



Works to raise creek embankments underway in Pyay

News on page 3

INSIDE

Myanmar, China eye peace, stability in border regions

PAGE-3

Vice President U Nyan Tun receives Chinese ambassador

PAGE-3

BOAT PEOPLE RETURN HOME

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug—The Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued a press release on 10 August 2015 that Myanmar officially handed over additional verified 159 Bangladesh nationals among the boat people rescued by Myanmar in May 2015. The individuals were handed over to Bangladesh side at Myanmar and Bangladesh border after the flag meeting in Taung Pyo (Let We'). The 159 Bangladesh nationals were planned to handover on 30 July 2015, however, it was postponed due to adverse weather condition.

A team led by U Saw Naing, Deputy Director, Maungtau District Immigration Officer from Myanmar handed over the 159 Bangladesh nationals to the Commanding Officer of No. 17 Border Guard Battalion of Cox's Bazar and his team. Police Colonel Myo Swe and Police Lieutenant Colonel Kyaw Tay Za from Police Border Guard of Myanmar observed the event together with Mr. Mahbubur Rahman, Consul from the Bangladesh Consulate in Sittway and his team member. The No.



159 verified Bangladesh nationals on their way back home.—IPRD

17 Border Guard Battalion of Cox's Bazar brought the 159 persons back at 13:30 hrs to Bangladesh.

A total of 501 verified Bangladesh nationals rescued from the two boats have been repatriated to

their place of origin, Bangladesh, on four different occasions. Authorities in Bangladesh continue to

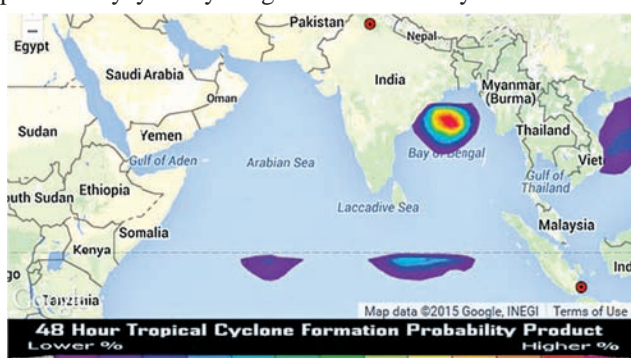
verify the remaining persons from the two boats rescued. The remaining boat people will be handed

over to the country of origin upon completion of the verification process.

MNA

Northwest Myanmar, southern Ayeyawady to see heavy rain

YANGON, 10 Aug — Northwestern Myanmar and the southern part of Ayeyawady Region can expect heavy rainfall for the next five days, the weather bureau said Monday.



A low-pressure zone could form over the northwestern Bay of Bengal from Monday afternoon, the Meteorology and Hydrology Department said.

Rakhine State and Sagaing Region, which have been hit by the worst flooding in recent memory, are likely to see heavy rainfall from 15 to 19 August, the weather bureau said. The department urged people to heed to its daily announcements and to be alert to possible flooding. — GNLM

Traffic accident on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway causes dead and injuries

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug—A highway bus running from Yangon to Lashio crashed and overturned at mile post 105/2 on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway at about 6.15 pm on Monday.

The bus, which was from ShweliOo Bus Line, was carrying a total of 36 passengers at the time of the accident.

A total of 6 passenger including two men and four women were dead, and three or four more people were also believed to have died inside the bus, according to a police officer at the scene.

Those who were injured in the accident were sent to Pyu People's Hospital, which is located nearest to the scene.—Thet Paing Latt

Soldiers plant 500 saplings beside expressway

NATOGYI, 10 Aug — Soldiers from Air Defence unit on 8 August grew 500 shade saplings on Sapakyin Hill near mile post 327 of Yangon-Mandalay Expressway as part of activities of rainy season tree growing ceremony.

Soldiers from the Air Defence unit, police from Pyinsi police station, Pyinsi expressway fire station, Natogyi police station, Township Forest Department and local residents participated in the tree growing ceremony.—*Htay Myint Maung*



MANDALAY, 10 Aug — The Mandalay Region Music Association will hold a fundraising concert for flood victims at Mingala Mandalay Hall in Chanmyathazi Township on 23 August.

Artists from various fields will participate in the concert on a voluntary basis.

Ticket for the concert ranging in price from K10,000 to K30,000 are available at Mandalay Region Music Association and Mingala Mandalay.

Well-wishers will provide transportation and accommodation for the artists.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Chinese merchants donate foodstuffs to Sedoktara Township



MANDALAY, 10 Aug — Township, Magway Region. Dehong Prefecture chamber of commerce from Chinese merchants also donated 10 tons of rice, clothes, foodstuffs, medicines and personal

goods worth more than K18 million to Township Administrator U Aung Kyaw Oo and officials in the township.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Library community joins hands to help Magway Region

KAWLIN, 10 Aug — Members of the Helping Hands library community in Zabuthiri Township recently donated relief supplies worth K3 million to flood victims in Magway Region.

On 8 August, they provided rice, cooking oil and

instant foods worth K1.5 million to the victims in Pwintbyu and Sedoktara townships.

The donors also gave rice, cooking oil, instant noodles and clothes worth K1.5 million to the residents in Thaphangon village in Kawlin Township

on 9 August.

On 8 August, they also donated K500,000, 12 bales of clothes, rice and foodstuffs to the donation centre led by the Chancellor of Sitagu International Theravada Academic Centre in Sagaing.

Ko Ko Nyein (Kawlin)

Farmers directly sow paddy seeds on flood-hit farmlands

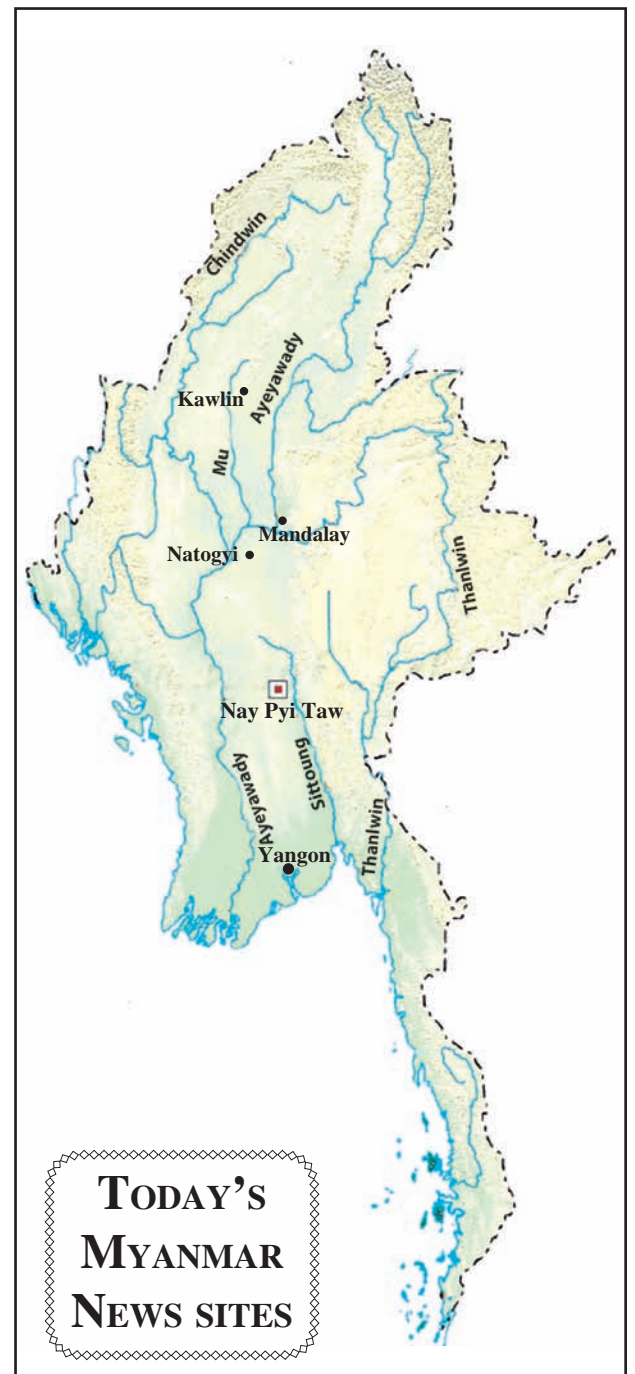
KAWLIN, 10 Aug — Local authorities arrange re-cultivation of crops on the flood-ravaged farmlands in Kawlin Township, Sagaing Region.

A total of 12 creeks and river overflow the monsoon paddy farmlands in the region due to heavy rains.

Township Department of Agriculture helped local farmers regrow paddy on 745 acres of farmlands. Officials of the department demonstrated use of direct seeding machines in the township and distributed the machines to local farmers.

Workers from the department ploughed the farmlands in Seinpangon, Yataung and Kyokhon villages with the use of tractors free of charge.

Ko Ko Nyein (Kawlin)



Medical officers provide healthcare in flood zones

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug — Director-General Dr Soe Lwin Nyein of the Public Health Department visited Pwintbyu Township People's Hospital on 9 August to inspect damage to the medical store and supervise health care services in Uyinkyit and Konzaung villages.

Officials of the department also made field trips to townships in Bago, Magway, Ayeyawady and Sagaing regions and Rakhine State to provide health care services to flood victims. Practitioners from the Traditional Medicine Department also treated residents in Haka Township, Chin State, MraukU Township in Rakhine State, Kalay Township in Sagaing Region and Pwintbyu Township in Magway Region and delivered medicines from Great Wall traditional medicine industry to the local people.

Up to 8 August, the Public Health Department has presented 232 containers of bleach powder, 3,430 mosquito nets, 28,800 chlorine tablets, 30 DHF test kits, 6,700 commodes and other relief items to the flood-affected areas.—*MNA*

WORKS TO RAISE CREEK EMBANKMENTS UNDERWAY IN PYAY

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug—President U Thein Sein on Monday presented relief supplies to flood victims sheltering in camps at a pagoda and a primary school in Shweku Ward in Pyay, Bago Region.

More than 600 flood victims are being accommodated at the Dhammayon of Shwepalinhmaw Pagoda and more than 290 at basic education primary school No 1.

Local authorities have opened 18 relief camps for the flood victims in Pyay Township.

The president inspected flood-prevention works to raise the height of the Nawin embankment in Koethaung ward.

Officials of the Irrigation Department reported on maintenance of the embankment and the placement of sandbags to raise its height and prevent flooding

The president said embankments must be raised to stop Nawin Creek and Lawthawt Creek over-



President U Thein Sein meets flood victims at relief camp in Pyay Township.—IPRD

flowing.

The president paid homage at Shwehsandaw

Pagoda in Pyay before returning to Nay Pyi Taw.

MNA

Myanmar, China eye peace, stability in border regions

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug—Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham received Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Hong Liang at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, Monday to hold talks

on providing assistance for flood victims.

They also discussed rural development and improvement of agriculture, as well as peace and stability in border regions and issues related to the

Ruili-Kyaukpyu economic corridor.

Also present at the meeting were deputy ministers Maj-Gen Tin Aung Chit, U Thant Kyaw, Dr San Lwin, U Phone Swe and officials.—MNA

UEC to inform parties of nominations, withdrawals

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug—The Union Election Commission will inform political parties of nomination and withdrawal of candidates, UEC officials said

recently.

The UEC has allowed candidates to file their nominations from 20 July to 14 August and to withdraw their nominations

until 17 August 2015.

Failure to do so during the period constitutes a breach of election laws, according to the UEC.

MNA

Vice President U Nyan Tun receives Chinese ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug—Vice President U Nyan Tun received a delegation led by Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Hong Liang at the Credentials Hall of the Presi-

dential Palace on Monday afternoon.

They discussed cooperation in flood affected areas and resettlement, promotion of diplomatic relations, business and cultural

exchange and exchange of visits.

Also present were Deputy Ministers U Tin Oo Lwin, U Maw Tha Htwe and U Aung Htoo.

MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw speaker receives Chinese ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Hong Liang at the Hlut-

taw building in Nay Pyi Taw on Monday.

Also present at the call were Chairman U Hla Myint Oo of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations

Committee and members of Assessment Commission for Legal and Special Affairs U Khin Maung Tint and Daw Aye Aye Mu and officials.—MNA



An express bus from ShweliOo Bus Line carrying 36 passengers caused upstight down on Yangon-Mandalay expressway leaving two men and four women dead. (News on page 1) THET PAING LATT

Nomination for Hluttaw candidates continues

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug—A total of 69 candidates for Pyithu Hluttaw, 48 candidates for Amyotha Hluttaw, 146 candidates for state/region Hluttaws and 9 candidate for state/region ethnic affairs submitted their nomination for 2015 General Election on 10 August.

From 20 July to 10 August, 4,224 can-

didates including 1,191 for Pyithu Hluttaw, 627 for Amyotha Hluttaw, 2,278 for state/region Hluttaws and 128 for ethnic affairs constituencies.

They represent 80 political parties while 162 of them are individual candidates. Detailed nomination process is available at www.uecmyanmar.org.—MNA

RELIEF AND REHABILITATION

Israel's relief supplies to flood victims

YANGON, 10 Aug—A team from the Embassy of Israel in Myanmar headed by Ambassador Mr Daniel Zonshine visited Thayawady District flood victims' camps last Friday. The Embassy handed over dry noodles, hygiene kits, impregnated bednets and medicines of relief supplies to the flood victims on behalf of the State and people of Israel. Over 2,400 people were evacuated to 12 rescue camps in this township. Ambassador visited 2 relief camps, met with victims and donated goods to over

250 families. The team also visited Thayawady District Hospital and donated medicines for the flood victims. On behalf of the State of Israel, the Ambassador expressed his sympathy to the people of Myanmar, and he affirmed that Israel will continue helping the rehabilitation of flood victims of Myanmar.

GNLM

Israeli Ambassador Mr Daniel Zonshine meets flood victims at donation ceremony in Thayawady District.



Aid from Australia arrive in Yangon



YANGON, 10 Aug—An RAAF C17 aircraft delivered emergency supplies to assist people displaced by flooding and landslides in Myanmar on Monday. The delivery was 952 family kits which will be distributed by World Vision and IOM.

On 11 August the remaining 48 of the 1,000 family kits that have been donated by the Australian Government will be delivered. The kits contain essential relief items such as hygiene kits, cooking utensils, school learning materials, torches, radios

Emergency supplies being unloaded from RAAF C17 aircraft to distribute to flood victims.
HLA MOE

and blankets for families affected by the flooding. The kits will be distributed by World Vision to Pwintbyu township in Magway region.

The 11 August plane will also include emergency supplies that have been donated by the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management. These supplies included 1,900 tarpaulins, 4 aluminium boats, 1,800 mosquito nets and 1,800 water cans. These supplies will be delivered to the Relief and Resettlement Department for distribution.

World Vision has delivered about 2 million water purified tablets donated by PMG Company of the US to the victims.

Min Thit



Thayet District Deputy Commissioner U Tay Zar Aung and officials prepare to deliver relief supplies to flood victims in Thayet Township.—ZAW HTET (THAYET)



Students attend class at basic education schools which were reopened in villages of Kalay Township on 7 August.—TOWNSHIP IPRD

REGIONAL

China hits back at U.S. criticism over South China Sea 'restrictions'

BEIJING, 10 Aug — China hit back on Monday at U.S. criticism that it restricts navigation and overflights in the South China Sea amid a festering marine territorial dispute with some of its neighbours.

China claims most of the South China Sea, through which \$5 trillion in ship-borne trade passes every year. The Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Taiwan and Brunei have overlapping claims.

Freedom of overflights and navigation doesn't mean allowing foreign warships and military jets to violate other countries' sovereignty and security, the Foreign Ministry said in a statement to Reuters on Monday, after U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry

accused China of restricting such movements in the region last week. China sees freedom of navigation in the region as key because it is an important conduit for trade and natural resources, the ministry said.

Kerry told a meeting of regional leaders in Kuala Lumpur last week that China's construction of facilities on man-made islands for "military purposes" was raising tension and risked "militarisation" by other claimant states.

Kerry also criticised "restrictions" put in place in recent months by China, saying the U.S. would not accept any restrictions on freedom of navigation and overflights.

China has repeatedly warned

Philippine military aircraft away from the artificial islands in the Spratly archipelago of the South China Sea, Philippine military officials have said.

The Chinese navy also issued eight warnings to the crew of a U.S. P8-A Poseidon surveillance aircraft when it conducted overflights in the area in May, according to CNN, which was aboard the U.S. aircraft.

In June, China said it would soon complete a phase of its reclamation projects, adding it would continue to build facilities on the man-made islands.

Ongoing reclamation activities in the Spratly Islands include civilian facilities for the "public good" including hospitals, maritime research institutes,

lighthouses and search and rescue facilities, the Foreign Ministry said.

A Philippine lawmaker said on Monday he had information that a Chinese coast guard ship dropped anchor more than a month ago near a rusting Philippine Navy transport ship in the disputed Second Thomas Shoal.

"I think China has no intention of leaving the area and they are waiting for our ship to collapse or prevent us from reinforcing that ship," Congressman Francisco Acedillo, a former air force pilot, said at a naval base in Manila. Acedillo said the presence of a Chinese ship within Second Thomas Shoal was a serious threat to the Philippines.

Reuters

N. Korean, Thai foreign ministers hold talks in Bangkok

BANGKOK, 10 Aug — Visiting North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Su Yong on Monday held talks here with his Thai counterpart Gen. Tanasak Patimapragorn, apparently discussing a range of bilateral issues.

Ri is the first top North Korean diplomat to visit Thailand in a decade.

According to the Thai Foreign Ministry, this year the two countries celebrate the 40th anniversary of diplomatic relations, with the Thai side having already sent a delegation to the North bearing a gift for the country's leader Kim Jong Un.

According to diplomatic sources, North Korea earlier this year proposed that Thailand set up an embassy in Pyongyang, however the Thai government has yet to make a decision. North Korea has an embassy in Bangkok.

There is a possibility that the two ministers discussed the case of Anocha Panjoy, a Thai woman who was allegedly abducted to North Korea in the late 1970s, as well as the issue of North Korean asylum-seekers illegally entering Thailand via China.

Ri arrived in Thailand for an official visit on Saturday after attending a regional security forum in Malaysia last week. During his stay, he is slated to participate in royal events and inspect agricultural facilities.

Kyodo News

Malaysia to inspect suspected plane debris found in Maldives

KUALA LUMPUR, 10 Aug — Malaysia said on Monday it will send a team to the Maldives to inspect debris found there and cautioned that it was too early to establish any connection to the missing Malaysian Airlines Flight MH370.

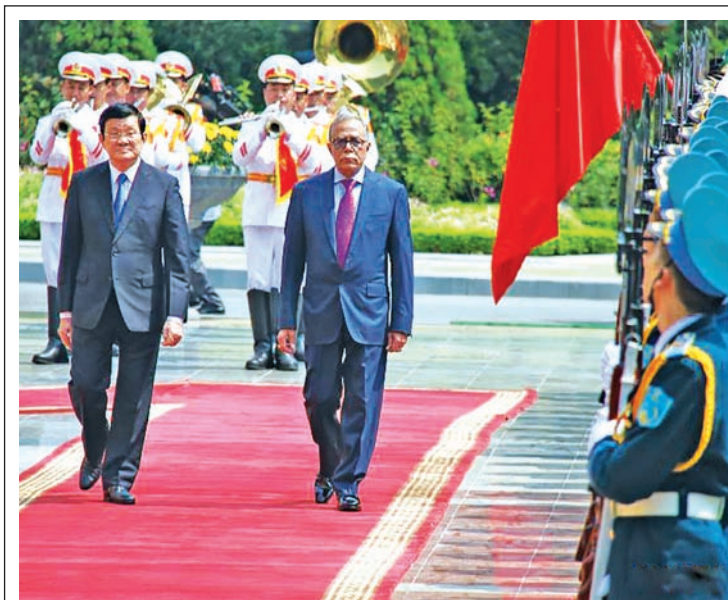
This comes after several news reports said unidentified debris had been found in Maldives and were being collected by authorities in case they are from the missing plane.

"Once it is determined to be aircraft debris, discussions will be held to determine next steps in

terms of the process of analysis," said the transport ministry in a statement.

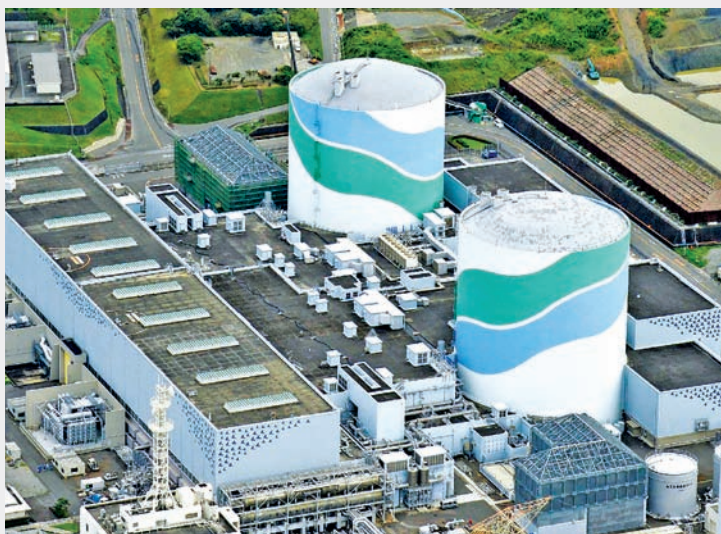
Flight MH370 disappeared on March 8 last year while en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing. It is believed to have crashed in the southern Indian Ocean, about 3,700 km (2,300 miles) from Reunion.

Prime Minister Najib Razak said last week that experts had "conclusively confirmed" a piece of debris found on the Indian Ocean island of Reunion last week was part of the wing of MH370.—Reuters



Vietnamese President Truong Tan Sang (L) and Bangladeshi President Abdul Hamid review guards of honor in Hanoi, capital of Vietnam, Aug. 10, 2015. Bangladeshi President Abdul Hamid is on a five-day visit to Vietnam from Aug. 9.—XINHUA

Japan set to restart nuclear reactor Tuesday morning



This aerial photo shows reactors of No. 1, right, and No. 2 at the Sendai Nuclear Power Station in Satsumasendai, Kagoshima prefecture, southern Japan, Tuesday, July 7, 2105. Kyodo News

FUKUOKA, 10 Aug — Kyushu Electric Power Co. officially announced Monday it will restart a nuclear reactor at its Sendai complex Tuesday morning, becoming the first Japanese utility to do so under a set of new, tighter safety regulations adopted following the Fukushima meltdowns in 2011.

The No. 1 reactor at the utility's Sendai Nuclear Power Station in Kagoshima Prefecture, located on the southwestern main island of Kyushu, will begin generating and delivering electricity on Friday, and enter commercial operation in early September, according to Kyushu Electric.

The reboot of the reactor will mark the revival of Japan's

nuclear industry following the worst nuclear accident since Chernobyl in 1986.

On Monday, Kyushu Electric carried out inspections of control rods, which have been suppressing the fuel's nuclear fission, as it proceeded with the final preparation process toward the resumption.

In September last year, the Sendai plant became the first nuclear facility to meet the more rigorous safety requirements introduced in 2013, which the government calls "the world's toughest safety standards."

The Fukushima accident resulted in the shutting down of all Japan's commercial reactors by the end of September 2013 due

to safety concerns.

All reactors now need to pass the Nuclear Regulation Authority's safety screening based on the new regulations.

The government has sought to reactivate nuclear reactors that have obtained safety clearance from the regulator, despite the majority of the public being opposed to it.

Antinuclear residents on Monday marched around the Sendai plant to protest against its restart.

Naoto Kan, who was Japan's prime minister at the time of the March 2011 nuclear disaster, was among those who joined the demonstration.

Kyodo News

South Korea condemns North over land mine blast, threatens retaliation

SEOUL, 10 Aug — South Korea's military threatened retaliation against North Korea on Monday after it accused the North of planting land mines inside the Demilitarised Zone border that wounded two soldiers last week, calling it a cowardly act of provocation.

There was evidence to conclude that soldiers from the North crossed the Military Demarcation Line recently to plant the mines, and Pyongyang would be made to "pay a severe price", the South's military said at a news briefing. "We strongly condemn this cowardly act, which would be unthinkable for a normal military," Major General Ku Hong-mo of South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said, calling it a violation of the armistice agreement that ended the 1950-53 Korean War. The denunciation is likely to provoke an angry response from the North and further raise tensions on the Korean peninsula. The United Nations Command, headed by the U.S. military and which oversees the armistice, also condemned what it called the North's violation of the truce. It said it would call for a meeting with North Korea's military. The area where the blast happened last Tuesday had been swept for mines and the terrain made it impossible for mines planted elsewhere to have drifted due to rain or shifting soil, South Korea's military said.

Fragments from the exploded mines also had paint typically used by the North, it said. Two soldiers who were part of a team conducting a routine search operation inside the heavily fortified DMZ near the town of Paju, about 50 km (30 miles) north of Seoul, were seriously wounded in the blast.

Reuters

Gov't suspends work on relocating U.S. base within Okinawa

TOKYO, 10 Aug — The Japanese government on Monday suspended work on the planned relocation of a U.S. military base within Okinawa Prefecture for a month as part of efforts to defuse tensions with local authorities.

During the period through Sept. 9, the national and Okinawa prefectural governments will hold "intensive consultations" in an attempt to break the impasse over the U.S.-Japan plan to relocate the U.S. Marine Corps' Air Station Futenma from a densely populated area in Ginowan to the less populated Henoko district of Nago.

The national and Okinawa governments plan to hold five rounds of talks, the first of which is expected to take place Tuesday in Naha between Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga and Okinawa Gov. Takeshi Onaga.

Onaga has demanded that the Futenma base be relocated outside the island prefecture. The relocation is a key part of a broader bilateral agreement to reorganize the U.S. military presence in Japan. "By having a cooling period and in a calm atmosphere, we would like to explain our thoughts on the need to remove the danger posed by Futenma and relocate it to Henoko, as well as initiatives to reduce the burden on Okinawa in a visible way," Suga said at a news conference.

Suga, the top government spokesman, doubles as minister in charge of reducing the burden on Okinawa from hosting the bulk of U.S. forces in Japan.

"We would also like to hear how the

governor views the issue of removing the danger posed by Futenma, which is said to be the most dangerous airfield in the world," Suga said.

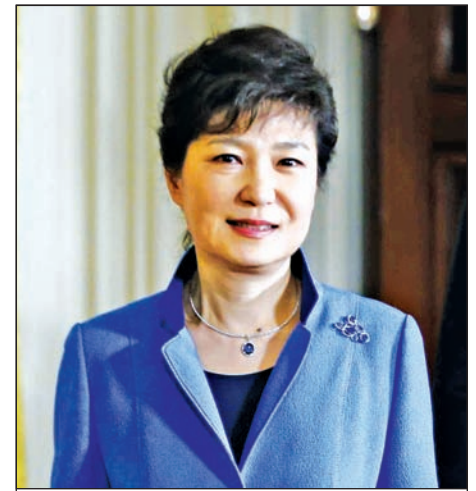
In 2004, a U.S. Marine Corps helicopter crashed at Okinawa International University, which is adjacent to the Futenma base. Local citizens held a rally to protest the relocation of the Futenma base to Henoko in front of the U.S. Marine Corps' Camp Schwab near the planned relocation site on the coast of Henoko.

Tokyo maintains that relocating Futenma to Henoko is the "only solution" for removing the dangers posed by the air station without undermining the deterrence of the Japan-U.S. alliance in the increasingly tense security environment in East Asia. Speaking after a meeting Friday with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in Tokyo, Onaga said that during the consultations, the Okinawa prefectural government wants to discuss issues such as Okinawa's postwar history, how and why the Futenma base was built and the deterrence power provided by U.S. forces. Earlier, Onaga said that while the suspension is in place, he will not make a decision on the possible cancellation of his predecessor's approval of landfill work to build the coastal replacement facility in Henoko. Onaga was referring to a "legal flaw" that a prefectural advisory panel says it found in the process of former Gov. Hirokazu Nakaima's approval in December 2013 for the landfill work.

Onaga beat Nakaima in last November's Okinawa gubernatorial election.—Kyodo News



Protesters demonstrate in front of the U.S. Marine Corps' Camp Schwab in Nago, Okinawa Prefecture, on Aug. 10, 2015, expressing their opposition to the Japanese government's plan to build a replacement facility in waters off the camp for the Marine Corps' Air Station Futenma in the same prefecture.—Kyodo News



South Korean President Park Geun-hye

Park wants Abe statement to uphold views of past governments

SEOUL, 10 Aug— South Korean President PARK Geun-hye said Monday she wants a statement that Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is due to issue this week on the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II to clearly uphold the historical perception of past Japanese governments.

"I hope the Japanese government clarifies it is upholding the historical perception of past governments and shows a mature attitude in wanting to make a fresh start in relations with neighboring countries, including our country," Park said at a meeting with senior secretaries, according to the presidential office.

Abe is expected to issue the statement on Friday, one day before the day on which Japan surrendered to the Allied Powers in 1945.

Park referred to a 1995 statement by then Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama, who apologized for Japanese aggression in Asia during WWII, and also a similar statement issued by then Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi in 2005.

In a related development, the South Korean Foreign Ministry issued a similar statement later Monday, saying it has noted the current Japanese government has publicly stated it will inherit the historical views of past governments.

"In the prime minister's statement, the Japanese government is urged to clearly state it is upholding the historical perception of past governments and resolve issues arising from the past history and show a mature attitude in wanting to make a fresh start in relationships with neighboring countries, including South Korea," it said. "As this year marks the 50th anniversary of diplomatic normalization between the two countries, the South Korean government also wants relations with Japan to further improve in a cycle of keeping up developments and also expects Japan to win trust from neighboring countries and to be born again to play a responsible role in the international community," the statement said.

Kyodo News

Washington Post reporter stands trial in Iran over spying charges

TEHRAN, 10 Aug — An Iranian court on Monday tried a Washington Post reporter for the fourth time over spying and propaganda charges, official IRNA news agency reported.

Jason Rezaian, 39-year-old Iranian-American, stood trial at Branch 15 of Iran's Islamic Revolution Court, the same court before which he was previously tried for three times.

It is not clear whether the Monday session would be the final hearing session for Rezaian. Director General of the Judiciary's Tehran Province Office Gholam Hossein Esmaeili said Sunday that the date of final court session of the Rezaian depends on the judge's decision, according to IRNA. Rezaian faces charges of "espionage, collaboration with hostile governments, gathering classified information and disseminating propaganda against the Islamic Republic," Rezaian's lawyer, Leila Ahsan, said earlier.

Rezaian assumed his job as Washington Post correspondent in Tehran in 2012. He was arrested on July 22, 2014, along with his wife, Yeganeh Salehi, a reporter for The National newspaper based in Abu Dhabi, and a female freelance photographer.

Salehi and the photographer, who were released on bail in October 2014, also appeared in court on Monday.—Xinhua

WORLD

Senior German conservative sees open questions on Greek bailout

BERLIN, 10 Aug — A senior parliamentary ally of German Chancellor Angela Merkel believes a deal with Athens on a new multi-billion-euro bailout is some way from completion, with a number of points still to be clarified.

“There are a lot of questions that remain open,” Ralph Brinkhaus, deputy parliamentary floor leader for Merkel’s conservatives, told Deutschlandfunk radio on Monday.

Greece’s finance and economy ministers were locked in negotiations with representatives of creditors that stretched until the early hours of Monday.

A Greek official said Greece hoped to conclude negotiations with international creditors by early Tuesday at the latest.

Asked whether Germany favored 20 billion euros (\$21.9 billion) being handed to Greece in a first tranche of aid, rather than 30-35 billion as favored by the EU and the International Monetary Fund, Brinkhaus replied:

“The more money is handed out in one stroke, the less leverage one has to stop payments if the reform process in Greece does not pan out as planned and as promised. “A lot of trust has been lost in recent months,” he said, adding that aid should only be provided in return for Greece delivering reforms.—Reuters

UK accuses Spain of violating its sovereignty over Gibraltar

Two Spanish tourists walk past a broken traffic signal lying on the ground as they try to find the correct direction to the Spanish border to enter the British territory of Gibraltar in La Linea de la Concepcion, southern Spain in this September 1, 2013 file photo.—REUTERS



LONDON, 10 Aug — The British government on Sunday accused Spain of violating its sovereignty over Gibraltar, saying Spanish state vessels had repeatedly and unlawfully entered its territorial waters without notifying it.

The row is the latest in a long line of diplomatic spats between Britain and Spain over the territory, which was ceded to Britain

about 300 years ago but which Spanish authorities now want to reclaim.

“These repeated incursions into British Gibraltar territorial waters are a clear violation of UK sovereignty by another EU country and we will be raising this as a matter of urgency with the Spanish authorities,” Hugo Swire, a British Foreign Office minister, said in a statement.

Britain, which runs the rocky outcrop off Spain’s southern coast, said it believed the offending Spanish vessels had been pursuing other boats which may have been committing unspecified crimes.

Swire said he deemed it “completely unacceptable and unlawful” under the international law of the sea for Spain to enter Gibraltar’s territorial waters

without notification.

But Spain denied wrongdoing.

“The waters are Spanish,” said an official from Spain’s Foreign Ministry, who declined to be named in line with the ministry’s policy. “It was Spanish boats patrolling in Spanish waters to control illegal activities such as tobacco smuggling or illegal fishing.”—Reuters

U.S. consulate, police station attacked in Istanbul



Police forensic experts examine the scene after an attack on a police station in Istanbul, Turkey, 10 August, 2015.—REUTERS

ISTANBUL, 10 Aug — Two attackers opened fire on the U.S. consulate building in Istanbul on Monday while 10 people were

injured in a car bombing at a police station overnight, weeks after Turkey launched what it described as a “synchronized war on terror”.

Police armed with automatic rifles cordoned off streets around the U.S. consulate in the Sariyer district on the European side of the

city, following the gun attack there.

Local media reports said two attackers, one man and one woman, fled after police fired back. There were no immediate reports of civilian injuries. Broadcaster NTV said police later detained the female suspect, who was wounded in the gunfire.

Overnight, a vehicle laden with explosives was used in the attack on the police station in the Istanbul district of Sultanbeyli at around 01:00 on Monday, injuring three police officers and seven civilians, police said.

Broadcaster CNN Turk said two gunmen and a senior officer from the police bomb squad, who rushed to the scene, were killed in a firefight that continued into Monday morning in the district on the Asian side of the Bosphorus waterway dividing Istanbul.

Turkey has been in a heightened state of alert since it launched what officials described as a “synchronized war on terror” last month, including air strikes against Islamic State fighters in Syria and Kurdish militants in northern Iraq,

and the detention of hundreds of suspects at home. U.S. diplomatic missions have been targeted in Turkey in the past. The far-leftist Revolutionary People’s Liberation Army-Front (DHKP-C), whose members are among those detained in recent weeks, claimed responsibility for a suicide bombing at the U.S. embassy in Ankara in 2013 which killed a Turkish security guard.

Two attackers killed after blast at Istanbul police station

Two attackers were killed in an exchange of fire with police after an explosion at a police station in the Istanbul neighborhood of Sultanbeyli which injured at least 10 people, the Dogan news agency said on Monday.

Istanbul police headquarters confirmed in a statement that three police officers and seven civilians were wounded in the blast, but gave no death toll.—Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 11 August, 2015

Parties, electorate must choose best candidates

By Myint Win Thein

IN the upcoming general election, the people will elect more than 1,000 parliamentary representatives. It is an opportunity to se-

lect the best candidates for the country's administrative, judicial and legislative branches.

At the moment, political parties are selecting their candidates through a variety of processes in which the people do not have a say. The voters are still waiting for their time to come.

Some political parties choose wealthy candidates for financial reasons, while others choose young, popular people to attract the youth vote. Some political parties choose experienced politicians, while other choose naïve people who are eager to listen to their leaders.

It is essential that they select the best people for the country. Myanmar cannot afford any

naïve politicians for its future, as it has been suffering the worst conditions for decades under successive governments. Political parties and the electorate both have a responsibility to pick the best possible candidates.

Write for us

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

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

An Upcoming Future that is DMHC in Yangon University

Maung Phyto (WYU)

Hazy as it was, everything seemed stunningly attractive and quiet save some occasional horns on the roads. Trees in the campus were splashed in the beams of the pale sun. It was still early and the sun was barely rising. The surrounding seemed to have the subdued quiet of the daybreak. The trees indeed formed leafy canopy above the campus. Traffic was usually light on the road, a score of yards away from the university at this time of the day. Heavy rainfall in the previous night washed away all the dead or dry leaves towards the gutters. Thus, shinning even in the faint sun were the leaves and the tarred road snaking around the halls in the campus.

Small groups of middle-aged people were scurrying towards the Vesali Hall. However, upon arrival at the portico of the Vesali Hall, their hurried steps were tamed by the sight of gray-haired man plodding with a walking stick. He looked pale and weak but cheerfully influential. Chatters ceased and intermittent conversations abruptly quieted, they just followed the lead of the old man in a respectful manner. Another quarter of an hour found them seated in the benches and the old man on the stage at a table with a white projector on the left. A momentary silence hung over the classroom. The old man sat up straight and broke the ice tapping the microphone. He started to lecture in a quite low tone.

Yes, it is Dr Khin Maung Nyunt. The setting is Vesali Hall at Yangon University and the lecture time (7:00 AM to 9:00 AM). The term "DMHC" stands for Diploma in Myanmar History and Culture. It is a post-graduate diploma course launched in June 2015. It reportedly aims at imparting rudimentary knowledge on Myanmar History and Culture on the students and the History enthusiasts. In retrospect, applicants from various walks of life ranging from reporters to indigenous researchers were jostling for enrolment in the course. The number of seats, at first, was limited to not more than 80 students, a sizeable student-teacher ratio for Myanmar. The news of the impending diploma course was already hot off in the academic community as it would be led by Dr Khin Maung Nyunt and Dr Kyaw Win, two leading historians and scholars in Myanmar.

Dr Khin Maung Nyunt focuses on Myanmar Visual Arts and Performance Arts. He always delivers fascinating lecture on these subjects embedded with occasional jokes cracked when he finds the situations fit to a "T". Consequently, no student wants to miss his interesting lectures. He tends to activate his lectures by singing in tune of the old songs.

Dr Kyaw Win lectures on Buddhist Art and Architecture which is foreign to many of the students. His illustrated lectures usually make the students flabbergasted with very informative PowerPoint presentations. The comprehensive data and pictures he shows on the screen during his lectures are so rare and almost inaccessible to many history enthusiasts that cameras always twinkle with flashes in the classroom as the students are documenting those rare pictures.

The remaining subjects range from Foreign Relations in the ancient periods to New Look into the Pre-Bagan Period: Pyu, Mon and Rakhine histories and cultures. Invaluable lec-

tures on these subjects are extended to the students by Professor and Head of History Department, Yangon University and a retired Professor and active historian. Sometimes, scholars are invited as guest speakers to share their knowledge on the subjects. In short, all the lectures are well organized and informative. The classroom is also air-conditioned, clean and well lit. Therefore, it can be said that the DMHC Course is fully facilitated both Man Power and Resources.

As the atmosphere is friendly and convivial, the DMHC society turns over a close-knit one. The students occasionally engage themselves in social activities. For example, the DMHC students and teachers collectively went to Bago Division to render their generous donations to the victims of the Flood-hit area that is Pynmagone Village in Minhla, Moeny District on 8th August 2015.

In fact, it is quite a long time passed since History as a university subject was very popular. Its popularity waned since the score-based majoring system was initiated into the university entrance. Every far-sighted and well-read person knows that there is no subject which is not as good as another in education. All are instrumental on the same footing throughout the educational process. Unfortunately, the popularity of a particular subject is also related to its job opportunities after graduation.

History serves as the umbrella term for all the other subjects although it is as essential as they are. Both in the pre-war and post-war period, products of Yangon University as historians had emerged as intellectual giants and received international recognition. Now, the year 2015 has seen the revival of the upcoming future of "History" as a discipline.

In fact, history matters to everyone. In reply to a question "Why do we have to learn history?", Dr. Than Tun, a prominent Myanmar Historian, has one said "so that we might not err again." Yes, "To err is human; to forgive divine." His answer is recorded as the shortest and best one ever. Over the past, history has been taught all over the world for the purpose of promoting nationalism, certainty and accuracy of the past. These had been the generally accepted or adopted approach to the teaching/learning of "History". However, in the course of time, the world has dramatically changed and so have the international curriculum (here, in the context of "history").

Nowadays, the international academicians, curriculum developers, syllabus-designers and historians, start to turn their attention to the source-based approach. That means, in the teaching/learning process for the discipline of "History", they start to emphasize empathy, open-mindedness and critical thinking about the past and even the contemporary. History books can convey a variety of perspectives that would stir up perplexity in the readers. What is worse, these books could possibly come up with presupposition and personal bias to a considerable extent as the famous Myanmar historian Dr. Htin Aung (1909-1978) had once said in the introduction of his book "A History of Burma" that there is a Burmese Folktale that tells of a magic mirror in which a person sees what he wishes to see. History is such a mirror; and a historian, however much he attempts to be objective and detached, often finds that he cannot overcome his human frailties of prejudice and preference. Therefore, it is very important for the future scholars and historians to be able to

POEM:

Breastfeeding: an effective intervention

Aye Phyto

- * Child mortality
To drop by two-thirds according to MDGs
A goal not that far-fetched nor that simple
But one for which all adults should feel responsible
- * Awareness raising for reproductive health
Correct information and health-facts to get spread
Men as partners in maternal health
Everything that'd make pregnant mothers healthy and gain strength
- * Once the newborn arrives
Breastfeeding's a simple way to save its life
With crucial nutrients to provide
And to foster its healthy growth outright
- * Exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months
Boosts up infants' immune system pretty fast
Protecting them from respiratory infections
And the special bond to their moms being strengthened
- * Breastfeeding practices
Part of our culture but not an end in itself
Should be encouraged by all in the community
As a means to an end-far a drop in child mortality

logically and objectively deduce and interpret the data and facts available in the history books. To be able to do so, a future historian is required of employing an analytical approach to history which is often accompanied by the comparative study. In short, to be able to evaluate bias in the history books, a reader needs to already acquire a considerably intimate knowledge on history. Then only can one understand the discrepancies among facts, bias, generalizations, presuppositions and overgeneralizations. Thereby, one can decide how much more or less one can rely on the theories of a particular author. It is simply because an author is biased does not mean the information he includes is false. At such stage, one can possibly hit upon a penetrating idea on a variety of diverse perspectives different authors on the same subject could have developed. Therefore, it is noticed that these steps are prerequisites for any future historian.

Fortunately, the learned teachers in DMHC are now sharing their encyclopedic knowledge on history with the students. As a result, the students can attain a vast knowledge on the subject under discussion at one sitting as the lectures are stuffed with a myriad of least-known facts. So, it can be assumed that the DMHC course serves as a stepping stone for anyone who wants to engage in the field of history or culture or both. It is undeniable that the somewhat-orthodox approaches in the educational sector have already left us with a widening generation gap since the age of intellectual giants has died away. To narrow down the gap, establishment of post-graduate diploma courses are indispensable as these courses can equip the students with the rudiments of the disciplines so that they can shine in any of their future pursuits. Therefore, suffice it to say, DMHC is such a filler to bridge the generation gap in the discipline of "History" and it is definitely worth being labeled as an upcoming future.

NATIONAL

Attorney-General of the Union visits Pwintbyu Township law office

MAGWAY, 10 Aug — Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin on 8 August visited law offices in Minbu District and Pwintbyu Township where he met flood victim staff.

He also met with law officers currently attending the legal capacity enhancement course at Magway Region Law Office. The union attorney-general gave instructions on legal affairs to the officers at different levels at the office of Magway Region Advocate General.—MNA

Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin meets law officers in Pwintbyu Township.—MNA



Contact persons listed for disaster victims in Chin, Rakhine states

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug — Torrential monsoon rains during the last two months have caused floods and landslides across wide parts of the country, leaving numerous victims.

People who want to know the latest information to donate for flood victims in Chin State may dial 09 2450 222 of Secretary of the State Government U Maung Maung Hsan, 09 5061 610 of State Revenue Officer U Soe Nyunt, 09 3334 6222 of State Finance Minister U Nang Za Mung, 09 2450 177 of Deputy

Director of State Rural Development Department U Tung Aung, 09 2629 4969 of Head of State Agricultural Development Bank U Kyaw Htain and 09 9600 755 39 of State Government Office Staff Officer Varman Peepu.

In addition, well-wishers can make donations for those victims via Myanmar Economic Bank account CF-00094 and CB Bank account 0054600100022217 in Haka Township.

For victims in Rakhine State, those people may dial 043 22651 of State Social Affairs Minister

Dr Aung Kyaw Min, 09 8524 163 of Ethnic Affairs Minister U Ko Ko Naing, 043 23638 of Secretary of State Government U Tin Maung Swe, 043 23069 of Director of State Relief and Resettlement Department U Myint Soe, 09 402 524 064 of Deputy Commissioner of MraukU District U Aung Mon Latt, 09 428 224 701 of Deputy Commissioner of Maungtau District U Khin Maung Lwin and 09 4965 8501 of Administrator of Buthidaung Township U Than Shwe.

MNA

Forest Products Joint Venture Corporation holds 22nd annual general meeting

YANGON, 10 Aug — The 22nd annual general meeting of forest products joint venture corporation was held at International Business Center on Pyay Road, here, Monday afternoon, with an address by Environmental Conservation and Forestry deputy minister U Aye Myint Maung.

Corporation chairman U Aye Kyaw and officials accepted K 2.5 million to flood victim staff of the ministry, K 5 million to Myanmar timber training school, K 5 million to purchase medicines for elephants of Myanmar Timber Enterprise, K 10 million to Forestry University and PyinOoLwin forestry training school.—MNA

KOICA celebrates handover ceremony for follow-up project of rural development

YANGON, 10 Aug — The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) held the handover for follow-up project of rural development at Khayaung village in Hlegu Township, recently.

It is one of the grant aid programs in cooperation between KOICA and Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation. This project aims to maintain and increase the effectiveness of Hlegu Rural Development project in 2008-2010, and to foster sustainable rural development in Myanmar. According to the project, KOICA improved the standard living for Hlegu by providing the road, bridge, school, village hall, etc.

Chief Resident Representative of KOICA, Mr. Nam Kwon-Hyung remarked, “This project will improve the standard living for local communities and can foster sustainable rural development at the national level in connection with Saemaul Undong Project in Myanmar.”—GNLM

Canine charity seeks volunteers to help street dogs

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 10 Aug — The local non-profit Stray Dogs Lovers Group is stepping up its efforts to rescue homeless canines, and it is calling for volunteers to lend a helping hand, the group’s spokeswoman said Monday.

Since its establishment early this year, the SDLG has helped street dogs in Yangon, as well as

disaster-hit areas through a range of programmes.

As part of its effort, the NPO opened a shelter for stray dogs in Yangon’s suburban North Dagon Township in mid-July, saving the lives of more than 20 unhealthy dogs including eight dogs with disabilities, spokeswoman Daw Yu Par told The Global New Light of Myanmar.

“The majority of dogs were

hurt in traffic accidents,” she said.

“We do not have enough funds to rent a wider space to keep dogs, so we need to hire a single house with a 40-foot by 60-foot compound that can hold around 30 dogs.”

The shelter is seeking additional volunteers to help care for the dogs, as they currently have a limited number of volunteers.

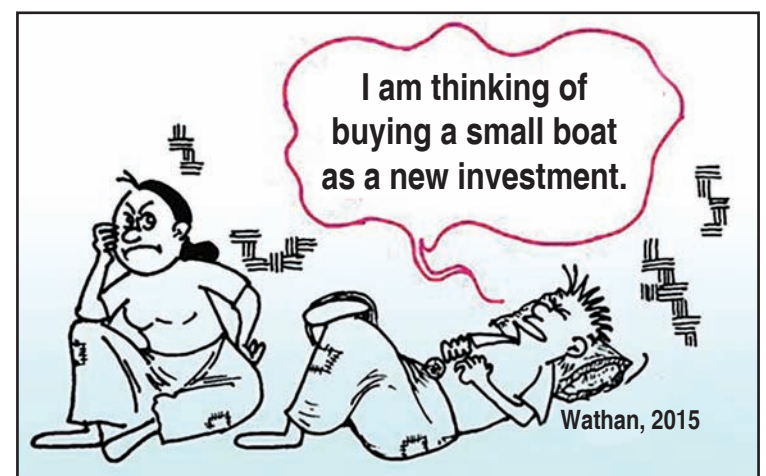
The SDLG is also planning to conduct free rabies vaccinations for dogs in Seikkyi khanaungto Township and some wards in Latha Township within two weeks.

Yu Par said, “There are around 100 dogs that need to receive the vaccine even in Seikkyi khanaungto Township.”

The team has provided free vaccination services to those who wish to protect their pets from rabies, inviting pledges of support. The group can be contacted on +959 795 301 644.—GNLM



A stray dog accommodated at a shelter established by dogs lovers. PHOTO: SDLG



Wathan, 2015



Policemen stand at the site of a car bomb blast at the entrance gate to the Kabul airport in Afghanistan August 10, 2015. —REUTERS

Bomb explodes at Cairo traffic sentry post, wounds three police: sources

CAIRO, 10 Aug — Three police were wounded on Monday when a bomb exploded under a traffic sentry post near a Cairo court house, security sources said, in the latest in a series of attacks to hit the Egyptian capital.

The explosion occurred in the affluent northeastern Heliopolis district, they said.

Egyptian authorities have pledged to end a wave of Islamist militant violence that has swept across the country, but sporadic attacks on high-profile locations in the city and elsewhere have continued.

No one claimed immediate responsibility for Monday's bomb, in which a health ministry spokesman confirmed three people were wounded.

A two-year-old insurgency centered on the Sinai Peninsula has killed hundreds of soldiers and police since the army ousted President Mohamed Mursi after mass protests against his rule in 2013.

Sinai Province, which has pledged allegiance to the militant Islamic State movement that has taken over swathes of Iraq and Syria, is the most active group.

The violence is undermining efforts by the Egyptian government to revive investment and foreign tourism crucial to the economy and stability of the Arab world's most populous country.

While the insurgency is concentrated in the Peninsula, which lies between Israel, Gaza and the Suez Canal, violence has also hit the capital.—Reuters

CAR BOMB

near Kabul airport causes casualties: officials

KABUL, 10 Aug — A car bomb exploded near the entrance to Kabul airport on Monday causing casualties among both civilians and security forces, officials said, days after series of suicide attacks in the Afghan capital killed dozens and wounded hundreds.

A security official at the scene said the suicide attack appeared to be aimed at two

armored cars, although it was not clear who was in the vehicles.

The tangled, flaming wreckage of one of the cars lay on its side, while dozens of fire fighters and police attended the scene.

"It was a crowded area. There are both civilian and security forces casualties," said Najib Danish, a spokesman for the interior ministry.

He said the wounded had

been taken to hospital but there was no word on fatalities.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

Kabul was already on high alert following last week's attacks which killed at least 50 civilians and security forces personnel in the worst violence seen in the city in years.

The wave of violence comes days after a change of

leadership in the Afghan Taliban, who announced the death of their founder, Mullah Mohammad Omar, late last month and named Mullah Mohammad Akhtar Mansour as their new leader.

However his swift appointment by a small council of leaders in the Pakistani city of Quetta has angered others in the group, causing rifts within the movement and adding to speculation that the latest wave of violence is linked to the leadership dispute.

The Taliban are seeking to re-establish their hard-line Islamist regime after they were toppled by U.S.-led military intervention in 2001.

Reuters

Anti-Houthi fighters seize districts in central Yemen

SANAA, 10 Aug — Fighters opposed to Yemen's dominant Houthi movement seized four districts in the central province of Ibb on Monday, residents and local officials said, bringing the armed resistance closer to the group's stronghold in the capital Sanaa.

Tribal gunmen and Sunni Islamist militias loyal to Yemen's exiled government took control of the areas amid heavy clashes with the Shi'ite Houthis, in the latest of a series of northward gains with the backing of Gulf Arab air strikes and weapons.

The northernmost district overrun, Al-Radma, is 125 km (80 miles) from Sanaa, which was conquered by the Iran-allied Houthis in September in what they called a revolution against corrupt officials backed by the West.

A political crisis in Yemen descended into civil war in late March when Houthi forces plunged southward toward the main

southern port of Aden in late March and caused President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi to flee to Saudi Arabia.

A Saudi-led Arab military coalition began a bombing campaign against the Houthis on March 26 to restore the exiled government and fend off what they see as Iranian influence in their backyard.

The conflict has killed more than 4,000 people and spread hunger and disease in the impoverished nation.

Deadlocked for almost four months, the war has tipped somewhat to the advantage of the Houthis' opponents, with their seizure of Aden last month and advance into nearby areas with the help of tanks and heavy artillery shipped by the United Arab Emirates.

The southern fighters battled Houthi forces on Monday in the southern city of Lawdar, one of the last Houthi strongholds in Abyan province.—Reuters



A man sits at a site which the Houthi-led authorities say was hit by a Saudi-led air strike at the old quarter of Yemen's capital Sanaa 9 August, 2015. —REUTERS

Investors in smaller cities line up to join stock rush



A broker laughs while speaking to a colleague, as they trade on their computer terminals at a stock brokerage firm in Mumbai, March 4, 2015. REUTERS

MUMBAI, 10 Aug — India's mutual funds are seeing a surge in stock investments from the hinterland as growing ranks of provincial retail investors help drive a two-year long rally.

Many major funds say they are seeing the fastest growth in fund flows from areas beyond India's 15 largest cities, while growth from more-traditional investment centres such as Mumbai has slowed. Fund executives see more room for such growth, given investors from smaller cities account for only 1.9 trillion rupees (\$29.8 billion) in mutual funds, or 15 percent of total share assets in India.

The government has long believed that attracting investors from beyond big cities such as New Delhi is vital to direct more household savings into equities, reducing traditional investor preference for

property and gold. One such investor is Barun Mukherjee, 54, a senior operator at a steel plant in Jamshedpur, a city of about 1 million people in Jharkhand. Like many Indians, Mukherjee avoided stocks after the global financial crisis and subsequent stock slump wiped out the savings of many households.

But a month ago he decided to invest 50,000 rupees (\$783) into a mutual fund. "Mutual funds are providing the best returns. The market is doing well. India's business scene is positive and the future seems to be good," he said.

Mukherjee is investing in stock markets that have surged 67 percent since August 2013 when the rupee hit a record low. The surge was largely driven by foreign investors' heavy buying. They now own nearly a third of the equity of companies in the Sensex. Strong

gains are now also starting to attract more retail investors in a country where fewer than 1.5 percent of households put money directly into shares, compared with around 10 percent in China and 20 percent in the United States.

Domestic net inflows into equity mutual funds reached \$2 billion in June, the second-biggest month since January 2008. India does not have data breaking down investments by cities, but fund executives say investments from secondary centres are a major factor in the surge.

The surge is lucrative for fund houses, which can charge additional fees on funds that have at least 30 percent of new inflows coming from smaller cities, a measure adopted by regulators to help these fund management firms to offset the higher marketing costs involved.

Axis Mutual Fund, one of India's largest mutual funds, has been organising frequent roadshows and investor seminars, and today about 40 to 50 percent of its equity inflows are from provincial centres, according to Axis chief executive Chandresh Nigam.

"Investment from smaller towns is rising steadily and has helped us especially since our funds are designed for investors who are risk averse and not very savvy," Nigam said.—Reuters

Music may help treat people with epilepsy

WASHINGTON, 10 Aug — The brains of people with epilepsy appear to react to music differently from the brains of those who do not have the disorder, a finding that could lead to new therapies to prevent seizures, according to new research.

"We believe that music could potentially be used as an intervention to help people with epilepsy," said Christine Charyton, from The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Centre.

Approximately 80 per cent of epilepsy cases are what is known as temporal lobe epilepsy, in which the seizures appear to originate in the temporal lobe of the brain, researchers said.

Music is processed in the auditory cortex in this same region of the brain, which was why Charyton wanted to study the effect of music on the brains of people with epilepsy.

Charyton and her colleagues compared the musical processing abilities of the brains of people with and without epilepsy using an electroencephalogram, where electrodes are attached to the scalp to detect and record brainwave patterns.

They collected data from 21 patients who were in the epilepsy monitoring unit at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Centre between September 2012 and May 2014.

The researchers recorded brainwave patterns while patients listened to 10 minutes of silence, followed by either Mozart's Sonata in D Major, Andante Movement II (K448) or John Coltrane's rendition of My Favorite Things, a second 10-minute period of silence, the other of the two musical pieces and finally a third 10-minute period of silence.

The order of the music was randomised, meaning some participants listened to Mozart first and other participants listened to Coltrane first.

Researchers found significantly higher levels of brainwave activity in participants when they were listening to music.

More important, said Charyton, brainwave activity in people with epilepsy tended to synchronise more with the music, especially in the temporal lobe, than in people without epilepsy.

"We were surprised by the findings," said Charyton.

"We hypothesised that music would be processed in the brain differently than silence. We did not know if this would be the same or different for people with epilepsy," she said.

Charyton said this research suggests music might be a novel intervention used in conjunction with traditional treatment to help prevent seizures in people with epilepsy.—PTI

Asian stocks near 1-1/2 year lows on China data; dollar steady

HONG KONG, 10 Aug — Asian shares edged higher but held near 1-1/2 year lows while commodity currencies such as the Malaysian ringgit weakened further on Monday after Chinese data highlighted a deepening slowdown in demand in the world's industrial powerhouse.

China's stock markets bucked broad cautiousness in Asian equities with major indices up between 2 and 4 percent on investor expectations of yet another round of policy stimulus.

Financial spreadbetters on Monday expected Britain's FTSE 100 to open up 0.4 percent, Germany's DAX to edge 0.4 percent higher, and France's CAC 40 to open around 20 points higher. News of another monthly decline in Chinese exports — its biggest fall in four months — and a collapse in producer prices shows how China's faltering industrial demand has hit global trade and sent emerging market assets reeling.

MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan edged higher on the day but held near a 1-1/2 year low hit last month. It has fallen 16 percent since May.

"The markets are beginning to price in structurally lower growth in China and an end to the so-called commodity super-cycle," said Yoshinori Shigemi, global market strategist at JPMorgan Asset Management.

While economists have long predicted a slowdown in the pace of China's economic expansion after years of turbocharged growth, investors have been taken aback by the scale of the slowdown and the impact it has had on emerging markets.

In the six months to May, world trade volumes have shrunk by around 4 percent annualized, a pace of decline that hasn't been seen since the global recessions of 2001 and 2009, according to BNP Paribas economists. Much of that decline this year has been

caused by a sustained slowdown in China.

Emerging market equities have been among the hardest hit as companies struggle to deal with the China factor.



A videographer films an electronic board showing the Japan's Nikkei average (Top R) and related indexes at the Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE) in Tokyo, Japan, July 9, 2015. REUTERS

Year to date, MSCI's Asia ex-Japan index is down nearly 7.5 percent in U.S. dollar terms compared to a flat performance from its U.S. counterpart, according to Thomson Reuters data.

Though its early days yet, corporate earnings in Asia have so far only con-

firmed that trend.

Of the nearly 32 percent of the companies in MSCI Asia-ex Japan index reporting results so far, more than half have led to downgraded estimates for

their earnings per share, according to Credit Suisse strategists.

China's slowdown comes at a particularly sensitive time for emerging markets as expectations that the U.S.

Federal Reserve will end nearly a decade of zero interest rates soon have

gained momentum in recent weeks, dealing a further blow to emerging market currencies and commodities.

Malaysia's ringgit hit a 17-year low as its foreign exchange reserves fell below the \$100 billion mark while leveraged funds have increased their short bets on other commodity-linked currencies such as the Canadian dollar and the Australian dollar in recent days.

Recent data have confirmed the economic recovery underway in the United States.

The U.S. Department of Labor said on Friday employers added 215,000 jobs in July, only slightly below a Reuters poll while the unemployment rate held at a seven-year low of 5.3 percent, with signs that wages were beginning to pick up.

On Wall Street the Dow Jones industrial average fell 0.3 percent, hitting a six-month low. The S&P 500 shed also about 0.3 percent.

Prospects of higher U.S. interest rates have made the dollar more attractive to investors with the U.S. dollar index, which tracks the greenback's performance versus a basket of currencies, rising after the U.S. jobs data to 98.334, its highest since late April, before turning lower. On Monday, it stood at 97.62.

The euro traded at \$1.0967 while the yen was 124.37 to the dollar.

Oil prices kept sliding on the global slowdown, a U.S. gasoline glut and a rise in the U.S. oil rig count.

Crude futures prices fell to fresh multi-month lows early on Monday. Brent fell to \$48.35 per barrel, not far from a six-year low of \$45.19 hit in January.

The 19-commodity Thomson Reuters/Core Commodity CRB Index plumbled fresh lows not seen since 2003 with a year-to-date decline of nearly 14 percent.

Reuters

U.S. sends six jets, 300 personnel to Turkey base in Islamic State fight



Six U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcons from Aviano Air Base, Italy, are seen at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, after being deployed, in this U.S. Air Force handout picture taken August 9, 2015.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 10 Aug — The United States sent six F-16 jets and about 300 personnel to Incirlik Air Base in Turkey on Sunday, the U.S. military said, after Ankara agreed last month to allow

American planes to launch air strikes against Islamic State militants from there. The Pentagon said in a statement the “small detachment” is from the 31st Fighter Wing based at Aviano Air Base, Italy.

Support equipment was also sent but no details were provided.

“The United States and Turkey, as members of the 60-plus nation coalition, are committed to the fight against ISIL in

the pursuit of peace and stability in the region,” the statement said, using an acronym for Islamic State.

The ability to fly manned bombing raids out of Incirlik, a major base used by both U.S. and Turkish forces, against targets in nearby Syria could be a big advantage. Such flights have had to fly mainly from the Gulf.

Turkey’s decision last month to allow use of the base follows longtime reluctance by Ankara to become engaged in the fight against Islamist militants.

Turkey has faced increasing insecurity along its 900-km (560-mile) border with Syria, with fears the conflict could spill onto Turkish soil and worsen relations with its Kurdish minority.

Reuters

Typhoon lashes China’s east coast, 14 dead and four missing: Xinhua

BEIJING / SHANGHAI, 10 Aug — A typhoon battered China’s east coast on Sunday, killing 14 people and forcing the authorities to evacuate hundreds of thousands more.

The 14 were killed after being washed away by flash floods or buried under collapsed houses or landslides, state news agency Xinhua said, citing authorities in Zhejiang province. Another four people were missing.

Typhoon Soudelor forced more than 188,400 people to leave their homes in Zhejiang and 320,000 in neighboring Fujian, Xinhua said. More than 530 flights were canceled and 191 high-speed trains were suspended.

The typhoon had killed six people in Taiwan earlier in the weekend, then moved across the Taiwan

Strait and slammed into the mainland’s Fujian province late on Saturday.

It churned towards neighboring Zhejiang and Jiangxi on Sunday, Xinhua said. The Tropical Storm Risk website downgraded Soudelor to a tropical storm as it moved inland.

In Taiwan, the rain and wind eased on Sunday although the Central Weather Bureau warned that conditions remained unstable as crews began clearing fallen trees, mud flows and other debris from blocked roads.

The storm killed six people in Taiwan, with four missing and nearly 400 injured, authorities said.

Typhoons are common at this time of year in the South China Sea and Pacific, picking up strength from warm waters before losing it over land.

Reuters

Two shot in Ferguson amid standoff between police, protesters

FERGUSON, 10 Aug — Two people were wounded in gunfire at a rally in Ferguson, Missouri on Sunday marking the first anniversary of the death of Michael Brown near where the unarmed black teenager was shot dead by a white officer.

The gunshots rang out as police tried to disperse demonstrators blocking traffic and smashing windows along a street that was a flashpoint of last year’s unrest following the slaying of 18-year-old Michael Brown.

The origin of the gunfire and condition of the two people shot was not immediately known, police said. One of the victims, a black male who looked to be a teenager or young adult, appeared in a Reuters photo to have been badly wounded.

Anniversary commemorations for Brown had begun hours earlier with a peaceful march through the St. Louis suburb after a moment of silence for the teenager, whose death on Aug. 9, 2014, ignited months of demonstrations and a national debate on race and justice. The scene changed dramatically after dark with dozens of protesters blocking traffic and smashing store windows

along West Florissant Avenue, which bore the brunt of last summer’s rioting, chanting “Shut it down” in the midst of a severe thunderstorm.

A phalanx of helmeted police wearing body armor and carrying shields moved in. Protesters briefly fell away before regrouping to confront the line of officers, who ordered them to disperse.

The protesters, locking arms and edging closer to the police cordon, began throwing water bottles and shouting, “We are ready for war!” Both sides held their ground, and police did not move immediately to make any arrests as clergy members and activists circulated between the two sides appealing for calm.

The face-off was shattered by several volleys of gunfire, sending police crouching behind their patrol cars and demonstrators scurrying for cover. Helicopters whirred overhead as additional police armed with assault rifles swarmed the area, some roaring down the street in armored vehicles in the direction of the gunfire.

A body could be seen on West Florissant Avenue and a young woman screamed that her brother had been shot. Multiple store windows were

smashed and police stood atop vehicles surveying the scene.

Merchants, some armed, stood guard outside their businesses early Monday after the incident.

“The St. Louis County Police Department was involved in an officer-involved shooting after officers came under heavy gunfire,” county police spokesman Shawn McGuire said in a statement. He said at least two unmarked police cars had been hit by gunshots.

Brown’s death — and a grand jury decision to spare officer Darren Wilson from criminal charges for

shooting him — sparked a prolonged wave of demonstrations in Ferguson last year that boiled over into rioting and arson at times and spawned sympathy rallies across the country.

It also sparked greater scrutiny of racial bias within the U.S. criminal justice system, giving rise to the “Black Lives Matter” movement that gained momentum from a series of other high-profile slayings of unarmed minorities by white police in cities such as New York, Baltimore, Los Angeles and Cincinnati.

The unrest that erupted Sunday night was in

marked contrast to a day of mostly subdued, peaceful commemorations in Ferguson and elsewhere.

White doves were released after 4-1/2 minutes of silence to represent the roughly 4-1/2 hours that Brown’s body lay in the middle of the street after he was shot. A crowd of about 1,000 then embarked on a silent march through Ferguson to honor Brown and others killed in confrontations with police.

Another name was added to that list on Friday when unarmed 19-year-old Christian Taylor, a black college student, was shot dead by a white police

officer investigating a burglary at a car dealership in Arlington, Texas.

A federal review of Brown’s slaying found that officer Wilson acted lawfully. However, it also determined that Ferguson’s predominantly white police department had for years violated the rights of the city’s black population.

The Justice Department report found police were singling out African-Americans for arrests and ticketing, in part to raise revenue for the city. It also found a pattern of excessive force, including the use of attack dogs and electric stun guns, by police against unarmed black citizens.

The city’s police chief, city manager and municipal court judge all left their jobs following the report.

The anniversary weekend in Ferguson was also marred by an apparently unrelated drive-by shooting on Sunday afternoon a few blocks away from a church as marchers were approaching, police said. One person was wounded in the foot.

A 17-year-old was arrested early on Sunday after firing at a 22-year-old man in a strip mall parking lot, police said.—Reuters



Protesters fall to the ground to take cover after shots were fired in a police-officer involved shooting in Ferguson, Missouri August 9, 2015.—REUTERS

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KUO HSIUNG VOY NO (1037W)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KUO HSIUNG VOY NO (1037W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.8.2015 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
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (RSU-471)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (RSU-471) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.8.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV VEGA FYNEN VOY NO (1527)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VEGA FYNEN VOY NO (1527) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.8.2015 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.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE)
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV INDUSTRIAL CHAMP VOY NO
(510293)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV INDUSTRIAL CHAMP VOY NO (510293) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 10.8.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.P.T (3) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERMARINE KUALA LUMPUR**

Phone No: 2301186

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KULTHARA VOY NO (08/15)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KULTHARA VOY NO (08/15) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.8.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W (1) 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 KULNATEE CO**

Phone No: 2301186

Pilot killed in Colombia aircraft crash

BOGOTA, 10 Aug — A pilot was killed when a Costa Rican plane crashed in Colombia's western jungle area near the Pacific Ocean coast, officials confirmed Sunday.

Colombian aviation authorities said in a statement that the Cessna 206 aircraft hit the ground while flying over the Alto Baudo municipality in Choco department.

The statement said the aircraft had not reported its itinerary to any Colombian airports and the cause of this unreported operation remains unknown.

Local police said that the only body found at the scene belonged to the pilot, identified as Juan Carlos Jaramillo. Investigation is underway to determine whether more people were aboard the plane, why the plane entered Colombian airspace and what caused its crash.

It was the third air accident that has taken place in the jungle areas of Choco department this year. The Cessna 206 is a single-engined six-seat aircraft mainly used for commercial air service as well as personal use.—Xinhua



Vehicles run on an "overwater highway," a highway linking Gufu Township and Zhaojun Bridge in Yichang City, central China's Hubei Province, Aug. 9, 2015. The highway, which is 10.9 kilometers long, is built overwater on a river.—XINHUA

Fiji to pull out peacekeepers in South Sudan if situation escalates

SUVA, 10 Aug — The Fijian government is on standby to pull out Fiji's peacekeepers in South Sudan if the African country's civil war escalates, local media reported Monday.

Timoci Natuva, minister of defense and national security told local news website FijiVillage.com that the Fijian peacekeepers are safe and the government keeps getting daily situational reports from them.

Thirteen Fijian peacekeepers, including five soldiers and eight police officers are in South Sudan.

The peacekeepers are facing difficulties in carrying out their work, as a stable government has not been formed in the African country, Natuva said, adding that the Fijians will act accordingly if an official warning is issued by the United Nations. Clashes in South Sudan have left thousands of people dead

and forced around 1.9 million South Sudanese to flee their homes.

The Fijian government through the UN has been helping with the negotiations for a lasting peace deal between the government and rebels in South Sudan, Natuva said.

Fiji has deployed over 1,000 peacekeepers to foreign countries such as Syria, Egypt, Iraq, South Sudan, Sudan and Liberia.

Xinhua

Earthquake in Afghanistan felt across South Asia

NEW DELHI, 10 Aug — A moderate earthquake in Afghanistan was felt across South Asia on Monday, shaking the ground in Kabul, Islamabad and New Delhi, witnesses said.

magnitude 6 quake was 88 kilometres (54.68 miles) from Feyzabad in Afghanistan, at a depth of 209 kilometres (129.87 miles), the U.S. Geological Survey said.

The epicentre of the

Reuters

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WEATHER REPORT

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 11th August, 2015: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Kayah State, scattered in Mandalay, Magway Regions, fairly widespread in Bago Region, Shan, Rakhine and Kayin States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Sagaing, Yangon, Ayeyarwady 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) m.p.h. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of rain in the Southern Myanmar areas.

FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11th August, 2015: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11th August, 2015: Some rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11th August, 2015: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

'FANTASTIC FOUR' opens poorly, 'MI: Rouge Nation' rules BO

LOS ANGELES, 10 Aug — Superhero movie "The Fantastic Four" opened to a disappointing start, securing a second position at this weekend box office, which was ruled by action thriller "Mission: Impossible Rogue Nation".

The reboot, starring Miles Teller, Kate Mara, Michael B Jordan and Jamie Bell, opened to USD 26.2 million from 3,995 theatres, reported Ace Showbiz.

"Fantastic Four" is considerably one of the worst debuts for a big-budget superhero movie, earning even less than 2011 flop "The Green Hornet" (USD 33.5 million).

"Fantastic Four" has been slammed by critics and got a C- CinemaScore.

On the first position is "Mission: Im-possible

Rogue Nation", which defeated "The Fantastic Four", adding another USD 29.4 million from 3,988 theatres for a domestic total of USD 109.5 million.

"Rogue Nation" took in USD 65.5 million from 58 territories for a foreign come of USD 156.7 million and global haul of USD 265.3 million.

Placing the third was "The Gift", Joel Edgerton's directorial debut. The movie launched to approximately USD 12 million from 2,503 theatres. Coming behind "The Gift" was the raunchy comedy "Vacation" which earned another USD 9.1 million from 3,430 domestic theatres in its second week. Rounding out the top five was Paul Rudd's "Ant-Man" which garnered around USD 7.8 million after four weeks in theatres.—PTI



Cast members (L-R) Jamie Bell, Miles Teller, Kate Mara, and Michael B. Jordan pose the premiere of the film *Fantastic Four* in the Brooklyn borough of New York August 4, 2015.—REUTERS

Economic crisis proves no tragedy for Greek theater

EPIDAUROS, (Greece), 10 Aug — On a stiflingly hot summer night, the ancient Greek amphitheatre of Epidaurus is packed to capacity for a performance of a 2,400-year-old play by Aristophanes — testimony to Greeks' enduring love of theater despite years of grinding economic crisis.

While cash-strapped Greeks forgo the cinema and other luxuries, theater ticket sales are booming — even if theaters struggle to cover their costs and actors often go unpaid.

Greeks can often catch echoes, even in ancient drama, of their current tribulations — and Aristophanes' comedy of political intrigue "Ecclesiazusae", or "The Assembly Women" — in which women take control of Athens and set up a communist-style government — is no exception.

The main female character is dressed as the fiery leftist speaker of Greece's parliament, Zoe Konstantopoulou.

"Times are more difficult financially, but I would never abandon the theater. It's a form of cultural education. One can't replace that," said Maria Tsilibi, a teacher, one of the 20,000 people who flocked to watch "Ecclesiazusae".

"It's an important part of our history."

The very words "theater", "tragedy" and "comedy" are Greek, harking back to Athens' golden age in the fifth century B.C. when dramatists such as Aristophanes, Sophocles and Aeschylus used venues like Epidaurus to explore the human condition. "I have reduced my spending on cinema, drinking, parties, but I still haven't cut down on theater," said student Spyros Giannakakos. "It is part of our national pride; we can achieve 'catharsis' through it and this is what we need today."

Catharsis, a key concept of ancient Greek drama,

denotes cleansing but it does not come without sacrifice, say both actors and theater owners, who paint a grimmer picture about what is going on behind the stage.

"The theater's audience is loyal and growing, but that shouldn't hide the fact that today's plays are made on very low budgets and many actors are unpaid, primarily the young ones," says Nikos Chatzopoulos, general secretary of the Actors' Union.

Unemployment among actors has reached a whopping 92 percent, he said, yet drama schools still churn out about 500 actors annually.

The number of plays performed in Greece is set to increase to around 1,000 next season, starting in October, from 858 last year, said Maria Kryou, theater editor of Athinorama, Greece's most popular city guide.

"People still visit theaters because the ticket fees are much lower than they used to be. But the plays are not profitable for theater owners. Only about 15 theaters manage to make ends meet and cover their costs," the Athina Theatre's manager Dimitris Fotopoulos said.

Cinemas — another Greek word — are having a tougher time. "Our official data shows a definite decline in (sale of) cinema tickets," said Annie Kazerou, spokeswoman for the Greek Film Centre. "From 11.7 million tickets in 2010, they amounted to only 8.9 million last year. This year, even though there was an ambitious start due to some big Hollywood productions, the numbers have dropped," she said, adding that they had taken a hit when the government imposed capital controls this summer amid fears that Greece might have to quit the euro.—Reuters



Omar Faruk Tekbilek (R), an artist from Turkey, performs during the 51st Carthage International Festival in Tunisia, capital of Tunisia, on Aug. 8, 2015.—XINHUA

I wish had met Keith Urban earlier: Nicole Kidman

LONDON, 10 Aug — Actress Nicole Kidman says she wishes she had met her husband Keith Urban "much earlier" and had more kids with him.

The 48-year-old actress has two daughters, Sunday Rose, seven and four-year-old Faith, with her country music star husband, who she married in 2006.

Kidman said she if she had two more children with Urban, 47, it would have been "glorious," reported Female First.

"I wish I could have met him much earlier and had way more children with him. But I didn't. I mean, if I could have had two more children with him, that would have been just glorious. But as Keith says, 'The wanting mind, Nicole. Shut it down.'"

Kidman also has two adopted children, Connor and Isabella, with her former husband Tom Cruise.

The children have been raised as Scientologists like their father and she is believed to have little contact with them.—PTI

Teen falls from balcony during Taylor Swift show

LOS ANGELES, 10 Aug — A teenage boy has sustained serious injuries after he fell from a balcony during Taylor Swift's concert in Seattle.

Swift's concert at Century Link Field, the home of the Seattle Seahawks NFL team, took place on Saturday night (August 8) as part of her 1989 World Tour.

The boy fell from the 300 level to the 200 level of the stadium, the equivalent of a one-storey drop. The fall took place as one of 25-year-old Swift's support acts performed, and the boy has been unable to recall what caused him to fall between the two levels, reported NME.

The 13-year-old boy is being treated at Seattle's Harborview Medical Center, which has reported he is in serious condition. He was conscious when treated on site, and able to communicate with the medical team.

Swift had had an eventful week, responding ecstatically to Ryan Adams' covers of 1989 on social media, and also reacting angrily as a fan grabbed her in Edmonton on Tuesday night.

The Seattle gig featured a guest appearance from New Jersey rapper Fetty Wap, which Swift also highlighted via her Twitter account, calling his guest slot during her set — the continuation of a 'special guest' theme on this tour — "no big deal, just the happiest moment of my life to date." Swift's tour takes a break during the week, and continues in Santa Clara, California on Friday.—PTI

GENERAL

IAAF criticised by London Marathon for anti-doping failure



A spectator holds a Union Flag as runners make their way along Upper Thames Street during the London Marathon, 26 April, 2015.—REUTERS

LONDON, 10 Aug — Organisers of the London Marathon criticised athletics' governing body, the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF), on Sunday for its "failure to take effective action" in the war on doping.

Nick Bitel, chief executive of the London race, said he was "disappointed" in the IAAF after fresh allegations made by the British newspaper, the Sunday Times, in the continuing doping storm which has thrown the sport into turmoil.

Thirty-two medal winners at the world's six top city marathons were among the hundreds of long distance runners with suspicious blood test results revealed in a leak, the newspaper reported on Sunday.

It said the London Marathon was won seven times over a 12-year period by athletes who had given suspicious blood tests at some point in their careers.

No athletes were named in the claims but London organisers said they had never been informed of abnormal blood test results at their event "between 2001 and 2012, or subsequently."

The claims prompted Bitel to release a statement saying the Marathon would "be discussing the implications of the allegations with the IAAF."

On BBC radio's Sportsweek programme, Bitel added that, although the Marathon paid "tens of thousands of pounds" to test athletes, it did not administer the procedures and did not see the results, so were unaware of any abnormal tests. "We are disappointed," he said. "We're doing

more than anybody else to fight doping in our sport.

"What this story is really about is the IAAF's failure to take effective action. Those athletes that have been caught have only been caught because of the tests at the London Marathon.

"The IAAF needs to do more to stop people from starting (races) that have blood values that are out of normal range."

Last week, the Sunday Times and German broadcasters ARD said data, leaked by a whistleblower, showed that between 2001 and 2012 a third of Olympic and world championship endurance and middle distance running medals had been won by athletes who, at some point, had given a suspicious blood test.

The IAAF stripped Russian Liliya Shobukhova of her medals since 2009 last week, including three victories in the Chicago marathon and one in London. The IAAF has defended its drugs testing procedures strongly and refutes suggestions of turning a blind eye to doping, says it is cooperating with the independent World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) in an investigation into the allegations.

Reuters

Wastewater spill from Colorado gold mine triples in volume

SAN JUAN, (Colorado), 10 Aug — Some 3 million gallons of toxic wastewater, triple previous estimates, have poured from a defunct Colorado gold mine into local streams since a team of Environmental Protection Agency workers accidentally triggered the spill last week, EPA officials said on Sunday.

The discharge, containing high concentrations of heavy metals such as arsenic, mercury and lead, was continuing to flow at the rate of 500 gallons per minute on Sunday, four days after the spill began at the Gold King Mine, the EPA said. An unspecified number of residents living downstream of the spill who draw their drinking supplies from their private wells have reported water discoloration, but there has been no immediate evidence of harm to human health, livestock or wildlife, EPA officials told reporters in a telephone conference call.

Still, residents were advised to avoid drinking or bathing in water drawn from wells in the vicinity, and the government was arranging to supply water to homes and businesses in need. The spill began on Wednesday after an EPA inspection team was called to the abandoned mine near the town of Silverton in southwestern Colorado to examine previously existing wastewater seepage.

As workers excavated loose debris at the site, they inadvertently breached the wall of a mine tunnel, unleashing a flow of the orange-tinged slurry that cascaded into Cement Creek and then into the Animas River downstream.

The town of Durango, Colorado, roughly 50 miles south of the spill site, shut off its intakes of river water as a precaution, according to the EPA. By Friday, the main plume of the spill had traveled some 75 miles south to the New Mexico border, prompting utilities in the towns of Aztec and Farmington to shut off their intakes from the Animas as well, local authorities said.—Reuters

Phelps sets fastest time of year in 200m medley

SAN ANTONIO, 10 Aug — Michael Phelps continued his brilliant comeback when he swam the fastest time in the world this year to win the 200 metres individual medley at the U.S. championships in San Antonio on Sunday. The most decorated Olympian of all-time was ahead of world record pace after 150m, before fading slightly over the final 50m of freestyle. He clocked one minute 54.75 seconds, significantly faster than fellow American Ryan Lochte swam to win the world championships in Russia in 1:55.81 on Thursday.

Lochte holds the world record of 1:54.00 from 2011.

"I feel so old it's kind of wild," Phelps, 30, said in a pool-side interview as the large crowd

roared in approval. "I've been away from the sport for a while and I feel like I'm kind of back where I used to be. It's good to be here."

After winning the 200m and 100m butterfly in 2015-world leading times on Friday and Saturday, respectively, there was no doubt that Phelps was back near his best form. His Sunday performance was further confirmation that in Rio next year he could add to his record 18 Olympic golds. "Ryan and I have been pretty dominant in that race from since we started racing back in 2004," Phelps said of the 200m IM. "He's such a big part that I love having in the pool when we get to race, so I'm looking forward to getting back in and

competing with him." Either Phelps or Lochte has held the world record since 2003.

Phelps, who has three Olympic golds in the event and whose best time of 1:54.23 came at the 2008 Beijing Games, said the event would probably be in his 2016 Olympic plans.

Phelps made a great start on Sunday in the first 50m in his signature stroke of butterfly to turn in world record pace, and stayed ahead of the mark after the backstroke and breaststroke legs. But his exertions caught up with him in the freestyle and he settled for a world-leading time.

Phelps is swimming at the U.S. nationals instead of the world championships because he was banned from the U.S. team



Michael Phelps

after his drink driving arrest last year.

He is under supervised probation for 18 months and under orders from the judge who ruled in his case to abstain from alcohol for that period, something he has vowed to do until after the Rio Games.—Reuters

MRTV Entertainment Channel

(11-8-2015, Tuesday)

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 6:00 am
• Mono Classical Songs | 8:50 am
• Documentary |
| 6:25 am
• Myanmar Series | 9:20 am
• Radio Drama |
| 7:05 am
• TV Drama Series | 10:15 am
• My Dream |
| 7:50 am
• TV Drama Series | 10:25 am
• Myanmar Video |
| 8:35 am
• Musical Programme | 12:00 noon
• Close Down |

mitv Myanmar International

(11-8-2015 07:00 am~12-8-2015 07:00 am) MST

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| * News | * News | (Ep-4) | * Orchid Lover |
| * Climate Context: Signs of Climate Change (Episode-2) | * Choral Dance By Female Dancers | * Tea | * Tipitaka Hteinlin Pariyattisarhantike |
| * Delicacies From Magwe | * Shrinking Footprints | * News | * Traditional Snacks |
| * News | * News | * Taste Of Myanmar (Shan Style Clay Pot) | * News |
| * All About Orchids | * A bike ride in pursuit of Mural Art (Episode-2) | * Chef Life: Avi Bitton (Israeli Chef) | * The Treasures in a Small Village (Part-2) |
| * We'll Leave After 12 Passengers Are On Board | * A Visit To Today's Along-Daw-Katthapha | * News | * Chung Tha Souvenir Business |
| | * News | * Tapestry - A Unique Combination Of Painting and Craftsmanship | * Guiding Star of Song Birds |
| | * A Day Out With Sarah | * Karaweik Palace - A Symbol Of Glorious Myanma Culture | * News |
| | | * News | * Youth Of The Future (Ep-5) (Vocalist, L-Jar Ngaing) |
| | | | * Kay Tu Mar Lar "The Family" |

Barca and Sevilla prepare for European Supercup in Georgia

MADRID, 10 Aug — Two Spanish sides, FC Barcelona and Sevilla will go head to head in the Georgian city of Tbilisi on Tuesday night to try and win the first title of the new season: the European Supercup.

Champions League winners, Barca will be favorites against Sevilla, who won last seasons' Europa League, but Barca will have to be wary of a side who are aiming to forget a disappointing display from last season when they were comfortably beaten by Real Madrid.

The European Supercup marks the start of a busy week for Barca, who face Athletic Club Bilbao in the first leg of the Spanish Supercup on Friday and the Catalan's view Tuesday as the next step in their aim to match the incredible achievements from 2009 when the side, which was then coached by Pep Guardiola won all six titles (Spanish League, Cup, Champions League, Spanish and European Supercups and World Club Championship) that it is possible to win over a 12 month period.

Although Messi is back, fit and looking lean and hungrier than ever,

Barca will be without striker Neymar, who will be out for the next 10 days with an attack of mumps, while Jordi Alba is out with a muscle injury that he picked up in pre-season.

Meanwhile, coach Luis Enrique will have to decide whether Ter Stegen or Claudio Bravo will get the nod in goal and striker Pedro Rodriguez will probably replace Neymar in Tbilisi, despite continued links with a move to Manchester United.

He will also have to work on his defense after a pre-season in which Barca shipped too many goals, although the return of Javier Mascherano could help remedy that.

Sevilla go into the game with the club looking to sign a striker to replace the departed Carlos Bacca after last season's top scorer moved to AC Milan.

Their coach Unai Emery also has defensive problems with Nico Parejo out of action as well as Daniel Carrico and their last preparation match: a 1-1 draw in Athens showed they are still some way off their best, although should Jose Antonio Reyes have a good night in Georgia, that could all change.—Xinhua

Fourth-tier Jena stun Hamburg in German Cup as Bayern progress

BERLIN, 10 Aug — Fourth division club Carl Zeiss Jena stunned Hamburg SV 3-2 in the German Cup on Sunday, taking the scalp of the Bundesliga's former European champions to cause the biggest sensation of the competition's first round.

On an afternoon when German champions Bayern Munich were made to rouse themselves to progress with a 3-1 win over plucky fifth league side Noettingen, it was Carl Zeiss Jena's teenage striker Johannes Pieleles who stole the headlines.

Hamburg, who needed a relegation playoff to remain in the Bundesliga last season, twice came back from behind only for 19 year-old Pieleles to make it a red letter day for the underdogs at their Ernst-Abbe-Sportfeld home when he headed home the winner in extra time.

It represented a memorable victory for the club from Jena which has its own distinguished history. Founded by workers at the Carl Zeiss optics factory, they were powerhouses of the East German game in the 1970s and reached the European Cup Winners' Cup final in 1981 before falling on harder times



Fourth division FC Carl Zeiss Jena's Johannes Pieleles (C) and Dominik Bock (L) celebrate with teammates after winning their German Cup (DFB Pokal) first round soccer match against Hamburg SV in Jena, Germany, August 9, 2015.—REUTERS

after German reunification.

Hamburg needed an Ivica Olic goal in the 48th minute to equalise after Justin Gerlach's thundering 30-metre free kick that curled in off the post put Jena ahead.

The visitors, with Bosnian defender Emir Spahic in the lineup after joining the club following his sacking from Bayer Leverkusen last season for hitting and headbutting a club steward, had constant trouble with Jena's pace.

Forward Velimir

Jovanovic put the hosts ahead once more in the 58th minute but Hamburg battled to save themselves with a last-gasp Michael Gregoritsch goal deep into second half stoppage time.

The fairytale was not over, though, as Pieleles punished Hamburg for giving him too much space to head the winner in the 106th minute.

At Noettingen, Bayern were given a shock after new signing Arturo Vidal had scored his first goal for the club in the fourth

minute, only to be pegged back by Niklas Hecht-Zirpel's 16th minute goal.

The lead lasted for just a minute, though, as Mario Gotze restored Bayern's advantage and Robert Lewandowski's 26th minute goal settled the issue.

Borussia Dortmund also advanced, beating Chemnitz 2-0 with Henrikh Mkhitaryan scoring one goal and setting up another for Gabon international Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang.

Reuters

Nishikori beats Isner in D.C. for 10th career ATP title

WASHINGTON, 10 Aug — Kei Nishikori broke the serve of American John Isner once in the second set and again in the third set and that was enough for the rising Japanese player to claim the Citi Open title in Washington, D.C. on Sunday. The second-seeded Nishikori beat the big-serving Isner 4-6, 6-4 6-4 to celebrate his third title of the season and 10th of his career.

"It's been an amazing year so far," said the 25-year-old Nishikori, who will move up to fourth from fifth in the world rankings. "I've had some good Grand Slams, too."

Nishikori now looks forward to taking the next step at the U.S. Open, where he lost to Marin Cilic in the final last year.

"I defend the final in the U.S. Open, so I will try to keep it going," he said about his ranking points. "I'm playing well and I'm looking forward to keeping it going at the U.S. Open."

After Isner broke his serve in the final game of the first set to claim the opening set, Nishikori wasted no time getting back on



Aug 9, 2015; Washington, DC, USA; Kei Nishikori reacts to missing a shot against John Isner (not pictured) in the men's singles final of the 2015 Citi Open at Rock Creek Park Tennis Center. Nishikori won 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.—REUTERS

track. The Japanese broke Isner in the first game of the second set, and again early in the final set and outstayed him on the hardcourt to sweep to victory.

"It's never easy against big servers," said Nishikori, who lost to Isner in the quarter-finals in Miami earlier this year.

"John, he's not just a big server, but he can come in and he has great forehands. It was a close game, but I'm happy to avenge."

Isner, coming off a tournament win last week in Atlanta and playing his 10th match in 12 days, fired 18 aces to Nishikori's five, but the cool, calm Japanese was sharp with 23 winners and only 13 unforced errors in nearly two hours of tennis.

It was another D.C. disappointment for 30-year-old Isner, who lost in the Citi Open final for the third time in six years.

Reuters

Chelsea don't miss Cech, says Mourinho

LONDON, 10 Aug — Jose Mourinho has said Chelsea do not miss goalkeeper Petr Cech and is sure his side will cope well without the suspended Thibaut Courtois when they visit Manchester City on Sunday.

Mourinho was not keen on allowing the 33-year-old Cech to join London rivals Arsenal after 11 successful seasons with the champions, but the manager insists he is happy with the goalkeeping options at his disposal.

"We don't miss Petr," Mourinho was quoted as saying by the British media. "We've got a good keeper, the problem with Petr is not that we miss him because we have two excellent keepers."

"The problem with Petr is that an opponent is better than before."

Cech opted to move to Arsenal after finding himself playing second fiddle to Belgian international Courtois, who Chelsea recalled from loan at Atletico Madrid last season.



Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho during a Press Conference. REUTERS

Chelsea bought Stoke City keeper Asmir Begovic as a backup to Courtois following Cech's transfer.

"Thibaut and Asmir are two fantastic keepers. My club did very well by getting a keeper on time and not on the August 31," Mourinho added.

Courtois is banned for the match at the Etihad Stadium after he was sent off against Swansea for a foul on striker Bafetimbi Gomis, which earned their opponents a penalty and allowed them to draw the game 2-2.—Reuters