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MYANMAR BOASTS 4 OUT OF 10 PLACES OF INTEREST ON TRILATERAL HIGHWAY

Ye Myint

YANGON — The India-based *Daily News* and *Analysis* broadsheet on Friday recommended that people planning a road trip on the soon-to-opened India-Myanmar-Thailand superhighway visit Myanmar's Bagan, Mandalay, Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon along with attractions in India and Thailand.

The English-language newspaper recommended a total of 10 must-see sights on the trilateral highway, saying people who love road trips would enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime adventure.

The 10 recommended places that the newspaper urged its readers to visit are Agra, Lucknow, Guwahati and Shillong in India, Bagan, Mandalay, Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon in Myanmar and Bang Pa-In Royal Palace and Bangkok in Thailand.

According to DNA, the three-nation highway that is 3,200 km in length is expected to become operational this November.

The highway is set to start from Manipur's Moreh on the Indian side and reach Mae Sot in Thailand after passing through Myanmar, traversing Tamu in the northwest and Mandalay in the country's centre and Myawady in the southeast. The Myawady-Thingyan-nyinaung-Kawkaik section of the trilateral highway in Myanmar has recently been put into service.—GNLM



Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw, which is one of 10 must-visit places on the India-Myanmar-Thailand highway recommended by *Daily News* and *Analysis* of India.—PHOTO: YE MYINT



20 shortlisted for Miss Universe Myanmar 2015-2016 announced

Miss Universe Myanmar Organization announced 20 shortlisted contestants nationwide who will compete in the Miss Universe Myanmar 2015-2016.

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219 victims saved in August

Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON — Police saved 219 victims of human trafficking in August, including 11 women and two children, from being sold into forced labour, marriage and prostitution in China, Thailand and Malaysia, according to the figures released by Anti-Trafficking in Persons Division.

Last month, police exposed eight cases, six in Shan State and one each in Rakhine State and Yangon Region.

According to the figures, police investigation has been made into 82 cases in the past eight months, with 392 victims saved, 165 traffickers arrested and 78 suspects on the run.

From 2006 up to August this year, the number of human trafficking cases across the country hit 1,205, the figures were quoted as stating that 2,394 people were rescued and 2,196 traffickers brought to justice.

Myanmar's Central Body for Suppression of Trafficking in

Persons is now rewriting the current Anti-trafficking in Persons Law, Police Lt-Col Khin Maung Hla said, adding that the law needs amending in order to close existing loopholes.

According to the annual Trafficking in Persons report published in July by the United States, Myanmar remains in Tier 2 of the 'trafficking in persons' watch list comprising countries that fail to fully comply with minimum anti-trafficking standards.—GNLM



Dr Chelerm, owner of World Medical Center in Bangkok, Thailand, and party offered Waso robes and alms to presiding abbot Bhaddanta Nimala of Nanda Aungmyay Monastery, Bagan Township, on 4 September. Maung MAUNG THANT (KYEMON)

Yamethin Dyeing and Printing Factory urged against polluting

YAMETHIN—Mandalay region minister for electricity and industry U Kyaw Myint with officials, on 3 September, visited No (8) Textile Factory branch at Shwedah Village in Yamethin Township and gave advices on employees' and other factory matters.

Afterwards at Dyeing and Printing Factory, the minister warned against polluting the surrounding areas and urged to dispose the chemicals and sewerage water systematically. They had friendly chats with the factory workers.—*Thiha Ko Ko-Mandalay*

New village road formally opens in Pobbathiri Township's village

POBBATHIRI—New 2.5-mile gravel road to Nyaunglu Village of Pobbathiri Township was formally opened at the entrance to the village, on 4 September. The gravel road was built by Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee and funded by Nay Pyi Taw Council.

The council member spoke on the occasion and a village elder said appreciations for the new useful road.

Due to the upgrade of the road, the livelihood of the local villagers is get better.—*Shwe Ye Yint*

Locals in flood-hit Homalin taken to shelters

KHANTI — The high tides of Chindwin River due to heavy rains in northern parts of Sagaing Region have inundated some villages of Homalin township, as from September 3.

A total of 173 households from flood-hit villages and two wards of the town are given at highland shelters. In some places cows and oxen were evacuated though the villagers did not need to be moved.

The local officials are overseeing the evacuation in time to avoid further damages.—*District IPRD*

More than 9,000 Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand returned back in five years

TACHILEK — The Anti-Human Trafficking Squad has claimed that over the last five years, Thailand has handed over 6,694 men and 2,510 women back to the country.

The Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand would be taken back at Tachilek's Myanmar-Thai Friendship Bridge (1). On 4 September at the bridge 23 men and four women were handed over again to Myanmar officials.

They said that they had been working illegally in Thailand with the bridge passes and were arrested by the Thai Police's surprise checks. They said that they were not being trafficked into Thailand, but went in their own discretion.

The Tachilek township administration office has on 4 September returned the workers back to their families.—*Myint Mo*

Zabuthiri residents gets new asphalt road, income generation loans

ZABUTHIRI — A new asphalt road in Shwekyapin Ward of Zabuthiri Township was formally opened, on 5 September, attended by an official of Nay Pyi Taw Council and party.

Ward elder U Soe Myint, Maung Wai Yan on behalf of youth and 2015 outstanding matriculation exam student Ma Aye Aye Win cut the ribbon at the opening.

The upgraded 3,000-foot-long road with a 12-foot width will provide a smoother transport route for the local people.

After the ceremony, the official of Nay Pyi Taw Council and party attended the presentation of dividends and loans from the Emerald Green Project's Fund to its 215 local members of Aungchantha Village.

The trust fund's objective is to generate the members' income



Officials of Nay Pyi Taw Council and local residents attend inauguration of new asphalt road in Zabuthiri Township.—*District IPRD*

which will promote the development of their rural area. This second

presentation involves loan of 30 million kyat and interest of

5.522 million kyat from the previous loan.—*District IPRD*



Township authorities release fingerlings into fish farm of Ottara District GAD.—*SHWE YE YINT*

Fingerlings released into Otthaya District GAD's fish farm

NAY PYI TAW — A total of 5,000 Tilapia fingerlings were released into their fish pond by District deputy commissioner U Tun Zaw and staff of Otthaya District General Administration Department in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, on 4 September.

Various species of fishes of over ten thousand have already been bred in the office welfare fish farm. The fish farms of respective offices in the capital is benefiting the staff.—*Shwe Ye Yint*

Commander-in-Chief leads military delegation to Israel



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing being seen off by senior military officers at Yangon International Airport.—MYAWADY

NAY PYI TAW — A military delegation left Yangon for Israel on Saturday at the invitation of Israel's Defence Minister Moshe Yaalon, officials said.

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing led the delegation comprised of senior military officers of the army, the navy and the air forces, including Lt-Gen Mya Tun Oo and Maj-Gen Maung Maung Aye of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief

(Army), Naval Chief of Staff Commodore Moe Aung, Air Force Chief of Staff Brig-Gen Maung Maung Kyaw and Commander of Central Command Maj-Gen Soe Htut.

Myanmar established its diplomatic relations with Israel on 5 December 1949, with an embassy opened in Tel Aviv in 1955. Israel opened its embassy in Yangon two years later.

This is seen as a goodwill visit to Israel by a head of the

country's defence services 56 years after visits by former prime minister U Nu in 1955 and former commander-in-chief Gen Ne Win in 1959.

According to sources close to the circles of the defence services, the goodwill visit by the country's military delegation would focus on promotion of bilateral military cooperation and friendly relations and observation of heavy industries.—Myawady

Election candidate lists announced

NAY PYI TAW — Region and State/district election sub-commissions have approved nominations of candidate for November 8 general elections.

The name list of selected candidates are announced in the respective constituencies as of 4 September.—MNA

UEC panel to hear six candidature appeals

NAY PYI TAW — The Union Election Commission said on Saturday that its panel has agreed to hear appeals lodged by six election candidates in a bid to ensure their citizen rights.

They are appealing against

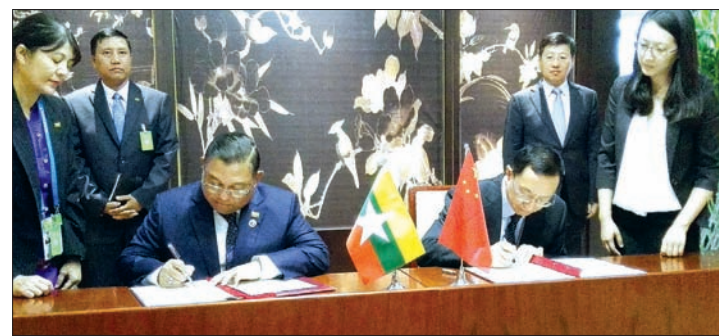
the rulings made by the election sub-commissions at their respective regions and states.

They filed their appeals to the panel, as the sub-commissions overturned their second appeals.—MNA

Myanmar, China ink agreement on establishment of Cultural Centers

NAY PYI TAW — An agreement between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the Reciprocal Establishment of Cultural Centers was signed by U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar,

and Mr Luo Shugang, Minister of Culture of China, on 4th September 2015 during the visit of U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, to China to attend the 70th Anniversary of the Victory of the World Anti-Fascist War held in Beijing, the People's Republic of China.—MNA



Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin and Mr Luo Shugang, Minister of Culture of China, sign agreement on establishment of Cultural Centers.—MNA

Artistes help flood victims in Nyaungdon Township

NYAUNGDON — Football team of Myanmar Motion Picture Association and artists donated foods and relief materials to flood victims in Nyaungdon Township on 5 September.

"We care about public and they supported our association. We support when they are in trouble. We will donate more,"

team leader Min Htet said.

More than K 4 million worth rice, food stuffs and relief supplies were donated to flood victims in villages from Nyaungdon Township. They are making arrangements to donate relief supplies to residents in Haka, Chin State in coming days.—Zaw Gyi (Panita)



China-Myanmar relations strengthened by recent visit of president: Union information minister

PRESIDENT U Thein Sein's recent visit to China not only strengthened relations between the two countries but also deepened the determination to prevent the rise of fascism, Union Minister for Information U Ye Htut said in a recent interview.

The first aim of attending the parade was to honour the role of the Chinese people and Communist Party that fought against fascism for 14 to 15 years. Another aim is concerned with our lessons from the Second World War. As Myanmar was occupied by fascists for about three years during WWII, we had our own lessons with fascism and we are determined to prove that we believe fascism will never rise again, U Ye Htut said.

After attending the parade, the president met with the Chi-

nese president and the premier. The focus of the discussions was prospects for assistance of China in recovery of flood-hit areas in Myanmar. It is expected that China is likely to offer 900 million yuan not just for flood-hit areas but also for prevention of floods in Ayeyawady Delta, according to U Ye Htut.

Another area of the discussions covered cooperation for border security and prevention of smuggling. Chinese leaders reiterated that they supported reforms in Myanmar and the choice of Myanmar people for a suitable political system.

On their return, the president and delegation met with the party secretary of Yunnan Province in Kunming. They discussed promotion of trade and border security including timber smuggling. The



Union Minister for Information U Ye Htut.—MNA

minister said that the presidential visit to China was important because it can strengthen relations between the two countries and cooperation in prevention of the rise of fascism.—Tun Win Naing

Human trafficking awareness updated in Muse



Officials pose for group photo with trainees from educative course on human trafficking in persons.—District IPRD

MUSE — An educative course on human trafficking for service personnel of forward areas was held on 4 September in Muse Town of northern Shan State organized by International Organization for Migration (IOM) with the cooperation of Central Body for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons.

At the opening ceremony, vice chairman of district committee of trafficking in persons Commander of district police force Police Lt-Col Min Min Oo in his address said that the human trafficking menace has become a late 20th century slavery system making a challenge for the majority

of world's countries. He added that after terrorism and narcotic drugs problem, it stands as a third threat, which UN Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki-moon said is an abuse of the basic human rights.

The Police officer concluded that human trafficking is not just a ordinary crime but is a serious offense involving political, economic, social development and poverty, natural disaster and transnational migration.

The two-day course is attended by a total of 70 civil service personnel and members of social organizations.—District IPRD

New apartments for Meiktila's civil service

MEIKTILA — As the construction of four apartment buildings with 48 family units for civil servants has been completed at Nandawgon Ward in Meiktila of Mandalay Region, the flats will be soon allotted to needed personnel in accordance with rules and regulations.

Government service personnel who had moved from out of town will be prioritized.

The construction was funded by the region government's 2014-2015 finance and built by Saung Daing Aung construction company through a tender bid.

Another similar three-story building is currently being build during the present 2015-2016 budget year, and is scheduled to be completed in December.

Chan Thar (Meiktila)



Four apartment buildings for service personnel are under construction with finishing works in Meiktila.—Chan Thar



Farming workers replant paddy sapling on farmland where water has already receded. Win Bo (Township IPRD)

Kyangin gets help in replanting flood-damaged monsoon paddy fields

KYANGIN —As water has receded, inundated Kyangin Township of delta Ayeyawady Region has planted 1157 acres of farmlands as of 4 September, according to local officials.

A total of 3073.13 acres were damaged by the recent severe floods.

Htoo Foundation donated 16,665 kg of paddy seeds with five tractors and other donors provided fertilizers and paddy seedlings, to the farmers.—Win Bo (Township IPRD)

Mandalay's centenarians presented cash and kind

MANDALAY — Mandalay Region's Chief Minister U Ye Myint and his regional ministers visited the homes of Mandalay's centenarians on September 3, and offered them with cash and kind. Those senior citizens were also advised to the health officials.

The senior citizens included Daw Mei May, aged 112, Daw Kan Tin, aged 102, and Daw Kyi aged 103.

The donated cash came from the 25-per-cent deduction fund from the monthly salaries of President U Thein Sein and his cabinet members.—Thiha Ko Ko

Vietnam, Philippines to set up strategic partnership in November

HO CHI MINH CITY — Vietnam and the Philippines are expected to close a strategic partnership agreement in November, local online newspaper Tuoi Tre (Youth) News on Saturday quoted a Vietnamese diplomat as saying.

The two countries will foster their bilateral cooperation to deal with regional and international issues of mutual concerns, including the South China Sea issue, Vietnamese Ambassador to the Philippines Truong Trieu Duong told Tuoi Tre, citing the draft text of the agreement.

The strategic partnership would likely be signed during the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting, scheduled to be held on Nov. 18-19 in Manila, Philippines, according to the report.—Xinhua

Free trade pact to unleash more opportunities for China and ROK



President of the Republic of Korea (ROK) Park Geun-hye addresses the China-ROK business cooperation forum in Shanghai, east China, Sept. 4, 2015.—XINHUA

SHANGHAI — The free trade agreement between China and the Republic of Korea will unleash more benefits for the two countries' businesses and people, ROK President Park Geun-hye said on Friday in Shanghai.

She made the remarks at a China-ROK business cooperation forum held in the city.

"A deeper and broader economic cooperation between China and the Republic of Korea, with combined economic output of 12 trillion US dollars, will help the two countries weather the world economic downturn," Park said.

Park urged the business community from China and the ROK to strengthen cooperation in health, culture, agriculture and environmental protection.

Park also said companies from the two countries should get involved in regional infrastructure investment through the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank to boost economic growth.

China and ROK have experienced growing cooperation in auto, semiconductor and the culture industry despite downward pressure facing the global economy.—Xinhua

Philippines braces for worst El Nino

MANILA — The Philippine government and some environmental groups have instituted measures to mitigate the effects of the El Nino weather phenomenon which is expected to hit the Philippines and other countries in the Asia Pacific region later this year.

The EcoWaste Coalition, a local environmental watchdog, has called on the public to reduce water and electricity consumption as these two commodities would be the first to be affected by the prolonged drought caused by El Nino.

The US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) recently predicted the occurrence of "one of the strongest El Nino in recorded history" in the coming months, with expert Bill Patzert saying that it "has the potential of being the Godzilla El Nino."

El Nino means The Little Boy, or Christ Child in Spanish.

It was originally recognized

by fishermen off the coast of South America in the 1600s, with the appearance of unusually warm water in the Pacific Ocean.

The name was chosen based on the time of year (around December) during which these warm waters tended to occur.

The warmer waters are normally confined to the western Pacific by winds that blow from east to west, pushing the warmer water toward Indonesia and Australia.

El Nino occurs every two to seven years in varying intensity, and the waters of the eastern Pacific can be up to 4 degrees Celsius (7 degrees Fahrenheit) warmer than usual.

The Philippine weather agency said the El Nino phenomenon in the country may intensify from moderate to strong in the last quarter of 2015 up to the first quarter of 2016.

Aileen Lucero, EcoWaste Coalition coordinator, said the

rising temperature brought by El Nino would mean more demand for water and electricity by people because of the scorching heat.

"In anticipation of potential supply deficiency, all sectors of the society need to take extra steps to conserve water and electricity use during the El Nino episode and beyond," Lucero said.

The Department of Agriculture (DA) has already implemented measures to lessen the impact of El Nino, particularly on the country's main agricultural products.

"We've been prepared since last year. Cloud-seeding operations in different parts of the country are still ongoing. We are partnering with local government units for their implementation," said Agriculture Undersecretary Emerson Palad.

The DA has initiated water-management and production-support programs to help farmers deal with the impact of

the drought. These include the installation of small water-impounding projects and diversion dams in rice-growing regions.

Small and poor farmers are more vulnerable to the adverse effects of El Nino since they are already marginalized even when water supply is abundant.

According to Sen. Loren Legarda, chairman of the senate committee on climate change, during El Nino, the primary concern is food security because prolonged drought would drastically cut down the production of local crops and fisheries yield.

The 1997 El Nino affected 74,000 hectares of agricultural lands in 18 provinces in the Philippines.

The impact of the worst-recorded El Nino was most felt in Mindanao in the southern Philippines. More than 74 people died and almost half a million agricultural families experienced hunger because of the drought.—Xinhua

3 int'l flights disrupted after hoax bomb call in Delhi

NEW DELHI — Two international flights were called back while one which was preparing for departure from the Indira Gandhi International Airport here was taken to an isolation bay due to a bomb scare early today, sources said.

At 01.30 AM a threat call was received at the Delhi Airport's call centre in Gurgaon.

The caller claimed that there were bombs on three international flights - 9W078 of Jet Airways to Hong Kong, CX694 of Cathay Pacific also bound for Hong Kong and LX147 of Swiss Air to Zurich which later turned out to

be hoax, airport sources said.

However, by that time, Jet Airways and Cathay Pacific flights had already left while Swiss flight was preparing for departure, they said.

"The Bomb Threat Assessment Committee declared threat as specific at 2 am. Both the Jet Airways and Cathay flights were called back and taken to isolation bay after landing under emergency conditions. Swiss Air flight which was on-ground was also sent to isolation bay," sources said.

A thorough search of the aircraft, passengers and their

baggage was carried out by the security agencies and later all the three flights were cleared for take-off by them, sources said, adding that emergency was called off at 2:40 AM.

"Jet Airways flight 9W078, which departed from Delhi at 0127 hrs for Hong Kong, returned to Delhi due to security reasons. The aircraft with 194 guests and 12 crew on board landed safely in Delhi at 0224 hrs.

"All guests and crew disembarked without any incident and were taken to the airport terminal. Safety of our guests is our

number one priority. We regret the inconvenience caused to the guests," said a statement issued by the airline.

Sources said that some Air India flights from Delhi airport were delayed due to bomb threat call last evening.

"Call was made to Air India control room at 9 PM yesterday. Though the threat was non-specific, as a precaution some flights were checked.

The caller has been traced," sources said. Services at Delhi airport are normal and all flights are landing and departing on time, they said.—PTI

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Clinton says 'sorry' for email confusion, says she wasn't thinking

WASHINGTON — Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton said on Friday she was sorry that her use of a personal email account while secretary of state had caused confusion, and blamed herself for “not thinking a lot” about the matter when she took the job. In her most contrite comments yet about an issue that has plagued her White House bid, Clinton said she had made a mistake by not using a government email account. But she maintained she had done nothing wrong and did not apologise explicitly for using a private email account for her work as America's top diplomat.

“At the end of the day I am sorry that this has been confusing to people and has raised a lot of questions but there are answers to all these questions,” the former first lady told MSNBC in an interview.

Clinton, front-runner to be the Democratic Party nominee in the November 2016 election, has faced steady criticism from political opponents since it emerged in March that she used her own email account on an unsecured private server in her New York

home for official business. Republicans say she flouted rules on record-keeping and transparency.

“I certainly wish that I had made a different choice and I know why the American people have questions about it,” said Clinton, who was secretary of state from 2009 to 2013. “I take responsibility. I should have had two accounts, one for personal and one for work-related.”

Doubts over Clinton's trustworthiness have damaged her numbers in opinion polls, allowing liberal Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders to narrow the gap with her before the first contests early next year to pick the Democratic Party nominee for the election.

Clinton's slump in polls has also given space for a possible run by Vice President Joe Biden. Biden's elder son, Beau Biden, died of brain cancer in May aged 46 and the vice president said on Thursday he is trying to determine whether he has the emotional energy for a White House bid.

Clinton said she used the personal email account for convenience and did not give the



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton

issue much thought when she started her job as secretary of state.

“I was not thinking a lot when I got in. There was so much work to be done. We had so many problems around the world. I didn't really stop and think what kind of email system will there be,” she said.

Clinton said that while she should have acted differently, she had done nothing wrong. “It was allowed and it was fully

above board. The people in the government knew that I was using a personal account,” she said.

The FBI is now investigating the security of the private server and any classified information on it.

Reviews by Reuters of Clinton emails released to the public under a judge's orders found 87 email threads that the State Department has marked to show they include information shared in confidence by foreign government officials, from prime ministers to spy chiefs. US government regulations say this sort of information, whether written or spoken, must be classified from the start and handled through secure, government-controlled channels. The Republican National Committee said Clinton was only sorry about being the centre of so much controversy over her emails. “What's clear is Hillary Clinton regrets that she got caught and is paying a political price, not the fact her secret email server put our national security at risk,” RNC spokesman Michael Short said in a statement.—Reuters

After Iran deal, EU bids to restart Israel-Palestinian talks

LUXEMBOURG — Arab countries will join the Middle East Quartet in New York at the end of September to seek ways to revive peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians, the EU's top diplomat said on Friday, part of a new European diplomatic initiative.

Encouraged by Europe's role in securing a nuclear deal with Iran, the EU believes a broad range of countries could help, more than a year after the collapse of a US-brokered peace push envisaging a Palestinian state co-existing with Israel.

On the margins of the General Assembly of the United Nations, Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia and the head of the Arab League will join the Middle East Quartet of the United States, the United Nations, the European Union and Russia for talks.

“We hope that this re-start of the process can lead to improvements on the ground and also to re-open prospective and political horizons to the talks,” EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini said at a meeting of EU foreign ministers in Luxembourg.

Mogherini sees a chance for EU diplomacy in the absence of a new push from Washington as US President Barack Obama approaches the end of his final term. The Quartet last met in March in Munich, which was the first meeting in about a year, according to an EU official.—Reuters

G-20 to share concern about slower-than-expected global growth

ANKARA — Finance chiefs from the Group of 20 economies are set to share concern at the end of their talks in Ankara on Saturday about slower than expected global growth due to the protracted slump in China, sources familiar with the ongoing discussion said.

Finance ministers and central bankers from the G-20 developed and developing economies are expected to say in a joint statement to be released following the two-day meeting that global growth has fallen short of their expectations, the sources said.

The statement is expected to refer to the need for the G-20 countries to implement structural reforms expeditiously, the source said.

During the first day of the G-20 meeting, Japan urged China to tackle structural challenges to deal with growing uncertainty about its economic outlook, Japanese Finance Minister Taro Aso said.

Zhou Xiaochuan, governor of the People's Bank of China, made some comments in the session possibly referring to a stock market bubble in China as “having burst,” according to a Japanese official who asked not to be named.

Aso told reporters he urged China to address issues such as an excess in investment, the social security system and non-performing loans in the banking sector.

On the fringes of the G-20 talks, US Treasury Secretary Jack Lew called on his Chinese counterpart Lou Jiwei to accelerate the transition from economic growth led by exports and investment to greater reliance on personal spending, according to the US government.

China told the G-20 session that it



Finance and labour ministers gather for a group photo of the G20 Joint Meeting of Finance and Labour Ministers in Ankara, Turkey, September 4, 2015.—REUTERS

sees a need for such reforms, according to the unnamed Japanese official.

Aso said he called on China to take a cautious approach to managing its economy and ensure communication with market participants.

The G-20 officials started a two-day meeting in the Turkish capital to discuss concern over a global economic slowdown mainly focused in emerging countries as the Chinese economy decelerates as well as other issues.

The gathering comes as global markets have faced turbulence following China's move to devalue the yuan last month, while a decision by the US central bank on whether to raise interest rates is looming.

“I told the meeting that it is necessary to closely watch various movements such

as the outlooks for economies in emerging countries including China and Asia overall” as well as the impact of a possible hike in US interest rates on the global economy, Aso said.

Concerns are also growing over the possible spillover of the decelerating Chinese economy onto emerging economies, which already face the risk of fund outflows if the US Federal Reserve decides to raise rates.

On the Japanese economy, Aso told the participants in the G-20 session that despite a contraction in the April-June period, the government expects a moderate recovery of the economy to be driven by an increase in personal consumption and capital investment on the back of improvement in personal income and corporate performance.—Kyodo News

Singapore to increase funding to promote bilingualism

SINGAPORE, — Singapore will increase the funding to promote bilingualism in the country, from 16.6 million Singapore dollars (11.8 million US dollars) to 25 million Singapore dollars (17.8 million US dollars) over the next five years, said the Ministry of Education (MOE) in a press release on Saturday.

The funding will allow the three Mother Tongue Language Learning and Promotion Committees (MTLLPCs) to harness expertise, resources and energy of the public and community to promote Chinese, Malay and Tamil as living languages, said the ministry.

About 80 percent of government funds

for each MTLLPC will be assured funding, while the rest will be set aside as a 1:1 matching grant for funds raised by the community, said MOE.

The committees have planned new initiatives to further promote the learning and usage of mother tongue languages, including working with local arts groups to

bring literary and cultural activities to the heartlands, as well as engaging community partners to launch poetry and song-writing competitions.

The MTLLPCs were set up in 2005 and 2006 to rally community support in the learning and usage of Singapore's three official mother tongue languages.—Xinhua

Saudi Arabia satisfied with Obama's assurances on Iran deal

WASHINGTON — Saudi Arabia is satisfied with assurances from US President Barack Obama about the Iran nuclear deal and believes the agreement will contribute to security and stability in the Middle East, a senior Saudi official said on Friday.

Saudi King Salman met with Obama at the White House on Friday to seek more support in countering Iran, as the Obama administration aimed to use the visit to shore up relations after a period of tensions.

The visit is the king's first to the United States since ascending to the throne in January 2015, and comes after the United States agreed to a nuclear deal with Iran in July.

The US-Saudi relationship has suffered strain because of what Riyadh sees as Obama's withdrawal from the region, a lack of direct US action against President Bashar al-Assad in Syria, and a perceived US tilt towards Iran since the 2011 Arab uprisings.

But the countries share many strategic objectives and depend on each other on a number of core security, economic, and political issues.

Speaking after the meeting between Obama and Salman, Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir

said Obama had assured the Saudi king that the agreement prevents Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon, includes inspections of military and suspected sites, and has a provision for the snapback of sanctions if Iran violates the agreement.

Under those conditions, al-Jubeir said, Saudi Arabia supported the deal.

"Now we have one less problem for the time being to deal with, with regards to Iran," al-Jubeir said. "We can now focus more intensely on the nefarious activities that Iran is engaged in in the region."

Gulf Arab states had previously expressed their support for the Iran nuclear deal, but fear that the lifting of sanctions on Iran would enable it to pursue destabilising policies in the Middle East.

Salman skipped a Gulf Arab summit at Camp David in May, a move widely seen as a diplomatic snub over Obama's Iran strategy, though both governments denied that interpretation.

Critics say the nuclear deal will empower Iran economically to increase its support of militant groups in the region.

Saudi Arabia and Iran are opposed on a number of regional issues, especially the 4 1/2-year-long Syrian



US President Barack Obama (R) meets with Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington September 4, 2015.—REUTERS

civil war and unrest in Yemen, where a coalition of Arab states led by Riyadh, assisted by the United States, are targeting Iran-allied Houthi forces.

Obama said on Friday that he and Salman share concerns about Yemen and the need to restore a functioning government and address the humanitarian situation there.

US Deputy National Security Advisor Ben Rhodes said ahead of Salman's visit that the United States believed more care needs to be taken to avoid civilian casualties in the air strikes against Houthi forces in Yemen.

Al-Jubeir said on Fri-

day that the humanitarian crisis in Yemen was being exacerbated by the Houthis and that supplies were at risk of being diverted from Yemenis who need them most, but that Saudi Arabia was working with international organizations to send supplies to Yemen.

A Saudi-led coalition has been conducting air strikes across Yemen against Iranian-allied Houthi forces since March, pushing back Houthi forces but drawing criticism from international aid and rights groups for a mounting civilian death toll.

Saudi Defense Minister Mohammed bin Salman also met on Friday with US

Secretary of Defense Ash Carter and the two discussed Saudi Arabia's underlying defence requirements, the Pentagon said.

The Obama administration is focused on providing the assistance that the president promised at the Camp David summit, including helping Gulf states integrate ballistic missile defence systems and beef up cyber and maritime security.

Saudi Arabia remains the world's largest oil exporter, and its commitment to pumping oil freely despite a recent price decline has helped contribute to sustaining the US economic recovery. Obama and

Salman will discuss the world economy and energy issues, Obama told reporters on Friday.

Saudi Arabia has also joined the United States and other Arab states in air strikes against the Islamic State jihadist movement in Syria, also called ISIS.

"We continue to cooperate extremely closely in countering terrorist activities in the region and around the world, including the battle against ISIS," Obama said on Friday.

Obama and Salman discussed the potential fast-tracking of the release of American military technology and weapons systems to Saudi Arabia, al-Jubeir said, and discussed a "new strategic partnership" between the two countries, although he gave few details.

The Gulf state is in advanced discussions with the US government about buying two frigates based on a coastal warship that Lockheed Martin Corp (LMT.N) is building for the US Navy, a deal valued at well over \$1 billion.

The sale would be the cornerstone of a long-delayed multibillion-dollar modernization of the Royal Saudi Navy's Gulf-patrolling eastern fleet of aging US warships and would include smaller patrol boats.—Reuters

Morocco's PAM party, Islamists win most seats in local vote — results

RABAT — A political party formed by a close associate of Morocco's king secured most seats in local elections on Friday, closely followed by the ruling Islamist party which also won in major cities, according to preliminary results.

Moroccans voted on Friday in elections seen as a test for the ruling Islamists Justice and Development Party, or PJD, in the first ballot for local and regional assemblies since the king introduced reforms to ease protests in 2011.

The interior ministry said with votes for 80 percent of seats nationwide counted, the Authenticity and Modernity Party, or PAM, won 20 percent followed by the PJD with 17

percent, but the Islamists had won in major cities such as Casablanca, Tangiers, Rabat and Agadir.

Turnout was 52 percent almost the same as in the last local elections in 2009.

With limited reforms, heavier public spending and tough state security measures, four years ago Morocco managed to calm protests that echoed those that brought down autocratic leaders in Tunisia, Egypt and Libya in 2011.

Under the new constitution, the king also retained his grip on security, the army and religion. No major parties challenged the king's authority in the local elections.—Reuters

China backs Putin's idea of developing Russia's Far East

VLADIVOSTOK, (Russia) — Chinese Vice Premier Wang Yang said on Saturday that Russia's push to revamp its run-down Far East region coincided with Beijing's strategy, backing President Vladimir Putin's drive for new sources of growth.

At the Eastern Economic Forum in the Pacific Port of Vladivostok on Friday, Putin promised favourable business conditions and state support to Asian and domestic investors willing to come to Russia's most remote land.

"The Far East development strategy coincides with China's strategy of north-east rebirth," Wang said. "(The) Russia-Chinese partnership will definitely bring generous fruits." But for Putin's campaign to attract Asian funds

to Russia, timing may be his worst enemy: the slowdown in the Chinese economy poses risks.

Putin's turn to Asia comes at a time when relations with the West have hit their lowest since the Cold War, following Moscow's involvement in the Ukraine conflict.

Russia needs money badly - sanctions and falling oil prices have hit the economy hard, with gross domestic product expected to fall 3.3 percent this year after growing 0.6 percent in 2014. China's growth, meanwhile, is slowing and its stock market falling, forcing Beijing into rate cuts and a yuan devaluation to buttress the economy.

Ian Ivory, a partner at Golstblat BLP, said the Chinese slowdown will hardest affect emerging

markets which are providers of raw materials.

"Russia is another classic example that will feel the pain, and China will be a further negative drag on the Russian economy," Ivory said in e-mailed comments. Andrey Kuzuyayev, a former head of overseas operations at Lukoil, Russia's No.2 oil producer, played down the worries, saying the development of the Far East was not a temporary whim, but a long-term goal for the country.

"We need to make up time we have lost," he said. "Cycles in any economy are the norm, not deviation. There will be a slowdown but obviously there will be acceleration later."

Chinese government's growth target is 7 percent this year, down from 7.4 percent in 2014 and the

slowest in a quarter of a century.

Wang's address to the forum on Saturday was short and he left immediately afterwards, in the middle of the session, followed by Chinese officials, including Wang Yilin, chairman of the board at China National Petroleum Corporation.

"This was unexpected but this was okay, we managed," said Boris Titov, chairman of the Russian part of the China-Russia Friendship Committee for Peace and Development.

"The first session was delayed and they (the Chinese delegation) had already a briefing scheduled." A CNPC official, who was accompanying Yilin but declined to give his name, said only: "The schedule has changed."—Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 6 September, 2015

A step in the right direction

By Kyaw Thura

THERE had been widespread speculation among the general public over the rise in crime rates linking a presidential pardon involving the release of some 7,000 prisoners. The president pardoned them on 30 July this year, which is the seventeenth amnesty he has

given in nearly five years.

Every president during their tenure tends to give amnesty to prisoners in the hope that they would be able to participate in building the nation. On the one hand, pardoning prisoners can be seen as a magnanimous gesture, but on the other, bad people never hesitate to take advantage of presidential generosity, just as a leopard cannot change its spots.

Recently, people are alarmed with the news of some police attacked in a suburban area of Yangon on 2 September by thugs who went free in an amnesty. In addition, thuggish brutality has begun intense in big cities like Mandalay.

This crime wave has justifiably caused people to feel insecure about their safety in part because the police who are supposed to protect public security and property themselves have become in-

nocent victims of crime committed by untamable ex-prisoners.

The onus is on the government and the Ministry of Home Affairs to ensure that presidential generosity is not a burden on local communities. Nevertheless, looking before we leap is a step in the right direction.

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A Study of Myanmar Puppetry (Part IV)

Maha Saddhamma Jotika dhaja
Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

More foreign interest in Myanmar Puppetry

FRANKLY speaking, Myanmar puppetry to-day receives more foreign interest than national interest. At home this performing art is gradually waning and no bright future seems to await it. Since regaining independence successive Myanmar governments had made efforts to revive and sustain Myanmar cultural heritage, tangible and intangible. The annual traditional performing arts competitions and the performances of the ethnic nationalities on the occasions of the Union Day 12 February as well as their State Days, do have the desire objectives achieved but not very much satisfactorily. The reason was simple, clear and logical. Puppetry is an old art and therefore, it is dying of old age. *Kwet Seik* [ကွတ်စေ့], the art of storytelling in a dramatic narration by one performer and *Mye waing zat* [မြေခင်းဇာတ်] dramatic performance by a trio of actors on a circular patch of ground, these two old performing arts have already had their last days, but the former still lingers on in the radio programme. The impact of modern entertainments such as movies, TV, videos, stage shows, karaoke etc, etc. has flung fatal blows to all performing arts including puppet shows. This is quite logical in the order of the law of change — the old ones being replaced by the new ones, and any attempt to get rid of the new ones, so as to revive the old is bound to be a failure.

There is, however, a possibility of salvaging this dying art, if not immediately reviving and popularizing it. To do that, we should first adjust this art to modern condition by reforms and innovations in every aspect of it, construction of the stage, the time and length of performance, manipulating technique, stage craft, setting, procedure of performance and presentation etc, etc. Next we should propagate it through all mass media. We should educate the public especially the young generation how to appreciate puppet show. It is a mental torture to insist the young to watch puppet plays without teaching or

conditioning them how to understand and appreciate them. One should cultivate the taste first before eating an alien meal. All higher arts need introduction. Our young ones must be slowly introduced to puppet shows since their childhood. In highly developed countries of today in East and West puppet shows are widely used as a means of teaching children. Drawing, painting, singing, dancing and acting are also used as effective means in child education. Though we have started such programme in some pre-schools and primary schools, there are no follow-ups.

During the writer's service years at the Department of Fine and Performing Arts Department, some headways were made. In the years 1966, 1976 and 1978, some puppet shows were staged at the then open air theatre and Jubilee Hall. Puppet Troupes led by *Shwebo Tin Maung*, *Ponna Pyan Kyaw Aye* and *U Ye Dway* repeat some successes. Occasionally, Myanmar TV inserted puppet shows in its TV programme. During the writer's duty trip to Bagan he found quite a few puppet theatre houses were holding performance of puppet show for foreign tourists, who paid entry fees for an hour long performance. It was learnt that they also appreciated Myanmar puppet shows.

In countries like Russia, Germany and Czechoslovakia, puppetry is kept alive by state patronage and public interest. During the writer's official visit to the Soviet Union in the spring of 1978, he was honoured by the hosts who took him to ballet, opera, circus and puppet show, puppet museum and workshop and puppet library in Moscow. The writer saw two puppet shows, for the adults the puppet show performed *Casanova*, the famous adventure in love story of medieval time. For the children it was the *Pied Piper of Hamelin*, a German legend. Both shows were lively, humorous and hilarious. Puppetry in these countries has been used not only as an entertainment but also as communication and education media. In the museum the writer viewed a wonderful display of puppet figures of different countries, including 28 Myanmar puppet figures on a typical Myanmar bamboo stage. In the library literature on puppetry contains books, periodicals and photographs in native languages including my



Marionettists demonstrate puppet manipulation.—PHOTO SUPPLIED BY DAW MA MA NAING

articles on Myanmar puppets in Burmese.

We already had made international contact to promote our puppetry. In 1970s there were some visits of puppeteers from West Germany and Czechoslovakia. In 1976, the writer hosted an Australian Puppet Troupe called "The Tintookies" at the open air theatre. It was the second visit because its debut previously was a big success. The troupe leader director Peter Scriven had talks with the writer. He said that he got inspiration from Myanmar puppet shows and that his puppet figures follow the measurements and ratios of Myanmar puppet figures. But all his puppets are made of cloth and manipulated by strings. Stage craft, settings, light, sound, music

and other details were his and his colleagues' innovations. Three rows of manipulators line up concealed to animate the figures. So his stage was not frontal, it had depth.

Apart from the performance, there is an ever widening academic field of puppetry. The writer receives invitations to puppet conference, seminars and workshops, publications and calendars pertaining to international puppets. There was one German Ph.D. candidate whose dissertation was Myanmar traditional puppetry. *Saya Hla Tha Mein* and the writer were invited to West Germany as External Examiners of his Ph.D. thesis. (See page 9)

10 students win scholarships to Japan 60 percent dip for Inland Water Transport

YANGON — Ten university students will undertake a two-week internship in Japan in April this year as part of Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation's scholarship programme.



Scholarship award winner students seen in group photo.—SMBC

SMBC's Yangon Branch General Manager Mr Nobuyasu Akagi officially awarded scholarships to three students from Yangon University, three from Yangon University of Economics and four from Yangon University of Foreign Languages at a ceremony in Yangon on Friday.

Third-year students enrolled at the University of Yangon, the Yangon University of Economics and the Yangon University of Foreign Languages are eligible for the programme, which also includes a sum of US\$1,000 per year.—GNLM

Japan-Myanmar Association honours outstanding students before excursion to Japan

YANGON — A dinner in honour of 20 outstanding students in 2014-2015 academic year was hosted at Chartrium Hotel on 3 September, before their excursion to Japan arranged by Myanmar-Japan Association (MJA).

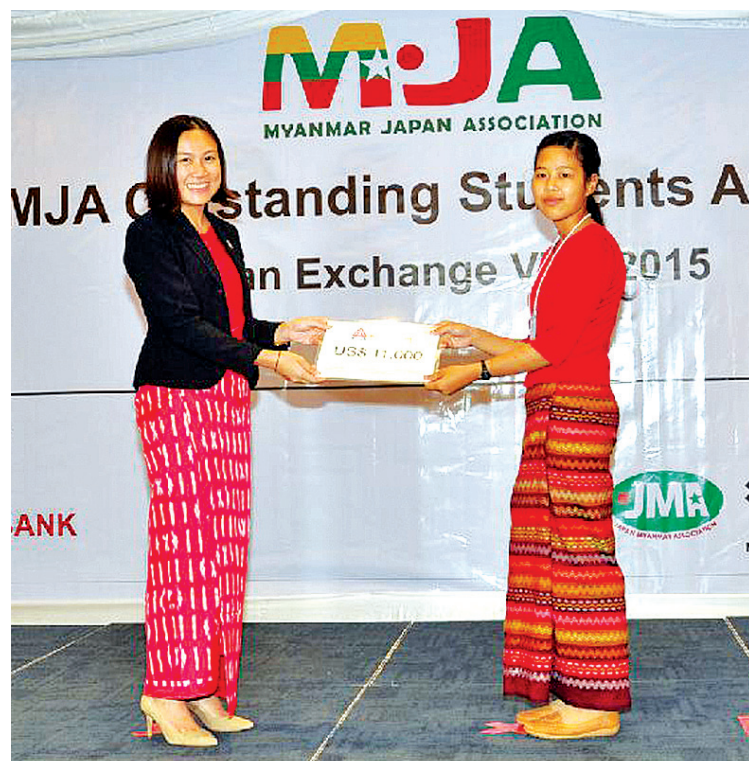
Yangon Region's Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Yangon Region Hluttaw speaker U Sein Tin Win,

Yangon Mayor U Hla Myint, Kanbawza Bank Executive Director and Vice Chairperson of Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation Daw Nang Kham Nong, Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Tateshi HIGUCHI, Chairman of MJA U Saw Hla Min and party attended the dinner.

Brighter Future Myanmar

sponsored the whole excursion together with Japan's Mitsui Company and Skynet channel. The pocket money for Japan excursion was supported by Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation and Golden Investment. These outstanding students for Japan excursion were selected by Japan Myanmar Association scholarship. The excursion to Japan will take 9 days from September 5th to 13th.

Last year, Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation sent 20 outstanding students for an 8-day-long excursion to Japan.—GNLM



An official of Kanbawza's Brighter Future Myanmar Foundation presents cash assistance for excursion tour of outstanding students.—KBZ

A Study of Myanmar Puppetry (Part IV)

(from page 8)

As passport and visa were very difficult to obtain in those days, we both politely declined to go. But H.E. Mr. Von Marshall, the ambassador of Federal Republic of Germany kindly arranged external examination at his embassy in Yangon. The candidate Mr Blooms and his wife appeared to defend his Ph.D. thesis on Myanmar puppetry. *Hla Tha Mein* and the writer thoroughly went through the English version of thesis in German. Nearly two and a half hours, we both "tortured"

the candidate who had to make 16 visits to Myanmar to do field research on Myanmar puppetry – visiting remote areas in the countryside where he witnessed all night puppet shows at pagoda festival. When the writer asked why he took so much trouble and spent so much money and he could study Asian puppets other than Myanmar, his straight answer was the because Myanmar puppetry still remains original. His Ph.D. dissertation was published in German and English and on sale at all airport book stalls.

There were two books in English on Myanmar puppet show. One was written and published by Noel Singer, an Anglo-Shan gentleman born and brought up in Myanmar, now residing in London. It is, *Burmese Puppets*, a fully illustrated and informative book. The other was written by Ma Theingi, a Myanmar lady, prolific in writing English. Her book is also illustrative and informative. The last but not the least is U Ye Dway's Literary Award winner book, *Marionettes of Myanmar*, the presentation copy of which the writer received from him on 24-8-2015. His book

Ko Moe

YANGON — Improvements in private sector water transport services combined with fuel price hikes have caused the Inland Water Transport to reduce its operations by 60 percent, said an official from Inland Water Transport.

Assistant General Manager U Htein Lin said that heavy investments and high fuel costs

have caused private shipping companies to demand high transport charges, which impacts low income commuters. "Business-people raise prices to cover their expenses, but as a result, the end user suffers," he said.

The department now employs 20 liners in its operations in the delta region, down from 80 in the past, the assistant general manager said.—GNLM

Narcotic drugs seized in Indaw Tsp

SAGAING — While patrolling on a section of Mandalay-Mytikyina railroad in Indaw Township on 5 September morning, a security team led by Captain Wai Lin Maung of local battalion found five packets abandoned by four men.

The security team seized 1,613 grams of white powder be-

lieved to be heroin worth K161.3 million, stimulant tablets weighing 5,560 grams worth K 34.75 million, five yellow plastic containers and one telephone with CDMA SIM card. The team handed over the seized items to Mawlu police station that opened a file of lawsuit against the four suspects.—Maung Chit Lin



Narcotic drugs seized by Tatmadaw unit in Indaw.—KHIN MAUNG SWE



Hmat Kyi (Aung Pin Lei)

was academic and systematically written and beautifully illustrated and with bibliography and index. Though Myanmar puppetry is losing popularity among upcoming generations, academic and research interest in it is gaining ground. There had been writings on puppetry in Myanmar by Myanmar authors. Even one veteran journalist who was assassinated together with Bogyoke Aung San was Deedoke U Ba Cho who wrote a series of articles on Myanmar puppetry in his daily. The writer had supervised 3 Ph.D. dissertations in Yangon and two in Mandalay

universities respectively. Right now, in our country full-fledged puppet shows are extinct in cities and towns. In the countryside during the open season they are occasionally held at local festivals. It is the writer's humble but sincere suggestions that master puppeteers should cooperate and adapt to the changing conditions of time, if they wish to retain their much and long cherished art. If they still cling to their traditions and convention of their art and profession just for their own sake, their puppets will depart from the stage to the museums. (to be continued)

Saudi-led planes hit Houthi-controlled government buildings



People leave their house after it was destroyed by a Saudi-led air strike in Yemen's capital Sanaa September 5, 2015.—REUTERS

SANAA — Saudi-led coalition warplanes struck government buildings controlled by Houthi fighters in the Yemeni capital Sanaa overnight and army units loyal to former president Ali Abdullah Saleh after at least 50 coalition soldiers were killed on Friday.

Among the targets, the Defense Ministry building in Sanaa was very heavily damaged, residents said. Strikes hit the command of the special security forces and camps of Saleh as well as the presidential complex.

At least 50 soldiers from the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain were killed in Yemen on Friday in the deadliest attack on Gulf Arab troops in the Saudi-led military campaign against Houthi forces.—Reuters

6 Syrian security personnel killed by suspected Druze militants in Swaida city

DAMASCUS — Suspected Druze militants killed six Syrian security forces in the predominantly-Druze province of Swaida on Saturday, just a day after deadly bombings killed a Druze spiritual leader antagonist to the Syrian regime, a monitor group reported.

While further details surrounding the incident are still forthcoming, activists reported a tense situation in Swaida after twin bombings a day earlier in the Druze city killed 33 people, including Sheikh Wahid al-Balous, a Druze spiritual leader and outspoken critic of the Syrian regime.

Al-Balous, who had advocated the neutrality and the non-alliance to any part of the Syrian conflict, had formed a militia in Swaida to defend that city from any attack by any party. He even secured arms to his followers and

was said to have been supported by the Lebanese Druze leader Walid Junblat, another outspoken critic of the Syrian government.

He was said to have been coordinating indirectly with the rebels' Free Syrian Army in the nearby city of Daraa.

The spiritual leader had enjoyed a rising popularity in Swaida, as he also urged the Syrian youth there to stop joining the Syrian army in the mandatory service, vowing that he will "harshly" respond to any attempt of arrest of any young man in Swaida for the mandatory service.

After the Friday bombings, the followers of al-Balous burned cars in front of the government institutions there, amid pro-government reports that the security posts have not been stormed by the angry Druze.—Xinhua

Austria, Germany open borders to migrants offloaded by Hungary

HEGYESHALOM, (Hungary) / VIENNA — Austria and Germany threw open their borders to thousands of exhausted migrants on Saturday, bussed to the Hungarian border by a right-wing government that had tried to stop them but was overwhelmed by the sheer numbers reaching Europe's frontiers.

Left to walk the last yards into Austria, rain-soaked migrants, many of them refugees from Syria's civil war, were whisked by train and shuttle bus to Vienna, where many said they were resolved to continue on to Germany.

German police later said the first 450 of up to 10,000 migrants expected on Saturday had arrived on a special train in Munich from Austria. Police in Austria said many thousands would pass through during the day, highlighting the continent's worst refugee crisis since the Yugoslav wars of the 1990s.

"It was just such a horrible situation in Hungary," said Omar, arriving in Vienna with his family and hundreds of other migrants who poured out onto a fenced-off platform and were handed food, drinks and other supplies.

In Budapest, almost emptied of migrants by nightfall on Friday, the main railway station was again filling up with newly arrived migrants but trains to western Europe remained cancelled. So hundreds set off by foot, saying they would walk to the Austrian border like others had tried on Friday.

After days of confrontation and chaos, Hungary's government deployed over 100 buses overnight to take thousands of migrants to the Austrian border. Austria said it had agreed with Germany that it would allow the migrants access, waiving asylum rules that require them to register

in the first EU state they reach.

Wrapped in blankets and sleeping bags against the rain, long lines of weary migrants, many carrying small, sleeping children, climbed off buses on the Hungarian side of the border and walked into Austria, receiving fruit and water from aid workers. Waiting Austrians held signs that read, "Refugees welcome".

"We're happy. We'll go to Germany," said a Syrian man who gave his name as Mohammed. Another, who declined to be named, said: "Hungary should be fired from the European Union. Such bad treatment."

Hungary's insisted the bus rides were a one-off, even as hundreds more migrants assembled in Budapest on Saturday, part of a seemingly relentless surge through the Balkan peninsula from Turkey and Greece.

By contrast, the Austrian state railway company OeBB said it had added 4,600 seats to train services for migrants by extending trains and laying on special, non-scheduled services.

Hungary, the main entry point into Europe's borderless Schengen zone for migrants heading northwards through the Balkans, has taken a hard line, vowing to seal its southern frontier within days. Hungarian officials have painted the crisis as a defence of Europe's prosperity, identity and "Christian values" against an influx of mainly Muslim migrants.

For days, several thousand camped outside Budapest's main railway station, where trains to western Europe were cancelled as the government insisted all those entering Hungary be registered and their asylum applications processed in the country as per EU rules.

But on Friday, in separate

"Given the challenges facing our German friends as well, all of Europe needs to wake up. (The time for) reverie is over," Austrian Interior Minister Johanna Mikl-Leitner said.

rapid-fire developments, hundreds broke out of a teeming camp on Hungary's frontier with Serbia, escaped a stranded train, and took to the highway by foot chanting "Germany, Germany!"

The government appeared to throw in the towel, ordering over 100 buses to take them to the border. Arriving at a Vienna railway station on Saturday, migrants were met by announcements for Germany-bound trains in Arabic as well as German.

The scenes were emblematic

of a crisis — about 350,000 refugees and migrants have reached the border of the European Union this year — that has left the 28-nation EU groping for solutions amid sharp divisions over burden-sharing.

"Given the challenges facing our German friends as well, all of Europe needs to wake up. (The time for) reverie is over," Austrian Interior Minister Johanna Mikl-Leitner said.

"Now the continent of Europe is challenged. In this great

challenge the entire continent has to give a unified answer. Whoever still thinks that withdrawal from the EU or a barbed wire fence around Austria will solve the problem is wrong."

Pressure to take effective action rose sharply this week after pictures flashed around the world of the body of a 3-year-old Syrian Kurdish boy washed up on a Turkish resort beach, personalising the collective tragedy of the refugees. Aylan Kurdi had drowned along with his mother and brother while trying to cross by boat on a tiny rubber dinghy to a Greek island.

Hungary has lashed out at Germany, which expects to receive 800,000 asylum seekers this year, for declaring it would accept Syrian requests regardless of where they enter the EU, contrary to the bloc's rules.—Reuters



Food and water is distributed to migrants as they disembark from a train at a railway station in Vienna, Austria September 5, 2015.—REUTERS

IMF official warms to interim deal to boost emerging markets role

LONDON / WASHINGTON — A compromise deal on reforms to give emerging markets greater influence at the International Monetary Fund is increasingly likely, a key official said on Friday, weeks before a deadline for US action expires.

Plans agreed in 2010 to give emerging markets more IMF voting power and double the Fund's resources have been delayed by the fact the US Congress has not approved the change.

If Congress does not pass reforms by Sept. 15, the IMF board has said it will discuss an "interim solution" by month's end. Options include increasing the quota for key emerging economies without requiring any change in the US position.

Rakesh Mohan, the IMF's executive director for Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Sri Lanka, told Reuters: "There's more and

more likelihood that something like that will happen." "We could do some ad-hoc changes like we did in 2008. You could increase the shares of some countries that are most under-represented, China, India, etc." The comments suggest that opposition among emerging markets to any halfway measures may be abating.

"This is a signal to the administration and to Congress that the world is ready to proceed without them," Peterson Institute for International Economics senior fellow Jacob Funk Kirkegaard said.

But Brazil's representative on the executive board, Otaviano Canuto, said his country had not yet abandoned hope of a full-fledged reform, although he said the discussion would "probably" head towards an ad hoc change as an interim step. "We have not given up yet," he said in an interview in his office in

Washington, noting that the final deadline for Congress to act was the end of 2015.

"Pushing for any alternative ... would be tantamount to throwing in the towel with respect to the 2010 reform."

So-called ad hoc changes would probably result in the US quota share falling from its current 17.7 percent, although remaining above the 15 percent threshold that gives the country a veto on key IMF decisions.

But it would fall short of the change in governance and funding originally envisaged. Any ad hoc reform would also require the support of the United States. Each member country of the IMF is assigned a quota based on its relative position in the world economy. This determines its maximum financial commitment to the IMF and its voting power.

Brazil's previous IMF



International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Christine Lagarde speaks during a conference in Ankara, Turkey, September 4, 2015.—REUTERS

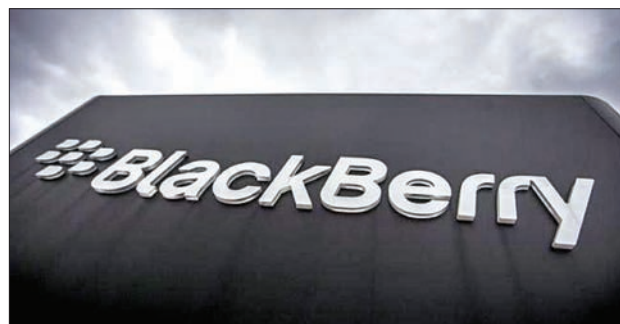
executive director, along with Russia, had pushed a second proposal, known as "de-linking," in which the IMF board would detach the doubling of resources from changes to the board structure, and the United States would be asked to

temporarily give up its veto power until it ratified the reforms.

But Canuto said he did not know if that option was still feasible, as there had been no board debate on the options yet. No date was set for the discussion.

Mohan said that hardball tactics had sometimes been the only way the IMF had made progress with quota issues in the past. The current five-year delay in the latest reforms was unprecedented, however.—Reuters

BlackBerry to buy rival Good Technology for \$425 million



A BlackBerry sign is seen in front of their offices on the day of their annual general meeting for shareholders in Waterloo, Canada June 23, 2015.—REUTERS

TORONTO — Canada's BlackBerry Ltd (BB.TO) said on Friday it will buy rival mobile software provider Good Technology Corp (GDTC.O) for \$425 million, to boost its ability to help corporate clients manage smartphones running on different operating systems.

The cash deal may help BlackBerry, a one-time smartphone pioneer, win new customers for its services business, a priority as it shifts focus to device management software for enterprise customers. More than half the devices running on Good's systems are Apple Inc (AAPL.O) products such as the iPhone.

BlackBerry said it expects to realize about \$160 million in revenue from the acquisition in the first year

after the deal closes, expected by late November. Its Toronto listed shares were up 1.1 percent at C\$7.97 in early trading.

On a call with analysts and investors, BlackBerry Chief Executive John Chen was asked about Good's cash burn. He promised that BlackBerry would remain cash flow positive overall.

"There obviously will be hard work involved," he said. "But I do see a lot of opportunity here to drive value for our shareholders."

Chen said BlackBerry will maintain both company's products as it develops a unified platform that customers can upgrade to. He said that a unified product may take a year or two.

Relations between BlackBerry and Silicon Val-

ley-based Good had long been tense. The companies settled a series of patent lawsuits in 2004, but as recently as January 2015, BlackBerry critiqued one of Good's product announcements in a blog post, annotating the rival company's press release in red ink.

"There is a very long history here. We are in an incredibly competitive market and speak to many of the same customers," said Good Chief Executive Christy Wyatt in an interview posted on BlackBerry's news site. Wyatt said her company's technology would boost BlackBerry's ability to manage "Internet of things" devices, supporting wearable technology such as the Apple Watch and Android-based competitors.

BlackBerry has recently made acquisitions to expand its services business, and in July Chen said the company would likely make more. On Friday, he compared the acquisition of Good with previously announced deals for Secusmart, Movirtu and WatchDox. J.P. Morgan Securities LLC and Bank of America Merrill Lynch advised Good on the deal, BlackBerry said.—Reuters

EU executive to broadly keep EU's 2015 growth forecast

ANKARA — The European Commission will broadly stick to its previous economic growth forecast for this year for the 28-nation bloc when it releases its new predictions in early November, Economic Affairs Commissioner Pierre Moscovici said on Friday.

The Commission, the executive arm of the European Union, forecast in May that the EU's economy would expand 1.8 percent this year after 1.4 per-

cent growth in 2014.

For the narrower euro zone of 19 countries, the Commission forecast growth of 1.5 percent in 2015 after a 0.9 percent expansion last year.

"At this stage we consider the outlook for this year, 2015, at least to be broadly in line with our expectations in the spring, because we see the economic recovery in Europe gradually gathering speed," Moscovici told reporters.

"I believe that now we see in Europe the benefits of fiscal consolidation and the fruit of structural reforms. Our economies are becoming more efficient and competitive," he said, quoting the latest figures on rising confidence and falling unemployment.

"All this makes me quite confident that the economic recovery in Europe is quite solid, although it should speed up," he said.—Reuters

55th IFA consumer electronics fair kicks off in Berlin



Visitors view Samsung 4K SUHD curved televisions at Samsung's stand of the 55th IFA consumer electronics fair in Berlin, Germany, on Sept. 4, 2015. As the 55th IFA consumer electronics fair, Europe's largest consumer electronics and home appliances fair kicked off on Friday in Berlin, China Brand Show also held its first opening ceremony at IFA.—XINHUA

Polish soldiers begin inspecting site where Nazi 'gold train' may be buried

WARSAW/WALBRZYCH, (Poland) — Polish military personnel on Friday began inspecting and photographing the site where authorities suspect a Nazi-era train, possibly carrying guns and looted jewels, may be buried.

Soldiers in uniforms identifying them as members of a de-mining unit walked around the area, talked to local officials and took pictures, a Reuters photographer said. There was no sign they had started digging.

Authorities of Poland's Lower Silesia region said at a conference on Friday that the effects of Friday's reconnaissance will be presented to the general command of the armed forces, which will

within two weeks take a decision regarding further potential action.

According to local folklore, the train entered a tunnel in 1945 and never emerged. Last week, a deputy culture minister said he was almost certain the so-called "gold train" had been located, but his ministry backtracked, saying it had no knowledge on the issue.

Two amateur treasure hunters, a German and a Pole, said in August they had found the train, and said it should be exhumed and displayed as a tourist attraction. The World Jewish Congress said that any valuables that had been stolen from Jews murdered by the Nazis must be returned to their rightful owners.—Reuters



Soldiers from a demining team of the Centre for Training of Military Engineering and Chemical forces from Wroclaw inspect a site (65 km of railway between Wroclaw and Walbrzych) in an area where a Nazi train is believed to be at, in Walbrzych, southwestern Poland September 4, 2015.—REUTERS

As numbers grow, lone child migrants find sanctuary at UK center

LONDON — When 16-year-old Alem fled his home country, Eritrea, in February of this year he never imagined he would be heading for a new life in Britain.

"My first goal was to get to Sudan. I had no idea where I would end up, but then somebody told me I should head for the UK," he said, shyly looking at the floor.

But seven months later Alem is in England, standing in the noisy sitting room of a reception center for teenage boys in the southeastern county of Kent.

While Prime Minister David Cameron bowed to pressure on Friday to accept more Syrian refugees, Kent - just over 30 km (20 miles) from the French coast - is struggling to cope with growing numbers of unaccompanied children arriving illegally through the ports of Folkestone and Dover.

Alem reached England in July during one of just many dramatic episodes of the refugee and migrant crisis that has spanned the shores of the Mediterranean to the borders of northern Europe.

Migrants, most of them from the Horn of Africa, blocked roads in the French port of Calais in an attempt to board UK-bound vehicles, sparking a major police operation and disruption to cross-channel

transport services.

"I boarded a truck, which then boarded the train," said Alem, referring to the high speed services which shuttle freight and passengers through the channel tunnel.

Alem's dark, sullen eyes occasionally wander; around him other boys laugh, joke and play board games as the autumn sunlight streams into the single-story building, known as Millbank, in the town of Ashford.

More than half of the boys it currently houses are from Eritrea, with Afghans, Ethiopians and Sudanese making up a large contingent. With no national dispersal system for young asylum seekers, Kent has accommodated the majority of unaccompanied child asylum seekers, with numbers of arrivals doubling to 730 by early September from 368 in March, officials said. In 2014 the UK received 1,945 applications for asylum from unaccompanied minors, government figures show, more than half of them from boys aged between 16 and 17. Kent County Council said without top-up financing from the Home Office, the responsible central government department, it would suffer a 6.2 million pound (\$9.4 million) budget shortfall this financial year.—Reuters

Iranian official says there are ways to free US journalist — NPR

WASHINGTON — The speaker of Iran's parliament said there were "practical ways" to free Jason Rezaian, the Washington Post's correspondent in Tehran who has been tried on espionage charges, and said a prisoner swap was one possible option.

Ali Larijani, speaking in an interview with NPR aired on Friday, was asked whether there was a way for Rezaian and other Americans held in Iran to be freed.

"There are practical ways of course. For example, there is a number of Iranians in prison here (in the United States) Definitely for matters of this sort, one can come up with solutions. I think your politicians know about those ways," he told NPR, speaking through an interpreter.

When the interviewer asked whether he was referring to a prisoner exchange, Larijani replied: "That's one way. There are other

ways that the judiciary systems of the two countries can come up with. It is the judiciary that has to decide about it."

Larijani was interviewed in New York, where he was attending a conference of parliamentary speakers.

His comments contrasted with a statement by Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hassan Qashqavi, who was quoted by Iran's ISNA news agency on Aug. 25 as saying Tehran was not considering a prisoner exchange.

State Department spokesman John Kirby said the United States was not going to respond to every comment by Iranian officials.

"We've raised our concerns over the detained and missing US citizens at a variety of levels with Iranian officials and will continue to do so," Kirby said.

A lawyer for Rezaian, who was arrested over a year ago, was

quoted by Iranian media on Aug. 10 as saying that a verdict in his trial could be issued within a week, though so far no verdict has been announced.

Rezaian, 39, was born in California and holds dual US and Iranian citizenship. The Post has dismissed the charges against him as "absurd" and urged the UN Human Rights Council to help secure his release.

Obama has called on Tehran to release Rezaian and two other detained Americans — Saeed Abedini and Amir Hekmati — and to help find Robert Levinson, an American who disappeared in Iran more than eight years ago.

Iran and the United States have not had diplomatic ties since Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution. However, a July 14 nuclear deal between Iran, the United States and other powers fuelled hopes of a thaw in relations.—Reuters

Refugee girl who Merkel made cry has residency permit extended

BERLIN — The 14-year-old Palestinian girl who burst into tears after German Chancellor Angela Merkel told her she might be deported has had her residency permit extended until March 2016, the mayor's office in the northern city of Rostock said on Friday.

Merkel was criticised in July after she told the girl, identified as Reem, during a televised discussion forum that Germany could not admit everyone who wanted to live there, and then stroked her on her back when Reem started crying.

The video clip of the exchange went viral and started the hashtag #merkelstreichelt (merkelstrokes) with critics ac-

cusing her of looking clumsy and lacking empathy.

Reem, who is from Lebanon, has lived in Germany for four years and had told Merkel in fluent German that she wanted to study there, but that it was uncertain whether she would be allowed to stay.

The mayor's office in Rostock said Reem and her father on Thursday received a limited residency permit that is valid until March 2016. The office could not immediately clarify what will happen after that date.

It said the rest of the family would not be deported so that they could remain together.

Merkel, who has been criti-

cised for being slow to condemn violent protests against refugees in an east German town last month, saw her approval ratings slip by 4 points to 63 percent over how she has handled the refugee crisis.

Germany, with relatively liberal asylum laws and generous benefits, is the EU's biggest recipient of people fleeing war in the Middle East and economic migrants from southeastern Europe.

A record 104,460 asylum seekers entered the country in August, and it expects about 800,000 people to file for asylum this year — four times last year's level.—Reuters



German Chancellor Angela Merkel listens to a Palestinian refugee girl who gave her name as Reem during a forum discussion organised by the Chancellery in the northern city of Rostock, Germany, July 15, 2015, in this still image captured from a Reuters video footage.—REUTERS

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Apology Announcement to Canon Inc., Japan

I, **U Han Myo Aung** (5/Ma Ma Ta (N) 044339, the Managing Director of 'Aung Myin Thu Computer, Printer and Accessories Sales & Services', No. (Pa-81), Tha Pyay Gone Shophouse, Nay Pyi Taw, hereby apologize **Canon Inc., Japan** for selling Counterfeit/fake Canon Cartridges and I am sincerely did not know that sales of Fake Canon Cartridges would affect the Owners/Manufactures of Canon and being first time offender, I make this public apology and also agree to stop all sales of all imitation Canon products and remove all fake Canon items/Canon Cartridges from my shop. I thank Canon Inc., Japan for their cooperation and understanding.

U Han Myo Aung (5/Ma Ma Ta (N) 044339) the Managing Director of 'Aung Myin Thu Computer, Printer and Accessories Sales & Services' Nay Pyi Taw,

Chilean business leaders keen to invest in Cuba's special economic zone

HAVANA — Chilean business leaders Friday expressed an interest in investing in Cuba's special economic zone (SEZ) of Mariel, a deep-water port being developed near the capital Havana.

Some 30 business leaders accompanying Chilean Foreign Minister Heraldo Munoz on his visit to the island nation toured the partially inaugurated SEZ, located about 45 km west of the capital. Munoz told reporters that the visit showed Chile's "interest in participating in the current transformations in Cuba." Cuba's Prensa Latina news agency reported. Economic reforms spearheaded by Cuban President Raul Castro will allow Chile's business sector "to invest, and generate jobs and prosperity" in the Caribbean country, said Munoz.

The delegation showed interest in investing in a variety of sectors, from aerial transport to food, sports, mining, agriculture, pharma-

ceuticals and biotechnology, the news agency reported, adding the Chileans' initial goal for investment is to produce for the Cuban domestic market and they aim to eventually export to third countries.

The SEZ is designed to become a major manufacturing and shipping hub in the Caribbean, with a capacity to handle 800,000 20-foot equivalent unit (TEU) containers a year, and post-Panamax cargo ships, ships that are too large to fit through the Panama Canal.

During Munoz's two-day visit that ended Friday, the two countries signed, among other accords, a bilateral cooperation agreement between Cuba's international trade bank and Chile's central bank.

In 2014, Chilean exports to Cuba, mainly foodstuffs, amounted to 36 million US dollars, while it imported 6 million dollars worth of Cuban cigars and rum.—Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV MERATUS GORONTALO VOY NO (112N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MERATUS GORONTALO VOY NO (112N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.9.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV XETHA BHUM VOY NO (1056E)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV XETHA BHUM VOY NO (1056E) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.9.2015 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 2301185

PICTURE OF THE DAY



Matt Steele (L) and Soroya Rowley read the poem on the Blunderwood Portable art installation during the Burning Man "Carnival of Mirrors" arts and music festival in the Black Rock Desert of Nevada, September 4, 2015. Approximately 70,000 people from all over the world are gathering at the sold-out festival to spend a week in the remote desert to experience art, music and the unique community that develops.—REUTERS

Angkor Wat tourists bring Cambodia nearly \$40 mil. in 8 months

PHNOM PENH— Cambodia has earned nearly \$40 million from foreign tourists who visited Angkor Wat in the first eight months of this year, according to a report released Friday.

The report by state-run Apsara Authority, which looks after the World Herit-

age site in the north of the country, showed Cambodia earned \$39,823,920 from tourists visiting the area — a slight increase compared with the same period last year.

On the number of foreign tourist arrivals, it said more than 1.4 million for-

eign tourists visited the Angkor Wat temple complex since early this year, an increase of 1.92 percent from a year earlier.

Foreign tourists who want to tour the Angkor Wat complex are required to buy a \$20 ticket for a one-day tour, a \$40 ticket

for three days or a \$60 ticket for one week.

The Angkor Wat temples, located 314 kilometers north of Phnom Penh, were collectively named the best tourist attraction in the world by influential travel-guide publisher Lonely Planet.—Kyodo News

WEATHER REPORT

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is weak to moderate in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.
FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 6th September, 2015: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Lower Sagaing and Magway Regions, scattered in Mandalay Region, Chin and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing and Bago Regions, Kachin, Shan, Rakhine and Kayin States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Bago Region, Rakhine and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).
STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.
OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of rain in Mon State.
FORECAST FOR NAY PYI TAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6th September, 2015: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).
FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6th September, 2015: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).
FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 6th September, 2015: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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20 shortlisted for Miss Universe Myanmar 2015-2016 announced



Shortlists of Miss Universe Myanmar 2015-2016 in their free postures.—MIN HTE

YANGON — Miss Universe Myanmar Organization announced 20 shortlisted contestants nationwide who will compete in the Miss Universe Myanmar 2015-2016.

The selected top 20 are Angel May (Pathein), Win Nwe Oo (Myeik), Zun Pyae Phyo Maw (Monywa), Shwe Yoon Hlwar (Taunggyi), Khun Nay Chi Cho (Bago), Ngwe Hnin Hmon (Lashio), May Barani Thaw (Yangon), Poe Poe Shwe Yi (Yangon), Hmwe Thet Lwin, Ei Phyo Thwe (Mawlamyine), Ingyin May (Mawlamyine), Htet Htet Win, Kay Khaing Myint (Pyay), Cho Cho Tun (Sittway), Nadi Hlaing (Mogok), Htet Htet Htun, Yuzana Htun (Dawei), Oilaw Nang Seng Latt Mai (Myitkyina), Su Myat Noe Yadanar, and Han Lay

(Mandalay). Those shortlisted contestants will take part in social activities in Ayeyawady Region from 8 and 10 September.

They then will make charitable actions including donation of food to children in Shwegondaing Childcare Centre.

They will join an auction named "National Costume and National Gift" which will be held on 30 September, with the plan to donate proceeds from the event.

This year will be the third time contest in Myanmar.

On 3 October, the organization will select the finalists for the competition, planning to send two winners to go to represent the country on the global stage.—Maung Sein Lwin (Myanma Alinn)

Janet Jackson shares new single 'Unbreakable'



Singer Janet Jackson

LOS ANGELES — Singer Janet Jackson has unveiled a new single "Unbreakable" from her upcoming album.

"Unbreakable" is the second single from the album of the same name, which would be the 49-year-old singer's first album in seven years, reported Entertainment Weekly.

Earlier, the "That's the Way Love Goes" hitmaker had released "No

Sleep", her first single in five years.

While it was a version with only her, the album, which will arrive on October 2, will include a verse from J Cole.

The single also marked Jackson's return to the spotlight, as she was honoured as the Ultimate Icon at the BET Awards in June.

Jackson also embarked on her Unbreakable World Tour.—PTI

Anne Hathaway admits losing roles to younger actresses

LONDON — Oscar-winner Anne Hathaway is only 32 but admits losing roles to younger actresses in Hollywood.

"I can't complain about it because I benefited from it," Hathaway said in interview with Glamour UK.

"When I was in my early 20s, parts would be written for women in their 50s and I would get them. And now I'm in my early 30s and I'm like, 'Why did that 24-year-old get that part?'"—PTI



Oscar-winner Anne Hathaway

Depp says he mined his 'inner evil' to play gangster Bulger

VENICE — Johnny Depp says he did not have to dig deep to tap into his evil side for his portrayal of the Irish-American gangster James "Whitey" Bulger in the film "Black Mass", screened out of competition on Friday at the Venice Film Festival.

"I found the evil in myself a long time ago and I've accepted it and we're old friends," Depp said when asked how he had transformed himself from the whimsical Captain Jack Sparrow of "Pirates of the Caribbean" into the Boston gangster.

Bulger, 86, who was captured in California in 2011 after 16 years on the run, is serving two life terms in prison for ordering or

committing 11 murders during the 1970s and 80s.

Depp, who lost Sparrow's shaggy mane and used blue contacts to disguise his dark eyes for the part, said that although Bulger had declined his request to him for his portrayal, he had worked on the assumption that the convict did not see himself as fundamentally bad.

"I think you just have to approach him just as a human being in a sense that nobody wakes up in the morning and shaves or brushes their teeth and looks in the mirror and thinks 'I am evil' or 'I'm going to do something evil today,'" Depp told a news conference.

"I think within the context of his business ... not



Actor Johnny Depp and his wife Amber Heard arrive for the red carpet event for the movie "Black Mass" at the 72nd Venice Film Festival in northern Italy September 4, 2015.—REUTERS

only was the violence just a part of the job, let's say, but it was also kind of a language that the people that

he associated with and the people that he opposed ... understood."

"Black Mass" explores

Bulger's reign as the boss of the Irish-American underworld and the close connections he forged with the FBI which used him as a paid informer in order to crack down on the rival Italian-American mafia, but at the same time turned a blind eye to his own criminal activities.

"Black Mass" is the second film to be shown in Venice that looks at shocking criminality taking place within the close-knit Roman Catholic communities of Boston.

The other is the docudrama "Spotlight" about a Boston Globe reporting team which exposed widespread sexual abuse of young people by pedophile priests and a cover-up by

the Boston archdiocese. Scott Cooper, the director of "Black Mass", said Boston was not special in this regard.

"Whether it's Naples, Italy or it's Detroit or it's Los Angeles or it's New York or it's Boston, crime and politics tend to interweave and lead to disastrous consequences," he told Reuters.

Depp's presence in Venice was greeted with perhaps the biggest fan excitement of the festival so far, with hundreds of people flocking to the Lido to see him from about 6 a.m. Depp said he did not see his admirers as fans but rather as the people who finance his movies. "I thank my bosses outside," he said.—Reuters

Thailand invited to hold pre — Olympic training camp in Chiba Pref.

BANGKOK — Visiting Chiba Gov. Kensaku Morita on Friday expressed his eastern Japan prefecture's willingness to host the pre-training camp for Thai athletes who qualify for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo.

Morita, a former actor well known in Thailand for his role in the 1970s TV series "Ore wa Otoko da" ("I Am a Man"), extended the invitation in talks with Thai Tourism and Sports Minister Kobkarn

Wattanavrangkul. "Thailand had good medal prospects in Taekwondo. We'd really like you to use Chiba Prefecture as a training camp," Morita said, adding that athletes of any sporting disciplines would be welcome.

Kobkarn replied that she would "consider" the proposal, as there are many other prefectures in Japan making similar invitations to the ministry.

"We need to choose the place where weather and foods are most suitable

for our athletes so they can adjust themselves quickly before the games," she said.

Morita also struck his signature kendo attack pose with a wooden sword, which he later presented along with an autographed poster to the minister, who said she was a fan of the show in her childhood.

Also Friday, Morita met with Thai Industry Minister Atchaka Sibunruang to sign a memorandum of understanding on promoting partnerships

between small and medium-size enterprises in Thailand and Chiba.

Through seminars and conventions, it is aimed at encouraging those firms in Chiba to enter Thailand and such Thai firms to base their Japan operations in Chiba.

Chiba's long-established industries include petroleum, chemicals, steel, processed foods and automobile parts. Morita arrived in Thailand on Wednesday for a four-day tour.—Kyodo News

Asleep in Jesus
Major Pe Maung Zin (Retd.)
 @ Michael Cornelius
 Senior Assistant Teacher
 St. Paul High School, S.H.S.(6) Botahtaung
 B.C. 11005, O.T.S. Batch (33)

Son of (U Par @ Mr. J.P. Cornelius and Daw Khin Myint), son-in-law of (Sithu Lt. Col. Calvin Ogh and Daw May Pokey), beloved husband of Daw Barbara Ogh (St. Mary's Diocesan Girls' High School), Brother of (Frankie Cornelius@ U Pe Than Myint+Daw Shirley), (Jessie Cornelius @ Daw Khin Aye Si), (Daw Khin Aye Thi - U Tun Kyi), Daw Khin Aye Hmee (U Tin Hla), Mr. Oscar Cornelius (Thailand) and Mr. John Cornelius (London), father of May May Zin (Mica Casa Hotel), Pe Aung Zin (Myanmar Egress) - Fanny Rockman (BBG), Pe Maung Htet (RFA), grandfather of Anne Marie Cornelius, Oscar-John Cornelius, David-PAZ Cornelius fell asleep in Jesus on 5.9.2015 at 08:30 a.m. Funeral service will be held at the Yayway Christian Cemetery on 6-9-2015 (Sunday) at 4 p.m. Buses will leave Building No.21, U Wisara Ward, Dagon township, Yangon at 02:30 p.m.

The Bereaved Family

Pensioners plead guilty over multi-million pound diamond heist



A photo released by the Metropolitan Police shows the the scene after thieves made off with valuables worth millions, in an undated handout photo received on April 22, 2015. —REUTERS

LONDON — Four men, three of them pensioners, pleaded guilty on Friday to being part of a daring multi-million pound raid in London's jewellery business district earlier this year.

Brian Reader, 76, John Collins, 74, Terry Perkins, 67 and Daniel Jones, 58, all appeared at Woolwich Crown Court and admitted conspiracy to burgle the Hatton Garden Safety Deposit Ltd building which was targeted during the long Easter holiday weekend in May.

Items worth more than 10 million pounds were stolen when intruders broke into the vault where many of the area's gold, diamond and jewellery businesses kept stock and made off with the contents of 73 safety deposit boxes.

The burglars had broken into an elevator shaft, abseiled down to the vault where they used heavy cutting equipment to drill through a thick concrete wall.

Hatton Garden, in the heart of London, has been home to the gem trade for

centuries and has almost 300 dealers and more than 50 jewellery shops.

Police, who admitted they had failed to send any officers when a burglar alarm sounded in the safety deposit building, have since said they have recovered significant amounts of high value property which they were confident had been taken from the vault.

Five other men, aged between 42 and 60, denied the conspiracy to burgle charge on Friday and are due to go on trial later this year.—Reuters



News Channel in Brief

(6-9-2015, Sunday)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>6:00 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paritta by Region Missionary Sayadaw <p>6:20 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documentary (Mingun Sayadaw) <p>6:55 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Exercise <p>7:00 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> News/ Weather Report <p>7:30 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Head Line News <p>7:35 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business News <p>8:00 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> News/ International News <p>8:30 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Head Line News <p>8:35 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet The Successful <p>9:00 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> News/ International News <p>9:35 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly Entertainment <p>10:35 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documentary (Part-1) | <p>11:00 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> News <p>11:15 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documentary (Part-2) <p>11:35 am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amazing World <p>12:00 noon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> News/ International News/ Weather Report <p>12:35 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Round Up Of The Week's International News <p>1:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Myanmar Movies (Part-1) <p>2:35 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Myanmar Movies (Part-2) <p>3:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> News/ International News <p>4:35 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) — First Year (Law) | <p>5:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> News <p>5:30 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Head Line News <p>5:35 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> People's Talks <p>6:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> News/ Weather Report <p>6:15 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teleplay <p>6:35 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly Entertainment <p>7:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> News <p>7:15 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documentary <p>7:30 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Head Line News <p>7:35 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documentary (Women in Myanmar Society) <p>8:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> News/ International News/ Weather Report <p>9:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> News Tasty Trip Sing & Enjoy |
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(6-9-2015 07:00 am~7-9-2015 07:00 am) MST

- Today Fresh**
- | | | |
|-------|----|--|
| 07:03 | Am | News |
| 07:26 | Am | My Travel In This Exceptional Place, Inle Lake |
| 07:46 | Am | A Nun's Creation in Fruit Carving |
| 07:53 | Am | My Life & My Art |
| 08:03 | Am | News |
| 08:26 | Am | Bogalay Tint Aung: A Man of versatility (Part-II) |
| 08:54 | Am | Black Gold (Part-II) |
| 09:03 | Am | News |
| 09:26 | Am | To The Land Of Countless Temples - Bagan Trip (EP-1) |
| 09:51 | Am | Gold from Garbage |
| 10:03 | Am | News |
| 10:26 | Am | Entrepreneur: Dr. Thin Nwe Win |
| 10:34 | Am | Paper Products... Plain but Pretty |
| 10:54 | Am | A Girl Guide |
- (11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm) - Saturday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)**
(03:00 Pm ~ 07:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
- Prime Time**
- | | | |
|-------|----|--|
| 07:03 | Pm | News |
| 07:26 | Pm | Food Trip (EP-4) (Part-1) |
| 07:44 | Pm | [Doctor] [Painter] |
| 07:50 | Pm | Today Myanmar |
| 08:03 | Pm | News |
| 08:26 | Pm | Myanmar National Poet And Literary Icon; Prolific Writer of Poems & Prose - Min Thu Wun (Ep-3) His Public Service & Literary World |
| 08:52 | Pm | Myanmar Masterclass: Still Life (Glass) |
- (09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)**
(11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am) - Saturday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(03:00 Am ~ 07:00 Am) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
- (For Detailed Schedule – www.myanmaritv.com/schedule)**

Young traditional Lethwei fighters to meet at Myanmar Fight 5

Ko Moe

YANGON — Myanmar Media Group plans to hold the Myanmar Fight 5 on challenges of Myanmar new generation Lethwei fighters at Theinbyu Gymnasium on 6 September.

The challenges include two four-round fights and five three-round fights. Enthusiasts and audiences may enjoy the matches without entrance fee.

Min Naing Tun (Taungale) will meet with Shan Gyi (White Generation) while Kyar Ba Hein

(Alinyaung) will fight against Kyaw Kyar (Taungale) in the four-round bouts.

The three-round fights include Fighter (White Generation) vs Daung Kaung (Hnget-Awsan); Yan Taing Aung (Alinyaung) vs. Doe Lay (White Generation); Doe

Lone (White Generation) vs. Saw Kyi Thein (Hnget-Awsan); Tun Ko (TaKaLa) vs. Naing Ko Lin (Hnget-Awsan); and Ketumati Maung Maung (White Generation) vs. Thet Tun Oo (Hnget-Awsan).

It was reported that TV channels will broadcast relay pro-

grammes on boxing challenges for audiences from countryside.

Myanmar Media Group holds the boxing challenges twice a month with the aim of turning out talented fighters in Myanmar traditional Lethwei event.—GNLM

Williams, Cilic survive scares but no escape for Nadal

NEW YORK — Serena Williams and Marin Cilic both survived third round scares on Friday to keep their US Open title defences on track but there was no escape for Rafa Nadal with the twice-winner going down in a late night thriller.

A day of riveting high drama began in the early afternoon heat with the ninth seeded Cilic needing over four hours to put away Kazakhstan's Mikhail Kukushkin 6-7(5), 7-6(1), 6-3, 6-7(3), 6-1 and ended in the early morning hours with Italian Fabio Fognini winning a pulsating third round slugfest over Nadal 3-6, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.

In between the two epic battles there was even more suspense as Williams came back to score a 3-6, 7-5, 6-0 victory over Bethanie Mattek-Sands to keep alive her quest to for a calendar grand slam.

Williams, who dropped just nine sets, including seven first-set losses, in her charge to the Australian, French and Wimbledon titles, was tested at Flushing Meadows by her fellow American, but roared back to victory to reach the fourth round.

"I'm not trying to live on the edge," the 33-year-old Williams said. "I'm playing players that come out really strong. I just think Bethanie played really well."

The 21-times grand slam singles winner, who is aiming to join Maureen Connolly (1953), Margaret Court (1970) and Steffi Graf (1988) as the only women to sweep the four grand slams in a single season, next faces another American Madison Keys.

The real fireworks, however, came in the evening as Nadal and Fognini lit up the New York night with spectacular rallies and winners that had the Arthur Ashe Stadium crowd on their feet well after 1:00 AM.

"If you want to play against him you want to do something different, you have to risk," said Fognini. "That's the only thing."

"Probably I made a lot of unforced errors, but it doesn't matter. "You have to do that with a great player that runs a lot on the baseline."

He's one of the best players in the world." The defeat ended eighth-seeded Nadal's streak of 10 years in a row with at least



Sept 4, 2015; New York, NY, USA; Fabio Fognini of Italy (R) shakes hands with Rafael Nadal of Spain (L) on day five of the 2015 US Open tennis tournament at USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center. Fognini won 3-6, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.—REUTERS

one grand slam singles title after the Spaniard lost in the quarters at the Australian and French Opens, while going down in the second round at Wimbledon.

It was Nadal's first grand slam defeat after winning the first two sets of a match.

The only previous such defeat in his career came in the 2005 Miami finals to Roger Federer.

After a week of punishing

heat that saw a record 13 players retire, cooler temperatures returned to Flushing Meadows as top seed Novak Djokovic eased to a third round 6-3, 7-5, 7-5 victory over Italian Andreas Seppi.

It had been a trouble-free visit to New York for Djokovic, the top seeded Serb not dropping a set while losing just 10 games going into his match against Seppi.

But the 25th-ranked Italian at

least made Djokovic work for his spot in the round of 16, the world number one needing a tiring two and a half hours to secure his victory. "Just hanging in there, trying to create my own pace and control the rallies," Djokovic said. "It was a tough three sets."

Frenchman Jeremy Chardy provided the upset of the day dispatching seventh seeded David Ferrer 7-6(6), 4-6, 6-3, 6-1 and the Spaniard was joined at the exit by Canadian 10th seed Milos Raonic who was beaten 6-2, 7-6(4), 6-3 by Spain's Feliciano Lopez.

Venus Williams, who won the second of her two US Open titles 14 years ago, struck a blow for the older set by taming Swiss teen Belinda Bencic 6-3, 6-4.

Venus, 35, produced a vintage power-game performance to beat the 18-year-old in a match-up between the oldest and youngest players left in the women's draw.

Joining the seven-times grand slam singles winner in the fourth round was Russian 13th seed Ekaterina Makarova, who advanced with 6-3, 7-5 victory over 17th seed Elina Svitolina of Ukraine.—Reuters

Brazil in last-ditch bid to reduce Neymar ban



Selecao captain Neymar

RIO DE JANEIRO — Brazil's football confederation has lodged an appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in a bid to reduce the international suspension of Selecao captain Neymar, according to media reports on Friday.

The Barcelona forward has served two matches of a four-game ban handed to him after his sending off in Brazil's 1-0 Copa America loss to Colombia in June.

The penalty applies only to competitive matches, meaning Neymar is free to play in the Selecao's friendlies against Costa Rica in New Jersey on Saturday and the USA in Foxborough, Massachusetts on Tuesday.

But the 23-year-old will miss Brazil's opening 2018 World Cup qualifiers against Chile and Venezuela next month.

According to the Uol news portal, Brazil's application to the CAS follows two failed appeals to world football's governing body FIFA. The Swiss-based body is considered Brazil's last chance to reduce the sentence.—Xinhua

My discipline may have cost United says Ferguson

LONDON — Alex Ferguson's insistence on discipline above all else might have cost Manchester United trophies during his 26-year reign, he has said.

In his new book "Leading", the most successful manager in British football history said that does not mean he would do anything differently.

David Beckham, Roy Keane, Jaap Stam and Ruud van Nistelrooy were among the leading players who left the club after falling foul of Ferguson.

"I place discipline above all else and it might have cost us several titles," Ferguson said in one of the extracts being released on United's official Facebook page.

"But if I had to repeat things I'd do it precisely the same because discipline has to come before anything else.

"People will give a manager plenty of opportunities to crack the whip so it's best to pick and choose your moments.



Manchester United v Club Brugge - UEFA Champions League Qualifying Play-Off First Leg - Old Trafford, Manchester, England - 18/8/15 - Sir Alex Ferguson in the stands before the match.—REUTERS

"You don't have to dish out a punishment very often before everyone gets the message."

Ferguson won almost 50 trophies all told in Scotland and England, including 13 Premier Leagues in England and two Champions Leagues, before retiring in 2013.

"The book brings together the most important skills and the key philosophies I developed during my 38 years as a football manager and draws on my experiences of managing some of the biggest talents in the game in a high-pressure environment," he said.—Reuters