

## President U Thein Sein, wife Daw Khin Khin Win return from Malaysia



President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win being seen off by officials at Langkawi Airport in Malaysia.—IPRD

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April —President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win returned from Malay-

sia with members of the Myanmar delegation Tuesday after attending the 26<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in Kuala

Lumpur and Langkawi.

The president and wife were seen off at Langkawi airport by the minister

of Kedah State and wife, Myanmar Ambassador U Zaw Myint and wife, and officials of the Malaysian

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, together with a guard of honour.

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## Weather bureau forecasts low pressure in Bay of Bengal in early May

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 28 April — A low-pressure system may form over the Bay of Bengal in the first 10 days of May with potential to intensify into a small storm, according to the forecast of the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.

Meanwhile, Dr Tun Lwin, former director-general of the Meteorology and Hydrology Department of Myanmar, also urged people to heed storm warnings from now until May 10 as storms forming in the Bay of Bengal during pre-monsoon season are likely to enter Myanmar.

The prominent weather expert has also warned people, especially in upper Myanmar, to be alert to the possibility of thunderstorms caused by cumulus clouds until the end of May.

The south-west monsoon is expected to enter southern parts of Myanmar in mid May and to the Ayeyawady Delta and central Myanmar toward the end of the month, the forecast of DMH said.

During the first 10 days of May, rainfall is likely to be lower than average in lower Sagaing, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady regions, as well as Chin State, (See page 3)

## Norwegian research vessel begins fishery survey in Myanmar's waters

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 28 April — Myanmar fisheries experts began a survey of the country's marine fish stocks Tuesday in collaboration with a team of Norwegian scientists, the Fisheries Department said.

The experts from the two countries have started mapping the marine environment in Myanmar waters aboard Norwegian research vessel Dr. Fridtjof Nansen.

"The fishery survey is due to run for 55 days, from 28 April to 21 June, and will conduct research on volume and types of fish stocks," Deputy Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Khin Maung Aye said at a meeting with fishing industry operators in

Yangon on Tuesday.

The expedition team comprises six scientists from Norway, eight ex-

perts from the Fisheries Department, three faculty members from universities in Yangon, Myeik

and Mawlamyine and a naval officer, the department said, adding that the (See page 3)



Norwegian marine research vessel RV Dr Fridtjof Nansen, pictured, embarked on a 55-day fishery survey in Myanmar's waters on 28 April.

PHOTO: CREDIT TO SHIPSPOTTING.COM

## MRCCI focuses on marketing for trade promotion



MANDALAY, 28 April— Executives of the Mandalay Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry held a meeting to promote trade and establish new markets Monday in Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay.

Following an address by Chairman of the Cham-

bers U Aung Than, Vice Chairman U Kyaw Min and Secretary Dr Maung Maung discussed MRCCI members' participation in China's Kunming Expo.

Committees of the chambers participated in discussions on international relations, human resources,

development of small- and medium-scale enterprises, investment, information and communication technology, trade promotion, construction and maintenance, as well as financial and taxation matters.

*Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)*

## Residents call for overpass repair

MANDALAY, 28 April — Residents of Chanmyathazi Township have called for urgent repairs to the Chanmyawady Overpass on Mandalay-Sagaing Junction.

The overpass, built in 1994, has been damaged over time through heavy usage by vehicles. Buddhist monks, students and local residents pass under the flyover near No 5 Basic Education Middle School daily.—*Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)*



*A volunteer student from Meiktila University teaches local residents at literacy campaign in Pyinmana Township.*

## Volunteer university students teach villagers in Pyinmana Tsp in literacy campaign

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April — The basic literacy campaign 2015 is being conducted across the nation from 1 April to 15 May.

Nay Pyi Taw council members U Phone Zaw Han and Col Myint Aung

Than on 27 April visited teaching sessions in villages on the eastern bank of Sittoung River in Pyinmana Township and presented gifts to volunteer students from Meiktila University.

A total of 65 students and seven supervisors from Meiktila University are teaching 657 local villagers at 65 teaching sessions in 42 villages in Pyinmana Township.

*Shwe Kokko*



## Basic education teachers complete aerobics course

NYAUNGLEBIN, 28 April — An aerobics course for basic education schools concluded at No 1 Basic Education High School in Nyaunglebin Township, Bago Region, on 27 April.

Township Education Officer Daw Khin Than Nu spoke about future practices for the trainees.

Bago District Education Officer U Ye Lwin gave completion certificates for the trainees to trainer Daw San San Maw. A total of 38 basic education teachers in the township attended the one-week course.

*Nay Lin (Nyaunglebin)*

*Photo shows cracks of railing at Chanmyawady Overpass on Mandalay-Sagaing Junction.*

## Townships in Mandalay Region to announce voter lists on 1-14 June

MANDALAY, 28 April— Voter lists will be announced in 20 townships of Mandalay Region from 1 to 14 June following the completion of their computerization.

Voter lists will be released in seven townships in Mandalay District, four in Kyaukse District, five in PyinOoLwin District and four

in Myingyan District.

The Mandalay Region Election Sub-commission will hold a meeting with civic social organizations on 4 May to conduct a campaign to urge local residents to observe the voter lists, Deputy Director U Kyaw Kyaw Soe of Region Sub-commission told media.—*Aung Ye Thwin*



NATIONAL

## President U Thein Sein, wife Daw Khin Khin Win...

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At 10.40 a.m., the president and wife and party arrived back at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport where they were welcomed by Vice Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief of Defence

Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and their wives, and union ministers.

The union ministers and officials who accompanied the president and his wife at the summit also returned on the same flight.—MNA

## Good Myanmar-China relations can yield development, stability: Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker

BEIJING, 28 April— Myanmar and China have a long tradition of economic cooperation, exchange of investment and technology, and promotion of trade and culture, and the good relations between the two countries can bring about

ance of its political system.

He called China's policies for peaceful development realistic and pragmatic, expressing admiration for its non-interference in affairs of other countries as well as its respect for Myanmar's sovereignty and ter-



President U Thein Sein being welcomed back by Vice Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun and Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.—MNA



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann shakes hands with Chinese President Xi Jinping. MNA

development and stability, the Pyidaungsu and Pyithu Hluttaw speaker told the Chinese president on Monday.

Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann told Chinese President Xi Jinping that Myanmar appreciates China's understanding and accept-

ritorial integrity.

Chinese President Xi Jinping said the continuity of good bilateral relations is a product of the hard work of successive leaders of the two countries. He called for constant implementation of the five policies of peaceful coexistence and the ten-

point guideline formulated by the Bandung Conference, showing his country's support for Myanmar's sovereignty and territorial integrity. He also hinted at further cooperation in areas of mutual development with Myanmar.

MNA

## Norwegian research vessel...

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fishery survey is planned to be conducted in the country's waters and Exclusive Economic Zone.

The study is the fourth of its kind to be conducted in Myanmar, and is being carried out as part of the EAF-Nansen-project between the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), the Institute of Marine Research (IMR), and the

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the department said.

Starting in 1979, the Fisheries Department has conducted the survey to update data that includes fish biomass in the country's waters, maximum sustainable fish yields and ocean currents.

The second survey was conducted from March to April in 1980 while a

## Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets Pakistani military delegation



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Deputy Commandant of National Defence University of Pakistan Brigadier-General Muhammad Aneeq Ur Rehman Malik.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April — Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received a Pakistani military delegation Tuesday led by Brigadier-General Muhammad Aneeq Ur Rehman Malik, Deputy Commandant of the National Defence University of Pakistan.

The two held comprehensive discussions on bilateral relations and regional matters, with the meeting focusing on strengthening

relations between the two countries' armed forces, sharing of information to combat terrorism and the drug trade, the opening of training courses and the exchange of goodwill visits.

Also present were Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, senior military officers from the Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office, Pakistani Ambassador to Myanmar Ehsan Ullah

Bath and Military Attaché Colonel Azhar Yashin.

The Pakistani delegation included trainees from the National Security & War Course 2014/2015 (NWSC) of the National Defence University.

Myawady

## UEC allows registration of political party

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April—The Union Election Commission allowed registration of Public Service Students Democracy Party, headquartered at No. 366/A on U Pon Nya Street in ward 8, Hline-thaya Township, Yangon Region, under Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law on 28 April. Its registration number is 82.

GNLM

MNA

## Weather bureau forecasts low pressure...

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and about normal in the remaining regions and states, the forecast said.

The forecast also stated that day temperatures will be above May averages in lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway regions and about average in the remaining regions and states.—GNLM

## Seminar seeks conservation strategies for endangered Irrawaddy dolphin



MANDALAY, 28 April — Representatives from the Fisheries Department, the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism and the Myanmar Tourist Guides Association observed Irrawaddy

dolphin habitats Tuesday as part of a seminar aimed at conserving the endangered aquatic mammal.

Head of Mandalay Region Directorate of Hotels and Tourism U Tin

Tun and Chairman of Myanmar Tourist Guides Association U Ye Myat Tun spoke at the opening of the seminar Sunday at Unique Myanmar 26 restaurant on 26<sup>th</sup> street in Chanayethaz-

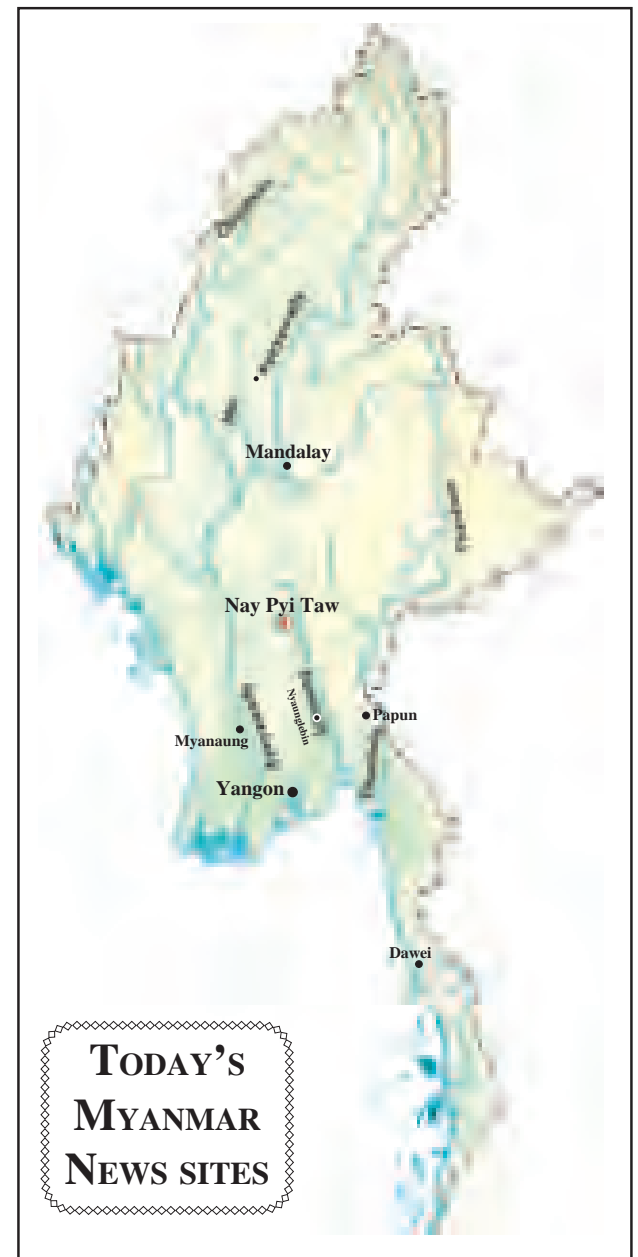
an Township.

Officials of Mandalay District Fisheries Department spoke about Irrawaddy dolphin habitat's at Singu and Thabeikkyin areas in Ayeyawady River, conservation for the species, fish species in Taungthaman Lake and Paleik Lake and matters related to migratory birds.

Seminar participants observed the habitats on 27 and 28 April. The local population of some 60 Irrawaddy dolphins is listed as critically endangered.

An area spanning more than 80 nautical miles, encompassing Mandalay, Mingun, Kyaukmyaung and Singu, is designated as a dolphin conservation area.

*Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)*



## Dental and oral health activity launched in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 28 April — The Myanmar Dental Association, in cooperation with Colgate-Palmolive, launched a one-month education campaign with free dental checkups at Yadanabon Super Centre in Chanayethazan Township on 26 April.

Chairman of the MDA Dr Pwint Phu spoke about the important role of dental and oral health, root causes of diabetes and prevention of gum diseases.

Country Manager Mr Durgesh Chugh of Colgate-Palmolive spoke about the third dental and oral health activities for prevention of cavities in Myanmar.

Film star Chaw Yadana led a question and answer session on dental and oral health.

Dentists performed free examinations after the ceremony.

*Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)*



## Township MCWA officials provide free checkups

MYANAUNG, 28 April — Chairperson of Myanaung Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Nweni Lwin and party gave health care services to patients at the free clinic in the precinct of Parahita Myoshwekyang in Myanaung on 25 April.

They presented gifts to a more-than 100-year-old senior citizen in Ward 4 and donated books to Dhamma Yaungchi Library. Local women attending the clinic received information on women's health issues.

*Win Bo (Township IPRD)*



## Teachers undertake training course

NYAUNGLEBIN, 28 April — A special course for basic education teachers who were temporarily assigned at primary schools in the 2014-15 academic year was held at the hall of Basic Education High School Branch on Setyon Street

in Nyaunglebin, Bago Region, on Monday.

Bago District Education Officer U Ye Lwin spoke about ethics for teachers and the running of the course.

Township Administrator U Thein Zaw Kan

explained and Township Education Officer Daw Khin Than Nu also gave speeches.

Altogether 47 trainees are attending the one-month course.

*Nay Lin (Nyaunglebin)*



## Medical team of military hospital gives health care services to residents

PAPUN, 28 April — A medical team including specialists and nurses from No 21 military hospital gave free medical treatment to 150 local residents in rural areas in Papun Township, Kayin State, on 23 April.

Officiating Tactical Operations Commander Lt-Col Kyi Khaing and District's deputy commissioner U Hsan Oo attended to the needs of health care services for the people.

*Thein Soe Myint (IPRD)*

## REGIONAL

## Japan, US revise defence guidelines, eye expanded SDF roles

NEW YORK, 28 April — Japan and the United States revised their defence cooperation guidelines on Monday, enabling Japanese troops to come to the aid of US and other allied forces in collective self-defence and renewing the US commitment to Japan's maritime concerns amid a changing security landscape in the Asia-Pacific region.

The new guidelines were crafted against the backdrop of China's increasing assertiveness at sea and in airspace, and North Korea's continued development of nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles.

The Japanese Self-Defence Forces and the US armed forces "will enhance interoperability, readiness, and vigilance to prepare for all possible situations," the guidelines state.

"It's a historic transition in the defence relationship between our countries," Secretary of State John Kerry said at a joint Press conference with his Japanese counterpart Fumio Kishida and their countries' defence chiefs, Defence Minister Gen Nakatani and Defence Secretary Ashton Carter, after their so-called "two-plus-two" security talks on Monday in New York.

With the new guidelines redefining the roles and missions of the SDF and US military, Tokyo and Washington will cooperate in a "seamless" manner based on four situations — peacetime, situations that would influence Japan's peace and security, armed attacks on Japan, and situations calling for



*Foreign and defence chiefs of Japan and the United States attend a joint Press conference in New York on 27 April, 2015, after revising bilateral defence cooperation guidelines. From L, Japan's Defence Minister Gen Nakatani, Japan's Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida, US State Secretary John Kerry and US Defence Secretary Ashton Carter.—KYODO NEWS*

collective self-defence, or defending an ally under armed attack even when Japan itself is not.

The guidelines, which rewrite the 1997 version that was crafted to prepare for contingencies on the Korean Peninsula, gets rid of geographical constraints for SDF activities, expanding the scope of cooperation between the SDF and US forces to a global scale, such as through peacekeeping activities, and boosts the SDF's logistical support.

The updating of the guidelines comes at a time when Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is trying to loosen the Constitutional constraints on the SDF's operations overseas, following a landmark Cabinet decision last July that reinterprets the Constitution to allow Japan to exercise the

right to collective self-defence.

The guidelines' new section devoted to collective self-defence says the SDF will "conduct appropriate operations involving the use of force" if a clear danger to Japan's existence is posed due to an armed attack on a country with which it has close ties.

The guidelines say the SDF and the US military will cooperate in intercepting ballistic missiles and conduct forcible inspections of foreign vessels suspected of aiding an attacker state.

The provision on missiles means that Japan can intercept missiles targeted at its allies, including those heading for US territory, Japanese and US government officials said.

Asset protection, which refers to Japan defending

US military equipment such as ships involved in operations to evacuate noncombatants and in ballistic missile defence, is also cited, as well as Japan-US cooperation in minesweeping operations in vital international sea lanes.

Abe has said he pictures minesweeping activities even without a ceasefire agreement in the Strait of Hormuz in the Middle East.

Inspecting vessels is also a key area of cooperation in situations that would significantly influence Japan's peace and security. Observers say this step is related to Beijing's recent muscle flexing in the East China and South China seas.

For peacetime operations including those in "gray zone" incidents which stop short of military

attacks on Japan, the guidelines state Japanese and US forces will boost their intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance to ensure freedom of navigation and maritime order based on international law.

Kishida said he and the other ministers agreed on the "importance of the rule of law given the recent situation in the South China Sea."

While officials from both nations were not clear if joint surveillance would encompass the South China Sea, Tokyo and Washington are both concerned by the maritime spats between China and some Southeast Asian nations concerning overlapping territorial claims.

Japan has its own tensions with China in the East China Sea, where the Japanese-administered Senkaku Islands are located. China claims the islands, calling them Diaoyu.

Referring to situations in which Japan is under armed attack, the guidelines for the first time mention Japan-US cooperation in defending islands, in an apparent reference to remote islands such as the Senkakus. The SDF will take necessary actions such as recapturing an island while the US forces will support the SDF operations.

Separately, in a joint statement issued after the two-plus-two meeting, the foreign and defence ministers reaffirmed that the Senkakus fall under Article 5 of the Japan-US security treaty and said they "oppose any unilateral action that seeks to undermine Japan's administration of these islands."

Describing US commitment to the treaty as "ironclad," Kerry said, "The United States and Japan stand together in calling for disputes in the region to be resolved peacefully."

With the United States shifting its attention to Asia as part of its "rebalance" strategy, Carter said the approval of the guidelines "marks an important step in the rebalance's next phase."

For "seamless" cooperation even during peacetime, the two allies will set up a permanent bilateral coordination mechanism involving the SDF and US forces for defence planning and operation.

In another first, the United States, if it resorts to military action, will hold prior consultations with Japan, according to the new guidelines.

Tokyo and Washington will also deal with emerging security threats in space and cyberspace, which are new areas of cooperation listed in the latest guidelines. They will also work together on the joint development of defence equipment.

On the long-stalled plan to relocate a US base, which is a key part of the broader realignment process of the US military, the ministers also reiterated in the joint statement that the planned relocation of US Marine Corps' Futenma Air Station within Okinawa Prefecture is the "only solution" to avoid continuing to use the base which is currently situated in a crowded residential district.

*Kyodo News*

## As war memories fade, Vietnam still battles Agent Orange legacy

DANANG, (Vietnam), 28 April — Tan Tri doesn't know a thing about Agent Orange. But doctors say he lives with its effects every day, when he crawls off his wooden bed and waits for someone to feed him. He is 25. His mother Vo Thi Nham was exposed to Agent Orange when US forces showered the chemical across swathes of Vietnam half a century ago to the destroy jungle cover of its war-time enemy.

Nham believes it's the reason her son was born physically and mentally dis-

abled.

"Other people around here were affected by Agent Orange, too, but it was really bad for us," Nham said at her home in Danang, central Vietnam. "At least they can walk — he can't."

Tri, slumped on the concrete floor at her feet, chimed in. "I can walk with my arms!", he said, correcting her. The Vietnam War ended 40 years ago this week and its memory is fading among its young population.

But Agent Orange is the enduring legacy it cannot forget, with children of a sec-

ond postwar generation still being born with deformities which their doctors believe are linked to the defoliant.

Some three million Vietnamese have suffered from fatal diseases, disabilities and illness after coming into contact with Agent Orange, according to the Vietnam Association of Victims of Agent Orange/Dioxin (VAVA). Today deformities are visible everywhere. In the streets, beggars carry children with swollen heads or unnaturally bent limbs. Bodies are twisted, some are born without eyes. A *Reu-*

*ters* journalist this month traveled from north to south Vietnam and documented lives of many disabled people whose relatives doctors say were exposed to Agent Orange. One former soldier, Do Duc Dui, said he buried 12 of his 15 children after they died as infants. He has graves prepared for two daughters who are sick and may not live long.

Le Dang Ngoc Hung, 15, lies taciturn on a bamboo mat most of the day, his listless eyes and mouth drooping. Hung cannot walk and has the delicate skin of

a newborn because he rarely ventures outside. "It was sad," his mother, Le Thi Thao, said recalling when she discovered his disability. "But he is my son, so of course, I have to take care of him." Agent Orange is complex, its long-term impact much debated and subject to legal cases by Vietnam and American veterans.

US studies have found heightened risks of prostate, lymphocytic leukemia and melanoma in exposed servicemen, but similarly with the impact of dioxin on postwar generations of Vietnamese, research indicating strong links has also cited complexities in making conclusive determinations.

The United States is fast becoming an important

ally for Vietnam, but Agent Orange remains a source of friction. Washington allocated \$43 million in 2012 to clean land contaminated by dioxin from the estimated 20 million gallons of Agent Orange sprayed in Vietnam from 1962-1971, but many Vietnamese say that's not enough. Some American veterans are sympathetic, like Chuck Palazzo, who has devoted years of his life to working with Vietnamese to fight the stubborn vestiges of Agent Orange.

But he's unsure if they're winning the battle.

"Does it get better or does it get worse?" he said. "It's a grind. And you have to keep at it. We just have no idea how long this is going to last."—Reuters

# Baltimore erupts in riots after funeral of black man who died in police custody



*Demonstrators jump on a damaged Baltimore police department vehicle during clashes in Baltimore, Maryland on 27 April, 2015.*

REUTERS



*A Baltimore firefighter attacks a fire in a convenience store and residence during clashes after the funeral of Freddie Gray in Baltimore, Maryland in the early morning hours of 28 April, 2015. —REUTERS*

BALTIMORE, 28 April — Baltimore erupted in violence on Monday as hundreds of rioters looted stores, burned buildings and at least 15 police officers were injured following the funeral of a 25-year-old black man who died after suffering a spinal injury in police custody.

The riots broke out blocks from where the funeral of Freddie Gray took place and spread through much of west Baltimore.

It was the most violent protest against police treatment of African Americans since arson and gunfire in Ferguson, Missouri, last year.

A state of emergency was declared by Maryland Governor Larry Hogan, a Republican, who sent in the National Guard, and a curfew was imposed in the majority black city from Tuesday night, with exceptions for work and medical emergencies.

Firefighters battled numerous blazes through Monday night, includ-

ing one that consumed a church's senior centre under construction in East Baltimore. Police said looting, fires and attacks against officers continued overnight.

Looters sacked liquor stores, pharmacies, a shopping mall and a check-cashing store. Rioters smashed car windows outside a major hotel and twice slashed a fire hose while firefighters fought a blaze at a CVS pharmacy that had been looted before it was set on fire. "All this had to happen, people getting tired of the police killing the young black guys for no reason. ... It is a sad day but it had to happen," said Tony Luster, 40, who was out on the street watching the police line.

Gray was arrested on 12 April when running from officers. He was transported to the police station in a van, with no seat restraint, and suffered the spinal injury that led to his death a week later. A lawyer for Gray's family says his spine was 80 percent severed at the neck

while in custody.

Six officers have been suspended, and the US Justice Department is investigating the incident for possible civil rights violations.

Gray's death reignited a public outcry over police treatment of African Americans that flared last year after police killings of unarmed black men in Ferguson, New York City and elsewhere.

But after several days of peaceful protests, events turned violent on Monday. Democratic Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake called the looters "thugs" and said they had nothing to do with protests.

Police made at least 27 arrests and Baltimore schools will be shut Tuesday. An Orioles baseball game was cancelled and businesses and train stations shut down in the city of 620,000 people 40 miles (64 km) from the nation's capital.

Much of the rioting occurred in a neighbourhood where more than a third of

families live in poverty. The violence appeared to catch city officials somewhat off-guard after a week of peaceful protests.

After Missouri was criticized for a heavy-handed response to protests over the police killing of unarmed black teenager Michael Brown in August, cities have carefully tread a line between allowing peaceful demonstrations over police brutality and preventing violence.

Answering criticism of not responding quickly enough to Monday's events, Mayor Rawlings-Blake told CNN: "This was an incident that sparked this afternoon ... I think it would have been inappropriate to bring in the National Guard when we had it under control."

Gray's family pleaded for peaceful demonstrations and after the looting started, pastors and community leaders took to the streets to try to prevent violent clashes between black youth and police.

Looters were noncha-

lant and showed their faces.

"We went in there and tore it up," said a 16-year-old who said he was one of the looters inside the CVS.

Just down the street from the smouldering CVS, business owner Daisy Bush, 61, said: "The sad part about it is that a lot of people from the community were up there in the CVS, stealing stuff out of it. It's a disgrace." Earlier in the day youths threw rocks and bricks at police. Six officers were injured seriously, Baltimore Police Commissioner Anthony Batts told reporters.

"This is not protesting. This is not your first amendment rights. This is just criminal acts doing damage to a community," he said.

Baltimore has long struggled with high crime and gangs, a reputation that has made it the setting for gritty television police dramas such as "The Wire."

At Gray's funeral, speaker after speaker before the crowd packing the 2,500-seat New Shiloh Bap-

tist Church said the world was watching to see if justice would be done for Gray.

A string of deadly confrontations between mostly white police and black men, and the violence it has prompted, will be among the challenges facing US Attorney General Loretta Lynch, who was sworn in on Monday.

Lynch condemned the "senseless acts of violence" and signalled that improving relations between the police and the communities they protect will be high on her agenda.

Riots over race issues and police brutality have gripped US cities in the past.

In the 1992 Los Angeles riots, more than 50 people were killed in violence set off by the acquittal of four police officers who beat black motorist Rodney King.

In 1968, dozens died in riots, including several in Baltimore, after the assassination of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

Reuters

## US first African-American Justice chief condemns rioting following black man's death

WASHINGTON, 28 April — Newly sworn-in US Attorney General on Monday condemned the rioting in Baltimore, Maryland, which occurred following the funeral of a 25-year-old black man who died after he was injured in police custody.

In a statement issued on her first day as the

83<sup>rd</sup> US Attorney General, Lynch said those who participated in looting and smashing "ostensibly in protest" of the death of Freddie Gray, who passed away on 19 April after being severely injured a week earlier during police arrest, had done a "disservice to Gray's family."

"I condemn the sense-

less acts of violence by some individuals in Baltimore that have resulted in harm to law enforcement officers, destruction of property and a shattering of the peace in the city of Baltimore," said the statement.

Lynch said the Justice Department had already joined efforts with FBI to launch an independent crim-

inal civil rights investigation into Gray's death, adding that her department had also started its review of the Baltimore City Police Department. Preliminary investigation indicated that Gray had suffered a severe spinal injury during or shortly after his arrest. Baltimore's Police Commissioner Anthony Batts acknowledged on Fri-

day that Gray, 25, was not treated properly after being arrested.

Police brutality in the Gray case thrusts Baltimore into the epicenter of a nationwide debate over racial relations following a spate of deaths of unarmed black men caused by white police officers.

"We can imbue our

criminal justice system with both strength and fairness, for the protection of both the needs of victims and the rights of all," said Lynch on Monday during her swearing-in ceremony at the Justice Department. "We can restore trust and faith both in our laws and in those of us who enforce them."—Xinhua

# Tsipras presses for early Greek debt deal but flags referendum

ATHENS, 28 April — Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras said on Tuesday he was confident of an early deal with international creditors, after shaking up his negotiating team and sidelining his outspoken finance minister who has infuriated euro zone partners.

But Tsipras also said he would have to resort to a referendum if lenders insisted on demands deemed unacceptable by his leftist government, elected to scrap austerity.

Athens is weeks away from running out of cash, and talks with EU and IMF lenders on more aid have been deadlocked over their demands for Greece to implement reform measures, including pension cuts and labor market liberalization.

In his first major television interview since being elected in January, Tsipras said he expected a deal with creditors by 9 May, three days before a debt payment to the IMF of about 750 million euros (\$815.5 million) falls due. He ruled out a default but stressed the priority was to pay wages and pensions.

Greek financial markets and the euro rallied on Monday on hopes that

the relegation of Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis, a Marxist academic prone to lecturing his euro zone peers, would improve prospects for an early deal to avoid a default that might lead to a Greek exit from the currency area.

Pressed on the options if no deal were found, Tsipras ruled out snap elections but said the government did not have the right to accept demands that fell outside the limits of its mandate and would have to ask Greeks to decide.

“If the solution falls outside our mandate, I will not have the right to violate it, so the solution to which we will come to will have to be approved by the Greek people,” he told Star television in the interview.

“But I am certain we will not reach that point. Despite the difficulties, the possibilities to win in the negotiations are large. We should not give in to panic moves. Whoever gets scared in this game loses.”

Tsipras said Greece was in the final stretch of negotiations despite differences on key issues like labor reform, pension cuts and a proposed value-added tax hike on popular tourist islands.



Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras

He said he expected an initial deal on reforms this week or next and that asset sales would be part of the concessions offered, including two major items — the sale of Piraeus port and the lease of 14 regional airports.

He also said Greece was hoping for a 3 billion to 5 billion euro pre-payment of future profits if it struck a deal with Russia on Turkish Stream, a pipeline project.

On Monday, Tsipras appointed Deputy Foreign Minister Euclid Tsakalotos — one of his close allies and a soft-spoken economist liked by officials representing creditors — to head a new group handling negotiations with Greece’s lenders.

He also put economist George Chouliarakis, a close aide to Deputy Prime

Minister Yannis Dragasakis, in charge of talks with the so-called Brussels group — representatives of the European Commission, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund — in a bid to break the logjam.

In an effort to show that Athens is serious about giving lenders access to data, a new team was also set up to support EU and IMF officials gathering information in the Greek capital.

The moves effectively took the talks out of the hands of Varoufakis, although Tsipras defended the flamboyant intellectual, while acknowledging that the mood towards Greece among euro zone finance ministers was sour.

“There is a negative climate but I believe that this part of the negotiating game,” Tsipras said. “Part of the negotiating game is to deconstruct the person who sits opposite you at the negotiation table.”

A senior European Central Bank policymaker, Bank of France governor Christian Noyer, said sidelining Varoufakis from the talks could be productive, but Athens still faced hard choices.

“He’s creating a number of tensions so that can certainly help the negotiations — but it doesn’t change the substance at all. The Greek government ... must finally decide on serious reforms to put the economy back on track,” Noyer told France’s Europe 1 radio.

Tsipras accused the previous conservative-led Greek government and unnamed forces in Europe of laying a “trap” for his government when it took power.

“They derive pleasure from the prospect of a failure in the talks,” Tsipras said, saying his government had walked into a “minefield” when it took office. “We received a country that was in a situation of financial asphyxiation.”

He called the ECB’s limit on the amount of Treasury bills Greek banks can purchase — preventing them from financing the government — a “politically and ethically unorthodox” decision.

The ECB barred banks from posting Greek government bonds as collateral to obtain funds in its regular monetary tenders in February, since Tsipras’

government had vowed not to complete its international bailout programme. The banks are kept afloat on emergency lending assistance from the Greek central bank, but the ECB caps the amount weekly and limits its use for T-bill purchases to avoid indirect monetary funding of the state.

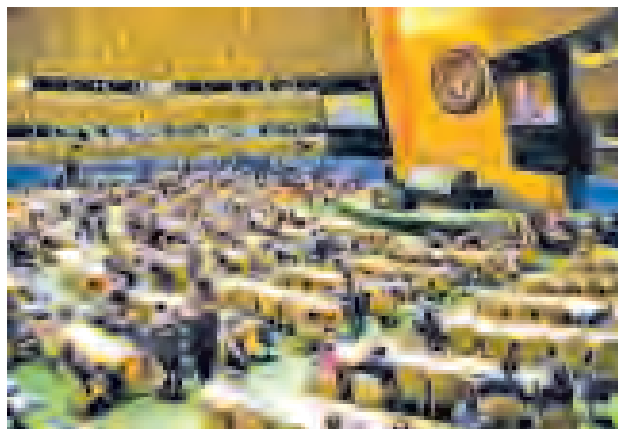
In another jibe against European partners, Tsipras said his government made a mistake by accepting a verbal rather than written commitment that the ECB decision would be reversed once Greece got a deal to extend its bailout.

He offered praise for German Chancellor Angela Merkel — a frequent target of his criticism before he was elected — saying she was diligent and organized.

“She has the German culture of wanting — and I think this is good in our relationship — the other person to tell the truth, to not lie,” he said. “And that’s what I try to do; I don’t lie.”

Merkel said last week that “everything must be done to prevent” Greece running out of money, and Germany was willing to give its full support provided Athens carried out reforms.—Reuters

## NPT confab kicks off, overshadowed by US-Russia standoff



A UN conference begins in New York on 27 April, 2015 to review and strengthen nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation efforts. But reaching a consensus will be tough amid the US-Russia standoff over Ukraine and discord over other issues.—KYODO NEWS

NEW YORK, 28 April — A UN conference began on Monday to review and strengthen nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation efforts, with rough roads expected in reaching a consensus amid the US-Russia standoff over Ukraine and discords over other issues.

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty review conference through 22 May follows the previous meeting in 2010 that successfully ended by adopting a final

document that included a 64-point action plan aimed at moving closer to a world without nuclear weapons.

But the optimistic atmosphere seen in the previous meeting, fueled by US President Barack Obama’s historic speech in Prague in 2009 on nuclear abolition, appears to have dissipated such as due to the Ukraine crisis that has sent relations between the United States and Russia to their lowest point since the

Cold War ended.

Aging survivors of the US atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in the final phase of World War II have also traveled to New York to detail their terrifying experiences to push for nuclear weapons abolishment on the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the attacks.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon’s message will be read out at the outset of the meeting because he is visiting Italy. Country representatives, including Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida and US Secretary of State John Kerry, are also expected to deliver speeches the same day.

The success of the conference, chaired by Algerian Ambassador Taous Feroukhi, the first woman to serve in the role in 40 years, largely hinges on whether NPT members can produce a substantial outcome document by consensus.

But various discords could surface between nu-

clear nations and non-nuclear weapon states, such as over the pace of progress in nuclear disarmament and ways to achieve the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons.

A notable development in the nuclear disarmament field in recent years is the increased focus on the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of nuclear arsenals, through such occasions as international meetings that looked into the impact of nuclear weapons detonations on human health and environment.

Under the so-called humanitarian initiative, some non-nuclear countries, frustrated by what they see as a lack of tangible progress in nuclear disarmament, are stepping up calls for a nuclear weapons ban treaty.

But nuclear countries are likely to oppose the idea as they prefer a step-by-step approach to nuclear disarmament.

Although sharply lower from Cold War highs, around 16,000 nuclear

weapons are estimated to exist in the world at present, which critics say are more than enough to destroy all of humanity many times over. Most of them are possessed by the United States and Russia.

Under the NPT, which entered into force in 1970, nuclear powers pledge to work toward disarmament in exchange for the promise that non-nuclear nations would not acquire them, while all countries have access to nuclear energy for peaceful purpose.

The NPT recognizes five countries — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States — which developed and detonated nuclear weapons prior to 1 January, 1967, as “nuclear-weapon states.”

India, Pakistan and Israel, considered as de facto nuclear-weapon states, have not joined the NPT.

North Korea declared withdrawal from the NPT in 2003 and subsequently carried out three nuclear tests.

Kyodo News

## Obama to attend East Asia Summit, APEC summit in fall

WASHINGTON, 28 April — US President Barack Obama will travel to Asia this fall to attend the East Asia Summit in Malaysia and the summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in the Philippines, a White House official said on Monday.

Obama attended the previous rounds of the APEC summit in Beijing and the East Asia Summit in Myanmar, both of which took place in November.

Kyodo News

## PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 29 April, 2015

## Genuine victory lies in calm

By Aung Khin

**G**enuine victory lies in calm through noble deeds. It cannot be achieved by argument and disputes. Expectation for victory should be fulfilled through understanding and negotiation for a peaceful settlement.

Conflicts may be solved by power or domi-

nance. However, such means cannot ensure true and lasting victory. Many global conflicts could be stopped by negotiation, despite some battles and fighting at the initial stage.

As glory is the shadow of virtue, and there is no road of flowers leading to victory, it is worthy for only those who prize the welfare of others. Therefore, peace or victory can only be achieved through renunciation of violence. The price of victory is high, but so are the rewards.

Although some believe victory is necessary for survival, every victory cannot guarantee a lasting peace. Lord Buddha said 'It is better to conquer yourself than to win a thousand battles. Then the victory is yours. It cannot be taken from you, not by angels or by demons, heaven or hell.'

Wars may be fought with weapons and power. In such circumstances, the victories of men are not victories of the soul. For the ultimate truth, genuine victory is derived from inner satisfaction, not from fighting.

### Write for us

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

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

## Dare To Scale The Heights

Kyri Mun

*Make the most of yourself,  
for that is all there is to you.*

*-Ralph Waldo Emerson*

*O Lord, thou gives us everything,  
at the price of an effort.*

*-Leonardo Da Vinci*

If you want to make a man of yourself, a superb character and a masterpiece, you have got to:

*Dare to struggle and dare to win;  
Dare to scale the heights.*

In life, there is no something for nothing. There is no free lunch for us. We all must make an effort and pay the price for our living and moving and having our being in this world. We must have what it takes to make a success of our lives. Just as the saying goes: "God made the country, and man makes the town, we have got to shape and make our own lives. Just as a house has to be built to live in, we have got to build our lives in order to live and move and have our being in this world. To build a life of our own, we must have, as our ways and means, the FOUR FACTORS of SUCCESS:

- **A Burning Desire**
- **An Indomitable Will**
- **An Unyielding Effort**
- **Insight Wisdom**

In order to make a man of ourselves, a superb character and a masterpiece, we have got to scale the heights. Now, let's see how we should scale the heights as follows:

**S for Strengths**

**C for Commitment**

**A for Audacity**

**L for Learning**

**E for Endeavor**

**H for Health & Fitness**

**E for Energy**

**I for Inspiration**

**G for Goal-driven**

**H for Hope**

**T for Tough-mindedness**

**S for Strategy**

\* **STRENGTHS**

You can nurture, cultivate and develop your personal strengths in the following categories:

- ✓ **Physical**      **Strength of Health**      & **Fitness**
- ✓ **Mental**      **Strength of Vision**      & **Strategy**
- ✓ **Emotional**      **Strength of Passion**      & **Values**
- ✓ **Spiritual**      **Strength of Selflessness** & **Service**
- ✓ **Achievement** **Strength of Character** & **Competence**

As an organization, there are the following strengths to cultivate and develop:

- ✓ **Human**      **Strength**
- ✓ **Financial**      **Strength**
- ✓ **Technological**      **Strength**
- ✓ **Material**      **Strength**
- ✓ **Information**      **Strength**

### \* COMMITMENT

**Commitment means :**

- (1) A promise to do something or to behave in a particular way; a promise to support somebody or something; the fact of committing yourself: COMMITMENT TO SOMEBODY OR SOMETHING. e.g. She doesn't want to make a big emotional commitment to Steve at the moment; the government commitment to public service. Commitment to do/doing something: The company's commitment to providing quality at a reasonable price has been vital to its success.
- (2) The willingness to work hard and give your energy and time to a job or an activity. e.g. A career as an actor requires one hundred per cent commitment.
- (3) A thing that you have promised or agreed to do or that you have to do: e.g. He is busy for the next month with filming commitments. Women very often have to juggle work with their family commitments.
- (4) Agreeing to use money, time or people in order to achieve something: e.g. The Commitment of resources to education. Achieving success at this level requires a commitment of time and energy.

**Commitment also means:** To walk the talk; to act, to deliver, to execute, to implement and get results, to bring about success, as promised or as originally intended.

### \* AUDACITY

Audacity means : Willingness to take risks or to do something shocking. Synonyms are bravery, boldness, courage, daring, fearlessness, temerity, valiance. Scaling the heights certainly will require a tremendous dose of audacity and adventurous spirit.

### \* LEARNING

**Learning means :**

- (1) Gaining knowledge or skills by studying, from experience and from being taught, etc: e.g. to learn a language/ a musical instrument / a skill. Learning something from somebody or something: e.g. I learned a lot from my father. Learning something from doing something. e.g. You can learn a great deal just from watching other players. Learning about something: e.g. She is very keen to learn about Japanese culture. The book is about how children learn. Learning to do something : He is learning to dance. Learning how, what, etc. e.g. Today we have learnt how to use the software.
- (2) To become aware of something by hearing about it from somebody else. Synonym is DISCOVER. We have to learn, unlearn (forget) and relearn all our lives.

### \* ENDEAVOR

**Endeavor means :**

- (1) An attempt to do something, especially something new and difficult. e.g. Please make every endeavor to arrive on time. Advances in the field of scientific endeavour. The manager is expected to use his or her best endeavors to promote the artist's career.

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

Walking along the streets in Yangon, it is utmost important to look around when you step out of your home/residence. Motor vehicles are moving closely one behind the others in a long line with no space for pedestrians to cross from one side of the street to the other. From early morning to midnight the long lines of vehicles and buses keep moving in the city along different routes. As Yangon is a city providing work for people of different walks of life, it has become an awaking city all the time. Hundreds of buses and vehicles are moving all along different routes. Foreigners are quite surprised to remark that there was hardly any accident taking place despite the unlimited speed buses and other vehicles moving at all time.

Some foreigners with whom I struck conversation expressed their surprises and admiration the non-accident record taking place here in Yangon.

In some advanced countries, car accidents take place quite often despite preventive measure adopted by the authorities concerned.

However, we should not relax our caution simply because we have fewer cases of accidents taking place. Remember: prevention is better than cure. To those of us who are quite familiar with this condition, we hope to see that nothing about news of traffic accidents appearing in the local newspapers. Good luck to everyone.

Thanks,

Tin Aye

To Scale the Heights, we have to make tremendous endeavors. We have got to go the extra mile with a can-do-spirit. We have got to go beyond the call of duty. We also must go beyond due diligence. To prove our caliber, we have got to be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount all difficulties to scale the heights.

### \* HEALTH & FITNESS

It is said that HEALTH IS THE GREATEST GAIN IN LIFE (Arójan Paramām Lābām in Pāli). In order to be able to enjoy the bliss of health and fitness, we should have DISCIPLINE and DILIGENCE. By discipline we mean to avoid as much as possible eating saturated fats, trans fats, such as animal fats, coconut milk, butter, cream, egg yolks, etc. and hard-fried foods. We should also avoid smoking (tobacco), excessive drinking (alcohol, sugary soft drinks) and too much salty foods. By diligence, we mean to do regular (physical) exercise and (reduce mental & emotional) stress and strain. That is to say we should consistently cultivate serenity of mind by meditation, contemplation or yoga exercise, or by just having a very strong, steely mind.

### \* ENERGY

To scale the heights, we must be very energetic, patient and persistent. We have got to have lots of strength, stamina, staying power. We must have the energy, strong will and resolute determination to keep on keeping on, and on and on, no matter how hard the going may be! We only have to take one step at a time and to keep on!

(See page 9)



## Workshop examines strategies to promote women's participation



Union Ministers U Aung Min and Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin and Chairman of MNHRC U Win Mra seen with participants of Workshop on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and related resolutions.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April — The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission and UN Women concluded a joint workshop here Tuesday under the theme of “Women, Peace and Security.”

In his opening remarks, Union Minister at the President Office U Aung Min, quoting a speech by President U Thein Sein at the Global Women Forum 2014, said Myanmar needs to promote the role of women as part of the country's reform process.

Union Minister at the President Office U Aung Min noted Myanmar women are now taking the role of ministers, deputy ministers and union-level posts, as well as representatives

in the Hluttaw.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin said Myanmar has been implementing the Women's Development National Strategic Plan (2013-2022), while preparing to create a law on protection of women.

Myanmar has already submitted its fifth report on the UN convention on elimination of discrimination against women to the global body.

Chairman U Win Mra of the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission said the body is taking part in peace-making efforts in the country, especially in conflict areas, visiting Kachin State and

announcing human rights and humanitarian assistance such as resettlement and aid for internally displaced persons.

The two-day workshop, attended by Dr. Jean

D' Cunha, the senior gender advisor, discussed the issue of female victims in civil conflicts and the contribution of women to peace settlement.

MNA

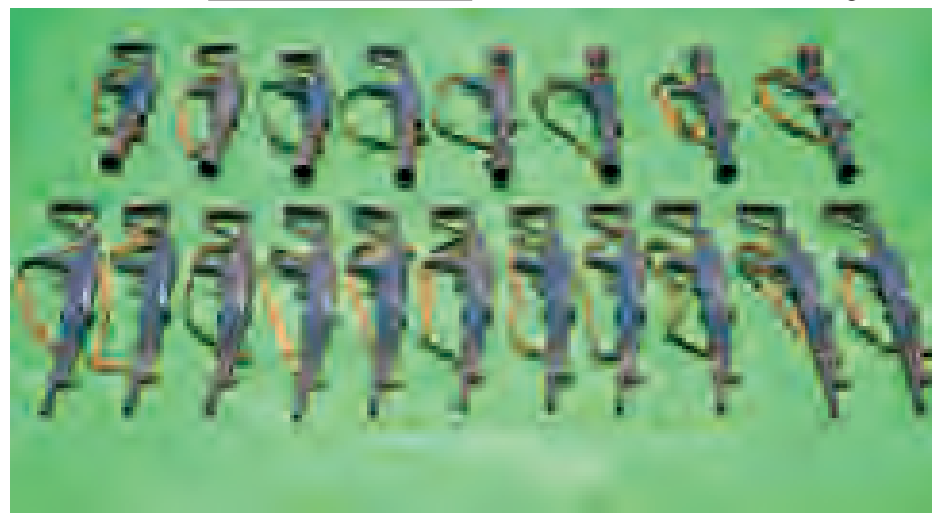


Photo shows arms seized by Tatmadaw from AA insurgent group. MYAWADY

## Mediation skills workshop improve capacity of law officers, judges

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April — The Mediation Skills Workshop for Judges, jointly arranged by the Supreme Court of the Union and Singapore's Law Ministry and Singapore Mediation Centre, was held at Royal ACE Hotel, here, on Monday.

The workshop was aimed at sharing experiences on solving disputes and crimes at Singapore's courts and mediation techniques in Myanmar.

Executive Director Mr Loong Seng Onn of Singapore Mediation Cen-

tre and Associate Director Mr See Chern Yang of Premier Law LLC discussed basic ideology for mediation and functions of mediator.

A total of 27 law officers and judges from the Supreme Court of the Union, Union Judicial Supervisory Office, Office of the Chief Justice of the Union, Dekkhina District, Toungoo District, Ottathiri and Pobbathiri township courts are attending the four-day workshop from 27 to 30 April.

MNA

## Tatmadaw columns seize arms from AA insurgents

NAY PYI TAW, 28 April — While combing the re-

gion, Tatmadaw columns seized arms, ammunition and various items of equipment of the AA insurgent group in Kalachaung village, Kyauktaw Township, Rakhine State.

On 27 April, the military columns seized 11 M-22-designed guns and eight M-25-designed guns from a cave 2 miles southwest of Kalakya village.

The guns carry an insignia with a seven-cornered star and the letters K and O.

Local residents have been assisting the military columns combing the region.—Myawady

### Dare To Scale...

(from page 8)

#### \* INSPIRATION

**Inspiration means :** A person or thing that makes you want to be better, more successful, etc. Inspiration also means motivation of spirit to be earnest, enthusiastic, zealous, resolute and indomitable. Inspiration also means tenacity of purpose, dogged perseverance and the will to win. We have to remember that : “Trainers must be (re)trained and motivators must be (re)motivated.”

#### \* GOAL-DRIVEN

**It is said that :** “Life is a Pursuit”. Life is a pursuit means we have to pursue something as long as we live. That means we should be goal-focused, goal-oriented and goal-driven. Every worthwhile achievement is goal-driven. There is no journey in life without a destination, station or port. If you have a clear definite goal, and you know where you are going, you must devise a certain form of ways and means of arriving at your destination or goal. That would be your strategy.

#### \* HOPE

Hope is your expectation to reach the heights or the summits of your pursuit. The stronger your expectation of arriving at the goal, the better your chance of winning the struggle. Since life is a struggle, we must dare to struggle and dare to win. We must dare to scale the heights! It is commonly said that while there is life,, there is hope. Let us hope positively, resolutely and joyously to reach the summits.

#### \* TOUGH-MINDEDNESS

**It is said that :** “ To Live is to fight, to suffer and to Love”. In order to be able to fight and to suffer the hard knocks of life, we have got to have tough-mindedness. We have got to have fortitude, an iron mind, a strong spirit of resilience and endurance. We must also have enduring patience, perseverance and bulldog determination in order to be able to scale the heights.

#### \* STRATEGY

If you have the will and determination to scale the heights in your life, you must have the:

- Vision
- Mission

- Goal
- Objective
- Strategy
- Tactics
- Control and
- Reward

In short, in scaling the heights, you have got to have a very clear vision and a very brilliant strategy. Strategy is the definite winning ways and means of attaining your goal. To develop a winning strategy, you must have :

- Cutting-edge (unique advantages)
- Distinctive Capabilities (Core Competency)
- Morale (Indomitable Spirit)
- Comprehensive Resources

#### \* CONCLUSION

Dare to struggle and dare to win.  
Dare to scale the heights!

U Kyi Mun residing in Yangon is a consultant of NAING Group Capital Co.,Ltd.

## Yemen's VP Bahah urges Houthis to stop targeting cities

RIYADH, 28 April — Yemen's Vice President Khaled Bahah, a politician respected across the country's spectrum of factions, called on Houthi forces to stop advances on cities and heed a UN Security Council demand for an end to fighting, local media reported.

Bahah's comments, made during a visit to the Yemeni embassy in Saudi Arabia on Monday, coincided with air strikes by a Saudi-led alliance on Iran-allied Houthi fighters, intensified fighting and reports the humanitarian situation was worsening.

"The brothers in Ansarullah are called on to fear God with the Yemeni people and stop their war on the cities," Yemeni news website [www.voice-yemen.com](http://www.voice-yemen.com) reported, referring to the Shi'ite Muslim Houthi group by its official name.

"Everybody must realise that the UN Security Council resolution 2216 created a framework to end the conflict and that any initiative or dialogue would be for a mechanism to implement this resolution," he added.

The Houthis have rejected the resolution, which imposes an arms embargo on the group and on supporters of former President Ali Abdullah Saleh and demands the



Protesters shout slogans during a demonstration in Sanaa, Yemen on 27 April, 2015, to denounce the Saudi-led airstrikes. Tens of thousands of supporters of the Shiite Houthi group staged demonstration in Yemeni capital of Sanaa on Monday to condemn the Saudi-led airstrikes.—XINHUA

Ansarullah group drop its weapons and quit cities, including the capital Sanaa, it captured since September,

Other Yemeni news websites, including [barakish.net](http://barakish.net), also carried the remarks.

Yemen had been in crisis since the Houthis advanced on Sanaa in September last year and demanded to be involved in plans to restructure the political system and to

fight corruption.

A coalition of Arab countries led by Saudi Arabia, rattled by what they saw as expanding Iranian influence in the Arabian Peninsula, is trying to stop Houthi fighters and Saleh loyalists taking control of Yemen.

The fighting has killed more than 1,000 people in the five weeks since the air campaign began on 26 March. Saudi Arabia announced a halt to the air

campaign last week to allow for political solution, but fighting has intensified again since Sunday.

Residents said that heavy clashes were reported overnight in the oil-producing Marib province east of the capital Sanaa and in the strategic city of Taiz in central Yemen and the southern city of Aden.

They said a large number of casualties was reported in Marib, where

tribal fighters allied with President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi confronted Houthi militiamen and troops loyal to former President Ali Abdullah Saleh, but no exact figures were immediately available.

Bahah is popular among many of Yemen's feuding parties, and his appointment earlier this month has created hopes for a negotiated solution to the conflict.—Reuters

## Second suspect in Saudi police killings arrested

DUBAI, 28 April — Saudi authorities arrested a second man on Tuesday on suspicion of shooting dead two policemen and wounding two others in separate attacks in Riyadh, the interior ministry said.

The ministry said last week that the first suspect in the shootings in March and April was acting on instructions from the Islamic State group in Syria, in the first alleged attack by the group inside the kingdom.

Authorities were alerted to the second man's hiding place in a desert area in Ramah Province northwest of the capital Riyadh by a tip-off to an emergency phone number, the ministry said. The suspect, Nawaf Sharif Samir al-Onaizi, opened fire on security forces who returned fire and wounded him, the ministry added.

Islamic State last year called on followers in the kingdom to carry out attacks against Saudi authorities, Western expatriates and members of the Shi'ite Muslim minority there instead of travelling to Syria or Iraq to join the group.

The ministry had offered a bounty of 1 million riyals (\$266,666) for the capture of al-Onaizi, whom it said had adopted a Moroccan accent and name to disguise his identity.—Reuters

## At least one dead, 80 injured in S Africa train collision

JOHANNESBURG, 28 April — At least one person was killed and several others injured after two commuter trains collided on Tuesday in South Africa's biggest city Johannesburg, train operator Metrorail and emergency services said.

Both trains were travelling from the capital Pretoria when one hit the other from behind, Metrorail spokeswoman Lillian Mofokeng told Talk Radio 702.

"We just do not know how it happened. We will be investigating that. There is an indication that people have been injured," she said. Emergency service provider ER24 said in a statement the driver of one of the trains died on the scene and about 80 other people sustained injuries.

Paramedics were still attending to passengers and the number of injured people could rise, ER24 spokesman Russel Meiring told Reuters.—Reuters

## Syria's defence minister leads delegation to Iran

BEIRUT, 28 April — Syria's defence minister has started an official visit to its major ally Iran as the head of a military delegation, Lebanon's al-Manar television said on Tuesday.

It gave no further details on the visit of Fahad Jassim al-Frej. Al-Manar is run by Lebanon's Hezbollah, an Iranian-backed group which is also an ally of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. It was not immediately possible to confirm the visit with Syrian officials.—Reuters

## Taleban, Afghan forces battle for control of northern city

KABUL, 28 April — Afghan forces battled Taleban fighters on the outskirts of a northern city on Tuesday, with police in Kunduz Province saying scores of combatants had been killed as insurgents mounted an offensive following the withdrawal of most NATO forces.

Having announced their spring offensive last week, the Taleban are seeking to gain territory in the north, where the Afghan army and police have less presence than in the traditional Taleban strongholds in the country's south and east.

The Taleban push is a major test of the NATO-trained Afghan army and police, who are fight-

ing with almost no air support or help from the few thousand remaining US and allied troops.

Afghan forces sent reinforcements to Kunduz this week after the Taleban penetrated a southern district of the provincial capital, called Kunduz city.

"Our security forces have pushed the Taleban back in the Gul Tapa area of Kunduz city," said provincial police spokesman Sayed Sarwar Hussaini, though he acknowledged fighting was still taking place within the city limits on Tuesday.

About 60 kilometres (37 miles) north of Kunduz city, government forces killed a Taleban commander known as Mullah

Mustafa in Imam Saheb district, Hussaini said, adding that a total of 50 insurgents had died in the past few days' fighting.

Nine Afghan security forces have been killed in the fighting, Hussaini said.

"The Taleban have made some gains in Imam Saheb where we had fewer checkpoints. Now, we have a defensive line where we can prevent the Taleban from moving forward," he said.

An internal report from the Ministry of Interior indicated government forces had been forced to abandon at least four checkpoints in the five areas of Kunduz Province under attack, with insurgents seizing government vehicles, weapons and a

radio in Imam Saheb.

The report obtained by Reuters also said five police officers had been kidnapped and 28, including a police commander, were missing.

A spokesman for the Taleban, Zabihullah Mujahid, claimed that only two insurgents had been killed in the Kunduz fighting.

"The enemy is not in a position to cause casualties to us but suffer losses themselves," Mujahid said, adding that Taleban "have high morale".

Kunduz was the insurgents' last stronghold before US-led forces drove them from power in 2001.

Reuters

## 'Jigsaw puzzle' dinosaur Chilesaurus boasted weird mix of traits

WASHINGTON, 28 April — Scientists have unearthed fossils of a strange dinosaur in southern Chile that boasts such an unusual combination of traits that they are comparing it to a platypus, that oddball egg-laying, duck-billed mammal from Australia. Named *Chilesaurus diegosuarezi*, it is a member of the same dinosaur group as *Tyrannosaurus rex*, theropods, which includes the largest land meat-eaters in Earth's history, but it ate only plants with a beak and leaf-shaped teeth, scientists said on Monday.

Its skull and neck resembled those of primitive long-necked dinosaurs, and its vertebrae those of primitive meat-eating theropods. It had robust arms, but just two blunt fingers on each hand. It was bipedal, but its wide, four-toed feet were unlike the slender, three-toed feet of most theropods. And it had a bird-like pelvis.

"*Chilesaurus* constitutes one of the most bizarre dinosaurs ever found," said paleontologist Fernando Novas of the Bernardino Rivadavia Natural Sciences Museum in Buenos Aires, calling the creature an evolutionary "jigsaw puzzle."

"The skeletal anatomy of *Chilesaurus* gathers characteristics of different dinosaur groups, like a floor is composed of mosaics of different shapes and colors. No other dinosaurs exhibit such a combination or mixture of features." *Chilesaurus* lived in a region crisscrossed by rivers at the Jurassic Peri-

od's end, approximately 145 million years ago. It was relatively small, reaching up to 10.5 feet (3.2 metres) long, although most specimens found were more the size of a turkey. It belongs to a previously unknown dinosaur lineage, University of Birmingham paleontologist Martín Ezcurra said.

"The most interesting (aspect) about *Chilesaurus* is the story that it tells about how evolution works," he said.

"Convergent evolution' is a process in which two unrelated species or groups acquire similar characteristics from living in similar environments or having a similar behaviour," like the wings of a bat and a bird, Ezcurra added. "In the case of 'mosaic convergent evolution,' different parts of the body resemble those of other unrelated species, such as in the case of the platypus and *Chilesaurus*."

Most theropods were meat-eaters, although a few lineages preferred salad over steak. *Chilesaurus diegosuarezi*, whose name honours the country where it was unearthed and the 7-year-old who spotted the first fossils, is the first known Southern Hemisphere herbivorous theropod. Four nearly complete skeletons and dozens of bones from other individuals were found, making *Chilesaurus* one of the best understood Jurassic Southern Hemisphere dinosaurs.

The research appears in the journal *Nature*.

Reuters



An artist's depiction shows the *Chilesaurus diegosuarezi* in this undated handout illustration provided by the University of Birmingham in Birmingham, Alabama on 27 April, 2015. — REUTERS

## SpaceX rocket blasts off with 1<sup>st</sup> satellite for Turkmenistan

CAPE CANAVERAL, 28 April — An unmanned SpaceX rocket blasted off from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida on Monday to put a communications satellite into orbit for the government of Turkmenistan, a first for the Central Asian nation.

After waiting almost an hour for cloudy skies to clear, the 22-story Falcon 9 rocket bolted off its seaside launch pad at 7:03 pm (2303 GMT).

Perched on top of the rocket was a Spacebus 4000 telecommunications satellite, built by Thales Alenia Space, a joint venture of Thales SA and Finmeccanica SpA.

Once in orbit, the five-ton (4,500-kg) satellite, known as TurkmenAlem52E, will become Turkmenistan's first telecommunications spacecraft, relaying television broadcasts and other services to more than 1.2 billion people in Central Asia, Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, according to Thales Alenia Space.

"The launch is a vital first step in Turkmenistan's



The SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket with Dragon capsule sits on launch pad 40. — REUTERS

development as a space nation," Jean Loic Galle, president and chief executive of Thales Alenia Space, said in a SpaceX webcast video before launch.

From its perch 22,300 miles above Earth, the satellite, designed to last 15 years, will be located in a slot controlled by Monaco. In exchange for letting Turkmenistan operate there, Monaco's satellite

operator, Space Systems International, has use of 12 of the spacecraft's Ku-band transponders.

Monday's launch was the 18<sup>th</sup> for Space Exploration Technologies, the privately owned, California-based company known as SpaceX, and its second in less than two weeks.

SpaceX has been experimenting with landing the rockets on an ocean

barge, but skipped the test after Monday's launch because the rocket needed all its fuel to properly position TurkmenAlem52E into its initial orbit.

Landing attempts are expected to resume in June when SpaceX launches its next cargo ship to the International Space Station, which flies about 250 miles (418 km) above Earth.

Reuters

## Tencent takes on Alibaba, Xiaomi with open smart hardware operating system

BEIJING, 28 April — China's Tencent Holdings Ltd launched on Tuesday an operating system for internet-connected devices such as TVs and watches that is open to all developers, taking on domestic rivals Alibaba Group Holding Ltd and Xiaomi Inc [XTC.UL] in the smart hardware space.

Tencent Operating System (OS) and TOS+ allow manufacturers and developers to freely use the platform if they agree to share revenue. This model mirrors Google Inc's Android mobile OS, and could help Tencent replicate the US firm's conquest of the majority of the world's smartphones.

Tencent is the dominant social networking and online entertainment company in China, and the success of its OS would deepen its control over users' screens. Tencent's WeChat mobile messaging app is the most widely used for communication, and is also popular for shopping, gaming and other mobile services such as hailing a taxi.

"We want to inject more content into smart hardware systems and have



Visitors use their smart phones underneath the logo of Tencent at the Global Mobile Internet Conference in Beijing on 6 May, 2014. — REUTERS

connectivity across different terminals," Zhong Xiangping, head of TOS+, told the Global Mobile Internet Conference in Beijing.

Tencent, e-commerce giant Alibaba, which develops the Yun Operating System (OS), and smartphone maker Xiaomi have already made forays into smart hardware, with internet-connected TVs, fitness bands and air purifiers. Their systems for both mobile and hardware offer an alternative to Google's services, many of which are unusable in Chi-

na, including key features for Android, due to several factors including censorship and licensing issues.

Tencent said it wanted to layer the Android-based TOS+ over smart hardware, from TVs to watches and virtual reality headsets. That would mean playing games on a TV using a smartphone, or using a TOS+ smart watch to make payments from a handset, Zhong said.

Earlier this month, Alibaba formed a 'smart living' business unit as it races to introduce internet and com-

puting capabilities to various kinds of everyday products.

The company's finance affiliate Ant Financial also teamed with Xiaomi to jointly develop mobile payment systems using wearable technology.

Baidu Inc, China's biggest search engine, is also developing its own Android-based smart watch OS, DuWear, compatible with Sony Corp, Lenovo Group Ltd's Motorola and LG Corp wearables. The DuWear Watch is set to go on sale in June. — Reuters

## Bangladesh opposition boycotts mayoral elections as being rigged

DHAKA, 28 April — Bangladesh's main opposition party on Tuesday boycotted three mayoral elections over accusations of massive rigging, fanning fears of further unrest in the South Asian nation.

Political uncertainty has persisted since January 2014, when Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's Awami League won a second consecutive term after a bloody parliamentary election boycotted by the main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP).

The BNP, led by Khaleda Zia, has stepped up protests this year in a bid to force Hasina to step down and hold a new vote under a neutral caretaker administration after last year's poll, which was deemed by international observers to be flawed.

Tuesday's mayoral elections are being held for two city corporation posts in Dhaka, the capital, and one in the port city of Chittagong, with a total of 6 million eligible voters.

Reuters

# Nepalis dig through quake rubble for survivors, PM says toll could be 10,000



*Nepalese army personnel and a sniffer dog search for victims amidst the rubble of collapsed houses after Saturday's earthquake in Bhaktapur, Nepal on 27 April, 2015.—REUTERS*

KATHMANDU, 28 April — The death toll from Nepal's devastating earthquake could reach 10,000, the prime minister said on Tuesday, as residents frustrated by the government's slow response used their bare hands to dig for signs of their loved ones.

"The government is doing all it can for rescue and relief on a war footing," Prime Minister Sushil Koirala told Reuters. "It is a challenge and a very dif-

ficult hour for Nepal."

International aid has finally begun arriving in the Himalayan nation of 28 million people, three days after Saturday's 7.9 magnitude quake, but disbursement is slow. According to the home (interior) ministry, the confirmed death toll stands at 4,349, with more than 7,000 injured.

"The death toll could go up to 10,000 because information from remote villages hit by the earthquake

is yet to come in," Koirala said.

The United Nations said 8 million people were affected by the quake and that 1.4 million people were in need of food.

Nepal's most deadly quake in 81 years also triggered a huge avalanche on Mount Everest that killed at least 17 climbers and guides, including four foreigners, the worst single disaster on the world's highest peak.

All the climbers who had been stranded at camps high up on Everest had been flown by helicopters to safety, mountaineers reported on Tuesday.

A series of aftershocks, severe damage from the quake, creaking infrastructure and a lack of funds have slowed rescue efforts in the impoverished, mountainous country sandwiched between India and China. In the capital Kathmandu, youths and relatives of victims were digging into the ruins of destroyed buildings and landmarks.

"Waiting for help is more torturous than doing this ourselves," said Pradip Subba, searching for the bodies of his brother and sister-in-law in the debris of Kathmandu's historic Dharahara tower. The 19th century minaret collapsed on Saturday as weekend sightseers clambered up its spiral stairs.

"Our hands are the only machine right now," said the 27-year-old, part of a group of locals pulling out bricks and blocks of concrete with cloth masks over their faces to ward off the stench of rotting bodies.

"There is just no one from the government or the army to help us."

Scores of people were killed in the collapse of the tower.

Elsewhere in the capital's ancient Durbar Square, groups of young men cleared rubble from around an ancient temple, using pickaxes, shovels and their bare hands. A few policemen stood by, watching.

Heavy rain later on Tuesday slowed down the rescue work.

The head of neighbouring India's National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), one of the first foreign organizations to arrive in Nepal to help in the search and rescue effort, said finding survivors and the bodies of the dead would take time.

NDRF Director General OP Singh said heavy equipment could not fit through many of the narrow streets of Kathmandu.

"You have to remove all this rubble, so that will take a lot of time ... I think it's going to take weeks," he told Indian television channel NDTV late on Monday.—Reuters

## S Korea sunken ferry captain sentenced to life in prison

SEOUL, 28 April — The captain who abandoned a South Korean ferry when it sank in April last year, killing more than 300 passengers, was sentenced to life imprisonment for murder on Tuesday.

Besides handing down the sentence to 69-year-old Lee Joon Seok, the high court in the southwestern city of Gwangju sentenced 14 other crewmembers to prison terms ranging from 18 months to 12 years for their role in abandoning the ferry and its passengers.

Prosecutors had sought the death sentence for Lee.

Last November, Lee was sentenced by a lower court to 36 years in prison, while the others were given sentences ranging from five to 30 years. At that time, the murder charge was not acknowledged by the court.

The captain was one of the first to be rescued when the ferry, carrying 476 people, mostly high school students on an excursion, capsized and sank off South

Korea's southwest coast on 16 April. "Captain Lee's acts is tantamount to that of a person with the fullest responsibility escaping from a rooftop by helicopter when a building is on fire," Suh Kyung Hwan, the presiding judge, said, according to *Yonhap News Agency*.

Suh criticized Lee for having fled the ship and "abandoned 304 passengers, including young stu-

dents, who were waiting in an orderly manner aboard the vessel at his instruction."

"Given the heavy responsibility given to the captain, his acts are akin to murder," the judge said.

The bodies of 295 victims have been recovered while nine others are still missing. A total of 172 people survived.

*Kyodo News*



*Judges sit to preside over verdicts of the sunken South Korean ferry Sewol's crew members are charged with negligence and abandonment of passengers in the disaster at Gwangju High Court in Gwangju, South Korea on 28 April, 2015.—REUTERS*

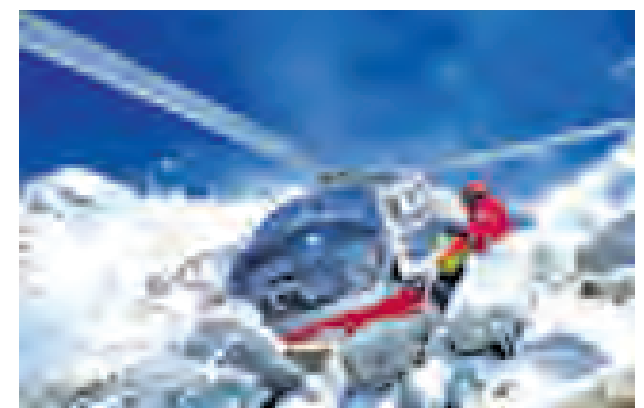
## All climbers at camps high up Everest airlifted to safety

NEW DELHI, 28 April — All of the climbers who had been stranded at camps high up Mount Everest by a huge earthquake and avalanches have been helicoptered to safety, mountaineers reported from base camp on Tuesday.

Taking advantage of Monday's clear weather, three helicopters shuttled climbers all day from camp 1, above the impassable Khumbu icefalls, while others trekked back from camp 2 to be airlifted out.

Around half of the tents at Everest base camp were destroyed by an avalanche unleashed by Saturday's 7.9 magnitude earthquake, killing between 17 and 22 climbers, according to separate accounts.

Canadian Nick Cienski said many of the returning climbers' tent camps had been wiped out by the avalanche which, surging at speeds estimated at up to 300 km per hour, cut a swath through base camp, hurling gear, people and



*A rescue helicopter is shown at the Mount Everest south base camp in Nepal a day after a huge earthquake-caused avalanche killed at least 17 people, in this photo courtesy of 6summitschallenge.com taken on 26 April, 2015 and released on 27 April, 2015.—REUTERS*

tents hundreds of feet.

"Many of these people have no camps, no tents, nothing left — everything is strewn all over the glacier," Cienski said in a video dispatch recorded on Monday and posted on his Facebook page. "The only thing they've got is what they land with in the helicopter, what's in their packs."

Around 350 foreign climbers, and double the number of local sherpa

guides, had been on the 8,850-metre (29,035-foot) mountain when the worst ever disaster on world's tallest peak struck.

Danish climber Carsten Lillelund Pedersen said his team had been trekking on Saturday down from camp 2, which is at an altitude of 6,400 metres, when it was caught in a whiteout and had to turn back. He eventually made it to camp 1.

Reuters

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**THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR  
MINISTRY OF ENERGY  
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE  
( INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER )  
(7/2015)**

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

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB-003(15-16)	NDT Service for 10" Toe River Crossing Gas Pipe Line by HDD Rig (3200) Ft	US\$
(2)	IFB-004(15-16)	NDT Service for 12" Hlaing River Crossing Gas Pipe Line by HDD Rig (3200) Ft	US\$
(3)	IFB-005(15-16)	Electrical Spares for D <sub>3</sub> T <sub>2</sub> SR Rigs (29) Items	US\$
(4)	IFB-006(15-16)	Spares for Cummins KTA 2300 C 1050 Engine (7) Items	US\$
(5)	IFB-007(15-16)	Spares for GM 6V 71 Engine (4) Items	US\$
(6)	IFB-008(15-16)	Spares for GM 6V 53 Engine (4) Items	US\$

Tender Closing Date & Time - 25-5-2015, 16:30 Hr  
Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise  
Ph.+9567 -411097/411206

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV VEGA LUPUS VOY NO (1505)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VEGA LUPUS VOY NO (1505) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.4.2015 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.

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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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AGENT FOR: M/S CMA CGM**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV WU LIU XIAN FENG VOY NO ( )**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WU LIU XIAN FENG VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.4.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W(3) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S SIPGL PROJECT  
LOGISTICS BRANG**

Phone No: 2301186

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV BANGKACHAI VOY NO (135)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKACHAI VOY NO (135) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.4.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(5) 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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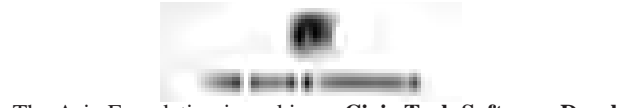
Phone No: 2301186

**Objection on Marriage Advertisement**

Under the authority invested by my client - children of U Khin Maung - Daw Khin Yee, I hereby would like to notify persons concerned on the following advertisement issued in **The Global New Light of Myanmar** Daily dated 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2015.

Relating with marriage advertisement announced between Hein Min Soe and Ei Nandar in 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2015 (Thursday). **The Global New Light of Myanmar** issue, children of U Khin Maung - Daw Khin Yee object the announcement and would like to warn against the false information. It is to note that the bride Ei Nandar is not a blood daughter of Khin Maung Thaw - San San Soe and also that she is not related in any-way with U Khin Maung - Daw Khin Yee of (Zigon), Bago Division (now - Region). Therefore the client would like to warn seriously not to use false information and cheating the truth and if further false commitment should make, the offender shall be dealt with according to the Law, under Action in personam. My client children of U Khin Maung - Daw Khin Yee (Zigon - Bago Division) (now-Region) warn this false plot seriously to the offender. Under the instruction of :

**Daw Thae Wai Soe (LL,B)  
Advocate (Sr. 10399)  
No. 304, Tapinshweh Street,  
Tharyarwaddy Tsp, Bago Region.**



The Asia Foundation is seeking a **Civic Tech Software Development Consultant** to work with the Foundation and its partners in Myanmar to increase voter education and outreach for the upcoming 2015 election. The ideal candidate will be a local Myanmar-based software developer with a native grasp of the Myanmar language and a passion for building APIs, mobile apps, maps, and other technology-enabled tools that can enhance public access to voter information. Candidates should submit a cover letter and CV to Ms. Wine Wai Wai Win at [wine.win@asiafoundation.org](mailto:wine.win@asiafoundation.org) by May 4, 2015. Only short-listed applicants will be notified.

**WEATHER REPORT**

**BAY INFERENCE:** Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2015:** Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Shan, Chin, Kayin and Mon States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

**Colombian President urges teachers to end strike**

BOGOTA, 28 April — Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos on Monday called on the teachers Union to end strike, saying that the education minister is open to dialogue.

“What I insistently ask is that children are not affected. They should not be paying the piper of these protests. I repeat, this gov-

ernment dialogues and respects protests. We are more than willing to dialogue, as we have been doing before,” Santos said. Santos made the appeal during a traditional address on a state-run TV programme after thousands of teachers took to the streets of major cities in Colombia, including Bogota. “We know that

we still have a long way to go. We want to do so, we have every intention of doing so. Teachers need better income, better working conditions and better training,” the Colombian President said.

Meanwhile, the Colombian Minister of Education, Gina Parody, said that the government will

not negotiate if the teachers do not return to schools, and will not study their proposal as they are carrying out an indefinite strike. Parody said that she is open to dialogue with the leaders of Colombia's Education Workers Union on condition that they teachers end the strike and get back to classrooms.—*Xinhua*

**Police detain student gunman at Washington state school, no injuries**

SEATTLE, 28 April — A student fired off two shots inside a Washington state high school on Monday and was tackled by a teacher before anyone was hurt, averting a potentially deadly tragedy, police and students said.

The 16-year-old student, armed with a revolver, shot off two rounds that struck the floor and ceiling inside a stairwell at North Thurston High School in Lacey, just outside Olympia, Lacey police commander Joe Upton said.

A government teacher at the school, identified as Brady Olson, tackled the boy before more shots could be fired, and police took the teen into custody just before 8 am, authorities said. No-body was hurt.

The incident marked the latest in a series of campus shootings that have sparked a national conversation about school safety, and came months after a student opened fire at another Washington state high school, fatally shooting four people before turning the gun on himself. “I reacted in a way that any other teacher

would react and at the sound of a gunshot, ... going toward the sound of gunfire rather than away,” Olson said in a statement, adding that at least three other staff members had headed toward the shooter.

“No one, including myself, can prepare for a situation like this, so I'm very thankful that we're all okay. As always, students come first, and today was no different,” he said. The boy told investigators he did not want to hurt anybody but wanted to be shot and killed by the school resource officer, said Lacey police commander Jim Mack. School officials said the boy had recently transferred to the school and faced bullying. Mack said the student will face multiple gun charges. Panicked students fled the building after hearing the shots, local broadcaster KOMO reported. “I heard a bang, but I thought it was a table that fell,” student Elora Shields told the station. “And then we heard it again, and then everyone started running. So I ran outside with my friends.”—*Reuters*

## Two Elvis jets to grace Presley's Memphis home permanently



File photo of fans lining up to enter Elvis' private plane named the "Lisa Marie" near Graceland in Memphis, Tennessee on 17 Aug, 2007.—REUTERS

MEMPHIS, (Tennessee), 28 April — Two jets that once belonged to Elvis Presley, the Lisa Marie and the Hound Dog II, will have a permanent home at the singer's Graceland

mansion in Memphis, Tennessee, Graceland said.

The continued presence of the airplanes, a tour staple since 1984, had been in doubt since a partnership that owned them said last

July their agreement with Elvis Presley Enterprises was expiring this month and they could be removed.

Graceland said in a statement on Sunday it was "pleased an agreement has been reached" and the airplanes would remain on permanent display. It released no other details.

Elvis' daughter, Lisa Marie Presley, who owns the Graceland mansion, said on Twitter the airplanes would remain at Graceland forever. "We own them and have fun plans 4 them as well," Presley tweeted.

Last July, KG Coker, a member of the partnership, said the group was prepared to sell the airplanes

if they went off display. He could not be reached for comment on Monday.

Under its previous agreement, the partnership received a small percentage of the profits from ticket sales to tour Graceland, where the "king of rock 'n' roll" lived. Elvis died there in 1977.

The larger airplane, a Convair 880 four-engine jet, was named for Lisa Marie and is a little smaller than a Boeing 707. The smaller Hound Dog II is a JetStar.

More than half a million people visit Graceland each year, where admission tickets to tour the mansions and airplanes cost \$45 for adults.—Reuters

## Spice Girls to boycott Geri Halliwell's wedding?

LONDON, 28 April — Singer Geri Halliwell may be marrying the man of her dreams in the next few weeks, but it is reported that her former Spice Girls bandmates won't be there to join the celebrations.

Mel C is said to be busy working on "Asia's Got Talent", while Victoria Beckham will be overseas with work commitments, reported *Daily Mirror*. "Geri hoped to get the girls together as they've been a huge

part of her life but Victoria has work commitments out of the country and Mel C has already agreed to a TV role on Asia's Got Talent, which is going to clash," a source said. "Of course they both wish her the best for her big day but won't be able to be there in person. Fortunately, Mel B is heading back to attend," the source added. Halliwell, 42, and Formula 1 boss Christian Horner, 41, got engaged in November last year.—PTI



## Paul McCartney announces first US arena show of 2015

LOS ANGELES, 28 April — Singer Paul McCartney has announced that he is playing his first US arena date of 2015 at Philadelphia's Wells Fargo Centre on 21 June.

The show, which will be a part of his "Out There Tour", will mark his first time making a stop in the city since his sold-out two-night concert back in 2010. Tickets go on sale on 1 May, reported Ace Showbiz. McCartney is currently touring Japan and South Korea.

In addition to the Philly date, the 72-year-old British musician is expected to return to the US for appearances at Firefly Festival on 19 June and Lollapalooza on 31 July.—PTI

## 'Avengers' expands universe with 'Ultron' as Marvel goes dark

LOS ANGELES, 28 April — The caped crusaders are back in force in "Avengers: Age of Ultron," but this time, the evil they battle is bringing them face to face with the darker consequences of being a super hero.

"Age of Ultron," the sequel to Walt Disney Co's 2012 Marvel blockbuster "Avengers" and out in US theatres on Friday, will see its star-studded super hero ensemble — Iron Man, Thor, Black Widow, Captain America, The Hulk and Hawkeye — tackle their own fears.

Writer-director Joss Whedon said he wanted to "perform a little open heart surgery" on the Avengers, and "let the audience experience them on a more personal level than they ever have before."

In "Age of Ultron,"



Director Joss Whedon poses with cast members Robert Downey Jr (L) and Mark Ruffalo (R) at a news conference for "Avengers: Age of Ultron" in Beijing on 19 April, 2015.—REUTERS

Marvel's super hero worlds come crashing together as the super heroes tackle a complex villain in Ultron (James Spader), spawned out of artificial intelligence and evolving into a megalomaniac.

With help from twins

Pietro (Aaron Taylor-Johnson), known as Quicksilver for his super speed, and Wanda (Elizabeth Olsen), the Scarlet Witch with thought-altering magic powers, Ultron makes the Avengers at times turn on themselves.

Robert Downey Jr, Marvel's Iron Man and patriarch of the franchise, said given the present day "world stage," now is the time for the Avengers to get real.

"This is where you have to actually start dealing with the ramifications of saving the world," he said.

The trend toward sombre super heroes has already proved to be a winner at the box office for other studios. The 2013 Superman film "Man of Steel," from Time Warner Inc's Warner Bros, made more than \$660 million worldwide. The studio's "Dark Knight" Batman trilogy grossed more than \$2 billion globally between 2005 and 2012.

Olsen said "Age of Ultron" allows audiences to see the "most human versions" of the seemingly in-

vincible Avengers.

"It's darker, more emotional and more based on the characters as people, as opposed to super heroes," she said.

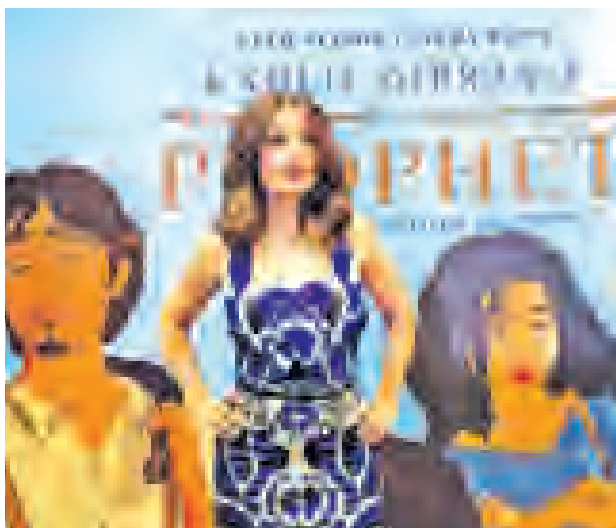
"Avengers" became the third-highest grossing film of all-time, and "Age of Ultron," made for \$250 million, is expected to match, and possibly surpass, its predecessor's \$1.5 billion take at the global box office.

The strategy to tackle more serious themes may aid the film's box office, said entertainment industry analyst Hal Vogel, "because it seems to reflect a change in the social mood."

Ahead of its US debut on Friday, "Age of Ultron" amassed \$201.2 million across 44 countries, outpacing its predecessor's opening weekend take.

Reuters

## Salma Hayek pays tribute to Lebanese roots with film of 'The Prophet'



Movie star Salma Hayek poses in front of a billboard for her movie 'The Prophet' in Beirut, Lebanon on 27 April, 2015.—REUTERS

BEIRUT, 28 April — Mexican actress Salma Hayek says her new film "The Prophet" was a labour of love that helped her explore her relationship with her late Lebanese grandfather, who adored the book that inspired it.

The animated film, which draws on the 1923 book by Lebanese-born writer Kahlil Gibran, tells the story of Almitra, a headstrong girl who forms a friendship with imprisoned poet Mustafa.

Hayek co-produced the film and does the voice-over for Almitra's mother, Kamila. The story explores

the themes of love and spirituality.

"Through this book I got to know my grandfather, through this book I got to have my grandfather teaching me about life," she said in Beirut where she was launching the film.

"For me this is a love letter to my heritage."

Hayek and father visited her grandfather's village Baabdat, in what she described as an emotional journey.

"Between all the connections of our ancestors and the memories of the ones that are no longer with us, I hope they are proud

of this film because I did it also for them," she said.

Hayek also visited Gibran's birthplace, Bcharre village, on Sunday to pay tribute to the writer and his book, a series of poetic essays written in English which has sold more than 100 million copies worldwide.

In the film, written and directed by Lion King director Roger Allers, Mustafa is locked away for his poetry which is deemed dangerous and rebellious.

He explains to Almitra how he escapes his imprisonment through his mind.

"My words are my

wings," he says.

Mustafa is voiced by Liam Neeson, who was easily drawn to the small-budget film, Hayek said.

"He loves the book, he knew the poems by heart."

Hayek says she was personally inspired by Gibran's mother who shares the name of her character Kamila. After an unhappy marriage Kamila moved to the United States and worked selling cloth to provide for her four children.

"Because of her courage Kahlil Gibran was inspired to be the man that he became," Hayek said.

Reuters

GENERAL

# Nine await execution in Indonesia, as foreign hopes for reprieve fade

CILACAP, (Indonesia), 28 April — Nine drug traffickers met their families for what could be the final time at an Indonesian maximum security prison on Tuesday, after Jakarta rejected international pleas for clemency and ordered their executions to proceed, possibly within hours.

The death penalties imposed on eight foreigners and an Indonesian have been condemned by the United Nations, and strained ties between neighbours Australia and Indonesia.

Security at the prison was heightened and religious counsellors, doctors and the firing squad were alerted to start final preparations for the execution of the four Nigerians, two Australians, an Indonesian, a Brazilian and a Filipina.

“We’re hoping for a miracle,” Marites Veloso, the sister of death-row inmate Mary Jane Veloso of the Philippines, told reporters as she entered the prison for a final visit.

A dozen ambulances, some carrying white satin-covered coffins, arrived at the Nusakambangan prison island in central Java, where the nine are expected

to be executed as early as Tuesday night.

In chaotic scenes outside the jail, Australian family members, some weeping, arrived early to offer their final goodbyes to Myuran Sukumaran and Andrew Chan. One family member collapsed and was carried through the crowd. The convicts will no longer be able to receive visitors from 2 pm local time (0700 GMT) on Tuesday.

Authorities on Monday granted Chan’s last wish, which was to marry his Indonesian girlfriend Febyanti. A small group of family and friends attended the ceremony in his prison cell.

Rebuffing last-minute appeals from Australia and the Philippines to spare their nationals, Attorney General HM Prasetyo told Reuters late on Monday that the nine had been given notice and had been placed in isolation cells.

Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop said she had received a letter from her Indonesian counterpart that gave no indication President Joko Widodo would change his mind and grant the clemency requested by Australia.



Indonesian policemen stand guard in front of ambulances at Wijayapura port near the prison island of Nusa Kambangan in Cilacap, Central Java island, Indonesia on 28 April, 2015.—REUTERS

Indonesia’s neighbour has been pursuing an eleventh-hour campaign to save the lives of Sukumaran and Chan, who were arrested in 2005 as the ringleaders of a plot to smuggle heroin out of Indonesia.

The pending executions have strained Indonesia’s relations with Australia, Nigeria and Brazil, which will likely worsen after the death sentences are carried out.

Adding to the tensions, a religious counsellor who has known the Australian men for years said he was refused permission on Tuesday to visit the pair in their

final hours.

Australia-Indonesia relations have been tested in recent years by disputes over people smuggling and spying. In late 2013 Indonesia recalled its envoy and froze military and intelligence cooperation over reports that Canberra had spied on top Indonesian officials, including the former president’s wife.

“We don’t want to make enemies with any country, but we are fighting narcotics whose impacts are horrific, especially in Indonesia,” Prasetyo said.

Reuters

# New York state to turn lights out for migrating birds

NEW YORK, 28 April — On their arduous flights North to their breeding grounds, birds migrating up the US East Coast will have one less peril to worry about — bright lights from state-owned and -managed buildings in New York.

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo on Monday said that state buildings will turn off non-essential outdoor lighting from 11 pm until dawn during peak migration in the spring and fall.

The state is along the Atlantic Flyway, one of four major routes for birds coming North in the spring from their warmer winter hideouts.

To get here, many migrating species — including colorful warblers and other song birds — fly at night and navigate by the stars, using constellations to guide them.

But outdoor nighttime lights, especially in bad



New York Governor Andrew Cuomo speaks to the media in Havana on 20 April, 2015.—REUTERS

weather, can disorient the birds and cause them to crash into windows, walls, floodlights or the ground.

The phenomenon, called “fatal light attraction,” has killed an estimated 500 million to one billion birds annually in the United States, the governor’s office said, citing US Department of Agriculture data.

Migrating birds even fly right through the towers and canyons of New York City. Earlier this month, a

Chuck-will’s-widow — a brown, nocturnal insect-eater with a lizard-like head so flat and large it can swallow small birds whole — spent several days just a few blocks from Times Square, perched atop a branch in New York City’s Bryant Park on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street.

Now bright lights will be turned off by New York state during the spring rush north from 15 April until 31 May and again during the fall migration south to

warmer climes from 15 August until 15 November.

By joining with the National Audubon Society’s Lights Out programme, the state buildings follow other well known structures that have also agreed to limit lighting, including Rockefeller Centre, the Chrysler Building and the Time Warner Centre.

“This is a simple step to help protect these migrating birds that make their home in New York’s forests, lakes and rivers,” Cuomo said in a statement.

Lights Out efforts are already protecting birds in the east coast cities including Baltimore and Washington, and in other US metropolitan areas including Chicago, Minneapolis and San Francisco, according to Audubon. Bird lovers can learn more about the Lights Out programme by visiting the state’s new website [www.iloveny.com/birding](http://www.iloveny.com/birding).

Reuters

## mitv Myanmar International

(29-4-2015 07:00 am~ 30-4-2015 07:00 am) MST

- \* News
- \* School For the Blind (Kye Myin Dine)
- \* Distinguished Myanmar Ladies “Ma Myint Zu”
- \* News
- \* An Aficionado of Alluring Antiques
- \* News
- \* Youth Filmmaker “Wera Aung”
- \* A Tea Business: Pankwan (Part-1)
- \* Ancient Pagodas In Myaing Township
- \* News
- \* Applied Myanmar Traditional Martial Art (Part-2)
- \* News
- \* To The Land of Countless Temples - Bagan Trip (Ep-2)
- \* Wholesale Fish
- \* Today Myanmar “ASEAN Traditional Food”
- \* News
- \* Myanmar Sculpture-Work of Art
- \* To The Blue Ridge Mountains of Rhododendrons
- \* Kyaikhteeyoe: Mountain Drivers
- \* News
- \* Insight Myanmar “Responsible Tourism and Economy”
- \* Ngapali, Unique Spot To Relax
- \* News
- \* Moe Ne’ Keeps Its Tradition Alive
- \* My Life & My Art
- \* News
- \* Archery Session (from Ramayana Play)
- \* Products of Myanmar - Strong And Stylish Pakokku Slippers
- \* News
- \* Chinlone & The Dreams of the players
- \* All About Orchids
- \* Orphanage

## MRTV News Channel in Brief

(29-4-2015, Wednesday)

- 6:00 am**
- Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 6:20 am**
- Physical Exercise
- 7:00 am**
- News / Weather Report
- 7:35 am**
- Money Talk Myanmar
- 8:35 am**
- People’s Talks
- 9:00 am**
- News / International News
- 9:35 am**
- Science and Technology Programme
- 10:30 am**
- Head Line News
- 11:35 am**
- MRTV’s Youth Programme
- 12:00 noon**
- News / International News / Weather Report
- 12:35 pm**
- TV Drama Series
- 1:40 pm**
- Documentary
- 2:35 pm**
- Traditional Boxing
- 3:30 pm**
- Head Line News
- 4:30 pm**
- Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competition
- 4:40 pm**
- University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) —Third Year (Zoology)
- 5:00 pm**
- News / Weather Report
- 5:35 pm**
- Head Line News
- 6:00 pm**
- News / Weather Report
- 6:30 pm**
- Head Line News
- 7:00 pm**
- News
- 7:35 pm**
- Documentary
- 8:00 pm**
- News / International News / Weather Report
- 8:35 pm**
- Documentary
- 9:00 pm**
- News / International News / Weather Report
- Pyi Thi Ni Ti

## MRTV Entertainment Channel

(29-4-2015, Wednesday)

- 6:00 am**
- Mono Classical Songs
- 6:20 am**
- Myanmar Series
- 7:05 am**
- Fashion Show
- 7:15 am**
- TV Drama Series
- 8:00 am**
- TV Drama Series
- 8:50 am**
- Pyi Thu Ni Ti
- 9:15 am**
- Joint Performance by State Orchestra
- 9:35 am**
- Musical Programme
- 9:50 am**
- Myanmar Movie

## Ayeyawady, Lao Toyota to take one-minute silence in group match

YANGON, 28 April — Ayeyawady United F.C. will play against Lao Toyota F.C. in the group match of AFC Cup at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna, here, at 3.30 pm on 29 April.

The press conference on the group match of AFC cup was held at YTC on Tuesday, attended by head coaches of both teams, players and media.

Players of both teams will take a one-minute silence in memory of the deaths at the Nepal's earthquake in their match.

MFF



Players of Myanmar national women's team taking an intensive training at the training ground of BEC Tero Sasana FC of Thailand on 28 April morning to be able to take part in 2015 AFF Women's Championship. MFF

## Manager Pearson tries to keep Leicester grounded



Leicester City manager Nigel Pearson celebrates with Jamie Vardy at the end of the match — Burnley v Leicester City — Barclays Premier League at Turf Moor on 25 April, 2015.—REUTERS

LONDON, 28 April — Leicester City manager Nigel Pearson was trying to keep his players' feet on the ground on Monday following a run of four successive Premier League victories which have lifted them out of the bottom three.

Leicester, who host leaders Chelsea on Wednesday, are now one point above the relegation zone with five matches left having won four top-flight games in a row during a season for the first time since 1966.

"Results are more important than performances. It's been very satisfying to get four wins and it gives us a realistic chance but there is still a lot of football to be played," Pearson told reporters.

"Every game now has something riding on it. There's lots left to do. The only thing that matters is that we're out of the bottom three after 38 games. To do that we have to remain focused."

Pearson thanked the

club's fans who have endured a largely frustrating first season back in the top flight until the team's recent revival, which has brought wins over West Ham United, West Bromwich Albion, Swansea City and Burnley.

"Throughout the season our fans have remained positive, but in the last few games, in particular, they have inspired us," he said.

Four of their last five matches are at home, against Chelsea, Newcastle United, Southampton and Queens Park Rangers, with the only away trip to Sunderland.

QPR, Sunderland and, possibly, Newcastle are still involved in the relegation battle and victories over their fellow strugglers could be enough to keep Leicester up. Striker David Nugent and full back Jeffrey Schlupp picked up knocks against Burnley on Saturday but are still in contention to face Chelsea.

Reuters

## Bournemouth all but promoted to Premier League

LONDON, 28 April — Bournemouth's remarkable rise from the brink of obscurity was virtually completed when they effectively sealed promotion to the Premier League for the first time in their 116-year history on Monday.

A 3-0 win over Bolton Wanderers sparked ecstatic scenes at the south-coast club who almost went out of existence in 2009 because of crippling debts but have stabilised and then flourished under the investment of Russian owner Maxim Demin.

The Cherries have a superior goal difference that makes it almost impossible — a 19-goal swing — for them to be overtaken by Middlesbrough for the second automatic promotion

place, even if they lose their final match. Watford were promoted from the Championship on Saturday.

Promotion to the Premier League is expected to bring a potential cash boost of more than 120 million pounds (\$182.23 million) to a club who six years ago just avoided relegation from the Football League.

That figure and the success of this season may forever change a club with a home ground which can hold just over 12-thousand.

Manager Eddie Howe, 37, the former Cherries player behind Bournemouth's remarkable upturn in fortunes, savoured the most important win in their history.

"This club was on its knees six years, we had nothing. A group of supporters put their money in their pockets to keep the club alive and they are reaping the rewards," he told BBC Radio 5 live as players sprayed champagne and celebrated with fans on the pitch at the Goldsands Stadium.

"It is the club I watched as kid, the club that gave me an opportunity in the game as a player and a manager. It shouldn't be them thanking me, It should be me thanking them. It is a family club and deserves its moment in the sun.

"It is never a journey we expected to go on but through some hard work and some investment we managed to do it. The

players have been magnificent and an achievement they deserved."

Two fine goals in the last five minutes of the first half, first from Marc Pugh and then Matt Ritchie, sparked the celebrations. The victory was sealed with 12 minutes remaining when the club's top scorer Callum Wilson got the third.

That goal came shortly after Bolton had been reduced to ten men, Dorian Dervite seeing red for a professional foul in the box.

Yann Kermorgant sent the resulting penalty high over the bar, not that it mattered, with the home fans roaring 'We are going up!' long before the final whistle.

Reuters



Bournemouth fans celebrate during AFC Bournemouth v Bolton Wanderers, Sky Bet Football League Championship at Goldsands Stadium, Dean Court on 27 April, 2015.—REUTERS