wartime bombing, is to be reinstalled as a monument on the same platform.

The 13 other columns will also be removed in stages, with one of them scheduled for reinstallation as another monument.

Kyodo News

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WEATHER REPORT

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 18th February, 2015: Weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin State and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States.

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



School children look at an archaeological site Buddhist temple found in Munshigani's Natেশ্বর, Bangladesh on 16 Feb, 2015. Bangladesh and China joint archaeologists unearthed an ancient Buddhist temple with unique architecture features.

XINHUA

Oscars telecast — come for the music, stay for the movies?

LOS ANGELES, 17 Feb — Lady Gaga will perform in a sure-to-be eye-catching outfit, Tim McGraw adds a little country to Hollywood, Adam Levine brings rock-star swagger and pop duo Tegan and Sara team up with The Lonely Island for kid favourite “Everything Is Awesome.”

No, it is not the Grammys. Those were last week. It is the 87th Academy Awards and the telecast producers know they need new viewers who might require more enticement than a slew of good movies and gorgeous movie stars to show

up for Hollywood’s biggest night Sunday.

“It is a very strong year for us in music,” said co-producer Craig Zadan, adding that “a lot of the strategy behind that is to welcome a younger audience.”

Zadan and producing partner Neil Meron, now in their third year behind America’s biggest non-sports televised event, need to do that without alienating the adult audience that tunes in each year.

Their choice of first-time host Neil Patrick Harris could be seen as the bridge between young



Adam Levine and Maroon 5 perform at the Z100’s Jingle Ball 2014 at Madison Square Garden in New York in this 12 Dec, 2014 file photo.

REUTERS

and old and music and film fans. A Tony-winning, song-and-dance man who has won three Emmys host-

ing theatre’s Tony Awards, he also has a young following as the star of the sitcom “How I Met Your Mother.”

“There will be a big musical sequence that features Neil that is being written by Bobby and Kristen Lopez who won the Oscar last year for ‘Let It Go,’” said Meron, who credits the performance of that “Frozen” anthem last year for bringing kids to the Oscars.

One of the big challenges to any Oscars telecast is that the best picture nominees are usually not blockbusters - and this year is no different with the

exception of “American Sniper.”

“Our plan from the beginning, two years ago, was we are going to get every fan of every movie we are honouring to come watch the show,” said Zadan. “But in addition to that, we are putting on an entertainment.”

The catch: the live performances must relate to movies.

Performers include Common and John Legend singing their best song nominee “Glory” from “Selma,” Jack Black and Jennifer Hudson.

Reuters

Dragons, robots, trolls run tight race for animation Oscar



Boxtroll characters are pictured at the premiere of “The Boxtrolls” at Universal Studios City, California on 21 Sept, 2014. — REUTERS

LOS ANGELES, 17 Feb — With the surprise snub of a front-runner and five nominees featuring dragons, trolls, robots and mythical creatures, the Oscar for best animated film

may deliver the most exciting race this year.

Disney Animation’s “Big Hero 6,” DreamWorks Animation’s “How to Train Your Dragon 2,” Laika Studios’ “The Boxtrolls,” Stu-

dio Ghibli’s “The Tale of the Princess Kaguya” and Cartoon Saloon’s “Song of the Sea” will compete for the Academy Award for animated feature. But the exclusion of Time Warner Inc-owned Warner Bros’ “The Lego Movie,” last year’s top-grossing animated film with more than \$257 million (167.33 million pounds) at the US box office, stunned even those in the industry.

“It was a big shock to me. I saw the movie and loved it,” said Dean DeBlois, co-director of “Dragon 2,” about a Viking named Hiccup and his dragon, Toothless.

With no clear favourite, the animation race is

likely between big-budget spectacles such as “Big Hero 6” and “Dragon 2,” and niche artistry of films such as “The Boxtrolls.”

“Big Hero 6,” an ambitious work from an animation studio often overshadowed by its more flashy Disney sibling Pixar, fused Japanese influences into a Marvel-inspired tale of boy genius Hiro who befriends a robot and forms a superhero ensemble.

“We’re reaching a broad audience without compromising,” said co-director Chris Williams. “We’re making films that audiences want to come see, but they’re still products of passion.”

Reuters

Singer Lady Gaga says she’s engaged to actor Taylor Kinney



LOS ANGELES, 17 Feb — Lady Gaga and her long-time boyfriend, actor Taylor Kinney, have become engaged, the singer said on social media on Monday. “He gave me his heart on

Valentine’s Day, and I said YES!” Lady Gaga, 28, said on Instagram, displaying a photo of a heart-shaped ring.

She and Kinney, 33, have been dating for about four years, according to People magazine.

Lady Gaga, whose hits include “Poker Face” and

“Bad Romance,” recently won a Grammy Award for her album “Cheek to Cheek” with veteran singer Tony Bennett. Kinney stars in the NBC series “Chicago Fire.”—Reuters

Johnny Depp forms band with Alice Cooper

LOS ANGELES, 17 Feb — Hollywood superstar Johnny Depp has teamed up with rocker Alice Cooper and Aerosmith’s lead guitarist Joe Perry to form a new band called Hollywood Vampires.

Cooper himself has confirmed in a post on his website.

“Alice Cooper and Johnny Depp have been partners for a while and now with Joe Perry also on Hollywood Vampires, they will ‘rock it out’ yet once again,” Cooper wrote.

In the same post, the music star also revealed Hollywood Vampires already scored their debut gig with a scheduled performance at the 2015 Rock in Rio music festival which will be held in September in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The newly formed band will be joined by other tapped performers, which among others include System of a Down, Queens of the Stone Age, and Faith No More. “Confirmed! #RockInRio announces Debut Of #TheHollywoodVampires! The #Supergroup, featuring #AliceCooper, #JohnnyDepp and #JoePerry

plays on the same night as #QueensOfTheStoneAge and #SystemOfADown,” Cooper posted on Instagram.

The Hollywood Vampires actually is the name of a famous band in the 70s. Cooper fronted the music act alongside the likes of John Lennon, Harry Nilsson, Keith Moon, and Ringo Starr.—PTI



Johnny Depp has teamed up with rocker Alice Cooper and Aerosmith’s lead guitarist Joe Perry to form a new band called Hollywood Vampires.—PTI

Rebecca Ferguson performs new single ‘Get Happy’

LONDON, 17 Feb — Singer Rebecca Ferguson has unveiled a live performance of her new single. The 28-year-old singer has recorded ‘Get Happy’ for her third studio album Lady Sings The Blues, which pays tribute to Billie Holiday, reported Digital Spy.

Ferguson’s new project is a song-for-song reinterpretation of Billie Holiday’s classic album of the same name, marking the artist’s centenary year.

Carrie Underwood donates guitar to save police dog

LOS ANGELES, 17 Feb — Pregnant country singer Carrie Underwood has donated a signed guitar to help raise funds to save a police officer’s canine partner.

Underwood, 31, donated the autographed guitar to help pay the medical

bills of Kevin Branscum’s German shepherd named Gino. Underwood is a native of the Oklahoma city of Checotah, reported Fox online.

Gino has already cost his master around USD 4,000 since December (14) after being infected with

heartworms but the animal needs further treatment in May. Officials plan to auction the guitar but haven’t set a venue or date.

Branscum said he was surprised by Underwood’s donation and is incredibly grateful.

PTI



Singer Rebecca Ferguson

GENERAL

In Japan, women amputees step out of the shadows

Tokyo, 17 Feb — When Yoko Sato lost her left leg in an accident, she fell into despair. The stigma of amputation in a country that views disability as something to be pitied added to her misery.

But then the Japanese office worker met prosthesis maker Fumio Usui, whose artificial legs let Sato and women like her not only run, play soccer and execute karate kicks, but also transform some of the appendages into wearable works of art.

“My main aim is to change the image that disabled people are pitiful,” Sato, whose leg was amputated seven years ago, told *Reuters* at a photo shoot and fashion event on Valentine’s Day.

“I want to show that prostheses can be cool and sometimes even cute,” said the 33-year-old, posing in a sassy red mini-dress that showed off a prosthetic leg painted with cherry blossoms and gilded Japanese fans.



Women wearing prosthetic legs participate in a public photo session at the Hasselblad and Profoto booth, during the CP+ camera and imaging equipment trade fair in Yokohama south of Tokyo, on 14 Feb, 2015.

REUTERS

“It would be great if people felt that prostheses could be fashion items,” Sato added.

There are an estimated 80,000 people in Japan using prosthetic limbs. Some 7,000, including Paralympians, have been fitted for prostheses by Usui and his workshop, part of an organization set up in 1932 to help injured railroad workers.

Usui also founded a

sports club to help amputees train for competition and last year teamed up with photographer Takao Ochi to produce “Amputee Venus,” a collection of photos featuring 11 young women who have each lost a leg.

“They make you forget about disability,” Usui said on the sidelines of the fashion show featuring the women profiled in the collection. “You don’t notice it.”

The only words in the book, just out in English, are the phrase “Ability not Disability” and brief biographies. The rest is just photos of women: running, snowboarding, snorkelling or posing in a black bustier — all with artificial legs, sometimes painted with flowers or butterflies, on proud display.

“Amputee Venus” and the fashion event are attempts to change attitudes towards the disabled in Japan, which remains behind much of the West in terms of accessibility and acceptance.

Onlookers at the event were initially surprised to see prosthetic legs on the catwalk, but there were signs Usui’s efforts to give amputees a new lease of life may bear fruit.

“I had never been in contact with people with prosthetic legs,” said Katsuyuki Aoki, an office worker. “But my impression about prostheses has become positive.” —*Reuters*

Museum shows there’s more to Greek music than bouzoukis

ATHENS, 17 Feb — Tucked away in a corner of Athens’ historic Plaka district is a small museum showing that there is more to Greek music than “Zorba’s Dance” and “Never on Sunday”.

In fact, the Museum of Greek Folk Musical Instruments, or MELMOKE, contains barely any bouzoukis, the quintessential Greek instrument that often accompanies the smashing of plates in overseas Greek restaurants.

Instead, visitors are treated to rows of wood and bone flutes, pottery drums called toumbeleki, and gaida — bagpipes made of sheep or goat skins.

On a recent Saturday, the basement was echoing to the sounds of students learning to sing and play old-style,

including using a santouri, a type of hammer dulcimer.

“Traditional music was live until recently,” said Petros Moustakas, a musicologist at MELMOKE, which is designed to protect the heritage and keep the old way going. Modern Greek music is very popular in Greece and unlike many

European countries the local fare tends to outnumber English and American imports in music shops.

It is more like pop and disco, but Moustakas says it still uses the “modes” of traditional music, albeit in a far more urban way.

Other forms of Greek music do too, such as rembetika, nearly always called “Greek blues” because it was first played by the poor around the Piraeus docks.



A visitor looks at bells displayed at the Museum of Greek Folk Musical Instruments (MELMOKE) in Athens on 15 Feb, 2015.—REUTERS

But the MELMOKE is primarily about raw, rural sound from Greek’s mountainous mainland and scattered islands.

Most of the roughly 1,200 items owned by the museum come from the col-

lection of critic and musicologist Fivos Anoyanakis, who died in 2003. They date from the 18th century to the present day, although there is scant sign of anything commercial - and certainly not electric.

Reuters

mitv Myanmar International

(18-2-2015 07:00 am~ 19-2-2015 07:00 am) MST

- | | |
|---|--|
| * News | * News |
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MRTV News Channel in Brief

(18-2-2015, Wednesday)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 6:00 am | 2:35 pm |
| • Paritta by venerable Mingun Sayadaw | • Traditional Boxing |
| 6:40 am | 3:35 pm |
| • Documentary | • Documentary |
| 7:00 am | 4:35 pm |
| • News/ Weather Report | • University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) — Second Year (English) |
| 7:35 am | 5:35 pm |
| • National Sports Games | • People’s Talks |
| 8:00 am | 6:30 pm |
| • News/ International News | • Head Line News |
| 9:35 am | 7:00 pm |
| • Science and Technology Programme | • News |
| 10:30 am | 7:35 pm |
| • Head Line News | • Documentary |
| 11:35 am | 8:00 pm |
| • MRTV’s Youth Programme | • News / International News / Weather Report |
| 12:00 noon | 9:00 pm |
| • News / International News / Weather Report | • News / Weather Report |
| 12:35 pm | • Hluttaw Image |
| • Hluttaw Image | • National Sports Games |
| 1:40 pm | • Fine Arts-Boson of Dramatic Performance |
| Cultural Show (Part-4) | |

Berlusconi says not selling control of AC Milan



Former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi (C) sits in the tribune near his daughter Barbara during the Italian Serie A soccer match between AC Milan and Lazio at the San Siro stadium in Milan on 31 Aug, 2014.—REUTERS

BANGKOK / MILAN, 17 Feb — Former Italian prime minister Silvio Berlusconi said on Monday he was not interested in selling control of AC Milan, following reports of an offer being made for the football club by a Thai businessman.

Earlier on Monday local media had said Bee Taechaubol, executive director of southeast Asian private equity group Thai Prime Company Limited, had offered 1 billion euros (\$1.14

billion) for a controlling stake in AC Milan.

Taechaubol is also a co-owner of the Global Legends Series (GLS) Bangkok series of charity matches that feature famous veteran football players.

The *Bangkok Post* said that Bee wanted at least a 50 percent stake in the seven-times European champions but not complete ownership.

Bee was confident of completing a deal within

a month, the report added. The businessman could not immediately be reached for comment by *Reuters*.

But Fininvest, the Berlusconi holding company that owns AC Milan, said in a statement there were no talks about selling the club, which Berlusconi has owned since the 1980s.

“Fininvest reiterates it is not interested in selling a majority stake in AC Milan,” it said.

“Various parties have

shown interest in a partnership involving Milan but, having said that, Fininvest categorically denies the existence of talks of any substance and of any pre-agreement or decisive meetings on the agenda,” it added.

One of Italian football’s most prestigious clubs, Milan has struggled since last winning the country’s Serie A premier league title in 2011.

Reuters

Man United to face Arsenal in FA Cup quarter-finals



Manchester United's Robin van Persie (C) celebrates with Angel Di Maria (R) after scoring his teams third goal during their English Premier League soccer match against Burnley at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England on 11 Feb, 2015.

REUTERS

LONDON, 17 Feb — Joint record FA Cup winners Manchester United and Arsenal will meet in the quarter-finals of this season's competition following the draw on Monday.

United beat League One Preston North End 3-1 to set up

the last-eight clash with holders Arsenal who beat them in the 1979 and 2005 finals. Both clubs have won the famous trophy 11 times.

Giant-killers Bradford City of League One, who caused one of the biggest ever FA Cup upsets by beating Chelsea in the fourth round before seeing off Premier League Sunderland in the fifth, got the home tie their manager Phil Parkinson wished for.

The third-tier side will face Reading, struggling in 16th place in the Championship (second tier) and have a good chance of reaching the last four for the first time since 1911 when they won their only FA Cup.

The draw was also kind to Liverpool, who were paired with mid-table Championship side Blackburn Rovers. England manager Roy Hodgson, who helped make the draw and has managed both clubs, did Liverpool the bigger favour. Brendan

Rodgers's side are in a rich vein of form after a sluggish start to the season and will be favourites to reach the semi-finals for the first time since they lost the 2012 final to Chelsea.

However, Blackburn have beaten Premier League Swansea City and Stoke City in the last two rounds after coming from behind in both matches.

New Aston Villa manager Tim Sherwood will be looking for two victories in four days over local midlands rivals West Bromwich Albion as his side battle against relegation and seek a place in the last four.

Villa and West Brom, who contested three FA Cup finals between 1887 and 1895, will meet at Villa Park on 3 March in the Premier League before the Baggies make the short trip back there for the cup clash.

The quarter-finals will be played on the weekend of 7-8 March.—Reuters



Former Italy coach Arrigo Sacchi

Sacchi makes 'coloured' comment, denies being racist

MILAN, 17 Feb — Arrigo Sacchi has been widely quoted as saying there are "too many coloured players" in Italian youth teams but the former Italy and AC Milan coach said he was not being racist when he made the comment.

"Italy has no dignity or pride, it can't be right to see teams with 15 foreigners," Italian media quoted the 68-year-old as saying during an awards ceremony in Montecatini Terme. Sacchi, whose memorable AC Milan side included Ruud Gullit and Frank Rijkaard, Dutch players of Surinamese heritage, said his observation was based on the annual Viareggio international youth tournament, held annually in Tuscany. "I'm certainly not racist and my coaching history shows that, starting from (Frank) Rijkaard, but watching the Viareggio tournament brings me to say that there are too many coloured players, also in the youth teams," he said.

Sacchi later told *Gazzetta dello Sport*: "I only wanted to underline that we are losing our national pride and identity. 'I've been misinterpreted, can you imagine that I'm really racist? All I said was I saw a game featuring a team who fielded four coloured players," he added. "My history speaks for itself, I've always coached teams with great players from every colour and I've brought in a lot, whether to Milan or (Real) Madrid." Sacchi won successive European Cup titles with AC Milan in 1989 and 1990 and also led Italy to the 1994 World Cup final.

He is regarded as one of Italy's most influential coaches, even though his career was relatively short. He was also director of football at Real Madrid for one season.

Italian football has struggled to cope with racism, sometimes at the highest level. Last year, Carlo Tavecchio, a candidate for the Italian federation (FIGC) presidency, caused an outcry when he made a comment about a fictitious African player, he named Opti Poba, "eating bananas". Despite the storm, Tavecchio won the election and an FIGC investigation found he had no case to answer. However, he was later given a six-month ban from UEFA and FIFA activities. Sampdoria president Massimo Ferrero was banned for three months in December for referring to Inter Milan's Indonesian owner Erick Thohir as 'that Filipino'.—Reuters

Real expect return to top form against Schalke

MADRID, 17 Feb — Holders Real Madrid do not expect another goal bonanza at Schalke 04 in Wednesday's Champions League Round of 16 first leg after their big win last season, with midfielder Toni Kroos warning not to underestimate the Germans.

Coach Carlo Ancelotti will be hoping his normally formidable attacking trident of Cristiano Ronaldo, Gareth Bale and Karim Benzema, known collectively in Spain as 'BBC', return to top form in time for the trip to Germany.

The trio each scored twice in the 6-1 victory at Schalke in last term's Round of 16 first leg but Ronaldo, in particular, has been off colour since winning a third FIFA Ballon d'Or award last month.

The Portugal captain again failed to score in Saturday's unconvincing 2-0 win at home to promoted Deportivo La Coruna in La Liga and has managed only four goals this year.

In that time, Real have been knocked out of the King's Cup by Atletico Madrid while a 4-0 drub-



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo (2nd L) celebrates his goal against Bayern Munich with teammates Pepe, Gareth Bale (R) and Karim Benzema (L) during their Champions League semi-final second leg soccer match in Munich on 29 April, 2014.

REUTERS

bing at their city rivals in La Liga this month cut their lead over second-placed Barcelona to a point.

"We are top of La Liga and the reigning champions in Europe," Ancelotti said on Saturday. "It's true that we have not been brilliant in 2015, but I hope the return of the Champions League will

bring out the best in us again."

Another reason for Real's stumble has been injuries to regular centre backs Pepe and Sergio Ramos.

Pepe should be available but Ramos is not due to return for about a month and their replacements, Raphael Varane and Na-

cho, have looked far from convincing. "What was important was picking up confidence, and now we have to focus on Schalke. This win (Deportivo) is really good for our morale," Real fullback Alvaro Arbeloa said.

Improving Schalke, fourth in the Bundesliga, are desperate to make amends for last season's drubbing and hope Dutch striker Klaas-Jan Huntelaar, who missed training last week with a virus, will be fit. "He is an ice cold striker and I am happy if we have him as an option against Real," team mate Tranquillo Barnetta told reporters.

"We have nothing to lose. If we continue to play as we have done recently and stick to our plan then we have the chance to win against Real. Our aim is to win at home and we firmly believe that," said the Swiss international.

Coach Robert Di Matteo will need to see whether keeper Fabian Giefer recovers from injury in time or else hand 19-year-old Timon Wellenreuther his Champions League debut.—Reuters

Wigan's Honduran defender Garcia diagnosed with leukaemia

LONDON, 17 Feb — Wigan Athletic's Honduran defender Juan Carlos Garcia has been diagnosed with leukaemia, club manager Malky Mackay said on Monday. Championship team Wigan announced last week that the 26-year-old, who has 34 international caps, was admitted to hospital after developing a blood disorder. "He has a form of leukaemia. Juan Carlos is in the Christie Hospital in Manchester," Mackay told reporters.

"It's something that is obviously a real blow for Juan Carlos's family and everybody connected with the football club. We're going to make sure he gets the best

care possible. "I went to see Juan Carlos and he was incredibly upbeat and his spirits were strong. Everybody at the club is wishing him all the best as I'm sure all our fans are," said Mackay. Garcia, who joined Wigan on a free transfer in 2013 but has made just one appearance for the club, recently returned from a loan spell with Tenerife in Spain.—Reuters

Switzerland's Granit Xhaka (L) is challenged by Juan Carlos Garcia of Honduras during their 2014 World Cup Group E soccer match at the Amazonia arena in Manaus on 25 June, 2014.—REUTERS

