

## Vice President U Nyan Tun inspects Settlement and Land Records Department training school, plantations

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — Vice President U Nyan Tun inspected the central training school of the Settlement and Land Records Department in Taikkyi Township, Yangon Region, on Sunday.

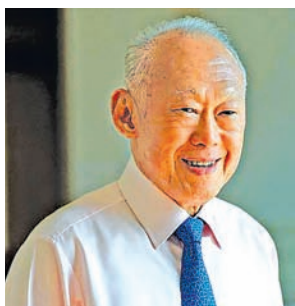
Principal of the school for land record development, Deputy Minister U Ohn Than, briefed the vice president about courses conducted there.

U Ohn Than, and the director-general of the department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, further explained the department's collection of land survey data, crop production and farmland management.

The vice president said the success of land resources management relies on correct policies and effective land management, the foundation of which is systematic maps that match the situation on the ground.

The lifeblood of the

### Modern Singapore's founding father, Lee Kuan Yew, dies at 91



SINGAPORE, 23 March — Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore's first prime minister, died on Monday aged 91, triggering a flood of tributes to the man who oversaw the tiny city-state's rapid rise from a British colonial backwater to a global trade and financial centre.

In his lifetime, Lee drew praise for his market-friendly policies but also criticism at home and abroad for his strict controls over the press, public protest and political opponents.

The government has declared a period of national mourning until his funeral on Sunday. Lee's family will hold a private wake in the next two days,



Vice President U Nyan Tun meets local people at South Nawin forest reserve in Paukkhaung Township.—MNA

information structure is the high skills, competence and honesty of staff of the Settlement and Land Records

Department, and the training school plays an important role in nurturing such staff, according to the vice presi-

dent. In conclusion, the vice president urged the officials to build trustworthy information infrastructure for the

public. The vice president then observed an advanced course for survey and land records and an exhibition

booth at the school. Afterward, the vice president proceeded to the private teak plantation of Phyo Sithu Trading Co., Ltd in Paukkhaung Township, where Deputy Minister U Aye Myint Maung and officials of the company outlined projects for greening Bago Mountain Range and conservation of forest resources.

After hearing the reports, the vice president pointed out that it is important to conserve the forests in Bago Mountain Range for posterity with the cooperation of the government, the private sector and the public. Later, the vice president inspected log houses and furniture made of crowded teak trees and the 1,000-acre teak plantation in Ottwin.

Forest coverage of the mountain range increased from 25.83 percent in 2010 to 26.2 percent in 2015.

MNA

## Safety checks find chicken, duck products free from bird flu

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 23 March— Authorities have approved the sale of chicken and duck products, including eggs, at markets in the Yangon municipal area following safety inspections for avian flu.

The Department of Veterinary and Slaughter House of the Yangon City Development Committee said chicken and duck meat and eggs may be sold once the seller has received approval.

The department is currently making poultry farms in the region carry out bio-security measures, while also conducting regular inspections of farms, a department official said.

The department has raised awareness of bird flu disease and urged farmers to quickly report suspected cases following the recent outbreak in Monywa.

The Ministry of Health has raised alert levels to prevent the spread of the bird flu virus across the

country since the outbreak, culling more than 1,500 chickens and 20,000 quails in the area.

The Ministry of Health announced that four workers with fever symptoms from the chicken farms in Monywa were tested after the outbreak, but none were infected with bird flu virus.

The country has seen

seven outbreaks of bird flu from 2003 to 2014. Since the first in 2003, Myanmar has implemented the National Strategic Plan for Prevention and Control of Avian Influenza and Human Influenza Pandemic.

The Ministry of Health decided recently to increase funding as much as necessary to prevent a pan-

demic, Dr Soe Lwin Nyein, the Deputy Director-General of the Communicable Diseases Control Department said, quoting the Union minister.

At a recent meeting in Nay Pyi Taw, Union Minister of Health Dr Than Aung gave the green light to the funding increase, urging (See page 3)



Local authorities has urged farmers to follow their instructions on preventing the bird flu disease.—PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

## Govt schedules meeting for salary increment

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — Union government will meet on Wednesday to discuss proposed salaries for civil service staff before submitting it to the parliament, according to the letter of President Office to the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann officially urged the Union government to submit the proposed salaries by March 3 to be able to pass the 2015 Union Budget Bill. The salary increment process will include discussion with Ministry of Finance and relevant departments, putting the amount of pro-

posed budgets into figures of ministries, relevant boards and funds of state/region governments.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw took record on the Highway Bill that needs approval of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

U Win Shein, Union Minister for Finance, presented President U Thein Sein's message, calling on approval of Hluttaw for agreement to establish ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO).

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw also discussed proposals of Dr Myat Nyana Soe, secretary of the bill committee and Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw

Tun, deputy minister for Home Affairs, on approval of bill on land and tax.

U Thein Aung, deputy minister for Industry, explained President's suggestion on transferal of allocated budgets for other projects, and it was discussed joint bill committee and parliamentarians.

Regarding discussion of Daw Dwe Bu, an MP from Injanyan Township constituency of Kachin State, on Union Tax Bill 2015, Union Minister Dr Ko Ko Oo, Union Minister for Science and Technology explained copyrights law, Deputy Minister for

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw



Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan international trading rules and regulations and taxation processes.—MNA

*Representatives of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw debate schedule for salary increment for service personnel.—MNA*

Pyithu Hluttaw

## Oil price falls impacts on revenue from natural gas export

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — Dramatic fall of oil price in global market has affected export of Myanmar natural gas, said Deputy Minister for Energy U Myint Zaw to Pyithu Hluttaw on Monday.

Regarding the query of U Thein Lwin, an MP of Chauk constituency, the deputy minister said although revenue from the sales of natural gas has declined, the ministry will manage to meet the income from this sector as in previous years.

U Myint Zaw also promised the ministry will operate more joint-venture businesses with foreign companies to avoid monopolies of international firms in the domestic market, while the respective agencies are examining fuel qualities and market price.

While transportation charges have also declined due to the falling fuel price, the Ministry of Energy will cooperate with other ministries and agencies for the fall of commodity prices.

Regarding query of Daw Nan Sae Awa, an MP of Hpa-an constituency, Kayin State, on education funds for basic education schools, Deputy Minister for Education U Thant Shin

replied that under the free education system of 2014-2015 fiscal year for primary schools, the ministry allocated funds to all basic education schools based on the number of schoolchildren.

The deputy minister said that in last fiscal year schools with 100 primary level children were given K800,000 (US\$800), those with 200 children K1000,000 (\$1,000), with 300 children K1.2 million (\$1,200), with 400 children K1.4 million (\$1,400), with more than 400 children K1.6 million, and K400,000 for each affiliated primary school.

U Thant Shin also clarified on the query of U Than Myint, an MP of Wundwin constituency that the ministry is cooperating with the Ministry of Health for health programmes at schools the whole year.

U Aung Thein Linn, an MP of South Okkalapa constituency, urged the government to address trade deficit through prioritizing export sector of the country.

His suggestion was recorded by the Lower House, and Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint said the ministry has relaxed some restrictions on trade sector, remarking that both total expenditure of the country and amount of foreign direct investment have increased.

He also said one of the reasons for trade deficit is due to more import items for investment sector, suggesting that enactment of laws for value-added products, and establishments of export/import bank and trade promotion board will help develop a business model that emphasizes on export sector.—MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw

## Plan to extend emerald green project in 178 more townships

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — At the 32<sup>nd</sup> day session of Amyotha Hluttaw Monday, U Sai Paung Nap of Shan State Constituency No 12 asked about master plan for multi-sectoral economic development of rural and less-development areas in Myanmar.

Deputy Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Khin Maung Aye replied that emerald green project being implemented in 1,150 villages creates job opportunities and increases income of rural families with K34.5 billion allotted by the government. Thanks to the remarkable progress, the project will be extended in 178 more townships. The rural development strategy has covered rural development programmes for establishment of commercial crops farms, forest planta-

tions, agricultural farm, fish hatching station, livestock breeding farm and nurseries and other development tasks including value-added production, milling, packaging, microfinance and mobile banking systems.

U Hnin Wai of Kayah State Constituency No 12 asked whether there is a plan to provide travel allowance for health staff who go along with patient transferred to district or state hospitals from township ones. Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint replied that TA can be allowed to the health staff who took care of patient along the route but cannot be allowed for transport of patient by ambulance.

Dr Soe Win of Mon State constituency No 2 asked about arrangements for issuance of birth registration and birth certificate

to babies across the nation. The deputy minister replied that the Health Department has instructed hospitals at different level, rural health centres and branches to issue the birth certificates to babies on schedules under supervision of the heads of township Health Department. Departments concerned will issue the birth certificates and birth registrations to the babies who were born in neighbouring countries. The children under five years who delayed 12 months to take birth registration and certificates can draw these certificates with approval from heads of region/state health departments. For the children under 10 years old, the Ministry of Health will scrutinize documents and cooperate with related ministries for issuance of certificates.

MNA

## Myanmar to undertake first nationwide kidney health study

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 23 March — Myanmar's first nationwide survey on kidney-related diseases will begin later this year, with the aim of im-

proving hospital treatment and programmes aimed at prevention, a renal specialist said Sunday at a ceremony to mark World Kidney



*Health care providers give free medical check-up to attendees at a ceremony to mark the World Kidney Day in Yangon.—PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN*

Day here. Plans are under way to designate renal registries in both rural and urban areas, Prof Khin Thida Thwin said.

The survey will be conducted by the renal department at Thingangyun Sanpya Hospital under the Ministry of Health, with pharmaceutical companies providing financial assistance. "The project is expected to begin this year, but we still need both volunteers and funds for the survey," Prof Khin Thida Thwin said. The initiative is designed to help reduce the

risks involved with renal diseases and other related health problems, according to sources at the renal department.

While such a nationwide survey has not yet been conducted, some hospitals' records show one-fifth of patients presenting to renal departments are diagnosed with chronic kidney disease.

Kidney specialist Prof U Khin Maung Htay said a study had found nearly 10 percent of the world's population lives with chronic kidney disease, with experts

estimating a 17% increase in ten years.

Kidneys help remove waste products and excess fluid from the blood and control blood pressure, with doctors suggesting high fluid intake to prevent kidney failure, but warning patients already with kidney failure not to drink too much water.

World Kidney Day has been marked on the second Thursday in March worldwide since 2006 with the aim of raising awareness of the role the kidneys play in maintaining good health.

GNLM

NATIONAL

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — The head of Myanmar's armed forces pledged to assist an association of British World War II veterans and foster ties between the two countries' militaries Monday during a meeting in the capital.

The Myanmar's War Veterans Organization will help the British Burma Star Association in its affairs in Myanmar, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing told Mr John Slim, president of the association for World War II veterans.

Since entering into national politics in Myanmar, representatives of the Tatmadaw have taken part in the lawmaking process without bias, Senior General Min Aung told Mr Slim, a member of the Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League. Regarding the relations with neighbouring countries, Myanmar has maintained a policy of peaceful co-existence while practicing an independent and active foreign policy, he added.

At the meeting in Nay Pyi Taw Monday, Mr Slim has offered to help Myanmar War Veterans Organization and has recognizing the role of the Tatmadaw in Myanmar's transition to democracy.

Mr John Slim is the son of Field Marshal William Joseph "Bill" Slim who commanded the Burma Corps during World War II. Mr John Slim retired from the armed forces with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, receiving an honorary promotion to Colonel. He was appointed the Order of British Empire (OBE) the following year. He is honorary patron of the Graham Layton Trust and serves on other British social organisations.

The senior general and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla enjoyed entertainment of veteran artistes in commemoration of the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Armed Forces Day at Thabin Hall of Zeyathiri Beikman, here, on Monday evening. A total of 20 veteran artistes presented Myanmar classical songs and music to the accompaniment

## Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets British WWII veterans' association president



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing holds talks with Mr Slim, President of association for World War II Veterans. MYAWADY

of Myawady Band.

One more entertainment will be presented on 24 March.—Myawady

## ASEAN Single Window Agreement signed

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — The 19<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Finance Ministers' Meeting and related meetings were held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 19 to 21 March, with Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Finance U Win Shein and deputy minister Dr Maung Maung Thein together with delegations of ASEAN countries in attendance.

The 19<sup>th</sup> AFMM focused on global and regional economic situations clarified by the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Asian Development Bank and ASEAN+3

Macroeconomic Research Office.

The delegation discussed results of Yangon Meeting and future tasks for last year's financial inclusion conference, ASEAN financial cooperation, investment in ASEAN infrastructure, cooperation in ASEAN insurance, ASEAN custom and revenue, and a report on monitoring progress of ASEAN processes. The Union Minister, on behalf of Myanmar, signed the ASEAN Single Window Agreement.

During the trip, the union minister met with deputy finance ministers and

deputy governor of central banks of ASEAN countries.

The AFMM Retreat took place at Royale Chulan Hotel. On 21 March, the union minister attended the ASEAN finance ministers and ASEAN-EU Business Council Meeting, the gathering of ASEAN finance ministers and youth entrepreneurs of ASEAN countries, a working lunch of ASEAN finance ministers and ASEAN-US Business Council and the coordination meeting between ASEAN finance ministers and central bank governors of ASEAN countries.

MNA

## Myanmar seeks assistance from Japanese government for safety waterway transport



Union Minister U Nyan Tun Aung meets Japanese Ambassador Mr Tateshi Higuchi.—MNA

YANGON, 23 March — Japanese government has granted much assistance for transport sector in Myanmar, Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung told Japanese Ambassador Mr Tateshi Higuchi at the hall of Marine Administration Department, here, on Monday.

He said that Japanese government provided three

storm radars worth US\$40 million, three Cherry ferries worth US\$14 million to run along Pansodan-Dala route, navigation equipment worth US\$12 million for safety of airports, US\$400 million for two of five ports at Thilawa region and donation of US\$700 million for construction of Hanthawady International Airport.

The union minister requested the Japanese government to send a survey team to Rakhine State for observation of safety waterway transportation and to provide suitable ferries for the state.

The Japanese Ambassador expressed a pledge to report the discussions to his government.

MNA

## Safety checks find chicken . . .

(from page 1)

departments concerned to work more closely with the Health Ministry to monitor and control the H5N1 virus.

The increased expenditure will go to stockpiling medicines and personal protective equipment, upgrading the national laboratory in Yangon, reinforcing

ing ICU (Intensive Care Units) facilities and monitoring infectious diseases at entrances to Myanmar including border areas, according to the Ministry of Health.

GNLM

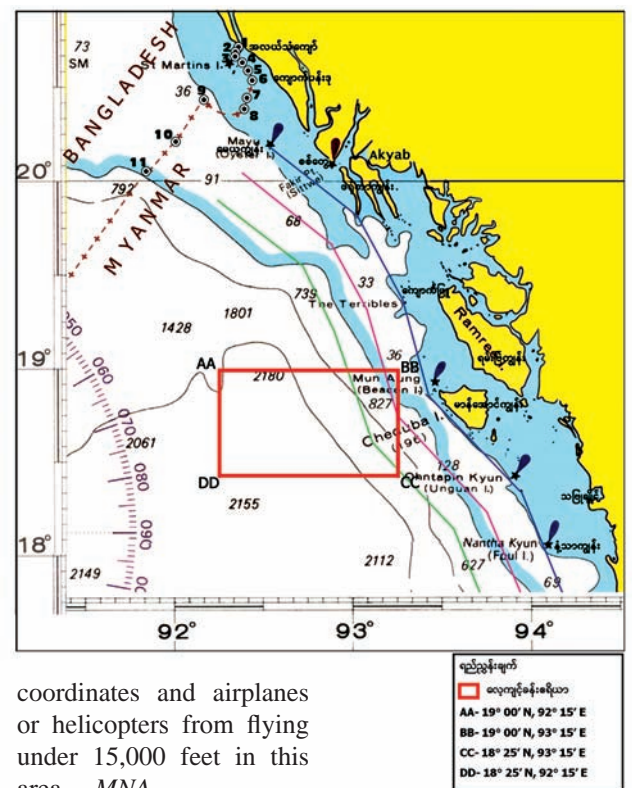
## Navy to conduct military exercise

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March — Myanmar navy will conduct military exercises off the western coast of Manaung Island from March 27 to April 6, according to official notification.

The life fire exercise of combined fleet will cover Point AA of 19 Degrees 00 Minutes North Latitude, 92 Degrees 15 Minutes East Latitude; Point BB of 19 Degrees 00 Minutes North Latitude, 93 Degrees 15 Minutes East Latitude; Point CC of 18 Degrees 25 Minutes North Latitude, 93 Degrees 15 Minutes East Latitude; Point DD of 18 Degrees 25 Minutes North Latitude, 92 Degrees 15 Minutes East Latitude.

Authorities have strictly prohibited all vessels from passing through 5 miles surrounding to these

### A map shows an area of combined fleet exercise of Myanmar Navy



coordinates and airplanes or helicopters from flying under 15,000 feet in this area.—MNA

## Lack of pay hinders recruitment of electoral workers

MYITKYINA, 23 March — Election sub-commissions struggle to attract workers due to a lack of pay, participants in an election reporting course heard on 20 March.

“We are carrying out our tasks voluntarily without getting any salary or fees from the government,” Chairman of Kachin State Election Sub-commission U Nyung Shwe told media at the course held at Hotel Madira in Myitkyina, Kachin State.

Although the chairman of the Union Election Commission and members receive salaries from the government, chairmen and members of region, state, district and township sub-commissions do not receive payment until after the fourth year of



the five-year government term. They are given daily allowance and travel allowance when they attend the meetings.

The Union Election Commission cancelled the 2012 by-election for Pyithu Hluttaw representatives in three townships

in Kachin State without explanation, raising questions from the media about its authority.

GNLM-001

## More than 370 youths under training of Buddhist culture



DAWEI, 23 March—More than 370 young trainees began courses in mediation Sunday under the guidance of experienced Buddhist monks.

Mogok meditation branch No 15 in Dawei, Taninthayi Region, opened its five-day summer cultural course, the 129<sup>th</sup> of its kind, at its hall, where vice chairman U Kye Shwe explained the management of the branch and what trainees can expect.

As of Sunday, Bhaddanta Pannadipa (Seikpyu) of Dhamma Pyinsari monastery in Mayangon Township, Yangon, and Ashin Nanadipa of Maha Thatipahtana Vihara in Hlegu Township, gave lectures on basic Buddhist culture, meditation and teachings of the Lord Buddha in Pali, English and Myanmar languages.—*Po Shwe Thun (Dawei)*

## Mango growers expect good prices in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 23 March — Mango growers in Mandalay Region are expecting good prices this season due to strong demand, but large crop yields resulting from favourable weather may put downward pressure on prices.

At present, most growers and buyers have agreed to sell the fruits to respective brokerages, but the growers forecast high yield of fruits may push down prices in the market.

Teams of agriculturists have been sharing their knowledge of cultivation technology and other insights with growers. They aim to help propel Myanmar mangoes onto the international market, while also establishing locally grown produce within the domestic market.

Growers have also been studying techniques for pest-free cultivation.

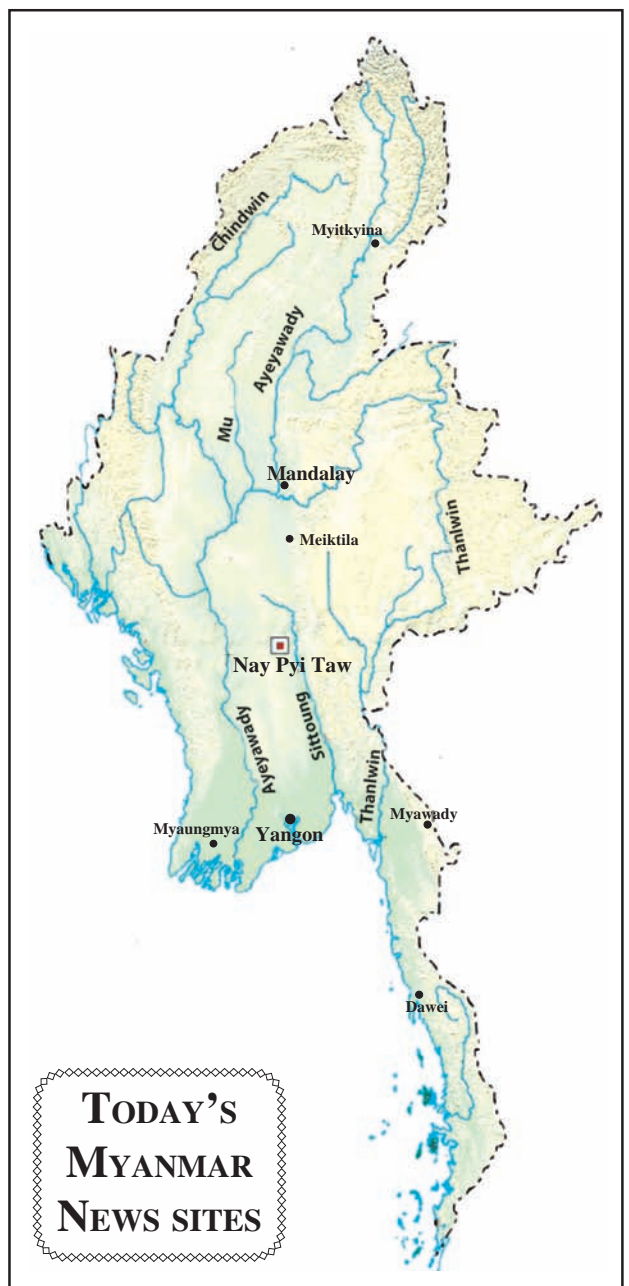
In Mandalay and its surrounding areas, growers graft budding mangoes

onto trees in order to produce the best quality fruit from the most desirable strains. Most of them grow Sein Ta Lone mangoes which command good prices

in the Chinese market.

An experienced grower said, “Myanmar will have a high mango yield in 2015.”

*Tein Taman*



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## Dredging drains for proper flow of water in urban area

DAWEI, 23 March — Dawei Township Development Affairs Committee and JCB Company cooperate in dredging the drains for proper flow of water in monsoon and for prevention of inundation at streets in Myothit Ward, Dawei, Taninthayi Region.

Drains along eight streets in the ward were dredged with the use of

heavy machinery. Secretary of Taninthayi Region Government U Tin Thein who is also Deputy Director-General of General Administration Department in Taninthayi Region inspected progress of dredging.

Township officials reported on daily works of dredging the drains.

*Po Shwe Thun (Dawei)*

## REGIONAL

## Pakistan military parade showcases latest weaponry

ISLAMABAD, 23 March — The Pakistani government on Monday showcased its latest military arsenal, including short-range nuclear-capable missiles and missile-carrying drones, at a Pakistan Day parade in the capital Islamabad.

President Mamnoon Hussain and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif took the salute from contingents of the army, navy, air force and paramilitary troops. Speaking at the parade, Hussain said Pakistan wants friendly relations with all its neighbours and seeks to resolve all pending issues with India.

Pakistan Day is observed to commemorate the resolution passed by the Pakistan Muslim League in 1940 that eventually led to the creation of Pakistan in 1947 with the breakup of British India. The military parade also showcased Pakistan's medium-range Shaheen-1 and long-range Shaheen-2 ground-to-ground missiles. Military aircraft staged a fly-past over the parade grounds.

No parades had been held since 2008 owing to the lack of a secure venue and the growing threat of terrorism.—*Kyodo News*

## Abe, Jokowi vow to boost security, economic cooperation

TOKYO, 23 March — Japan and Indonesia agreed on Monday to boost cooperation in the security and economic areas, with Tokyo offering 140 billion yen (about \$1.17 billion) in low-interest loans for construction of a mass rapid transit system in Jakarta.

In a summit in Tokyo, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Indonesian President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo welcomed the signing of a defence cooperation pact that involves Japanese capacity-building assistance for Indonesian forces, as well as bilateral cooperation in peacekeeping missions and defence equipment development, according to Japanese officials.

Abe and Jokowi, who is on his first visit to Japan since becoming president last October, agreed to launch a "Japan-Indonesia maritime forum" to expand cooperation in the maritime field such as ensuring maritime security and Japan's assistance in promoting Indonesia's marine-related industries, the officials said.

The leaders also agreed to set up a ministerial dialogue to boost economic and industry cooperation, including Japan's aid in building infrastructure in Indonesia.

They affirmed a plan to pro-



**Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (far R) meets with Indonesian President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo (far L) at Abe's office in Tokyo on 23 March, 2015. They are expected to affirm cooperation in ensuring maritime security and firmer defence ties, as well as increased trade and investment.—Kyodo News**

mote talks between their defence and foreign ministers in line with an agreement struck between Abe and Jokowi's predecessor, Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, in December 2013 to launch so-called "two-plus-two" security talks.

The two countries have yet to hold such talks.

In an effort to ensure regional peace and stability, Abe and Jokowi called on China and the Asso-

ciation of Southeast Asian Nations to speed up consultations toward an early conclusion of a legally binding code of conduct aimed at reducing territorial and maritime conflicts in the South China Sea.

The leaders urged Beijing and other claimant states such as the Philippines and Vietnam to exercise restraint and settle the issue based on international law.

Indonesia aims to serve as a

fulcrum between the Pacific and the Indian Ocean under Jokowi's maritime axis doctrine, which calls for eliminating the sources of conflict at sea such as piracy and violations of sovereignty.

After a four-day state visit to Japan through Wednesday, Jokowi will travel to China and hold talks with President Xi Jinping, according to the Indonesian Foreign Ministry.—*Kyodo News*

## Cyclone on course to smash into Australian coast a second time



**Flooded marshes surround Brisbane's shipping port following Cyclone Marcia on 22 Feb, 2015.**

REUTERS

SYDNEY, 23 March — Three days after making landfall, Cyclone Nathan continued to threaten Australian coastal communities, with 400 residents of a remote northern island on Monday ordered to evacuate after meteorologists warned the storm was intensifying.

It is the second time since late February that people living in Goulburn Island off Australia's Northern Territory have had to evacuate to escape a tropical

cyclone. "Police have the power to force people to evacuate," said regional controller Commander Bruce Porter of the Northern Territory Police. "We do not however, expect to enforce this, as residents are cooperating with the evacuation."

Sparsely populated with little in the way of industry, the island 300 km (185 miles) northeast of Darwin is comprised largely of marshlands harbouring an abundance of wildlife in-

cluding crocodiles, fish, dugong, and turtles.

Nathan crossed the eastern Australia coast on Friday before weakening over land only to regain much of its punch as it crossed over the tropical waters off the Northern Territory.

Tropical cyclones typically weaken rapidly over land, where they are cut off from their primary energy source — warm water. For this reason, coastal communities are particularly vulnera-

ble to damage from a tropical cyclone as compared to inland regions.

Meteorologists said Nathan was moving north-west at 12km (7 miles) per hour and would strengthen over open water before again making for land.

The storm is expected to reach a category 3, moving parallel to the coast before turning southwest toward land late on Monday or early Tuesday, according to Australia's Bureau of Meteorology.

Category three is classified as severe and generating wind gusts of between 165 and 224km (100-140 miles) per hour over open flat land.

In February, Cyclone Lam smashed near the same coastline, displacing about 200 people and destroying some 50 homes.

Meteorologists warn such cyclonic activity may increase the chance of El Nino weather pattern in 2015 by raising ocean surface temperatures in the coming months.

El Nino can lead to drought in Southeast Asia and Australia and heavy rains in South America, hitting production of food such as rice, wheat and sugar.

Meteorologists this month forecast that the chance of an El Nino developing this year had risen to about 50 percent.

Reuters

## Nightclub fire kills five people in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 23 March — Five people died in a fire that erupted early Monday morning at a nightclub located in southern Cambodia, a military police official said.

In Nun, deputy military police chief of Svay Rieng province, told *Kyodo News* by phone that the fire broke out at around 3:20 am at Star Karaoke and Disco in the city of Bavet on the border with Vietnam, killing four men and a woman.

All the victims were Cambodians ranging in age from 18 to 34. In addition to the deaths, another man was seriously injured.

According to In Nun, the electrical wiring at the club is believed to be the primary cause of the fire.

Bavet is located 167 kilometres southeast of the capital Phnom Penh.

*Kyodo News*

## Female SDF officer welcomes pressure as 1<sup>st</sup> Japanese at NATO HQ

BRUSSELS, 23 March — Chizu Kurita is feeling the pressure of being the first Japanese officer to be dispatched to the NATO headquarters in Brussels to strengthen ties between Japan and the US-dominated military alliance, but sees “good opportunities” too.

Lt Col Kurita of the Ground Self-Defence Force is tasked with incorporating women’s viewpoints into security policy, such as boosting women’s roles in the military sphere and participation in peace-building activities during her two-year assignment, which started in December last year.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization was formed in April, 1949 and now consists of 28 countries across North America and Europe.

Given the scarcity of Asian officials at the NATO headquarters, Kurita, 40, jokingly said, “I feel as if I were a rare animal.”

Kurita was born in the city of Kyoto in March, 1975 and decided to become a Self-Defence Forces officer when she was a high school student as a result of talking with a former

member. She joined the SDF in 1997 upon graduation from university and has since been considering women’s roles in the military.

Kurita was dispatched to East Timor in 2011 as part of a UN peacekeeping operation. The experience helped her meet NATO’s conditions for being assigned to the alliance, and she was selected under Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s policy of promoting women’s social advancement.

While in East Timor, Kurita saw first-hand the problems women there faced including sexual assault and hardships caused by insufficient infrastructure such as during childbirth.

Kurita hopes to utilize all these experience during her work at NATO and for the rest of her career in the SDF.

When the assignment to NATO was offered to Kurita, her husband, also an SDF member, encouraged her to take it. “You are the only one that can do it,” he was quoted as saying.

Among the opportunities Kurita hopes to take advantage



*Japan Ground Self-Defence Force Lt Col Chizu Kurita, the first Japanese official dispatched to the headquarters of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Brussels, is seen in this photo. She was dispatched as the adviser to NATO Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security in the office of the Secretary General in December 2014 for approximately two years.*

KYODO NEWS

of is the chance to learn French, one of the official languages in Belgium.—Kyodo News

## Four foreigners go on trial in Indonesia on terrorism charges

JAKARTA, 23 March — Four Uyghur-speaking foreigners who were found carrying fake Turkish passports last year went on trial in Jakarta on Monday for alleged involvement in terrorism activities.

The four men — identified as Ahmet Bozoglan, 27, Abdul Basit Tuzev, 23, Abdullah, 28, and Ahmet Mahmud, 20 — are being tried along with four Indonesians in the North Jakarta District Court.

The eight defendants were indicted under the 2003 Antiterrorism Law for “having an intention” to join the militant group Mujahidin Indonesia Timur headed by Santoso, one of Indonesia’s most-wanted terror suspects.

Police say the four foreign suspects do not speak Turkish among themselves but instead use Uyghur, the language of a Muslim ethnic minority group in China’s restive far-western region of Xinjiang where scores of violent incidents linked to separatism have occurred in recent years.

They went on trial as Turks, even though Turkey’s embassy in Jakarta does not recognize

their citizenship, nor has the Chinese Embassy in Jakarta recognized them as Chinese nationals.

The eight defendants are accused of being part of an “evil conspiracy” to aid and abet acts of terrorism, allegedly by providing financial and material assistance to Santoso’s group, which has been linked to Jemaah Islamiyah, believed to be the Southeast Asian wing of al-Qaeda.

They were arrested last September while on their way to Poso Regency on Sulawesi Island, known to be a magnet for Islamist radicals following bloody clashes there between Christians and Muslims between 1998 and 2001 that left about 1,000 people dead.

A peace pact ended the Poso conflict in 2001, but Islamic extremists affiliated with Jemaah Islamiyah continue to be active there.

In December, Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal and Security Affairs Tedjo Edhy Purdijatno warned that at least 110 foreigners identified as Islamic State militants have been detected in Poso, a development he called “very worrying.”

Kyodo News

## 5.7-magnitude quake jolts Taiwan: CENC

BEIJING, 23 March — A 5.7-magnitude earthquake jolted the sea off the east coast of Hualien, Taiwan at 6:13 pm on Monday (Beijing Time), according to the China Earthquake Networks Centre.

The epicenter was monitored at 23.8 degrees north latitude and 121.7 degrees east longitude, with a depth of 20 kilometres, the

centre said in a statement.

The island’s seismological agency measured the quake at 6.0-magnitude, with a depth of 26.3 km, adding that the epicenter was 35.8 km off Hualien County government.

The quake was felt in Taipei and there has been no immediate reports of casualties.

Xinhua

## Big blaze in inter-Korean border put out, no casualties reported

SEOUL, 23 March — A big blaze was put out about two hours after the fire broke out in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) side of the demilitarized zone and spread to the South Korean side, local news broadcaster YTN reported on Monday.

The fire, which started from a DPRK guard post located some 600 metres north of the Military Demarcation Line, spread to the South Korean side in front of the Dora Observatory at about 1:15 pm local time.

The South Korean firefighting authorities were

quoted as saying that the big blaze was extinguished at about 3:10 pm while firefighters were putting out live embers. No casualties have been reported.

The South Korean military was quoted as saying that DPRK soldiers were seen extinguishing embers near the site, indicating a near completion of their fight fighting.

The Dora Observatory is South Korea’s northernmost point in its western front, near which the inter-Korean transit office is situated for customs, immigration and quarantine

(CIQ) for South Korean workers travelling to and from the inter-Korean factory park in the DPRK’s border city of Kaesong.

Going to and returning from the Kaesong industrial complex was banned from 2 pm, but the ban was expected to be lifted soon.

No exact cause of the fire has been known, but dry weather was believed to have contributed to the fire accident.

Firefighting and military authorities were quoted as saying that border areas near the site were full of gray smoke in an initial

phase of the fire, which spread south rapidly due to strong wind.

Seven fire engines and some 50 firefighters and soldiers were dispatched to the scene to stop the flames from spreading further. Two firefighting helicopters were also sent to the site after receiving approval from the United Nations Command.

The Dora Observatory is open to tourists to look across the DPRK land, but it was closed on Monday for a weekly day-off, which is believed to have contributed to no casualties.

Xinhua



*Liberal Democratic Party Secretary General Sadakazu Tanigaki (C) and Komeito party Secretary General Yoshihisa Inoue (L) meet with Yu Zhengsheng, the Chinese Communist Party’s fourth-ranked leader, in Beijing on 23 March, 2015. The meeting marked another sign of increased communication between the two countries, whose ties have long been chilled over territory and views on wartime history.*

KYODO NEWS

## China’s says ties with Japan heading in good direction

BEIJING, 23 March — Yu Zhengsheng, the Chinese Communist Party’s fourth-ranked leader, said on Monday that steps toward repairing Beijing’s relations with Tokyo are gradually getting back on a positive track.

“Sino-Japanese relations are currently improving. The force is not strong yet, but it is heading in a good direction,” Yu said during a meeting in Beijing with a group of senior lawmakers of Japan’s ruling coalition parties, one of the politicians said.

Yu said China’s forth-

coming commemorations to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War II are not intended to fan resentment against Japan and this year is a good chance to mend bilateral ties chilled over territory and views on history, according to Kiyohiko Toyama, a Komeito party lawmaker, who was part of the seven-member group.

But to seize the chance, Yu said, it is essential for Japan to properly face up to its wartime history, according to Toyama.

China and other Asian countries that suffered Ja-

pan’s militarism before and during the war are concerned whether Tokyo will uphold its past apologies on the occasion of the anniversary.

The senior lawmakers who attended the meeting, which lasted nearly one hour, included Sadakazu Tanigaki, secretary general of the Liberal Democratic Party, and Yoshihisa Inoue, his Komeito counterpart.

Tanigaki told Yu, one of the seven members of the Politburo Standing Committee, China’s top decision-making body, that he believes the content of

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s statement on the war anniversary should not be a cause of concern for Beijing.

On Tuesday, Tanigaki and Inoue will meet with Wang Jiarui, head of the Communist Party’s international department and formally agree to resume exchanges between ruling party members of the two countries that have been suspended since 2009.

The lawmakers, who arrived in Beijing on Monday, are scheduled to return to Japan on Wednesday.

Kyodo News

## Greek PM warns Merkel of 'impossible' debt obligation

ATHENS, 23 March — Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras warned German Chancellor Angela Merkel that it will be “impossible” for his country to service debt obligations due in coming weeks if the European Union does not give his country any short-term financial assistance, the *Financial Times* reported on Sunday.

The warning was sent to Merkel in a letter dated on 15 March and came just before she agreed to meet Tsipras on the sidelines of an EU summit last Thursday, the newspaper said.

In the letter, Tsipras warned that his government would be forced to choose between paying off



Greece's Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras

loans, owed primarily to the International Monetary Fund, or to continue social spending. He blamed European Central Bank limits on Greece's ability to issue short-term debt as well as eurozone bailout authorities' refusal to disburse any aid before Athens adopts a new round of economic reforms, the paper said.

Representatives at Tsipras's and Merkel's office were not immediately available for comment.

“It ought to be clear that the ECB's special restrictions when combined with disbursement delays would make it impossible for any government to service its debt,” Tsipras wrote. The Greek PM said his country was committed to fulfilling its obligations in good faith and to close co-operation with its partners. But he also warned Merkel that failure to find short-term funding could lead to much bigger problems, the newspaper said.

Tsipras said servicing the debts would lead to a sharp deterioration in

Greece's already depressed social economy, “a prospect that I will not countenance.”

Merkel and Tsipras have sought to play down the drama of the Greek leader's first official visit to Berlin on Monday, but open skepticism among the chancellor's allies has spawned media portrayals of a Western-style showdown. Although Merkel acknowledged last week that she and Tsipras would talk “and perhaps also argue,” she said it would not be a defining moment in the standoff between Athens and its euro zone creditors over the terms of its 240 billion-euro bailout deals.

Reuters

## Britain tells United States: We'll always fight by your side



Britain's Defence Secretary Michael Fallon arrives for the Afghanistan service of commemoration at St Paul's Cathedral in London on 13 March, 2015.—REUTERS

LONDON, 23 March — British Defence Secretary Michael Fallon told the United States on Monday his country would always be at Washington's side on the battlefield “when the chips are down”, part of a concerted campaign to assuage US fears over British defence spending.

The US army's chief of staff said earlier this month he was very concerned about the impact of spending cuts on British defense and future cooperation with London, traditionally a staunch US ally.

Ahead of an unusually close national election on 7 May, Prime Minister David Cameron's Conservatives and the opposition Labour Party are under pressure from lawmakers across the spectrum to commit to protect defence spending after the ballot. Both have dodged firm pledges.

Fallon, who held

talks with US Defence Secretary Ash Carter earlier this month, said Washington and concerned British lawmakers had nothing to worry about.

“The US understands what really matters in today's unstable world.

When the chips are down, the UK will always be at their side,” Fallon wrote in the *Daily Telegraph*. “Our American friends know that the UK is not about to let down its guard.”

Fallon said Britain's finances were on a firm foundation, that it was investing in its military and had the biggest defence budget in the EU, and that it was putting its capabilities to work in places like Iraq.

The United States knew it could rely on Britain, he said, saying that when Carter greeted him in Washington earlier this month he told him: “Thank God we're in this together.”—Reuters

## US will not take floor at UN rights debate on Israel, Palestinians

GENEVA, 23 March — The United States will not take the floor at the main UN human rights forum on Monday during the annual debate on violations committed in the Palestinian territories, a US spokesman told *Reuters*.

The step, which is unprecedented at the 47-member state forum where Washington unflinchingly defends Israel, follows signals that the Obama administration is undertaking a “reassessment” of relations with the Jewish state.

“The US delegation will not be speaking about Palestine today,” a US spokesman in Geneva told *Reuters* in response to a query as the debate began. He declined further comment.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's al-



US President Barack Obama (L) listens as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu delivers a statement to the media from the Colonnade outside the Oval Office of the White House in Washington on 1 Sept, 2010.—REUTERS

lies acknowledged on Sunday that his election-eve disavowal of a Palestini-

an state had caused a rift with the White House, but blamed US President Ba-

rack Obama's unprecedented criticism on a misunderstanding.—Reuters

## Russia threatens to aim nuclear missiles at Denmark ships if it joins NATO shield

COPENHAGEN, 23 March — Russia threatened to aim nuclear missiles at Danish warships if Denmark joins NATO's missile defence system, in comments Copenhagen called unacceptable and NATO said would not contribute to peace.

Denmark said in August it would contribute radar capacity on some of its warships to the missile shield, which the Western alliance says is designed to protect members from missile launches from countries like Iran. Moscow opposes the system, arguing that it

could reduce the effectiveness of its own nuclear arsenal, leading to a new Cold War-style arms race.

In an interview in the newspaper *Jyllands-Posten*, the Russian ambassador to Denmark, Mikhail Vanin, said he did not think Danes fully understood the consequences of joining the programme.

“If that happens, Danish warships will be targets for Russian nuclear missiles,” Vanin told the newspaper.

Asked to respond, NATO spokeswoman Oana

Lungescu said Denmark was a staunch member of the alliance and NATO would defend all allies against any threat.

“We have made clear that NATO's ballistic missile defence is not directed at Russia or any country, but is meant to defend against missile threats. This decision was taken a long time ago, so we are surprised at the timing, tone and content of the statements made by Russia's ambassador to Denmark,” she said. “Such statements do not inspire confidence or contribute to predictability,

peace or stability,” she added.

Tensions between Moscow and the West have grown since the imposition of economic sanctions on Russia over a pro-Russian rebellion in eastern Ukraine. NATO has recorded increased activity by the Russian navy and air force in the Nordic region.

No missiles are to be placed on Danish soil under the NATO programme, but they could be deployed some day in Greenland, a part of the kingdom, according to *Jyllands-Posten*.

“Denmark will become a part of the threat against Russia. It will be less peaceful, and relations with Russia will be damaged,” Vanin said, adding that Russia has missiles which would be able to penetrate the future missile shield.

Denmark's foreign minister Martin Lidegaard said Vanin's comments were unacceptable.

“Russia knows very well that NATO's missile defence is not aimed at them,” Lidegaard told *Jyllands-Posten*.

NATO's top military

commander, US Air Force General Philip Breedlove, told a Brussels conference on Sunday that the comments from the Russian ambassador were the “next step” in a campaign against countries that joined the shield.

“Romania came under great pressure when they became a part of the (missile shield). Poland is coming under great pressure and now anyone else who wants to join in to this defensive capability will come under this diplomatic and political pressure,” Breedlove said.

Reuters

## PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 24 March, 2015

**It is difficult to change mindset overnight**

By Myint Win Thein

**P**hysical conditions have a great influence on thoughts of people. For example, people demand more wages when they have to work for others, but when the same people become employers, they try to get more profits by paying their

workers lower wages. This is because of their new physical conditions of being employers and their thoughts have changed completely. It is sure that they will continue to demand if they are still working for their employers.

Therefore, it can sometimes be very difficult for people to change their mindsets as long as the physical conditions around have not changed yet. Unless the physical conditions change, they will continue to behave in the same way as they have done for years. It is also the case with some countries struggling to change from an old system to a new one. Some bad practices of the old still persist for some time however much the international community help them.

It is common in the international relations that some developed countries pour in their support when an underdeveloped country tries to change to

a new system. However, their support proved vain as long as the physical conditions of the country have not changed. In such countries, conferences, forums and workshops on the best practices of the developed countries failed to produce the desired results.

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## Human population on this Earth is infected with TB! Innovations are indicated to Mycobacterium infection

*Dr. Aung Soe @ Aung Kyaw Moe  
Retired State Medical Superintendent*

**M**yanmar is one of the world's 22 high-TB-burden countries. So also is one of the 27 high-Multi-Drug-Resistant-TB (MRD-TB) – burden – countries. TB prevalence rate in Myanmar is 3 times higher than global average and one of the highest TB prevalent countries in Asia. Annual Risk of Infection (ARI) was 1.5 percent in 2009. An estimated 9000 cases of multi drug TB occur each year. Extensively drug resistant TB (XDR-TB) has been reported since 2007. Nearly 20,000 new cases of TB/HIV co-existence is recorded, the source says. TB is one of the top three priority diseases in the National Health Plan, Myanmar.

As TB Control in Myanmar, National Tuberculosis Program (NTP), is implementing a National Strategic Plan for TB control 2011-2015 and in line with WHO's Stop TB Strategy. Such noble objectives as to reduce ill health and deaths due to TB and to erase TB from a public health problem, to prevent drug resistance TB, to promote sputum tests, to sustain the implementation of Directly Observed Treatment Short-course therapy (DOTS) and so forth are included.

NTP has been established since 1966 and running with 14 Regional and State TB Centers with 101 TB teams at district and township levels in 2009. NTP implemented DOTS strategy for the treatment of

TB since 1997 and 100% DOTS coverage has been achieved since 2003, according to Annual Report 2011 of NTP. NTP is usually doing passive case findings in all DOTS townships and also started active case finding activities using mobile teams based in Yangon and Mandalay. Diagnosis is mainly done by sputum smear microscopy. Case finding activities are strengthened by radiological examination. Culture and Drug Susceptibility Testing (DST) are carried out at National TB Reference Laboratory (Aung San) and Upper Myanmar TB laboratory (Mandalay). Line probe assay, liquid culture and DST using Mycobacterial Growth Indicator (MIGIT) were introduced in both TB laboratories in 2010.

Around the world steps to stop tuberculosis (TB) are having an impact. Today, the epidemic is continuing its decline. But the rate of decline is far too slow, and TB still takes a life every 20 seconds. Millions of people are benefiting from treatment through coordinated national efforts, but millions more are still missing out. Unless we accelerate action, the numbers of those falling ill will continue to expand.

Together, we need to help prevent infection, find all people who are ill far earlier and provide treatment for all. WHO has a Stop TB Strategy that can do this and a Global Plan to Stop TB that sets the course,

but some efforts are falling short.

We must redouble our efforts to fight multidrug-resistance (MDR-TB) and extensively drug-resistant (XDR-TB) forms of TB. We must also continue to fight the TB/HIV co-existence.

The commitment of governments, multilateral organizations, non-governmental organizations, foundations and members of the corporate, academic and research communities working to halt and reverse the spread of the disease should be welcomed and encouraged and stay on track to achieve the goal.

We must protect investments in global health, particularly to protect investments in global health, particularly to protect the most vulnerable. Global cooperation in fighting tuberculosis, and all other challenges must be essential to our future task.

Looking forward, we need to build and expand our partnerships to deliver the solutions we know work today.

To save lives, enable the communities to thrive, and prevent spread of deadly Tuberculosis, health personnel, for sure, need innovations. Wide-spread scientific researches all over the world, decision making findings, exchange and collaborations among global partners, intergovernmental and institutional cooperation are the means to promote global health problems, including Tuberculosis control, indeed.

Department of Medical Research (Lower Myanmar),

of course, is the key department responsible for undertaking health researches in collaboration with programme managers. Bio medical TB Research is mainly directed towards the areas which help is the case-detection, rapid and improved diagnostic methods for TB and MDR-TB, rates and patterns of anti-TB drug resistance, prompt and effective treatment and understanding of molecular epidemiology. Molecular methods help diagnosing conventionally those difficult to diagnose patients who transmit infection to the community. So also, molecular methods help early detection of TB-HIV co-infections and extra-pulmonary TB. (Extra-pulmonary means TB occurring in organs of the body other than lungs, such as, brain-coverings, lymph glands, abdominal organs, reproductive organs, urinary system, including kidney, bladder

etc). Amplification techniques such as Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) also plays an important role of rapid diagnosis. PCT diagnose TB in-negative HIV/TB cases and inconclusive chest X-rays. Accuracy of Loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP), diagnostic method was discussed during Myanmar Health Research Congress 2012. Histopathological examination (HPE) was considered as a gold standard. LAMP diagnosed 57 (79%) tuberculous lymph adenitis (enlargement of nodes at arm-pit, neck, abdomen, groins etc) due to inflammation, as a natural defence-mechanism to block the spread of infection and 15 (21%) non tuberculous lymphadenitis cases.

Moreover, DNA-based innovated methods are needed for epidemiological purposes, it is learnt. Outbreak of investigations, epidemiological links, labora-

tory cross contaminations, distinction between pre-infection and reactivation, analysis of transmission between sub populations etc involve Molecular Strain Typing of M. tuberculosis by DNA banding based method.

Collaboration with USA, Australia, UK and other EU nations, Japan, Republic of Korea and other eastern countries, ASEAN co-members is beneficial for DMR, NTP, Universities of Medicine and others domestic institutes and organizations. Modest KOICA – assisted infectious diseases scrutinizing laboratory research building in DMR-LM premises is one of the symbolic evidence of Myanmar-Republic of Korea collaboration.

In controlling tuberculosis, media inclusion is crucial, I believe. Health education is simple digestive domestic languages in one of the cornerstones to get rid of TB from the list of public health problems. Community participation, of course, is necessary, as World TB Day falls on 24 March.



*Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw being welcomed by Pakistani ambassador Mr Ehsan Ullah Batth at reception to mark Pakistan Day of Islamic Republic of Pakistan at Chatrium Hotel in Yangon on 23 March.—MNA*



LOCAL NEWS

## Meiktila General Hospital to admit more patients at new buildings

MEIKTILA, 23 March —The Ministry of Health provided K300 million to Meiktila General Hospital in the 2013-14 fiscal year for health care services to local residents with medicines free of charge.

At present, the hospital admits about 200 patients from Meiktila, Pyawbwe, Wundwin, Thazi, Kyauk-

padaung, Mahlaing and Taungtha townships daily.

The Ministry of Health spent K300 million on installing a two two-storey patient wards and an operating theatre.

At present, three new buildings, each with 200 beds, are ready to admit patients.

GNLM-018

*Shadaw Village in Tatkon Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area gets a library building on 22 March. In conjunction with the opening ceremony of the library worth K1.4 million, wellwisher U Kyaw Hlaing-Daw Yu and family donated books and publications worth K100,000 to the library through officials.*

TIN SOE LWIN  
(TATKON IPRD)



## Kachin State to get parliament building next year

MYITKYINA, 23 March — Construction of a parliament building for Kachin State started on 10 October 2014 beside Myitkyina-Myithsone road in Mankhein Ward, Myitkyina.

Civil engineers said that it will take at least two years for the construction of the 281-square-foot one-storey building.

The government allotted K219.87 million to Manaw Ayeya and Bamah-ti construction companies for the project in the 2014-15 fiscal year.

While the government has formed new assemblies for regions and states, Kachin State's Hluttaw meetings are being convened at the office of state government.—GNLM-001



## Vocational courses help local women find employment

MYAWADY, 23 March — Courses on domestic science and advanced tailoring at the Women's Vocational Training School in Myawady, Kayin State, concluded on 20 March.

The school has helped hundreds of local women find jobs by providing knowledge through training courses and helping them establish their own businesses, district deputy commissioner U Lwin Ko Oo said.

Officials presented



awards to outstanding trainees and viewed their graduation works. An official of the Labour Department presented labour registration cards to the trainees.

Htein Lin Aung (IPRD)

## Election sub-commissions to release voter lists on 15 June

MYAUNGMYA, 23 March — In preparation for the 2015 general elections, Myaungmya and Labutta district election sub-commissions recently opened the basic voter list compilation course at the hall of Myaungmya District General Administration Department in Ayeyawady Region.

Chairman of Region Election Sub-commission U Aung Myint gave an opening address on techniques for listing voters.

U July Ko Ko of the International Foundation Electoral System (IFES) explained the process of compiling voter lists across the nation. A total of 23 trainees from Myaungmya District and 13 from Labutta District took courses on 18 and 19 March. According to the regional election sub-commission, voter lists must be compiled at the end of May 2015 and released on 15 June.—Aung Min (IPRD)

## World TB Day talks outline role of designated free clinics

NAY PYI TAW, 23 March—To commemorate World Tuberculosis Day, Dr Nang Kyawt Khaing of Pobbathiri Township Hospital gave lectures Monday on control of the disease across the world to local residents at the hall in Yanaung Village.

Nurse Grade-I Daw Saw Myint of the Township Health Department explained TB infection and symptoms, as well as health care services of designated clinics with medicines are provided free of charge.

At the talks, they emphasized the WHO-endorsed therapy known as directly-observed treatment, short course, or DOTS.

The talks was attended by Health Assistant-1 Daw Nang Shwe Htay, health staff and local residents.

Shwe Ye Yint



## Syrian insurgents 'mimicking ruthlessness' of army: rights group



Free Syrian Army fighters fire shells towards forces loyal to Syria's President Bashar Al-Assad in Bosra Al-Sham, Daraa province on 21 March, 2015. —REUTERS

BEIRUT, 23 March — Insurgent groups in Syria have carried out scores of indiscriminate attacks that have killed and maimed civilians in violation of

the laws of war, a Human Rights Watch report said on Monday.

The report said armed groups could not point to abuses by government

forces and allied militias to justify their own violence, which it said had often targeted areas with a high concentration of religious minorities.

"We've seen a race to the bottom in Syria, with rebel groups mimicking the ruthlessness of government forces with devastating consequences for civilians," said Nadim Houry, HRW's deputy Middle East director.

The Syrian crisis started in March 2011 with Arab Spring-inspired protests against President Bashar al-Assad. The uprising turned into armed conflict as the security forces cracked down on protesters.

Four years on, more than 200,000 people have been killed in a civil war pitting the army and allied militias against a range of insurgent groups, including hardline jihadists such as Islamic State and mainstream rebels.

The report covered attacks between January 2012 to April 2014 in and

around Damascus and Homs. Some attacks were claimed by groups such as al-Qaeda's Syria wing Nusra Front and the ultra-hardline Islamic State, HRW said.

However, members of the "Free Syrian Army" and other rebel groups also appear to have carried out deliberate, deadly attacks on civilian areas, the HRW report found.

Free Syrian Army is a name adopted by a plethora of mainstream rebel groups that often operate independently of each other. Some of these groups have received support from Assad's Western and Arab foes. The research was based on victim and witness accounts, on-site investigations, videos and information on social media. It described attacks using car bombs, mortars and rockets.

The report documented 17 car bombings and other explosions in the Damascus countryside, central Damascus and various locations in Homs.

Many of the areas targeted have a large population of religious minorities including Christians, Alawites, Shi'ites and Druze which are seen by Sunni Muslim insurgents as supportive of the government, the report said.

Assad is an Alawite and his allies include the Shi'ite Islamist government in Iran.

The report urged the United Nations Security Council to refer the situation in Syria to the International Criminal Court and impose an arms embargo on forces implicated in widespread or systematic abuses, whichever side they were fighting on.

Reuters

## Houthis seize strategic Yemeni city, escalating power struggle

ADEN, 23 March — Houthi fighters opposed to Yemen's president took over the central city of Taiz in an escalation of a power struggle diplomats say risks drawing in neighbouring oil giant Saudi Arabia and its main regional rival Iran.

Abdel-Malek al-Houthi, head of the powerful Shi'ite Muslim group, vowed to pursue Sunni militants behind suicide attacks on Houthi supporters and said the poor Arabian peninsula country was in danger of descending into Libya-style turmoil. In a live televised speech, Houthi said his decision to mobilise fighters amid accelerating violence in recent days was aimed at Islamic State, which claimed responsibility for bombings that killed more than 130 in the capital, Sanaa, on Friday, and al-Qaeda. Conflict has been spreading across Yemen since last year when the Houthis seized Sanaa and effectively removed President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi, who now seeks a comeback from his base in Aden.

Residents of Taiz, on a main road from Sanaa to the country's second city, Aden, said Houthi militias took over the city's military airport without a struggle late on Saturday.

Witnesses in the central province of Ibb reported seeing dozens of tanks and military vehicles headed southward from Houthi-con-



Houthi fighters and pro-Houthi police troopers fire tear gas on anti-Houthi protesters demonstrating in Yemen's southwestern city of Taiz on 22 March, 2015. —REUTERS

trolled areas toward Taiz, while activists in the city said Houthi gunmen shot into the air to disperse protests by residents demonstrating against their presence.

The advance of the Iranian-backed group has angered Sunni Gulf Arab states led by Saudi Arabia.

The Houthi expansion into mostly Sunni areas in the centre and west has led to months of clashes with local tribes and al-Qaeda, raising fears of civil war. The UN mediator on Yemen said on Sunday that recent events "seem to be leading Yemen further away from a peaceful settlement and towards the edge of civil war." Saying it was illusory to think Houthi militia could take over all of Yemen or that Hadi could

assemble enough troops to take back the country, mediator Jamal Benomar told the Security Council: "Any side that would want to push the country in either direction would be inviting a protracted conflict in the vein of an Iraq-Libya-Syria combined scenario."

The Security Council condemned the takeover of much of Yemen and its institutions by the Houthis and warned of "further measures" if hostilities did not end. Iran called for dialogue, but suggested Hadi should leave to spare the country further bloodshed.

"The expectation is that President ... Hadi will resign rather than repeat mistakes, to play a constructive role in preventing the breakup of

Yemen and the transformation of Aden into a terrorist haven," said Iran's deputy foreign minister, Hossein Amir Abdollahian, according to state news agency IRNA. But Gulf Arab leaders and security officials said on Saturday Hadi was Yemen's legitimate ruler and they were ready to make "all efforts" to defend the country's security.

"Yemen is sliding into a dark tunnel, which would have serious consequences not only on Yemen but on security and stability in the region," the officials, who included Saudi Interior Minister Prince Mohammed bin Nayef, said. "The security of Yemen and of the GCC countries is an indivisible whole," it added.—Reuters

## One Tunisian soldier killed, two wounded in landmine blast

TUNIS, 23 March — One Tunisian soldier was killed and two wounded in a landmine blast late on Sunday in a central region bordering Algeria where security forces have been fighting Islamist militants, authorities said.

Tunisian forces are on high alert after gunmen stormed the Bardo museum in Tunis last week, killing 20 foreign tourists in the worst attack in the North African country in more than a decade.

The army has also been trying to hunt down a small group of al-Qaeda-linked fighters who use the Chaambi mountains near Algeria as a base

for attacks.

"One soldier has been killed and two others lightly wounded by a landmine set by terrorists near the Algerian border in Kef province," army spokesman Bel Hassen Ouslati said.

Tunisia has emerged as a model of democratic transition four years after the revolt that ousted Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali.

But its armed forces have clashed with militants in remote areas near Algeria's border and authorities estimate thousands of Tunisians have travelled to fight alongside Islamists in neighbouring Libya and in Syria.

Reuters

## Bodies of three Japanese slain in Tunisia to return to Japan on Tuesday

TOKYO, 23 March — The bodies of three Japanese tourists who were killed in the terrorist attack in Tunisia last week are scheduled to return to Japan by air late Tuesday afternoon, a source close to the matter said on Monday.

The planned return of the victims' bodies on a commercial jet to Narita airport near Tokyo may be delayed if an ongoing arrangement with the Tunisian government encounters

a problem, according to the source.

The victims are Machiyo Narusawa, a 66-year-old resident of Tokyo's Arakawa Ward, Chiemi Miyazaki, a 49-year-old resident of Sayama, Saitama Prefecture, and her daughter Haruka, 22.

Three other Japanese were hurt in the shooting rampage on a museum in Tunis last Wednesday that killed 21 people and left more than 40 others injured.—Kyodo News

## BUSINESS &amp; HEALTH

## Vietnam reports outbreak of avian H1N1 flu among human

HANOI, 23 March — Vietnam has diagnosed the first outbreak of avian H1N1 flu on humans in 2015, said Vietnam's Ministry of Health's General Department of Preventive Medicine (GDPM) in the capital Hanoi on Monday.

On 14 to 21 March, a total of 33 victims, who mostly are students at a primary school in Central Highlands Lam Dong province, some 1,050 km south of Hanoi, were reported with symptoms of fever, coughing, and running nose, stated the GDPM.

Samples of these victims have been tested to

give positive results with avian H1N1 flu, which caused an epidemic in Vietnam in 2009, Vietnam's state-run television VTV quoted a report by the GDPM as saying on Monday.

The 33 above-mentioned cases are temporarily dismissed from school for isolation and medical treatment.

The GDPM representative advised local authorities to cooperate with the healthcare sector for early detection of new H1N1 flu case, so that they will be isolated, diagnosed and treated promptly.

Xinhua

## Oil prices drop after Saudi Arabia says it will not cut output alone

SINGAPORE, 23 March — Oil prices dropped almost a percentage point on Monday after Saudi Arabia said over the weekend that the market defined prices and the kingdom would not unilaterally cut its output to defend prices.

Since oil prices started to fall in June 2014, many analysts have expected OPEC's biggest producer to eventually curb its output as it has done many times in the past to support prices.

Yet Riyadh has so far opted to keep its output stable to protect market share against non-OPEC producers such as the United States — where production has soared as a result of the

shale exploration boom — and Russia.

Benchmark Brent crude oil futures was trading at \$54.82 a barrel at 5:48 am, down 50 cents from their last settlement. US WTI crude was down 64 cents at \$45.93 (31 pounds) a barrel.

"We repeat that, as for prices, the market determines it," Saudi oil minister Ali al-Naimi said on Sunday, adding that Saudi Arabia would only consider output cuts in cooperation with non-OPEC producers.

"We tried, we held meetings and we did not succeed because countries (outside OPEC) were insisting that OPEC carry



A customer prepares to fill up his tank in a gasoline station in Nice on 5 Dec, 2014.—REUTERS

the burden (of cuts) and we refuse that OPEC bears the responsibility," Naimi said.

With OPEC output making up about 30 percent of world supply and

70 percent coming from elsewhere, "everybody is supposed to participate if we want to improve prices," he said.

Reuters

## Slow Ebola response cost thousands of lives: MSF

DAKAR, 23 March — The slow international response to the West Africa Ebola outbreak created an avoidable tragedy that cost thousands of lives, a leading medical charity said on the one year anniversary of the first confirmed case.

The world's worst Ebola epidemic has killed over 10,200 people in the three most affected countries of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone since March 2014 when it was first confirmed in the forest region of Guinea.

Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF), which first raised the alarm over Ebola, said in a report that everyone from national governments to the World Health Organization (WHO) had created bottlenecks that prevented the epidemic being quickly snuffed out.

"The Ebola outbreak has often been described as a perfect storm: a cross-border epidemic in countries with weak public health systems that had never seen Ebola before," Christopher Stokes, MSF's general director, said in the report.

"Yet this is too convenient an explanation. For the Ebola outbreak to spiral this far out of control required many institutions to fail. And they did, with tragic and avoidable consequences."

In a scathing report

titled "Pushed to the limit and beyond", MSF said its warnings in June that the epidemic was out of control and that it could not respond on its own were dismissed as alarmist.

Guinea and Sierra Leone downplayed the epidemic and accused MSF of spreading fear and panic.

In June, the Sierra Leone government told the WHO to report only lab-confirmed deaths — falsely reducing the death toll, the report said.

Kenema hospital in the southeast, where some of the first cases were reported in Sierra Leone, also withheld crucial epidemiological data preventing MSF from identifying affected villages and responding, the report said.

"The Ministry of Health and the partners of Kenema hospital refused to share data or lists of contacts with us, so we were working in the dark while cases kept coming in," MSF's emergency coordinator in Sierra Leone, Anja Wolz, said in the report.

Liberia was transparent and asked for help almost on a daily basis. MSF, which reported this to the WHO in June, said the outbreak could have been halted if immediate action was taken, but these warnings were again ignored.



Medical staff working with Medecins sans Frontieres (MSF) prepare to bring food to patients kept in an isolation area at the MSF Ebola treatment centre in Kailahun on 20 July, 2014.—REUTERS

When MSF first declared there was an unprecedented Ebola outbreak at the end of March, the WHO rejected the assessment. It finally declared a public health emergency on 8 August, prompting a belated international response.

MSF branded the response a "global coalition for inaction" and said by the end of August, it had to turn away patients in Liberia leaving many to die in their homes or on the streets.

"We had to make horrendous decisions about who we could let into the center," said MSF coordinator Rosa Crestani, who worked at the organization's Ebola center in Monrovia, which could only be opened for 30 minutes a day because of the demand for beds.

"We could only offer

very basic palliative care and there were so many patients and so few staff that the staff had on average only one minute per patient. It was an indescribable horror."

The number of Ebola cases dropped dramatically over the new year in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea.

The presidents of all three countries announced a target to reach zero Ebola by mid-April.

However, Guinea recently reported a doubling of cases in a month, Sierra Leone has a whole neighbourhood under quarantine and Liberia announced on Friday its first new case 16 days after its last Ebola patient was released.

The Ebola outbreak is not over until there are zero cases in the region for 42 days.—Reuters

## Nikkei rises to 15-yr high in morning after Wall St gains

TOKYO, 23 March — The Nikkei index rose to a 15-year high Monday morning as investors grew more open to taking risks after shares on Wall Street gained firmly before the weekend.

The 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average rose 209.49 points, or 1.07 percent, from Friday to 19,769.71. It briefly climbed to 19,775.68, the highest intraday level since April 2000.

The broader Topix index of all First Section issues on the Tokyo Stock Exchange was up 13.23 points, or 0.84 percent, to 1,593.74.

The market opened higher on the back of the strong performance of US stocks on Friday, with the Nasdaq index rising for the fifth straight day to the highest level in 15 years.

Analysts said investors continued to be confident that Japanese stocks will continue their bull run, as businesses look set to post strong earnings for the fiscal year through 31 March.

"There are deep-seated expectations that Japanese stocks are headed higher," said Toshikazu Horiuchi, an equity strategist at IwaiCosmo Securities Co.

Speculation of buying by Japanese pension

funds continued to prop up sentiment, with three institutions announcing on Friday they will follow the bigger 137 trillion yen (\$1.1 trillion) Government Pension Investment Fund in shifting more of their investments into stocks from government bonds.

On the First Section, advancing issues outnumbered declining ones 1,213 to 520, while 141 ended the morning unchanged.

Mining issues were among the biggest gainers, with oil explorer Inpex gaining 30.00 yen, or 2.3 percent, to 1,340.50 yen on recovering crude oil prices.

Other major gainers included pharmaceuticals and transportation equipment.

Screen Holdings rose 49 yen, or 5.4 percent, to 955 yen after the precision machinery maker on Friday raised its dividend forecast for the fiscal year and set a target for investor returns for the next business year. TDK gained 140 yen, or 1.6 percent, to 9,130 yen amid media reports that the electronic parts maker aims to increase profitability and return to shareholders under its new three-year business strategy.

Kyodo News

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV TB-30 VOY NO (01-2015)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TB-30 VOY NO (01-2015) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.3.2015 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.

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**The Republic of the Union of Myanmar  
Ministry of Energy**

**Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise**

**Title: Request for Letter of Expression of Interest (LOEI) for Joint Venture Project of No.3 Fertilizer Factory (Kyawzwa)**

1. The Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Ministry of Energy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar hereby announced an invitation to the experienced local and foreign companies in urea production, storage, distribution and marketing to submit the Letter of Expression of Interest (LOEI) for Joint Venture Project of No.3 Fertilizer Factory (Kyawzwa), Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise (MPE).

2. The required data for LOEI submission and information related to No.3 Fertilizer Factory are available in the Ministry of Energy website (<http://www.energy.gov.mm/index.php/en/information/announcement>) and ([www.facebook.com/MinistryOfEnergy.Myanmar](http://www.facebook.com/MinistryOfEnergy.Myanmar)) as well as the following address in person during the office hours.

Director (Planning) Fax: - 067 411124

Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise

Email: [MPEHO@mptmail.net.mm](mailto:MPEHO@mptmail.net.mm)

Building No 44, Nay Pyi Taw

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

3. LOEI shall be submitted to following address in person not later than 12:00 noon at the date of 4.5.2015.

Managing Director

Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise

Building No 44, Nay Pyi Taw

4. No submission of LOEI can be allowed by fax or email or express.

5. Only the qualified LOEI proposals will be invited to conduct the tender process.

## THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE ( INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER ) (5/2015)

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

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB-171(14-15)	Spares for Doosan Natural Gas Engine Ex Daewoo Gen ; Set (53) Items	US\$
(2)	IFB-172(14-15)	Metering System Up Grade at Kanbauk (GRS)	US\$
(3)	IFB-173(14-15)	24" Pipe Line System Up Grade at PLC (Daw Nyein)	US\$
(4)	IFB-174(14-15)	4" Dia Steel Line Pipe (5000)M	US\$
(3)	IFB-175(14-15)	4" Dia Steel Line Pipe (9000) M (3 LPE Coated)	US\$

Tender Closing Date & Time - 27-4-2015, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 24<sup>th</sup> March, 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

## Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 27<sup>th</sup> March (Friday) "Armed Forces Day" and April 1<sup>st</sup> (Wednesday) "Bank Holiday Day" 2015 being public holidays under the Negotiable Instrument Act.

## Cherry trees come into bloom in Tokyo, two days earlier than last year



*Photo shows cherry blossoms at Yasukuni Shrine in Tokyo on 23 March, 2015.*

*Cherry trees have come into bloom in the Japanese capital, two days earlier than last year and three days sooner than usual, the Japan Meteorological Agency said the same day.*

**KYODO NEWS**

TOKYO, 23 March — Cherry trees have come into bloom in Tokyo, the Japan Meteorological Agency said on Monday, two days earlier than last year and three days earlier than usual.

The blooming of "someiyoshino" variety was confirmed at around 11 am at Yasukuni Shrine, central Tokyo, in fine weather, the agency said. The cherry trees are expected to be in full bloom in seven to 10 days.

The agency observed this year's first blooming on Saturday in Kagoshima Prefecture, southwestern Japan, and the flowering has been moving up the Japanese archipelago with the coming of spring.

*Kyodo News*

## Sri Lankan president gives back land to Northern Tamils

COLOMBO, 23 March — President Maithripala Sirisena on Monday handed back land held by the military to its rightful owners in north Sri Lanka. The president assured Tamils in the minority Tamil dominated North that the land issue will be resolved and the land used as High Security Zones will be returned. During a 30-year civil war, large swathes of land in the North and East of Sri Lanka had been taken over from the public for security reasons. The Tamil rebels were defeated in May

2009 and some public property had been returned while more remained under military control. Sirisena visited the Northern Jaffna town on Monday and distributed title deeds of lands in the former High Security Zones being returned to the original owners. As the first step, 425 acres of land were handed over to the rightful owners.

The president said that every measure will be taken to resolve issues faced by people irrespective of their race or religion.

He said the government

is committed to building peace and reconciliation among Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim communities while eradicating the mistrust, fear and suspicion among communities. "The government has been given high priority to resolve land issues of the people in the North and East," Sirisena said.

The president said the government is also now implementing a program to rebuild the religious places in the eastern and northern provinces devastated by war.

*Xinhua*

## Japanese tourist missing in South Australia

SYDNEY, 23 March — Police in the state of South Australia on Monday said a 52-year-old Japanese male tourist has gone missing on the state's far west coast.

The police said in a statement that they have completed a search of the area which began on Sat-

urday night after campers found personal effects strewn near the edge of a cliff on the Great Australian Bight. However, inquiries are continuing and police are seeking information from the public. The police believe the items belong to the tourist, who may have been

cycling in the area, the statement said, adding that the last confirmed sighting of the man was on 11 March at the coastal town of Ceduna. The Japanese Consulate in Melbourne which has jurisdiction over the area has not disclosed the man's name or other details.—*Kyodo News*

## Hiroshima, Nagasaki urge gov't to back paper on nuclear weapons ban

TOKYO, 23 March — The mayors of the two Japanese cities that suffered US atomic bombings in 1945 on Monday urged the central government to support an Austrian document circulated among UN members that calls for a ban on nuclear weapons.

"We want the government to assent to Austria's document," Nagasaki Mayor Tomihisa Taue and Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui told Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida in Tokyo, saying doing so would help a UN conference to review the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty starting late April make progress.

With Japan the only country to have suffered atomic bombings, the government agrees on the need to work toward a world free of nuclear weapons.

However, it has opposed an outright ban because it sees it as incompatible with its policy of relying on the nuclear deterrence provided by the United States for its protection against potential attacks.

The two mayors told Kishida at the outset of the meeting that they do not believe the idea of banning nuclear weapons contradicts the government's stance that it is "encouraging various efforts" and "negotiations" towards that end.

The foreign minister only told them that he intends to "display leadership" in the nuclear non-proliferation area.

In the paper, Austria calls on all NPT members to "identify and pursue effective measures to fill the legal gap for the pro-



*Nagasaki Mayor Tomihisa Taue (R) and Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui (C) hand a petition to Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida at the ministry in Tokyo on 23 March, 2015. The mayors of the two Japanese cities devastated by US atomic bombings in 1945 urged the central government to support an Austrian document circulated among UN members that calls for a ban on nuclear weapons.—KYODO NEWS*

hibition and elimination of nuclear weapons," citing the "unacceptable humanitarian consequences and associated risks" of nuclear weapons. Vienna unveiled

its "Austrian Pledge" document in December at an international conference on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons. In mid-January, it asked UN members to express their support for the paper.

After the meeting, Taue told reporters that Japan's sheltering under the nuclear umbrella serves as a "constraint in some sense" when Japan seeks to display leadership in nuclear issues.

"But I want Japan to transcend such discussions...and take a new step toward a nuclear-free world," Taue said.

Sources close to the matter have said Japan plans not to support the document and that the United States, its security ally, is urging it not to.

*Kyodo News*

**ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL**

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV GSS YANGON VOY NO (1030W)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GSS YANGON VOY NO (1030W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.3.2015 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  
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AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING LINES**  
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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (401N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (401N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.3.2015 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 EVERGREEN SHIPPING LINE**  
Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (RSU-437)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (RSU-437) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.3.2015 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES**  
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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV TAUNG GYI STAR VOY NO (1006N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TAUNG GYI STAR VOY NO (1006N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.3.2015 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 CONTINENTAL SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD**  
Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV KARIN RAMBOW VOY NO (1505)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KARIN RAMBOW VOY NO (1505) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.3.2015 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 MCC TRANSPORT**  
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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV BAO FLOURISH VOY NO (1501)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BAO FLOURISH VOY NO (1501) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.3.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S BRIGHT SAIL SHIPPING LTD.**  
Phone No: 2301186

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV KEN YU VOY NO ( )**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KEN YU VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.3.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L 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 F.H BERTLING CHARTERING & SHIP MANAGEMENT**  
Phone No: 2301186

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV JIN QIANG VOY NO (130)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV JIN QIANG VOY NO (130) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.3.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S BRIGHT SAIL SHIPPING LTD.**  
Phone No: 2301186

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV JIN HAI XIN VOY NO (001)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV JIN HAI XIN VOY NO (001) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.3.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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**HK court hands down life sentence to man who dismembered parents**

HONG KONG, 23 March — The Hong Kong High Court sentenced a 31-year-old man convicted of killing his parents and dismembering their bodies to life imprisonment on Monday.

Henry Chau was given two life sentences, one for killing his father Chau Wing-ki, 65, and the other for killing his mother

Siu Yuet-ye, 63, and a 56-month prison term for preventing the lawful burial of a deceased person.

According to court testimony, Chau lured his parents to an empty residential flat in March 2013, killed them and dismembered their bodies.

Prosecutors gave a gruesome account of the murder case that at one

point in the trial prompted the discharge of two jurors on grounds of psychological distress.

Chau allegedly salt-seasoned and cooked body parts with a microwave oven, stored them in two refrigerators and lunch boxes and discarded some of the body parts at sea.

Chau then reported his parents' disappearance to

police. While being questioned by officers, he told his friends on social media that he had killed his parents.

He testified that he had wanted to commit suicide for failing to fulfill his parents' expectations of him but changed his mind after a friend convinced him to kill them instead.

Prosecutors accused

Chau and his friend, Tse Chun-kei, 38, of acting together in the murder and dismemberment of the two.

Tse was acquitted of the murder charge but sentenced to 12 months in prison for mishandling the bodies. He was released following the conviction handed down Friday as he has already served time in remand.—Kyodo News



## Tom Hanks, Mila Kunis to be first guests on James Corden's show

LOS ANGELES, 23 March — James Corden will launch his late-night talk show “The Late Late Show” with Hollywood stars Tom Hanks and Mila Kunis. The first broadcast of The Late Late Show, will air on Monday night on CBS. Chris Pine and Oscar winner Patricia Arquette will hit the couch on the following night with musical guest Modest Mouse.

Hanks was among the handful of guests announced last month, along with Kerry Washington.

New additions to the lineup include David Beckham, Simon Cowell, Rob Corddry, Courteney Cox, Jon Cryer, Claire Danes, Michael Douglas, Jeff Goldblum, Mark Harmon, Thomas Lennon, Katharine McPhee, Megan Mullally, Matthew Perry, Freida Pinto, Aubrey Plaza, Tig Notaro, and Gordon Ramsay.

*James Corden will launch his late-night talk show “The Late Late Show” with Hollywood stars Tom Hanks and Mila Kunis. The first broadcast of The Late Late Show, will air Monday night on CBS.—PTI*

PTI

## US rapper Kendrick Lamar scores UK album number one

LONDON, 23 March — US rapper Kendrick Lamar scored his first British number one album on Sunday when his “To Pimp A Butterfly” knocked Sam Smith’s “In the Lonely Hours” off the top spot in its first week of release, the Official Charts Company said on Sunday.

Lamar’s follow-up to his 2012 debut had already broken global records for music streaming service Spotify when it was streamed more than 9.6 million times on the service on Monday. British singer-songwriter Smith, however, retained his position at the top of the Official Singles Chart for a second week with his collaboration with John Legend, “Lay Me Down”, in aid of charity Comic Relief.



*Hip hop recording artist Kendrick Lamar poses backstage during the iHeartRadio Music Awards in Los Angeles, California on 1 May, 2014.—REUTERS*

charity Comic Relief.

Electronica trio Years & Years’ “King” held onto the number two spot, while “FourFiveSeconds” by Rihanna, Kanye West and Paul McCartney climbed two places to number three, and clinched the title of the week’s most streamed track, with 1.98 million streams, the Official Charts Company said.—Reuters



## I drank loads of water to lose weight: Khloe Kardashian

LOS ANGELES, 23 March — Reality TV star Khloe Kardashian has revealed she drinks five litres of water a day. Khloe, 30, said she lost weight after she

switched to good old-fashioned diet and exercise, reported *People* magazine.

“I had to train myself to drink more water. I drink like 5 litres of water a day. I work out almost every day. I go to a trainer five days a week, and on the weekends, I do cardio and what-

ever I want to do,” she said.

“I kind of eat what I want, but in portion control, which I never knew before. It’s really hard. You have to train your body to eat less. Your eyes are bigger than your stomach,” she added.

PTI



## Hard to predict film's success: Will Ferrell

LONDON, 23 March — ‘Get Hard’ star Will Ferrell feels it is hard to predict the success of his films. The 47-year-old actor said he had no sense of how well his projects would perform when released, reported *Digital Spy*.

“Sadly no. I have still no sense whatsoever. My barometer hasn’t gotten

any sharper. I think anyone who says they know right away, they’re lying. When you see the edited film, you just have to feel, ‘We made something that feels different, fresh and new and it has a strong point of view.’ It’s up to the gods at that point.

“You never know when a movie is going to

hit the zeitgeist for whatever reason, whether it’s release date, what’s out there at the same time, are people in the mood to see a comedy at a certain point? All those factors you really aren’t in control of. I don’t feel like my gauge is sharpened in any way,” he said.

PTI

## Fictional TV presidents more popular than Obama

WASHINGTON, 23 March — Whether it’s the earnest Josiah Bartlet from “The West Wing” or the manipulative Frank Underwood in “House of Cards,” Americans prefer television presidents to their real-life POTUS, President Barack “No Drama” Obama.

A Reuters-Ipsos poll taken this month found 54 percent of Americans held an unfavourable opinion of Obama, known for his cool and cautious presidential style, while 46 percent were favourable.

In contrast, asked to imagine that David Palmer of “24” was president, 89 percent of those who had seen the real-time Fox counterterrorism drama said they held a favourable rating of the decisive president played by Dennis Haysbert.

Martin Sheen’s Jed Bartlet of “The West Wing”

— beloved by Democrats, including many who work in Obama’s White House — was rated favourably by 82 percent of its NBC viewers.

In the dark universe of “Battlestar Galactica” on Syfy, president Laura Roslin, played by Mary McDonnell, drew a 78 percent favourable rating among fans of her quest to find earth and escape the Cylons, a race of humanoid killer robots.

With Americans sharply divided along partisan lines, it is unlikely that any real-life president could achieve sky-high favourability ratings, said Tevi Troy, a presidential historian and author of “What Jefferson Read, Ike Watched, and Obama Tweeted,” a study of popular culture in the White House.

“Pretty much half the



*Cast member Kevin Spacey, who plays the role of Frank Underwood on the television series “House of Cards”, poses at the premiere for the second season at the Directors Guild of America in Los Angeles, California, in this file photo taken on 13 Feb, 2014.*

REUTERS

country is going to be predisposed against you just because that’s the way we line up with Republicans and Democrats,” Troy said.

Unlike fictional presidents, with their camera-ready looks and perfect

timing, real-life presidents sometimes fumble.

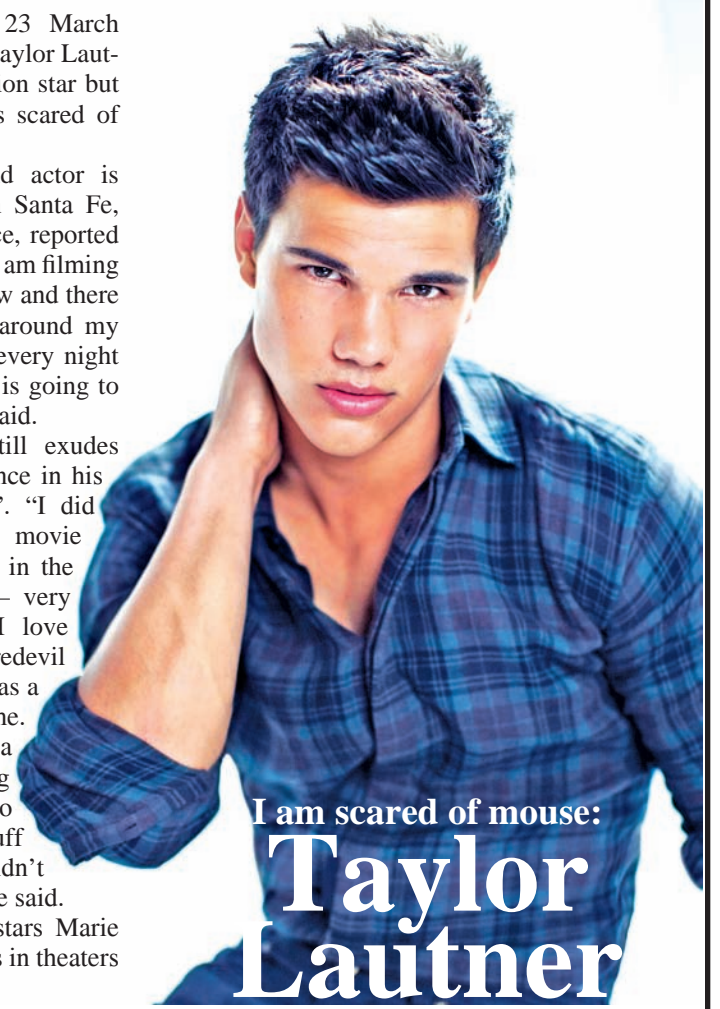
Republican Ronald Reagan, who was an actor before turning to politics and eventually becoming president, was an exception, Troy said.—Reuters

LOS ANGELES, 23 March — “Twilight” star Taylor Lautner might be an action star but the actor says he is scared of mouse.

The 23-year-old actor is currently filming in Santa Fe, which is full of mice, reported *People* magazine. “I am filming in Santa Fe right now and there are so many mice around my house. I go to bed every night afraid that a mouse is going to sleep with me,” he said.

But Lautner still exudes action hero confidence in his new film “Tracers”. “I did more stunts in this movie than I think I’ll do in the rest of my career — very dangerous stunts. I love it. I’m quite a daredevil in real life so this was a perfect movie for me. I definitely spent a lot of time arguing with the producers to allow me to do stuff that I probably shouldn’t have been doing,” he said.

The film also stars Marie Avgeropoulos and is in theaters now.—PTI



*I am scared of mouse: Taylor Lautner*

GENERAL

## Djokovic fells Federer to keep Indian Wells title

INDIAN WELLS, 23 March — World number one Novak Djokovic fought off a determined challenge from Swiss great Roger Federer on Sunday to claim back-to-back titles at Indian Wells and celebrate his 50<sup>th</sup> tournament win on the ATP Tour.

The Serb made hard work of his 6-3, 6-7(5), 6-2 victory in the BNP Paribas Open final, giving up the second set after serving three double-faults, but he recovered to clinch a fourth trophy at Indian Wells following victories in 2008, 2011 and 2014.

Djokovic joins Federer as the only other man to win the tournament four times.

Enjoying a fine season that started with a fifth Australian Open triumph, Djokovic thrashed semi-finalist Andy Murray, the man he beat at Melbourne Park, and showed the same ruthless efficiency in the opening set against Federer.

The Serb broke in the fifth game and with his powerful, deep returns caused constant problems for his opponent.

He dropped just four points on serve and after taking the opening set, it was hard to see how the 33-year-old Swiss could recover.

But Federer, trailing 4-3, lifted his game to break Djokovic, bringing the Californian crowd to their feet.

Djokovic served for the championship at 5-4 in the tiebreak but gave up two double-faults, allowing Federer to force a third set that had looked an unlikely prospect.

World number one Djokovic stole an early break and looked back in command at 2-0, but Federer rallied again to break back.

Ultimately it was double-faults from the Swiss that proved costly, allowing Djokovic to break again and then hold firm for victory.

"I thought overall it was a great match from my side, very solid, great intensity, great commitment to hit every ball," said Djokovic.

"Credit to Roger for fighting through. Showed again why he's a competitor and champion, somebody that never gives up. When



**Novak Djokovic (SRB) with the championship trophy after he defeated Roger Federer (SUI) 6-3, 6-7, 6-2 in the finals of the BNP Paribas Open at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden.—REUTERS**

we got to the third set obviously it was anybody's game."

Djokovic's win moved him above coach Boris Becker in terms of career ATP Tour wins and said the milestone had given him an extra push.

"It's a great milestone. I don't take anything for granted. I believe that I have to earn everything that I do.

"I always try to look

for additional motivation, because that's something that is necessary, especially if you're playing on the highest level."

Federer paid tribute to his opponent's staying power.

"Novak did well to obviously sustain the lead for most of the match," he said. "I think he found an extra gear in the end. It was tough."—Reuters

## Halep battles back to claim Indian Wells crown

INDIAN WELLS, 23 March — Simona Halep won the BNP Paribas title with a 2-6, 7-5, 6-4 victory over former world number one Jelena Jankovic in a pulsating final at Indian Wells on Sunday.

Serbian Jankovic was serving for the title at 5-4 in the second set but world number three Halep won the next three games and battled back for the biggest title of her career.

"I don't know how I won today because I didn't play my best," Halep said. "I didn't play good tennis, but I just wanted to fight till the end.

"I just had the confidence that I have my chance here in this tournament, and I just did everything to get it. I got it, and I'm really happy."

The tense encounter had both players making plenty of mistakes but 23-year-old Halep displayed determination to secure her third title of the year following Shenzhen and Dubai.

The 30-year-old Jankovic, who had a testy exchange with her coach, showed clear signs of nerves when she had the title within

**Simona Halep (ROM) holds the championship trophy after she defeated Jelena Jankovic (SRB) in the finals of the BNP Paribas Open at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden, Indian Wells, CA, USA on 22 March, 2015.—REUTERS**



her grasp in the second set and tired badly in the third.

Halep had a bye before the final after world number one Serena Williams withdrew from their semi-final with injury but the Romanian initially struggled.

Jankovic, who won at Indian Wells in 2010, dominated the first set, playing with freedom and fire but

became tense within reach of victory.

She broke to 3-1 and 5-4 to serve for the match but was broken back on both occasions, the Romanian fighting for every point before finally closing out the 63-minute set.

Both players struggled on serve in the third but Halep captured the decisive break at 5-4 to secure her 11<sup>th</sup> WTA title.

"I think at the end of the second set I got a little bit nervous," Jankovic said. "I got a little bit tentative, and that was my big mistake. I let her come back into the match.

"I kind of let those nerves take the best out of me. That shouldn't happen."—Reuters

## Japan's Ito youngest winner on table tennis World Tour



**Japan's Mima Ito speaks to reporters after defeating Petrissa Solja of Germany 4-2 in the women's singles final of the German Open table tennis tournament in Bremen, Germany, on 22 March, 2015. The 14-year-old Ito became the youngest player to win an International Table Tennis Federation World Tour tournament.**

KYODO NEWS

BREMEN, Germany, 23 March — Japan's Mima Ito beat Petrissa Solja of Germany in the women's singles final at the German Open on Sunday, becoming the youngest to win on the table tennis World Tour.

The 14-year-old Ito, ranked 38<sup>th</sup> in the world, defeated world No 4 Feng Tianwei in the semifinals 4-0 before battling past 45<sup>th</sup>-ranked Solja 4-2 in the final.

"I was able to make it this far after breaking through

the early competition," said Ito, who attends Osaka's Shoyo Junior High School. "I had contained my feelings of happiness but now I am exploding with happiness. I was determined to be aggressive till the end in the final," she said. Ito drew the limelight last year at the German Open when at the age of 13 she teamed with countrywoman Miu Hirano, who is the same age, in women's doubles to become the youngest World Tour winners.—Kyodo News

## mitv Myanmar International

(24-3-2015 07:00 am~ 25-3-2015 07:00 am) MST

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| * News                                       | * News  |
| * Insight Myanmar "Migrant Resource Centres" | * Myanmar Traditional Toys  |
| * Tea  | * Welcome to the southernmost part of Myanmar                       |
| * News                                       | * Modifying Natural Thanakha Bark into Ready-Made Skin Care Product |
| * Trend of Kachin Dress                      | * News  |
| * Kyaikhteeyoe: Bamboo Guns                  | * Myanmar Women Day   |
| * News                                       | * Living Myanmar Glazed Ceramics                                    |
| * A Night of Dancing With Phoe Chit          | * Green Grocer  |
| * The Storytellers                           | * News  |
| * News                                       | * Lucrative Myanmar Rattan Industry                                 |
| * A Novitiation Ceremony in a Rural Township | * We'll Leave After 12 Passengers Are on Board                      |
| * Sweet Delicacy of Pathein                  | .....   |
| * News                                       | * News  |
| * Rakhine The Land of Sublime Pagodas        | * Youth of The Future (Ep-5)  |
| * News                                       | * A Tea Business: Pankwan (Part-1)                                  |
| * Taste of Myanmar (Papaya Salad)            |   |
| * Paper Flower                               |   |
| * Amazing May Phoo Han                       |   |

## MRTV News Channel in Brief

(24-3-2015, Tuesday)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>6:00 am</b>   | <b>2:35 pm</b>   |
| • Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw                       | • Sing & Enjoy (Part-2)  |
| <b>6:25 am</b>   | <b>3:00 pm</b>   |
| • Physical Exercises   | • News / International News  |
| <b>7:00 am</b>   | <b>3:30 pm</b>   |
| • News / Weather Report  | • Head Line News   |
| <b>7:35 am</b>   | <b>4:35 pm</b>   |
| • Socio Economic Scenes  | • University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) — Third Years (Mathematics) |
| <b>8:00 am</b>   | <b>5:30 pm</b>   |
| • News / International News  | • Head Line News   |
| <b>8:35 am</b>   | <b>6:35 pm</b>   |
| • Documentary  | • Documentary (Money Talk Myanmar)   |
| <b>9:35 am</b>   | <b>7:00 pm</b>   |
| • MRTV's Youth Programme   | • News   |
| <b>10:00 am</b>  | <b>7:35 pm</b>   |
| • News / International News  | • People's Talks   |
| <b>11:50 am</b>  | <b>8:00 pm</b>   |
| • Songs in Honour of 70 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Armed Forces Day | • News / International News / Weather Report                                 |
| <b>12:00 noon</b>  | <b>9:00 pm</b>   |
| • News / International News / Weather Report                       | • News / International News / Weather Report                                 |
| <b>12:35 pm</b>  | • Hluttaw Image  |
| • Hluttaw Image  | • TV Drama Series  |

## MRTV Entertainment Channel

(24-3-2015, Tuesday)

- |                                   |                     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>6:00 am</b>                    | <b>8:35 am</b>      |
| • Mono Classical Songs            | • TV Drama Series   |
| <b>6:20 am</b>                    | <b>9:15 am</b>      |
| • Cultural Show for Soldiers      | • Pyi Thu Ni Ti     |
| <b>6:50 am</b>                    | <b>9:30 am</b>      |
| • Kyae Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than | • Musical Programme |
| <b>7:10 am</b>                    | <b>9:45 am</b>      |
| • Myanmar Series                  | • Radio Teleplay    |
| <b>7:50 am</b>                    | <b>10:30 am</b>     |
| • TV Drama Series                 | • Myanmar Video     |

## Myanmar U-20 team to play tune-up matches in Serbia

YANGON, 23 March — Myanmar U-20 team left Yangon for Serbia on Sunday afternoon to make preparations for taking part in the FIFA U-20 World Cup New Zealand 2015 and to play tune-up matches.

Myanmar youth team is scheduled to play tune-up matches with Serbian I-20 team on 26 and 29 March.

At Myanmar Football Federation Office, the president of the federation encouraged the players to improve their football skills for securing remarkable victory in the FIFA Cup.

MFF has plans to hold turn-up matches in some European countries in addition to Serbia.—MFF



## Lethal Suarez gives Barcelona 2-1 win over Real



Barcelona's Luis Suarez celebrates after scoring a goal against Real Madrid during their Spanish first division "Clasico" soccer match at Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona, on 22 March, 2015.—REUTERS

BARCELONA, 23 March — A lethal finish from Luis Suarez gave Barcelona a 2-1 victory over Real Madrid in a typically frantic 'Clasico' on Sunday as they stretched their lead over their rivals at the top of La Liga to four points. While the personal battle between Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo captured the attention before the game, it was Uruguayan Suarez who settled the Nou Camp contest with a deft touch and a deadly strike into the corner of the net after 55 minutes.

Barcelona went ahead against the run of play when French defender Jeremy Mathieu headed home his first league goal for the Catalan club from a Messi free kick after 18 minutes.

Ronaldo had already hit the crossbar but he made no mistake after 30 minutes when he slotted the ball past keeper Claudio Bravo following a delightful back-flick by Karim Benzema.

Real pressed forward with Gareth Bale having a goal harshly ruled out for

offside and Benzema missing a golden chance before Suarez took his opportunity.

Barca finished the stronger as they secured a significant victory in the title race that moved them on to 68 points from 28 games, four ahead of second-placed Real with 10 matches left.

"There is still an eternity to go and also we have the Champions League to think about. It would be a mistake to take anything for granted," Barca's Javier Mascherano told reporters.

"Against a team like Madrid you always have to give your all as they push you to the limits both physically and mentally. We put a lot into this game especially when you consider we played in midweek (against Manchester City)." The pressure is growing on Real coach Carlo Ancelotti with the team having one win from five games in all competitions. Real defender Sergio Ramos said: "We gave our all but we lacked luck in the first half, and

they controlled the game better after that. "The difference is only four points and we are going to keep fighting in the league. We will not ease up."

The main doubt in the Barca lineup was whether Sergio Busquets would be fit to start and he began on the bench with Mascherano continuing in central midfield. Toni Kroos returned to pull the strings in the centre of the pitch for Real after being rested in their victory over Levante last weekend.

Real started well, overrunning Barca in midfield, and from one of their attacks at pace Benzema crossed for Ronaldo whose side-foot volley from a narrow angle hit the underside of the crossbar. Ramos lost his man though at a free kick from Messi and Mathieu had plenty of space to head home and give Barca the lead. The game became more hectic with Neymar missing in front of goal and at the other end Ronaldo bringing Real level.

Reuters

## United's Mata sinks Liverpool as Chelsea go clear

LONDON, 23 March — Juan Mata's marvellous volley helped Manchester United beat Liverpool in the race for Champions League qualification while his former club Chelsea nervously regained their six-point lead in the Premier League on Sunday.

At the end of a week where English clubs have failed to reach the last eight of the Champions League for the second time in three years, attention has quickly turned to next term's competition with United now handily placed for a return.

Their Mata-inspired 2-1 win at Anfield left them five points clear of their old rivals in fourth, the Champions League playoff spot, as United seek a return to Europe's top table after this season's glaring absence.

They were aided by pumped-up Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard being brainlessly sent off for stamping on Ander Herrera 38 seconds after coming on as a halftime substitute.

By that time Liver-

pool trailed 1-0 through Mata's neat first-half finish and the Spaniard added his second after Gerrard's dismissal with a stunning left-foot acrobatic volley.

Daniel Sturridge pulled a goal back before Wayne Rooney missed the chance to add a third when Simon Mignolet saved his injury-time penalty.

"I think it's my best game in a United shirt," Mata, a bit-part player until recently, told Sky Sports. "The second goal has to be up there with my best. After Steven Gerrard was sent off we needed a second goal because they pushed us to the end.

"It was important for me. The last few months I've not had the best moment. It is the manager who decides but I'm happy today."

Chelsea remain well on course for the title despite a lacklustre performance in a 3-2 win at Hull City. They now boast 67 points with nine matches left and have a game in hand on second-placed Manchester City.

Eden Hazard's thumping strike gave Chelsea the advantage inside the first two minutes and Diego Costa added a second to put Jose Mourinho's side seemingly in control.

But Hull responded in blistering fashion to score twice in 74 seconds.

Ahmed Elmohamady first turned in Andrew Robertson's precision cross before Abel Hernandez capitalised on a defensive mix-up between Branislav Ivanovic and goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois to level the scores just before the half hour.

Courtois atoned for his error by producing a stunning treble-save to deny Hull going in front and Chelsea substitute Loic Remy made sure the West Londoners went six points clear when his 77<sup>th</sup>-minute shot squirmed under Allan McGregor.

"After the international break we will go back to one match per week, except our game in hand. I believe we can finish the season very strong," said Mourinho.—Reuters



Juan Mata scores the second goal for Manchester United during their Barclays Premier League at Anfield on 22 March, 2015.—REUTERS