



## President discusses power generation with GE executive

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## Fishery exports continue to fall despite dollar's strength: MFF

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 14 July — The recent strength of the U.S. dollar has brought little relief to Myanmar's fishery sectors, with exports continuing to fall, a senior official of the Myanmar Fisheries Federation said Tuesday.

"The strengthening U.S. dollar has brought no joy to the sector," MFF senior vice chairman U Hnin Oo told The Global New Light of Myanmar at the federation's regular meeting.

The vice-chairman estimated the value of this year's marine exports to be \$250 million below the peak year.

According to the MFF, the country's fishery exports earned only \$420 million in the past fiscal year, down roughly \$100 million from the preceding 12 months.

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A woman checks a pile of fish at Kyimyindine Baho Sanpya Fish Market in Yangon. Myanmar's earnings from marine exports fell to around \$400 million in the previous fiscal year from more than \$500 million the year earlier, an MFF official says. —PHOTO: CREDIT TO XINHUANET.COM

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## MNA to commence Yangon-Singapore service 17 August

YANGON, 14 July— Myanmar National Airlines will spread its wings

to Singapore on 17 August, resuming international services for the first time

in 22 years, the carrier announced Tuesday.

Using a brand new

Boeing 737-800, MNA will fly to Singapore Sunday through Friday, depart-

ing Yangon at 10:15 a.m. and arriving in Singapore at 2:45 p.m. local time, the

By Aye Min Soe

airline said.

The service will depart Singapore at 4 p.m. local time and arrive in Yangon at 5.30 p.m.

The national carrier plans to make the Yangon-Singapore service seven days a week from 25 October.

MNA has also touted plans to include 26 domestic destinations in August and four destinations in the Asia Pacific region in early 2016 such as Hong Kong and Taipei in an expanded flight roster.

The Boeing 737-800 arrived at Yangon International Airport on 15 June, 2015. Six pilots and seven copilots have been undertaking flight training with the plane since 18 June.

GNLM



*The newly rebranded state flag carrier Myanmar National Airlines will launch services on the highly competitive Yangon-Singapore route on 17 August, 2015.*

PHOTO: MYANMAR NATIONAL AIRLINES

## Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw clarifies Bill Amending Constitution

Pyidaungsu  
Hluttaw

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July — Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann on Tuesday explained the legislation process for schedules 2 and 5 of the Constitution, which have been approved for amendment by 75 percent of representatives in the bicameral assembly.

The bill for amendment of these schedules was submitted to the President on 10 July to become law, Thura U Shwe Mann said.

The speaker read out the cases on human trafficking and boat people including a reply from UN Secretary General Ban Ki-

moon, and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw recorded the issue.

Union Minister for Finance U Win Shein discussed tax collection procedures introduced this fiscal year.

The Public Accounts Joint Committee then presented its report on audit findings for budget expenditures in the second half of fiscal 2013-2014 and the first half of 2014-2015. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw agreed to debate the report.—MNA

**Representatives attend 71<sup>st</sup>-day session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.**—MNA



### Pyithu Hluttaw



**Deputy Minister Dr Aung Myat Oo.**—MNA



**Deputy Minister U Aung Than Oo.**—MNA

## Tidal electricity appropriate only for certain areas: Deputy Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July — Generating electricity from the sea or tidal waves is only suitable for areas that do not have other access to electricity or power grids, Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Aung Than Oo said at the Pyithu Hluttaw Session on Tuesday.

The deputy minister was responding to the question of a representative who asked whether the government has any plans to generate electricity from tidal waves.

In addition, generating electricity from tidal waves

needs a large amount of investment and is uneconomical, the deputy minister said, before concluding that the government has no plans to generate electricity from the sea.

Another question replied at today's session related to construction of a rural development road which contributes to 30 villages, 2,125 families and 10,147 people.

Deputy Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and

Rural Development Dr Aung Myat Oo said that the budget for construction of the road did not include in 2015-16 fiscal year and the ministry has no plans to build the road at the moment.

Pyithu Hluttaw Session today approved the bill amending the penal code and the bill amending the election of the president and vice presidents was submitted at the session.

MNA

## KBZ bank announces alliance with Taiwan's Cathay United Bank

YANGON, 14 July — Kanbawza Bank Limited (KBZ) on Tuesday announced the signing of Memorandum of Understanding with Cathay United Bank (CUB) that will promote collaboration between two banks in a number of areas.

The signing ceremony has taken place in Strand Square office complex, Yangon. The MOU is signed by Senior Managing Director U Than Cho of KBZ and President Mr. Chang Ken Lee of CUB. Ceremonial speeches are given by KBZ Executive Director Daw Nang Lang Kham and CUB President Mr. Chang Ken Lee.

Since the liberalization of Myanmar economy, KBZ has been expanding rapidly in international business. This MoU with CUB will allow KBZ to build further success on this collaboration. KBZ and CUB had already ex-



**Senior Managing Director U Than Cho of KBZ and President Mr. Chang Ken Lee of CUB sign MoU on promotion of collaboration between Kanbawza Bank Ltd and Cathay United Bank (CUB).**

cutted the first ever bilateral offshore loan in Myanmar worth US\$80 million for the benefit of Myanmar SMEs. The alliance will also cater to the needs of CUB's corporate customers who are exploring various

opportunities in Myanmar.

The two banks will collaborate closer in areas that include, but not limited to international banking services, technical assistance, staff training, interbank business, syndication loans

and customer matching. Through this alliance, KBZ aims to become the bank of choice for Taiwanese businesses and facilitate even more businesses between Myanmar and Taiwan.

GNLM

## Yangon police announce road closures for Martyrs' Day

YANGON, 14 July — Traffic routes near Yangon's Martyrs' Mausoleum will be closed for 24 hours from 6 p.m., 18 July, for the observation of Martyrs' Day beginning at 8 a.m. the following day, police said Tuesday.

The closure of routes will include from the junction of U Wisara Road and West Shwegondine Road to 1<sup>st</sup> Street of West Shwegondine Road; along Arzarni Street from West Shwegondine Road to the foot of the southern stairway of Shwedagon Pagoda; and Brick Street and Kyaukse Religious Community Hall Street leading to West Shwegondine Road.

Those attending the event must use the route that passes Arzarni Street near the southern stairway of the pagoda and pass the eastern side of the pagoda before entering Gate 2 of the mausoleum. They must exit through Gate 3 leading to West Shwegondine Road.

The Martyrs' Mausoleum will be open to the public from 12 noon to 5 p.m. on 19 July.

Visitors to the Martyrs' Mausoleum and the Bogyoke Aung San Museum are prohibited from bringing purses, handbags, cameras, mobile phones and wreaths which have not been checked by security officials.—GNLM

NATIONAL

## President discusses power generation with GE executive

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July—President U Thein Sein on Tuesday received General Electric Vice President Mr John G Rice at the hall of the Presidential Palace, here, to discuss cooperation in electric power generation.

They also discussed assistance for the health and transport sectors, de-

velopment of human resources, and increasing workers' capacity.

Also present at the meeting were union ministers U Soe Thane, U Khin Maung Soe, U Zeyar Aung, Dr Kan Zaw and U Than Htay, deputy minister U Thant Kyaw and officials.

MNA

*President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo together with General Electric Vice President Mr John G Rice.—MNA*



## Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets Vice President of US-based General Electric Company



NAY PYI TAW, 14 July—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received a delegation led by Vice President of US-based General Electric Company (GE) Mr. John G Rice at the hall of Pyithu Hluttaw, here, Tuesday.

Also present at the call were Pyithu Hluttaw committee chairmen, secretary and officials of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office.—MNA

*Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann meets General Electric Vice President Mr John G Rice.—MNA*

## Fishery exports continue to fall despite...

(from page 1)

Fishery producers and exporters want exchange rate stability, MFF general secretary U Win Kyaing said.

He recounted a situation in which the dollar decreased from K1200 to K680 a few months before November 2010, when the previous general election was held. The sector saw significant losses as its production costs had been based on the stronger dollar.

“At present, the different situation with the stronger dollar is being seen before the election which is set for November 2015,” he said.

A repeat of the 2010

turmoil needs to be avoided, added the general secretary, calling for an exchange rate that benefits both producers and exporters.

A stronger dollar benefits the fishery export sector only in the short term, as inputs such as raw materials and fuel are paid in dollars, said U Tun Hein, chairman of the Myanmar Fishery Products Processors and Exporters Association.

Following the reference foreign exchange rate of K1,200 to a dollar by the Central Bank of Myanmar on Monday, the dollar was trading from 1245 to 1260 in the market on Tuesday.—GNLM

## Myanmar delegation joins 39<sup>th</sup> session of World Heritage Committee

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July—The 39<sup>th</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee will be held at the World Conference Center Bonn (WCCB), Germany, from 28 June to 8 July.

The session discussed the minutes and decisions of the 38<sup>th</sup> session held in Qatar in 2014 and the report on world heritage sites approved by the 37<sup>th</sup> session, the report on conservation of world heritage in danger sites, and proposals to be submitted to the 2015 World Heritage List.

A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Culture Daw

Sanda Khin held talks with the Advisory Body of the World Heritage Centre and UNESCO on progress of tasks at ancient Pyu cities after enlisting them into the heritage list, matters related to Bagan and Mrauk-U regions, more technical assistance from Canadian experts for property management plan in ancient Pyu cities, and cooperation of UNESCO in 3 dimension and pilot project.

The deputy minister also met with the leader of cultural heritage management committee of the Republic of Korea to discuss cooperation in development of heritage trusts. She also held a discussion on visitor management plan with experts from Italy.

MNA

*Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin and party attend 39<sup>th</sup> session of the World Heritage Committee in Bonn, Germany.—MNA*



## Myanmar on track for 5 million visitors in 2015: tourism ministry

YANGON, 14 July — More than 500,000 tourists visited Myanmar through Yangon International Airport in the first half of the year, according to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Countrywide, roughly 400,000 tourists visited Myanmar every month during the period.

“The number of tourists visiting Myanmar will hit 5 million at the end of the year as we have expected,” a ministry official said. “At the moment, fewer tourists are visiting Myanmar as it is not the tourism season, but at the end of the rainy season, they will come.”

In June, a total of

67,267 tourists visited Myanmar through Yangon International Airport, according to the official.

Myanmar has 1,167 hotels and guesthouses and 45,563 rooms.

The country received 3.08 million tourists last year.

Ko Moe

MYINGYAN, 14 July — Myingyan Township Police Force invited applications for special police who will discharge security duty at polling stations during the electoral period.

Every citizen who passed the eighth standard examination in minimum may apply for the special police.

Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Tin Htoo and township officials interviewed 14 applicants up to 13 July.

According to the Township Police Force, enthusiasts may apply for the special police at police stations and Township Police Force.

Zaw Min Naing  
(Myingyan)

## Youth apply for special police in Myingyan



## Myanmar-Thailand bridge reopens following protest



TACHILEK, 14 July — Officials from Myanmar and Thailand reached an agreement Monday on sharing of water from the Mae Sai Creek, which forms a border between

the two countries.

The agreement followed a protest by 200 Thai farmers that temporarily shut down the Friendship Bridge spanning the creek, which separates Tachilek

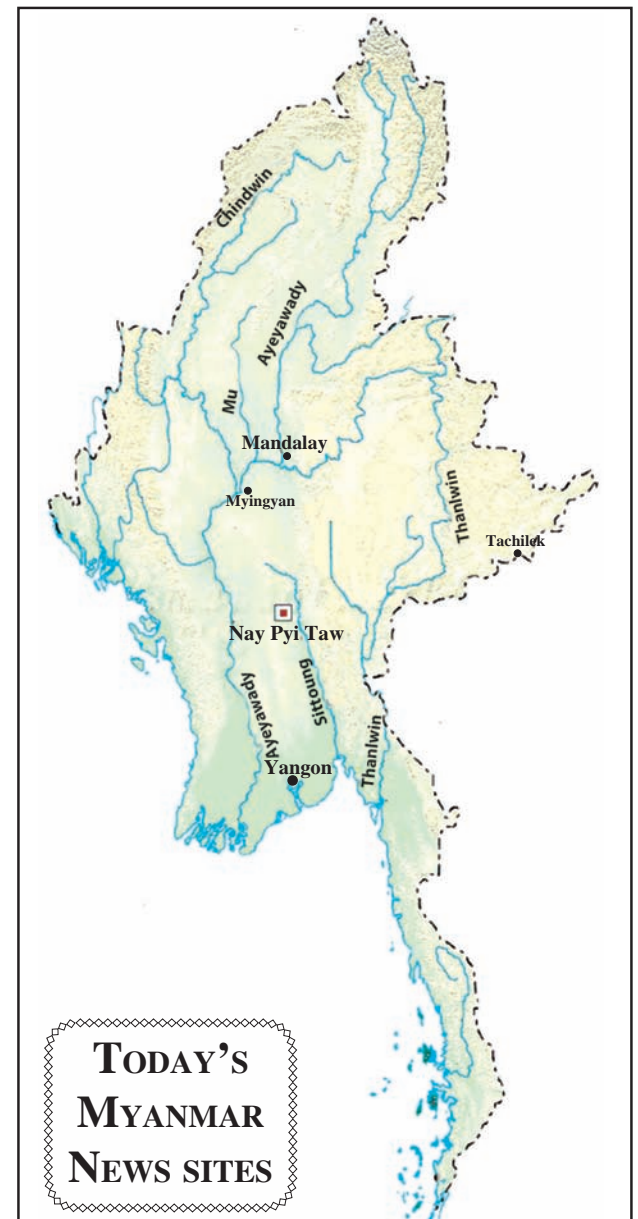
in Myanmar from Mae Sai in Thailand.

The farmers sought the suspension of dredging works at the creek, supervised by officials of both countries, that they

believed would reduce their access to water for agriculture.

The farmers lifted their protests at 10:20 a.m. after officials from both countries agreed to suspend the dredging until 23 July.

Maung Yin Kyay



## Elevator maker holds launch ceremony

YANGON, 14 July — A ceremony to launch the MCEM elevator company, formed in a partnership between Mitsubishi's elevator division and the Serge Pun & Associates group of companies, was held recently at the Sedona Hotel.

MCEM has installed elevators at Shwedagon Pagoda, as well as Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw international airports.

Mitsubishi lift and elevator has a presence in 90 countries and has been in operation for more than

80 years. The company arrived in Myanmar in 1998 and began a US \$150 million investment in the country in 2014.

An official of the company said, "We would like to stretch our work not only in Mandalay but in other

regions. If possible, we plan to install elevators in Thilawa Special Economic Zone."

About 50 technicians and staff are employed at the Myanmar branch of the company.

Thi Thi Min



## Tribunal discusses measures to protect consumers



**Mandalay Region government's consumer dispute tribunal discusses consumer protection issues in the region.**

MANDALAY, 14 July — The Mandalay Region government's consumer dispute tribunal met recently at the hall of region Trade Promotion and Consumer Affairs Department, here, to discuss measures to protect buyers of goods and services.

In his speech, Mandalay Region Minister for Planning and Economy U

Aung Zan said as Myanmar's economy is opening up, it needs to protect the rights of consumers in line with other ASEAN countries.

Members of the tribunal discussed plans for consumer protection, educative talks on responsibility and accountability for food producers and sellers, legal action and product safety.

Head of the Region Trade Promotion and Consumer Affairs Department U Myo Thu said educative talks will be given to the consumers, and a plan to take action against sellers who violate consumer protection laws will be submitted to the region government.

Thiha Ko Ko  
(Mandalay)

## REGIONAL

# Ruling, opposition camps clash over planned vote on security bills



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe enters his office in Tokyo on 14 July, 2015.—KYODO NEWS

TOKYO, 14 July — Japan's ruling and opposition camps clashed on Tuesday over a ruling coalition plan to put controversial security bills to a vote at a House of Representatives panel on Wednesday.

The main opposition Democratic Party of Japan and the Japanese Communist Party boycotted a Tues-

day morning session of the lower house special committee on the bills in protest to the planned vote, which would pave the way for passage at the lower house as early as Thursday.

Goshi Hosono, chairman of the Policy Research Committee of the DPJ, criticized the ruling camp's move. "We will never allow a vote on the 15<sup>th</sup>. We will never let the government-sponsored bills pass (the Diet)," Hosono told reporters.

But the opposition camp did not appear to have built a united front against the ruling coalition with the Japan Innovation Party attending the Tuesday morning session for deliberations of the bills that would expand the scope of overseas operations by the Self-Defense Forces.

After consulting with the Japan Innovation Party

over its counterproposals to the bills on Tuesday afternoon, the Liberal Democratic Party and its coalition partner Komeito party plan to sound out a Wednesday vote to the opposition camp on Tuesday evening, according to ruling party lawmakers.

Deputy Prime Minister Taro Aso indicated the ruling and opposition camps have undergone sufficient deliberations before putting the bills to a vote.

The special committee "has spent more than 100 hours on the bills. Opposition parties have now asked more or less the same questions," Aso, who doubles finance minister, said at a news conference.

But in a comment taken as suggesting his reservation about a Wednesday vote, former Defence Minister Shigeru Ishiba, who now serves as minister for

regional revitalization, said he "does not have much confidence to say that the public understanding (of the bills) has been promoted," citing recent opinion polls by news organizations.

If passed, the new legislation will put into effect a landmark Cabinet decision in July last year that interprets the Constitution to allow Japan to exercise the right to collective self-defence, or coming to the aid of the United States and other friendly nations under armed attack even if Japan itself is not attacked.

The move is in line with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's policy of making proactive contributions to peace based on the principles of international cooperation.

Speaking at a meeting of LDP executives on Tuesday, Secretary General Sadakazu Tanigaki

reiterated the party wants to hold a concluding question-and-answer session on Wednesday.

Earlier in the day, senior LDP lawmakers in charge of Diet affairs affirmed a plan to put the bills to a vote at the special committee on Wednesday.

The LDP and Komeito hope that after sending the bills to the House of Councillors for further deliberations, they will be passed by the upper chamber and enacted into law by the end of the ordinary Diet session that has been extended to 27 September.

However, opposition lawmakers and constitutional scholars have criticized the bills and said the envisaged security policy shift — which could allow Japanese troops to fight abroad for the first time since the end of World War II — would violate the na-

tion's war-renouncing Constitution.

Successive governments have interpreted the Constitution to mean that Japan possesses the right to collective self-defence but cannot use it.

The government submitted the bills to the Diet on 15 May amid a changing security situation in the Asia-Pacific region propelled by China's muscle-flexing in asserting territorial claims in the East and South China seas, as well as North Korea's missile and nuclear weapons development.

The legislation consists of a new permanent bill that would allow the SDF to provide logistical support to foreign militaries in international peacekeeping activities, and another comprising revisions to 10 existing security-related laws.—Kyodo News

## Yasuhiko Inukai, former Kyodo News president, dies at 87



Yasuhiko Inukai

TOKYO, 14 July — Yasuhiko Inukai, an adviser to *Kyodo News* who was its president in the 1990s and grandson of former Prime Minister Tsuyoshi Inukai, died of a heart disease on Sunday, his family said. He was 87.

Inukai was born on 1 April, 1928, as the son of Takeru Inukai, who later became justice minister. He was still very young when his grandfather Tsuyoshi Inukai was assassinated in an attempted coup on

15 May, 1932, while he was prime minister.

After graduating from Gakushuin University in Tokyo, the Tokyo native joined *Kyodo* in 1953. After serving in such key posts as chief editor of the City News Section and managing editor of the News Department, he became an executive director in 1984 and senior executive director in 1986. He was president of the news agency between September 1991 and June 1998.

As chief editor of the City News Section, Inukai led the team that scooped China's invitation to a US table tennis team to visit the country. The invitation started the so-called "ping-pong diplomacy," which led to a thaw in Sino-US relations.

Inukai was awarded by the Japan Newspaper Publishers & Editors Association in 1971 for his team's reporting on the invitation.—Kyodo News

## Jokowi wants construction of high-speed rail system to begin in August

JAKARTA, 14 July — Indonesian President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo wants the construction of a high-speed rail system connecting Jakarta and the West Java provincial capital of Bandung to start next month, a Cabinet minister said on Monday.

"The president wants the groundbreaking to take place in August," Coordinating Minister for the Economy Sofyan Djalil told reporters after attending a Cabinet meeting on a high-speed rail system for Indonesia.

Earlier, Djalil said that so far only Japan, with its shinkansen bullet train technology, and China, with its own high-speed railway system, have made detailed, comprehensive feasibility studies for building such a network, inciting a "sales war" between themselves.

Djalil refused to go into detail on what China and Japan have proposed to Indonesia.

A source close to the

discussion on the issue, however, said late Monday that both countries have submitted proposals containing similar offers. The two have offered loans to be paid back in 40 years with a 10-year grace period.

"The interest rate of the Japanese side will be 0.1 percent, while the Chinese one will be a bit higher," the source said.

According to the source, the Jakarta-Bandung route proposed by Japan will start from Manggarai, where a train station exists, in Central Jakarta with one stop between the two cities. Meanwhile, the one proposed by China will start from Halim in East Jakarta and run non-stop to Bandung.

For the route's starting point, however, Jokowi preferred the Japanese one, the source said, "because for the China proposal, we have to acquire a 370-hectare piece of land belonging to the air force.

The trains proposed by both countries would link

the two cities 150 kilometres apart in 36 minutes with a ticket price of 200,000 rupiah (about \$15) one way.

To decide on which to choose, Djalil said, the government will hold a "beauty contest" and hire an independent, reliable consultant from a third country that has no conflict of interest with the countries to be involved in the tender process.

"We will hire a consultant from Germany or France," the source said.

The consultant will determine who will be a better fit to build the high-speed railway system by objectively considering various factors, Djalil said.

"Train is a mode of transportation which is efficient, reliable and cheap. That's why its development must be prioritized," Jokowi told his ministers when opening the Cabinet meeting in the morning.

"And for that, the development of an intercity high-speed railway system must start immediately,"



Indonesian President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo

he added.

The Cabinet meeting took place only three days after the visit to Jakarta by Hiroto Izumi, a special adviser to Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

Izumi held talks with both Jokowi and Vice President Jusuf Kalla and delivered a personal letter from Abe that had particularly touched on Jakarta's plans to build a high-speed rail system on Java Island and called for collaboration with Japan in that regard.

Kyodo News

## Cambodian property tycoon apologizes for beating ex-TV presenter

PHNOM PENH, 14 July — Cambodian property tycoon Sok Bun made a public apology on Tuesday for launching a brutal attack on a former TV presenter during a heated argument at a Phnom Penh restaurant on 2 July, according to his statement released by his lawyer.

The magnate is believed to have fled Cambodia for Singapore on 8 July after leaked security camera footage showing his attack on Cambodian Television Network ex-host Ek Socheata, better known as Sasa, has been widely circulated on the internet and publicized on local televi-

sion channels. The video showed Sok Bun engage in an argument with Sasa before dragging her to the floor and repeatedly punching and kicking her in the face and head, as his bodyguard pointed a pistol at Sasa's face.

Sasa got injured to her right eye during the fight.

In a public statement, Sok Bun said, "I'd like to make a public apology for this mistake and promise not to make such a mistake again in this life."

He also announced to resign as the president of the Cambodian Valuers and Estate Agents Association and

the director of joint ventures between his company and Singaporean partner TEHO-SBG International, which planned to invest 500 million US dollars in a real estate development project.

"I'd like to contribute 100,000 US dollars to Ms Sasa for treatment and expenses," he said.

Despite apology and compensation to the victim, in a meeting on Tuesday, Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sar Kheng ordered the authorities to hunt for Sok Bun for legal punishment.—Xinhua

# Iran, big powers clinch landmark nuclear deal

VIENNA, 14 July — Iran and six major world powers reached a nuclear deal on Tuesday, capping more than a decade of on-off negotiations with an agreement that could potentially transform the Middle East.

Under the deal, sanctions imposed by the United States, European Union and United Nations would be lifted in return for Iran agreeing long-term curbs on a nuclear programme that the West has suspected was aimed at creating a nuclear bomb.

Reaching a deal is a major policy victory for both US President Barack Obama and Iran's President Hassan Rouhani, a pragmatist elected two years ago on a vow to reduce Iran's diplomatic isolation.

Both men face scepticism from powerful hardliners at home after decades of enmity between countries that referred to each other as "the Great Satan" and a member of the "axis of evil".

Final talks in Vienna involved nearly three weeks of intense round-the-

clock negotiations between US Secretary of State John Kerry and Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif.

Western diplomats said under the final agreement, Iran had accepted a "snapback" mechanism, under which some sanctions could be reinstated in 65 days if it violated the deal. A UN weapons embargo would remain in place for five years and a ban on buying missile technology would remain for eight years.

"All the hard work has paid off and we sealed a deal. God bless our people," one Iranian diplomat told *Reuters* on condition of anonymity.

But hostility to the agreement from Washington's closest ally in the Middle East was immediate.

"This deal is a historic surrender by the West to the axis of evil headed by Iran," Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Tzipi Hotovely said in a message on Twitter. "Israel will act with all means to try and stop the



German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier (L), French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius (2<sup>nd</sup> L), Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi (3<sup>rd</sup> L), European Union foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini (Centre in red), US Secretary of State John Kerry (4<sup>th</sup> R) and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov (R) meet at a hotel in Vienna on 13 July, 2015. —REUTERS

agreement being ratified."

The foreign ministers of Iran and the six powers will meet at 0830 GMT at the United Nations centre in Vienna and a news conference will follow, a spokeswoman for the European Union said on Tuesday.

Iran's Foreign Minister, Mohammad Javad Zarif, and EU's Foreign Policy Chief Federica Mogherini are expected to read a joint statement, dip-

lomats said.

A deal will still face scrutiny by the US Congress, controlled by opposition Republicans who are sceptical of the Obama administration's overtures to a country that has been an enemy since Iranian revolutionaries stormed the US embassy in Teheran in 1979.

US allies in the region, particularly Israel and Saudi Arabia, are also worried

about an agreement that would benefit Iran.

Teheran does not recognize Israel and supports its enemies. Arab states ruled by Sunni Muslims, particularly Saudi Arabia believe Iran supports their foes in wars in Syria, Yemen and elsewhere.

But there is also strong reason for the United States to improve its relations with Iran, as the two countries face a common foe

in Islamic State, the Sunni Muslim militant group that has seized swathes of Syria and Iraq. For Iran, the end of sanctions could bring a rapid economic boom by lifting restrictions that have drastically cut its oil exports and hurt its imports. The prospect of a deal has helped push down global oil prices because of the possibility that Iranian supply could return to the market.—*Reuters*

## Israel's Netanyahu calls Iran nuclear deal "historic" mistake

JERUSALEM, 14 July — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu described the agreement reached on Tuesday by Iran and major world powers on Teheran's nuclear programme as a historic mistake and said he would do what he could to block Iran's nuclear ambitions.

"Iran is going to receive a sure path to nuclear weapons. Many of the restrictions that were sup-

posed to prevent it from getting there will be lifted," Netanyahu said at the start of a meeting with Dutch Foreign Minister Bert Koenders in Jerusalem. "Iran will get a jackpot, a cash bonanza of hundreds of billions of dollars, which will enable it to continue to pursue its aggression and terror in the region and in the world. This is a bad mistake of historic proportions."—*Reuters*



Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu attends a Likud party meeting at the parliament in Jerusalem on 13 July, 2015.—REUTERS

## N Korea to grant amnesty in August

BEIJING, 14 July — North Korea has decided to grant amnesty to convicts in August on the occasion of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Korea's liberation from Japan's 1910-45 colonial rule, official media said on Tuesday.

The amnesty, which will take place from 1 August, will be the first since

2012, when North Korea marked the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of its late founder Kim Il Sung and the 70<sup>th</sup> birthday of its late leader Kim Jong Il, father of the country's current leader Kim Jong Un.

The Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly promulgated last Thursday a decree for

the release of those "who had been convicted of the crimes against the country and its people," the *Korean Central News Agency* said.

The state-run media said the country will "take practical measures to help the released people settle down in their works and living," without saying how many will be

granted amnesty.

The Korean Peninsula was liberated from Japanese rule on 15 August, 1945.

KCNA said the amnesty will be carried out as this year also marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the ruling Workers' Party of Korea, which falls on 10 October.—*Kyodo News*

## Household electricity bills surged 25% after 2011 nuclear disaster

TOKYO, 14 July — Japan's household electricity bills surged 25.2 percent over the four years through fiscal 2014 amid higher imported fuel costs for thermal power generation following the nuclear crisis triggered by the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami, the government's annual energy report said on Tuesday.

Electricity rates for factories and companies increased 38.2 percent over

the same period through March this year, the report said. "The burden on citizens regarding electricity bills is increasing year by year," it said.

The crisis that broke out at Tokyo Electric Power Co's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant eventually resulted in the shutting down of all of Japan's commercial nuclear reactors amid safety concerns. Power companies are desperate to bring their

nuclear plants back online but the outlook for most of the facilities remains unclear.

Monthly household electricity bills in the area served by Tokyo Electric rose to an average of 8,452 yen in fiscal 2014 from 6,309 yen in fiscal 2010, an increase of 34 percent, according to the report.

The government also noted in the report that Japan's energy security has

been faltering due to a lower energy self-sufficiency ratio and higher reliance on the Middle East for crude oil imports since the nuclear crisis.

To achieve more stable energy supply, "it is important to secure supply of shale gas and liquefied natural gas from the United States" where production of LNG is expanding thanks to the "shale revolution," it added.—*Kyodo News*

## S Korea sends back two N Korean fishermen rescued in S Korean waters

SEOUL, 14 July — South Korea on Tuesday sent back two of the five North Korean fishermen rescued in South Korean waters earlier this month to their country, according to the South Korean Unification Ministry. The repatriation was made at the truce village of Panmunjeom at around 11 am, said an official from the ministry, which handles the South's relations with North Korea. The event was made possible af-

ter North Korea withdrew its earlier demand that the South send back all five fishermen, while the South has insisted that the three have expressed their wish to defect to the South and that they will be allowed to do so. The North Korean fishermen were rescued on 4 July by the South's coast guard while drifting on a vessel due to engine failure near the eastern island of Ulleung.—*Kyodo News*

## Review clears UK spies of illegal surveillance, says laws need overhaul

LONDON, 14 July — Britain's spies are not carrying out illegal mass surveillance of the country's citizens but laws governing their powers to intercept the public's private communications need a massive overhaul, an independent assessment concluded on Tuesday.

The Independent Surveillance Review (ISR) was commissioned by Nick Clegg, former deputy prime minister in the previous coalition government, to examine allegations by former US security agency contractor Edward Snowden that British and US spies were conducting vast monitoring programmes.

"We have seen no evidence that the British government knowingly acts illegally in intercepting private communications or that the ability to collect data in bulk is used by the government to provide it with a perpetual window into the private lives of British citizens," the ISR concluded.

"On the other hand, we have seen evidence that the present legal framework authorizing the interception of communications is unclear, has not kept pace with developments in communications technology, and does not serve either the government or members of the public satisfactorily."

The ISR, whose members included former heads of Britain's three spy agencies MI5, MI6 and GCHQ, is the third major UK investigation into the surveillance work of the security services since Snowden's 2013 revelations.

All have cleared the spies of any wrongdoing, but equally all said the laws governing their surveillance work needed to be made clearer. Last month, Britain's independent reviewer of anti-terrorism laws called the current framework fragmented, undemocratic and "in the long run intolerable".

Prime Minister David Cameron's government has promised to legislate to extend the powers of police and security agencies to monitor Britons' communications and web activities in what opponents have dubbed a "snoopers' charter," arguing technological changes had diminished their capabilities.—Reuters

## Greek PM Tsipras faces party revolt over bailout deal

BRUSSELS / ATHENS, 14 July — Greece's leftwing Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras faces a showdown with rebels in his own party on Tuesday furious at his capitulation to German demands for one of the most sweeping austerity packages ever demanded of a euro zone government.

Just hours after a deal that saw Greece surrender much of its sovereignty to outside supervision in return for agreeing to talks on an 86 billion euro bailout, doubts were already emerging about whether Tsipras would be able to hold his government together.

The terms imposed by international lenders led by Germany in all-night talks at an emergency summit obliged Tsipras to abandon promises of ending austerity.

Instead he must pass legislation to cut pensions, increase value added tax, clamp down on collective bargaining agreements and put in place quasi-automatic spending constraints. In addition, he must set 50 billion euros of public sector assets aside to be sold off under the supervision of foreign lenders and get the whole package through parliament by Wednesday.

Tsipras himself, elected five months ago to end five years of suffocating auster-

ity, said he had "fought a tough battle" and "averted the plan for financial strangulation".

But to get the accord through parliament by Wednesday's deadline, he will have to rely on votes from pro-European opposition parties, raising big questions over the future of his government and opening the prospect of snap elections.

Leftwing rebels in the ruling Syriza party, and his junior coalition partner, the right-wing Independent Greeks party, indicated they would not tear up election pledges that brought them to power in January.

"We cannot agree to that," Independent Greeks leader Panos Kammenos told reporters after meeting Tsipras. "In a parliamentary democracy, there are rules and we uphold them."

A meeting of the Syriza parliamentary group on Tuesday morning could see Energy Minister Panagiotis Lafazanis and Deputy Labour Minister Dimistris Stratoulis sacked over their opposition to the bailout.

There may also be a battle over parliament speaker Zoe Constantinopoulou, an uncompromising left-winger who also defied Tsipras over the bailout and who could create serious procedural obstacles for the package.

If the summit on Greece's third bailout had failed, Athens would have been staring into an economic abyss with its banks on the brink of collapse and the prospect of having to print a parallel currency and exit the euro.

Instead it won conditional agreement to receive a possible 86 billion euros (\$95 billion) over three years, provided its European partners are satisfied that the conditions are met.

"The agreement was laborious, but it has been concluded. There is no Grexit," European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker told a news conference after 17 hours of bargaining.

He dismissed suggestions that Tsipras had been humiliated even though the summit statement insisted repeatedly that Greece must now subject much of its public policy to prior agreement by bailout monitors.

"In this compromise, there are no winners and no losers," Juncker said. "I don't think the Greek people have been humiliated, nor that the other Europeans have lost face. It is a typical European arrangement."

Euro zone finance ministers told officials to prepare options for bridge financing arrangements during talks on a bailout and a decision is

expected by Wednesday.

Athens must meet a tight timetable for enacting unpopular reforms of value added tax, pensions, budget cuts, bankruptcy rules and an EU banking law that could be used to make big depositors take losses.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said she could recommend "with full confidence" that the Bundestag authorise the opening of loan negotiations once the Greek parliament has approved the entire programme and passed the first laws.

The Bundestag is due to vote on Greece on Friday.

Merkel's allies defended the deal, with her chief of staff, Peter Altmaier, saying Europe had won and Germany "was part of the solution — from the beginning until the end!"

But in Greece, relief was mixed with anger at Germany. "Listen, it is some sort of victory but it is a pyrrhic victory because the measures are very strict," said Marianna, 73.

Asked whether the tough conditions imposed on Greece were similar to the 1919 Versailles treaty that forced crushing reparations on a defeated Germany after World War One, Merkel said: "I won't take part in historical comparisons, especially when I didn't make



European Council President Donald Tusk arrives to address a news conference after an euro zone leaders summit in Brussels, Belgium on 13 July, 2015.—REUTERS

them myself."

The deterioration of the Greek economy since Tsipras won office in January, and particularly in the last two weeks, had led to a much higher financing need, she said.

One senior EU official put the cost to Greece of the last two weeks of turmoil at 25 to 30 billion euros. A euro zone diplomat said it might be closer to 50 billion euros.

Malta's Prime Minister Joseph Muscat said Greece had been "humiliated", mostly as a result of its refusal to take an offer made to it two weeks ago, and he said the talks had been brutal.

"It was not pretty to watch," he said.—Reuters

## Guzman escape turns up heat on Mexican president over corruption

MEXICO CITY, 14 July — The dramatic escape on Saturday of the world's most notorious drug lord has raised pressure on Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto to curb corruption and the drug gangs that play an outsized and violent role in his country.

Speaking from Paris, where he was beginning a four-day state visit just as Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman was breaking out of jail, Pena Nieto called the escape an "affront to Mexico" and promised a full investigation. But scepticism is rife in Mexico.

In February of 2014, when Guzman was re-arrested after a previous jail break, Pena Nieto said another escape by the drug kingpin would be "unforgivable." Since the latest escape Pena Nieto's critics have reminded him incessantly of that statement.

Opposition politicians have also been quick to note that he did not cut his Paris trip short, despite calls for him to do so. And members of the ruling par-



Policemen keep watch outside a warehouse where a tunnel, connected to the Altiplano Federal Penitentiary and used by drug lord Joaquin 'El Chapo' Guzman to escape, was located in Almoloya de Juarez, on the outskirts of Mexico City, on 13 July, 2015.—REUTERS

ty and opposition alike are convinced that the escape had to have been an inside job.

The mile-long tunnel would have required noisy digging equipment and produced tons of dirt to be disposed of, they note. Moreover, the tunnel came up exactly under the show-er in Guzman's cell, which suggests that the drug lord's accomplices had detailed information about the prison's design.

"There had to have

been complicity," said Ricardo Pacheco, a congressman in Pena Nieto's ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, who heads the lower house justice committee.

"To have done a thing like this, you need immense quantities of all kinds of resources: material, technical and human."

The escape came after a difficult 12 months in which Pena Nieto's approval ratings had already fallen to multi-year lows.

Allegations of extra-judicial killings by the army, and of collusion between police and a drug cartel in the apparent massacre of 43 trainee teachers last year sparked mass protests.

Since then, the president has sought to convince Mexicans that their country was turning the corner, with a series of judicial and anti-corruption reforms.

El Chapo's escape has seriously undermined that claim.

So far, 31 prison officials, including the facility's head, have been taken in for questioning over Guzman's escape.

But the attorney general's office had not interviewed people living in the immediate surroundings of the prison as of midday Monday, a spokesman for the office said.

Attention is also being focused on a nearby waterway expansion project begun about a year ago. An open ditch with three reinforced tubes 2.5 metres wide snaked around the prison, offering "the perfect

screen so people wouldn't notice the work on the escape tunnel," said a soldier who declined to be named.

Malcolm Beith, a biographer of the drug lord, said Guzman's allies probably obtained details on the facility's layout.

"I can only imagine Chapo or someone in his circle was given the blueprints of the prison," he said.

Two soldiers and one policeman, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that the alarm was not raised over Guzman's disappearance until after 10 pm, more than an hour after the government said he was last seen at 8.52 pm.

Elena Azaola, a prison expert at research centre CIESAS, noted that the building that housed Guzman met international standards of a high security penitentiary.

"It's impossible to escape from that prison without total complicity from the authorities and/or guards," she said.

Reuters

## PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 15 July, 2015

## Union must be built on trust, friendship

By Aung Khin

Neither peace nor federalism can be assured if stakeholders allow racism to persist. Despite different features and characteristics among ethnic people, all need to develop a common ideology for peace.

Intimacy among ethnic people creates more opportunities for lasting peace. Without close relations, mutual trust cannot be built. Moun-

tain and rivers should not be fences and hurdles between our people. The greater the friendship among our national brethren, the more hope for peace we will have.

Unity must come first for peace, and economic development will definitely follow. More relations among ethnic people can reduce racism and mistrust which are the underlying causes of decades-long civil war in ethnic areas.

All our national races must develop goodwill to ensure a genuine federal union. Clarity of thought and an understanding of the obligations of governance are required by all political stakeholders to achieve unanimity.

Mistaken ideas must be abandoned. Dialogue should be established without discrimination on the grounds of race, colour, sex and religion. Talking about a ceasefire is better than not talk-

ing about it. As Winston Churchill said, "To jaw-jaw is always better than war-war."

All stakeholders in peace-making efforts must not practice to deceive. The rights of national races need to be upheld by taking lessons from the past to ensure a genuine federal union and lasting peace.

### Write for us

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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.

## GOOD GOVERNANCE

Kyi Mun

Governance means: Act or Manner or Function of Governing.

Govern means: Rule with Authority; Conduct Policy and Affairs of (State etc.); Influence or determine; Curb, Control. It also means: To steer, to exercise authority over, rule, control; to influence the action/conduct of; guide; To determine.

So governance means: The system of running and controlling a business, a company or an organization.

Good governance, here, means effective and efficient way of running an organization to get the desired results and thereby reaching the set goal.

Now, let us do some thinking about governance in the following manner:

**G = Goal-driven**  
**O = Outstanding Character & Competence**  
**O = Opportunities**  
**D = Dedication**

**G = Going All-out For Success**  
**O = Operational Efficiency**  
**V = Vision & Values**  
**E = Effectiveness of Management**  
**R = Responsibility**  
**N = Networking**  
**A = Accountability**  
**N = New & Better Ways of Doing Things**  
**C = Clean Commitment**  
**E = Empowerment & Delegation**  
**❖ GOAL-DRIVEN**

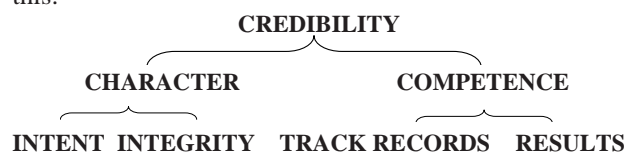
In good governance, it is very important to have the clarity of goal from the outset. The top leadership and management must have a definite goal or objective under the mission or the higher purpose. The hierarchy of goal setting is, according to some experts, as follows:

- ♦ Vision (Future State)
- ♦ Mission (Higher Purpose)
- ♦ Goal (Aim & Object)
- ♦ Objective (Specific Aims)
- ♦ Strategy (Ways & Means of Getting Results)
- ♦ Tactics (Actual Performance)
- ♦ Control (Measures of Success)
- ♦ Rewards (Motivation)

### ❖ OUTSTANDING CHARACTER & COMPETENCE

In good governance, credibility or trust is very important. Without credibility/ trust, no enduring relationship and rapport can be established. For win-win or mutually beneficial relationship, character and competence are essential requirements. Character is what you are and competence is what you can do. For an impeccable char-

acter, you must have wholesome INTENT and INTEGRITY. And for a reliable competence, you must have wholesome TRACK RECORDS and RESULTS. It is like this:



### ❖ OPPORTUNITIES

In good governance, you have got to do the SWOT analysis from time to time. SWOT analysis means:

Strengths	Opportunities
Weaknesses	Threats

Internally, you have got to find out objectively your organization's strengths and weaknesses, and externally the opportunities to exploit and threats to avoid. You can only grow from strengths and opportunities. You can't thrive on weaknesses and threats. So, you have got to cultivate strengths and opportunities, while eliminating as much as possible the weaknesses and threats.

### ❖ DEDICATION

Dedication means: Hard work or effort that someone puts into a particular activity because they care about it a lot.

In good governance, dedication to one's duty is very important. We have got to devote our time, energy and knowledge or skills to our job. We must be clearly focused on making the right things happen and on getting the right things done. We should also concentrate our attention on going the right places and on doing the right things. Dedication also requires single-mindedness, enduring patience and persistence, stamina and staying power. In Mother Teresa's words, dedication means "doing the small things with great love." Other meanings of dedication are: Swim or sink; do or die; the winner never quits and the quitter never wins.

### ❖ GOING ALL-OUT FOR SUCCESS

In good governance, it is very important to: "Go all-out and aim high. Give all you have got. Give every bit of yourself, holding nothing back." It is also very necessary to: "Keep on keeping on no matter how hard the going may be." For good governance, a few maxims such as the following should be remembered:

- ♦ To dare nobly, to will strongly and never to falter in the path of duty.
- ♦ Never give up, never give in; stand up to it, and fight it through to victory.
- ♦ Think the most, feel the noblest and act the best.
- ♦ Be strong inside, permit no defeat and fight all you can.

- ♦ The test of a man is the fight he makes & the grit that he daily shows.

### ❖ OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

Efficiency means: Being productive with minimum waste of effort, time or money. It also means competency, capability, ability to produce desired results. Efficiency also means doing the things right. The test of efficiency is:

$$\frac{\text{Output}}{\text{Input}} = \text{Productivity which means Efficiency}$$

Efficiency counts in the domain of tactical operations or in the execution of the strategic plan.

### ❖ VISION & VALUES

Vision means: Imaginative insight, foresight, sagacity in planning. In everyday language, vision means what you want to become in the future. Vision simply means your dream for the future.

Values means: One's principles or standards; one's judgment of what is valuable or important in life, or what is right or wrong in principle.

Examples are:

- Personal values such as honesty, alertness, diligence
- Business values such as character, competency, commitment
- Religious values such as love, kindness, helpfulness, service

### ❖ EFFECTIVENESS OF MANAGEMENT

Effectiveness is defined as: Ability to produce the result that is wanted or intended.

- It also means: Doing the RIGHT things.
- It also means: Ability to achieve the planned goal or objectives.

Effectiveness counts in the domain of strategy and strategic planning.

Effectiveness in management and leadership is one of the five international best practices in business. The other four are: Financial Viability, Operational Efficiency, Customer & Employee Satisfaction, and Competitive Advantage.

### ❖ RESPONSIBILITY

Responsibility means: Liability to be called to account; morally accountable for actions; of good credit and repute; trustworthiness; involving responsibility.

Responsibility also means: A duty to be in charge of or look after something, so that you make the decisions and can be blamed if something bad happens.

In plain language, your duty is your responsibility. You yourself are responsible to discharge your duty. Your responsibility means you must leave no stone unturned in the discharge of your duty. It means you have got to do your due diligence.

For good governance the ability to take and discharge responsibility proactively is of primary importance.

(See page 9)



NATIONAL

## Tatmadaw, BGF seize arms, ammunition from KKO outposts



Photo shows arms and ammunition seized by Tatmadaw from KKO.

MYAWADY

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July — The Tatmadaw and Border Guard Force continued a search Tuesday for remnant Klohtoobaw Karen Organization fighters in Kayin State's Kawkareik Township after reopening two roads that had been seized by the ethnic armed group.

A Tatmadaw and BGF patrol came under heavy weapons fire from KKO fighters in the urban ward of Kawkareik on Monday night.

During a patrol earlier in the day, the Tatmadaw and BGF seized a weapons cache including a mortar and home-made mines, as

well as two vehicles from Point 382.

On Sunday night, a Tatmadaw patrol seized machineguns, grenade launchers and ammunition from Aungbala Hill and its surrounds.

They arrested two KKO members while searching Kaunghmu Village.

The KKO, led by Kyaw Thet and Saw Hsan Aung, placed toll gates on the Kawkareik-Thingan-Nyinaung-Myawady Road and New Asian Highway and had been restricting access, in defiance of local government instructions to desist.

Tatmadaw and BGF patrols in Kawkareik Township will continue for public security.

GNLM



Arms and ammunition seized from KKO.

MYAWADY

## KATRI hands over textile testing machines to Ministry of Industry

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July — Korea Apparel Testing and Research Institute donated 12 testing machines worth USD90,000 to Textile Production Technology Development Unit of No 3 Heavy Industries Enterprise of the Ministry of Industry at Grand Amara Hotel, here, on Tuesday.

Deputy Minister for Industry U Thein Aung, Chairman of Korea Apparel

Testing and Research Institute Mr Leem Seungyeon and Counsellor of the Republic of Korea Mr Choi Won Young spoke about cooperation between Myanmar and Korea for development of textile testing technology.

The chairman of the institute handed over 12 machines worth USD 90,000 to the managing director of No 3 Heavy Industries

Enterprise. The machines can be used in testing Myanmar's textile products to meet international standard.

A seminar on technical cooperation in testing textiles will be held on 14 and 15 July at Grand Amara Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw. The demonstration on use of machines will be held at the textile technology development unit in Yangon on 16 July.—MNA

## KIA launches landmine attack on military columns in northern Shan state

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July — Kachin Independence Army reportedly attacked government military columns in northern Shan state on Monday, according to Myawady media.

KIA launched attacks on the patrolling government army units by using remote control landmines and heavy weapons near Kaungkha village in Kyaukok Township.

military killed one KIA member and found two electric circuits in using remote control landmines.

KIA's rocket attack left one death and two injured civilians.

Counter attack of the

Myawady



U Khun Kyin Lyan and his wife Daw Mar Kai of Shibok Village who were injured in attacks of KIA.—MYAWADY

## GOOD GOVERNANCE

(from page 8)

### ❖ NETWORKING

For good governance, relationships are very important. In good governance, establishing effective connections with the stakeholders are very important. In management, networking is called management by walking around or MBWA. In leadership, networking is the means to be a people-person, a people-developer and people-participation-programmer. After all, people are the means of making things happen and getting things done. In other words, people are the human capital. Without people, you cannot get results you want; and without the desired results, you cannot be successful.

### ❖ ACCOUNTABILITY

Accountability means: Responsible for the effects of your actions and willing to explain or be criticized for them. It means you must take debit or credit of your actions. For good governance, you need the TROIKA of:



### ❖ NEW & BETTER WAYS OF DOING THINGS

Without creativity and innovativeness, good governance cannot thrive. In today's world, good governance means having the capability to compete advantageously. To survive in today's world, you need to sharpen the strategy of CIPG—Creativity, Innovativeness, Productivity and Growth. Formerly it was usually said: "Don't fix it if it ain't broke." Now, it is usually said: "Fix it even if it ain't broke". It means practicing the Total Quality Management which means Continuous Quality Improvement.

### ❖ CLEAN COMMITMENT

For good governance, clean commitment is required. Everybody in the organization must be totally committed to "Clean, Green & Team Policy." For good governance, clean mental attitude must prevail in the whole length and breadth of the organization. It means the organization must avoid and eradicate the unclean culture of Arrogance, Greed, Complacency, Inconsistency, Myopia, Apathy, Inertia and Ignorance.

### ❖ EMPOWERMENT & DELEGATION

For good governance, people must be fully empowered with proper delegation of duty. People must be fully equipped with authority, skills, and knowledge □ ASK, in short. Without proper and adequate ASK, on the part of the people, there can be no dynamic, good gov-

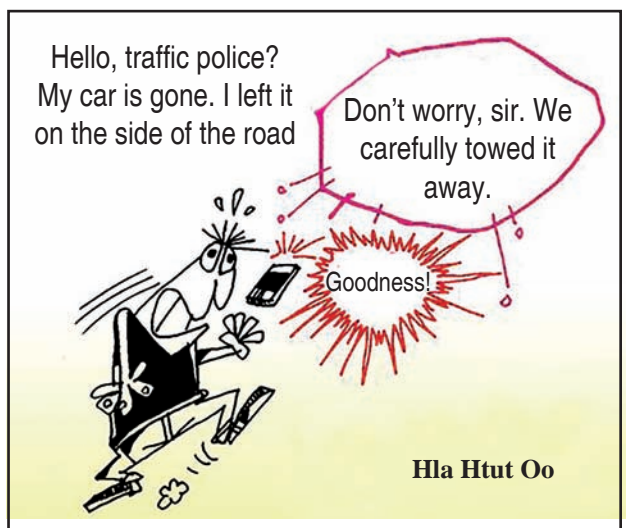
ernance. The focus should be on developing people in ASK.

### CONCLUSION

Make the right things happen; and

Get the right things done in a clean, green and team spirit.

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



Hla Htut Oo

# Iraq launches offensive to drive Islamic State from biggest province

BAGHDAD, 14 July — Iraqi troops and Shi'ite Muslim militia forces attacked Islamic State fighters on several fronts on Monday in Anbar, the country's largest province, at the start of what is likely to be a long and fiercely contested offensive.

A spokesman for the joint operations command said the campaign, which began at dawn, brought together the army, mainly Shi'ite Hashid Shaabi militias, special forces, police and local Sunni Muslim tribal fighters.

"At 5 o'clock this morning operations to liberate Anbar were launched," the spokesman said.

Military sources in Anbar said they met heavy resistance from the insurgents, who deployed five suicide car bombs and fired rockets to repel their advance on the city of Falluja, about 50 km (30 miles) west of Baghdad.

## Saudi militant suspect kills father and is shot dead by police

RIYADH, 14 July — Saudi Arabian police shot dead a wanted suspected militant early on Tuesday after he killed his own father who had reported him to the authorities, the Interior Ministry said in a statement carried on state media.

"At 1 am on Tuesday (2300 GMT on Monday), while security men were taking measures to apprehend a security fugitive, accompanied by the man's father, he left his house and fired with an automatic weapon, killing his father and wounding two security men," it said.

The security forces fired back, killing the man, according to the statement, which said that the authorities were investigating the incident but gave no further details. The conservative Islamic kingdom is facing a wave of militancy, officials there say, from some hardline Sunni Muslims who have sworn allegiance to Islamic State, the group waging wars in Iraq and Syria.

This year a Saudi militant cell affiliated with Islamic State carried out two bombings of Shi'ite mosques, killing 25, and sympathisers also shot dead three policemen and wounded another in a series of attacks in Riyadh. Sabq.org, a news website affiliated with the Saudi government, said the incident took place in the southern city of Khamis Mushait.

The Saudi authorities have detained hundreds of suspected militants over the past year, including people who planned attacks inside the country and others who sought to travel to Iraq, Syria, Yemen or Afghanistan to fight.—Reuters

Iraqi forces also pushed towards the provincial capital, Ramadi, from the west and the south, police sources in the province said. Islamic State supporters said those advances were repelled by the militants.

The sprawling Sunni Muslim province extends hundreds of kilometres west of Baghdad. Many of the towns and cities that line the banks of the Euphrates, snaking down from the Syrian border, are Islamic State strongholds. Islamic State's capture of Ramadi two months ago marked the biggest defeat for the Baghdad government since the militants swept through the north of the country last June and declared a caliphate in parts of Syria and Iraq straddling the border.

Until Ramadi's fall, Iraqi troops and Hashid Shaabi forces, backed by US-led air strikes, had been pushing Islamic State back, recapturing the eastern province of Diyala and former leader Saddam Hussein's home town of Tikrit, with the ultimate target of retaking the northern city of Mosul.

Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi, angered at the army's withdrawal from Ramadi in mid-May, initially promised a swift counter-attack.

Although Ramadi remains the strategic target, military sources and Shi'ite militia leaders have said the initial focus will be on Falluja, which was the first city in Iraq to fall under militant control 18 months ago.

## Some 15,000 civilians killed in armed conflict in Iraq since January 2014: UN

UNITED NATIONS, 14 July — About 15,000 civilians were killed and 30,000 more were wounded in the armed conflict in Iraq since January 2014, UN Spokesperson Stephane Dujarric said here on Monday.

From 1 January, 2014 through to the end of April 2015, UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) recorded at least 44,136 civilian casualties — 14,947 killed and 29,189 wounded — in the armed conflict in the country, according to a UN report released on Monday.

"Widespread human rights violations and massive displacement continue unabated throughout the country," said Dujarric.

## Two Islamic State leaders killed in Syria air strike — Observatory

BEIRUT, 14 July — Two senior Islamic State leaders were killed in an air strike in northeastern Syria on Monday, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights reported.

The Observatory, which gathers its information from an activist network on the ground, identified the leaders as an Iraqi, Abu Osama al-Iraqi, and a Syrian named Amer al-Rafdan.

The Observatory said the air strike was believed to have been



Members of Iraq's Shi'ite paramilitaries launch a rocket towards Islamic State militants in the outskirts of the city of Falluja, in the province of Anbar, Iraq on 12 July, 2015.—REUTERS

A US-led air coalition has been bombing Islamic State positions across Iraq, supporting Baghdad's ground forces and its poorly equipped air force.

On Sunday, it sharply stepped up air strikes around Ramadi, with 29 out of 39 missions in Iraq targeting Islamic State positions near the city.

Iraq has sought to redress its own lack of air power by purchasing F-16 fighter jets from the United States, but deliveries of the 36 aircraft were delayed because of security concerns after the Islamic State offensive last summer.

On Monday, a first batch of

four F-16s landed at Balad air base north of Baghdad, an Iraqi air force officer said. Authorities said the planes would join operations in Anbar within days.

Hadi al-Ameri, commander of the largest Shi'ite force, the Badr Organization, told Iraqi television on Sunday he expected the main assault on Falluja to take place after the Eid holiday, which starts later this week.

Residents in Falluja and Ramadi reported heavy bombardment of both cities early on Monday.

Falluja saw the fiercest fighting of the US occupation after Washington's 2003 invasion to

topple Saddam. It has also been a centre of Sunni hostility to the Shi'ite-led government in Baghdad.

Abadi initially sought to keep Shi'ite militias on the sidelines in Anbar for fear of inflaming sectarian sensitivities, but the fall of Ramadi in May undermined his position.

In Baghdad on Sunday, at least 35 people were killed in a series of car bombs and suicide attacks in mainly Shi'ite districts. A statement in the name of Islamic State, issued on Monday, claimed responsibility for some of the blasts.—Reuters

lic spectacles," said the report. "Those affiliated with or perceived to be affiliated with the Iraqi Government or security forces have been systematically killed by the group, and many have been kidnapped and subjected to other forms of ill-treatment."

The security situation in Iraq has drastically deteriorated since June 2014 when bloody clashes broke out between security forces and IS militants. The report found that from 1 December to the end of April 2015, a minimum of 10,768 civilian casualties resulted from the ongoing violence.

The IS militants took control of the country's northern city of

Mosul and later seized swaths of territories after Iraqi security forces abandoned their posts in Nineveh and other predominantly Sunni provinces.

The Iraqi security forces on Monday started a major offensive to recapture key cities and towns held by IS militants in the western province of Anbar. They have allied with Hashd Shaabi paramilitary militias and have been fighting for months to retake key cities and towns in Anbar. IS militants had seized most of the province and tried to advance toward Baghdad, the Iraqi capital, but several counter attacks by security forces and Shiite militias have pushed them back.—Xinhua

carried out by the US-led coalition that is targeting Islamic State in Syria and Iraq, though Rami Abdulrahman, who runs the Observatory, said he could not be sure.

The Syrian army and militia fighting alongside it are mounting a separate campaign against Islamic State in the region that borders Turkey to the north and Iraq to the east.

The ultra-hardline Islamic State is fighting in Hasaka Prov-

ince against both pro-government forces and Syrian Kurdish fighters who have received air support from the US-led coalition.

US President Barack Obama said last week the coalition was intensifying its campaign in northern Syria. The Kurdish YPG militia have made a series of advances against Islamic State in the north, including the capture of the town of Tel Abyad at the Turkish border.

Abdulrahman said al-Ira-

qi had the title of "governor" of the province Islamic State had declared in northeastern Syria. Rafdan had previously served as Islamic State's governor of Deir al-Zor province, he said.

Islamic State last year declared a cross-border "caliphate" claiming to rule over all Muslims. The US-led alliance has ruled out the idea of cooperation with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, seeing him as part of the problem.

Reuters

## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

## Nokia confirms may re-enter mobile phone market through licensing

HELSINKI, 14 July — Finnish telecoms network maker Nokia confirmed late on Monday that it may start designing and licensing mobile phone handsets under its brand name in 2016.

Nokia said it was looking for a partner who would take on the manufacturing, sales, marketing and customer support for the prod-

ucts. The company said a Nokia mobile phone would not reach the market before the fourth quarter of 2016 when Nokia's agreement with partner Microsoft allows it to use the brand name again.

Nokia sold its phone business to Microsoft in 2014 after years of declining sales.

Reuters



The Nokia company logo is pictured at its headquarters in Espoo on 29 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

## China's Tianhe-2 tops world supercomputers, again

CHANGSHA, 14 July — China's Tianhe-2 supercomputer was named the world's fastest supercomputer at the International Supercomputing Conference in Frankfurt, Germany, on Monday.

It was the fifth time in a row that Tianhe-2 has been topped the world's fastest supercomputer list since June 2013, when it was unveiled. The supercomputer was designed and made by Changsha-based National University of Defence Technology.

In November 2013 Tianhe-2 was relocated to the national supercomputing centre in Guangzhou City, Guangdong Province.

So far it has provided high performance computing and cloud computing services for almost 400 clients at home and abroad. It has been used to aid gene analysis, development of new drugs, the aerodynamic numerical calculation of large aircraft and high-speed trains, among others.

Xinhua

## Xiaomi success inspires every man and his dog to make smartphones in China

HONG KONG / BEIJING, 14 July — The call of the world's biggest smartphone market is proving irresistible for entrepreneurs in China, where even purveyors of concrete mixers, refrigerators and rock music are mimicking local trailblazer Xiaomi Inc [XTC.UL] with their own handsets.

But the market shrank in early 2015 for the first time in six years and sales have fallen at one-time leader Xiaomi. That sudden about-turn raises questions over whether there is any chance for the likes of construction machinery maker SANY Group Co Ltd [SANYG.UL], Gree Electric Appliances Inc of Zhuhai and veteran rockstar Cui Jian.

The slowdown may be too much for all but the largest handset makers, much less a plethora of me-toos, some analysts say. In a crowded market plagued by price wars, entrants will have to convince buyers to abandon established brands with phones that surpass even premium models, US research firm Gartner said.

"It's not that easy to go bankrupt making phones, but it's also not easy to be profitable," said Taiwan-based Gartner analyst CK Lu, who covers the mainland smartphone market. "If you don't have good differentiation, you're putting yourself in a saturated market." China had 155 smartphone brands selling over 1,000 handsets a month



A customer look at a mobile phone on display at an electronics market in Shanghai, China, on 24 June, 2015.—REUTERS

as at end-March, from 110 two years ago, said analyst Neil Shah of Counterpoint Research. In neighbouring India, there were 103 brands, over half of which are Chinese.

But small players com-

pete for just one-fifth of the market as the rest is occupied by the 10 biggest incumbents — including Apple Inc, Samsung Electronics Co Ltd, Lenovo Group, Huawei Technologies Co Ltd [HWT.UL] and Xiaomi

golfer in New York hitting a hole-in-one in Los Angeles, project manager Glen Fountain told reporters. During the 30-minute dash past Pluto and its entourage of five moons, New Horizons will perform a carefully choreographed series of maneuvers to position its cameras and science instruments for hundreds of observations.

Already, scientists have learned that Pluto, once considered the ninth and outermost planet of the solar system, is bigger than thought, with a diameter of about 1,473 miles (2,370 km), some 50 miles (80 km) wider than previous predictions. Pluto is now officially bigger than Eris, one of hundreds of thousands of mini-planets and comet-like objects circling beyond

Neptune in a region called the Kuiper Belt. The discovery of this region in 1992 prompted the official reclassification of Pluto from planet to "dwarf planet."

Size matters, even for dwarf planets. The notch up in girth means that Pluto consists of slightly more ice and a little less rock than predicted, an important detail for scientists piecing together the story of how it and the rest of the solar system formed.

"The Pluto system is a fossil remnant of the beginnings of our solar system," said NASA chief scientist John Grunsfeld. "We're going to learn more about that."

Pluto's diameter also affects the size of its atmosphere, which New Horizons

has learned is bleeding off into space at a faster rate than expected.

Most of New Horizons' data will be stored on the spacecraft and transmitted back to Earth after the probe passes beyond the Pluto system. Flight controllers expect to receive just a short message from New Horizons around 9 pm on Tuesday that it survived the Pluto encounter.

Lead scientist Alan Stern said there was a one-in-10,000 chance that a debris strike could destroy New Horizons as it nears Pluto.

"We're flying into the unknown," Stern said. "I don't lose sleep over this, but fact is, tomorrow evening is going to be a little bit of drama."

Reuters

## 12<sup>th</sup> China Changchun Int'l Automobile Expo held in Jilin



Visitors watch a Toyota hybrid racing car at the 12<sup>th</sup> China Changchun International Automobile Expo in Changchun, capital of northeast China's Jilin Province, on 12 July, 2015. Racing cars displayed by several auto-makers attracted many visitors at the expo. XINHUA

— according to Gartner.

Bringing a smartphone to market in China costs as little as a few hundred thousand dollars, with money going on licensing and off-the-shelf designs from manufacturers. For greater scale, involvement in design, marketing and offline sales distribution send costs into the hundreds of millions of dollars, said Shah.

Few entrants are likely to last without mass sales, like Xiaomi, or other businesses to support money-losing smartphone divisions, like Lenovo. Their best chance is to link handsets to new sectors such as wearable devices and smart home appliances, analysts said.

But new hopefuls are lured to the market by the

fairy tale success of Xiaomi. In December, investors valued Xiaomi at \$45 billion less than five years after its founding, making the firm one of the world's most valuable startups.

Chinese startup Smartisan was established in 2012 and, like Xiaomi, has gained popularity based primarily on social-media marketing and word of mouth, rather than expensive advertising.

"Xiaomi's phones were definitely already successful (in 2012)," a Smartisan spokeswoman said in an email. "Because of that, getting investment and bringing in talent for smartphones became much easier... Before Xiaomi, this would have been very difficult."

Reuters

## Cabinet approves bill banning drone flights over crowded areas



TOKYO, 14 July — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Cabinet on Tuesday approved a bill to ban drones being flown over crowded residential areas and airports as well as the use of the unmanned aircraft at night. The government is seeking to pass the bill to revise the

*(From L to R) Japanese Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida attend a Cabinet meeting in Tokyo on 14 July, 2015.*  
KYODO NEWS

Civil Aeronautics Law during the current Diet session as the discovery of a drone with a minuscule amount of radiation on the roof of the prime minister's office building in April stoked fears that drones could be used for terrorist attacks.

The bill is the second round of legislative change to regulate the use of drones following another bill that passed the lower house last week banning them from being flown over designated important facilities, such as the premier's office, the Diet building and the Imperial Palace, and nearby areas.

"We want to secure security. At the same time, we

don't want to obstruct the development of related technologies and the utilization of unmanned aircraft," transport minister Akihiro Ota said at a Press conference after the Cabinet meeting.

Under the latest bill, operators will only be allowed to use the unmanned aircraft from sunrise to sunset.

They will also be prohibited from flying drones in areas attracting large crowds, such as festivals and exhibitions, and the transportation of explosives with drones will also be banned.

Fines of up to 500,000 yen will be imposed on people who violate the rules.

*Kyodo News*

## NYU student held in N Korea says he is healthy, calls for mercy

PYONGYANG, 14 July — A New York University student who has been detained in North Korea for almost three months said on Tuesday that he is healthy and expressed hope of receiving generous treatment from the country.

"I fully acknowledge that I broke the law by illegally entering" North Korea, Joo Won Moon, a South Korean citizen who has permanent residency in the United States, said in a meeting with foreign media, including *Kyodo News*, at a Pyongyang hotel. "I sincerely apologize but I hope to be treated generously."

Joo, who has been detained in North Korea since April, said, "I would like to tell my family I'm healthy. I hope to be home soon and to tell them...not to worry too much."

The North's state-run *Korean Central News Agency* reported in early May that he was arrested after "illegally" crossing into the country from China's northeastern border city Dandong on 22 April.

The meeting was requested by the 21-year-old, who also said, "Although I am a criminal awaiting judgment, I would like to be allowed to see the reality of the DPRK with my own eyes," using the acronym for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the North's official name.

Joo, who was in his third year in the university, said he wants to exchange views with North Korean



*New York University student Joo Won Moon attends a Press conference in Pyongyang on 14 July, 2015, after being detained in North Korea for illegal entry.—KYODO NEWS*

students and "step in the shoes" of Pyongyang's ordinary citizens by riding the subway and using other public transportation with them.

"I hope to prove whether the things I heard about the DPRK in the US is really in fact true or false," he said.

South Korea has asked North Korea to release him and three other South Korean men who have been detained in the country.

Last month, North Korea's top court sentenced two of them who were captured as "spies" in 2014 to hard labor for life, saying they had tried to topple its regime.

Joo's appearance came as South Korea on Tuesday sent back two of five North Korean fishermen rescued in South Korean waters earlier this month to their country.

*Kyodo News*

## 3,058 taken to hospitals in Japan in week amid summer heat

TOKYO, 14 July — A total of 3,058 people were taken to hospitals across Japan due to suspected heat-stroke or heat exhaustion in the week of 6 to 12 July, according to a preliminary report released on Tuesday by the Fire and Disaster Management Agency.

The figure was up 6.5 times from 471 people in the previous week and included four individuals who died on the way to hospital, according to the agency.

Of the total, 52 people required hospitalization for more than three weeks and 945 others were hospitalized for shorter periods. Nearly half of the total number were aged 65 or older.

By prefecture, Saitama topped the list with 190, followed by Osaka with 185 and Kumamoto with 172.

The mercury topped 35 C at some points in the



*Business commuters walk in front of Tokyo Station under the strong summer sun on the morning of 14 July, 2015. The Japan Meteorological Agency has been alerting people across the country to take measures against heat-related illness as the mercury exceeded 35 C before noon in some areas.—KYODO NEWS*

country on Tuesday with the Japan Meteorological Agency warning people to take measures to prevent with heat exhaustion.

The hot weather is likely to peak on Tuesday as clouds surrounding Typhoon Nangka, which is in the Pacific south of Japan,

are expected to partially cover the Japanese archipelago on Wednesday, according to the weather agency.—*Kyodo News*

## Philippine new police chief appointed

MANILA, 14 July — Philippine President Benigno S Aquino III has named new chief of the 155,000-strong officers and personnel of the national police force, a senior government official said on Tuesday.

Department of Interior and Local Government Secretary Manuel Roxas II said Aquino appointed Police Director Ricardo Marquez as the new head of the Philippine National Police (PNP).

Marquez, 55, would be

replacing office-in-charge Leonardo Espina who will retire from the service on 19 July when he reaches 56, the mandatory retirement age for uniformed personnel. Presidential Communications Operations Office Secretary Herminio Coloma Jr said Marquez was chosen based on his qualification and capability.

Marquez graduated from the Philippine Military Academy in 1982 and he will retire in August next year.—*Xinhua*

## Fire reported at chemical plant in S France

PARIS, 14 July — A fire broke out on Tuesday — the French national day — at a chemical plant in southern France, and the country's ORSEC emergency plan has been triggered, local media reported.

*Xinhua*

## Tu-95 strategic bomber crashes in Russian Far East

MOSCOW, 14 July — A Russian strategic bomber Tu-95 with seven crew members onboard crashed in the Far Eastern region of Khabarovsk, *RIA Novosti* quoted Defence Ministry as saying on Tuesday.

*Xinhua*

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The Global New Light of Myanmar သတင်းစာတိုက်တွင် အလုပ်သင်သတင်းထောက် (ညှိနှိုင်းလစာ) ရာထူး (၅) နေရာအတွက် အောက်ဖော်ပြပါ အရည်အချင်းနှင့် ပြည့်စုံသူများ လျှောက်ထားနိုင်ပါသည်။

- ၁။ တက္ကသိုလ်တစ်ခုခုမှ ဘွဲ့တစ်ခုခုရရှိရမည်။
- ၂။ အသက်(၂၅)နှစ်မှ (၃၅) နှစ်အတွင်းဖြစ်ရမည်။
- ၃။ နေ့ညမရွေး တာဝန်ထမ်းဆောင်နိုင်သူ ဖြစ်ရမည်။ အမျိုးသမီးများလည်း လျှောက်ထားနိုင်သည်။
- ၄။ အင်္ဂလိပ်စာအခြေခံကျွမ်းကျင်မှုရှိပြီး အင်္ဂလိပ်စာကိုအထူး ဝါသနာ ပါသူဖြစ်ရမည်။
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Dated 15 July 2015

yma@kcyangon.com

**WEATHER REPORT**

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2015:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Taninthayi Region, Kachin and Mon States, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region and Kayin State and scattered in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Taninthayi Region and Mon State. Degree of certainty is (100%).  
**STATE OF THE SEA:** Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Mon - Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) m.p.h. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV BANGSRIMU ANG VOY NO (132)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGSRIMU ANG VOY NO (132) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.7.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN  
SHIPPING**

Phone No: 2301186

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV LANTAU ACE VOY NO (005N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV LANTAU ACE VOY NO (005N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.7.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S YANG MING LINE**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV MERATUS GORONTALO  
VOY NO (107N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MERATUS GORONTALO VOY NO (107N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.7.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
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Phone No: 2301185

**Ministry of Energy  
Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise  
Extension of the request for the Letter of Expression  
of Interest(LOEI)  
Joint Venture Project of Laboratory Services and  
Supply Chain of LPG Business**

Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise(MPE) had invited the interested party for the request of two LOEI regarding the Joint Venture Projects of Laboratory Services and Supply Chain of LPG Business from 22.5.2015 to 28.5.2015 in the national newspapers and to be submitted not later than (12:00) noon at the date of 15.7.2015.

MPE hereby announces that the submission of LOE-Is shall be extended up to 23.7.2015 (12:00) noon from 15.7.2015.

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**Two-wheeled revolution — Pyongyang installs bike lanes**

SEOUL, 14 July — North Korea has installed cycle lanes on major thoroughfares running through Pyongyang in an apparent bid to cut down on pedestrian accidents as more people have the cash to spend on bicycles to get around.

Bicycles are an expensive but popular mode of transport for many in an impoverished and reclusive country where private car ownership, although on the rise, is still rare.

They are often used by women to transport goods to semi-tolerated markets, where one of the most common services sold for profit is bicycle repair.

Concrete paving stones on some long stretches of pavement in the central area of Pyongyang have been replaced by a strip of smooth cycle path marked with white outlines of bicycles, according to photos seen by Reuters.

One image from early July showed a freshly laid bicycle path leading to the towering 105-storey Ryo-

gyong hotel, the uprooted paving stones still on the pavement.

North Korean cyclists are not supposed to ride on urban roads and have for years used an unmarked narrow strip of pavement shared with pedestrians, residents and visitors said.

"This causes a lot of accidents and collisions and as a result people ride slowly and ring their bells very frequently," said Simon Cockerell of Beijing-based Koryo Tours, which takes Western tourists into North Korea.



Pyongyang — the name of the showpiece capital means "flat lands" — is geographically bicycle-friendly, but has in the past introduced and then lifted bans on bikes in the city centre.

Cockerell said the number of cyclists in Pyongyang appears to have increased by roughly 50 percent in the past few years, although

the thought of riding a bike might be unsophisticated for many image-conscious Pyongyang residents.

"They are not the most common form of transport for the average Pyongyanger, and many people I have spoken to about bikes there — mostly men — have scoffed at the idea that they would ride a bike," said Cockerell, whose company offers bicycle tours of North Korea.—Reuters

A cycle path is seen as the 105-storey Ryugyong Hotel is seen in the background in central Pyongyang on 4 July, 2015. REUTERS

## Harrison Ford inspects helicopter before flying



Harrison Ford also co-piloted a trip in his helicopter back in May.—PTI

LOS ANGELES, 14 July — Hollywood star Harrison Ford was spotted inspecting an aircraft, which was on the tarmac at the Santa Monica Airport in Santa Monica, California.

The 72-year-old actor flied the helicopter, just

months after his scary plane crash, reported *People* magazine. The flight is not the first time Ford's returned to the skies following the plane crash in March.

He also co-piloted a trip in his helicopter back in May.—PTI

## I was terrified of turning 50: Salma Hayek



Actress Salma Hayek

LONDON, 14 July — Actress Salma Hayek said she feared getting old and was worried about hitting 50. The “Everly” actress, who is turning 49 soon, said somebody told her career would not last past the age of 35, reported *Daily Mirror*.

“In the past, when I tried to imagine what I'd look like and what my life would be like at this age, I was terrified. I imagined myself looking old, but instead I think I still look OK, and I'm fine with my appearance.

“For too many generations, women have suffered from this terrible lie that age 50 is like falling off a cliff. Women have

believed for so long we'd act and feel as if we were finished, and we surrendered to that myth,” she said.

The “Tale of Tales” star — who had her first child Valentina aged 41 — went on to add that she no longer worries about turning 50, as it's an age where women can be “productive”.

“Fortunately, we've stopped believing that. Fifty is a great age where we can be very productive and happy and not feel limited by anything.

“I've realised I can still be beautiful and attractive as I approach 50. I feel very good about my life.” —PTI

## Blues legend BB King found to have died from natural causes

LOS ANGELES, 14 July — Veteran blues musician BB King died of natural causes primarily stemming from Alzheimer's disease, Nevada officials said on Monday, putting to rest accusations by his two daughters that he was murdered.

King's death at age 89 in May was also attributed to coronary artery disease, diabetes, heart failure, high blood pressure and brain damage from low blood flow, the Clark County Coroner's office said in a Press release.

Coroners said they determined King's cause of death after conducting an autopsy, toxicology tests and consulting a neuropathologist. The examination also concluded that while King



A woman holds a fan as she waits in the heat outside the BB King museum during a day of public viewing for BB King in Indianola, Mississippi on 29 May, 2015.—REUTERS

had suffered strokes, they did not kill him.

Officials had said a homicide investigation would be conducted at the time of King's death after two of his children, Karen

Williams and Patty King, alleged that the musician was poisoned by longtime associates. An attorney for King's estate said the allegations were unfounded.

“At this point we can

say with confidence that Mr King died of natural causes,” John Fudenberg, the Clark County coroner, said.

“Our condolences go out to the family and many friends of Mr King, and we hope this determination brings them some measure of closure.”

King, a prolific and celebrated musician who was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, was placed in hospice care after being hospitalized in April this year from complications related to diabetes. He died shortly after, on 14 May.

Hundreds of mourners gathered for his funeral in Memphis, Tennessee, bidding him a musical farewell.

Reuters

## Hugh Jackman hints at older Logan storyline for “Wolverine 3”

NEW YORK, 14 July — Actor Hugh Jackman has teased fans that the third installment of “Wolverine” could be exploring the adventures of an older Logan.

The 46-year-old “Real Steel” star, who was speaking at a for the upcoming film “X-Men: Apocalypse” at Comic-Con, appeared onstage to address the crowd and confirmed that “Wolverine 3” would be his last outing of the character, reported the *New York Daily News*.

“I've got three words

for you guys, Old Man Logan. Read into that what you will,” Jackman said.

Taking place 50 years in the future, Old Man Logan is an older version of Wolverine, who is trying to live a regular life with his family away from being a superhero, when he is called to begin a final mission.

Although Jackman will no more play the beloved character, “X-Men” director Bryan Singer revealed that he will most likely be making a cameo



Hugh Jackman appeared onstage to address the crowd and confirmed that “Wolverine 3” would be his last outing of the character.—PTI

appearance in “Apocalypse.”

The third Wolverine

film is slated to be released on 3 March, 2017.

PTI

## Justin Bieber apologizes for nude photo



Pop star Justin Bieber has apologized for uploading a nude picture, which had his butt completely exposed, on the photo-sharing site Instagram.—PTI

my butt on Instagram not because I thought it was bad but daughter of some-

one close to me follows me and she was embarrassed that she saw my butt and

I totally wasn't thinking in that aspect (sic). And I felt awful that she felt bad.

“To anyone I may have offended I'm so sorry. It was completely pure hearted as a joke but didn't take in account there are littles (little kids) following me (sic)!” Bieber wrote on his Instagram page.

The picture, which was captioned, “Look” had received more than more than one million likes within hours of being posted.

PTI

## U2 releases short film starring Woody Harrelson

LOS ANGELES, 14 July — Irish rock band U2 has released a short film for its latest “Songs of Innocence” single, “Song for Someone” featuring “Hunger Games”

The nearly-eight-minute cinematic clip was debuted on SundanceTV's website following the third season premiere of “Rectify”.

PTI



actor Woody Harrelson.

The video follows Harrelson, 3, as a man, who prepares himself to meet his daughter, played by his real-life daughter Zoe after being released from jail, reported *Acshowbiz*.

The nearly-eight-minute cinematic clip was de-

buted on SundanceTV's website following the third season premiere of “Rectify”.

“Song for Someone” is the third single off their current album, which was made available for free for millions of iTunes users last year.

PTI

GENERAL

# Tottenham and France goalkeeper Lloris suffers broken wrist

LONDON, 14 July — Tottenham Hotspur's France international goalkeeper Hugo Lloris is doubtful for the start of the Premier League season after fracturing his wrist.

The north London club said on Monday that the 28-year-old player "will continue to work alongside the first team squad to build up his fitness in a bid to be ready for the start of the season.

"Our medical team will continue to monitor his rehabilitation and progress during pre-season," they added on the club's official website ([www.tottenhamhotspur.com](http://www.tottenhamhotspur.com)).

Lloris joined Spurs from French side Lyon in 2012 and has since made 122 appearances for the London side.

The 67-cap France captain was one of Spurs' most consistent performers as they finished fifth in the Premier League last season.

Tottenham's first match of the season is against Manchester United at Old Trafford on 8 August.

Reuters



France's Hugo Lloris reacts during their international friendly soccer match against Belgium at the Stade de France stadium in Saint-Denis, near Paris, France on 7 June, 2015. —REUTERS

# Gold is the new brown as drought-hit California drops lawn fines



The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Mormon temple is seen with a brown lawn, which church officials have not watered because of the drought, in Los Angeles, California, United States on 11 May, 2015. —REUTERS

LOS ANGELES, 14 July — California residents who let their green lawns

turn brown and brittle will no longer face the possibility of fines for an unkempt

yard under a new law to encourage water conservation during the state's drought. The measure, signed on Monday by California Governor Jerry Brown, prohibits a city or county from imposing a fine on a homeowner for the failure to water a lawn or for having a brown lawn during the drought emergency.

Assemblywoman Cheryl Brown, who sponsored the measure, said she knew of a number of cities and towns that had been leveling fines on homeowners for allowing their grass to go brown even as state officials have asked

the public to "severely limit" outdoor water use this summer.

Part of the state "Save Our Water" campaign urges Californians to let lawns "fade to gold for the summer."

California is in the fourth year of a catastrophic drought that has led the state to issue a series of steps to reduce water consumption, including the first-ever mandatory cut-backs in urban water use.

Starting this week, California parks will no longer offer showers for people to wash sand and salt from their bodies at the beach.—Reuters

# Russia expects no 'kick up backside' moment over World Cup

MOSCOW / YEKATERINBURG, (Russia), 14 July — Despite a faltering economy, international tension over Ukraine, and an investigation into its World Cup bid, Russia is confident everything will be ready by the time the soccer extravaganza kicks off on 14 June, 2018.

"The dream will come true," Vladimir Leonov, sports minister for Russia's Tatarstan republic, told reporters in the regional capital Kazan. "The World Cup is coming and we are lucky to experience it in our lifetime." FIFA Secretary General Jerome Valcke famously caused a diplomatic row when he told the Brazilian government prior to the 2014 finals that it needed "a kick up the backside" over preparations as delays piled up. Russian organizers say

their tournament will be delivered as planned.

Of the 12 stadiums being built or updated, from the exclave of Kaliningrad on the Baltic Sea to Yekaterinburg on the border where Europe meets Asia, three are already complete and work has begun at eight more. Builders are due to break ground at the last one, in Kaliningrad, at the end of this month.

With powerful backers, it is no surprise that preparations for the championship are largely on track.

President Vladimir Putin sees the World Cup as an opportunity to showcase Russia as a global power and boost his own image before a presidential election due in 2018, just before the finals.

Russia won the right to host the finals in 2010 with a bid promising to build state-of-the-art sports facilities and

to put regional cities on the map. Since then, several potential party-spoilers have emerged.

Russia's economy is battling against a collapse in global oil prices and Western sanctions imposed on Moscow after it annexed the Black Sea peninsula of Crimea from Ukraine last year. US federal authorities are also investigating the bidding process as part of their probe into corruption and bribery involving FIFA. There have been calls for the venue to be changed, although that is unlikely to happen. Nonetheless, Russia expects to spend more than 630 billion roubles (7.2 billion pounds) on preparations including an overhaul of the transport system and building hotels, training grounds and health facilities.—Reuters

# Chicago-area zoo investigates deaths of 54 stingrays

CHICAGO, 14 July — The Brookfield Zoo near Chicago is investigating what caused all 54 of its stingrays to die, a zoo spokeswoman said on Monday.

Four southern stingrays and 50 cownose rays died on Friday after the oxygen level dropped in the exhibit habitat, the zoo said in a statement.

"We are devastated by the tragic loss of these animals," Bill Zeigler, senior vice president of animal programs for the Chicago Zoological Society, which operates the zoo in Brookfield, Illinois, said in the statement. "Our staff did everything possible to try and save the animals, but the situation could not be reversed."

Veterinary and animal care staff responded immediately to help the stingrays, but efforts to get oxygen



Stingrays swim in a shallow pool at the Brookfield Zoo in Brookfield, Illinois in this undated handout photo provided by Brookfield Zoo.—REUTERS

levels back to normal were unsuccessful, the statement said. Zoo staff members are analyzing the habitat's life-support system to determine what caused the malfunction.

"Stingray Bay," the zoo's summer-long exhibit that has operated since 2007, will be closed for the remainder of the season, the zoo

said on its website and in the statement.

The stingrays were all born in captivity and were kept in a 16,000-gallon saltwater pool measuring about 25 feet by 55 feet, zoo spokeswoman Sondra Katzen said. The pool allowed zoo visitors to touch and feed the stingrays.

Reuters

## mitv Myanmar International

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- \* A Visit To Today's Along-Daw-Katthapha
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- \* National Literary Icon and Guiding Light of Myanmar Literature: Sayar Zaw Gyi (Episode-3)
- \* The Storytellers
- \* News
- \* Style of Mro and Thet
- \* ANANDA GU PHAYA
- \* News
- \* Herbal Medicine By Thurein (Ta Bin Dine Mya Nan) (Vitis)
- \* News
- \* Travel To The Southern Part of Shan State (Kalaw)
- \* Today Myanmar: Minimum Wage — 3600 Kyats
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- \* Exquisite Myanmar Silk
- \* The Pride of Myanmar "Traditional Handicraft"
- \* Serene and Happy Rural Life in Myanmar
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- \* Karaweik Palace- A Symbol Of Glorious Myanma Culture
- \* News
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- \* Grow Back for Posterity "The dawn of development"
- \* Sticky Shan Snack

## MRTV Entertainment Channel

(15-7-2015, Wednesday)

- 6:00 am**
- Mono Classical Songs
- 6:20 am**
- Pyi Thu Ni Ti
- 6:40 am**
- Fashion Show
- 6:55 am**
- Teleplay
- 7:50 am**
- TV Drama Series
- 8:35 am**
- Musical Programme
- 8:45 am**
- Pyi Thu Ni Ti
- 9:00 am**
- Joint Performance by State Traditional Orchestra
- 9:30 am**
- Myanmar Movie

# US draw with Panama in Gold Cup, Haiti through to quarters

KANSAS CITY, 14 July — The United States recovered from a poor first half and earned a 1-1 draw against Panama on Monday that kept the Central Americans from clinching an automatic spot in the CONCACAF Gold Cup quarter-finals.

In a physical, testy, battle at Sporting Park in Kansas City, the Americans overcame a 1-0 halftime deficit when Michael Bradley slotted home from close range in the 54<sup>th</sup> minute.

The unbeaten Americans had already clinched their spot in the quarter-finals from Group A before the match.

Haiti, meanwhile, advanced to the knockout phase by beating Honduras 1-0 courtesy of a Duckens Nazon goal.

Panama, who drew all three

of their games at the tournament to finish on three points, will now have to wait to see if they can qualify as one of the two best third-placed teams.

The Central Americans came out inspired on Monday, looking for their first win and Luis Tejada appeared to have given them the lead in the 10<sup>th</sup> minute only for the goal to be ruled out for offside.

Panama did finally strike in the 34<sup>th</sup> minute when Blas Perez finished off a pass from Tejada.

The US struck back early in the second half as Alejandro Bedoya played a great ball into the box to Bradley who finished.

The match had several testy moments with three Panamanians receiving yellow cards.

“It’s always tricky when you



USA forward Gyasi Zardes (20) battles for the ball with Panama player Armando Cooper (11) in the second half during CONCACAF Gold Cup group play at Sporting Park Kansas City, MO, USA on 13 July 2015. —REUTERS

have one team who has advanced and another team playing for everything,” Bradley said.

“At the end of the day we’ll take our points and move on.”

Reuters

## Gov’t clings to original Olympic stadium design amid criticism

TOKYO, 14 July — Ministers in charge of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics on Tuesday reiterated the government’s intent to construct an Olympic stadium as originally planned despite criticism over its soaring costs growing even within the ruling camp.

Olympics minister Toshiaki Endo acknowledged at a Diet committee meeting that total construction costs have “substantially increased” and the government “must provide a thorough explanation to the public” regarding how the rise from 162.5 billion yen (\$1.3 billion) to 252 billion yen came about.

Sports minister Hakubun Shimomura said at the meeting he considered revising the construction plan after hearing from contractors and architect Fumihiko Maki, who proposed to do away with the two-arch structure and roof of the initial plan, but redesigning meant the stadium would not be finished in time for the Rugby World Cup 2019 that Japan will host. The existing design feature of two gigantic arches over the stadium, conceived by Iraqi-British architect Zaha Hadid, has drawn public criticism for being expensive.

“This cannot be explained to the public,” said Toshihiro Nikai, chairman of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party’s General Council, at a party meeting, urging the LDP to come up with its own explanation over the costs. Separately, LDP Secretary General Sadakazu Tanigaki said at a Press conference that the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology must “make efforts” to deal with the issue. The new national stadium will replace the iconic National Stadium built in central Tokyo for the 1964 Summer Olympics.—Kyodo News

# FIFA turns down request for Blatter to attend US Senate panel hearing



FIFA president Sepp Blatter is seen at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the International Football Association Board (IFAB) being held in the Culloden Hotel near Belfast, Northern Ireland, on 28 Feb, 2015.—REUTERS

GENEVA, 14 July — A US Senate panel invited FIFA President Sepp Blatter to answer questions at a hearing this Wednesday about the corruption

scandal that has badly tarnished football’s global governing body but FIFA declined on his behalf, a congressional official said.

“Sen. Moran’s office reached out to FIFA to explore the possibility of having Mr Blatter testify but the organisation declined,” said Garrette Turner, spokesman for Senator Jerry Moran, the Republican chairman of the consumer protection subcommittee, which is holding the hearing.

FIFA did not immediately respond to a request for comment and Blatter’s legal representative in the US declined to comment.

Blatter said last week in an interview with German newspaper *Welt am Sonntag* that he “won’t take any travel risks until everything has been cleared up”.

The 79-year-old Swiss national did not attend the final of

FIFA’s Women’s World Cup in Vancouver earlier this month but says he intends to be in Russia in late July for the draw for qualifying games for the 2018 World Cup.

Also missing from the hearing will be US Soccer Federation (USSF) top elected official, President Sunil Gulati, who is a member of FIFA’s executive committee representing the North America region. He has been USSF president since 2006.

The USSF will be represented instead by CEO and Secretary General Dan Flynn.

Senator Moran’s office said that Flynn was “the highest ranking official US Soccer was willing to send” to testify at the hearing.

The USSF did not respond to a question from *Reuters* about why Flynn and not Gulati was

appearing.

The three other witnesses are Michael Hershman, a private investigator who served on FIFA’s independent governance committee from 2011 to 2013, Sunjeev Bery, an official of Amnesty International, and Andrew Jennings, a British investigative journalist who led efforts to expose corruption in FIFA.

Senators will ask what if anything, current American football executives knew about alleged corruption in the sport’s governing bodies, congressional aides said. Former US football official Chuck Blazer, who was a FIFA executive committee member for 17 years, has been at the centre of the corruption scandal. He has pleaded guilty to a series of offences related to bribery and is cooperating with authorities.

Reuters

# Gatlin ineligible for annual award, IAAF says

NEW YORK, 14 July — American sprinter Justin Gatlin could win world championships and go undefeated for a second consecutive season but he would still not be ineligible for the sport’s athlete of the year award, the IAAF said.

A change in selection criteria makes any athlete who has been sanctioned for a serious doping offence ineligible to be shortlisted for the honour, effective this year, International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) spokesman Nick Davies told *Reuters* in an email.

Gatlin, the fastest man over 100 and 200 metres in 2015, was banned for four years after a 2006 positive test for testosterone.

He has returned to the sport

and is favourite to dethrone Jamaican world record holder Usain Bolt in both sprints at the world championships in Beijing in August.

Davies said the IAAF Council approved the change at a meeting last November on the recommendation of the IAAF Athletes Commission. It came after uproar over Gatlin’s inclusion on the top 10 male athletes of the year list for 2014 under existing rules.

The American was not among the three finalists for the honour which was won by French pole vaulter Renaud Lavillenie.

“Several Council Members expressed concern that the IAAF could encounter legal challenges if the Athletes’ Commission’s rec-

ommendation that no athlete who has been sanctioned for a serious doping offence should be shortlisted for the Athlete of the Year award was approved,” minutes from the meeting recorded.

“However, the majority of Council Members who took the floor supported this recommendation because it enhanced the credibility of the sport, it protected the rights of clean athletes and it assisted in further establishing inappropriate behaviour in the sport that would not be honoured by the IAAF in the future.” Britain’s Sebastian Coe, running for the IAAF presidency along with fellow vice president Sergey Bubka, was among those unhappy about Gatlin’s inclusion.—*Reuters*



Justin Gatlin of the US makes a selfie after winning the 100 metres men event at the IAAF Diamond League Athletissima athletics meeting at the Pontaise Stadium in Lausanne, Switzerland, on 9 July, 2015. —REUTERS