



Landslide resettlement plans will prioritise town planning: President

PAGE 3

Union Minister praises experts' efforts to preserve Bagan

PAGE 4

ANALYSIS

Righting the wrong requires hard work

PAGE 8

MYANMAR'S FIRST SEZ OPENS

New chapter for investment begins as first phase of Thilawa SEZ starts operations

THE first phase of Thilawa Special Economic Zone opened on Wednesday, becoming Myanmar's first operational SEZ.

The SEZ is located 20 kilometres southeast of Yangon, spans 2,400 acres and is jointly owned by Myanmar and public and private sector investors from Japan.

Vice President U Nyan Tun and Japan's Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Mr Taro Aso formally opened the first phase of Thilawa SEZ, which is expected to create more than 40,000 jobs when it becomes fully operational in 2016.

Thilawa SEZ currently has investors from 47 companies in 13 countries, including the United States, Sweden, Japan, China, South Korea, Australia and several Southeast Asian countries.

Vice President U Nyan Tun expressed his belief that the investors will become a model of corporate social responsibility in Myanmar.

"The special economic zone is a paradigm shift in the investment sector, bringing sustainable development to the country's industrial sector without damaging the environment," he said.



See page 2 >> A pier leading to Thilawa Special Economic Zone, which became Myanmar's first operational SEZ on 23 September. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Defence points to flaws in probe over Britons' Thai island murder

KOH SAMUI — Lawyers defending two Myanmar migrant workers on trial for the Thai holiday island murders of two British backpackers sought on Wednesday to expose holes in a police investigation they maintain was botched and intended to

frame the suspects.

The conduct of Thailand's police and treatment of its huge Myanmar labor force has been central to the trial of the young men accused of killing Hannah Witheridge and David Miller a year ago on the southern

island of Koh Tao.

Post-mortem examinations showed the victims suffered severe head wounds and Witheridge was raped, but lawyers and activists say the two Myanmar accused, Zaw Lin and Win Zaw Htun, have been made

scapegoats for the killings.

The case has attracted extensive media attention in Britain and raised questions about Thailand's ability to protect its tourists. The bodies of Miller, 24, and Witheridge, 23, were found on a beach on the small island popular

with backpackers and divers.

The hearings are taking place on nearby Koh Samui, where the defence would present a statement from a British expert who has analyzed surveillance camera footage being used as evidence.

See page 2 >>

MECTEL CDMA800MHZ 3G Let's use the "MECTel" which provides the excellent service at **"Anytime, Anywhere"**

Within the year 2015, most favourite "BONUS" of MECTel

As a gift of Thadinkyut-eve contributed by MECTel, since (18-9-2015), where you top up your airtime, the "Bonus" shall be available **70% for K-10,000 card, 50% for K-5,000 card and 30% for 3,000 card**, and please be gladly informed that the amount of "Bonus" shall be utilized within (60)days since the date of utilizing the top-up card.

Such "Bonus" money may be used for Voice, SMS, and Data. It shall be entitled only for the top-up card.

Within the townships of **"Kalay, Hakha, Hinthada, Nyaungtone, Thabaung, Ingapu and Zalun"** which were falling in natural disaster, the contribution of airtime by **"Free of charge"** for the calls among "MECTel" phones are being made.

Grab the opportunity **"Shwemyitta"** program of MECTel, sending **"SMI"** to (233) by SMS (Free of Charge)




MYANMAR'S FIRST SEZ OPEN

New chapter for investment begins as first phase of Thilawa SEZ starts operations

>> from page 1

"With new visions, new policies and new rules, Thilawa SEZ has opened a new chapter in the investment sector, which creates a good investment environment for local and foreign investors," he added.

Following the opening ceremony, officials from Myanmar and Japan signed an MoU on setting aside an area ranging between 500 and 700 acres for the second phase of the SEZ.

Japanese company Daizen Myanmar will soon begin the construction of a logistics hub in Thilawa SEZ for the smooth flow of goods from the procurement of raw materials to the distribution of products to consumers.

Myanmar Japan Thilawa Development (MJTD), a joint venture between Japan and Myanmar, is managing the economic zone and has been recruiting companies to set up businesses in a 189-hectare section that



The opening ceremony of the Thilawa Special Economic Zone at Thanlyin township outside Yangon September 23, 2015. Thilawa SEZ, one of the major economic projects started by president U Thein Sein with the help of Japanese funding, is a \$1.5 billion manufacturing complex designed to lure investment and help the country compete in the global marketplace. PHOTO: REUTERS

comprises the first phase of the project. President U Thein Sein and Japanese Prime Minister Mr Shinzo Abe reached an agreement to establish the Thilawa SEZ as part of the economic cooperation

between the two countries during the meeting of the two leaders at the Mekong-Japan Summit in Tokyo on 21 April, 2012. The construction of Thilawa SEZ began in November 2013.

Three major Japanese trading houses — Marubeni, Sumitomo and Mitsubishi — and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) own 49 percent of MJTD.

Vice President U Nyan Tun and Japanese Deputy Prime Minister Mr Taro Aso attended a dinner at Sedona Hotel to mark the opening of Thilawa SEZ.—GNLM

Defence points to flaws in probe over Britons' Thai island murder

>> from page 1

The expert was contacted by Briton Andy Hall, a Thailand-based activist who specializes in protecting the rights of Myanmar laborers and exposing abuses.

"We saw a lot of instances of police abuse and torture that were happening and a concern for us is that the police were just focusing on ways to nail the two defendants," Hall said outside the court.

"We believe, from my investigation, that they blocked out so much of other evidence that could have been used ... simply to focus on the two accused," he said, referring to the police.

Police have stood by their investigation and Prime Minister Prayuth Cha-n-o-cha has said "nobody would dare" go after the wrong suspects because the case was so high-profile.

The defence has used Thailand's foremost forensics expert to scrutinize DNA samples that police said tied the two men to the murders. The court has heard that DNA found on the murder weapon did not match that of the defendants.

The court ordered a re-examination of the samples after police said they had lost the DNA, then contradicted themselves.—Reuters



Myanmar migrant workers Zaw Lin (Left) and Win Zaw Htun sit in a prisoner vehicle before a court appearance in Thailand. PHOTO: REUTERS

British Council to improve language proficiency of legal officers

NAY PYI TAW — Union Attorney General Dr Tun Shin received a delegation led by Mr Peter Viner, leader of the British Council Justice Sector Development Programme, at his office on

Wednesday afternoon, officials said.

Mr Viner spoke of British Council's offer to conduct English proficiency courses for local legal officers, seeking permission to

start at legal head headquarters in Yangon Region and Mon State.

Dr Tun Shin expressed his gratitude to British Council's offer and requested for more similar courses.—MNA

Media crisis management training ends

NAY PYI TAW — The Myanmar Information Ministry and the Embassy of Singapore held a graduation ceremony for the Media Crisis Management Training course in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday.

The course aimed to ensure the release of timely, accurate information on conflicts to relevant organisations and departments.

The Deputy Chief of Mission and Counsellor from the

Embassy of Singapore in Yangon presented certificates to the trainees.

The training took place from 21 to 23 September and was attended by 33 civil servants from around the country.—MNA

Asia-Pacific Scout delegation to visit Myanmar

YANGON — On the invitation of the Myanmar Scouts Federation, the Asia-Pacific Scout Delegation will visit Myanmar from 25 to 29 September. The delegation will be led by Mr J Rizal Pangilinan, the executive director of the World Organisation of the Scout Movement for the Asia-Pacific

region. The delegation will cooperate with the Myanmar Scouts Federation (MSF) and assess the federation's undertakings.

The delegation will advise MSF on training and organisational techniques. MSF is seeking to become a member of the World Organisation of

the Scout Movement.

Pangilinan and his team will also visit Basic Education High School No. 1 (Dagon), Basic Education High School No. 2 (Kamayut), the Myanmar International School Yangon, and several universities in order to observe in-school scout activities.—Ko Latt (MNA)

Landslide resettlement plans will prioritise town planning: President



President U Thein Sein converses with local Chin nationals at the ceremony to donate provisions to flood victims. PHOTO: MNA

NAY PYI TAW — Resettlement plans for communities affected by recent landslides in Chin State will feature improved town planning to ensure higher living standards, President U Thein Sein told locals in Tidim Township on Wednesday.

The president said that government assistance would be provided for rebuilding and resettlement projects. Almost 3,000 homes were damaged or destroyed

by landslides in July and August and five people were killed.

The president also visited a relief shelter in Tidim, where he provided food, clothes and other supplies.

The local government is attending to the needs of the 486 people staying in two rescue camps in Tidim.

In Kalay, the president inspected Yazagyo Dam and was

briefed by officials on its current inflow, the passage of water from the spillway weir and the disposal process for logs discovered in the dam.

The president stressed the need for the continuous upkeep of the irrigation facility, measures against deforestation, and de-silting farmlands to enable beans and pulses to be cultivated.

He urged officials to inspect

landslide-affected lakes and to provide communities with timely weather warnings.

He urged locals to set aside prejudices and vote for candidates who will genuinely serve the interests of the region and the country as a whole in the upcoming general election.

Bad weather forced the president to cancel two earlier scheduled trips to Chin State.—MNA

Tatmadaw donates computers, cash to schools in Loikaw

THE Myanmar Defence Forces donated computers and funds to a university and schools in Loikaw on Wednesday as part an effort to boost education standards in Kayah State.

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing handed over 150 computers sets, K30 million (US\$23,300) and more than a thousand of books donated by families of Tatmadaw staff to the educational institutions. Kayah State Chief Minister U Khin Maung Oo accepted the donations.

Other donors also collectively contributed K165 million (\$128,155) to the schools during the donation ceremony.

The senior general urged students, teachers, parents and authorities to work together to improve education in the state.

He also stressed the importance of education in using modern agricultural and farming techniques.

After the ceremony, the Commander-in-Chief went to Bawleke and Phruso and assisted in regional development.—Myawady

What they stand for: campaigns aired

Asho Chin National Party, the Shan National League for Democracy and Danu National Democracy Party broadcast campaign speeches on Wednesday.

Asho Chin National Party



Chairman Salai Han Kyi spoke of his party's future commitment to democratic federalism in politics and an open market economy, adding that federalism would serve as a solution to national consolidation and end internal armed conflicts. The party's policies include the introduction of a loan system to help citizens start their own businesses and cultivating a business environment that will attract new investment and generate job opportunities.

Shan National League for Democracy



Mandalay Region and Kachin State's SNLD Chairman Dr Sai Naw Khe said that his party stands united with the people in the fight against poverty. He pledged that his party would shoulder the responsibility of improving education, health and the standard of living across the country, while working to create a genuine federalist system that guarantees equality and autonomus administration.

Danu National Democracy Party



Secretary U Ko Ko said that his party would concentrate on building mutual respect among ethnic groups, strengthening the rule of law and providing new momentum to rural development goals. He said that his party would focus on the restoration of peace and prosperity across the country in cooperation with other ethnic groups. He vowed to uphold freedom of worship, freedom of thought and freedom of expression within the law.—GNLM

Electoral registration deadline extended in flood-hit areas

NAY PYI TAW — The Union Election Commission announced on Wednesday that it has extended the deadline for electoral registration in flood-hit regions and states.

The new deadline for Matupi, Hakha and Tunzan townships in Chin State is 10 October; Monywa, Salingyi, Kani, Mawlike and Phaungpyin townships in Sagaing Region is 2 October; Sidoktaya township in Magway

Region, Myingyan Township in Mandalay Region and Hinthata, Zalun and Myanaung townships in Ayeyawady Region is 4 October and Ingapu Township in Ayeyawady Region is 30 September.

The commission has set the nationwide deadline for electoral registration for 1 October and voters must check their names on the electoral registers no later than 27 September.—MNA

U Myint Naung presents credentials to Portuguese President

NAY PYI TAW — U Myint Naung, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Portuguese Republic,

presented his Credentials to His Excellency Mr. Anibal Cavaco Silva, President of the Portuguese Republic on 15 September, in Lisbon.—MNA

Media slots for three political parties announced

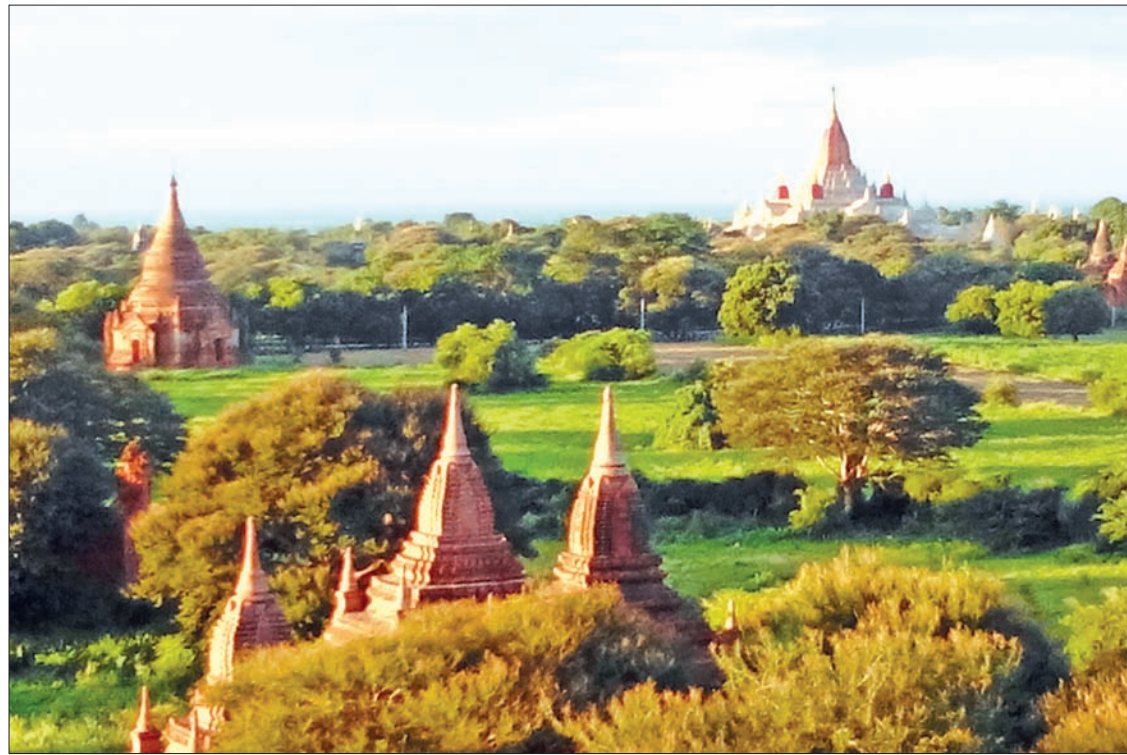
NAY PYI TAW — MRTV, Hluttaw channel, MWD (Variety), Myanmar Radio and Shwe FM will broadcast campaign speeches by representatives from Mon National Party, Zomi Congress for Democracy and Shan State Kokang Democratic Party on 24 September.—GNLM

ELECTION COUNTDOWN

Make your voice count. Cast your vote.

45 DAYS

Union Minister praises experts' efforts to preserve Bagan



Bagan is facing challenges for its preservation. PHOTO: MNA

NAY PYI TAW — Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu on Wednesday applauded the efforts of a network of preservation experts to overcome the challenges facing Bagan's long-term preservation.

He made the remarks while addressing the Ancient Cities Network: Preservation and Conservation Management of Bagan Ancient City.

The workshop was sponsored by the ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information and is being held in Bagan from 21

to 24 September. Participants include experts on technical management and conservation of ancient cities in Asian, a representative from the ASEAN Secretary-General's Office and ancient cities studies academics.

The union minister, who also serves as chairman of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community of Myanmar, told workshop participants that technical expertise, communication and cultural understanding are crucial to Bagan's preservation. He also expressed his support for the

formation of the ASEAN Community.

He said the workshop will form the basis of understanding between ASEAN countries and encourage people to value and study ASEAN history, customs and traditions, as well as generating interest in the region's changing architecture.

Daw Khin Kyi Pyar, the rector of the National University of Arts and Culture in Mandalay briefed the union minister on the proceedings of the workshop.—MNA

Shan State village holds reading contest

KYUAUKME — A reading contest was held on 22 September in Konesone village, Kyaukme Township in Shan State to encourage young people to develop their reading habits.

District Information and Public Relations Department

Deputy Officer Daw Thein Thein Htay presided over the contest, which was held at Konesone village's primary school. Young people were asked to read My Village Journal aloud and then answer short questions about the content.

The winning students were awarded prizes.

My Village Journal, published by IPRD, is an educational publication aimed at spreading general knowledge throughout rural communities.—U Myint Aung

Mizuho Bank opens in Yangon

YANGON — A ceremony was held to mark the opening of Japan's Mizuho Bank Yangon branch on Wednesday at the Sedona Hotel.

The ceremony was attended by the visiting Deputy Prime Minister of Japan Mr Taro Aso and Union Ministers U Zeya Aung, U Win Shein, Dr Kan Zaw, Central Bank Governor U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Tateshi Higushi and Mizuho Bank Chairman and CEO Mr Nobuhide Hayashi.

Union Minister for Finance U Win Shein, the Central Bank

governor and Chairman Hayashi gave speeches at the event.

Central Bank governor U Kyaw Kyaw said the attendance of Japan's Deputy Prime Minister symbolised the strong ties between Japan and Myanmar.

Mizuho Bank is one of the largest banks in Japan. It has over 500 branches in 38 countries and 55,000 employees worldwide. The bank is known for providing assistance to small and medium enterprises.

Mizuho Bank representatives said it would contribute to developing Myanmar's human resources.—MNA



Officials hit Japanese traditional drums at a ceremony to open Mizuho Bank in Yangon. PHOTO: MNA

Vice-Senior General Soe Win discusses border affairs, military cooperation in China

NAY PYI TAW — The Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Service Vice-Senior General Soe Win travelled to China on Sunday to meet the Chinese People's Liberation Army Deputy Commander-in-Chief Admiral Sun Jiangou.

The delegation from Myanmar was greeted by Rear Admiral Guan Youfei, director of Foreign Affairs Office of Ministry of National Defense of the People's Republic of China, Myanmar Ambassador to China U Thit Lin Ohn and Attaché Colonel Myint Thin.

Vice-Senior General Soe Win received a guard of honour welcome from the military before beginning talks with Dep-

uty Commander-in-Chief Admiral Sun Jiangou on bilateral military cooperation and peace and stability in border affairs.

Vice-Senior Soe Win and Minister of Defence and State Councilor of China General Chang Wanquan discussed military ties, bilateral cooperation and border trade. Later, Vice-Senior Soe Win and Deputy Commander-in-Chief Admiral Sun Jiangou signed a donation agreement worth 10 million yuan (approximately US \$1.5 million) for Myanmar flood victims.

After the signing ceremony, Vice-Senior Soe Win visited National Defence University in Beijing.

MPT to upgrade towers to 3G in 2016

YANGON — MPT mobile phone users will enjoy better network reception when the company's towers are upgraded from 2G to 3G next year, said Myanmar Post and Telecommunications general manager U Thein Hoat.

MPT currently has 2,600 towers and aims to have 5,000 by the end of the year.

"GSM and CDMA phones will have improved connections all over the country, including rural and remote areas," the general manager said.

MPT has introduced a '5 minute only per hour' promotion for its subscribers, which

runs until September 30. The promotion does not include calls made between 6pm and 10pm.

In collaboration with KDDI Sumitomo, MPT has sold 10.7 million WCDMA phone cards and 5,025 GSM phone cards. MPT has sold nearly 21 million phone cards to date. It also has 513,000 land lines and 42 percent of the population uses MPT services, said U Thein Hoat.

The company is targeting a 90 percent market share with a 75 percent share in the country's rural areas by 2016.—Soe Win

**Abstain from the use of narcotic drugs;
Stay healthy and stay active.**

Elephant sanctuary and rehabilitation camps to be set up in Bago Mountains

YANGON — Four Paws International (FPI) and the Myanmar Mingla Association will work together to establish an elephant sanctuary and several elephant rehabilitation camps in North Zarmayi Forest in the Bago Mountain Range.

The forest covers 380 acres and will also provide a sanctuary for other wild animals and vegetation.

Four Paws International has founded nine animal sanctuaries in nine countries, including Indonesia, and it has plans to establish a sanctuary in Vietnam in the near future. FPI has visited North Zarmayi Forest three times, said Myanmar Mingla Association's director Dr Phone Win.

"An elephant sanctuary cannot be located on a steep hill because such terrain is unsuitable for elephants. Pastures must also be cultivated for the elephants. The four or

five elephant rehabilitation camps will nurse sick, injured and old elephants back to health and they will then be returned to their native habitats," he added.

Myanmar has over 3,000 wild elephants and about 5,000 elephants in captivity working in the forestry sector.

"Since the intelligent and vulnerable elephants cannot be repatriated forcefully, there will need to be several sanctuaries," Dr Phone Win said.

"The cost of the sanctuary has not been confirmed yet. It will be a long-term project," he said.

Pending approval from the government, the sanctuary can be established in six months, and mobile veterinarian teams are being readied, said Myanmar Mingla Association's director.—*Soe Win*



Myanmar has over 3,000 wild elephants and about 5,000 elephants in captivity working in the forestry sector.

PHOTO: SOE WIN

Agricultural machinery course for Kyaukme farmers

KYAUKME — Kyaukme Township's Agriculture Mechanisation Department will conduct a basic training course on operating agricultural machinery for local farmers from 21 September to 2 October.

The course aims to increase the use of agricultural machinery throughout the township, as well to help farmers use the equipment safely.

The course's 30 participants will learn how to drive tractors, among other skills.—*U Myint Aung*



Kyaukme's farmers learn how to use agricultural machinery.

PHOTO: U MYINT AUNG

Myingyan residents urged to recycle plastic bags

MYINGYAN — Local officials gave an educational talk to the local community of Myingyan District on the need to reduce the use of plastic bags on September 22.

Myingyan District Commissioner U Myint Thin Aung explained the environmental damage plastic bags can cause as they not biodegradable. He urged residents to use paper bags or the traditional packing method of using leaves.

He said that in the absence

of alternatives, plastic bags should be recycled. A video clip was of local civil servants collecting plastic bags that were littered around the district and then depositing of them systematically.

The township development officer also informed residents that rubbish bins have been placed in various parts of the town and said that the public must follow the example set by his office of disposing trash into the bins.—*U Zaw Min Naing*

Traditional medicines distributed in Pobbathiri

POBBATHIRI — Residents of several villages in Pobbathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, were given traditional medicines and free medical treatment on Wednesday.

The medical team was led by retired doctor U Than Win from the Traditional Medicine Department under the Ministry of Health. The team provided 15 types of traditional medicines, depending on the patients' needs. The medical team visited Satkone, Nhankhingyi and Myuntchaung villages, as well as Kyeetaungkan ward. It has treated patients in 44 villages to date.—*Shwe Ye Yint U Aung Ko Ko*

Foreign tourist convoys remain popular in rainy season

NAY PYI TAW — Even during the monsoon season, there has been a significant number of foreign tourists travelling around Myanmar in car, motorcycle and bicycle convoys.

The Ministry of Hotels and Tourism gave the green light for Shwesinyeatnyein Travels and Tour Co Ltd to arrange a visit for three Americans from 4 to 17 September, who entered Chin State from India on motorcycles. They travelled along the Tamu-Kalay-Monwya-Bagan-Poppa-Mandalay-Inle-Nay Pyi-Yangon-Kyaththiyo-Mawlamyaing route, before exiting to Thailand via the Myawady border.

Similarly, from 7 to 15 September, Rising Travels and Tour Co Ltd brought two Australians

into Myanmar through the Indian border by motorcycle. The tourists took the Tamu-Kalay-Gantgaw-Monywa-Pagan-Yemaethin-Toungoo-Kyaththiyo-Hpa-an route before entering Thailand via Myawady.

From 8 to 17 September, Cy Nam Kong Travels and Tour Co Ltd arranged a 16-member tour group from Malaysia in 15 cars. They entered Myanmar from Mae Sot, Thailand, and then travelled along the Myawaddy-Yangon-Bagan-Mandalay-Inle-Mongpyin-Kyaintong route before returning to Thailand via Tachileik. The peak tourist season begins after the rainy season ends in October and the volume of tourists is expected to continue to rise steadily in 2016.—*MoHT*



Tourists of motorcycle convoy seen at Myawady border gate.

PHOTO: MOHT

Blown out of proportion: Malaysia woman charged in “balloongate”

KUALA LUMPUR — A Malaysian woman was charged on Wednesday with insulting scandal-tainted Prime Minister Najib Razak by dropping balloons bearing pro-democracy messages near him during a public event, her lawyer said.

The case against Bilqis Hijjas — dubbed “Balloongate” on social media — has drawn public ridicule as an example of government overkill in pressuring its critics.

Bilqis Hijjas, 36, a dance producer, dropped yellow balloons with the words “justice,” “democracy” and “media freedom” from an upper floor of a shopping mall while Najib and his wife officiated a function down below.

The incident occurred on 31 August, one day after tens of thousands of yellow-shirted protesters paralysed the capital Kuala Lumpur with massive demonstrations demanding Najib’s ouster over allegations of corruption and abuse of power.

With a group of supporters

waiting outside a Kuala Lumpur court bearing yellow balloons, Bilqis was charged inside with “insulting behaviour” that could affect public order.

“You can’t just say you have insulted someone and charge them in court for dropping balloons,” said Bilqis’ lawyer Michelle Yesudas, calling the charges “utterly ridiculous”.

The penalty for the charge is a mere 100 ringgit (\$23), but Bilqis was contesting it on “principle,” Yesudas said. Bilqis is free on bail.

Najib is under intense fire over allegations of huge sums missing from a state-owned firm he launched, and mysterious transfers of nearly \$700 million into his own bank accounts. Najib has denied wrongdoing but has moved to quash the allegations by sacking officials and going after whistleblowers. Critics of Najib’s government say it routinely pressures the opposition and other opponents with a range of charges.—*AFP*

Malaysia arrests 6 people, says they may have aided Bangkok bomber

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia has arrested six people suspected of being part of a human trafficking network and who may have helped a bomber who killed 20 people at a Bangkok shrine last month escape from Thailand, police said on Wednesday.

The suspects joined two people already in Malaysian detention who may have helped the bomber, who Thai police said was a foreigner of unknown identity, flee across southern Thailand’s border with Malaysia, police in both countries said.

Four of the six people arrested last week were believed to be minority Uighur Muslims, who come from China’s far western Xinjiang region, said Ayob Khan Mydin Pitchay, director of the Malaysian police counter-terrorism unit.

Thai police have made two arrests over the 17 August blast, Thailand’s worst ever bombing, that killed 20 people, including 14 foreigners, seven from Hong Kong and mainland China.

The chief suspect is a man in a yellow shirt caught on security camera footage leaving a backpack at the shrine. He was implicated by a man in Thai detention who admitted to delivering the bag containing the bomb to him, police say. Ayob told Reuters the six were not directly linked to the bombing but to a human-trafficking gang.

“We believe that they facilitated the movement of the yellow-shirt man but we cannot confirm since it is an ongoing

“They are not terrorists because they haven’t announced what they want.”

—Thai police spokesman Prawut Thawornsiri

investigation,” Ayob said.

Malaysia’s arrests are the latest pieces in a puzzle pointing toward a connection to Uighurs that Thai authorities have sought to play down.

Thai police have ruled out a political motive linked to Uighurs for the blast, suggesting instead the reason was that a human trafficking gang was angered by a police crackdown. A Thai police investigator who had just returned from Malaysia confirmed the suspected bomber was not among the latest suspects, who were likely part of the trafficking network.

The Uighur issue could be a thorny one for Thailand and any substantive link between the bombing and Thailand’s forced repatriation of 109 Uighurs at China’s behest in July could result in criticism that its foreign policy may have triggered the attack. “They are not terrorists because they haven’t announced what they want,” Thai police spokesman Prawut Thawornsiri told reporters on Wednesday.—*Reuters*

GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Director - Maung Maung Than

mnmnthn2@gmail.com

Chief Editor - Than Myint Tun

wallace.tun@gmail.com

Deputy Chief Editor

Than Tun Aung

thantunaungnm@gmail.com

Chief Reporter - Aye Min Soe

koayeminsoe2006@gmail.com

Senior Consultant Editor

Jessica Mudditt

jess.mudditt@gmail.com

Consultant Editor

Jacob Goldberg

gold.news@gmail.com

Editors

Ye Myint, uyemyint76@gmail.com,

Kyaw Thura, kthura.spk@gmail.com,

Myint Win Thein

journalist.sss@gmail.com

International news

Ye Htut Tin

mrychtuttin@gmail.com

Tun Tun Naing

tunyaing@gmail.com

Reporters

Khaing Thanda Lwin

juniorlwin25@gmail.com

Tun Aung Kyaw

tunaungkyaw.31@gmail.com

Translator

Khaing Minn Nyo

khingminn@gmail.com

Proof reader

Nwe Nwe Tun

Layout designers

Tun Zaw, Thein Ngwe,

Kyin Shwe, Zaw Zaw Aung,

Ye Naing Soe, Nyi Zaw Moe,

Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,

Sanda Hnin, Zu Zin Hnin

Circulation & Advertising

San Lwin (+95) (01) 8604532

Ads and subscription enquiries:

thantunaungnm@gmail.com

Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

UN calls on Philippines to investigate killings of rights activists



Passersby glance at a streamer bearing the names of three human rights activists during a protest in Manila September 23, 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

MANILA — The United Nations on Tuesday called on the Philippine government to investigate immediately the killings of three human rights activists on a southern island affected by long-running armed conflict.

In a statement, UN special rapporteurs Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, on the rights of indigenous people, and Michel Forst, on the situation of human rights defenders, expressed serious concern about increasing rights violations in the area.

“We urge the Philippines authorities to ensure that such investi-

gation into these tragic events be carried out independently to identify and bring perpetrators to justice,” the two rapporteurs said.

Their call came weeks after three human rights activists were killed inside a school in Surigao del Sur province by armed men who were trained by the Philippine army as part of a counter-insurgency programme.

Philippine-based human rights groups said the military occupied the school after the killings and restricted movements of about 2,000 indigenous people, who were forced to flee to the town centre.

The military has denied any links with the armed group behind the attack, claiming the killings were carried out by a rival tribe as part of a clan war.

The Philippines has sent representatives to the Human Rights Council in Geneva to defend the government’s right records and announced an investigation is underway to bring to justice those behind the killings. Christof Heyns, the UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, also endorsed the call for an impartial and speedy investigation.—*Reuters*

Cambodian leader says controversial titanium deposits to be left intact

PHNOM PENH — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said Tuesday that his government will not allow any investment for the exploration of titanium deposits that activists fear will damage forest and other ecotourism resources in the region.

At an annual conference on tourism in Phnom Penh, Hun Sen reassured environmental watchdogs, saying he will not let anyone ruin the mineral reserve that he values at \$20 billion, located in the Chi Phat commune in Koh Kong Province.

“Don’t worry about Chi Phat,” he said. “In order to take the titanium under the ground, which is worth \$20 billion, there will have to be logging on a huge scale and if that happens, there will be no more tourism resort in Chi Phat.” Claiming that such mining could also pollute water flowing into the sea, the prime minister said, “We must leave it now and it will never be too late.” His reaction came after longstanding criticism from both local and foreign environmental watchdogs such as Wildlife Alliance about the mining of titanium proposed by a company called United Khmer Group.—*Kyodo News*

Australian PM 'concerned' about asylum seeker detention centres

SYDNEY — Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said on Wednesday he was “concerned” about the country’s controversial offshore immigration detention centers, although he stopped short of committing his government to reconsidering them.

Turnbull, a wealthy former investment banker considered politically progressive, ousted conservative Tony Abbott as leader of their Liberal Party last week after months of dismal poll numbers and a string of perceived policy missteps. Asylum seekers have long been a lightning-rod political issue in Australia, although it has never received anywhere near the number of refugees currently flooding into Europe as they try to flee instability in the Middle East and North Africa. Australia has vowed to stop asylum seekers reaching its shores, turning boats back to Indonesia when it can and sending those it cannot for detention in camps on Manus island in impoverished Papua New Guinea and on Nauru in the South Pacific. The United Nations and human rights groups have criticized Australia over the harsh conditions at the camps and its tough asylum-seeker policies, which Abbott defended as necessary to stop deaths at sea and often described as one of his government’s biggest achievements. Turnbull, who criticized Abbott for making major policy decisions without consulting his ministers,



Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull announces his new federal cabinet during a media conference at Parliament House in Canberra, Australia. PHOTO: REUTERS

“I have the same concerns about the situation of people on Manus and Nauru as you do, as all Australians do.”
—Malcolm Turnbull

acknowledged public concerns over the detention policies but indicated that any change would have to be taken up by cabinet.

“I have the same concerns about the situation of people on Manus and Nauru as you do, as all Australians do,” Turnbull told

Sky News Australia in his first wide-ranging interview since becoming leader. “This is an area that clearly is one that is controversial, that is a challenging one. It is certainly one that close attention is being paid to ... but we are not going to make policy changes on the run,” he said. Around 50,000 refugees arrived on roughly 800 boats under former Labour Party governments between 2007 and 2013, Immigration Minister Peter Dutton said earlier this year, underscoring the sharp decline since the policies were enacted. Labour earlier dropped its opposition to the turn-back policy earlier this year amid polls showing that a strong majority of Australians supported it.—Reuters

Philippine forces find getaway boats of gang holding foreigners

MANILA — Philippine forces searching for three kidnapped foreigners and a Philippine woman have found the getaway boats their abductors used but have yet to determine who grabbed the four from a southern resort, an army spokesman said on Wednesday.

Gunmen kidnapped two Canadian tourists, a Norwegian resort manager and a Filipino woman late on Monday at a resort on

Samal island, near Davao City, the largest city on Mindanao island in the southern Philippines.

The gang escaped with their hostages in boats.

The attack was a reminder that insecurity persists in the south despite a 2014 peace agreement with the largest Muslim rebel group that ended 45 years of conflict in which about 120,000 people were killed and 2 million

displaced. Various small Islamist and communist rebel factions, as well as criminal gangs, operate in the area and authorities were still trying to determine who carried out the kidnapping. “At this point, we still could not identify any group behind the abduction,” Colonel Noel Detoyato, an army spokesman, told a news briefing.

“Two motorised bancas were recovered on the shores of Tiban-

ban,” he said, referring out-rigger boats found near Tibanban village, about 100 km (60 miles) southeast from the island where the kidnappings took place.

Troops were scouring the area and four patrol boats and four helicopters had joined the search, he said. A note left at the resort and purportedly linking the raid to Maoist rebels was believed to have been a fake, aimed at diverting the security forces, he said.

Authorities were still investigating the possibility that members of the al Qaeda-linked Abu Sayyaf Islamist militant group could have been involved, he said. Members of the group have kidnapped foreign tourists in the southern Philippines several times and they had attempted in 2001 to abduct people on Samal island, Detoyato said.

Another Philippine military source, who declined to be identified, said authorities had got wind of an Abu Sayyaf plot to kidnap people on Samal this month.

Philippine authorities have identified the abducted foreigners as John Ridsdel and Robert Hall from Canada and Kjartan Sekkingstad, the Norwegian manager of the resort. The Filipino woman, identified only as Tess, is Hall’s partner.—Reuters



Fishermen on a small boat drive past the Oceanview resort on Samal island, Davao city, southern Philippines. PHOTO: REUTERS

China’s Xi tells foreign NGOs to obey the law

SEATTLE — China’s President told US business leaders on Tuesday that foreign organisations in his country should “obey Chinese law”, after draft legislation raised fears of a crackdown on overseas groups.

China is expected to pass a law this year covering foreign charities, business associations and academic institutions operating in the country.

It comes as Beijing clamps down on domestic civil society activists, prompting fears among charity workers that their actions in the country will be heavily curtailed.

Speaking to business leaders in the US city of Seattle, Xi Jinping said of foreign non-governmental organisations (NGOs) that: “So long as their activities are beneficial to the Chinese people, we will not restrict or prohibit their operations.”

“On their part, foreign NGOs in China need to obey Chinese law and carry out activities in accordance with the law,” he added. Chinese state-run media in recent months have accused foreign NGOs of undermining national security and trying to foment “colour revolution” against the ruling Communist party.

According to drafts of the law being considered by the Communist-controlled legislature, overseas NGOs will have to “partner” with at least one Chinese government department.

They will also have to submit “work plans” detailing their activities to Chinese police for approval, among other measures.

Overseas charities and business groups have said they believe the law will seriously restrict their operations in China, and the vague wording of its references to “security” has raised fears it could give police wide-ranging discretionary powers.

“The draft law is unfriendly to a whole range of activities and to the future of independent civil society,” Isabel Hilton, founder of environmental NGO China Dialogue, wrote in an online commentary in May. The Communist party under Xi has tightened controls on civil society, jailing dozens of activists and this year detaining five feminists affiliated with an anti-discrimination NGO, while also hauling in more than 130 lawyers for questioning, some of whom have been held for months.—AFP

Allies discuss N Korea nuclear, missile threat

SEOUL — Senior South Korean and US defence officials met in Seoul on Wednesday for talks focused on responding to the possibility of an imminent North Korean rocket launch and later nuclear test.

The two-day talks follow statements earlier this month by the respective heads of the North’s space and atomic energy agencies that fuelled concerns over its nuclear and ballistic missile programmes.

There has been widespread speculation that Pyongyang may carry out a satellite rocket launch to mark the 70th anniversary of the ruling Workers Party on October 10. The North insists its space programme is purely scientific, but the US, South Korea and their allies deem any such rocket launch to be a disguised ballistic missile test that violates UN resolutions.

Although there have been no physical signs of North Korea preparing a launch, the director of its space agency said the world would soon see “a series of satellites... soaring into the sky.”—AFP

PERSPECTIVES

Righting the wrong requires hard work

Myint Win Thein

GOVERNMENT agencies need to work more effectively so that people can enjoy the fruits of Myanmar's democratization process.

In the past, successive governments confis-

cated land without providing compensation. As farmers relied on the land for their livelihoods, they suffered greatly when they lost it. Some became homeless while others became jobless. Poverty levels soared as a result.

When the country's first democratic government came to power in 2010, it wisely adopted a policy of returning confiscated lands or compensating owners at market prices. Those whose lands were confiscated were greatly relieved to have it returned or receive compensation. However the five year term of the government has almost come to an end and not everyone has gotten their land back or received adequate compensation. This is partly because some of the government agencies responsible for implementing the

policy have delayed doing so. As a result, the problem of land confiscation and poverty lingers on in Myanmar. Government agencies must work more effectively to right the wrongs.

Write for us

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

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

Will there be any room for cronies, sycophants, flunkies, minions, lackeys of former despots when democracy flourishes?

(Opinions expressed here are those of the author.)

Tommy Pauk

DEMOCRACY is significantly flourishing after the fall of despots in some countries. In the wake of the Arab spring, global people are aware of noble ideology of democracy. Democracy is popular among the peace-loving people around the world. It is cherished by them wholeheartedly. As the despots have oppressed their own people brutally and cruelly, their own people bitterly hate and disgust them. Nowadays, the remaining despots in the world have to step down gradually. In the meantime, cronies, sycophants, flunkies, minions and lackeys of former despots are in disarray. Actually, they had depended on influence and power of the despots for the sake of self-interest and personal benefits or personal prosperity. There have been mutual benefits between those self-seekers and despots. They exploited natural resources or public property by means of getting grant or permits from the despots. Reciprocally, the despots were given shares or profits by cronies who had unfairly earned huge money from so-called businesses in the country. Cronies as well as elites are the ones who unjustly do various kinds of business, authorized by despots without assent of public. The sycophants, flunkies, minions and lackeys of former despots were also involved in doing business without spending their own money. In fact they were neither entrepreneurs nor businessmen, but they were awarded biased authorization by despotic rulers for getting permit. Due to close relations with the despots, they had opportunities to earn self-interest or benefit, cooperating with the despotic rulers.

Although they did not have investment or capital, they could have achieved benefits from this circle. The normal or ordinary

businessmen had to associate with those opportunists harmoniously. Otherwise, they will have no way to achieve success in business. This kind of situation is very common in any country ruled by despots indeed. During the successive eras of despots, the cronies have become elites or billionaires, whereas the ordinary people are hard up indeed. The vast majority of people make their living honestly and professionally, but they encounter hardship. Unfortunately, they were exploited by a vey handful of people who had affirmed allegiance to the despotic rulers. They had accumulated assets and wealth dishonestly and illegally. Of course, they were above the law and they could not control the inordinate selfishness. Normally, the despots have megalomania and they are scared of public criticism and voice. Nevertheless, these days, all the despots around the world must step down due to the globalization and renaissance of peoples' power. Some despots handed over the power to the people who are the original owner of it softly and gently, resulting no bloodshed.

When democracy is flourishing in a certain society, people concerned are happy, active, secure and confident. This is because there are no violation of law, no suppression, and no violation of human rights in that society. Furthermore, the prevalence of justice, rule of law, freedom of expression, freedom of press, good governance and clean government can be vividly seen or heard. The law-abiding government, public officials and general public trust each other and work together for the prosperity of the nation harmoniously and cordially. The leader of the democratic state and the entire people are under the existing law evenly. Every citizen can enjoy the in-born rights in line with the prescribed laws in the society concerned. However, the exploiters, opportunists,

self-seekers, unscrupulous persons cannot practice or follow the noble principles and ideology of democracy. They must be trained and tamed to practice democracy norms so that a certain democratic society will be free from disruption and hindrance. Otherwise, there could be some interference during the transitional period for establishing democracy. Actually, the aforesaid persons are destructive elements and they oppose the peoples' aspiration for democracy in the society concerned.

Presumably, the self-seekers will have no room for the country's rehabilitation tasks since they did not contribute to the prosperity of the nation in the past. If

perfect, but if a person is extremely imperfect, he or she must behave himself or herself well and humanely in human society. The cronies, sycophants, flunkies, minions, lackeys of former despots have to claim their property or assets or possessions publicly. And also they are entitled to pay property tax or income tax etc. to the democratic government like all other citizens do in the society. In any democratic state, no one can evade taxes. If someone avoids paying taxes, the act of avoiding taxes is a criminal offence. According to the democratic practice, public officials are elected by the public concerned and they must do their job precisely

former despots will have to find the room which must be in conformity with democratic norms or they need to transform from the notorious titles into so-called democrats, mingling with real democrats. If they really want to change their mindsets and selfish behaviors or they regret for their exploitation upon general public in the past, they can have room for participating in democratization process. The ordinary people will warmly welcome and forgive those of all self-seekers, if they realize their mistakes or malpractice or inordinate selfishness and make apologies for their wrong doings. Magnanimously, the vast majority people will give a hearty handshake to the former self-seekers, now participating in charitable work, social-welfare activities and nation building tasks. E.g. some cronies donate funds for hospital construction, home for the aged, charity, sport foundation etc. By any means, if they turn to be philanthropists, the working people have to cooperate with their philanthropic work in the society concerned and recognize their contribution towards the society. Everybody in the society concerned will be impressed with their goodwill conduct towards the people concerned. The potential rooms will be available for them when they escalate their contributions towards the country's rehabilitation tasks. In addition, they need to support their society for sustainable existence of democracy so that they can be regarded as dutiful and good citizens indeed. May every well-established democratic nations and nascent democratic nations around the world be peaceful and prosperous forever!!!!

“The civilized and honest people hate and disgust dirty money or dishonest way of earning.”

they wish to participate in political reform and economic reform with the democratically elected government, they must change their mindsets and get rid of immoral behaviors. Unless they change their mindsets and immoral behaviors, the general public will not assign duties and responsibilities of national task to them. They ought to establish the trust between the two parties so that they might be able to attain some room for nation building task. Generally, people wish those persons to do good things and provide some contributions to the society concerned. Since they are a part of human resources for the society, they must give up their inordinate selfishness, immoral behaviors and exploitative-mindedness sharply. They must prioritize the nationalism rather than egocentrism.

We, human beings are not

ly and correctly. Bribery will not work with the elected government or elected public officials because they are incorruptible indeed. They have already won the public trust and love so they will never betray the public certainly. They value the human dignity rather than bribery and corruption because they believe that committing bribery and corruption is a violation of religious noble teaching. Of course, the civilized and honest people hate and disgust dirty money or dishonest way of earning.

The cronies, sycophants, flunkies, minions and lackeys of

Tommy Pauk is the pseudonym of U Thein Swe, who is B.A (English) and (Registered Law) R.L I. degrees holder. He has English Teaching experience at Yangon University English Department and Workers' college in Yangon, and now is working as freelance writer and English Teacher cum Translator/Interpreter for foreign firms.

PHOTOS ON PRESIDENT U THEIN SEIN'S VISIT TO FLOOD-HIT AREAS



President U Thein Sein discusses expansion of the Myittha River near Pyntha Village.



Local people in Pyntha Village, Kalay Township, welcome President U Thein Sein.



President U Thein Sein greets workers at Yazagyo Dam in Kalay.



President U Thein Sein comforts the people sheltering at a relief camp in Tiddim.



President U Thein Sein meets with local people at Pyntha Village, Kalay Township.



President U Thein Sein being welcomed by local people in Haka, Chin State.



President U Thein Sein comforts the people sheltering at a relief camp in Tiddim.

MINA'S PHOTOS

Russian support for Assad risks confrontation: Kerry

ROME — US Secretary of State John Kerry said on Wednesday Russia's military support for Syrian President Bashar al-Assad could raise the risk of confrontation with coalition forces fighting Islamic State there.

In an interview with Italian newspaper *La Stampa*, Kerry said he had told Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov the United States was worried by Moscow's military backing for Assad in Syria's civil war, now in its fifth year.

"These actions could provoke a further escalation of the conflict and lead to the loss of more innocent lives, increasing the flow of refugees and risking a confrontation with the anti-ISIS (Islamic State) coalition

operating in Syria," Kerry said.

He did not spell out what he meant by the coalition. But the United States and allies have been launching air strikes against positions held by the Islamist militant group in Syria, and in neighbouring Iraq.

Israel has also raised concerns that Russian involvement on Assad's side in the conflict in Syria could accidentally lead to confrontations between Russian and Israeli forces there.

Russia has built up naval infantry forces and heavy equipment including tanks and helicopters at Syria's Latakia airbase, US officials say, raising the possibility of air combat missions in Syrian airspace.—*Reuters*

Road traffic halted between Serbia and Croatia in migrants row

BAJAKOVO — All road traffic between Serbia and Croatia was halted on Tuesday as relations between the ex-Yugoslav republics frayed over the flow of migrants across their border and stranded truck drivers blocked the last crossing that remained open between them.

Angry over the pace of the migrant influx over its eastern border from Serbia, Croatia early on Monday barred all cargo traffic from Serbia, having already closed seven of eight border crossings between them to traffic.

More than 30,000 migrants, many of them Syrian refugees, have entered European Union member Croatia from Serbia since Tuesday last week, when Hungary barred their entry to the EU by sealing its southern border with Serbia with a metal fence.

They are being bussed by Serbia direct to the Croatian border, having entered Serbia from Macedonia, and trekking

through fields beyond the official border crossings. Croatia says it cannot cope with the numbers, saying Serbia should send them to Hungary and Romania too.

With a queue of trucks on the Belgrade-Zagreb highway 12 km (7 miles) long, Serbia gave Croatia until the end of Wednesday to lift the cargo blockade or face political, legal and economic retaliation.

Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic said he had spoken by phone with his Croatian counterpart, Zoran Milanovic, and that they would continue discussions to find a resolution. Without a deal by midnight on Wednesday, he said, Serbia would implement a package of measures against Zagreb.

"I believe we will be able to agree with our neighbour," Vucic said. But, he warned, "Serbia must reply to the destruction of its economic integrity and national policy."—*Reuters*

New Greek cabinet sworn in with few new faces

ATHENS — Greece's new cabinet was sworn in on Wednesday, bringing in few new faces as re-elected Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras sought continuity in pushing through economic reforms under the watchful eye of international lenders.

Tsipras appointed two bailout negotiators to head his economic team, reappointing Euclid Tsakalotos as finance minister and making George Chouliarakis deputy finance minister.

Tsakalotos, a low-key Oxford University-trained Marxist economist, was at the finance helm when Greece and its credi-

tors produced an 86 billion-euro loan accord on August.

Chouliarakis, who was finance minister in the caretaker government during the recent election campaign, was a senior member of the bailout negotiation team, known for his grasp of details.

Both need to steer through reforms ranging from changes to the pension and labour systems, to overseeing the recapitalisation of banks and discussion of debt relief for the country.

Tsipras entrenched his position as Greece's dominant political figure by sweeping to victory

in national elections on Sept. 20.

He has teamed up with the right-wing Independent Greeks party, his partners in a previous administration from January to August, giving the government a slim majority of 155 seats in the 300-member parliament.

New Democracy, which polled 28 percent in the election and came second, dismissed the cabinet line up as a 'recycling of old faces in the same ministries'.

"We hope that the second Syriza-Independent Greeks government overcomes the inadequacy of the first one," it said in a statement.—*Reuters*



Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras (C in background) looks on as Greek President Prokopis Pavlopoulos (R) leads a swearing-in ceremony under political oath of newly appointed members of the government at the Presidential Palace in Athens, Greece, September 23, 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

Weber says more fences needed on Europe's borders

BERLIN — More fences will be needed to protect Europe's borders, a conservative German politician told a newspaper on Wednesday, sharpening the tone in a debate about how to deal with refugees.

"There will have to be more fences," Manfred Weber, an influential member of the sister party of chancellor Angela Merkel Christian Democrats, told

the *Passauer Neue Presse*.

"It simply can't be that refugees in their hundreds of thousands are wandering uncontrolled through Europe," German lawmaker Weber, who heads the centre-right European People's Party in the European Parliament, said.

Weber, who will attend a meeting this week of Bavaria's Christian Social Union party that Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor

Orban is also due to visit, defended Orban's actions as largely in line with European rules.

Orban has built a fence topped with razor wire along Hungary's entire Balkan frontier, shutting off the route along its 175 km (110 mile) border with Serbia.

"Many criticise Hungary but can't deliver any solutions themselves," he said.—*Reuters*

Europe-US data sharing deal 'invalid': EU court advisor

LUXEMBOURG — A major data-sharing deal between the EU and US is 'invalid' given the spying revelations in the Edward Snowden scandal, the top EU court's main legal advisor said Wednesday in a case brought against Facebook.

European Union member states also have the power to suspend the transfer of information with the United States, the advocate general of the European Court of Justice said in the land-

mark opinion.

The case stems from a complaint against Internet giant Facebook lodged at Ireland's data protection authority by Austrian law student Max Schrems, focusing on a decision by the European Commission.

That data sharing deal between Facebook and the US "is invalid," said the advocate general's recommendation.

The recommendation must now be followed by a ruling by

the court, but judges often follow the findings of their legal advisor.

Schrems welcomed the opinion in a tweet.

"Yay! ... Safe Harbour is invalid," he said, adding that Ireland's data protection authority now "has a duty to investigate" US data privacy practices.

Schrems argued that a major EU-US agreement called Safe Harbour, which allows thousands of companies to transfer

European data to US servers, no longer guarantees the privacy of European residents.

"Where systemic deficiencies are found in the third country to which the personal data is transferred, the Member States must be able to take the measures necessary to safeguard their fundamental rights," the EU court statement said.

Snowden's revelations showed that the US National Security Agency used Silicon Val-

ley giants Apple, Google and Facebook to gather user data.

The advisor, lawyer Yves Bot, overwhelmingly backed up Schrems' accusation.

The evidence leaked by Snowden showed that "the law and practice of the United States allow the large-scale collection of the personal data of citizens of the EU which is transferred, without those citizens benefiting from effective judicial protection," the statement said.—*AFP*

Saudi-led airstrikes kill 20 in Yemen's capital

SANAA — At least 20 people were killed and dozens of others wounded when warplanes of the Saudi-led coalition hit civilian houses in Yemen's capital of Sanaa on Tuesday, sources told Xinhua.

"Two missiles fired from the Saudi-led fighter jets destroyed four houses in al-Sabeen area in southern Sanaa, killing 20 civilians, mostly women and children," a rescuer told Xinhua from the scene. The rescue team is still searching for survivors under the rubble.

Residents said that there was no military target in the residential area, nor Houthi leaders or their allies.

Saudi-led airstrikes destroy 4 civilian houses in Sanaa, killing 20 and wounding dozens on Sept. 22.

The coalition forces have launched fierce airstrikes in San-

aa recently as their troops are advancing to the capital. However, the airstrikes killed dozens of civilians while they hit hard on the Houthi group.

The Shiite Houthi group has controlled half of Yemen, including the capital Sanaa, since September 2014. The coalition said its military operations aim to restore the authority of Yemeni President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi in the country.

Pro-government forces, backed by troops and armored vehicles from the coalition, have recaptured five southern provinces including the southern city port of Aden since July.

Yemeni Prime Minister Khaled Bahah and several ministers have returned to Aden to resume work, the temporary capital as they announced early after Hadi fled house arrest by the Houthi in March.—Xinhua



Saudi-led airstrikes destroy four civilian houses in Sanaa, killing 20 and wounding dozens on 22 September. PHOTO: XINHUA

Afghan insurgents kill NATO force member in attack on US base

KABUL — Afghan militants killed a NATO coalition force member during an attack on the US air base at Bagram, outside Kabul, NATO said in a statement on Wednesday.

The attack on the main military airfield in Afghanistan took place on Tuesday evening and the nationality of the service member could not immediately be released, a NATO official said.

The NATO statement did not identify which militant group was responsible for the attack, though most of the groups active fall under the broad umbrella of the Taliban.

Bagram air base, which is guarded by US Marines and partnered forces, frequently comes under rocket attack from militants.

Fighting in Afghanistan has escalated since most foreign forces withdrew from last year and Afghan forces are bearing the brunt of the conflict. A Taliban government was ousted by a US-led coalition in 2001 and its militants have been waging an increasingly violent insurgency for over a decade.

On Tuesday alone, at least 25 members of the Afghan army and police were killed in clashes, an interior ministry report showed. The NATO coalition has lost nine members of its force this year. Around 13,000 NATO troops are engaged in a new two-year training mission. In addition, several thousand US military personnel are still engaged in combat duties but details of their operations have not been disclosed.—Reuters

Kenya security agents find weapons, drugs on Norway-flagged ship

MOMBASA — Kenyan security agents have found an unspecified amount of weapons and drugs on a Norwegian-flagged ship they intercepted last week, a senior police officer said.

East Africa has become a key export route for Afghan heroin destined for Europe. Coastguards and navies from the region, short of funds and anti-trafficking expertise, have struggled to stem the flow of drugs through their waters.

Kenyan authorities boarded the Hoegh Transporter, owned and operated by Norway's Hoegh Autoliners, last Thursday saying it was suspected of carrying drugs and firearms.

"We cannot tell how many weapons have been recovered because the exercise is still ongoing and we don't want to jeopardise it by giving incomplete information," Francis Wanjohi, Coast regional police commander, told Reuters late on Tuesday.

"For the drugs they have to weighed to establish how much they are, and then tested to determine which exact type they are."

A Hoegh Autoliners spokeswoman declined to comment on the police report as the investigation was still ongoing.

In a statement, Hoegh Autoliners said its Chinese crew had been cooperating since Thursday with authorities who were inspecting cargo being offloaded from the ship at the Indian Ocean hub of Mombasa.

"We look forward to the speedy completion of the search so that our vessel can resume her sailing schedule," it said.

The ship had sailed from Mumbai, India. In July, Kenyan police seized 341.7 kg of heroin hidden in the diesel tank of a ship, the biggest single seizure of drugs at Mombasa.

Heroin is typically transported from Pakistan and Iran to East Africa, known for its poor border and maritime surveillance, and on to Europe. Last November, an Australian Navy warship patrolling Indian Ocean waters seized heroin worth \$158 million. Another Australian warship raided a dhow with 1,023 kg of heroin on board near Kenya in April 2014.

Mombasa handles imports of fuel and other goods and exports of tea and coffee from the entire East African region.—Reuters

Boko Haram fighters killed in clashes with Cameroon army

YAOUNDÉ — At least 17 fighters from the Nigerian Islamic extremist group Boko Haram have died in clashes with Cameroon troops in the border town of Amchide, informed sources said Tuesday.

In the nearby village of Gouzoudou meanwhile two women carried out a botched suicide attack, injuring two farmers.

"Fifteen Boko Haram (fighters) were killed Tuesday and several others injured," a source close to regional authorities told AFP after the clash.

Two further members of the group, which is affiliated to Islamic State, died in a Monday night confrontation with soldiers, the source added, saying the army did not incur any casualties.

A security source who did

not wish to be identified indicated that "Boko Haram made an incursion into Amchide yesterday" but were pushed back by Cameroonian troops.

The source added they returned Tuesday but were likewise repulsed.

Amchide is just over the border from the Nigerian city of Banki, which has been occupied for around a year by Boko Haram and which Nigerian troops are preparing to retake, according to Cameroonian sources.

At the entrance to Gouzoudou village, which is also located in Cameroon's far north, two female suicide bombers blew themselves up, a security source told AFP. "The two suicide attackers appeared to have been aiming to blow themselves up on Monday, which is market day

in the village, but it was guarded by the security forces," a source close to the authorities said.

The two women hid and carried out the attack at dawn Tuesday. "Two people who were on their way to the fields were wounded," the source added.

More than 100 people have been killed in a total of 13 suicide attacks by Boko Haram in Cameroon's far north since July.

Troops from both Nigeria and Cameroon belong to a multinational regional joint task also comprising forces from Benin, Chad and Niger tasked with driving back Boko Haram as it seeks to spread its sphere of influence.

The extremists have killed around 15,000 people in a six-year insurgency which has left more than two million homeless.—AFP

Two new Syria sites could host Russian forces: experts

LONDON — Two new sites north of Syria's Latakia airport could be preparing to receive Russian forces, specialist defence publication IHS Jane's Intelligence Review said on Tuesday citing satellite imagery.

At the Istamo weapons storage complex and the Al-Sanobar military complex "preparations appear to be under way to introduce Russian forces," said Robert Munks, editor of the London-based publication.

"This activity includes the construction of new buildings, significant surface clearing, the grading and paving of terrain, and the presence of tents of the same type as those used by Russian military units."

Munks also noted a "substantial increase" in Russian jets on the runway at Latakia airport in satellite imagery from Monday, saying it pointed to a "rapid build-up of Russia's expeditionary force."

"With a significantly enhanced ground-attack capability, this represents a substantial step-change in Russia's combat ability in Syria," he said.

"Deployed Russian military aircraft now include 4 Su-30SM multirole combat aircraft, 12 Su-25 ground attack aircraft, 12 Su-24M attack fighters, and six possible Ka-52 attack helicopters."—AFP



နယ်စပ်ဒေသများဆရာဝန်များအဖွဲ့

MÉDECINS SANS FRONTIÈRES INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER

Open tenders are invited for construction of a 75m² extension to existing TB Ward at our Tharketa Clinic

Tender No: YP2015TKT

Tender Closing Date and Time: 09 October 2015, 17h30

Tender Opening Date and Time: 12 October 2015, 09h00

Tender documents and detailed information are available Mon-Fri 08h30-17h30, 23 Sept – 02 Oct 2015 at our office at No 4, Highland Avenue Lane (1), 6 Quarter, 7 Mile, Mayangone Township, Yangon.

Project Coordinator
Médecins Sans Frontières
(+95) (01) 966 0147

MYANMA RAILWAYS Amendment of Tender Closing Date				
The following Tenders Closing date shall be amend as follows.				
Sr No	Tender No	Description	Closing Date & Opening Date	Extension of Closing Date & Opening Date
1	7/MR/INDIA (E) 2015-2016	Ballast Cleaning Machine (2) Items	30.9.2015	17.11.2015
2	8/MR/INDIA (E) 2015-2016	Track Geometry Measuring Trolley (6) Nos Rail-Road Excavator with Five Attachments (5) Nos, Self-Propelled Trolley for Ultrasonic Rail Inspection (2) Nos and Track Off-Trackable Tamping Machine (6) Nos	30.9.2015	17.11.2015
3	9/MR/INDIA (E) 2015-2016	Small Track Maintenance Machines (10) Items	30.9.2015	17.11.2015

Enquiry about tender can be made to Managing Director, Myanma Railways (Fax No. 95-67-77016) by fax or by phone to 95-67-77001, 95-1-291994, 95-1-291985 during office hours.
Managing Director, Myanma Railways,
Ministry of Rail Transportation, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

German diver dies at Pacific's Bikini Atoll

MAJURO — A German diver has died exploring the Pacific's famed Bikini Atoll, officials said Wednesday, the first visitor fatality at the former nuclear test site since it opened to tourists in 1996.

The 75-year-old, believed to be from Berlin, was diving at a World War II wreck on Monday when he became separated from his group, local dive master Martin Daly said.

Searchers at the atoll in the northern Marshall Islands found the man's body on Tuesday on the lagoon floor near the hull of the aircraft carrier USS Saratoga.

He said it appeared the man suffered "a medical incident of some sort, possibly a heart attack or stroke". His tanks were 75 per cent full of air when they were recovered.

Bikini local government liaison Jack Niedenthal said it was the first time a diver had died there since the atoll began promoting itself as a dive and tourism destination 19 years ago.

Bikini was the site of 24 American nuclear tests in the 1940s and 1950s, including one that sank a fleet of US and Japanese navy vessels. Among those vessels in the "Baker" nuclear test in 1946 were the Saratoga and the Japanese battleship Nagato, which was the flagship for Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto during World War II.

Bikini Atoll was declared a World Heritage site in 2010.—AFP

Texas teen arrested over homemade clock to visit United Nations

DALLAS — A Texas teenager who became a global sensation after he was arrested for bringing a homemade clock to school that was mistaken for a bomb will be meeting foreign dignitaries at the United Nations this week, a family friend said on Tuesday.

Ahmed Mohamed, 14, a student who dabbles in robotics and attended a Dallas area high school, touched off a social media firestorm with many seeing his the arrest as being tied to his religion.

He also won support from President Barack Obama who personally invited him to the White House for an astronomy night and Facebook Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg, who said, "having the skill and ambition to build something cool should lead to applause, not arrest."

Mohamed, a bespectacled ninth grader with a penchant for wearing NASA T-shirts, attended Google's science fair on Monday at its Mountain View campus in California.

He will be going to New York on Wednesday with his family for the visit to United Nations,



A homemade clock made by Ahmed Mohamed. PHOTO: REUTERS

according to Alia Salem, executive director of the Dallas-Fort Worth chapter of the Council of American-Islamic Relations. Details of the visit were not immediately available.

The boy's social schedule has been draining, his father told the Dallas Morning News, saying his son has not been eating or sleeping well.

The father, Mohamed

Elhassan Mohamed, also told the paper his son does not feel comfortable returning to MacArthur High School, where the incident happened, and will withdraw from the school district.

The district said that Ahmed and his two siblings have officially withdrawn.

Ahmed Mohamed was accused of making a hoax bomb, handcuffed and

questioned. He received a three-day suspension from the high school over the clock he put together to impress his new classmates and teachers.

No charges were filed and police said they would review the decisions of officers made in his arrest.

Police did not call out the bomb squad and the school was not evacuated.—Reuters

Indiana woman jumps from car after seeing spider, causes crash

INDIANAPOLIS — A spider was blamed for a crash that injured a 9-year-old boy in northeast Indiana, authorities said on Tuesday.

Angela Kipp, 35, was backing out of her driveway in Syracuse, Indiana, on Friday when she noticed a spider on her shoulder,

Sergeant Chad Hill of the Kosciusko County Sheriff's Department said. Kipp jumped out of the car, which was still in reverse.

Her son, whose name was not released, was in the back seat, but climbed into the driver's seat to try and press the brake, Hill said. He instead pressed

the accelerator pedal, causing the car to crash into a passing school bus that was empty and resulting in the boy being thrown from the car.

The son was taken to Goshen General Hospital with minor head injuries, Hill said. The bus driver was not injured.

No charges had been filed against Kipp, Hill said.

"I don't think you can charge her for reckless driving because she wasn't in control of the vehicle," he said.

The type of spider involved was not determined.—Reuters

Indian typist 'fed up' after abuse image goes viral

LUCKNOW —

An Indian who became an overnight star when an image of a policeman kicking his typewriter went viral has said he is fed up with all the attention — and just wants to go back to typing letters.

The photograph of the officer harassing Kishan Kumar, who makes a living as a streetside typist in the northern city of Lucknow, provoked an outpouring of sympathy from Indians outraged at his treatment.

Local authorities reacted swiftly, suspending the officer who destroyed his typewriter and promising compensation of 100,000 rupees (\$1,500) as well as a new machine.

But Kumar, who is in his 60s but does not know his exact age, said he was "fed up" with his new-found celebrity, which had made it impossible for him to work.

"I just can't work with so many people surrounding me. I haven't earned a single penny for the past two days," he told AFP outside the Lucknow post office, where he plies his trade.

"What will I feed my family if I do not get to earn?... I come here to work, not to give media interviews."

Although typewriters have largely disappeared from many countries, streetside typists remain a common sight in many Indian cities.

They can be seen hunched over often ancient machines, tapping out affidavits, family title deeds and court applications for around 10 rupees per page.

Kumar said he had received an anonymous threat of violence since the incident on Saturday, while promises of money from well-wishers had failed to materialise.

"I have received a couple of calls from people asking for my bank details... (but) I haven't received any money from anybody," he said.—AFP

**The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Energy
Invitation to Tender
Joint Venture Project of LPG
Importation, Storage, Distribution and
Marketing
by using Existing Facilities of LPG
Terminal in Thanlyin Refinery Area
Tender No. (1-MLTJVP/ 2015-2016)**

- The Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise (MPE), a State-owned Enterprise of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, operating under the Ministry of Energy, announces an Invitation to Tender for Joint Venture Project of LPG Importation, Storage, Distribution and Marketing by using Existing Facilities of LPG Terminal in Thanlyin Refinery Area. The purpose of the Joint Venture is to fulfill the domestic LPG demand growth with stable supply.
- All interested parties, myanmar citizen companies or foreign companies, are cordially invited to lodge a submission in accordance with the tender documents. If the myanmar citizen company has in relation with foreign company which has worldwide experience in LPG business, it will be preferred. In the tender document, the following facts are included:
 - Refurbishment and upgrading plan for LPG terminal facilities such as storage tanks, control system, safety system, firefighting system, jetty and etc.
 - Expansion of LPG filling facilities and LPG storage tanks under requirement of local demand
 - Proposed land lease rate for existing area of LPG Terminal
 - Proposed MPE's assets value for existing LPG Terminal facilities
 - Proposed capital contribution
 - Business and financing plan
 - Economic model and cash flow
 - Human Resources Development plan and Corporate Social Responsibility program
- The Tender Documents with further details related to the LPG Terminal can be purchased by any interested parties commencing on 30 September 2015 upon submission of receipt of payment for 1,500,000 Kyats (One Million and Five Hundred Thousand Kyats) to the following address.
- Applicants shall submit the proposal in person no later than 5 November 2015 at 12:00 noon to and for more information, contact the following address;

Managing Director
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise
Ministry of Energy
Building No. 44, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
mltjv.Project@gmail.com
Fax: +95 67 411124, +95 67 411126
- If the applicant is a foreign company or myanmar citizen company joining with foreign company, recommendation of the Respective Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the place of company's registration or establishment or nearest shall be submitted along with tender proposal or within one week after submission of tender proposal.
- Late inquiries or inquiries via telephone will not be answered.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV NOBLE BREEZE VOY NO (091N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NOBLE BREEZE VOY NO (091N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.9.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV HERBILAN SUCCESS VOY NO (HS 002)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HERBILAN SUCCESS VOY NO (HS 002) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.9.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W 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 HERBILAN SHIPPING LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Gloria Jean's Coffees Holdings Pty Ltd., a company registered under the laws of Australia, which is located at 11 Hoyle Avenue Castle Hill NSW 2154 is the sole owner of the following trademarks:

GLORIA JEAN'S
Reg. No. 11443/2012


Gloria Jean's
COFFEES
Reg. No. 11444/2012

In respect of **Class 30**: Coffee; ground and whole bean coffee; coffee extracts; instant coffee; coffee substitutes; coffee concentrates; coffee essences; coffee flavourings; coffee mixtures; decaffeinated coffee; flavoured coffee; coffee based beverages including coffee beverages with milk; cold coffee based drinks including drinks blended with milk and ice; tea; herbal and non-herbal tea; tea extracts; tea substitutes; tea-based beverages including iced tea and chai tea; cocoa; cocoa based beverages including cocoa beverages with milk; aerated beverages with coffee; cocoa or chocolate; flavourings for beverages (other than essential oils); chocolate syrup; flavouring syrups to add to beverages; essences for food stuffs (except etheric essences and essential oils); ice cream; sorbet; sugar; chocolate, candy and confectionery; cereal based food bars; snack bars containing grains, nuts and/or dried fruit; dessert products including tarts, cheesecakes, trifles, crumbles, puddings, rice pudding and chocolate mousse; flour and preparations made from cereals, breads and pastries; savoury preparations made from cereals, breads, pastries; flour based savoury snacks; pizzas; pasta products; prepared meals containing pasta; quiches; baked goods including pies, meat pies, sausage rolls, pasties, biscuits and cookies; bakery products including, breads, muffins, doughnuts, croissants, bagels and scones; cakes including fruit cakes, sponge cakes, iced cakes, bar cakes, cup cakes, lamingtons, brownies and other cakes in this class; sandwiches including open sandwiches and toasted sandwiches; pasta salads; rice salads; salad dressings; flavourings for soups (other than essential oils); spices; condiments.

In respect of **Class 35**: Wholesaling and retailing of food and drinks including tea and coffee and related products; retail coffee and tea store services; retail sales including online retail sales of food and drinks including salads, soups, prepared meals, desserts, flavouring syrups, frozen confectionery, chocolate, candy, confectionery, preparations made from cereal, bread and pastries, baked goods, bakery products, cakes and sandwiches; retail sales including online retail sales of coffee related supplies, equipment and accessories; distribution of samples; providing management assistance relating to coffee and tea stores; coffee and tea store franchising services; business consultancy relating to coffee and tea store franchising services; providing professional business service assistance in the management, establishment, design, construction, equipping and operation of coffee and tea stores, restaurants and take-away food stores; business advisory services relating to the setting up of and running of coffee and tea stores, restaurants and take away food stores; promotion and advertising services.

In respect of **Class 43**: Services for providing food and drink; restaurant services, café, bar and catering services; coffee and tea store services; mobile take-away and fast food outlets; snack bars; consultancy, advisory and information services in relation to the provision of food and drink; consultancy, advisory and information services relating to the setting up of and running of restaurants.

Gloria Jean's Coffees Holdings Pty Ltd. claims the trademark right and other relevant Intellectual Property right for the marks as mentioned above. Gloria Jean's Coffees Holdings Pty Ltd. reserves the rights to take legal measures against any infringer who violates its Intellectual Property or other legal rights in accordance with the concerned laws of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

U Kyi Naing, LL.B., LL.M., (H.G.P.)

For **Gloria Jean's Coffees Holdings Pty Ltd.**

Tilleke & Gibbins Myanmar Ltd. No. 1608, 16th Floor, Sakura Tower, 339 Bogyoke Aung San Road, Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Myanmar

Email address: myanmar@tilleke.com

Dated: September 24, 2015

WEATHER REPORT

BAY INFERENCE:

Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID

UNTIL EVENING OF

THE 24th September,

2015: Rain or thunder-

showers will be wide-

spread in Taninthayi

Region and Mon State,

fairly widespread in Up-

per Sagaing and Bago

Regions, Kachin, Kayah

and Kayin States, scat-

tered in Nay Pyi Taw,

Yangon and Ayeyar-

wady Regions, Shan,

Chin and Rakhine States

and isolated in the re-

maining Regions and

States with likelihood

of isolated heavy falls in

Upper Sagaing Region

and Mon State. Degree

of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA:

Sea will be moderate in

Myanmar waters.

OUTLOOK FOR

SUBSEQUENT TWO

DAYS: Likelihood of

withdrawal of South-

west monsoon from the

Central Myanmar areas.

FORECAST FOR

NAY PYI TAW AND

NEIGHBOURING

AREA FOR 24th Sep-

tember, 2015: Isolated

rain or thundershowers.

Degree of certainty is

(100%).

ADVERTISE WITH US!

- We are Myanmar's highest-circulating English language daily newspaper
 - We offer competitive ad rates
 - Your ad will be seen by a wide and influential readership
- Email: thantunaungnlm@gmail.com Phone: (01) 860 4532

Actor DiCaprio joins growing movement to divest from fossil fuels

BARCELONA

Hollywood actor Leonardo DiCaprio on Tuesday joined more than 400 institutions and 2,000 individuals who have promised to divest from fossil fuels, as new research showed they hold total assets of \$2.6 trillion.

The report by investment experts reveals the movement to take money out of fossil fuels like oil, coal and gas has grown 50-fold in one year.

At the same time, more capital is flowing into renewable energy and other solutions to climate change problems, it said.

"Climate change is severely impacting the health of our planet and all of its inhabitants," said DiCaprio, announcing his promise to divest on behalf of himself and the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation, which supports conservation projects around the world.

"We must transition to a clean energy economy that does not rely on fossil fuels, the main driver of this global problem," the celebrity environmentalist added in a statement.

Local governments and investors from 43 countries have committed to stop supporting



PHOTO: REUTERS

fossil fuels, including municipalities, pension funds, medical associations and churches, the coalition backing the movement said. The report, launched in New York by investment consultancy Arabella Advisors, did not specify how much of the \$2.6 trillion in overall assets represented by those that have pledged to divest was invested in fossil fuels.

Thomas Van Dyck, managing director of SRI Wealth Management Group, said the research showed a growing number of investors wanted to reduce

their carbon risk and switch their money into clean-growth industries.

"That underscores what I see every day as a financial advisor — that the demand for fossil-free investment products is increasing," he said in a statement.

In the past year, activists have targeted the shareholders and creditors of fossil fuel companies and their corporate and social partners, while ramping up pressure on universities and religious institutions to stop investing in those firms.—Reuters

Alan Cumming to host Directors Guild of America awards



Actor Alan Cumming arrives at the 67th Primetime Emmy Awards in Los Angeles, California.

PHOTO: REUTERS

LOS ANGELES — "The Good Wife" actor Alan Cumming has been named as the host of this year's Directors Guild of America awards.

The ninth event to honour filmmakers will be held at the DGA Theater in New York on October 15.

The guild's President Paris Barclay also revealed a few names scheduled to present the honours, which include Leonardo DiCaprio, Alec Baldwin and Bryce Dallas Howard, reported Ace Showbiz.

Bryce will honour her own father Ron Howard. The "A Beautiful Mind" director, who is also an actor, producer and writer, receives the award "for his count-

less contributions to American film and television".

Meanwhile, Tyler Perry will be recognised for his "contributions to film and television including the creation of a thriving production center in Atlanta currently employing hundreds."

Other recipients are renowned film editor Thelma Schoonmaker and Theatrical Teamsters Local 817 President Thomas J O'Donnell. DiCaprio is honouring Schoonmaker who worked on the actor's "The Aviator" and "The Departed" among others. Baldwin will present to O'Donnell who will be honoured "for his labour rights efforts and his contributions to production in New York.—PTI

France and Russia nominate films for foreign language Oscar

PARIS — The film "Mustang" by Franco-Turkish director Deniz Gamze Erguven was officially selected by France's national centre for cinema on Tuesday to compete for best foreign language film at the 2016 Oscars.

Centred around the story of five adolescent sisters who are sequestered by their family when they are deemed too rebellious, the film was screened at the Director's Fortnight at the 2015 Cannes Film Festival and has received international critical acclaim. "We're more

than happy! It's a choice both extremely strong, radical and modern that takes into account a new generation of filmmakers," the 37-year-old Erguven told AFP.

"The fact that France selected this film for the Oscar's race is a strong symbol of the defence of free speech," she said.

Throwing its own hat into the ring, Russia nominated on Tuesday Nikita Mikhalkov's "Sunstroke" for the Oscars race.

The narrative revolves

around a love story set in early 20th-century Russia, and is based on a short story by Ivan Bunin.

It is the fifth time that one of Mikhalkov's films has been nominated, and the director and Kremlin supporter told Russian television Tuesday that he "has no chance" of winning the coveted golden statue.

"But I can express great satisfaction that my colleagues in the Academy are now obliged to see my film," the 69-year-old director said.—AFP

2015 winner Poland nominates film for next foreign language Oscar

WARSAW — Poland's national film institute, whose entry won this year's best foreign language film Oscar, on Tuesday selected "11 minutes" by Jerzy Skolimowski for the 2016 edition of the awards show.

"We selected a film by one of Poland's best and most original film directors," said Pawel Pawlikowski, chairman of the selection committee at the PISF institute. Skolimowski's film is a Polish-Irish co-production that was nominated for this year's Golden Lion award at the Venice film festival and also received the special jury prize at the Gdynia Film Festival at home.

The movie "portrays chaos, cacophony and emptiness in today's world," added Pawlikowski, who is also the director of the Polish film "Ida" that won at the 2015 Oscars.

Shot in black and white, "Ida" is a haunting and controversial drama that lays bare the difficult legacy of the Nazi occupation of Poland and post-war Stalinist rule.

It tells the story of Ida, a young woman in 1960s communist Poland who discovers that she is Jewish — and that her parents were murdered under Nazi occupation — just as she is about to take her vows at a Catholic convent.—AFP

Sean 'P. Diddy' Combs leads Forbes' highest-paid rap stars



PHOTO: REUTERS

LOS ANGELES — Rapper Sean 'P. Diddy' Combs led Forbes' list of the world's highest paid stars in hip hop music on Tuesday, edging out Jay Z and Drake for the top spot.

Harlem native Combs, 45, made an estimated \$60 million between June 2014 and June 2015 according to Forbes' calculations, from investments outside of music, such as his TV network Revolt and Ciroc vodka.

His albums includes 2001's "The Saga Continues" and 2010's "Last Train to Paris," and he's working on a new record. In second place is rap mogul Jay Z (real name Shawn Carter), the 45-year-old founder of Roc Nation music group, who earned an estimated \$56 million from business ventures in music, sports and lifestyle.

His 22 shows with his wife, singer Beyonce, helped boost his earnings, Forbes

said. Canadian rapper Drake, 28, came in at No 3 with \$39.5 million, the bulk of which came from touring, as well as high profile endorsements from Sprite and Nike.

Nicki Minaj was the only woman to crack into the top ten of the highest paid hip hop acts, coming in at No 9 with \$21 million from touring and endorsements.

Forbes calculated its list using pre-tax income figures from factors such as record sales, touring, streaming and endorsements using data from Nielsen SoundScan, the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) and interviews with managers, lawyers and in some cases, the artists themselves.

Other hip hop moguls in the top ten, all of which hail from North America and Canada, include Beats co-founder Dr. Dre and rappers Eminem and Kanye West.—Reuters

UK food recycling cafes go global in fight against waste

LONDON — When former chef Adam Smith opened a small cafe in Britain's industrial North two years ago, serving up dishes with food destined for the scrap heap, he had big aspirations — to fight global food waste.

"From day one I set out to feed the world and I intend to do that," the Yorkshireman said ambitiously, as he charted the growth of his ethical empire — the Real Junk Food Project (RJFP). From its humble roots in a community centre in the deprived Armley district of Leeds, northern England, the project now has around 120 affiliated cafes worldwide, including Australia, France, South Korea, the US and, most recently, Nigeria.

"People are beginning to realise we are a serious organisation," said Smith, having just returned from an awareness-raising event feeding MPs at Britain's parliament with food saved

from garbage bins.

The simple concept involves collecting food that would otherwise have been thrown away — usually because it is "out-of-date" and unsellable under trading rules — and turning it into perfectly edible meals.

Since the project began in December 2013, almost 200 tonnes of food has been "intercepted", Smith said.

Roughly one third of the food produced in the world for human consumption every year — approximately 1.3 billion tonnes — gets lost or wasted, according to the UN. By offering meals on a "pay-as-you-feel" basis RJFP cafes sidestep food regulations since it is against the law in Britain to actually "sell" food past its use-by date. Smith's formulation is tantamount to a voluntary donation, with the amount up to the customer, which keeps all on the legal side of matters, he said.

The team, meanwhile, is discriminating, not all food is accepted. "We make our own judgement, by tasting and smelling, as to whether food is fit for consumption."

Smith is clear that his vision was not about feeding poor people, but for many communities it is a way of reaching those on low incomes or none.

Helped by around 90 volunteers, retiree Shena Cooper runs "Elsie's" cafe in the town of Northampton, central England, as part of the RJFP network.

"We want to create a mixed society within the cafe," she said. "Some people come in for coffee and cake and give a few pounds. But there are people who cannot give anything."

Volunteers face the challenge of creating tasty dishes from whatever food is available, but this is "part of the joy for them", said Cooper. At Elsie's "binner"

event this month, a guest chef transformed discarded local produce into a three-course feast of gourmet crostini with pear salsa, sausage plait with polenta cake, and a chocolate fig dessert.

"You can actually have a conscience about eating cake," joked Heike Map-

"People are beginning to realise we are a serious organisation."

—Chef Adam Smith

stone, a call centre worker, after the dinner. "I think it is a great idea. Why should we waste all this food?"

Cooper knows her cafe is only "scraping the tip of the iceberg" but hopes collective efforts will "expose

the food system for what it is". "There is so much wrong with it," she said.

"The fact that we can fly bananas half way around the world and then throw them into landfill is ridiculous."

Adam Buckingham feeds some 200 people a week at a church-based RJFP cafe in Brighton, where food donations have included legs of cured serrano ham and huge stockpiles of chocolate. "It shocks people that all this food would have gone in the bin," he said, adding that a change in attitudes and legislation is needed.

"Unfortunately we have got to a point where we think it is ok to throw away food and buy more. We're blinded by convenience."

In north London, a pair of entrepreneurs have harnessed what they believe is a growing aversion to this mindset.

Tessa Cook and her American business part-

ner Saasha Celestial-One launched a new app — "Olio" — to connect consumers with sources of surplus food. The app allows donors to upload pictures of items that may be nearing their sell-by-date and users can browse for food and arrange a pick-up via private messaging. "We did some market research and found that one third of people were 'physically pained' throwing away food. To me that was mind blowing," said Cook.

So far the pair have signed up 15 "founding merchants" — individuals and businesses willing to share produce. Although currently focussed on London, Cook hopes the app will eventually go global. "The more we looked into it the more we were overwhelmed by the sheer enormity of the food being wasted. It seems totally wasteful, irresponsible and immoral," she said.—AFP

Oldest traces of heavy metal pollution uncovered



A view of the Gorham's Cave in Gibraltar. PHOTO: AFP

MADRID — The oldest signs of heavy metal pollution caused by human activity, dating from the early Stone Age, have been found in caves in Spain and Gibraltar, officials said Monday.

The findings, published in the journal Scientific Reports, indicate prehistoric humans inhabited caves with high heavy metal levels caused from fires, fumes and ashes which could have played a role in their tolerance of environmental pollution.

The highest levels of

heavy metals — copper, lead, nickel and zinc — were found in Gorham's Cave in Gibraltar, a tiny British territory on Spain's southern tip, where well preserved Neanderthal hearths have been found. "It is the earliest known evidence of heavy metal pollution resulting from human activity," the government of Gibraltar said in a statement.

Traces of heavy metal pollution were also found in Vanguard Cave in Gibraltar from fires as well as in El Pirulejo in southern

Spain linked to the use of galena, a lead sulphide used as a source of pigment or as raw material to manufacture beads, according to the study. The scientists also found heavy metal pollution at Gran Dolina, a cave site in the Sierra de Atapuerca region of central Spain near Burgos.

But they concluded that this came from bat and bird droppings and not from human activity. They said the sites mentioned comprised "earliest evidence of pollution by heavy metals in

archaeological sites" anywhere in the world.

"Despite these high pollution levels, the contaminated soils might not have posed a major threat to Homo sapiens populations," the study said.

"Altogether, the data presented here indicate a long-term exposure of Homo sapiens to these elements, via fires, fumes and their ashes, which could have played certain role in environmental-pollution tolerance, a hitherto neglected influence."—AFP

mitv Myanmar International

(24-9-2015 07:00 am~25 -9-2015 07:00 am) MST

Today Fresh

07:03	Am	News
07:26	AmChanges
07:42	Am	Kyauk Gu Umin Cave Gu Pha Ya
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	A Heart.....Filled With Noble Volunteerism
08:38	Am	Waso Charity Feast
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	Myanmar's Traditions and Culture "Myanmar Pottery"
09:49	Am	Sagaing: Gold Leaf
10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	The Richly Blessed Gem Land
10:52	Am	Kindhearted Pet Lovers

(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm) - Wednesday 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	A Day In Bagan
07:47	Pm	Natural Lake: Fish Breeding Business
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	Myanmar Delicate Artistic Creations-Gem Stone Painting
08:44	Pm	Myanmar Leading Woman: May Sabai Phyu @ L. Hkawn Htoi
09:03	Pm	News
09:26	Pm	Let's Cook (EP-2) Spaghetti with Dried Chilli and Bacon & Chocolate Covered Strawberry
09:52	Pm	Sagaing: Gold Leaf

(10:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (10:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am) - Wednesday 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)

MRTV

Entertainment Channel

(24-9-2015, Thursday)

6:00 am	• Mono Classical Songs	8:40 am	• Musical Programme
6:20 am	• Myanmar Series	8:50 am	• Myanmar Series
6:50 am	• Teleplay	10:00 am	• ASEAN Cultural Fair (2014)
7:05 am	• TV Drama Series	10:20 am	• Myanmar Video
7:50 am	• TV Drama Series		



Bayintnaung celebrate their victory after winning the trophy. PHOTO: TIN SOE LWIN

Bayintnaung wins Tatkon football championship

TATKON — A football team from Tatkon Township's Bayintnaung ward won the Tatkon Township Administrator's Bowl on September 22.

They defeated Myadwady's team with a score of 2-0 in the final.

Awards were given to the top performing players.

Thirteen teams took part in the competition, which aimed to identify fresh talent and recruit such players to compete at higher levels.—Tin Soe Lwin IPRD

Ibrahimovic on the spot at last as PSG beat Guingamp

PARIS — Paris St Germain's Zlatan Ibrahimovic scored his first Ligue 1 goal this season before missing a penalty as they beat En Avant Guingamp 3-0 to extend their lead to four points on Tuesday.

Pastore netted in the 18th minute and fellow Argentine Angel Di Maria doubled the tally in the 77th before Ibrahimovic wrapped up the victory six minutes from time to put PSG on 17 points from seven games after two consecutive draws. They lead Stade Rennes and St Etienne who have 13 points and play on Wednesday at Ajaccio and Troyes respectively.

Ibrahimovic, whose start to the campaign has been hampered by injuries, missed from the spot in the 87th minute.

Pastore opened the scoring with a low shot from just inside the box, after being set up by Ibrahimovic, as PSG were rewarded for their early domination. Unbeaten in Ligue 1 since March 15, the side from the capital were barely threatened by Guingamp, who had their best chance just before the interval when Yannis Salibur's fierce strike was parried away by Kevin Trapp.

Di Maria, who had been quiet for most of the game popped up to score his first league goal of the season after Guingamp keeper Jonas Lossl dropped the ball having blocked Ibrahimovic's shot leaving the Argentine to poke home for 2-0. Ibrahimovic then collected Di Maria's cross on the left side of the area and beat Lossl to put the result beyond doubt.—Reuters

Record-breaking Lewandowski terrorises Wolfsburg

MUNICH — Bayern Munich substitute Robert Lewandowski single-handedly destroyed VfL Wolfsburg by scoring five times in nine minutes, including the league's fastest hat-trick, as the champions crushed their rivals 5-1 on Tuesday to extend their perfect Bundesliga start to six wins.

The Poland striker came on after the break and stunned Wolfsburg with three goals in four minutes, starting in the 51st from close range, to turn the game on its head.

He struck twice more in the next five minutes, including a spectacular volley for the fastest five-goal haul in the Bundesliga's 52-year history, leaving coach Pep Guardiola looking around in complete disbelief with his hands on his head. The win lifted Bayern to a maximum 18 points, three ahead of second-placed Borussia Dortmund, who are in action at Hoffenheim on Wednesday.

Wolfsburg, who had not conceded a goal in their last four matches in all competitions and played an outstanding first half to keep the Bavarians at bay, are third on 11. "I am very happy for Rob-

ert," Guardiola told reporters. "For his confidence and our future this was extremely important. "I can't really understand it. Five goals. Neither as a coach nor as a player did I ever experience something like this and I can't really explain

it. Five goals against Wolfsburg are never easy," said the Spaniard.

It was Wolfsburg, however, who had the better start with Caligiuri controlling a deep cross from Julian Draxler and thundering an unstoppable shot past Manuel

Neuer. Wolfsburg almost scored again when Neuer charged out of the box to clear a ball but chested it into the path of Josuha Guilavogui who tried his luck from 40 metres with the ball hitting the post and rolling wide.—Reuters



Bayern Munich's Robert Lewandowski (L) scores a goal past Wolfsburg's goalkeeper Diego Benaglio during their German first division Bundesliga soccer match in Munich. PHOTO: REUTERS

Stylish City down Sunderland, Villa win League Cup derby

LONDON — Manchester City produced a blistering first-half performance to win 4-1 at Sunderland in the League Cup third round on Tuesday, inflicting more misery on Dick Advocaat's struggling side.

There were also victories for Leicester City, who needed extra time to beat West Ham United 2-1, Aston Villa, who won 1-0 at home to local rivals Birmingham City, and Everton who came from behind to beat Reading 2-1.

Swansea City suffered a surprise 1-0 defeat at Hull City, Stoke City booked a spot in the next round by winning 1-0 at second-tier Fulham and top flight Bournemouth came through a penalty shootout with Preston North End.

There was never even a hint

of an upset in the offing at Sunderland, whose lack of confidence after a poor start to the season was ruthlessly exposed by a rampant City.

Black Cats coach Advocaat was feted as a hero after steering the north-east club to safety last season, but his star has waned at the start of the current campaign as his side are without a win in six Premier League games.

They fell behind after nine minutes to a Sergio Aguero penalty after Patrick van Aanholt clattered into Jesus Navas and the Argentine forward dispatched the spot kick with a deft chip.

The floodgates then opened as three goals in 11 minutes from Kevin De Bruyne, an own goal by Sunderland keeper Vito Mannone and a Raheem Sterling strike put

City 4-0 ahead at halftime, before Ola Toivonen headed a consolation in the second half.

Swansea were the only Premier League team to exit at the hands of lower league opposition on Tuesday as Hull's David Meyler struck four minutes before halftime for the side relegated from the top flight last season.

The midfielder stretched for a rebound and swept the ball into the corner four minutes before halftime to seal the tie.

Everton avoided a similarly embarrassing fate as second-half Gerard Deulofeu helped them come back to beat Championship side Reading.

Roberto Martinez's Everton were trailing at halftime, but Barkley netted with a low volley and

Deulofeu curled home a free kick to settle the encounter.

Leicester's unbeaten start to the season continued as they knocked out West Ham with Wales international Andy King scoring deep into extra time to secure a 2-1 win after the match had finished 1-1 after 90 minutes.

Twenty-year-old Joe Dodoo sidefooted Leicester ahead after six minutes before Mauro Zarate levelled for the visitors with a deflected left-foot effort.

Villa's Midlands clash at home to Birmingham proved to be a predictably scrappy dog-fight with the Premier League side having played poorly before Rudy Gestede powerfully headed Jordan Amavi's cross into the net after 62 minutes.

Bournemouth went through

on penalties after their match with second-tier Preston ended 1-1 after 90 minutes and 2-2 following extra time but Daniel Johnson failed to convert Preston's fifth spot kick, handing victory to the visitors.

Peter Crouch scored Stoke's winner against Fulham in the first half, steering his finish home from 10 metres after a neat one-two in midfield.

Middlesbrough beat Wolverhampton Wanderers 3-0 in an all-Championship clash. The third round action continues on Wednesday when Tottenham Hotspur host London rivals Arsenal, Manchester United welcome second-tier Ipswich Town, holders Chelsea visit Walsall and Liverpool entertain fourth-tier Carlisle United.—Reuters