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## Taunggyi gets first ever university of Medicine



University of Medicine (Taunggyi) is formally opened in Taunggyi in the presence of President U Thein Sein. PHOTO: MNA

A FIRST university of medicine is opened in Taunggyi, Shan State, in the presence of President U Thein Sein Saturday.

Speaking during the inauguration, President U Thein Sein said Taunggyi University of Medicines was established with the aim of

producing human resources for the health care sector in Shan State and Kayah State.

He added that Taunggyi University of Medicine would contribute to promoting the health standard of Shan State.

President U Thein Sein un-

veiled a signboard and stone plaque of the university, expressing his delight for opening of the university during the term of the government.

The university has planned to open its classes with 200 enrolments every year, starting its first enrolment in December, 2015.

Youths from Shan and Kayah states who are eligible to go to a university of medicine can enroll at Taunggyi University of Medicine.

Sao San Tun Hospital and a women and pediatric hospital in Taunggyi would be teaching hospitals for the students of Taunggyi

University of Medicine.

The 5th university of medicine in Myanmar is built at a total cost of K14 billion on 46 acres. Work on construction of the three-storey main buildings and other facilities started in the 2013-2014 fiscal year.—MNA

## Applications open for National Management College

STUDENTS interested in enrolling at National Management College may submit applications between 11- 15 October between the hours of 7.30am and 3pm.

To be eligible, applicants must have received 400 marks or above in their matricula-

tion exams. Courses include journalism, economics, and tourism course and English for Professional Purposes.

Applications need to be submitted at the college, which is located on Merchant Street in downtown Yangon. —Hnin Nu Wai

## Myanmar to adopt safeguards to protect domestic industries from increased imports

Ye Myint

MYANMAR's government will enact a legislation to protect the interests of local businesses in the face of increased imports this year, an adviser to the Ministry of Commerce said Saturday.

After the parliament's ap-

proval, the safeguard law is expected to be enacted during the present government, Dr Maung Aung, adviser to the ministry, told the media after his presentation on trade remedies.

His talks on trade remedy laws for local businesspeople, who are to be exposed to in-

creased competition when the ASEAN Economic Community begins, took place at the building of the country's peak business body UMFCI in Yangon.

"With the WTO agreement, the safeguard law has reached the final stage in which the law must

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# Thai Princess on her first visit to Dawei



Thai Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn visits the site for Dawei Special Economic Zone project. PHOTO: MNA

AT the request of Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Thai Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn visited Dawei of Taninthayi Region yesterday to observe the development of Myanmar-Thailand-Japan's Daiwei Special Economic

Zone project. The Dawei SEZ and its related projects are being implemented in Dawei district and are expected to create employment opportunities for some 300,000 locals by 2025.

A port project with the capacity to handle 15,000-

ton ships has been completed, while some dredging works and construction of storage facilities are underway.

Another ongoing project is a 90-mile long two-way road will link Myanmar and Thailand border

areas. As for the initial phase, an industrial zone will be established on 7,000 acres of land and it will have basic infrastructure including telephone lines, water and electricity supplies and urbanization. Before visiting famous pago-

das in Dawei, the princess met with Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Myat Ko to discuss promotion of friendly relations between the two countries.

She left Dawei for Yangon in the afternoon.

It was her first visit to

Dawei although she had been to the country for five times before. The princess visited the country in 1986, 1994, 2003, 2010 and 2013.

In Yangon, the Princess paid homage to the Shwedagon Pagoda.—MNA

## Myanmar, UN discuss joint efforts for anti-human trafficking



Myanmar Police Force Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win and UN delegation pose for photo. PHOTO: MNA

CHIEF of Myanmar Police Force Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win met a United Nations delegation at his office on Friday.

Regional Project Manager Ms Kaori Kauarabayachi, Technical Director Mr Paul Buckley and Project Coordinator Daw Aye Mar

Kyaw from the United Nations Action for Cooperation against Trafficking in Persons (UN-ACT) discussed ways to strengthen ties in combating human trafficking.

Police Major-General Zaw Win stressed the need for countries in and out the Mekong Sub-

region to intensify cooperation in anti-human trafficking, referring to a recent incident of Myanmar citizens who had been exploited in Indonesia. He also called for the capacity enhancement of civil society organizations in the fight against human trafficking.—MNA

## Traditional boat race held in Mandalay

A traditional boat racing competition was organized in Mandalay on Friday to mark the successful completion of hoisting a new htee atop the historic Chanthaya Pagoda in Chanayethazan Township and renovating the Chanthaya Bridge.

Altogether 18 teams participated in the two-day contest, which is separated in two levels, amateur and professional.

The first-ever boat race event took place 26 years ago for the same reason.—Tin Maung (Mandalay)



Boat racing in Mandalay. PHOTO: TIN MAUNG (MANDALAY)



Dr Maung Aung, adviser to the Ministry of Commerce, giving talks on trade remedy-related laws to protect domestic industries from the impact of increased levels of imports in Myanmar on Saturday.— Photo: Ye Myint

## Myanmar to adopt safeguards to protect domestic industries ...

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pass in Parliament before being signed by the President, "said the adviser.

The process of enacting the anti-dumping and countervailing laws is ongoing, requiring the approval of the WTO as well as scholarly advice, added the adviser, voicing hope these laws can be passed before the country's full accession into the AEC in 2018.

During his presentation, the

adviser said that levels of imports continue to increase following the country's economic reforms combined with trade relaxation and the implementation of the AEC. He highlighted the importance of laws that allow small and medium-sized enterprises to call on the government for imposing anti-dumping and countervailing duties and safeguard measures.

On the current business landscape, U Zaw Min Win, UMFC-

CI's vice-president and chairman of the Myanmar Industries Association, stressed the need for the government's support in the areas of financing, technology and ensuring the country's SME growth.

"SMEs in Myanmar are not ready to face the AEC," he said.

Dr Maung Aung said that the country's production industries, if these legislations emerge, will be protected from the impact of increased imports that have injured

or threatened domestic producers, and the injured industries will be restructured through these trade remedies.

One of the attendees at the talks expressed his view from the standpoint of a buyer that increased competition after the AEC integration is good as there will be more choice and competitive prices, but that a significant surge in cheaper imports could hurt local businesses.—GNLM

# UEC Chairman clarifies rules of Election Law to politicians in Kachin State

CHAIRMAN of the Union Election Commission held talks with candidates from Kachin State over rules of the Election Law Saturday.

At the meeting in Myitkyina, U Tin Aye, Chairman of the UEC said barring political campaigning breaks the Election Law and deserves punishment.

He added that an excuse of insufficient security in an area can be provided to post of elections there.

The chairman guaranteed to assist eligible voters at IDP camps in Kachin State in their voting.

The UEC chairman pledged that advance voting would be ensure transparency, urging the politicians to learn the rules and regulations for the advance voting to be able to object malpractices in accordance with the law.

U Tin Aye also called on politicians, media and the people for cooperating with the UEC to hold the November-8 election successfully.—MNA

# Union FM delivers a general statement at UN

UNION Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin has delivered a general statement at the Plenary Meeting held in afternoon of 2 October 2015 during the current session of the 70th United Nations General Assembly at UN Headquarters.

He said "This year, 2015, is vital for Myanmar as we will be holding general elections on 8 November. The forthcoming elections will be transparent, free and fair. As such, the government is working together with local stakeholders and international partners.

Over the past four and a half years, we have been able to enhance peace, stability and rule of law and socio-economic development in the country. One may not be content with the pace of our reform process. However, it is undeniable that we have been able to create better political and



Myanmar's Foreign Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin addresses attendees during the 70th session of the United Nations General Assembly at the UN Headquarters 2 October 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

momentum and moving in the right direction. The international community should continue with its support to Myanmar in an objective and constructive manner. We shall remain fully committed and relentless in our effort to peace, democracy and inclusive socio-economic development for the people of Myanmar."

Union Minister met Mr. John Kerry, Secretary of State of the United States of America in the morning of 2 October 2015. They exchanged views on the current developments of Myanmar including the general elections, bilateral relations and regional issues.

Union Minister met Mr. Paola Gentiloni, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Italy on 1 October 2015. They discussed enhancing bilateral relations, further strengthening cooperation on economic and international affairs.—MNA

# What they stand for: campaigns aired

The New Society Party, Inn National League, and the 88 Generation Democracy Party broadcast campaign speeches on Saturday

## New Society Party



Chairman U Zeya said his party would concentrate on restoration of internal peace, the amendment of 2008 Constitution, national reconciliation and the emergence of federalism in a bid to bring an end to the cycle of poverty and underemployment. As for education, he promised a free basic education for students, more scholarship awards and the right to form student unions. The party would introduce a free health care system and a free market system while encouraging the development of small and medium enterprises.

## Inn National League



Central Executive Committee member U Zaw Myo Htut vowed full cooperation with other ethnic groups in the political reform and stressed that his party would strive for the continued existence of Inn Lay Lake. He added that his party would stand for constitutional amendment, national consolidation and equitable sustainable development across the country. The party would focus on creation of new jobs and harmonious social and economic progress, while paying attention to better transportation and a rapid flow of commodities for regional development.

## The 88 Generation Democracy Party



U Thaug Shwe, 88GDP Chairman of Thaton district, said his party would uphold mutual respect, trust and recognition while trying to lay policies that would ensure a corruption-free state. The party pledged to initiate a free basic education system, an educational funding system, a free health care and insurance system and a free competitive market system alongside plans for preservation of cultural heritage and promotion of ethnic languages. It also vowed to protect farmers' rights and provide agricultural loans and technologies to help local products penetrate foreign markets.—GNLM

**ELECTION COUNTDOWN**  
 Make your voice count. Cast your vote. **35** DAYS



Book sales on the MV Logos Hope launches Saturday at Ahlon International Jetty in Yangon. The floating book sales is formally opened by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Captain Mr James Thomas Dyer and Director Mr Seelan Govender. More than 5,000 books are on sale until 14 October. PHOTO: MNA

# Artist Mya Thaug showcases transparent works at Lokanat

Aye Min Soe

U Mya Thaug, one of the prominent art masters, exhibited his more than 60 water-colour works at Lokanat Art Galleries in Yangon from 2nd to 7th October.

The 72-year old art master is considered by Myanmar artists as one of water princes

of Myanmar art world for his French and British-style transparent works.

People can enjoy more than 60 transparent works of the local and international award winner reflecting Myanmar scenes at the gallery without entrance fee.

Lokanat Galleries is located at No 62, 1st floor, Pansodan Street, Kyauktada Tsp.—GNLM



A visitor enjoys art works of (U) Mya Thaug at Lokanat Galleries. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

# Three party speeches to be broadcast today

CAMPAIGN speeches delivered by representatives from Kayin Unity Democratic Party (K.U.D.P), Lhaovo National Unity and Development Party (LNUDP) and New Era Public Party will be broadcast on state radio and television networks on 4 October. MRTV, the Hluttaw channel, Myawady TV, Myanmar Radio and Shwe FM will broadcast the speeches.—GNLM

## Detkhina District officials, civic groups meet on security during General Elections

A meeting on security for the upcoming 2015 General Elections was held on 2 September at Detkhina District General Administration Department where the district commissioner who also chairs the district election security committee U Aung Ko Oo made an opening speech. The committee's secretary head of district police force Police Lt-Col Win

Chun explained on security measures and its procedures during the November 8 elections.

The meeting was attended by township administrators of the district's four townships of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, local officials, district and townships election committee members, Red Cross members and civic groups.—*Shwe Kokko*



Authorities discussed preparations for providing security to polling stations. PHOTO: SHWE KOKKO

## Elected Mandalay City Development Committee members make oaths

THE elected members of Mandalay City Development Committee gave their oaths at the pledging ceremony on 1 October attended by Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint, Mayor U Aung Mung, region ministers Col Myo

Min Aung, U Kyaw San and Dr Myint Kyu, and senior regional officials.

The newly elected members made their oaths before the Chief Minister at the meeting room of the Region Government. U Ye Myint urged them to

work for a more pleasant, clean and developed Mandalay city. He also encouraged the new members and officials who attended the occasion, to make utmost efforts within the laws for the well being of public.—*Maung Pyi Thu*



Elected members Mandalay City Development Committee take oaths before Mandalay Region Chief Minister. PHOTO: MAUNG PYI THU

## Myanma Railway revises K 6.3 billion budget for rebuilding of damaged rail tracks

THE budget to rebuild all damaged railroads across the nation from recent storms and July-August flood has been revised to K 6.3 billion from the initial estimation of K 3.83 billion, according to General Manager (Civil) U Tin Soe of Myanmar Railway, Ministry of Rail Transportation.

He said that the repair cost is a special budget allotted from the government. The matter was also submitted at a forum chaired by World Bank on 2 October in Nay Pyi Taw. The damaged rail tracks are on Mandalay-Myitkyina, YeOo-KhinOo, Gangaw-Kalay, Kyangin-Pakokku, Man-

dalay-Lashoi, Hline-thaya-Nyaungdon, Latpandan-Tharawaw and Rakhine State's Pyithawta-Yechanpyin-Kyautaw railroads. At present, the Mandalay-Myitkyina, Mandalay-Lashoi, Latpandan-Tharawaw, Yangon-Hinthada, Hinthada-Pathein, and some Rakhine State's railroads have been repaired and reopened, but the Gangaw-Kalay railroad have only been partially reopened and the remaining tracks are to be opened in mid October, the GM said. The damaged rail bridges are too scheduled to be reopened in mid October.

Some damaged railroads in Rakhine State need

to be repaired with heavy machines after the monsoon season, he said. He added that the repair of railroads would be prioritized according to the budget received. He said that strong and durable bridges need one and half years to be completed. The over 100-year Mandalay-Myitkyina railroad was constructed during the British rule (late 19th century to 1948) and the Gatngaw-Kalay, Kyangin-Pakokku, Sitwe-Kyautaw, and Hline-thaya-Nyaungdon railroads were built during the present government, according to General Manager (Civil) U Tin Soe of Myanmar Railway.—*Soe Win-MLA*

## 200 desks for Pyigyitagun schools from Parliament's allotment

A total of 200 classroom desks were presented to nine schools of Pyigyitagun Township, here on 1 October from the 2015-2016 financial year Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's (Parliament) allotment of K 100 million to each respected townships.

The ceremony was attended by the Region Hluttaw Representative U Thein Lwin, Township Development Committee Chairman U Kyawswa Tun, Township Development Supporting Committee members, Township Education Officer U

Wine, the schools' principals and teachers among others.

The furniture were handed over to Township Education Officer U Wine and principles. U Wine spoke words of appreciation.—*(Thiha Ko Ko Mandalay)*

## Newly gilded Chanthaya Pogoda, repaired bridge celebrate with traditional boats races

ON the occasion of the newly gilded ancient Chanthaya Pogoda of Chanayethasan Township, here and repairing of over-one-hundred-year-old Chanthaya wooden bridge, a celebration was made on 1 October with a traditional boat races

attended by Mandalay Mayor U Aung Mung.

The mayor paid respects to the pagoda's Buddha images and presented donations to the trustees for various renovations of the pagoda. The mayor and trustees cut the ribbon to open the repaired 768-

ft bridge. The repair took one and a half months, and cost over K15 million, donated by devotees.

The traditional boat races were participated by 12 teams. Some decorated boats were also on the show.—*(Thiha KoKo-Mandalay)*



Thirty-eight families in Kyoatpintha Village in Tatkon Township receive land leases from the government. PHOTO: TIN SOE LWIN (IPRD)

## Land leases given to Kyoatpintha villagers of Tatkon Township

A total of 38 government land leases were handed over to 38 families of Kyoatpintha village in Tatkon Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, on 2 October.

President U Thein Sein had made instructions for land leases to be given out to villagers. With the legal ownership papers, their social as well as economic status would be lifted. The villagers were explained on the benefits and opportunities of the leases.—*Tin Soe Lwin (IPRD)*

# Nepal's PM vows to step down, communist leader tipped to take over

KATHMANDU — Prime Minister Sushil Koirala told parliament Friday that he will step down as Nepal's leader in keeping with his previously announced commitment to do so after a new constitution is promulgated, which happened last month.

"In accordance with constitutional provisions and my public commitment, I will now call on the president to request him to initiate the process of electing a new prime minister," Koirala said in his address.

Nepal's interim constitution stipulated that the country must elect a new prime minister, president, vice president, house speaker

and deputy speaker after the new constitution's promulgation. The new constitution was adopted on 20 September.

KP Sharma Oli, chairman of the Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist), is tipped to replace Koirala as prime minister later this month.

Koirala's Nepali Congress entered into a gentlemen's agreement with the UML, its coalition partner, in 2013 to hand over government leadership to the party after the constitution's promulgation.

Also in his address, the prime minister urged India to lift a de facto trade blockade it has imposed on Nepal since last week in an appar-

ent show of displeasure with certain clauses of the new Constitution.

"Our border has been blocked and obstructed, affecting all imports and exports. Nepalis are facing shortage of daily essentials," he said.

Koirala added, "I request the Indian government to not allow delays at the border to affect our trading rights and facilities."

Nepal sees the blockade as a move to punish it for adopting the Constitution without addressing demands of protesting Madhesis, a people who live in southern plains neighbouring India and have cultural and linguistic ties

with that country.

India, for its part, has blamed the border trade stoppage on prevailing unrest in southern Nepal and Nepalese authorities' failure to take urgent and timely steps to defuse the tension.

Nepal became totally dependent on India for trade this spring when massive quakes damaged trading routes with China. The damaged routes are yet to reopen.

Koirala also informed the parliament that the government has directed the Ministry of Law to table constitutional amendment bills at the parliament to meet demands of groups protesting in the south.—*Kyodo News*

## Japanese man shot dead in Bangladesh

DHAKA — A Japanese man was shot dead in Bangladesh on Saturday morning, just days after an Italian citizen was killed in the country's capital.

Kunio Hoshi, 66, was killed by unidentified attackers on a motorcycle as he made his way to an agricultural project he had set up in the northern Rangpur district, local police chief Abdur Razzaque said. He reportedly suffered shots to his chest, head and leg and died on the way to hospital.

Hoshi had travelled to Bangladesh from Nepal on 28 August, and had been staying with a friend in Munshipara, Rangpur. He had previously visited Bangladesh in February, when he involved himself with an agricultural project, growing and developing Napier grass on leased land.

Reports in local media have said that he was born in Bangladesh. Police have not commented on any possible motive yet, but local media have said that three or four people have been detained in connection with the attack.

Hoshi's body has been taken to Rangpur Medical College Hospital, and a team from the Japanese Embassy in Dhaka has left for Rangpur to begin the process of repatriating him.—*Kyodo News*

## Bad weather hinders search for missing Indonesian plane

JAKARTA — Indonesia's aerial search for a plane that went missing over Sulawesi the previous day with 10 people aboard was halted on Saturday afternoon due to bad weather.

The Aviastar airline Twin Otter turboprop aircraft lost contact with airport authorities on a flight from the town of Masamba about 30 minutes before it was scheduled to land in Makassar

city. Ferdinand Lumintang, Aviastar's flight operation officer, said searching stopped for the day as weather conditions "didn't support our efforts. The clouds were thick."

He said search operations on land would continue until night.

Indonesia has a patchy aviation safety record and has had three major crashes over the past year, including an AirAsia flight

that went down in the sea between Surabaya and Singapore on 28 December, killing all 162 people aboard.

In August, a passenger airliner crashed in Papua killing all 54 people aboard.

More than 100 people were killed in June in the crash of a military transport plane in the northern city of Medan, prompting the government to promise a

review of the ageing air force fleet.

According to Aviation-safety.net, Aviastar has had four fatal incidents, including that of an British Aerospace 146-300 aircraft in the eastern province of Papua in 2009, killing all six crew on board.

Indonesia scored poorly on a 2014 safety audit by the UN aviation agency.—*Reuters*

## Australian officials say Sydney police HQ shooting 'linked to terrorism'



A police van blocks a street outside the New South Wales (NSW) state police headquarters located in the Sydney suburb of Parramatta, Australia on 2 October 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

SYDNEY — Australian police said on Saturday they believed the shooting of a police worker by a 15-year-old boy in Sydney the previous day was "linked to terrorism", the latest in a series of attacks blamed on radicalised youth.

Australia, a staunch ally of the United States and its battle against Islamic militants in Iraq and Syria, has been on heightened alert for attacks by home-grown radicals since last year.

The teenager was shot dead by police on Friday afternoon after he gunned down, at close range, a police employee leaving the headquarters of the New South Wales Police, police and witnesses said.

Police said they had identified the gunman as coming from an Iraqi-Kurdish background, and having been born in Iran.

"We believe his actions were politically motivated and therefore linked to terrorism," New

South Wales Police Commissioner Andrew Scipione told reporters.

The boy was previously unknown to police or counter-terrorism officials, he added.

The victim was named as Curtis Cheng, a 17-year veteran of the NSW Police, who worked in the finance department.

"There's no doubt that this tragedy will echo around the world, as people try and understand how someone so young could admit such a hideous

crime," New South Wales Premier Mike Baird said.

In September, police shot dead a Melbourne teenager after he stabbed two counter terrorism officers, while in December, two hostages were killed when police stormed a central Sydney cafe to end a 17-hour siege.

On Friday, a 15-year-old British boy was sentenced to life in prison for inciting an attack on a World War One commemorative event in Australia from his bedroom in northern England.

The discovery of the boy's actions sparked a massive police operation in Melbourne that led to the arrest of five teenagers there who were planning an Islamic State-inspired attack, authorities said.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull urged Australians not to vilify the Muslim community.

"This appears to have been an act of politically motivated violence, so, at this stage, it appears to have been an act of terrorism," Turnbull told reporters in Melbourne.

"We must not vilify or blame the entire Muslim community for the actions of what is, in truth, a very, very small percentage of violent extremist individuals."

Security authorities estimate at least 70 Australians have joined militant forces in the Middle East with another 100 or more Australian-based facilitators and supporters.—*Reuters*

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# Ukraine's Minsk process will run into next year: Hollande



French President Francois Hollande, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko attend a meeting in Paris France on 2 October 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

PARIS — It will take time to organise elections in Ukraine that respect international standards and as a result, the so-called Minsk peace process will run into next year, French President Francois Hollande said on Friday.

Violence in Ukraine's separatist eastern territories has ebbed in recent weeks to its lowest point since the ceasefire was signed in February, but Western diplomats say the 12-point

Minsk peace plan is far from fully implemented.

"On the election issue ... it will take longer. We don't want elections to get held in eastern Ukrainian territories under conditions that would not respect Minsk," said Hollande, speaking after hosting talks with the Russian, Ukrainian and German leaders.

"It's therefore likely, even certain now, that — since we need three months

to organise elections — we would go beyond the date that was set for the end of Minsk, that is to say 31 December, 2015," he told a news conference.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel told the news conference: "The result (of Friday's meetings) is that the Russian president committed to working towards ... establishing the conditions that would allow elections to take place according to Minsk, based on

Ukrainian law, in a coordinated fashion between the separatists in Donetsk and Luhansk and the Ukrainian government."

The Minsk accord contains a year-end deadline for Ukraine to recover full control over its border.

Ukraine and pro-Russian separatists agreed earlier this week to extend a pull-back of weapons in east Ukraine to include tanks and smaller weapons systems.

Even after the lighter weapons are withdrawn, the sides still need to end a deadlock over the ground rules for local elections.

Hollande said the ceasefire was widely respected and leaders had agreed on the implementation of steps towards peace.

"We wanted to make sure that the withdrawal of light weapons ... would start tomorrow morning at midnight," he said. "For heavy weaponry there must be a similar process, and we should be able to put seals on them."

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said he felt "cautious optimism" on the results of Friday's talks, Interfax Ukraine quoted him as saying.—Reuters

# Bush draws Democratic criticism for 'stuff happens' comment

WASHINGTON — Republican presidential candidate Jeb Bush said on Friday more government is not always the answer for Americans when crises erupt and "stuff happens," a remark that Democrats charged was a callous response to victims of gun violence a day after an Oregon mass shooting.

At a conservative forum in South Carolina, Bush was asked a rambling question by moderator Alan Wilson, the state's attorney general.

Jeb Bush just told victims of gun violence everywhere, 'stuff happens,' the Democratic National Committee said in a statement. President Barack Obama was asked about the "stuff happens" remark at a White House news conference.

"I don't even think I have to react to that one. I think the American people should hear that and make their own judgments based on the fact that every couple of months we have a mass shooting and ... they can

**"There are all sorts of things that happen in life. Tragedies unfold. Look, just read the papers, and you see a child dies in a pool, is drowned, and parents want to pass a law to do something,"**

**Jeb Bush**

Republican presidential candidate

Wilson pressed him on whether there should be more prayer vigils at schools and other institutions to prevent tragedies such as when someone "with an Uzi or a handgun" shoots "a bunch of people." Wilson did not mention the Oregon shootings a day earlier in which nine people were killed.

"We're in a difficult time in our country and I don't think more government is necessarily the answer to this. I think we need to reconnect ourselves with everybody else," Bush, a former Florida governor, replied. "It's just very sad to see," Bush added. "I resist the notion that — I did - I had this challenge as governor."

Look, stuff happens, there's always a crisis and the impulse is always to do something, and it's not necessarily the right thing to do."

Democrats, who see Bush as a threat to their chances of holding the White House should he become the Republican presidential nominee in 2016, pounced on the remark, a day after the mass shooting at an Oregon community college.

"What a way for Republicans to end a horrible week. In the aftermath of another national gun trag-

decide whether they consider that stuff happening," Obama said.

Bush, who like most Republicans favors Americans' gun rights under the Second Amendment to the US Constitution, was pressed to explain his comment by reporters after he spoke.

He said states, not the federal government, should tighten access to weapons by people who are mentally ill.

"I think that's the proper place that states need to look at it. And I think some states have done a much better job of creating a database so that you can identify people that have significant mental health challenges and they shouldn't have access to guns," he said.

When a reporter asked Bush about the "stuff happens" comment, Bush said he was not referring to the Oregon shootings.

"There are all sorts of things that happen in life. Tragedies unfold. Look, just read the papers, and you see a child dies in a pool, is drowned, and parents want to pass a law to do something," he said.

"And you got to be careful that you want to solve the problem. If there is a problem, a defect in the law, fine, then we did that all the time.—Reuters

# At least 29 dead in Guatemala landslide, 600 still missing

GUATEMALA CITY — At least 29 people were killed and 600 missing following a landslide that destroyed about 125 homes on the outskirts of the Guatemalan capital, officials said late Friday.

"We have 29 people confirmed dead and one still not confirmed," said Sergio Cabanas, incident commander of Guatemala's National Disaster Mitigation Coordination (CONRED).

CONRED announced earlier Friday that the number of missing people might reach up to 600, based on estimates of destroyed houses.

Local families have estimated that about 20 families, or around 100 people, are missing.

The landslide occurred on Thursday night following heavy rains in the El Cambray II neigh-

bourhood of the town of Santa Catarina Pinula, 15 km south of the capital, according to daily news-

paper Prensa Libre. Hundreds of rescue workers dug through sludge and rocks to find survivors.

Thirty-six people had been pulled out from the mud and debris and rushed to hospital.—Xinhua



Rescue team members and volunteers search for mudslide victims in Santa Catarina Pinula, on the outskirts of Guatemala City on 2 October 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

# Obama warns Russia's Putin of 'quagmire' in Syria

WASHINGTON — US President Barack Obama warned Russia on Friday that its bombing campaign against Syrian rebels will suck Moscow into a “quagmire,” after a third straight day of air raids in support of President Bashar al-Assad.

At a White House news conference, Obama frequently assailed Russian President Vladimir Putin, who he accused of acting out of a position of weakness to defend a crumbling, authoritarian ally.

Friday prayers were cancelled in insurgent-held areas of Syria's Homs province hit by Russian warplanes this week, with residents concerned that mosques could be targeted, according to one person from the area.

Putin's decision to launch strikes on Syria marks a dramatic escalation of foreign involvement in a more than four-year-old civil war in which every major country in the region has a stake.

It also gives fuel to domestic critics of Obama who say his unwillingness to act on Syria has allowed Moscow to stage its biggest show of force in the Middle East in decades. But the US president warned that Russia and Iran, As-

ad's main backer in the Muslim world, have isolated the majority of Syrians and angered their Sunni Muslim neighbours.

“An attempt by Russia and Iran to prop up Assad and try to pacify the population is just going to get them stuck in a quagmire and it won't work,” Obama said.

The Syria campaign is the first time Moscow has sent forces into combat beyond the frontiers of the former Soviet Union since the USSR's disastrous Afghanistan campaign of the 1980s, a bold move by Putin to extend Russia's influence beyond its neighbourhood. It comes at a low point in Russia's relations with the West, a year after the United States and EU imposed financial sanctions on Moscow for annexing territory from Ukraine. Obama on Friday offered to work with Russia to bring peace to Syria, but he took several digs at Putin, with whom he has a frosty relationship. A meeting between the two at the United Nations this week seems to have done little to produce a thaw.

“Mr. Putin had to go into Syria not out of strength, but out of weakness because his client Mr. Assad was crumbling and it was



Smoke rises after what activists said were Russian airstrikes in the southern countryside of Idlib, Syria on 2 October 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

insufficient for him to send arms and money,” Obama said.

He played down international support for Moscow's strategy, saying it paled in comparison to the number of countries backing US air raids on Islamic State.

The US president has been deeply reluctant to use more mili-

tary force in Syria, after America's experience of long wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Obama also hit back at critics who say his Syria strategy of bombing Islamic State and supporting moderate rebels is failing.

“I hear people offering up half-baked ideas as if they are solu-

tions or trying to downplay the challenges involved in the situation. What I'd like to see people ask is, specifically, precisely, what exactly would you do and how would you fund it and how would you sustain it? And typically, what you get is a bunch of mumbo jumbo,” he said.—Reuters

## Brazil court allows Lula questioning in Petrobras corruption case



Brazil's former President Luiz Inacio Lula Da Silva. PHOTO: REUTERS

RIO DE JANEIRO — Brazil's Supreme Court authorised the questioning by police of ex-President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva in a broadening corruption case focussed on state-run oil company Petrobras (PETR4.SA), a representative for the court said on Friday.

The original motion for permission to question Lula as a witness, which was filed last month, said the popular leader “may have benefited” from the political kickback scheme.

Lula may have “secured advantages for himself, for his party ... or for his government by maintaining a base of political support sustained by illicit business” at the company, investigators wrote in the motion.

Prosecutors say there is no investigation into Lula or any evidence tying him to crimes,

but they said they think the corruption scheme started with the former president's chief of staff, Jose Dirceu.

“The people who will be questioned do not bear the status of investigated, but as the motion by the police proposed, the status of informants,” Teori Zavascki, Supreme Court minister, said in his decision.

A representative for Lula in Brazil said the former president “could not be investigated in the Petrobras inquiry because there was no reason for it.”

In the original motion, investigators said it was necessary to question Lula because the probe, and evidence obtained in plea bargain testimony from officials already convicted in the scandal, “reaches the political and partisan nucleus of his government.”—Reuters

## Developing countries call for ambitious, inclusive climate change agreement

UNITED NATIONS — Leaders of the developing countries at the general debate of the 70<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly called for an ambitious, inclusive climate change agreement to be reached in Paris in December to combat climate change.

Jacob Zuma, President of South Africa, said that “we seek a fair, ambitious and legally binding agreement in Paris that is applicable to all Parties. In addition, for South Africa as Chair of the G77, a Paris package that is hollow and weak on finance would not be acceptable.”

“South Africa has submitted the country's Intended Nationally Determined Contribution to the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) secretariat ahead of the 1<sup>st</sup> of October deadline, signalling our readiness for Paris,” said Zuma. Sushma Swaraj, External Affairs Minister of India, said that “our future must rest on building a sustainable planet for our children and our children's children. For this reason, the agreement in Paris needs to be comprehensive and equitable, while delivering concrete action.”

“Developing countries can do more if they are enabled in their efforts with the provision of finance, technology transfer and capacity building support from developed countries,” she added.

Dilma Rousseff, President of Brazil, noted that “in Paris, this upcoming December, we must strengthen the Climate Convention, while fully implementing its

provisions and respecting its principles. The obligations to be undertaken must be ambitious — including with regard to financial and technological support to developing countries and small islands in line with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.”

“In this spirit, I announced yesterday (27 September), here at the United Nations, our INDC (Intended Nationally Determined

“The Paris agreement should focus on bold national action and the inclusion of all stakeholders — a timely reminder that no action is too small or insignificant.” Choumaly Sayasone, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, said that “it is incumbent upon the international community to help these vulnerable countries, through, among other things, building their long-term capacity to

**“A Paris agreement must be a turning point, and send a loud and clear signal to citizens and the private sector that the transformation of the global economy is inevitable, beneficial, and already underway.”**

Ban Ki-moon

Contributions). Brazil's contribution will be a reduction of 43 percent of its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, having 2005 as the base year,” said Rousseff.

Tuilaepa Lupesoliai Sailele Malielegaoi, Prime Minister of Samoa, pointed out that “Samoa is a small island developing state from the Pacific, a region recognised and acknowledged as most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.”

“Our islands contributed the least to the causes of climate change, yet stand to suffer the most and least able to adapt effectively to the adverse impacts,” he said.

“A durable Climate change agreement in Paris is therefore a test of multilateral solidarity,” he said.

tackle such challenges.” “We hope that the UN Climate Change Conference to be held in Paris later this year will be able to adopt various measures to address climate change in the coming years,” said Sayasone.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called on countries to include provisions in a Paris agreement that will enable them to regularly review and strengthen the ambition level of their national commitments in line with science.

“A Paris agreement must be a turning point, and send a loud and clear signal to citizens and the private sector that the transformation of the global economy is inevitable, beneficial, and already underway,” said Ban.—Xinhua

## PERSPECTIVES

## Embracing globalisation demands quality teachers

Kyaw Thura

**T**HE creation of peace and sustainable development is not an impossible dream if we are willing to embrace globalization. To do so is unavoidable as we live in a multicultural society. We have witnessed the rise of racism, xenophobia and intolerance across the world, so the people from diverse societies are obliged to stand for lasting peace by supporting and understanding each other's

differences.

In this context, the development of knowledge for economic and social progress comes to the fore. Economic and social deprivation will get people trapped in the vicious cycle of poverty and crime. It is therefore important to promote access to quality education.

In response to those needs, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has come up with a catchy slogan to honour this year's World Teachers' Day: "Empowering teachers, building sustainable societies".

The world honours teachers on 5 October every year as a token of remembering their efforts to implement education goals which will contribute to the well-being of society. It is therefore necessary to empower them in the belief that they are central to the realization of everyone's right to education.

It is recognized that investing in teacher education

plays a critical role in responding to global challenges through education. Without teacher empowerment, quality education is in all but name. It is believed that education can strengthen tolerance, reduce discrimination and violence, and help diverse societies to live together, regardless of national, ethnic and religious identity.

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## CLIMATE CHANGE

U Win Sein

**T**HE Earth's "green effects" is what make this planet suitable for life as we know it. The Earth's atmosphere contains gases, some of which absorb heat. These gases [water-vapor, carbon-dioxide, methane, ozone and nitrous-oxide] are known as greenhouse gases, which are the essential elements that give life to all living things.

Life on Earth is possible because of the warmth of the Sun, as some of the incoming solar radiations bounce back into space, a small portion of it is trapped by the gases that made up our atmosphere. Without this layer of insulation, the Earth would simply be another big rock sailing through space. Carbon-dioxide [CO<sub>2</sub>] is the most important gas in this layer of insulation. Carbon is stored all over the planet; in plants, soil, the oceans and even us. We released it into the atmosphere as carbon-dioxide through physical activities, other actions such as burning of fossil-fuels [coal, oil and gas] and cutting down of trees used as firewood would make the atmosphere of today to contain 42 percent more carbon-dioxide than it did before the industrial era.

We have released so much carbon-dioxide and other greenhouse gases, that our planet's atmosphere is now like a thick heat trapping blanket disrupting the atmospheric balance that keeps the climate stable, instead we are seeing extreme effects around the world, like a thermostat in a disorder manner, turning climate change with extreme weather events more often.

We may need first of all to understand the difference between global warming and climate change—global warming is referred to the Earth's rising surface temperature while climate change include warming and the "side effects" of warming - like melting of glaciers, heavier rainstorms and more fre-

quent droughts, in another way, global warming is one symptom of much larger problem of human-caused climate change.

The greenhouse effects that trapping the Sun's warm in the planet's lower atmosphere due to the greater transparency of the Earth's atmosphere such as carbon-dioxide do what the roof of the greenhouse does. During the day, the sun shines through the atmosphere on Earth's surface warm up in the sunlight. At night the Earth's surface cooling releasing the heat back into the air. But some of heat is trapped by greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. That's what keep our Earth a warm and cozy 59 degree Fahrenheit on average.

Earth's climate is mostly influenced by the first 6-miles or so of the atmosphere, which contains

climate change that making this thin layer of atmosphere become warmer day by day finally.

Although some of the climatologists have high hope for the "pause" or the "hiatus" with regard to slow down of global warming, —like the Green activists have preached the Earth's temperature would continue to rise steadily for most of 1990s, the model prediction appeared to be plausible, but global temperature has slowed considerably since 1998, despite steadily rising levels of carbon-dioxide emissions. The International Energy Agency predicts that as for the world, a robust three-fourths of primary energy consumption will come from fossil fuels in 2040, this would promote more global warming by polluted emissions. Many alarmists in the previous decades

ing a nosy commotion and disturbance without a concrete solution.

We need to know about what is going to happen in Paris Climate Summit. The governments of more than 190 countries will gather in Paris to discuss a possible new global agreement on climate change aimed at reducing global greenhouse gas emissions and thus avoiding the threat of dangerous climate change. Climate change goes back much further. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century physicists theorized about the role of greenhouse gases, chiefly carbon-dioxide in the atmosphere and many people have suggested that warming effects would increase alongside the levels of these gases in atmosphere, so the rising greenhouse emission from our use of fossil fuels and emissions from our industries leading to higher temperature. During the period after 1995, global temperature has risen at a slower pace than they did in the previous 30 years

emitter to take a limits to their carbon-dioxide emissions. The Copenhagen Conference 2009 has been encouraging the world developed countries and the biggest developing countries to agree for the first time to limit on their greenhouse gas emissions. It meant that the world biggest emitters were united toward a single goal. In the UNFCCC, it has never met the objectives by its members, because the US and many of its member countries have not ratified their commitments under the Kyoto Protocol.

So to what is likely to be agreed in Paris. As some European countries will cut their emissions by 40% compared with 1970 levels by 2030, the US will cut its emissions by 26% to 28% compared with 2005 level by 2025. China will agree that its emissions will peak by 2030. If the commitments from the countries are being guaranteed by themselves, — Does that means the Paris agreement will be settled? What about the other key questions of financial matters, poorer countries want the rich world to provide them with financial helps that enable them to invest in clean technology so as to cut their greenhouse emissions.

It looks like there will be no further need for negotiations in October before the Paris Meeting. It seems look well that all countries will have a profound efforts in whether they can meet climate change commitment targets and allow poorer countries to lifting their citizens of poverty while at time not to pass the problematic climate threshold at all. If all matters can be met and agreed at last to achieve equitable goals on climate change and economic development and that all will do so in a spirit of cooperation in seeking great achievement for mankind. Hope is likely to be seen as a vision in the far away horizon.

However, the French President had said on this matter, like hoping for a "Miracle".

**"While the US, the world biggest emitter stays outside of the climate conference under the United Nations, It was clear that a new approach has needed that should bring the US in and encouraged the major developing economies especially China now the world biggest emitter to take a limits to their carbon-dioxide emissions."**

most of the elements that made up the atmosphere. This is really a very thin layer if you look about it. In his book "The End of Nature", author Bill McKibln tells of the walking of three miles from his cabin in Adirondacks to buy food from the market, there he realized on that short journey, he has traveled a distance that equal to the layer of the atmosphere. In fact if you were to view from space, the principle sections of the atmosphere would only be about as thick as the skin of an onion. Realizing this make it more plausible to support that human beings with their heavy polluted emissions daily resulting a

have predicted doomsday for the humankind; like the "population explosion bomb" in 1960s "the running out of natural resources" in 1970s and the genetically modified food scare were examples of exaggerated sciences. So that the climate alarmists and the different scientists proclaiming their scientific findings leading to world calamity of destruction and end of mankind. The 196 countries under the United Nations could not possibly come up with a unity of thought for resolving their differences between greater and smaller carbon-dioxide emissions, resulting in chaos, thus like "a bull in a China shop" creat-

that too, has been sized upon by the skeptics as evidence that global warming has "paused". Hasn't global warming stopped? No, global temperature has been in a clean upward trend, after which, temperature will be lower but still warmer than previous decades that let some of the climate skeptics to claim that the world was cooling down.

While the US, the world biggest emitter stays outside of the climate conference under the United Nations, It was clear that a new approach has needed that should bring the US in and encouraged the major developing economies especially China now the world biggest

(The author is the former Assistant Registrar of Companies Registration Office, the Ministry of Trade.)



# What's fuelling Yangon's motorbike ban?

Jacob Goldberg

INSPECTOR Hlaing Win Aung stared at a photo of a dead toddler lying on the pavement as he attempted to explain Yangon's murky prohibition against motorbikes.

"It's just about safety," the traffic police inspector for North Okkalapa Township said.

He continued flipping through the photos on his computer screen. He pointed at a shot of four family members astride a single motorbike, then another of three people on a motorbike, one of whom is awkwardly clasping an umbrella over their head.

"There are too many cars in Yangon. Motorbike drivers tend to weave between traffic and often drive in the wrong direction or lane. They put too many passengers on one bike. Before the law was passed, everyone did this, and no one had licences," he said.

Inspector Hlaing Win Aung paused at a photo showing a man's body lodged between the front wheel and the metal frame of a truck, his motorbike a crumpled heap beneath him beside a puddle of blood.

"I see too many dead people. The ban against motorbikes is good," he said.

Yet anyone who has visited townships north of downtown Yangon late enough at night would notice that the safety measure is somewhat selectively enforced.

According to inspector Hlaing Win Aung, only fuel-powered motorbikes are prohibited under the Yangon Region government's 1989 community order against driving motorbikes in the city's municipal area. Electric bikes, so long as they have pedals, are allowed throughout Yangon, except within the six townships comprising the downtown area.

Fuel-powered motorbikes, on the other hand, are illegal throughout the city. Nonetheless, they continue to be driven in plain view in Yangon's northern areas, such as North Okkalapa, Mingaladon and Hlaingthaya townships.

The inconsistency with which Yangon's anti-motorbike law is enforced is just one reason to doubt its stated purpose. Many have called attention to the fact that motorbikes are permitted in every other state and region of Myanmar.



Yangon Region Government announced recently an order banning motorbikes in Yangon region.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE



Traffic Police Colonel Aung Ko Oo.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

This has fuelled speculation that concerns other than the safety of motorists might be the reason behind the peculiar law.

According to an urban legend popularised in part by the graphic novel 'Burma Chronicles' by Guy Delisle, the law is the result of an incident in which two teenagers pulled up alongside the car of a military general and made gestures resembling the firing of a gun.

"This is true," said Deputy Traffic Police Major Win Lwin.

"Teenagers have been known to 'shoot' at convoys of the country's VIPs, which makes them fear motorbikes. It's also a very rude gesture," he said.

Inspector Hlaing Win Aung, on the other hand, said he never heard this story, saying it is "false and impossible." He maintains that the law is primarily about keeping road users safe.

"We deal with about three motorbike accidents per month [in North Okkalapa], and there are many more in other townships," he said.

One motorbike driver from

**"Despite rumours that Yangon's motorbike law may change amid the Myanmar government's reform fervour, those who wish to see the ban lifted ought not hold their breath."**



Authorities seized more than 1,600 illegal motorbikes up to date.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

North Okkalapa Township who declined to be named runs a tea shop less than a block away from the township's traffic police station. He said he has ridden his motorbike for three years and has never been caught. He also lacks a licence.

"I am scared of the police, but I also know they can't take my bike if I stay off the main roads. They are concerned about accidents, and no accidents happen on side streets," he said.

Another reason to doubt the ban's ability to improve road safety measure is the discrepancy between the penalties for licenced and unlicenced drivers.

According to the inspector, North Okkalapa traffic police confiscate around 30 motorbikes every week. If the driver has no licence, the motorbike is impounded, and if the owner fails to produce a licence within four or five months of the seizure, it is melted down.

He said his department sends off about 100 motorbikes every five months to be destroyed.

However, many motorbike drivers have licences from outside Yangon Region, and even though these licences do not permit them to ride their bikes in Yangon, they do soften the penalty for doing so. The inspector said a licenced motorbike driver must only pay a fine of K51,500 in order to have his bike returned a month later.

One resident of North Okkalapa said he was once pulled over by a traffic officer on a major thoroughfare and had his bike seized. The following day, he asked his brother, who is a captain in the military, to come to the police station.

"My brother walked in, nodded at the officers, said he was my brother, and my bike was returned that day," he said with a shrug.

Thiri, who runs a showroom for electric bikes in North Okkalapa, said the law also rarely affects foreigners in Yangon.

"The police will not stop you. They don't speak English," she said.

Despite rumours that Yangon's motorbike law may change amid the Myanmar government's reform fervour, those who wish to see the ban lifted ought not hold their breath.

At a press conference at the Yangon Traffic Police Headquarters on Friday, Traffic Police Colonel Aung Ko Oo said, "We are taking action against motorbikes, even in the outskirts of Yangon, but we still find more and more every day."

The press conference was held to discuss details of a new Motor Vehicles Law, which will be enacted this year. Fuel-powered motorbike repair shops and showrooms will remain legal under the new law, as they have been under the old one.

"People ride motorbikes because they can afford to buy them," said Traffic Police Colonel Aung Ko Oo.

Inspector Hlaing Win Aung said while he believes motorbikes are dangerous, he understands why people continue to use them.

"The people in this township are poor. They cannot afford cars, and using motorbikes as taxis is an easy way for them to earn money. They are good for business, but not good for me," he said.

## Only 5 percent of Russian strikes hitting Islamic State

LONDON — Only one in 20 Russian air strikes in Syria are aimed at Islamic State targets, Britain's defence secretary said on Saturday, warning that Vladimir Putin was instead killing civilians to shore up President Bashar al-Assad.

Russia bombed Syria for a third straight day on Friday, mainly hitting areas held by rival insurgent groups rather than the Islamic State fighters it said it was targeting, and drawing an angry response from the West.

In an interview with the *Sun* newspaper, British Defence Secretary Michael Fallon said the vast majority of Russian air strikes

were not aimed at the militant group at all. "Our evidence indicates they are dropping unguided munitions in civilian areas, killing civilians, and they are dropping them against the Free Syrian forces fighting Assad," he said. "He's shoring up Assad and perpetuating the suffering."

Prime Minister David Cameron has said he sees a strong case for conducting British air strikes against Islamic State in Syria, but he wants to make sure he has enough support in parliament to gain approval.

He lost a parliamentary vote on the use of force in Syria in 2013. Consequently, British bombing so

far has only targeted Islamic State in neighbouring Iraq. Fallon said Putin's actions complicated the situation in Syria, but the British government had made progress in persuading lawmakers from the opposition Labour party to back strikes in Syria. It would be morally wrong not to do so, he said.

"We can't leave it to French, Australian and American aircraft to keep our own British streets safe," he said. Putin's decision to launch strikes in Syria marks a dramatic escalation of foreign involvement in a civil war more than four years old, where every major country in the region has a stake. —Reuters



Men stand along a crater caused by what activists said was a Russian air strike in Latamneh city on Wednesday, in the northern countryside of Hama, Syria on 2 October 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Nine dead at Afghan hospital after US air strike

KABUL — The US military on Saturday acknowledged it may have bombed a hospital run by medical aid group Medecins Sans Frontieres in the Afghan city of Kunduz in an air strike that killed at least nine people and wounded 37.

The incident could renew concerns about the use of US air power in Afghanistan, a controversial issue in America's longest war. Former President Hamid Karzai fell out with his backers in Washington over the number of civilians killed by bombs.

Fighting has raged around the northern provincial capital of Kunduz as government forces backed by American air power seek to drive out Taliban militants who seized the city six days ago in the biggest victory of their nearly 14-

year insurgency. Despite government claims to have taken control of the area, a bitter contest with the Taliban continues. Afghan security forces fought their way into Kunduz three days ago, but battles continue in many places, with Taliban hiding in people's homes.

US forces launched an air strike at 2.15 am (2145 GMT), the spokesman, Col. Brian Tribus, said in a statement. "The strike may have resulted in collateral damage to a nearby medical facility," he added. "This incident is under investigation." At the aid group's bombed-out hospital, one wall of a building had collapsed, scattering fragments of glass and wooden door frames, and three rooms were ablaze, said Saad Mukhtar, director of public health in Kunduz.—Reuters

## US weighs new support for Syrian rebels against Islamic State

WASHINGTON — The United States is considering extending support to thousands of Syrian rebel fighters, possibly with arms and air strikes, to help them push Islamic State from a strategic pocket of Syrian territory along the Turkish border, US officials say.

US backing for the plan would come as moderate rebels in Syria, some trained and backed by the United States, say they have been targeted by Russian air strikes, raising tensions between Washington and Moscow. A decision, the officials said, would likely be made as part of a comprehensive overhaul of the US military's support for rebels

to fight Islamic State following setbacks that have all but killed a "train-and-equip" programme.

The proposal under consideration is for the United States and Turkey to support an amalgamation of largely Arab fighters and would include members of multiple ethnic groups, US officials say.

Turkey, wary of Kurdish aspirations to create an independent state, does not want to see Kurdish forces control more of the Syrian side of their border.

The fighters, who were proposed by Turkey, include some who have received US vetting, the officials say. Its unclear how many Syrian fighters have re-

ceived US vetting, although the military acknowledges reviewing upwards of 8,000 potential recruits, many of whom were deemed ineligible for training. "We don't have a problem with that (Turkish selection)," said one US military official, speaking to Reuters on condition of anonymity, and cautioning that the matter was still under review by the Obama administration.

The official and others interviewed by Reuters declined to name the groups, which in Syria often have competing interests. Two US officials said the fighters numbered in the thousands but declined to offer a precise figure.—Reuters

## No school for 400,000 Syrian refugee children in Turkey

ANKARA — Out of 640,000 Syrian children in Turkey, 400,000 are not at school, a Turkish official told Reuters on Friday, warning that those who miss out are likely to be exploited by "gangs and criminals".

Educating the children among more than 2.2 million Syrian refugees in Turkey — most of whom live outside purpose-built camps — is seen as a critical part of the humanitarian response to the four-and-a-half-year-old conflict.

European governments also see it as a critical part of their counter-terrorism strategy. "If we cannot educate these students, they will fall into the wrong hands, they are going to be exploited by gangs, criminals," deputy under secretary for education, Yusuf Buyuk, said.

"We are trying to improve the standards in our country which means also improving standards for Syrians," he said on a visit to a school in a suburb of Ankara which works a double-shift system, teaching Syrian children after 2 p.m. These schools educate some 110,000 Syrian pupils nationwide. The government aims to get 270,000 Syrians children into education by the end of this school

term in January and 370,000 by the end of the year, Buyuk said.

Last school year educating Syrian refugee children cost the government \$600 million. Children at the school in the Karapurcek district of Ankara, where many shop signs are written in Arabic and most Syrians come from Aleppo province, said they

were happy to be in Turkey.

Salah Hasanato, who looks younger than his 14 years, says he has many Turkish friends. His best friend is called Baris and they speak in Turkish although Salah and the other children in the school learn from Syrian text books. But Turkish residents are resentful of the money the government is

spending on supporting refugees. Adnan, 52, who runs a stationery shop with his wife in Karapurcek, said he had no problem with the refugees but was angry at the government.

"The government gives us nothing. Everything is for Syrians... Coal, food and UNICEF, and nothing for us."—Reuters



Syrian refugee children sit in their classroom at Fatih Sultan Mehmet School in Karapurcek district of Ankara, Turkey. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Saudi Arabia starts DNA tests to identify bodies in Mecca

RIYADH — Saudi Arabia said on Friday that a local hospital has started DNA tests on unidentified bodies in a stampede in Mecca, Saudi Press Agency reported.

On 23 September, a stampede took place in Mecca while pilgrims were performing one of Hajj rituals.

Saudi officials said the accident left 769 killed and 934 injured.

Al Noor Hospital in Mecca started to collect DNA samples from the relatives to see their matches among unidentified bodies.

The deadly accident has been the worst stampede in Mecca during the last 25 years. The reason behind it is still under investigation.

According to local press, one main reason of the incident is the negligence of pilgrims to crowd control rules while performing the ritual of stoning the devil in Mina area. —Xinhua

## Brazil halts use of Silimed silicone breast implants, follows Europe



A laboratory worker of Silimed factory checks silicone implants at a factory in Rio de Janeiro. PHOTO: REUTERS

RIO DE JANEIRO — Brazil's health regulator Anvisa said on Friday it had suspended the production, sale and use of products made by Brazilian breast-implant maker Silimed after an inspection found the company failed production standards.

Anvisa acted a week after European regulators banned the sale of silicone implants made by Silimed Indústria de Implantes Ltda after a German authority found some manufacturing surfaces contaminated with particles.

Anvisa described the ban as "a precautionary measure" after a recent inspection confirmed the German authority's find-

ings. The regulator said it was carrying out tests on these products to assess any risks.

In a statement Silimed said that it has always maintained the highest quality standards and that the existence of sterile particles do not represent a health risk. It is working with European and Brazilian regulators to reverse the decision, it said.

Silimed, which produces breast, penile and testicular implants, says it is the largest manufacturer of silicone implants in South America.

It is first in sales in Brazil, third in the world and exports devices to more than 75 countries worldwide.—Reuters

## Big gulp: feeding strategy of blue whales revealed

WASHINGTON — The blue whale is the largest creature on Earth and perhaps the biggest that ever lived, so it is no surprise it has a huge appetite. But the strategies this behemoth uses to get enough food has not been well understood — until now.

Scientists said on Friday a study of blue whales off California's coast that used tags to track their movements and their prey, tiny shrimp-like crustaceans called krill, showed these marine mammals are not indiscriminate grazers as long thought.

Instead, they feed more intensely when krill density is high but avoid doing so when there is less krill in order to save oxygen for future dives.

"We found that blue whales have a complex strategy of switching from conserving oxygen when prey quality is low, to intense foraging at the expense of oxygen when prey quality is high," said research ecologist Elliott Hazen of the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries' Southwest Fisheries Science Centre and the University of California Santa Cruz.

Blue whales are filter-feeders, using baleen plates in the mouth made of keratin, also found in people's fingernails, to strain krill from ocean water.

When lunge-feeding, the whale accelerates and opens its mouth, taking in a volume of prey-laden water up to 130 percent of its weight. Its throat dis-

tends, filling with water, and then it uses throat muscles and its tongue to force water out of its mouth through baleen plates that act as a sieve to keep the krill.

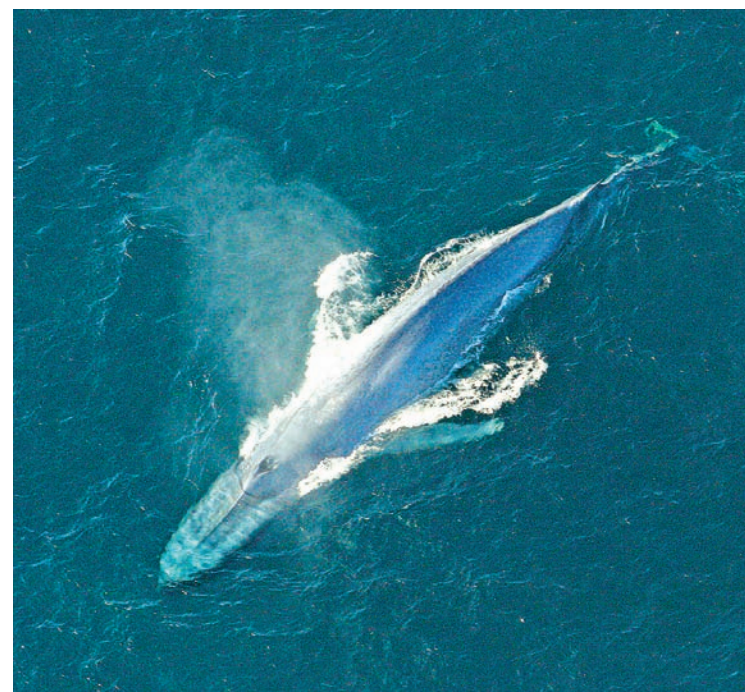
Blue whales eat up to around four tons of krill daily.

"The whales are much more actively assessing their environment and taking advantage of prey in ways that were unknown before, to maximize energy gain," added ecologist Ari Friedlander of Oregon State University's Marine Mammal Institute.

The study included information from more than 50 whales, using tags applied via suction

cups and data on prey. Blue whales, found in all the world's oceans, are listed as endangered thanks to 20<sup>th</sup> century whaling that drove them nearly to extinction. There are about 10,000 worldwide. They reach up to about 98 feet (30 metres) long and 180 tons.

"Blue whales face a gauntlet of risks in the ocean from ship-strikes to human noise, and for an animal living on the knife-edge these dense patches of prey are critical to put on mass and ultimately reproduce," Hazen said. The research appears in the journal *Science Advances*.—Reuters



A blue whale surfaces to breathe in an undated picture from the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). PHOTO: REUTERS

## Caring for loved one with Alzheimer's may be most stressful for spouse

NEW YORK — Caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease isn't easy under the best of circumstances, but it may be much more stressful for spouses and people who suffer from depression, a Finnish study suggests.

Researchers followed 236 family caregivers of Alzheimer's patients for three years after the diagnosis. Caregiving appeared to be much more stressful for people who were married to the patients or who suffered from depression when the study began.

"Even minor depressive symptoms at the beginning of caregiving are a significant predictor of psychological distress during the years of caregiving," lead study author Tarja Valimaki of the University of Eastern Finland said by email.

The findings suggest that spousal caregivers should receive mental health evaluations at the time that their loved one is diagnosed with Alzheimer's, Valimaki added.

"Alzheimer's disease patients' home care is reliant on caregivers, and it is not reasonable for spousal caregivers to put their own health at risk due to the caregiving," Valimaki said.

Alzheimer's disease is an irreversible, progressive brain disorder that slowly destroys memory and thinking skills and eventually, the ability to carry out the simplest tasks. It is the most common cause of dementia among older adults and a leading cause of death among the elderly.

The study included 166 Alzheimer's patients being cared for by their spouses, as well as 70 patients being cared for by other loved ones. Researchers assessed psychological stress by asking caregivers about their ability carry out daily activities, social functioning, and the appearance of new sources of distress or concern in their lives.

At the start of the study, caregivers and patients who lived together had typically been sharing a home for more than three

decades. Spousal caregivers were older and reported more depression than caregivers who weren't married to the patients.

Over three years, psychological distress appeared to increase significantly among spousal caregivers but not among nonspousal caregivers, the study

found. One limitation of the study is that almost half of the participants dropped out before the end, the authors acknowledge in the *Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry and Neurology*.

Even so, the study highlights the need for doctors and nurses to consider two people

patients in an Alzheimer's diagnosis — both the person diagnosed and their partner or spouse, said Barbara Given, a researcher at the college of nursing at Michigan State University in East Lansing.

"Not everyone can be a good caregiver and as professionals we need to do an assessment and determine who can do it, who wants to do it, and who needs other support to do it," Given, who wasn't involved in the study, said by email.

Another challenge may be financial, noted Carol Levine, director of the families and health care project at the United Hospital Fund in New York City.

"Perhaps there are alternatives in the Finnish system; in the US there are few alternatives and those that do exist are expensive and beyond the reach of most families (assisted-living or full-time home care) or considered unacceptable (a long-term care facility)," Levine, who wasn't involved in the study, said by email.—Reuters



Patients with Alzheimer's and dementia are sit inside the Alzheimer foundation in Mexico City. PHOTO: REUTERS

# Violence in refugee homes could spiral: German police union chief

BERLIN — There is a risk of violence among asylum seekers getting out of hand at accommodation centres in Germany, the country's police union chief said on Friday in remarks reflecting growing concern over a record refugee influx.

More than 200,000 migrants are estimated to have arrived in Germany in September alone — roughly the same as for the whole of last year — and the government estimates that 800,000 or more could come over the course of 2015.

More than 500,000 migrants have reached the European Union so far this year, many fleeing war in the Middle East and Africa with others pursuing a better life in the affluent EU, with Germany and Sweden among the most favoured destinations.

“We’re running the risk that the situation in refugee accommodation will get out of control,” police union chief Rainer Wendt told the mass-circulation newspaper *Bild*.

“Our experience suggests that in many places there are, unfortunately, very targeted and well-prepared violent clashes with ethnic or religious motivations almost every day.”

German police arrested 15 asylum seekers on Tuesday suspected of being involved in a fight at their hostel in Suhl, in the eastern state of Thuringia, which left 11 people hurt, local broadcaster MDR reported.

Interior Minister Thomas de Maiziere has also warned about violence in asylum-seeker centres. Speaking on broadcaster ZDF on Thursday, he said that



Migrants have lunch at a temporary shelter in a sports hall in Hanau, Germany on 1 October 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

while refugees were thankful to be in Germany until recently, that had changed for some now.

“They go on strike because they don’t like the accommodation and they cause trouble because they don’t like the food. They beat each other in the facilities for asylum seekers,” he said.

“That’s still a minority at the moment but we have to say clear-

ly that whoever comes to Germany ... must allow themselves to be distributed to wherever we send them, take part in a fair process and respect our legal system.”

Many German politicians still say asylum seekers are but increasingly urging them to respect Germany and its culture.

Chancellor Angela Merkel’s popularity has slumped to its

lowest level in nearly four years, a sign of the public’s cooling attitude towards the refugee wave.

She was initially celebrated at home and abroad for her welcoming approach to the refugees. But as the flow has continued and German facilities have been stretched to the limit, she has come under increasing criticism.—Reuters

## Migrants break into Channel Tunnel, rail services disrupted

LILLE/LONDON — Around 200 migrants tried to get into the Channel Tunnel from the French side overnight, clashing with staff and police and forcing a tempo-

rary suspension of rail services, a spokesman for Eurotunnel said.

Rail services resumed on Saturday morning but traffic was slow due to continued safety

checks, the company said.

The incident was the latest in a series involving migrants who are camped around the northern French port of Calais in the hope of reaching Britain.

The migrants broke into Eurotunnel’s French terminal at 0030 local time (2330 BST), with 120 entering the tunnel before being intercepted by French police as far as 15 kilometres inside the tunnel, the company and police said.

“Such a large group had no chance of reaching the UK, so this was clearly an organised attack aimed at drawing media attention to the desperate situation of the migrants who are stuck in Calais,” Eurotunnel said in a statement.

Rail services resumed as of 0600 GMT, with passenger services operating in both direc-

tions, but were subject to some delays, Eurotunnel said.

Calais is one of the flash-points in a much wider pan-European immigration crisis. European countries are struggling to agree on how best to tackle the huge inflows of people fleeing conflicts or poverty in the Middle East and Africa.

Migrants in makeshift camps outside Calais known as the “jungle” regularly try to reach Britain by hiding in lorries and trains.

A tightening of security at Calais’ sea port in recent months prompted increased attempts to access the Channel Tunnel, leading to the deaths of several migrants.

France and Britain have pledged to step up security at the tunnel after incidents this summer caused tensions between the two EU member states.—Reuters



Migrants gather on the road as others board lorries that queue on the access road to reach the ferry terminal in Calais, France on 3 October 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

## Mexico clash may have involved ‘extrajudicial killings’

MEXICO CITY — An international human rights body on Friday called for Mexico to investigate a clash between security forces and alleged gang members that killed 43 people, citing testimony suggesting it had included extrajudicial killings by the state.

In May, authorities said 42 suspected members of the Jalisco New Generation Cartel had been killed in a three-hour gunfight near the small town of Tanhuato, Michoacan, with one federal police officer also killed. Reports later said some of the dead had been shot in the back, while families said some victims showed signs of torture.

“The testimonies...at least suggest that there were extrajudicial executions, and there should be an investigation,” said James Cavallaro, vice president of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR). Mexico is living through a human rights crisis characterized by forced disappearances, executions, torture and impunity, the IACHR said, after a five-day visit to the country.—Reuters

## Military vet shot seven times as he protected Oregon classmates

ROSEBURG — An Iraq war veteran and mixed martial arts fighter whose son turned 6 years old on Thursday was shot seven times as he blocked the gunman from entering a classroom, possibly saving lives during a mass shooting in southern Oregon.

Chris Mintz, 30, was in the hospital on Friday after seven hours of surgery and significant blood loss from his injuries in the tragedy that left 10 dead including the shooter at Umpqua Community

College in Roseburg, said his former girlfriend Jamie Skinner.

Before and after his surgery, Mintz was conscious and told Skinner of the chaotic scene.

“Chris was keeping students from leaving the classroom he was in, to keep them safe, based on his training,” said Skinner, who spent hours in the hospital. “The assailant was not able to make it into the classroom, because Chris stopped him.”

She said the couple was to-

gether for 10 years and remain close as they raise their son together.

Mintz was an infantry soldier in the Army and served in Mosul and elsewhere in Iraq, Skinner said. She and his cousin, Derek Bourgeois in North Carolina, told Reuters that Mintz is a fitness buff who likes to bodybuild and practices recreational mixed martial arts.

He works at the YMCA and is studying fitness technology at the community college, hoping to be-

come a personal trainer.

Skinner said that after the gunman shot Mintz, “when Chris hit the ground, he told him it was our son’s birthday.”

The gunman, identified as 26-year-old Chris Harper-Mercer, shot him several more times.

Harper-Mercer was killed by police in a shoot-out following the execution-style massacre. It was another burst of US gun violence that ranked as the deadliest this year.—Reuters

# G20 ministers adopt energy action plan for Sub-Saharan Africa

ISTANBUL — G20 energy and natural resources ministers on Friday adopted an action plan seeking to boost access to energy for Sub-Saharan Africa, a region facing an acute power shortage.

The so-called G20 Energy Action Plan highlighted the importance of a conducive enabling environment for increased investment and sustainable growth in the region.

“We stress the need for public-private part-

nerships, stakeholder alliances and strong political commitment to energy access,” Turkish Energy and Natural Resource Minister Ali Riza Alaboyun told reporters at the conclusion of a two-day meeting in Istanbul, the first of its kind for G20 energy ministers.

“The improvement of Sub-Saharan countries in accessing energy has been following a very slow trend,” he noted. “Last year, around one percent improvement was

achieved.” “If the development continues at the same pace, half of the Sub-Saharan countries will continue to live in the dark,” warned the minister, whose country holds the G20 presidency.

Africa needs investment for producing an extra 6-7 kilowatt of power per year, energy experts said.

Alaboyun urged Turkey and China, which assumes the G20 presidency next year, to cooperate in

Africa. Globally over 1.1 billion people live without access to electricity and 2.6 billion people live without clean cooking facilities, a dire situation that also exposes them to health and environmental problems, according to the International Energy Agency.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, more than 600 million people have no access to energy, while 730 million people are using unhealthy solid biomass in cooking.—Xinhua

# Tunisia announces end of state of emergency imposed after tourist killings

TUNIS — Tunisia announced on Friday the end of state of emergency across the country, according to the president's office.

The state of emergency was imposed a week after a deadly terrorist attack on the touristic resort of the

coastal city Sousse.

On 26 June, 38 tourists, including 30 British, were killed and 38 more injured in the terrorist attack on a resort in Sousse, which raised security concerns in the country and dealt a heavy blow to Tunisia's

tourism industry. Tunisia President Beji Caid Essebsi declared the state of emergency on 4 July, which was extended for another two months on 3 August.

The state of emergency grants security forces and official authorities

more power to control movements and increase check-points.

Tunisia was previously under a state of emergency for three years after the ouster of former President Ben Ali in 2011 uprisings.—Xinhua

# Israeli gunfire wounds 3 Palestinians in West Bank

RAMALLAH — Israeli soldiers on Friday fired and wounded three Palestinians, including a photojournalist, during an anti-settlement protest in northern the West Bank, according to a Palestinian official.

Murad Ishtaiwi, a coordinator for the popular resistance in the village of Kofor Qadoom near the

town of Qalqilia, said that the protesters were calling for opening a main road in the village.

Israeli soldiers fired live ammunition at the protesters and wounded three people, including a photographer who works for an Italian news agency, he added.

Conflict between Israel and the Palestinians is

expected to flare following Thursday night's shooting attack which killed two Israelis — a husband and his wife — from the settlement of Itamar near the West Bank city of Nablus.

Following the attack, a group calling itself the Brigades of Abdul Qader al-Husseini — the Forces of the Storm, an armed wing of Fatah movement,

claimed responsibility for the attack in a leaflet published on the group's website.

However, a senior official in President Abbas' Fatah movement, who spoke on condition of anonymity, denied any relation between the group which carried out the attack and Fatah movement.—Xinhua

# Nearly 250,000 visitors welcomed in Malta in August

VALLETTA — A total of inbound visitors including cruise passengers who visited Malta in August were estimated at 248,284, an increase of 3.7 percent when compared to the same month of 2014, according to a press release published on Friday by Malta's National Statistics Office.

According to the statistics, 220,776 inbound tourist trips were carried out for holiday purposes, while a further 5,682 were undertaken for business purposes. The rest of the visitors are cruise passengers.

Inbound tourists from EU member states went up by 6.0 percent

to 215,716 when compared to the same month of 2014.

Total nights spent went up by 5.1 percent when compared to August 2014, reaching nearly 2.4 million nights. Total tourist expenditure was estimated at 276.2 million euros (about 309 million US dollars), an increase of

7.3 percent over the corresponding month of 2014.

Inbound tourist trips from January to August amounted to 1,216,569, an increase of 5.1 percent over the same period in 2014. Total nights spent by inbound tourists went up by 4.4 percent, reaching nearly 9.7 million nights.—Xinhua

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV MATHU BHUM VOY NO (1008W)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MATHU BHUM VOY NO (1008W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.10.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S MOL (S'PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV BC SANFRANCISCO VOY NO (015W)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BC SANFRANCISCO VOY NO (015W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.10.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S OOCL SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 2301185

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV KOTA TENAGA VOY NO (305)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TENAGA VOY NO (305) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.10.2015 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 2301185

## WEATHER REPORT

**BAY INFERENCE:** Monsoon is moderate to strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weather is partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2015:** Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Taninthayi Region, fairly widespread in Yangon and Ayeyarwady Regions, Kayin and Mon States, scattered in Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay, Magway and Bago Regions, Shan, Rakhine and Kayah States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Mon-Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (30 - 35) m.p.h. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Likelihood of increase of rain in Taninthayi Region, Kayin and Mon States.

**FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2015:** Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%)

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## 'Star Wars' spaceship model sets auction record



PHOTO: REUTERS

LOS ANGELES — A model of the "Star Wars" blockade runner spaceship has sold for a record \$450,000 — almost double estimates — at a Hollywood memorabilia auction.

Auctioneers Profiles in History said on Friday that the intricate 16-inch model of the flying ship featured in the first film, 1977's "Star Wars: Episode IV — A New Hope," became the most expensive "Star Wars" item ever to be sold at auction.

The miniature spaceship, which carried Princess Leia and droids C-3PO and R2-D2 in the opening scenes of the blockbuster series, came from the collection of late visual effects Oscar-winner Grant McCune and had been expected to fetch between \$200,000 and \$300,000.

Another top "Star Wars" item was Princess Leia's slave costume, worn by actress Carrie Fisher in "Episode VI — Re-

turn of the Jedi," which sold for \$96,000. The three-day auction in southern California, which ended on Thursday, also saw a record price for a TV costume, with actor George Reeves' 1953-54 "Superman" costume selling for \$216,000.

Harrison Ford's signature bull whip from the "Indiana Jones" movies went for \$204,000. The actor's fedora, leather jacket and shirt worn in other films in the popular franchise each fetched more than \$72,000, the auction house said.

The names of the buyers were not released.

The Hollywood auction came some two months before the December release of "Star Wars: The Force Awakens," which features original cast members Ford, Fisher and Mark Hamill in a new adventure set 30 years after 1983's "Return of the Jedi." —Reuters

### PICTURE OF THE DAY



An Australian artist performs contortion at the competition during the 15th China Wujiao International Circus Festival in Wujiao, north China's Hebei Province on 2 October 2015. The international circus competition of the festival was open to the public on Friday for the Gold Lion Prizes. PHOTO: XINHUA

## Sam Smith's 'James Bond' theme tune tops UK charts

LONDON — British singer Sam Smith went straight to number one in the UK pop charts on Friday with "Writing's On The Wall", the theme song to the upcoming James Bond film "Spectre", making it the first title track for a 007 movie to be a chart-topper.

The song knocked "What Do You Mean?" by Canada's Justin Bieber from the top spot after three weeks and gave Smith his fifth British number one single, the Official Charts Company said.

R City featuring Adam Levine stayed in third with "Locked Away" with former number one, "Easy Love", by London-based DJ Sigala in fourth.

In the albums chart, electronic duo Disclosure — siblings Howard and Guy Lawrence — notched up their second number one with "Caracal".

Veteran British band New Order recorded their highest album position in 22 years, debuting in second with "Music Complete", with last week's number one "Rattle That Lock" by Pink Floyd's David Gilmour in third. —Reuters



British singer Sam Smith performs during the 2015 iHeartRadio Music Festival at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, Nevada on 18 September 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

## 70th Tony Awards set for 5 June 2016

LOS ANGELES — The 70th annual Tony Awards, which will recognise Broadway's best talent, are set to take place on 5 June, 2016.

The tandem organisations behind Broadway's top honours, the Broadway League and the American Theatre Wing, confirmed the date on 28 September, said The Hollywood Reporter.

The show will be broadcast live on CBS, as it has been every year since 1978. The information about the specific New York City venue where the theatre trophies will be handed out is not yet forthcoming. News surfaced last week that due to a change in schedule for the New York Spring Spectacular, a multimedia song-and-dance blitz showcasing legendary kickline troupe the Rockettes, the Tonys' regular home at Radio City Music Hall is likely to be unavailable.

The Spring Spectacular is moving to early summer and will undergo a name change. The show is scheduled to run 15 June through 7 August at Radio City.

That would allow the Tonys to sneak in on 5 June before the other show starts. But the demands of rehearsal time, plus the complicated load-in and load-out procedures required for two different large-scale productions, make such an arrangement highly unlikely. —PTI

## Louis Tomlinson to be guest judge on UK's 'The X Factor'



PHOTO: REUTERS

LOS ANGELES — One Direction Louis Tomlinson is returning to his roots but this time in a new role as he will be seen as a guest judge on the singing competition series "The X Factor".

The now global sensation, One Direction, which composed of Tomlinson, Niall Horan, Liam Payne, Harry Styles, and previously, Zayn Malik, was formed and finished third in the seventh series of the "The X Factor" in 2010.

The group signed with music mogul Simon Cowell's record label Syco Records.

Tomlinson, 23, will join Cowell at the judges' houses stage of the singing competition series. He will help the music mogul choose the contestants

from his Overs category to be taken to the live shows, reported Entertainment Weekly.

Other guest judges on the stage are Meghan Trainor, Mark Ronson and Jess Glynne.

Trainor will help Rita Ora narrow down the contestants in Girls category, Ronson will assist Nick Grimshaw in choosing the Boys, and Glynne will help Cheryl Fernandez-Versini (formerly known as Cheryl Cole) select the groups. The judges' houses segment will be broadcast the last weekend of October.

There were plans to live broadcast the segment from the judges' houses, but due to "logistical and technical reasons" the plans have been scrapped. —PTI

## China's first modern university marks 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary

TIANJIN — Tianjin University, the first university in modern China, marked its 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Friday.

A series of celebrations, including a University Presidents' Roundtable, a gala performance and unveiling ceremony of the statue of its founder Sheng Xuanhuai, will be held since Friday at the campus in the northern port city of Tianjin.

As a key university under the administration of Ministry of Education, the university boasts of 250,000 graduates in the past 120 years, who played an important role in building China's modern industrial system.

Tianjin University will further expand cooperation with the best universities and science and research teams across the world to deal with problems emerging in China's modernization process, said Li Jiajun, president of the university.

Tianjin University, also known as Peiyang University in the past, was established in 1895 by Sheng Xuanhuai, then governor of Tianjin Customs. It was the first to fully adopt western university system in China.

Charles Daniel Tenney, an American educator, was the first president who held office from 1895 to 1906.—Xinhua

## Pink lake, treehouses and African beats in Senegal



People are pictured on a beach next to fishing canoes in Dakar, Senegal on 21 June 2013. PHOTO: REUTERS

LAC ROSE — Approaching Senegal's sand dune-flanked Lac Rose, overcast skies hid the sun and, at first, obscured the vibrant pink hue that gives the expansive lake its name.

But standing on its shores, the waters showed their true, improbable colours — magenta, nearly violet — lapping against the bottoms of gently bobbing boats and rippling around my hands as I scooped up the salt that gives the lake its fame.

About an hour up the Atlantic coastline from the capital, Dakar, the lake is among the prime attractions in a country that, by virtue of its culture, political sta-

bility and good roads, has emerged as a tourist capital of West Africa.

Four hours further north lies Saint-Louis, an island town of age-worn buildings that was once France's colonial capital in Senegal and is today perhaps best known internationally for its jazz festival, held in May.

A half-km (quarter-mile)-long steel bridge built by Gustave Eiffel traverses the Senegal river, linking the UNESCO World Heritage site to the African mainland.

Shielding the island from the Atlantic is the Langue de Barbarie, a sandy finger of land named for the Berbers who once inhabited

its small houses. It is now home to a traditional fishing village and, further down, a national park renowned for its bird life.

Hotel Siki is cozy, and the labyrinthine Hotel de la Poste offers horse-drawn tours of the city.

After a day wandering through Saint-Louis's narrow streets, stroll over to the Flamingo Restaurant for a tasty yassa, a classic sauce of caramelized onions served over fish.

Finish off with iced chocolate cake with honey from Senegal's southern Casamance region.

The holy city of Touba has no hotels — or bars or nightclubs, for that matter — so carry on south to Sine-Saloum.—Reuters

Its crown jewel is the Grand Mosque, adorned with Moroccan tiles and Italian marble, where tens of thousands of worshippers come to pray every Friday.

Female visitors will want to wear long skirts and headscarves covering hair, necks and shoulders to avoid a scolding.

Construction began in 1927, but the mosque is still a work in progress with each caliph, descendants of Amadou Bamba, founder of the Mouride Brotherhood, seeking to leave his lasting mark. Touba has no hotels — or bars or nightclubs, for that matter — so carry on south to Sine-Saloum.—Reuters

### mitv Myanmar International

(4-10-2015 07:00 am ~ 5-10-2015 07:00 am) MST

#### Today Fresh

07:03	Am	News
07:24	Am	Yatana Theinga City and Shwe Bon Yatanamingalar Palace
07:43	Am	Image Of The Monks
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	Myanmar Prehistory
08:50	Am	Mobile House
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	The Precious Lands Of Myanmar (Mandalay Region)
10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	Wet Markets of Yangon: Thirimingalar Market
10:35	Am	School For the Blind (Kye Myin Dine)

(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm)-Saturday Repeat(07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)  
(03:00 Pm ~ 05:00 Pm) -Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 09:00 Am)

05:03	Pm	News
05:25	Pm	School For the Blind (Kye Myin Dine)
05:51	Pm	Today Myanmar "Broadcasting Law"
06:30	Pm	Live: AFC-U 19 Championship Qualifying Tournament for Bahrain 2016 (Group-G) (Myanmar Vs. Hong Kong)

#### Prime Time

08:03	Pm	News
08:24	Pm	Let's Cook (EP-4) Hassle-free Bite-sized Club Sandwiches & Hot Fudge Brownies
08:49	Pm	Myanmar Masterclass: Artist Than Kywe

(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm)-Today Repeat(09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)  
(11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am)-Saturday Repeat(07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)  
(03:00 Am ~ 07:00 Am)-Today Repeat(07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)

(For Detailed Schedule - [www.myanmaritv.com/schedule](http://www.myanmaritv.com/schedule))

### MRTV Entertainment Channel

(4-10-2015, Sunday)

<b>6:00 am</b>	<b>8:55 am</b>
• Myo Ma Nyein Music Troupe	• Sing & Enjoy
<b>6:25 am</b>	<b>9:50 am</b>
• Myanmar Video	• Pyi Thu Ni Ti
<b>8:05 am</b>	<b>10:10 am</b>
• Fashion Show (Music)	• Myanmar Movie
<b>8:15 am</b>	<b>6:15 pm</b>
• Teleplay	• AFC U-19 Championship Qualifying (Group-G) Football match (Live) (Myanmar Vs Hong Kong)
<b>8:30 am</b>	
• Game For Children	

## Japan, Pakistan team records 3D images of ancient ruins

TOKYO — A team of Japanese and Pakistani archaeologists have launched an operation to record three-dimensional images of antiquities including Buddhist ruins at a World Heritage site in Pakistan.

Creating 3-D images of the antiquities will be helpful for their future restoration, as the items are quickly deteriorating and Pakistani authorities lack funds for their preserva-

tion, the team said. In July, researchers from institutes including the Japanese Centre for South Asian Cultural Heritage, a non-profit organisation in Tokyo, and Hazara University took the digital photos of items including Buddhist images and stupas at the Taxila site in the province of Punjab.

Taxila is known as one of the important Gandharan ruins serving as a Buddhist

centre of learning from the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC to the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD. It was listed as a UNESCO Cultural Heritage site in 1980.

The team also photographed the rock edicts of King Asoka in Mansehra and petroglyphs in Hunza, both in northern Pakistan.

The photos were sent via the Internet to Japan and processed into 3-D images by Lang, an information processing company

in Iwate Prefecture, north-eastern Japan. The processing has made inscriptions and carved drawings more clearly visible, the researchers said.

"Precise data will be lost if precious ruins in Pakistan are destroyed by a disaster or other causes. It is an urgent task to preserve their records systematically," said Atsushi Noguchi of the Tokyo-based centre.—Kyodo News

## Tun Tun Min vs Daniel, Soe Lin Oo vs Nigi Sorum on 11 Oct

MYANMAR's prominent traditional boxer Tun Tun Min will meet New Zealander Daniel Kerr Jamez who is a Muay Thai champion in their challenge fight

on 11 October in Theinbyu stadium in Yangon.

The fight between Myanmar's Soe Lin Oo and Nigi Sorum is also exciting as the former is un-

conquerable in the country and the latter is famous in Muay Tai world. The match, "Who is the Best", is organised by Myanmar Traditional Boxing Federation with the

sponsorship of H&S Group.

Ticket prices vary from K10000 to K35000 per head and the grand stand is K100000.—*Maung Sein Lwin (Myanma Alinn)*



Tun Tun Min



Daniel Kerr Jamez



Soe Lin Oo



Nigi Sorum

PHOTOS: MIN HTIET

## Real jump the gun on Ronaldo scoring record

MADRID — Real Madrid paid homage to Cristiano Ronaldo as their outright leading scorer on Friday even though the official statistics show he has yet to overhaul former Spain striker Raul.

Real, and some Spanish media, believe an effort five years ago that was deemed a goal by centre back Pepe should have been awarded to the Portugal captain and he therefore has 324 goals, one more than Raul. The disputed goal came in a La Liga game at Real Sociedad in September 2010 when Ronaldo's shot arrowed towards the Sociedad wall, looped up off Pepe's back and over goalkeeper Claudio Bravo into the net.

"I would never have imagined when I put on this shirt for the first time that I would be the team's best goal scorer," Ronaldo said at a presentation at the Bernabeu stadium where he received a trophy marking his achievement.

"I am very happy," added the 30-year-old. "Firstly, I want to thank my team mates because without them it would never have been possible."

Ronaldo's next chance to officially break the record is Sunday's La Liga match at Atletico Madrid.

He needed a mere 308 matches across seven seasons to equal Raul's tally of 323, amassed in 741 games over 16 years.—*Reuters*



Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo kisses a trophy as club's president Florentino Perez applauds during a ceremony at Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid, Spain on 2 October 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS



Wladimir Klitschko

## Klitschko's fight with Fury rearranged for 28 November

LONDON—World heavyweight champion Wladimir Klitschko's bout against Briton Tyson Fury has been rearranged for 28 November after the Ukrainian was given the green light to fight following a calf injury.

Klitschko said in a statement on his website ([www.klitschko.com](http://www.klitschko.com)) on Friday that the bout would take place in Duesseldorf at the end of November, five weeks after the fight was originally scheduled.

"My injury will heal quickly enough for me to enter the ring on 28 November," said the Ukrainian who postponed the fight last week after tearing a calf tendon in training.

"I will promptly continue my training camp preparations and, of course, I am very happy to still be fighting this year especially for my fans who have already bought their tickets."

The 39-year-old Klitschko's WBA, WBO, IBF and IBO crowns will be on the line when the pair finally get into the ring. Klitschko has not lost for 11 years and has a record of 64 wins and three defeats while the 26-year-old Fury is unbeaten at 24-0.—*Reuters*



Tyson Fury

PHOTO: REUTERS

## Myanmar prepares for 2<sup>nd</sup> Men's Asian Challenge hockey

AS Myanmar is preparing to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Men's Asian Challenge hockey tournament from 12 to 20 December at Theinbyu artificial turf, Myanmar hockey team comprising 28 players and five coaches are under camp trainings as of 1 September.

Myanmar team is organised based on the players who won bronze in 28<sup>th</sup> SEA Games. The turf hosted under-18 Asian Cup in 2009, S.E.A Cup in 2011 and 27<sup>th</sup> SEA Game in 2013.—*Ko Moe*

## Talent outsourcing Badminton matches held in Mandalay

MANDALAY Region Sports and Physical Education Department and Aungmye-Mandala Badminton Club have co-operated and held badminton matches on 2 October, here for scouting new talented players.

The region's Social Welfare Minister Dr Win Hline's invitation matches were played by almost 200 players from high schools, Yadanapon University, Mandalay College, Sports and Physical Education Institute, and private clubs.

The matches held at Aungmye-Mandala in-door stadium, will span for three days.—*Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)*

## Neymar misses Brazil qualifiers after appeal rejected

BRAZIL's appeal against Neymar missing their first two South American 2018 World Cup qualifiers this month has been turned down, the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) said on Friday.

Neymar, banned for four matches at the Copa America in Chile in June by the South American Football Confederation (CONMEBOL), will miss the matches away to Chile next Thursday and at home to Venezuela five days later. "CONMEBOL, after consulting (world body) FIFA, informed its members that bans which were still not served should be served during the next official competition organised by FIFA, i.e., Brazil's qualifying matches for the 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia," CAS said in a statement.—*Reuters*

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