



President pledges livelihood assistance for Rakhine flood victims

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STATE OF EMERGENCY

RAKHINE BEARS BRUNT OF FLOOD DISASTER

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 6 Aug — Authorities confirmed another 19 fatalities Thursday in one of the ongoing flood disaster's deadliest days, bringing the nationwide death toll to 88, including more than 50 in Rakhine State.

The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement said the floods which began in June had affected more than 330,000 people across Myanmar.

Most of the flood-related deaths were reported in Rakhine State, where at least 55 people had died. The flood also killed more than 4,650 cattle, displaced more than 85,400 people and destroyed 10,956 homes and more than 217,580 acres of farmland.

The updated figure released by the ministry on Thursday showed eight people perished in floods in Mandalay Region, followed by Sagaing Region with seven and Shan State with six.

The death toll in Chin State, resulting from landslides triggered by torrential rain, had reached four.

President U Thein Sein said in his monthly address to the country Thursday that the government had made arrangements for returning the flood-ravaged areas to normality as soon as possible.

The government was ready to assist farmers in ploughing their lands and to provide them with seeds so they could grow rice, the president said.

In his speech, the president warned of flooding in Hinthada and Nyaungdon in Ayeyawady Region, urging residents to move to shelters as the Ngawun and Ayeyawady rivers had exceeded their designated danger levels.



Volunteers lay sandbags on the bank of the Ayeyawady River in Myanaung to hold back rising waters.—PHOTO : WIN BO

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation announced Thursday that it continued to keep watch on all dams across the country, confirming that none had broken.

However, 41 dams were releasing excess water through their spillways while 21 had not exceeded their capacity, the ministry said.—GNLM

Gov't, ethnic armed groups to negotiate 'inclusiveness' hurdle to peace deal

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 6 Aug — Peace negotiators representing ethnic armed groups and the government resolved three pending issues on Thursday, the first

day of their latest round of talks, and will discuss whether the signing of a national ceasefire accord will be "all-inclusive" on day two, both parties said.

The current round of talks, the ninth between the two sides, is aimed at finalizing the terms of the prospective peace deal.

At a press conference at the Myanmar Peace Centre in Yangon, spokesmen for the two sides said they had reached an agreement on the three unresolved points from the previous round of talks.

Government negotiating team spokesman U Hla Maung Shwe said both parties had agreed in principle upon the signatories and local and international observers for the NCA.

"But the two sides will have to continue mediation over the inclusion of all armed groups in the signing process on the second day," U Hla Maung Shwe said.

As proposed by the ethnic side, the President and the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services would be among the signatories of the truce deal from the government side, he added, saying there would also be three top leaders each from

the ethnic armed groups in the signing process.

According to ethnic armed group spokesman Pu Zing Cung, the three points resolved at the current round related to security integration, parliamentary approval and implementation of major projects through coordination with local people and ethnic groups.

marked difference between the two sides, Pu Zing Cung said.

While addressing the opening of the talks Thursday morning, he said the government's original stance on the parties to the accord needed to be adjusted.

In his address, government negotiator Union Minister U Aung Min said it was vital to "seize the moment for peace," expressing concern over the continuing roadblock that could prevent finalizing the almost two-year-long draft negotiation process.

GNLM



Pu Zing Cung (centre) briefs media on the first day of the ninth round of talks between the Union Peace-making Work Committee and a senior delegation of ethnic armed organizations at Myanmar Peace Centre in Yangon.

PHOTO: YE MYINT

MWCDF holds tree-growing ceremony, annual meeting



Daw Khin Khin Win and party grow a Gangaw (*Mesua ferrea*) plant at monsoon tree growing ceremony.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug — Honorary Patron of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw

Khin Khin Win, wife of President U Thein Sein, and Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of Vice President Dr

Sai Mauk Kham, and officials planted Gangaw tree saplings in the compound of the association,

here, Thursday.

In the 2015 monsoon tree growing ceremony, they planted more than 300 saplings.

Myanmar Women and Children Development Foundation (MWCDF) held its annual general meeting at its office in Ottarathiri Township the same day.

Patron of the foundation Daw Khin Khin Win called for emphasis on uplifting the lives of women and children.

Chairperson Daw Wai Wai Tha extended greetings while Joint Secretary Daw Khin Moe Hsan spoke about the mission and vision of the foundation.

Officials presented certificates of honour to well-wishers for their donations.—MNA

Union FM arrives back from Malaysia

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug — Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin arrived back here from Kuala Lumpur of Malaysia after attending the 48th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting (AMM) and related meetings from 3 to 6 August.

At the end of the meeting, the joint communiqué of the 48th AMM was issued. The chairman statements and ministerial statements were also issued at various related meetings particularly the EAS Foreign Ministers' Statement on the joint comprehensive plan of action to address Iran's Nuclear Programme and the ARF statement on strengthening marine environmental protection and conservation cooperation.

The AMM has been held annually since the establishment of ASEAN in 1967.

While in Malaysia, U Wunna Maung Lwin also attended the other related meetings including the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference with ASEAN's ten dialogue partners, meeting on commission on the

South East Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Treaty and the 8th Lower Mekong Initiatives Ministerial meeting.

At the LMI annual meeting, the ministers adopted the master plan of action to implement LMI 2016-2020.

While in Kuala Lumpur, the Union minister paid a joint courtesy call on the Prime Minister of Malaysia and held bilateral meetings with the ministers of foreign affairs from China, Norway, Australia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Turkey as well as High representative of the European Union of Foreign and Security Policy and Deputy Minister of Canada to discuss matters of mutual interests.

Myanmar becomes the country coordinator for ASEAN-Australia dialogue relations for next three years from this year's ASEAN-Australia ministerial meeting. Myanmar has been the country coordinator for ASEAN-US dialogue relations from 2012 to 2015 and has handed over the coordinatorship to Malaysia at the meeting.—MNA

Chinese aid shipment reaches Mandalay

YANGON, 6 Aug — A flood relief aid shipment worth 2 million yuan (US \$322,000) from the govern-

ment of China's Yunnan Province arrived Thursday in Mandalay.

The shipment, which

entered Myanmar via the border at Muse, included 1,000 tents, 500 packages of milk powder, 10,000 packages of instant noodle and 100 tons of rice.

The 14-vehicle Chinese convoy proceeded to Mandalay along with officials of Muse district.

District IPRD

Thailand donates relief supplies for flood victims

By Ko Moe

YANGON, 6 Aug — Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Pisanu Suvana-jata and Thai companies on Thursday donated cash and emergency supplies to flood victims in Myanmar through the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

The Myanmar government has appealed for international assistance as the country's worst flooding in memory has affected more than 200,000 people, Deputy Minister Daw Su Su Hlaing said at the dona-

tion ceremony.

"This is the first time that Thailand has helped Myanmar flood victims," said Mr Pisanu who added the neighbouring country had plans to provide further support.

Thai Embassy staff donated clothing and cash donations, while the aid from Thai companies included 1,000 survival packs, 5,000 bottles of water, food and medicine.

Other countries including Japan have also made donations to help flood victims.

GNLM

KALAY, 6 Aug — To supply relief aids to flood victims in Kalay region, cargo aircraft C-130 of India air force led by Wing Commander Gopi Mohan arrived at Kalay airport Thursday afternoon.

Major General Min Naung, Commander of North-West Command, welcomed the Indian team while Sagaing region minister for transport U Aung Zaw Oo and party accepted relief aid.

For the first time the Indian aircraft carried 180 sacks of rice, 59 boxes of medicine and

India's relief aid arrives in Kalay region



instant noodle.

Two more C-17 aircraft of Indian air force also arrived in Mandalay

International Airport with relief supplies.—Kalay District IPRD/Min Htet Aung (Mdy)

Relief aid being loaded onto cargo aircraft C-130 of India air force by Myanmar soldiers.—KALAY DISTRICT IPRD

Police save 173 trafficked victims in past seven months

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 6 Aug — Police have investigated 74 human trafficking cases in the past seven months, saving 173 victims including 21 children, according to figures released by the

Anti-Trafficking in Persons Division.

Between January and July, 125 traffickers were arrested, but 65 suspects remained on the run, Police Captain Min Naing said Thursday.

The authorities last

month exposed eight cases and rescued nine victims. Apart from a 5-year-old boy who was trafficked in China, all victims were female and had been sold into forced marriage in China, Captain Min Naing said.

One of the victims had

been forced into prostitution, he added.

Myanmar's Central Body for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons plans to offer cash assistance to trafficked victims starting this fiscal year, Captain Min Naing told The Global New

Light of Myanmar. According to official figures, a total of 1,197 trafficking cases have been investigated nationwide between 2006 and July this year, with police rescuing 2,175 victims and arresting 2,156 traffickers.

According to the annu-

al Trafficking in Persons report published in July by the United States, Myanmar remains in Tier 2, comprising countries that do not fully comply with minimum anti-trafficking standards, but are taking significant steps to do so.—GNLM

NATIONAL

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug — The government will provide livelihood assistance to those who lost family members in the ongoing flood disaster, and will help them recover and rebuild their lives, President U Thein Sein told local people Thursday in Sittway, Rakhine State.

The president stressed the need to keep a sense of humanitarianism, patriotism and accountability, urging departmental officials and locals to join hands in the effort.

Rakhine State Chief Minister U Maung Maung Ohn reported on the flooding triggered by Cyclone Komen, its devastating effects and recovery activities.

These activities will include the rehabilitation of homes, livelihoods, fishery and agricultural industries, and paddy seed stocks.

The president provided emergency supplies for local flood victims through the chief minister.

Kanbawza Bank, Shwe Than Lwin Company and Cooperative Bank donated K600 million, K860 million and K600 million, respectively, for flood relief.

President U Thein Sein went to MraukU and Minbya towns, where he provided relief supplies and explained recovery activities.

During his inspection tours, the president visited Myathalun Pagoda in Magway and Aung Bodhi Dhamma Retreat in MraukU of Rakhine State.

Damaged transport facilities in Rakhine State are now being rebuilt, with Yangon-Sittway Road back in use as of 6 August.—MNA

President pledges livelihood assistance for Rakhine flood victims



President U Thein Sein meets flood victims in MraukU.—IPRD

Vice President U Nyan Tun meets int'l disaster response experts



Vice President U Nyan Tun accepts K150 million for flood victims from Ministry of Mines and Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug — Vice President U Nyan Tun received an international delegation of disaster management specialists Thursday at the emergency operation centre of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

In his role as Chairman of the National Disaster Management Committee, the vice president met with Senior Emergency Preparedness and Response Officer Mr Janggam Adh-

ityaawrama of the ASEAN Coordination Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management, Information and Communication Technology Officer Mr Adi Bishry, Logistics Officer Mr Yoran Lukas, and United States Forest Service EOC Advisor Mr Don Price.

The vice president heard reports by the guests on collection of data on flooding and landslides across the nation.

He later accepted K150 million from the Ministry of Mines and Myanmar Gems Entrepreneurs Association.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin and the deputy minister spoke about counting casualties in flood-affected areas, relief supply requirement and assistance from international organizations.

MNA

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing inspects relief efforts in Ayeyawady Region

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug —Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla inspected donations of flood relief supplies Thursday at Mingaladon Air Base.

The senior general and party, including Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Thura Thet Swe, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Khin Aung Myint and senior officers, later traveled by helicopter to Ingapu in Ayeyawady Region to deliver supplies to flood victims.

The Ayeyawady Region chief minister and the commander of Southwest Command reported to the senior general on flood mitigation measures. The senior general gave instructions on evacuation of people and cattle with Tatmadaw ships and transportation of food supplies from Yangon. The senior general afterwards met with flood victims at the town hall and presented flood supplies to victims.

In the afternoon, the senior general and party proceeded to Hinthada and

inspected building embankments around the town to prevent flooding.

The senior general and party met with local people at Myanadi Hall and presented K50 million worth of relief supplies donated by the defence services.

Afterwards, the senior general and party proceeded to Zalun by car and inspected river embankments along the trip.

In Ayeyawady Region, about 170 relief camps have been set up for 34,257 victims.—Myawady



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets volunteers at Mingaladon Airbase.—MYAWADY

Mandalay Region to recruit special police for election

MANDALAY, 6 Aug — The Mandalay Region Police Force plans to recruit more than 5,400 special police officers to be assigned at 5,409 polling stations across the region for the November 8 general election.

The recruits will receive K120,000 salary each for three months plus K1,000 daily rations.

The region police force will open the special officer training course for those who passed the matriculation examination from 1 to 15 September. The trainees who passed the middle school are to attend the training course from 16 to 30 September.

After the courses, uniforms will be issued to the police.

Applications for the posts will be allowed from 20 July to 14 August.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)



Members of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association Daw Phyu Phyu Htet Win and Daw Thazin Htet Htet seen at Yangon International Airport before departure for People's Republic of China to attend 2015 China-ASEAN Youth Camp from 2 to 9 August. MWEA

Komatsu Manufacturing launches power plant

MANDALAY, 6 Aug — Komatsu Manufacturing Myanmar Ltd recently launched its diesel-generator power plant in Pyigyidagun Township's Hteingon Ward.

Union Minister for Industry U Maung Myint, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint, Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Tateshi Higuchi and officials of Komatsu Company Group attended the launch ceremony.

The power plant started operations in early August.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Watercolour artists showcase diverse works

MANDALAY, 6 Aug — An exhibition of more than 80 watercolour paintings ranging from modern art to traditional landscapes has drawn appreciative crowds in Mandalay.

Tin Aung Htaik, and Shwe Sin Aye who graduated from the National University of Arts and Culture in Yangon, have been showcasing their works in the exhibition entitled Panpyoletmyar, running from 5 to 7 August at Thiri Gallery on 73rd Street in Chanmyathazi Township.

Visitors to the exhibition have included members of the Mandalay Artists' Association including Chairman U Zaw Win, students of Mandalay National University of Arts and Culture, and Mandalay State School of Fine Arts.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



Tatkon Township review disaster preparedness

TATKON, 6 Aug — Tatkon Township authorities held a meeting on preparedness for natural disasters at the hall of the Township General Administration Department on 5 August.

An official of Nay Pyi Taw Council, local authorities and military officers discussed preventive meas-

ures for natural disasters.

Construction entrepreneurs in Tatkon Township donated K2.6 million to Myitta Yeik social association for youths from Tatkon Township for providing relief supplies to flood victims.

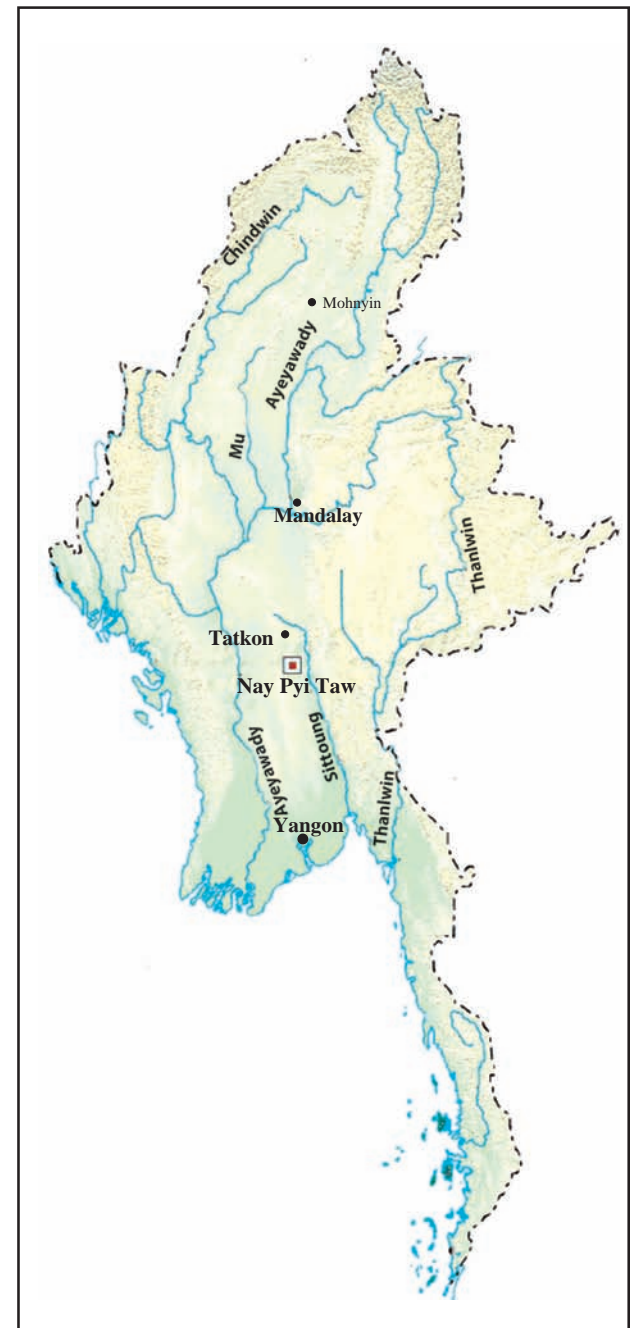
Tin Soe Lwin (Tatkon IPRD)

Bird watching seminar targets biodiversity, conservation

MOHNYIN, 6 Aug — Indawgyi Wildlife Park, in conjunction with Fauna and Flora International, is conducting bird watching training until 9 August at Lonton forward camp, on the western bank of Indawgyi Lake in Mohnyin Township. U Lay Win of the Myanmar Bird Watchers Association has given lectures on observing birds in the wild. Five foresters, four staff from Indawgyi Lovers, two from Indo-Myanmar Conservation (IMC), two from FFI and five local youths are attending the course.

“The training aims to improve capacity of staff and raise the number of bird watchers who are interested in conservation of biodiversity,” Indawgyi Wildlife Park warden U Htay Win said.

About 20,000 migratory birds from around the world arrive at Indawgyi Lake and park yearly.—GNLM-001



REGIONAL

ASEAN nations struggle to agree communique wording on South China Sea

KUALA LUMPUR, 6 Aug — Southeast Asian nations have yet to agree a concluding statement at a regional meeting in Malaysia because of wrangling over how to refer to the disputed South China Sea, Singapore's foreign minister said on Thursday. The delay is a sign of the divisions within the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in dealing with China's assertiveness in the South China Sea, in particular Beijing's recent construction of artificial islands in the waterway.

"The joint communique should have been done by yesterday. It has not been finalised as of now," Singapore Foreign Minister K. Shanmugam told a news conference in Kuala Lumpur.

"The paragraph relating to the South China Sea is causing some problems," he said, adding there was "no consensus on how the paragraph ought to be".

He declined to give details on the wording.

Tensions over the South China Sea have dominated talks this week in the Malaysian capital, where ASEAN foreign ministers have also met their counterparts from various countries including China and the United States.

China claims most of the waterway, through which \$5 trillion in ship-borne



Myanmar's Foreign Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin (2nd L) greets US Secretary of State John Kerry (L) for a group photo during the 5th East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers Meeting August 6, 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.—REUTERS

trade passes every year. The Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Taiwan and Brunei also have overlapping claims.

ASEAN foreign ministers concluded their talks on Tuesday after rebuffing

a request from China to leave the dispute off the agenda. Some foreign ministers, including from host Malaysia, said it was too important to ignore.

An earlier draft communique said

ASEAN was concerned about developments in the South China Sea and emphasised there should be no use of threats or force. It also expressed concern over the pace of negotiations in trying to agree a code of conduct that is intended to bind China and ASEAN to detailed rules of behaviour at sea. A statement was expected by the end of the day, senior officials said.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on Wednesday that Beijing had halted land reclamation in the South China Sea and that ASEAN and China shared a desire to resolve the thorny issue through dialogue. In June, China said it would soon complete some of its reclamation in the Spratly archipelago of the South China Sea, while adding it would continue to build facilities on the man-made islands.

Indonesia and Myanmar said the priority was to finalise the code of conduct.

Arrmanatha Nasir, a spokesman for Indonesia's Foreign Ministry, said he could not say how long that would take.

"As long as there's engagement, that's a good sign," he said.

Thailand's foreign minister, General Tanasak Patimapragorn, on Wednesday said talks on the code of conduct had moved to "the next level". He did not elaborate.—Reuters

Malaysian PM Najib says debris confirmed to be from missing MH370 plane



Malaysia's Prime Minister Najib Razak (C) with Minister for Transport Liow Tiong Lai (R) confirms the debris found on Reunion Island is from missing Malaysia Airlines flight MH370 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, August 6, 2015. REUTERS

KUALA LUMPUR, 6 Aug — A piece of plane wreckage, believed to be part of a wing, found on Reunion Island off the east coast of Africa, is from Malaysia Airline flight MH370 that went missing over a year ago, Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak said Thursday.

"Today, 515 days since the plane disappeared, it is with a heavy heart that I must tell you that an international team of experts have conclusively confirmed that the aircraft debris found on Reunion Is-

land is indeed from MH370," Najib said in a press conference in the wee hours Thursday morning.

The debris, measuring over 2 meters long and determined by authorities to be a piece of a wing called a flaperon, was found last Wednesday by beach cleaners in Saint-Andre on the east coast of Reunion, a French territory.

It is thus far the only physical evidence of the Boeing 777 that vanished from radar on March 8 last year with 239 people on board while flying from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing.

The debris was transported for examination at a laboratory near Toulouse, southern France, under the French Defense Ministry. Deputy Paris prosecutor Serge Mackowiak said Wednesday, "There are very strong indications that the flaperon indeed belongs to flight MH370."

The official cited documents from Boeing Co. and Malaysia Airlines, and referenced the size, paint and other features of the wreckage as evidence for his supposition.

These indications "will be confirmed by supplementary analyses that starts tomorrow morning," he said.

Based on analyses of satellite and radar transmissions, authorities from various countries came up with a theory that the jumbo jet veered off course and crashed somewhere in the Indian Ocean.

A massive international search headed by Australia has not yielded anything substantial.

"It is my hope that this confirmation, however tragic and painful, will at least bring certainty to the families and loved ones of the 239 people on board MH370. They have our deepest sympathy and prayers," Najib said.

"I would like to assure all those affected by this tragedy that the government of Malaysia is committed to do everything within our means to find out the truth of what happened. MH370's disappearance marked us as a nation. We mourn with you, as a nation," he added.

For some of the next-of-kins of the victims, the confirmation hardly gives them any solace. "One piece of debris doesn't represent my husband. It just says the plane is there. So now you need to bring everyone back," Jacquitta Gonzales, whose husband, Patrick Gomes was a steward on MH370, said.

Gonzales has gone through what she described as a "rollercoaster ride" in the year since her husband was gone. "Nervous, anxious, sad, angry, everything rolled into one. I don't know whether there is a name for all that but that's how we feel because we are still on a rollercoaster ride," she said. Lee Khim Fatt, husband of MH370 flight attendant Fong Wai Yueng, wants the government to continue searching for the plane. "We want everybody back. No matter in what form, what way. There should be proper closure," he said. "At least show me something that belongs to them. At least we can recognize it."

Kyodo News

Indonesia shuts down Bali airport due to volcanic ash

JAKARTA, 6 Aug — The international Ngurah Rai airport in Bali was closed on Thursday again as the volcanic ash from Mount Raung disrupted flights, leaving thousands of tourists stranded on the resort island.

Spokesman of the Transport Ministry J.A. Barata said the fresh closure was ordered at 11:00 a.m. Jakarta time (0300 GMT), the fourth time since last month.

The closure "is because of the spread of volcanic ash from Mount Raung this morning," he told Xinhua.

Nevertheless, the spokesman said that the shutdown would only last for hours until 17:00 p.m. (0900 GMT).

Local Metro TV reported that thousands of tourists have to wait at the airport due to delayed flights.

About 300,000 foreign holiday-makers visit Bali every month, and foreign tourist arrivals reached 357,700 in June, according to the national statistic bureau.

Mount Raung in East Java, about 150 km from the Bali international airport, has displayed high seismic activity in recent weeks with on-and-off eruption.

On July 9, Indonesian Transport Ministry closed Bali airport and four others due to the volcano's eruption.

Mount Raung is among 80 volcanoes monitored regularly in the archipelago country with about 17,500 islands.

Xinhua

Spilled water inspires renewable energy startup



TEL AVIV, 6 Aug — H2 Energy Now's technology turns water into hydrogen gas to safely store power generated by solar, wind, water or even conventional plants.

Little did Sonya Davidson know that dropping a glass of water when she was a little girl would lead her to found a company using water chemistry to store energy.

Recently, Davidson's H2 Energy Now was invited to the Alpine High-Tech Venture Forum in Switzerland, sponsored by Eureka, the EU's R&D organization, to present its radio wave-based energy storage technology to potential investors.

The Israeli startup addresses the fact that although solar and wind farms account for about 40 percent of new energy-generating installations worldwide, and investment in renewable energy sources is skyrocketing, today's batteries cannot store the energy well enough or cheaply enough to make it available around the clock on a mass scale.

"We realized the solution was in water, if we could just figure out a new way to use it for energy storage," says Davidson, who emigrated from the United States to Israel in 2007 with five academic degrees and a background in business.

H2 Energy Now's technology uses hydrogen gas to store energy and is based on Nobel Prize-winning research, she says. The gas is obtained by converting the power plant's generated energy into radio waves, which in turn separate, or dissociate, water's fused hydrogen and oxygen molecules.

"Every molecule vibrates, and our radio-wave technology adds energy to the vibration of water molecules and causes separation. The formula for dissociation says energy plus water equals hydrogen and oxygen."

Fresh or saltwater sprayed into the H2 Energy Now container is captured as droplets by a specialized plastic "spider web" inside. This configuration greatly speeds up the separation process.

"Water droplets transfer energy much more quickly than water in a pool," Davidson explains. "When energy hits the droplets, they dissociate immediately."

The hydrogen-stored energy in the lightweight container is safe and transportable to wherever it's needed, she says.

"The more power we need to generate, the larger a place we need to store our gas, and there are many ways to do this. We can run our power back to a hydrogen-oxygen battery or through a generator. It's faster in and faster out."



Wind turbines in the Golan Heights.—PHOTO: YOSSI ALONI

A dropped glass of water

Davidson says that she has been fascinated by water and its properties ever since she dropped a glass of water on the floor when she was a child.

"My mom, instead of getting mad, took the time to explain the principles of water — how it gathers and forms a shape, how you can float things on it. I became fascinated with water, and throughout elementary school, high school

and college I paid attention to the science of it."

She assembled a team of chemists, engineers, business advisers and mentors in June 2011, and they developed product prototypes and have filed for patents in the United States and Europe.

The company graduated from TheHive high-tech accelerator in Ashdod run by the Rashi Foundation's nonprofit Gvachim organization, and sponsored by the Ashdod municipality and the Jewish National Fund-UK, for startups established by new immigrants. Davidson now hopes to be accepted by the Israel Electric Company's incubator.

H2 Energy Now represents "an incredible opportunity to change energy storage, releasing the true potential of renewable energy," Davidson says.

"Imagine using wind fields all the time, not only when wind is blowing, and solar fields not only when the sun is shining. You get a consistent process that provides energy for peak times and creates energy during off-peak times. Our product is going to release that dependency on sun, wind, or water flow through energy storage. This will enable us to utilize this clean energy 24/7."

A significant side benefit is that "the more efficient you store power, the more efficient you become in creating it," says Davidson.

Existing solutions for large solar and wind plants include pumping water or air uphill during off-peak times and letting it roll downhill during peak times. Neither is a cost-effective or simple process, so Davidson is not surprised to find that "lots of companies are interested in partnering with us."

Given that \$214 billion was invested in alternative energy worldwide last year, "Our company sees a humongous market," she notes. "Major global distributors are willing to market H2 Energy Now based upon our product reaching their milestones."

The Israel Export Institute has helped her company connect with solar-energy firms in Japan, and H2 Energy Now will probably exhibit for the second year in a row at the Fuel Choice Summit in Tel Aviv in November 2015, as well as at the 14th World Wind Energy Conference and Exhibition to be held in Jerusalem on October 26.—GNLM

Japan, U.S. discuss maritime cooperation amid S China Sea tension

KUALA LUMPUR, 6 Aug — Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida and his U.S. counterpart John Kerry agreed Thursday to cooperate in dealing with maritime issues, a Japanese Foreign Ministry official said, amid growing tensions in the South China Sea following Beijing's massive reclamation work there.

Although the two ministers did not single out China, they discussed working together to tackle maritime concerns, with Chinese President Xi Jinping scheduled to visit to the United States in September, the official said.

Tokyo and Washington remain concerned about Beijing's unilateral attempts to change the status quo through large-scale reclamation work in the contested Spratly Islands in the South China Sea.

Kishida met Kerry on the sidelines of a series of regional meetings in Kuala Lumpur involving the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations

and its dialogue partners including Japan and the United States.

In the South China Sea, some ASEAN members — the Philippines, Vietnam, Brunei and Malaysia — are embroiled in territorial rows with China, which claims sovereignty over most of the waters.

Beijing does not want Washington to interfere in the territorial disputes and has taken a stance of aiming to settle such rows bilaterally with claimants.

Kishida and Kerry also agreed to deal appropriately with recent allegations by the WikiLeaks anti-secrecy website that the United States spied on the Japanese government and

firms, with Kishida making a similar call as Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe the previous day, the official said.

Abe, during a telephone conversation, asked U.S. Vice President Joe Biden on Wednesday for an explanation into the allegations, according to Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga.

Echoing Biden's

remarks, Kerry referred to a presidential directive in 2014 on collection of intelligence and said that the United States will not take actions that would damage bilateral trust.

On Abe's closely anticipated statement to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, Kishida did not go into the details of what the statement will contain and

explained the circumstances leading up to the issuance of the statement, the official said.

Kishida and Kerry agreed as well to continue their nations' cooperation in dealing with the crisis in Ukraine, North Korea's nuclear ambitions and past abductions of Japanese nationals, and the early conclusion of a broad agreement on a Pacific Rim free trade initiative, the official said.

Kishida also touched on circumstances in parliament on Japan's security legislation, which is being deliberated at the upper house. Abe's ruling coalition passed bills for the legislation in the House of Representatives last month.

The bills would allow Japan to exercise collective self-defense, or defending the United States and other friendly nations under armed attack even if Japan itself is not attacked, and expand the scope of overseas operations by Japan's Self-Defense Forces.

Kyodo News



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry (L) and Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida shake hands before their talks in Kuala Lumpur on Aug. 6, 2015, on the sidelines of a series of regional meetings in the Malaysian capital involving the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations and its dialogue partners. Kyodo News

Australian Post sees rise in overseas parcels for huge China traffic

SYDNEY, 6 Aug — Struggling mail service Australia Post (AP) has received an unexpected boost from items being sent to China, CEO Ahmed Fahour said on Thursday.

Fahour announced AP, which has forecast its first financial loss of its 200-year history, has experienced a huge increase in the number of parcels being sent overseas, primarily to China.

He attributed the rise to Australian goods becoming cheaper for overseas buyers, with the local currency having fallen in the past year - making exports cheaper.

Only 28 percent of AP's revenue now comes from letters, with the rest generated from parcels and other services. "We are now more of an e-commerce company than we are a letters company," he told a business lunch on Thursday, the Australian Associated Press reported.—Xinhua

Obama defends Iran nuclear deal as diplomacy winning over war

WASHINGTON, 6 Aug — President Barack Obama defended the U.S.-led international nuclear deal with Iran on Wednesday against a furious lobbying effort by political opponents and Israel and said abandoning the agreement would open up the prospect of war.

Invoking the Cold War peace-making initiatives of former U.S. Presidents John F. Kennedy and Ronald Reagan, Obama said if Congress blocked the deal, it would accelerate Tehran's path to a bomb and severely damage America's credibility.

Obama said "alternatives to military actions will have been exhausted once we reject a hard-won diplomatic solution that the world almost unanimously supports."

He added: "Let's not mince words. The choice we face is ultimately between diplomacy or some form of war. Maybe not tomorrow, maybe not three months from now, but soon."

Obama's speech was part of a push to promote the July 14 agreement between Iran and six world powers put together over 18 months of negotiations. The six agreed to lift economic sanctions on Iran in return for curbs on its nuclear programme, which Tehran said was for peaceful energy purposes only.

The White House has



U.S. President Barack Obama delivers remarks on a nuclear deal with Iran at American University in Washington 5 Aug, 2015.—REUTERS

pressured Congress to support the deal as they return home for an August recess. To counter an opposition effort that has spent millions on advertisements, Obama asked the audience to contact their representatives and ask them to support the pact. Congress has until Sept. 17 to vote on the deal. If it passes and survives a presidential veto, a resolution rejecting it would cripple the agreement by eliminating Obama's ability to waive many sanctions.

The leaders of the Senate said they had agreed to begin their recess on Thursday, but start debate on a resolution of disapproval on

the Iran deal as soon as they return to Washington on Sept. 8. Republicans in Congress overwhelmingly oppose the nuclear agreement, saying it does not go far enough to ensure Iran will never be able to develop a nuclear weapon.

Obama urgently needs his fellow Democrats' support in Congress, but only a few dozen have come out so far as strongly in favour. Some of his fiercest critics in the Republican-led Congress quickly dismissed Obama's arguments.

The Republican Senate Majority Leader, Mitch McConnell, said Obama had insulted both

Democrats and Republicans who had questions about the deal by saying Iranian hardliners who opposed the deal were "making common cause with the Republican caucus."

"The president needs to retract his bizarre and preposterous comments," McConnell said in a statement.

Senator Bob Corker, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said lawmakers left a meeting with the International Atomic Energy Agency's chief meant to allay concerns about the deal more worried than when they went in. "It was not a reassuring meeting," Corker said after the meeting with IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano. The IAEA would undertake much of the monitoring and verification work.

Obama spoke at American University, where Kennedy made the case in 1963 for a nuclear weapons test ban treaty with the Soviet Union. He cited Kennedy, a Democrat, and Republican Reagan in making his case for diplomacy. "The agreement now reached between the international community and the Islamic Republic of Iran builds on this tradition of strong, principled diplomacy," he said. Obama called the deal "the strongest non-proliferation agreement ever

negotiated."

He acknowledged his administration's split with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu over the deal. Netanyahu has called the agreement a threat to his country's survival.

"I do not doubt his sincerity, but I believe he is wrong," Obama said. In a first response by an Israeli official to Obama's speech, Intelligence Minister Yisrael Katz told Israel Radio the situation was clear and that Israel remained vigilant against Iranian threats.

"I would have preferred the U.S. president's speech to be different but this is the situation ... we must ... be able to remove (Iran's) threats to destroy us and to defend ourselves by ourselves, if we are called upon to do so," Katz said.

Presenting himself as having done more than any other president to strengthen Israel's security, Obama said the United States would continue to help Israel keep its military edge.

After the speech, House of Representatives Speaker John Boehner emailed a video link to Netanyahu's March address to Congress against the Iran talks. Boehner said it was a powerful reminder "that the alternative to President Obama's bad deal with Iran is not war. The alternative is a better deal." Obama mocked that recurring critique.

"That is repeated over and over again. 'It's a bad deal — we need a better deal,'" he said. "Walk away from this agreement, and you will get a better deal — for Iran."—Reuters

Poland swears in opposition-backed Andrzej Duda as president



Andrzej Duda

WARSAW, 6 Aug — Andrzej Duda, a conservative lawyer backed by Poland's main opposition party Law and Justice (PiS) was sworn in on Thursday as the country's sixth president since its transition to communism in 1989.

In May, Duda won a surprise victory in the presidential ballot, defeating Bronislaw Komorowski, who was seeking reelection as the candidate of the ruling Civic Platform (PO) party.

Duda's election pledges included cutting the retirement age, raising the tax-free income threshold and paying child benefits. In Poland, it is the prime minister who has the most powers, but the president wields clout as head of the armed forces, has a say in foreign policy and the power to propose and veto legislation.—Reuters

Greece's Tsipras says loan deal with lenders close

ATHENS, 6 Aug — Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras said on Wednesday that Greece was close to concluding a deal with lenders on a multi-billion-euro bailout, which he said would end doubts over its place in the euro zone.

The comments were the latest in a series of unusually upbeat assessments by Greek and European officials of progress in talks towards up to 86 billion euros (£60 billion) in fresh loans to stave off the country's financial ruin and economic collapse.

"We are in the final stretch," Tsipras said. "Despite the difficulties we are facing we hope this agreement can end uncertainty on the future of Greece."

An accord must be settled — or a bridge loan agreed — by Aug. 20, when a 3.5 billion euro debt payment to the European Central Bank falls due.

Both sides have said such a deal is possible, although the European Commission described the target as ambitious, suggesting much remains to be done.

Discussions between Greece and representatives from the International Monetary Fund, European Central Bank, European Commission and the euro zone's bailout fund, the European Stability Mechanism, started in the last week of July.

Tsipras, who was visiting the agriculture ministry, said the process should also potentially include the European Parliament, indirectly alluding to past complaints over the legitimacy of demands from lenders. "It should at some point be under the control and monitoring of the European Parliament, a democratic institution which has accountability," Tsipras said.

Over the next two weeks Greece must conclude the bailout, or at least secure a bridge loan such as the one last month to cover its immediate financing needs. Greek officials say the country wants a full bailout immediately rather than a bridge loan.

"We will not accept new prior actions (reform conditions in place) in order to have a small bridge



Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras

loan," said Nikos Filis, parliamentary spokesman for Tsipras's Syriza party.

"We want one final deal to be signed and then we will see what is needed to have a disbursement of 25 billion euros as the first instalment."

Agreements have already been reached on pensions, including only changing conditions for those eligible after last June.

Talks on privatisations have been held up over what Finance Minister Euclid Tsakalotos says is a minor issue, essentially over whether a new or existing agency should deal with tenders already agreed.

On one of the trickier questions, that of bank recapitalisation, Tsakalotos said on Wednesday that Greece and its international lenders

both wanted it agreed before year-end, a move that would avoid new rules forcing large depositors to pay for some of it.

The European Union estimates that the Greek banking sector will need anything from 10 billion euros to 25 billion euros, but the exact amount needed would depend on the results of stress tests and asset-quality reviews.

The poor financing of Greek banks and the prospect of recapitalisation, which would hurt existing shareholders, have sent the stock market's bank index tumbling 63 percent in the three sessions since Monday's open.

Greek media has reported that up to 10 billion euros of a first tranche of bailout aid — assuming one is agreed — could be channelled to the banks.—Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 7 August, 2015

Past failures must not be repeated

By *Kyaw Thura*

Foreign governments and international aid agencies have generously contributed supplies for recovery efforts in the wake of the severe floods that have devastated several regions across the country.

It is therefore incumbent on the governing bodies to exercise management muscle in providing

humanitarian assistance in the form of emergency healthcare, water, food, shelter, hygiene kits and water-purification tablets.

However, the lessons from the delayed response to Cyclone Nargis by the previous government in May 2008 still appear to cast lingering doubts on the reliability of this democratic government.

No matter what, it is an opportune time for the government to dispel any public doubts regarding previous failures. In doing so, the central government should redouble its efforts to ensure relief items reach the hands of flood-affected communities across the country.

In addition, local governments should provide logistical support and help international and local aid agencies and other rescue teams with the delivery of emergency supplies and the provision of healthcare in inaccessible locations.

During this terrible time, the exigencies for the authorities are not to let history repeat itself. It will definitely take considerable time for flood-hit regions to return to normal, since recovery efforts will surely involve monitoring the situation, repairing damaged water and sewerage systems, and helping victims to recover and rebuild their lives.

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Donations that spring from the heart

By *Myo Myint*

Myanmar is suffering from severe floods just as in neighbouring countries India and Vietnam. Severe floods due to heavy rain and cyclonic storm Komen have occurred in many areas in Myanmar, and some areas in Sagaing Region, Magway Region, Chin State, and Rakhine State in particular, have suffered the most. The floods are the most serious to hit the country in living memory, and people are horrified by the daily deluge of photos and news of the floods and the sufferings of the victims, both man and animals, in the newspapers, and posted on Facebook to which many people now have access. It has not been possible to calculate the cost in lives, property and crops so far, as the flooding has been so swift, so immense and so widespread.

As the scale of destruction has been unmatched by previous floods in the country, the calamity has greatly affected not only adults but also our young people. Many victims are seeking shelter in schools, monasteries and Dhammayones that have been turned into temporary shelters. Some have lost members of their family or been injured, many have lost both home and personal belongings as their houses have been destroyed by the floods, and those lucky ones have managed to escape only with a few personal belongings and some of their farm animals. Some had been fortunate enough to have been able to wade through the water to shelters located on higher grounds. Some had to swim across swift flowing flood waters. Some made rafts from bamboo or banana stems tied together to use to flee from their homes. Some were saved by local rescue teams in boats. But some unfortunate persons living in remote areas may still be trapped in their houses unable to leave them. The infrastructure has also suffered enormously. Many small bridges have been swept away. Roads and rail tracks have also

been destroyed by flood waters, landslides and falling trees. Many schools have also faced destruction, not to mention the countless number of flimsy houses of poor people that are built of bamboo and roofed with thatch. Moreover, hundreds of thousands of acres of cultivated paddy fields have been destroyed.

The response from young people to the needs of the flood victims is also equally unprecedented and spontaneous. Some as young children had been victims of cyclone Nargis that occurred in Lower Myanmar in 2008 and greatly sympathize with the victims of the current floods. Without being urged by any organization or person, they have taken it as their responsibility to help their fellow countrymen. They are donating and raising funds in groups made up of youths of their age alongside people from all walks of life and ages – from film stars, pop singers, bankers, and wealthy entrepreneurs, to roadside artists, office workers, shop assistants, trishaw men and street hawkers. Singers have held concerts to raise money for the flood victims. Film stars and pop singers have joined the people on the streets to seek donation. Street artists paint portraits to raise funds. Trishaw men donate their entire day's earnings for the flood victims which is not a small sacrifice to them. You will also see university, college students and fresh graduates in huge groups at busy intersections, shopping centres and bus stops seeking donations. Some of the groups are made up of friends formed through Facebook. You will see young people singing or playing music on roadside pavement drawing attention of the people passing by to the plight of the victims and urging them to donate some money. You will see them in groups in rain and sunshine walking untiringly in the wards shouting out not only for monetary donations but also donations in the form of clothes, water, foodstuff and medicine. At least four groups of youths turn up daily in my ward to seek donations. On

the part of donors, the response has been enormous, in recognition of the efforts people, especially young people, are putting in to raise money. No group of young people leave empty handed when they enter a ward, or street for donation. Some of the residents of the ward even offer snacks and purified water to the youths in appreciation of their hard work. Those who are participating in fund raising are not touching even a kyat from the donation box. They are paying out of their own pocket for transportation, their meals and other expenses. Many intend to deliver the donations they have collected to remote places making use of their own money for travelling expenses. All of them are making use of the talents, labour and time tirelessly to raise as much donations in cash and kind as possible after seeing photographs and hearing and reading news of the flood victims and their enormous needs.

Slowly, the flood waters are receding in some badly hit areas in Upper Myanmar. The floods have left in its wake, death, injury, disease and destruction. The immediate basic needs of food and clothing may have been partially met with the efforts of local and international donors and volunteers. But due to the huge dimension of the unprecedented floods and the destruction it has caused, it will require a lot of rehabilitation work and money. Moreover, there is still the danger of further floods in the lower reaches of the Irrawaddy River. Whether the floods occur or not, we need to be well-prepared to be able to face the threat.

Our past and current experiences show that we are located in a natural disaster prone region. Natural disasters are unavoidable, especially during the monsoon. The monsoon is both a boon as well as bane. It is a boon as it provides water for growing monsoon paddy as well as water for agriculture and other uses during drier times. It is a bane as it is accompanied by heavy rains and powerful storms and calamities. But one cannot wholly blame everything on nature alone

as many experts have pointed out. The worsening weather conditions are also due to climate change caused by manmade environmental degradation, pollution, and deforestation. Deforestation occurs due to cutting down trees for cultivation, for sale, and for use as fuel and is regarded as one of the leading causes of global warming, floods and landslides.

As preparation to leave a safe and secure environment for the next generation, there are many important things we need to do. Foremost among them is to reduce environmental pollution and degradation, and deforestation. Ensuring strict observance of law regarding logging, providing sustained education on environmental pollution, degradation, deforestation and their serious consequences from a young age and using creative means to reduce pressure on existing forests such as extending establishment of plantations to harvest fuel wood are some of the current means to reduce natural disasters. Secondly, it is quite obvious that it is important to prepare an overall sound, comprehensive, realistic, national natural disaster management plan as well as areawise plans annually so that those who will have to lead at grassroots and higher levels in times of disaster are well prepared to cope with emergencies. This includes providing regular training to officials concerned and adults and students who can assist them on how to disseminate lucid information and issue warnings and how to react to them, where to set up shelters, how to rescue people, how to seek and provide assistance, hold drills etc., at every level. Regarding this matter, if necessary, we need to learn from more experienced countries, promote regional and international collaborations in disaster management, develop local expertise swiftly, etc.

Thirdly, we need to inspect and upgrade facilities such as dykes, and dams and ensure that roads, railway tracks bridges, and buildings are up to standard to withstand storms and floods. Finally, we have seen how energetic,

creative and resourceful our youths can be. We need to recognize the potential of our young people and their keen desire to contribute to the development of the nation. We need to listen to their voices as well as allow them to speak out. We need to channel their energy to nation building tasks and in times of special needs. However inexperienced they may be, we need to have faith in them and accept that in certain areas, they have innovative ideas and better insights of the needs of young people like themselves that can be of much practical use. To be able to express themselves and behave like an educated person, we need to provide them with the necessary knowledge and communication skills and develop their thinking skills. As in other nations, we will always need to keep improve our education system to cater to new needs and new developments in the country and in the world, both positive and negative, such as climate change and increase in natural disasters. Consequently, all education systems need to be dynamic and forward looking. They must not just keep pace with changes and their challenges but they must also be able to predict future changes to a certain extent and prepare society to face these changes. In this respect, we need to develop strong leadership in the education sector who are future-oriented and can lead teachers to be dynamic, to predict changes and to respond to changes. In return, the teachers must be able to teach their students to do the same. In order to nurture proactive and future oriented teachers, we need to make the teaching profession more attractive and draw dedicated, dynamic and competent persons. They must be in the profession not just for the salary and the glory, but also to foster positive changes and progress. They must be professionals who can nurture new generations of skilled, innovative, self-sacrificing, and socially conscious young people like those youths who are participating in the fund raising for flood victims.

NATIONAL

Election postponement impossible due to flooding despite constitutional mandate: UEC



Union Election Commission Chairman U Tin Aye meets Ms Yanghee Lee, United Nations Special Rapporteur.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug—The recent flooding across Myanmar cannot lead to the postponement of the general elections, which is around 90 days away, despite the constitutional mandate to do so, Union Election Commission Chairman U Tin Aye told Ms Yanghee Lee, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, at his office on Thursday morning.

When asked about erroneous electorate registers, the chairman reaffirmed that the flawed lists cannot deprive voters of their

rights to vote if there is someone to advocate their eligibility.

Speaking of early voting, he said that the list of early voters will be pinned on noticeboards in polling stations and that early votes will be counted after the polls close at 4 pm. "Under the election rules and regulations, early votes that arrive after the polls close are regarded as invalid."

Negotiations are still under way whether to let observers and correspondents in the polls at military bases, with Union Election Commission urging mili-

tary commands to have the polls outside. According to U Tin Aye, green cards holders are not allowed to cast votes in elections. Ms Yanghee Lee met with Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw at the ministry.

They discussed the promotion of human rights and the signing of human right treaties. She later met with Deputy Minister for Defence Commodore Aung Thaw and held discussions on the peace process, human rights and humanitarian affairs, and prevention of the recruitment of chil-

dren as soldiers. She also met with Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint and Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin separately before meeting legal, economic and political advisors to the president.

Ms Lee and party proceeded to Yangon after the meetings.

MNA

Domestic airlines fly to Sittway, Kalay with aid

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug—Air Force, Golden Myanmar airline and Kanbawza airline Thursday transported foodstuff and personal goods to Sittway Airport in Rakhine State three times.

Likewise, Air Force, Myanmar National Airline

and Kanbawza Airline flew to Kalay Airport carrying with relief supplies. Japanese government donated 684 bed sheets, 3,442 blankets and 60 plastic ground sheets worth US\$100,000 to Yangon by Singaporean airline.

MNA

Cash and relief supplies donated for flood victims

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug—Well-wishers are donating cash and relief assistance for flood victims across the country at offices of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in Nay Pyi Taw.

On Thursday, officials in Nay Pyi Taw accepted K 50 million donated by All Bus Lines Control Committee, US\$ 2,900 and 40,200 baht by Deputy

Prime Minister of Thailand Pridiyathorn Devakula and over K 1.5 billion by ministries and well-wishers.

Similarly, well-wishers are donating cash and relief supplies for victims across the country. From 29 July to 6 August, officials have accepted over K 4 billion, US\$ 2,920, 40,200 baht and 2,000 ringgit.

MNA

Nomination for Hluttaw candidates continues

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug—A total of 123 candidates for Pyithu Hluttaw, 58 candidates for Amyotha Hluttaw, 247 candidates for state/region Hluttaws and 8 candidate for state/region ethnic affairs submitted their nomination for 2015 General Election on 6 August.

From 20 July to 6 August, 3,054 can-

didates including 870 for Pyithu Hluttaw, 413 for Amyotha Hluttaw, 1,675 for state/region Hluttaws and 95 for ethnic affairs constituencies.

They represent 66 political parties while 107 of them are individual candidates. Detailed nomination process is available at www.uecmyanmar.org.—MNA

Trains resume runs on Hinthada-Pathein section

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug—Myanma Railways cancelled schedules of 179-up train and 180-down train along Sakkawt-Hlinethaya railroad section on 5 Au-

gust due to flash flooding. Engineers and workers from Myanma Railways repaired the Pathein-Hinthada and Daka-Gonmin sections. After clearing de-

bris on the rail tracks, they resumed the runs of 187-up train from Daka to Gonmin in the evening while 186-down train left Hinthada for Pathein.—MNA

Students in Kayin State get two new school buildings supported by Japan

YANGON, 6 Aug—Under its grant assistance for Grassroots Human Securi-

ty Projects (GGP) Scheme, the Japanese government has granted US\$384,613

for construction of new buildings for two basic education schools in Hpa-an and Kyarinseikgyi townships in Kayin State.

The relevant documents of the new buildings were recently handed over the governmental officials, an official said.

The two-storey R.C.C building with 12 classrooms for Thamanya Village basic education post primary school in Hpa-an Township includes full furniture, lavatories and water supply.

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Aug—International telecommunication federation aid to National Natural Disaster Management Committee Thursday.

Ms Gisa Fuataipurcell, head of emergency telecommunication division, gives lectures to trainees.—MNA



The federation plans to provide 20 satellite phones, 3 broadband global area network terminals, 3 laptop computers and its accessories to Ministry of Communications and Information Technology. Ms Gisa

Fuataipurcell, head of least developed country, small island, developing state and emergency telecommunication division of the federation, shared her experiences with the trainees.

MNA



Don't you feel ashamed, selling rice at exorbitant prices while the rest of the country is making generous contributions for rescue operations in flood-hit areas?

Rice merchant Mr Greedy

Bahan Aye Min

Diversions of aid ships in Yemen spreads fear of shortages

SANAA / ADEN, 6 Aug — Residents in the Yemeni capital Sanaa are stocking up on rare food and fuel supplies after the government in exile decided to divert aid ships from the Houthi rebel-held north to loyalist areas farther south.

Sources in Yemen's government confirmed the move, though there has been no official announcement, and Yemen's exiled information minister said on Tuesday that commercial flights would be diverted from the capital to the southern port of Aden.

The decisions come as southern fighters backed by weapons and air strikes by neighbouring Gulf states have made rapid gains on southern battlefields against the

Iran-allied Houthis.

A Saudi-led alliance has been bombing Yemen's dominant group since March in support of the country's exiled leadership, which now seeks to reestablish its base from Aden.

"Gas stations have closed, and there are fears that the coalition will impose a siege on Sanaa and the cities of the north. We're afraid," said Ali Saleh, who was searching for ways to fill up his taxi.

"Everybody's afraid of the possibility that fighting will break out in Sanaa, and we ask God to protect us," he said.

Residents in the capital scrambled to stock up on food from stores as the black market price for 20

litres of petrol jumped to 60 dollars in recent days compared to an official price of 15 dollars.

The Arab coalition has enforced a near-blockade on the country to prevent arms shipments, but had for almost four months allowed trade and aid vessels to dock at Houthi-controlled ports to relieve hungry and impoverished Yemenis in the north.

The Houthi movement, hailing from a Shi'ite sect in Yemen's far north, seized Sanaa and much of the rest of the country in September in what they have called a revolution.

Southern forces loyal to the exiled government have been on the defensive in four months of fighting and bombing that have



Children queue for water at a school in Yemen's capital Sanaa sheltering them and their families after the conflict forced them to flee their areas from the Houthi-controlled northern province of Saada August 4, 2015.—REUTERS

killed over 4,000 people, but have made lightning advances northward, seizing Yemen's biggest military base this week.

Ali al-Ahmedi, a spokesman for the anti-Houthi forces, told Reuters the Houthis were ejected from all of the key province of Lahej on

Wednesday, bringing the number of southern provinces under anti-Houthi control to three.

The militia sources said 13 internally displaced people returning to their homes in the area were killed by landmines planted by the Houthis amid the fighting.

Early on Thursday, the Saudi-led coalition said a ground forces soldier by the name of Yahya Miteb Shamri died after he was hit by a projectile in Saudi Arabia's Jizan province, which shares a border with Yemen. The nationality of the soldier was not identified.—Reuters

Libyan government offensive in Benghazi stalls as Islamists dig in

BENGHAZI, (Libya), 6 Aug — First a suicide bomber kills three Libyan soldiers at a checkpoint in the eastern city of Benghazi. When the army sends in reinforcements, Islamist fighters holed up in nearby buildings open fire, killing six more.

It is a typical day for forces loyal to Libya's official government fighting Islamist groups in the city.

The soldiers had hoped for a quick victory after local residents took up arms and joined them. But 16 months later the campaign has stalled as Islamist fighters play cat and mouse with government forces — picking them off with snipers hiding in residential buildings who are hard to hit with heavy weapons.

The battle for Benghazi is typical of the chaos engulfing Libya four years after the fall of Muammar Gaddafi.

There is no central authority with national reach as the North African country has split between two rival governments each controlling only limited territory, while rebels groups, tribes and Islamist fighters have carved out their own fiefdoms.

In Benghazi, the fighting has reduced parts of the city to rubble but neither side seems able to win.

Casualties are high as the army lacks the training and weapons to handle street fighting. Twenty-five soldiers were killed and 35 wounded in July alone, army special forces spokesman Milad al-Zwai said.

Fighters from Majlis al-Shoura, an Islamist group, will open fire from buildings, trying to lure troops into narrow streets or to persuade commanders to send up helicopters or MiG jets.

Lacking precision weapons, the ageing aircraft from the Gaddafi era struggle to hit the gunmen without damaging entire buildings. When soldiers move into houses where they suspect the fighters are hiding, they are greeted by

booby traps, officers say.

"The terrorists are using the latest explosives planted in flats, streets and cars," said Tariq al-Saiti, a military explosives expert in Benghazi. "These devices kill our soldiers."

Government forces last year recaptured barracks lost to Ansar al-Sharia, the group blamed by Washington for an assault on the U.S. diplomatic compound in Benghazi in 2012 in which the U.S. ambassador was killed. Ansar is part of Majlis al-Shoura, which does not disclose its casualty figures.

The army commander in the east, Khalifa Haftar, says he controls 90 percent of the city. But Majlis al-Shoura is holding out

in the central area around the port and in several other districts. Benghazi's harbour and airport have closed.

The continuing battle has encouraged Islamic State to enter the fray. The militants do not cooperate openly with the Majlis al-Shoura but have started suicide bombings against soldiers, sometimes when fighting is in progress.

Islamic State posted pictures on social media of mortar launchers it said it had built to use in Benghazi. The weapons have been used to fire into buildings when soldiers were approaching, also killing civilians, army officials say.

The internationally recognised government, based in the east since it lost the capital to a rival administration a year ago, has called on the U.N. Security Council to lift an arms embargo imposed during the uprising against Gaddafi in 2011. "Now we have a regular army with one command and troops under military orders," said Benghazi-based army spokesman Mohamed El Hejazi.

But Western powers have refused to lift the ban as the eastern army is a disorganised mixture of former anti-Gaddafi rebels, army units that defected during the revolution, un-

trained civilians and tribesmen.

Haftar, a former rebel commander, started the Benghazi campaign as his own private war last year before the eastern-based government, lacking its own forces, made him its official military chief.

The rival government, which controls Tripoli and the defence ministry there, has formed its own force also called the Libyan army, drawing on former rebels who captured the capital last year and expelled the official prime minister to the east.

The Tripoli government, which is not recognised by world powers, supports the Majlis al-Shoura.

Haftar's forces have some jets, helicopters and Soviet-made tanks but rely like other former rebels groups mainly on Toyota pickup trucks mounted with anti-aircraft guns.

"We need sophisticated weapons," said army spokesman Hejazi.

When Haftar started his offensive many residents joined him, using weapons obtained during the revolution. They had become tired of repeated assassinations of army officers, judges and activists blamed by officials on Ansar al-Sharia. The Islamists deny this.—Reuters

7 killed, 10 injured as suicide bombing hits eastern Afghan province

PUL-I-ALAM, (Afghanistan), 6 Aug — Seven people, including a suicide attacker, were killed and 10 others injured as the attacker blew himself up in the eastern Logar province on Thursday, a security official said.

"A suicide bomber driving an explosive-laden vehicle blew it up next to a base of Special Police Force in Pul-i-Alam town at 7:15 a.m. local time (0245 GMT), killing himself and six others including three civilians," General Abdul Raziq told *Xinhua*. Ten more people, including police and civilians, sustained injuries in the deadly suicide bombing, he said, adding that the casualties may go up.

Meantime, Haseeb Stanikzai, the head of Logar Provincial Council, said several nearby houses, including the Provincial Council building, were also damaged in the explosion. Local officials have blamed Taliban militants for the attack. However, the armed outfit which is largely relying on suicide and roadside bombings has yet to claim responsibility.—Xinhua



Pro-government Libyan forces, who are backed by locals, arrange a mannequin as a decoy against snipers during clashes in the streets with the Shura Council of Libyan Revolutionaries, an alliance of former anti-Gaddafi rebels, who have joined forces with the Islamist group Ansar al-Sharia, in Benghazi in this December 28, 2014 file photo.—REUTERS

NASA extends contract with Russia for rides to Space Station

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla) 6 Aug — NASA extended its contract with Russia to fly astronauts to the International Space Station due to budget cuts that have delayed commercial U.S. alternatives, the U.S. space agency said on Wednesday.

Extending the contract through 2017 will cost the United States about \$490 million, NASA chief Charles Bolden wrote in a letter to Congress.

The deal for U.S. taxpayers to pay Moscow more than \$80 million per seat on a Soyuz rocket comes at a time when Washington is ratcheting up sanctions against Russia in response to its actions in Ukraine.

“Unfortunately, for five years now, the Congress ... has not adequately funded the Commercial Crew Program to return human spaceflight launches to American soil this year, as planned,” Bolden wrote.

“This has resulted in continued sole reliance on the Russian Soyuz spacecraft as our crew transport vehicle for American and international partner crews,” he added.

NASA retired its space shuttles in 2011. It is partnering with privately owned SpaceX and Boeing to develop space taxis that can ferry astronauts to and from the station, a \$100 billion research laboratory that flies about 250 miles (402 km) above Earth.

NASA had hoped to begin U.S. flights by 2017, but House and Senate budget proposals for the fiscal year beginning on Oct. 1 would short the agency’s Commercial Crew Program, likely resulting in additional delays and higher costs, Bolden wrote.

Bolden’s letter was sent to the heads of congressional committees that oversee NASA, the agency said. The reliance on Russia for station crew transportation stands in sharp contrast

to a congressional ban on imports of Russian rocket engines for U.S. military satellite launches.

Spurred by Russia’s involvement in Ukraine, the ban covers Russian-built RD-180 engines used in United Launch Alliance’s Atlas 5 rockets. United Launch Alliance is a partnership of Lockheed Martin and Boeing.

Also on Wednesday, Orbital ATK, one of two companies that fly cargo to the space station under a

separate NASA program, said a pair of Russian engines for its refurbished Antares rocket had arrived in the United States. Orbital’s rocket has been grounded since a launch accident in October.

The rocket is expected to return to flight in March.

The congressional ban on Russian rocket engines does not affect non-military missions.

Reuters

Facebook launches feature to allow businesses to privately message users

SAN FRANCISCO, 6 Aug — Facebook Inc (FB.O) rolled out features Wednesday that enable businesses to privately communicate with customers through messages as part of the social networking company’s push to make its Messenger app a stand-alone platform.

Businesses can now include a “send message” button in ads that appear in Newsfeed that allow Facebook users to click a button and send messages, which are private. If users post a comment on a business’ Facebook page, then the business can privately message that person.

The features are part of Facebook’s efforts to convince more small and medium-sized businesses — especially those in emerging markets, such as India, Brazil and Indonesia — to advertise on its platform.

By giving them direct access to customers, the world’s largest social net-

work hopes to show that advertising on Facebook directly leads to increased sales.

To encourage quick responses, Facebook will award “very responsive to messages” badges on business pages that respond to 90 percent of messages and respond on average within five minutes. People will, however, still be able to block private messages from businesses.

The features will be especially valuable in southeast Asia, Facebook wrote in a blog post. About twice as many Thai and Singaporean users use Facebook messages to communicate with businesses each month and most Southeast Asia users follow some company pages.

Facebook hosts more than 40 million active small and medium business pages, it said, with more than 1 billion page visits each month.—Reuters



A 3D plastic representation of the Facebook logo is seen in this illustration in Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina, May 13, 2015.—REUTERS

Network to boost pollution monitoring

BEIJING, 6 Aug — Extensive system will be built by 2020 and include improved satellites, remote sensors.

China will build a comprehensive network to detect pollution of the land, sea and air by 2020, employing satellites, drones and remote sensors to monitor the environment.

The national leadership approved the network plan in July, saying the government will lead the monitoring, share information among departments and regions, and be held accountable if violations are found, the Ministry of Environmental Protection said on Tuesday.

Satellites, a major tool for monitoring air pollution, will receive a boost this year. The ministry said it will accelerate research on two atmospheric environmental monitoring satellites and two satellites with higher resolution than those currently available.

Japanese company sends whisky samples to Space Station

BEIJING, 6 Aug — Japanese distillery Suntory is sending variety of whisky samples to the International Space Station for getting a flavor liftoff, according to media reports Wednesday.



Laser egg showing air pollution levels using the US air quality index.—XINHUA

The ministry will improve a remote sensor network, guided by the goals of the 13th Five-Year Plan (2016-20), which is scheduled to be released at the end of this year, according to the ministry’s Environmental Supervision Department. Remote monitoring has played a bigger role in locating pollution sources. Drones helped authorities locate polluted areas in the

Tengger Desert in northern China and identify scattered summer straw burnings.

Hebei province, which has a serious air pollution problem, has cooperated with the ministry’s Satellite Environment Center to conduct monitoring from satellites and monitoring stations since January last year. “We used the data from the center’s satellites to forecast the movement of smog

during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meetings in November,” Zhang Feng, an engineer in the Environmental Supervision Department of the provincial environmental watchdog, said on Tuesday.

Data collected from monitoring stations helped authorities provide accurate forecasts on hazy days during that period, he said.

Currently, the environmental satellites are used as support tools, as there are not enough of them, Zhang said. After the province builds a system to analyze and process data by the end of this year, the satellites will become more important.

The ministry will also strengthen the supervision of data collected through multiple channels, which is “important to keep the environmental management policies and measures effective and scientific”, Chen Jining, the environmental minister, said in July.—Xinhua

Scientists for the event believe that after storing one year in a microgravity environment, the taste of the whisky will become smoother via the aging and mellowing process.

The whisky samples that will be on board the Space Station are aged for 10, 18 and 21 years respectively. And their flavor will be assessed once they come back to Earth, according to

the company.

However, the result of the study won’t be used for commercial product at present, the spokeswoman of the company said.

Xinhua

Britons prefer smartphones over laptops to go online-watchdog

LONDON, 6 Aug — Smartphones have overtaken laptops as the preferred way for Britons to go online, driven by increased take-up of the devices and a jump in superfast mobile broadband subscriptions, the British telecoms regulator said on Thursday.

A third of people said they turned to a smartphone first to browse the Internet, access social media or shop online, while 30 percent opened up a laptop, Ofcom said.

A year ago, 40 percent preferred to use a laptop and 22 percent a smartphone. People are also spending

longer glued to their iPhone or Android mobile, using the devices for 1 hour and 54 minutes every day on average, it said, and a third of users turn to their smartphone within five minutes of waking up.

Ofcom said Britain had seen a rapid take-up in superfast mobile broadband in

the last year, with an eight-fold increase in subscriptions to 23.6 million.

Television, however, still met most people’s entertainment needs. People watch on average 3 hours 40 minutes of broadcast TV a day, 11 minutes less than a year ago, Ofcom said.—Reuters

Invitation for Expression of Interest

Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) now invites eligible consulting firm to indicate their interests to provide for the design of Myanmar's universal service strategy and for its implementation in a number of pilot areas to accelerate the development of rural telecommunications infrastructure and services in locations that are unlikely to attract sufficient private investment. The deadline for submission of electronic copy of EOI is August 24, 2015 by 2:00 PM Myanmar Standard Time.

Attn:

Mr. Than Htun Aung, Project Director, Telecom Sector Reform Project. Building Number 2, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

Tel: +95 67 407435, Fax: +95 67 407539

E-mail: thanhtunaung@ptdmyanmar.com, tsrproject2014@gmail.com

The Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) for the assignment is available at http://www.mcit.gov.mm/ptd_news

Surviving migrants are brought aboard Irish and Italian Navy life-boats in the area where their wooden boat capsized and sank off the coast of Libya August 5, 2015.—REUTERS

More than 200 feared dead in latest migrant sea tragedy

ROME, 6 Aug — More than 200 migrants are feared to have drowned in the latest Mediterranean boat tragedy after rescuers saved over 370 people from a capsized boat thought to be carrying 600, the Italian coast guard indicated on Thursday.

Rescue ships including vessels from the Italian and Irish navies and humanitarian agency Medecins sans Frontiers (MSF) re-

covered 25 bodies after the boat sank off the Libyan coast on Wednesday and found no more overnight, a spokesman said.

Initial reports put about 700 passengers on the overcrowded steel-hulled boat but interviews with survivors — mostly Syrians fleeing their country's civil war — reduced that estimate and the figure could still change.

Early on Thursday,

another large migrant boat was spotted in the area, just 30 miles from the Libyan coast, and one of the Italian rescue ships was sent to its aid, the spokesman added.

The capsized boat flipped over on Wednesday as a rescue vessel approached, probably because desperate passengers surged to one side as they saw help arrive.

"We don't know how many people might be trapped within the belly of the boat that capsized and sunk, that's our greatest fear tonight," MSF, whose Dignity 1 rescue ship was on the scene, said in a Tweet late on Wednesday.

"People were clinging to life rafts, fighting for their lives," said MSF's Juan Matias, who was aboard Dignity 1.

The Mediterranean Sea has become the world's most deadly border area for migrants. More than 2,000 migrants and refugees have died so far this year in attempts to reach Europe by boat, compared with 3,279 deaths during the whole of last year, the International Organization for Migration said on Tuesday.

The dynamic of Wednesday's tragedy was similar to an April shipwreck carrying up to 800 migrants.

That 20-metre (66-foot) vessel capsized as it approached a merchant ship that had come to its assistance, making it the deadliest shipwreck in the Mediterranean for decades and a symbol of Europe's long-running migrant crisis.—Reuters



Hiroshima marks 70th A-bomb anniv. amid fears of eroded pacifism

HIROSHIMA, 6 Aug — Hiroshima marked the 70th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing of the city on Thursday, with Mayor Kazumi Matsui urging world leaders to renew their resolve to abolish nuclear weapons and pursue peace as embodied in Japan's war-renouncing Constitution.

At a memorial ceremony in the western city, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe joined Matsui in highlighting the role Japan should fulfill as the only country to have suffered nuclear attacks, but did not touch on the ongoing defense policy shift that has drawn criticism from atomic bomb survivors as eroding Japan's pacifism.

After the event, representatives of local atomic bomb survivors' groups directly pressed Abe to retract controversial security bills that would end the country's ban on exercising the right to collective self-defense, or defend allies under armed attack even when Japan itself is not attacked.

Those who attended the annual ceremony at the Peace Memorial Park — around 55,000 people, according to the city government — held a moment of silence at 8:15 a.m., the exact moment the atomic bomb detonated over the city on Aug. 6, 1945, killing an estimated 140,000 people by the end of the year.

Also present were representatives from a record

100 nations, including the United States, which in an unprecedented move sent a high-level official from Washington to join the event along with U.S. Ambassador to Japan Caroline Kennedy.

In the Peace Declaration read at the ceremony, Matsui did not directly mention the security bills. Instead, he encouraged world leaders to demonstrate their "love of humanity" and meet "tirelessly to talk," saying that doing so is the first step toward nuclear weapons abolition.

"The next step is to create, through the trust thus won, broadly versatile security systems that do not depend on military might," he said.

Matsui also called for the need to promote worldwide "the path to true peace

revealed by the pacifism of the Japanese Constitution," whose Article 9 forever renounces war and the use of force as a means of settling international disputes.

Given that Japan will host next year's summit of the Group of Seven industrialized nations, Matsui reiterated his hope that U.S. President Barack Obama and other world leaders will visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki to hear firsthand accounts of atomic bomb survivors.

According to U.S. State Department deputy spokesman Mark Toner, sending to the memorial ceremony Rose Gottemoeller, U.S. undersecretary of state for arms control and international security, underscores Washington's eagerness to work with Japan to advance Obama's

goal of realizing a world without nuclear weapons, which he advocated in his Prague speech in 2009.

As for Japan's role in the pursuit, the prime minister said in the speech that the government will take "realistic and practical" steps towards a nuclear-arms-free world and seek to make the inhumane nature of nuclear weapons widely known.

Abe also said he will introduce a new draft resolution on the elimination of nuclear weapons to the U.N. General Assembly in the autumn, which sources close to the matter say may include a call on world leaders to visit the atomic-bombed cities.

The world's first atomic bombing was followed by a second atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki on

Aug. 9 the same year, with an estimated 70,000 casualties. Japan surrendered six days later, bringing an end to World War II.

The number of hibakusha in and outside Japan — atomic bomb survivors with documents certifying that they experienced the terrible bombing 70 years ago — stood at 183,519 in March this year, nearly half of its peak of 372,264 in 1980, according to the Health, Labor and Welfare Ministry. Their average age exceeded 80 for the first time this year.

Hailing survivors as "unparalleled champions of peace," U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki Moon said in a statement read out during the ceremony that the United Nations will stand with the survivors, determined to realize their vision of eliminating nuclear weapons.

But the ideal faces an uphill battle, with more than 15,000 nuclear weapons estimated to exist in the world at present, most of them in U.S. and Russian arsenals.

In the declaration, Matsui urged the Japanese government to "guide all states" toward discussions on outlawing nuclear arsenals, although Tokyo has been cautious about supporting the move as the country has relied on the U.S. nuclear deterrence for protection.

From the early morning, atomic bomb survivors and other citizens visited the park near the



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe addresses a memorial ceremony in Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 2015, the 70th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing of the city. Abe did not touch on the ongoing defense policy shift that has drawn criticism from A-bomb survivors as eroding Japan's pacifism.—Kyodo News



Doves fly over Peace Memorial Park with Atomic Bomb Dome in the background, at a ceremony in Hiroshima, western Japan, August 6, 2015, on the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombing of the city.—REUTERS

hypocenter to mourn the people who perished in the bombing and hope for peace.

Toshio Fujimura, an 84-year-old survivor who lives in Ehime Prefecture, said, "If war occurs again and an atomic bomb were dropped more people could die... War is miserable and sad." Janet McKinlay, a 61-year-old former teacher from Canada, could hardly hold back her tears as she visited the park to attend the ceremony with her husband and a friend who was born on the day of the bombing. "It is so horrible what people do to each other. I guess we're all here wishing for peace."

Kyodo News

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV SINAR BIAK VOY NO (441N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BIAK VOY NO (441N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.8.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV BC SAN FRANCISCO VOY NO (011W)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BC SAN FRANCISCO VOY NO (011W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.8.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ORINET OVERSEAS
CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV HONG YU VOY NO (1505)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HONG YU VOY NO (1505) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.8.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S BRIGHT SAIL SHIPPING LTD**

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**THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(12 / 2015)**

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

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB-037(15-16)	Derrick Shaker Screens (6) Items Ex 7J 50D Drilling Rigs	US\$
(2)	IFB-038(15-16)	Gun Drill Reammer (2) Nos	US\$
(3)	IFB-039(15-16)	Spares for EMSCO Drive Group (3) Items	US\$
(4)	IFB-040(15-16)	Spares for HDD Rig (19) Items	US\$
(5)	IFB-041(15-16)	Spares for Rotating Accessories (13) Items	US\$
(6)	IFB-042(15-16)	Spiral Integral Blade Stabilizer and Inside BOP (3) Items	US\$
(7)	IFB-043(15-16)	Assorted Sizes of Rotary and Hydraulic Hoses (11) Items	US\$
(8)	DMP/L-006(15-16)	Oil Suction and Discharge Hose Pipe (2) Nos	Ks

Tender Closing Date & Time - 1-9-2015, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 3rd August, 2015 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

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

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

COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT FOR YANGON CENTRAL RAILWAYS STATION COMPLEX

INVITATION TO SUBMIT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FROM DEVELOPERS

- In line with the National Development Plan, the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has been identifying the economic potentials to contribute to the country's economic development. As our endeavors for national development, Myanma Railways (MR) is committed to develop Yangon Central Railways Station Area as a Rail Concerned Business, High-rise Building, Comprehensive Development and Transport System also the essential part of Greater Yangon City development.
- During previous Tendering process Myanma Railways was unable to select successful developer.
- Myanma Railways now invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from reputable local, international or joint venture developers to undertake design and build works for Yangon Central Railways Station Area Comprehensive Development.
- Interested Developers shall submit EOI documents to prove themselves capable enough for the development. MR shall be in charge of the selection of potential developer as prequalification.
- Developers passing the prequalification shall be invited to prepare and submit Technical and Financial proposal documents.
- The successful Tenderer (hereinafter referred to as the "Concessionaire"), shall be responsible for designing, engineering, financing, procurement, construction, operation and maintenance of the Project under and in accordance with the provisions of a concession agreement to be entered into between the successful Tenderer and the Myanma Railways.
- EOI Document and Background information of the proposed Yangon Central Railways Station Development could be obtained from the above address or from the website <http://www.yangonrailwaystation.com.mm>. Enquiries can be made by contacting e-mail: yrsdev@yangonrailwaystation.com.mm or calling telephones +95 1 393424; 291985 or 291994.
- The EOI in original hard copy, one duplicate copy and an electronic copy of the EOI in CD ROM shall be submitted to the Deputy General Manager, Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of Theinbyu Street and Merchant Street, Botataung Township, Yangon, Myanmar, Phone; + 95-1-291985, 291994 or 393424 not later than 14:00 hours on 6 November 2015. Submission by email shall NOT be entertained.
- Myanma Railways reserves the right to accept or reject any EOI, and to annul the selection process and reject all expression at any time, without there by incurring any liability to the affected Developers or Myanma Railways.

Managing Director
Myanma Railways
Ministry of Rail Transportation

Global New Light of Myanmar seeks experienced journalists

The Global New Light of Myanmar, the country's longest-running English-language newspaper, is looking for experienced journalists to join its expanding editorial team.

The GNLM currently has openings for copy editors and reporters at its newsroom in Yangon.

Copy editors must have English as a native language, excellent writing and proofreading skills, and ideally an extensive background in print or online media. Experience in newspaper layout and design is a major plus.

Reporters must be fluent in Myanmar and capable of filing clear, concise news copy in English. Experience writing for English-language print or online media is an advantage.

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WEATHER REPORT

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong to vigorous in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weak elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 7th August, 2015: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Lower Sagaing and Magway Regions, scattered in Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Regions, Chin, Rakhine and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing and Bago Regions, Shan State

and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35 - 40) mph. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.



Singer Taylor Swift poses backstage with her awards for Top Artist, Billboard Chart Achievement Award, Top Female Artist, Top Hot 100 Artist, Top Digital Songs Artist, Top Streaming Song (Video) for "Shake it Off" and Top Billboard 200 Album for "1989" during the 2015 Billboard Music Awards in Las Vegas, Nevada May 17, 2015.—REUTERS

Taylor Swift, Misty Copeland lead Vanity Fair best-dressed newcomers

LOS ANGELES, 6 Aug — Pop star Taylor Swift, ballerina Misty Copeland and actress Emma Stone led a slew of newcomers to Vanity Fair's international best-dressed list on Wednesday, an annual compilation of well-heeled, high-profile talent and socialites.

Swift, 25, who also appears on the magazine's September cover, came in at No. 2 on the top 10 list of 2015's best-dressed women, behind Samantha Cameron, wife to British Prime Minister David Cameron.

Copeland, 32, American Ballet Theater's first African-American female principal dancer, ranked third, ahead of Amal Clooney, Queen Letizia of Spain and fellow newcomer, R&B singer Rihanna. The dancer cited her favorite designers including Givenchy, Balmain and Herve Leger.

For the year's best-dressed men, 65-year-old British actor Bill Nighy led the list, which also featured oil heir Stavros Niarchos III, Apple de-

signer Jony Ive and Britain's Prince Harry.

Vanity Fair editors compile the annual list, which for the first time featured a separate Hollywood segment for the movie world's best-dressed stars.

Picking Louis Vuitton as her favorite designer, rising Swedish actress Alicia Vikander, 26, was ranked at No. 1 on the Hollywood list, ahead of Oscar-winning Eddie Redmayne, 33, in second place and Stone, also 26, at No. 3.

Emma Watson, Charlize Theron, Michael Fassbender and Chinese actress Fan Bingbing were also named on the Hollywood list.

British actor Benedict Cumberbatch and wife Sophie Hunter led this year's best-dressed couples, while British singer FKA Twigs was named among the 2015 Originals along with couturier Azzedine Alaia and J. Crew creative director Jenna Lyons.

Qatar's Sheikha Mozah bint Nasser al-Missned, 55, was entered into Vanity Fair's best-dressed 2015 Hall of Fame.—Reuters

'Bajrangi Bhaijaan' crosses Rs 300 crore in India

MUMBAI, 6 Aug — Salman Khan-starrer "Bajrangi Bhaijaan" has crossed the magical Rs 300 crore mark at the Indian box-office, thereby making it the second film to reach the enviable status after "PK".

The cross-border drama, directed by Kabir Khan, reached the Rs 300 mark in just 20 days of its release on July 17.

An elated Kabir posted on Twitter, "300+".

"BB crosses 300 crore in India. Wednesday collection Rs 2.45 crore (outside India)," a statement from Eros International reads.

"Bajrangi Bhaijaan" centres around a man's journey to help a Pakistani mute girl to reach her native country. Unlike Salman's previous outings which focused on his action star persona, the film brought out the emotional and innocent sides of

the superstar.

Trade analyst Taran Adarsh wrote, "#BajrangiBhaijaan crosses 300 cr in India... 2nd film to achieve the ENVIABLE status, after #PK... 2nd HIGHEST grosser ever. Hindi films (sic)."

The film also stars Kareena Kapoor Khan, Nawazuddin Siddiqui and marks the debut of child actress Harshaali Malhotra on the big screen.

PTI

Japan's Takarazuka troupe arrives in Taiwan for 2nd tour

TAIPEI, 6 Aug — The Japanese all-woman Takarazuka Revue troupe arrived in Taiwan on Wednesday for their second appearance before the Taiwanese audience amid the imminent approach of a powerful typhoon.

Tokyo's de facto mission in Taiwan, the Interchange Association, told Kyodo News that the troupe might postpone the opening show scheduled for Saturday if the Taipei city government announces suspension of work and school due to the typhoon.

Izuru Hanaki, deputy representative of the Interchange Association, told a press conference that Takarazuka celebrated its centennial last year and their second tour to Taiwan bore commemorative significance.

Revealing that all tickets have been sold out, Hanaki said that he hoped the troupe's performance will let more Taiwanese better understand Japanese culture.

Takarazuka Revue Co. Chairman Koichi Kobayashi, whose grandfather founded the company, told the same press conference that they were overwhelmed by the enthusiasm of the audience during their first

visit to Taiwan in April 2013 and hoped that they will receive similar feedback this time around.

The troupe will stage a total of 14 shows from Saturday to Aug. 16 at the National Theater in Taipei.

The 200-minute show will feature 40 of the company's top stars of the Flower Troupe, led by Rio Asumi, who plays a male

character.

The engagement will be the second overseas performance for the Flower Troupe and first for Asumi.

Asumi, who made her debut in 2003, said they were happy to arrive in Taiwan before the storm hits. "We will do our utmost best to deliver the best performance," she said.—Kyodo News



Members of the Flower Troupe of the Japanese all-woman Takarazuka Revue pose for a photo in Taipei on Aug. 5, 2015. The troupe will stage a total of 14 shows from Aug. 8 to 16 at the National Theater in Taipei. Kyodo News



Cast member Bryce Dallas Howard poses at the premiere of 'Jurassic World' in Hollywood, California June 9, 2015. The movie opens in the U.S. on June 12. —REUTERS

Dinosaurs, fast cars spur Universal Pictures to world record box office

LOS ANGELES, 6 Aug — Universal Pictures made history on Wednesday, becoming the first movie studio to gross \$5.53 billion worldwide in one year, setting an industry record.

Led by the success of films such as "Jurassic World" and "Furious 7," Comcast Corp's (CMCSA.O) Universal reached the milestone in seven months and beat the previous record of \$5.52 billion worldwide, notched by 20th Century Fox (FOXA.O) in 2014.

"This tremendous success is a result of continued strategic decision-making from our production, marketing and distribution teams, along with strong dating choices," Jeff Shell, chairman of Universal Filmed Entertainment Group, said in a statement.

Earlier this year, the studio set records for becoming the fastest to reach \$1 billion at the global box office with "Jurassic World," and \$5 billion worldwide from its cumulative film releases.

"Jurassic World," a reboot of Steven Spielberg's hit dinosaur action adventure franchise "Jurassic Park," scored the biggest opening weekend in history at both the domestic and worldwide box offices when it opened in June. A sequel is set for June 2018. Universal has so far had five films that have topped the North American box office this year; February's erotic "Fifty Shades of Grey," April's "Furious 7," May's a capella comedy "Pitch Perfect 2," June's "Jurassic World" and July's animated "Minions." —Reuters

GENERAL

Bee power to the aid of farmers

NEW DELHI, 6 Aug — Deeply disturbed by farmers committing suicides, management graduate Shrikant Gajbhaye hit upon an idea to help increase their agricultural income with the help of natural bee pollination.

Gajbhaye's social entrepreneurial venture "Bee The Change" is a profit venture that promises to increase agricultural yield and subsequently incomes of farmers by making use of bee pollination.

During his study years at the Indian Institute of Management, Kozhikode, the entrepreneur took up a five-day hobby course on bee keeping in Pune and "learnt some of the most amazing facts about bees," that led to the venture.

Hailing from Vidarbha a region that has witnessed many farmer suicides, Gajb-

hiye says the vicious cycle of debt is one of the primary reasons for farmers choosing to end their lives.

"Farmers take loans to buy chemical fertilizers, the use of which deteriorates the soil fertility, demanding the continued use of these chemicals. The farmer is thus trapped in a vicious cycle of debt, poor soil fertility and ostensible government support.

"Bees are important crop pollinators. When bees are used as crop pollinators, several cross pollinated crops like bitter melon, capsicum, cow pea beans, tomatoes, mangoes, apples, cucumbers, melons, sunflower and mustard witness 20 to 200 per cent increase in their yields," he explains. Using a top-down approach, the venture reaches out to the village sarpanch

or educational institutions in a particular region and further communicates with the farmers and tribals to train them.

"We have a team of bee-keeping experts including a veteran bee keeper, entomology experts and research scholars to train the farmers," he says.

The training is a three-day affair, which includes classroom lessons on the biology of bees and details about the functioning of bee colonies besides practical demonstrations. Maintaining hygiene in the colony and protection from external agents is also taught.

"Once the training is done, we arrange for bee colonies for the farmers. We also provide them support as and when required. The farmers can then rear the bees in their farms," he says.—PTI

Yamaguchi equalizer earns Japan point at E. Asian Cup



Japan's Hotaru Yamaguchi (front) is congratulated by teammate Tomoaki Makino after scoring an equalizer in the first half of an East Asian Cup game against South Korea in Wuhan, China, on Aug. 5, 2015. The game ended in a 1-1 draw. —KYODO NEWS

WUHAN, (China), 6 Aug — Cerezo Osaka's Hotaru Yamaguchi opened his national team account to earn defending champions Japan their first point after a 1-1 draw with arch-rivals South Korea at the East Asian Cup on Wednesday.

Jang Hyun Soo fired South Korea in front from the penalty spot but World Cup midfielder Yamaguchi smashed home to level the scores six minutes before halftime.

Japan, stunned 2-1 by North Korea on Monday, have one point while South Korea, 2-0 winners over China, have four points after two games at the four-team round-robin tournament in Wuhan, China.

The Kashima Antlers duo of Gaku Shibasaki and Shinzo Koroki started and Gamba Osaka's Shu Kurata was handed his Japan debut as coach Vahid Halilhodzic made five changes to the team that succumbed to North Korea. "We defended much better than we did in the last game," said Halilhodzic, who has yet to win a competitive game since taking over from scandal-tainted Javier Aguirre in March.

Neither side were able to carve out any meaningful openings early on, but South Korea took the lead on 27 minutes, Jang sending Japan goalkeeper Shusaku Nishikawa the wrong way from the spot after Masato Morishige was adjudged to have handled Kim Min Woo's header in the box.

Kyodo News

Property losses from northern California wildfire nearly double



Firefighters from the Sonoma Valley Fire & Rescue Authority mop up a hotspot during the Rocky Fire near Clearlake, California August 5, 2015. —REUTERS

CLEARLAKE, (California), 6 Aug — The tally of property losses from California's largest and most destructive wildfire this year nearly doubled on Wednesday as the week-old blaze raged through dry scrubland north of Napa Valley wine country.

The higher damage figures from the California Department of Forestry and Fire

Prevention (Cal Fire) coincided with an ominous U.S. Forest Service report that more than half its total budget is, for the first time, being spent on fire suppression across the country. The agency's rising expenditures reflect an extraordinary wildfire season experienced this summer in California and several other Western states — including

Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Alaska — in the midst of a widespread and prolonged drought. Cal Fire crews have responded to more than 4,200 wildfires large and small so far this year, about 1,500 more than average.

The fiercest of some two dozen large blazes currently raging across state is the so-called Rocky Fire, which has charred nearly 70,000 acres since erupting July 29 in the foothills and canyons east of the town of Clearlake, about 110 miles north of San Francisco. The fire has so far reduced 91 structures to ash — 39 homes and 52 out-buildings — up from the 50 structures previously counted as destroyed, Cal Fire reported on Wednesday. The agency warned that the toll of property losses may climb higher still as damage-assessment teams reach more recently burned areas.

On Wednesday, nearly 7,000 structures, mostly dwellings, remained listed as threatened, with some 13,000 people placed under evacuation orders or advised to leave their homes. Portions of two major state highways in the area are closed.

The containment level for the blaze, a measure of how much of the fire's perimeter has been corralled by natural barriers or within buffer lines carved by ground crews, rose to 30 percent, up from 20 percent the day before, even as the flames devoured another 2,500-plus acres of landscape, Cal Fire said.—Reuters

mitv Myanmar International

(7-8-2015 07:00 am~8-8-2015 07:00 am) MST

- * News
- * Yathe Taung Township In A Nut-Shell
- * Culture Show: Theatrical Make Up
- * News
- * Writer, Philanthropist: Daw Than Myint Aung (Part-1)
- * Kyeikhteyoe: Welcome All
- * News
- * Myanmar Social & Charitable Association (Ep-1) Mingalar Byuha

- * Kindhearted Pet Lovers
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- * Soft Crab Breeding Procedure
- * Myanmar Street Food
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- * The Hills Of Phowintaung And Shwebataung
- * Kambawzathardi Golden Palace - A Treasured Legacy Of Golden Days
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- * Welcome To Naga Land

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- * History And Mystery Behind The Caves
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- * Yatana Theinga City and Shwe Bon Yatanamingalar Palace
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MRTV Entertainment Channel

(7-8-2015, Friday)

- 6:00 am
- Mono Classical Songs
- 6:25 am
- Teleplay
- 6:35 am
- Song Programme
- 6:50 am
- Fashion Show
- 7:05 am
- TV Drama Series
- 7:50 am
- TV Drama Series
- 8:35 am
- Musical Programme
- 10:05 am
- ASEAN China Cultural Show
- 10:20 am
- Myanmar Video

Collegians contest Sepak Takraw tournament in Upper Myanmar



MANDALAY, 6 Aug — Universities and colleges from Upper Myanmar are battling for Sepak Takraw supremacy in a tournament at Mandalay University until 9 August.

Teams in eight groups are contesting double regu and regu events in the tournament, organized by the Higher Education Department,

which kicked off on 3 August.

On 5 August, Yadanabon University beat Monywa University 2-0, while Kyaukse University defeated Lashio University 2-0.

After the tournament, outstanding players will join the selected university Sepak Takraw team to take part in the ASEAN University Games.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Neymar and Messi score in Roma friendly win

BARCELONA, 6 Aug — Neymar and Lionel Messi grabbed a goal each in the first half as Barcelona rolled over Roma 3-0 in the traditional Gamper Trophy pre-season match on Wednesday.

The pair returned late to training following the Copa America and this was their chance to show their form to Luis Enrique in the final friendly game ahead of the European Super Cup clash against Sevilla next Tuesday.

The chemistry that saw them, along with Luis Suarez, hit 122 goals in Barca's treble success last season was evident from the start.

A deep Messi cross was knocked by Jeremy Mathieu into the stride of Neymar who opened the scoring from close range after 25 minutes. Despite being a friendly, Messi and Roma defender Mapou Yanga-M'biwa were both booked in an ugly exchange when they went head-to-head and the referee could easily have shown a red card.

Neymar then set up Messi who drove the ball home from the edge of the area after 40 minutes.

The pair were among the players taken off after an hour

before Ivan Rakitic hit a powerful drive into the top corner from 30 yards to wrap up the scoring after 65 minutes.

"The aim is to keep on the same lines as we were at the end of last season," Rakitic told reporters.

"I feel strong and the team is working well. This was only a friendly but we still played to win as in any match."

In the past the Gamper Trophy

was the opportunity for Barca to introduce their new players to their fans but due to a FIFA transfer ban Arda Turan and Aleix Vidal were forced to watch the game and will not be available until January.

Following the clash with Sevilla, Barca play Athletic Bilbao home and away in the Spanish Super Cup before they meet Bilbao in their first La Liga game on Aug. 23.—Reuters



Barcelona's Lionel Messi and Neymar (L) celebrate a goal against AS Roma during a friendly match at Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona, Spain, August 5, 2015.—REUTERS

Bayern beat Real Madrid to lift Audi Cup

Tottenham claim third place

BERLIN, 6 Aug — Hosts Bayern Munich overcame Real Madrid 1-0 to win the pre-season tournament meanwhile Tottenham Hotspur clinched the third place as they beat AC Milan 2-0 in the Audi Cup at outsold Allianz Arena on Wednesday.

The German giants wrapped up their first title of the season thanks to the late 1-0 winner by Robert Lewandowski against Real Madrid.

The hosts controlled the proceedings on the pitch but they were unable to turn their advantage into a tangible reward in the first half. Thomas Mueller rattled the post before Real Madrid goalkeeper Diego Navas denied Mario Goetze from promising position just before the break.

The Spaniards nearly flabbergasted the hosts after the restart but Bayern Munich goalkeeper Manuel Neuer denied Toni Kroos' dangerous free-kick with a diving save. However, Bayern Munich responded at the 61st minute but Polish international Robert Lewandowski failed to tap in a cross by Douglas Costa into the open goal.

As the match progressed, the "Bavarians" pressed Real Madrid into the defence to open the



Bayern Munich's players pose with the trophy after winning the Audi Cup 2015 final between Bayern Munich and Real Madrid in Munich, Germany, on Aug. 5, 2015. Bayern Munich claimed the title with 1-0.—XINHUA

scoring at the 88th minute. Bayern's new arrival Douglas Costa crossed the ball from the right wing to the near post where Robert Lewandowski poked home the winner into the bottom right to seal the deal with two minutes

remaining. With the result the German record champions lift the Audi Cup trophy for the third time after 2009 and 2013.

Elsewhere, after losing to Real Madrid on Tuesday, Tottenham Hotspur claimed the third

spot following a 2-0 victory over uninspired AC Milan.

Tottenham caught a bright start as midfielder Nacer Chadli broke the deadlock with just eight minutes played. AC Milan remained harmless and failed to

score over 180 minutes in the Audi Cup. Thus, the Premier League side put the game beyond doubt when midfielder Thomas Carroll tapped in from the edge of the box into the bottom left at the 71st minute.—Xinhua