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YANGON ON ORANGE ALERT

Police place the region under high security until mid-November

Aye Min Soe

THE Myanmar Police Force has tightened security in Yangon Region, putting the region on 'orange alert' during on election period.

"More than 3,000 police, who make up about 50 percent of the region's police force, will be on alert across the region to support the orange alert from 1 to 14 November," said Police Major. Thein Lwin to *The Global New Light of Myanmar*.

Moreover, out of over 40,000 civilian special police recruited by authorities to provide additional security for the election, more than 5,400 will also be deployed at polling stations across the region on the election day, he added.

There are 5,495 polling stations and more than 4.9 million eligible voters in the region.

The police force has placed the region on yellow alert since the campaign period began and has provided security to religious buildings since the pre-campaign period.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has ordered the police force to be on full alert from the beginning to the middle of November across the country.



Special police officers, who have been temporarily recruited for the upcoming general elections, attend a training session at Botahtaung police station at Yangon October 26, 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

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EU mission reinforced with third deployment of election observers

Ye Myint

THE third deployment of election observers for the country's 8 November general election kicked off yesterday, according to the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM).

The 62-member delegation of short-term observers will observe the electoral process together with the EU's core team of eight election analysts and 30 long-term observers.

Chief observer Alexander

Graf Lambsdorff said the EU team will be the eyes and ears of the election observation mission on the day of the election, covering polling, counting and analysis of results in all regions, states and territories in both urban and rural areas.

According to the EU mission, the short-term observers were given a two-day briefing on voting procedures, the political environment and other topics prior to their deployment.

The number of election EU

observers in Myanmar will total more than 150 as a delegation comprising members of the European Parliament and EU diplomats will reinforce the mission on election day, the EOM announced.

While visiting many polling stations from the opening to the closing of the polls, the observers will watch and take note of how the voting is conducted, not interfering in the process, said Lambsdorff, who is also the vice president of the European Parlia-

ment. During a press conference in Yangon last month, the mission of chief told reporters that the mission is solely focused on the credibility of the country's election, conducting a comprehensive analysis of the electoral process—prior to, on and after the election.

A preliminary statement will be released two days after the election, and a final report with technical recommendations for future elections will be issued later, the chief observer said at the press conference.

Electricity arrives in Natogyi Township

CEREMONIES were held to mark the introduction of electricity in Kokkozee, Tazauk, Kyabin-aing, Hlesatun and Bontha villages in Natogyi Township on Wednesday.

Township electrical engineer U San Toe and the chairmen of village electrification committees switched on the power lines during the ceremony. Now Natogyi Township has electricity in 72 of its 158 villages.—*Htay Myint Maung*

Parasol hoisted atop Meiktila's Shwemyinmi Pagoda



Officials and well-wisher fix diamond orb atop Shwemyinmi Pagoda in Meiktila. PHOTO: CHAN THAR

AN offering of gold foils was held at Maha Thakkyamuni Shwemyinmi Pagoda in Thiri Mingala Ward, Meiktila, Mandalay Region, yesterday.

The ancient pagoda was built by King Narapati during the Bagan era. Vice Chairman of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee and the Abbot of the Shwebontha monastery of Meiktila Bhaddanta Vijjodaya administered the Five Precepts to the congregation. Attendees conveyed a diamond orb, religious parasol and pennant shape vane to the pagoda. Deputy Commissioner of the district U Tint Wai Thon, township officials and well-wishers hoisted the parasol, diamond orb and vane atop the pagoda.—*Chan Thar (Meiktila)*



EU's election observers visit Pyawbwe Township Election Sub-commission. PHOTO: MIN MIN HTWE

EU's election observers briefed on election logistics in Pyawbwe Township

ELECTION observers from the European Union met officials from Mandalay Region's Pyawbwe's Township Election Sub-commission yesterday to observe preparations for the November 8 election.

Mr Jonas Pohlmann and Ms Lisa Weedon of the British Embassy said that the purpose of the visit was to glean insights about Myanmar's electoral process as

part of the country's commitment to adhere to international standards. Chairman of the township sub-commission U Soe Myint and officials briefed the pair on preparations underway for the November 8 election, as well as the compilation of voter lists, the construction of the polling stations, advance vote casting and canvassing by political parties.—*Min Min Htwe (Pyawbwe)*

Ceremony held in Lewe Township to mark opening of new road



The opening ceremony of entrance road in progress in Yondaw village of Lewe Township.

PHOTO: MIN MIN LATT

A NEW road opened in Yondaw village, Lewe Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, on Tuesday.

Outstanding students of the village cut the ribbon to open

the new one-mile road. It was constructed at a cost of K64.830 million (US \$50,459) and was funded by the Rural Development Department under the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries

and Rural Development in 2015-16 fiscal year. The new road will significantly reduce travel times for local communities in the area.—*Min Min Latt (Mandalay University)*

Myanmar property expo in Singapore garners US\$5m in sales

A RECENT real estate expo in Singapore generated K7 billion (US\$5.4 million) in sales of flats and condos from Myanmar buyers, according to event organiser iMyanmarhouse.com.

The online property trading platform hosted the event at Grand Park City Hall Hotel on 24 and 25 October with the aim

of enticing Myanmar citizens residing in Singapore to invest in real estate in their home country.

Twelve Myanmar construction companies exhibited properties at discounted prices at the expo, which was attended by more than 5,000 people.—*Khaing*



Visitors view scale model of housings at real estate expo.

PHOTO: IMYANMARHOUSE.COM

President U Thein Sein tours Magway Region

DURING his visit to Magway Region, President U Thein Sein yesterday morning met officials and the people in five townships of Salin, Sedoktara, Ngape, Mindon and Kanma.

In Salin, the president visited Shinpin Shwetansar and Shwemudaw pagodas and donated some money for them. In a meeting with officials and residents at the community hall of the Shinpin Shwetansar Pagoda, he presented Buddha statues and solar lamps.

After paying homage at the Shwemudaw Pagoda, he was briefed on findings related to the reclamation of the Wetthae Lake in the township.

The lake is said to have been dug at the times of Myanmar kings and now preserved by the Ministry of Forest since 1939. The facility irrigates 380 acres of farmland and provides water to over 2,000 households.

The president also visited an ancient monastery named Yoke Sone, which was built in 1868.

While in Sedoktara, he met officials and the public and presented Buddha statues and solar lamps for the township.

At the Poggohtoo pagoda in Ngape, President U Thein Sein offered flowers and water, lit oil lamps, donated some money and presented Buddha statues and solar lamps for the township.

In Mindon and Kanma, the president visited pagodas and monasteries and donated some



Local people warmly welcomes President U Thein Sein in Mindon. PHOTO: MNA

money for them. He also presented Buddha statues and solar lamps for the townships.

In his visit to five townships in Magway Region, the president assured local people of his government's assistance to recovery measures in flood-hit areas. The region underwent unprecedented floods in last June.

As part of regional development, the president pledged to provide adequate infrastructure in transportation, telecommunications, education and supplies of power and water, urging officials

and residents to keep up the momentum of ongoing progress to further develop human resources.

He spoke of reforms in the political, economic and administrative mechanisms and encouragement to the development of the private sector.

He called the country's peaceful transition to democracy a shared success of the government and the people, citing some countries in the Middle East hurled into turmoil during their transition to democracy.

The people as well as the in-

ternational community recognize his government's reforms, with the president admitting that much remains to be done.

"We have made more achievements in our reforms than in 2011," he said, calling for collective contribution to peaceful transition to democracy.

The Myanmar people will go to the polls on 8 November, and all the people home and abroad are all eyes to the event.

International organizations have sent observers to monitor the elections in the thought that

'we are not yet democratically mature to organize free and fair elections', he said.

The president called for cooperation in securing free and fair voting, stressing that the success of the elections is national pride.

During the trips, the president was accompanied by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, union ministers, the chief minister of Magway Region and senior military officers of local military commands.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Myanmar's Chief Justice to attend Asia and Pacific justices conference in Australia

CHIEF Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo departed Myanmar for Sydney, Australia, to attend the 16th conference of the chief justices of Asia and the Pacific, which will begin on Friday and end next Monday.

The 16th conference will be attended by judges and judicial organisational heads from 32

countries from the Asia Pacific region. Myanmar's chief justice will meet with the chief justice of Australia's Supreme Court, as well as other judges in Australia.

The conference will focus on studies conducted by the Australia Court and discussions on the judicial reform

programme will be assisted by Australia's Supreme Court.

A separate meeting will be held to discuss the implementation of a judicial strategic plan initiated by UNDP Myanmar. The meeting will also be attended by the Chief Technical Advisor to UNDP Myanmar.—*Myanmar News Agency*

UEC takes measures to prevent multiple casting of votes

THE Union Election Commission said in a statement on Thursday that it had taken the necessary measures to prevent multiple casting of votes by voters who were issued more than one voter registration document.

The commission blamed a political party for inaccuracies in voter lists but admitted that the issue of multiple voter registration documents being issued to individual voters was serious.

Although the commission

disseminated the preliminary voter lists across the country for 14 days starting on 7 September and invited people to correct mistakes, few people checked the lists because of criticisms from a political party, the statement read.

The statement said the UEC released the preliminary voter list four times but a correct listing could not be compiled as political parties simply criticised the process, failing to urge

people to not cooperate with the commission.

The statement also said some voters were issued more than one voter registration document as their names were repeated in the voter lists, but they will not be able to cast more than one vote as they will be marked with ink on their fingers.

Legal action will be taken against those who cast votes more than once, the statement said.—*Myanmar News Agency*

British Council to conduct legal English courses for law officers

MYANMAR's deputy attorney general welcomed a proposal from the British Council to conduct legal English courses for law officers on Thursday.

Deputy Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo received guests from the British Council led by team leader Peter Viner and director of English Mrs Ginny Rowland on behalf of the attorney-general at

the Union Attorney-General's Office on Thursday.

They discussed plans to conduct legal English courses for Myanmar law officers.

The deputy attorney general expressed hope that the courses would enhance English skills of the officers and promised to provide necessary arrangements for the courses.—*Myanmar News Agency*

U Ko Ko Latt presents Credentials to Emir of the State of Qatar

U Ko Ko Latt, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the State of Qatar, presented his Credentials to His Highness Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani, the Emir of the State of Qatar on 28 October 2015, in Doha.—*Myanmar News Agency*

U Thurain Thant Zin presents Credentials to Emperor of Japan

U Thurain Thant Zin, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Japan, presented his Credentials to His Majesty Emperor Akihito, Emperor of Japan on 21 October 2015, in Tokyo.—*Myanmar News Agency*

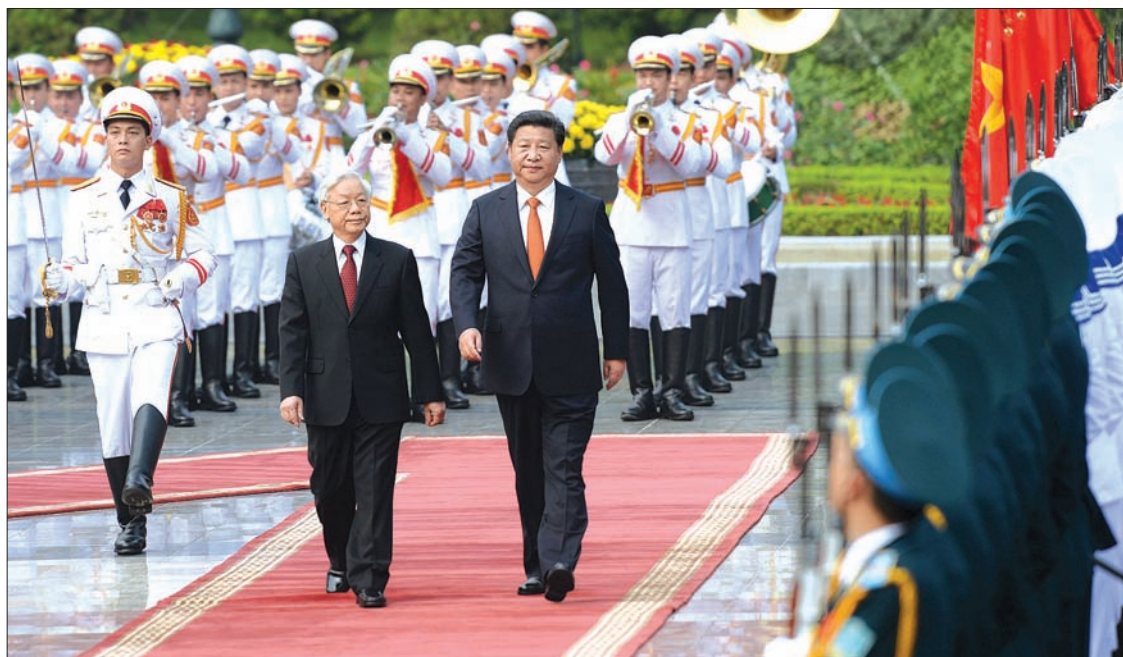
China's Xi in Vietnam to advance 'comradely' ties

HANOI — China's President Xi Jinping arrived in Hanoi yesterday on a visit crucial to rebuilding ties strained by maritime disputes, and made more uncertain by Vietnam's upcoming reshuffle of its Communist Party leadership.

Any cracks in relations are likely to be covered over when Xi meets Vietnam's party heavyweights, some of whom have received some unprecedented US wooing since a breakdown in Sino-Vietnamese ties last year over South China Sea sovereignty.

Although overshadowed by Saturday's landmark meeting with his Taiwanese counterpart, Xi's 24-hour Vietnam visit is crammed with meetings that include its president, party chief, prime minister and legislative chairman, figures seen central to deciding the foreign policy trajectory of a rapidly changing country.

Xi will also address the national assembly on Friday and comes amid anticipated jockeying for key positions ahead of Vietnam's party congress in January.



Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) and Vietnamese Communist Party General Secretary Nguyen Phu Trong (C) review an honour guard during a welcoming ceremony at the presidential palace in Hanoi on 5 November 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

He is expected to present a case to Vietnam for tighter economic ties beyond its new trade pacts, which include the US-led Trans-Pacific Partnership.

A lot has changed since Beijing moved an oil rig unan-

nounced into disputed waters last year and triggered an eruption of Vietnamese anger. Small demonstrations have been held this week, including a brief protest on Thursday amid large police presence outside China's

embassy in Hanoi.

China's reclamation work near the contested Spratly Islands has fuelled resentment and put Vietnam in a tricky spot, as has recent sparring between Beijing and Washington over free-

dom of navigation.

Xi is due to sign several agreements on Thursday before meeting Nguyen Tan Dung, Vietnam's pro-business prime minister who was the first of its leaders to publicly criticise China over the rig incident.

Vietnam has been diversifying its economic ties and although China is not among its top investors, it is its largest trading partner at \$60 billion a year and the biggest source of its imports, ensuring a dependence that remains a contentious domestic issue.

In a commentary on Thursday, China's official Xinhua news agency said now was the time to add substance to a "comradely and brotherly" friendship.

"Beijing and Hanoi should never shake their confidence in face of any noises pouring cold water on or even slinging mud at their partnership," it said.

"Nor should they allow such parochial and ill-intended views to go unchecked and mislead public opinion towards the unfathomable abyss of confrontation." —Reuters

GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Director - Maung Maung Than
mmnthn2@gmail.com

Deputy Chief Editor

Than Tun Aung
thantunangnml@gmail.com

Chief Reporter - Aye Min Soe
koayeminsoe2006@gmail.com

Senior Consultant Editor

Jessica Mudditt
jess.mudditt@gmail.com

Consultant Editor

Jacob Goldberg
jgold.news@gmail.com

Alec Wilmot
alec.wilmot.gnlm@gmail.com

Editors

Ye Myint, uyemyint76@gmail.com,
Kyaw Thura, kthura.spk@gmail.com,

Myint Win Thein
journalist.sss@gmail.com

International news

Ye Htut Tin
mryehtuttin@gmail.com

Tun Tun Naing
tununaing@gmail.com

Reporters

Khaing Thanda Lwin
juniorlwin25@gmail.com

Tun Aung Kyaw
tunaungkyaw.31@gmail.com

Translators

Ma Than Htay
khaingminn@gmail.com

Proof reader

Nwe Nwe Tun

Layout designers

Tun Zaw, Thein Ngwe,
Kyin Shwe, Zaw Zaw Aung,

Ye Naing Soe, Nyi Zaw Moe,
Hnin Pwint, Kay Khaing Win,

Sanda Hnin, Zu Zin Hnin

Circulation & Advertising

San Lwin (+95) (01) 8604532

Ads and subscription enquiries:

thantunangnml@gmail.com

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Malaysian official says ASEAN to work with China on Belt and Road initiative

KUALA LUMPUR — Southeast Asian countries will work with China on the Belt and Road initiative, a senior Malaysian minister said yesterday.

Officials from the ten members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) gathered here for the 21st ASEAN Transport Ministers' Meeting. Ministers from three ASEAN dialogue partners, namely China, Japan and South Korea, also attended the two-day meeting.

Malaysian Transport Minister

"We welcome the Belt and Road initiative, and we will support it."

Liow Tiong Lai
Malaysian Transport Minister

ter Liow Tiong Lai, who chairs the meeting, said ASEAN countries will work together with China on the Belt and Road initiative.

"We welcome the Belt and Road initiative, and we will support it," he told reporters.

ASEAN ministers discussed a strategic transport action plan focused on the areas of air, land and maritime support, which calls for greater connectivity, efficiency, integration, safety and sustainability of ASEAN transport. The ministers also touched on the haze that has shrouded part of Southeast Asia in recent months, Liow said in a statement.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the meeting, Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said improved connectivity and transport network comprising land, air and maritime routes throughout the region will contribute significantly to the growth of ASEAN.

Founded in 1967, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. —Xinhua

India-born former soldier sworn in as Canada's new defence minister

OTTAWA — Harjit Sajjan, a former police officer and veteran of three military deployments to Afghanistan, was named Canada's new minister of defence on Wednesday, bringing first-hand expertise to one of the country's top cabinet positions.

Sajjan will oversee an anticipated change in Canada's military involvement in the battle against militants in Syria and Iraq. Newly sworn-in Liberal Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has already said he wants to end Canada's air strikes in the region in favour of providing humanitarian help.

Born in India and elected to Parliament for the first time in last month's election, Sajjan is illustrative of the younger, more diverse cabinet Trudeau had

aimed to create. Outgoing Conservative defence minister Jason Kenney had taken a hard-line stance on security, saying Canada needed to be fighting against Islamic State militants to prevent them from becoming a threat to Canada.

The issue has been at the forefront in the last year since a gunman killed a soldier and stormed Canada's Parliament last October.

Sajjan is a Lieutenant-Colonel in Canada's armed forces and was deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan and Bosnia-Herzegovina. He was Canada's first Sikh commanding officer and received a number of recognitions for his service, including the Order of Military Merit.

Sajjan was also a police of-



Canada's new National Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan gestures after being sworn-in during a ceremony at Rideau Hall in Ottawa, Canada, on 4 November 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

ficer in Vancouver for 11 years, which included working as a detective in the gang crime unit. He won the riding of Vancouver

South where he grew up, defeating a Conservative incumbent.

He is married with two young children—Reuters

North Korea to offer flight tours over capital in Soviet-era helicopter

SEOUL — North Korea will offer helicopter sight-seeing tours of its capital, Pyongyang, starting from this month, tourist agencies specialising in trips to the isolated country told Reuters yesterday.

North Korea does not publish tourist numbers but an estimated 6,000 Westerners visit the country each year, according to tour companies. The vast majority of tourists are from neighbouring China.

“We’ll swoop around the 105-story Ryugyong Hotel, do a low fly-by of the Taedong River past the Juche tower, and get a great glimpse of May Day stadium — the world’s largest stadium,” Rowan Beard of China-based Young Pioneer Tours, which was offered the tours by state airline Air Koryo, told Reuters.

Tourists will be able

to strap themselves into an ageing Mil Mi-17 — a Soviet-era military transport helicopter known for its small, porthole-like windows. Western travel firms are offering the flight as an optional extra, costing around 180 euros (\$195), on trips to North Korea.

The Mi-17 is used by North Korea’s military, but has been chartered by tourists in the past to fly from Pyongyang to provincial towns and cities. Air Koryo is also offering flights over the capital in an antique Antonov 24 — a 1950s Soviet propeller passenger plane.

The helicopter tour will also buzz over a vegetable farm and a monument honouring the ruling Workers’ Party, said Simon Cockerell of Beijing-based Koryo Tours.

“The plan to use Air Koryo helicopters and



A view of the completed Mirae Scientists Street, in this undated photo released by North Korea’s Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) in Pyongyang on 21 October 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

small aircraft has been a long-gestating project,” said Cockerell, adding that the agency had been pushing for permission for the

project for a few years.

Tourists will be allowed to take photographs during the flights which will last 30 to 40 minutes, he said. Since

coming to power in 2012, leader Kim Jong Un has tried to draw more visitors to North Korea.

He has also built a se-

ries of small runways long enough to land light, private aircraft next to some of his palaces, satellite imagery shows.—Reuters

Workers trapped in collapsed Pakistan factory plead for help on mobile phones

LAHORE — Survivors trapped in the rubble of a collapsed Pakistani factory pleaded for help on their mobile phones yesterday even as rescuers said they feared the death toll of 18 could rise in the latest tragedy to spotlight poor safety standards in south Asia.

Nearly 100 survivors have been pulled from the wreckage of the factory, which made shopping bags 20 km (12 miles) south of

the city of Lahore, but rescuers say scores of workers had been crowded into the building’s basement.

“We were working on the first floor when the roof collapsed,” said one of the trapped workers, Liaqat Ali, who used his mobile to talk to a television station.

“Now, I can hear the rumble of heavy machines which gives me hope that I will come out alive.”

Rescue officials on

Wednesday said 150 people were believed to have been in the building when it collapsed. But rescuers had to move slowly, government officials said, to avoid further injuries to those still trapped.

Injured survivors said the factory’s owner, who was adding a third floor, had ignored advice from his contractor and pleas from his workers to stop construction after cracks in

the walls following a powerful earthquake last week.

“The factory owner had an exchange of harsh words with the contractor who had advised him to stop the work due to cracks appearing after the earthquake,” Muhammad Ramzan, a worker trapped under the rubble, told rescue officials by telephone.

The quake of magnitude 7.5 killed more than 300 people in Pakistan

and the northern parts of neighbouring Afghanistan and damaged thousands of buildings.

The owner of the factory was among the dead, said a government official, Muhammed Usman. Representatives of the factory management could not immediately be reached for comment.

Muhammed Younis Bhatti, an official of emergency responder Edhi Res-

cue Services, said 97 survivors had been pulled from the rubble.

Pakistan’s construction sector is plagued by poor oversight and developers frequently flout building codes.

In September 2012, 289 people burned to death in a fire at a garment factory in the southern city of Karachi. On the same day, a fire at a shoe factory in Lahore killed 25.—Reuters

Japan PM urges Iran’s atomic agency chief to implement nuclear accord

TOKYO — Kyodo Prime Minister Shinzo Abe yesterday urged Iran’s atomic agency chief to ensure Tehran’s steady implementation of a nuclear deal struck with six world powers.

“I hope that (Iran) will cooperate well with the International Atomic Energy Agency” in putting the deal into action, the Japanese Foreign Ministry quoted Abe as saying to Ali Akbar Salehi, an Iranian vice president and head of the Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran.

The two met at Abe’s office in Tokyo during Salehi’s visit to Japan to attend the Pugwash Conference on

Science and World Affairs held in Nagasaki.

Salehi assured Abe that Iran will work together with the IAEA and carry out the deal, saying Tehran has already begun implementing the agreement that includes reducing the number of uranium enrichment centrifuges. The assurance came as global attention is focused on whether Iran will stick to its promises under the historic deal that was officially adopted 18 October, three months after the final agreement to diplomatically resolve the issue of Tehran’s nuclear development programme was reached

between Iran and six major powers following more than a decade of negotiations.

Under the final deal struck in July between Iran and the six nations — Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States — economic sanctions will be lifted in stages in return for Iran agreeing to long-term reductions in its nuclear programme. In a recent interview with Kyodo News, Salehi said, “We have started the preliminary work” to implement the nuclear accord, referring to reducing the number of centrifuges at the Natanz and Fordow plants.—Kyodo News



KIS
Myanmar-Korea Centre for International Studies at University of Yangon

Call for Applications

2015-16 KIS Program for Diploma in International Studies at University of Yangon

Myanmar-Korea Centre for International Studies at University of Yangon calls for applications to its 4th batch of classes for *Diploma in International Studies* for the Academic Year of 2015-16.

The Program and Benefits

It is a full time teaching program for eighteen weeks, divided into two 9 weeks sessions (28 December 2015 - 26 February 2016; 27 June 2016 - 26 August 2016), for twelve courses on the subject of international studies including International Relations and International Development.

Those who successfully complete the program will receive Diploma in International Studies from University of Yangon and be qualified to apply for Masters of Arts in International Relations (MA(IR)) or Masters of Arts in International Studies (MA(IS)), even though her/his undergraduate major is not IR. Tuition is FREE.

Who Can Apply?

Those who hold BA from accredited universities in Myanmar or any country, and are proficient in English enough to take lessons and write assignments in English

Application Procedure

1. Application Deadline: 15 November 2015
2. Verbal Interview: 20 November 2015
3. Announcement of the Result: 27 November 2015

(Application form is available from KIS Office or Department of International Relations at University of Yangon)

Please contact Ms. Lee Jisun (Juju), Chief Administrator of KIS, or Prof. Dr. Yin Myo Thu of Dept. of International Relations at University of Yangon for further inquiry.

Amnesty condemns Syria for disappearance of detainees

LONDON — The Syrian state and allied militia have detained and abducted tens of thousands of people since 2011 in a campaign of enforced disappearances that is a crime against humanity, Amnesty International said in a report yesterday.

The rights watchdog interviewed relatives of the disappeared who said they had been forced to pay bribes to middlemen with close ties to the authorities to gain information on the fate of their family members, fuelling a lucrative black market.

Amnesty said it had attempted to engage with the Syrian authorities on the issue of forced disappearances and was awaiting a response. The Syrian government has regularly dismissed reports accusing the state of human rights abuses.

“The enforced disappearances carried out since 2011 by the Syrian government were perpetrated as part of an organised attack against the civilian population that has been widespread, as well as systematic,” Amnesty said.

It described such acts as crimes against humanity and called on Damascus to allow access to international monitors from the United Nations-mandated Independent Commission of Inquiry for Syria to seek information on detainees.

Syria’s uprising started in 2011 with protests against



Activists of Amnesty International demonstrate to show their support for the Syrian people at the Fontaine des Innocentes in Paris. PHOTO: REUTERS

President Bashar al-Assad and has descended into a civil war drawing in foreign states that pits a range of insurgent groups against government forces and allied militia.

More than 65,000 people, most of them civilians, were forcibly disappeared between March 2011 and August 2015 and remain missing, Amnesty said, citing figures from the Syrian Network for Human Rights, a Syria-based monitoring group.

Detainees were squeezed into overcrowded, dirty cells where disease was rampant and medical treatment unavailable, Amnesty said, saying those imprisoned suffered torture,

through methods such as electric shocks, whipping, suspension, burning and rape.

“People would die and then be replaced,” said Salam Othman, who was forcibly disappeared from 2011 to 2014.

“I did not leave the cell for the whole three years, not once ... Many people became hysterical and lost their minds,” he was quoted as saying in the report.

Fearing what could happen to them if they make an official enquiry to the government, relatives are forced to go to middlemen to seek details on detainees, such as their location or whether they are alive, Amnesty said.

Such bribes range from hundreds to tens of thousands of dollars, with some families driven to sell their homes to come up with the sums demanded.

“State officials are profiting from enforced disappearances in Syria, and given how widespread and common these bribes are, the state must either be expressly or implicitly condoning this practice,” said Nicolette Boehland, the author of the report, which only covered detentions by the state.

Amnesty said it will issue a report focused on detention-related abuses committed by non-state armed groups in the coming months.—Reuters

Cabin crew union says Lufthansa strikes unavoidable

FRANKFURT — The head of Lufthansa’s main cabin crew union said strikes at the carrier are now “unavoidable”, after the union reviewed the latest proposals on pensions and early retirement benefits from management.

Lufthansa had tried to encourage the union, which represents around 19,000 flight attendants, back to the negotiating table by sending across on Wednesday some new variants of a deal based around previous proposals.

The union had on Monday said that it would call for a week-long strike from Friday if Lufthansa management did not make a better offer by 1600 GMT on Thursday.—Reuters

Iranian military hackers focus on US administration officials

WASHINGTON — Iran’s Revolutionary Guards stepped up hacking of email and social media accounts of Obama administration officials in recent weeks in cyber attacks believed linked to the arrest of an Iranian-American businessman in Tehran, the *Wall Street Journal* reported on Wednesday.

The newspaper, citing unnamed US officials, said people working on Iran policy appeared to be the focus of the cyber attacks, with personnel in the State Department’s Office of Iranian Affairs and the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs among those hacked. Other targets included journalists and academics.

The latest reports of a

surge in hacking attacks come after a landmark international agreement in July that eased severe economic sanctions on Iran in return for Tehran curbing its nuclear programme to ensure it is not used for developing weapons.

The Revolutionary Guards, a powerful branch of the Iranian military, have regularly made hacking attacks on US government agencies in recent years, but a source told the *Journal* the hacking increased after the arrest of Siamak Namazi in mid-October.

“We’re aware of certain reports involving Iran,” a senior administration official told Reuters in response to the *Journal* sto-

ry. “While I don’t have a comment on the specific reports, we are aware that hackers in Iran and elsewhere often use cyber attacks to gain information or make connections with targets of interest.”

Namazi is head of strategic planning for Crescent Petroleum, an oil and gas company in the United Arab Emirates and has worked for think tanks in Washington. He had been detained and interrogated regularly by the Revolutionary Guards before his arrest.

US officials believe some of the more recent attacks may be linked to reports of detained dual citizens and others,” a source told the *Journal*.—Reuters



MÉDECINS SANS FRONTIÈRES INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER

Open tenders are invited for two of DCA-30ESX 50Hz Mono phase Generators at our Yangon Project.

Tender No: MSFMM005G2
Tender Closing Date and Time: 18 November, 2015, 17h30
Tender Opening Date and Time: 20 November, 2015, 09h00

Tender documents and detailed information are available Mon-Tue 08h30-17h30, 09 Nov-10 Nov 2015 at our office at No 4, Highland Avenue Lane (1), 6 Quarter, 7 Mile, Mayangone Township, Yangon.

Project Coordinator
Médecins Sans Frontières
(+95) (01) 9660147



MÉDECINS SANS FRONTIÈRES INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER

Open tenders are invited for three (3) cars (1 Mini Van and 2 City Car) at our Yangon Project.

Tender No: MSFMM005V3
Tender Closing Date and Time: 18 November, 2015, 17h30
Tender Opening Date and Time: 20 November, 2015, 11h00

Tender documents and detailed information are available Mon-Tue 08h30-17h30, 09 Nov-10 Nov 2015 at our office at No 4, Highland Avenue Lane (1), 6 Quarter, 7 Mile, Mayangone Township, Yangon.

Project Coordinator
Médecins Sans Frontières
(+95) (01) 9660147

Ministry of Transport Myanmar Port Authority Invitation for Open Tender

1. Myanmar Port Authority is planning to construct the Offshore Fixed Pilot Station and Installation of related equipments at the near Yangon River Mouth Area. Therefore, interested Tenderers are cordially invited to submit complete project proposal for the following project-

Construction of Offshore Fixed Pilot Station near the Yangon River Mouth Area of Latitude 16° 12.7' N and Longitude 96° 17.3' E, installation of related equipments and procurement of pilot boats.

2. The Tender Forms together with the Tender Terms and Conditions will be purchased by the contractors, companies or their legal representatives.

3. Tender Forms can be purchased with 500,000 Kyats at Civil Engineering Department, Third Floor of Myanmar Port Authority, Head Office, No. 10, Pansodan Street, Kyauktada Township, Yangon during office hours between 9.11.2015 and 25.11.2015.

4. Detailed information can be inquired at 01-253358, 01-387116 (Ext: 307).

Myanmar Port Authority

Declaration, so that the Persons in concern and General Populace may know, that Strategic Alliance Marketing Co., Ltd (S.A.M) and MD Daw Aye Sandar, Director Daw Thida Swe are taken Lawful Action and Restriction Warrant has been issued by the Court

I, **Daw Myo Pa Pa Tun** (9/Sa Ka Ta (Naing) 096647), Kanthit Village, Sintgaing Township, Mandalay Region makes the Declaration.

In the Law Suit of Civil Regular Case No. 606/2015, dated 27-10-2015 of Eastern Yangon District Court, the Decision Order was already made.

In that Decision Order, the Application to issue the Temporary Restriction Warrant under Civil Procedure Law, Order - 39, By Law (1) was permitted because the excerpts can be made xxx that there are somethings to worry about in concern with the Company. And as the Decision Order has been made, that **MD Daw Aye Sandar and Director Daw Thida Swe** should be issued with Temporary Restriction Warrant, so as not to sell, mortgage, move, transfer, administrate by any mean; before this Case is over, until further Receipt of any Order in concern with the land and building, where S.A.M Co., Ltd is situated together with S.A.M Co., Ltd, so that the persons in concern and general populace may know it.

Daw Myo Pa Pa Tun



GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

www.facebook.com/globalnewlightofmyanmar

Bomb by Islamic State likely caused Russian plane crash

NEW YORK — Evidence now suggests that a bomb planted by the Islamic State militant group is the likely cause of last weekend's crash of a Russian airliner over Egypt's Sinai peninsula, US and European security sources said on Wednesday.

Islamic State, which controls swathes of Iraq and Syria and is battling the Egyptian army in the Sinai Peninsula, said again on Wednesday it brought down the plane, adding it would eventually tell the world how it carried out the attack.

The Airbus A321M crashed on Saturday in the Sinai Peninsula shortly after taking off from the resort of Sharm el-Sheikh on its way to the Russian city of St Petersburg, killing all 224 people on board.

The US and European security sources stressed they had reached no final conclusions about the crash.

Britain on Wednesday cited the likely possibility of an explosive device as the cause of the crash, but made no mention of any group that may have been responsible.

"We have concluded that there is a significant possibility that the crash was caused by an explosive device on board the aircraft," Britain's foreign secretary, Philip Hammond, said after a meeting of the government's crisis response committee chaired by Prime Minister David Cameron.

Hammond's remarks came as Britain prepares to host a visit by Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi this week.

Egypt, a close ally of the United States and the most populous Arab country, dismissed a similar claim of responsibility for the crash by Islamic State on Saturday.

"It is believed to be an explosion but what kind is not clear. There is an examination of the sand at the crash site to try and determine if it was a bomb," said an Egyptian source who is close to the team investigating the black boxes.

"There are forensic investigations underway at the crash site. That will help determine the cause, to see if traces of explosives are found."

Sisi has described Islamist militancy as an ex-

istential threat to the Arab world and the West and has repeatedly called for greater international efforts to combat the militants.

Hammond said Britain is "advising against all but essential travel by air through Sharm el-Sheikh airport. That means that there will be no UK passen-

"There are two versions now under consideration: something stowed inside (the plane) and a technical fault. But the plane could not just break apart in the air — there should be some action. A rocket is unlikely as there are no signs of that," the Russian official said.

data recorder, one of two so-called black boxes recovered from the Russian plane, Egypt's Civil Aviation Ministry said.

The ministry said the second black box, which contains the cockpit voice recorder, was partially damaged and much work was required to extract data



People mourn as they arrive at Dvortsovaya Square to commemorate victims of the air crash in Egypt in St Petersburg, Russia, on 3 November 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

ger flights out to Sharm el-Sheikh from now."

Remarks earlier on Wednesday by Britain's Cameron, who was due to hold talks in London with Sisi on Thursday, of concerns "the plane may well have been brought down by an explosive device" drew criticism from Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry.

He told CNN he was "somewhat surprised" by the British statement.

"This is a matter for the investigation to clarify and we should not prejudge or take any measures that might have implications," Shoukry said. "Implication also that the fact that a very large number of Egyptians who rely heavily on the tourist industry."

Britain said it was working with airlines and Egyptian authorities to put in place additional security and screening measures to allow Britons in Sharm el-Sheikh to get home, but that would take time and there would be no flights returning from the resort on Thursday.

A Russian aviation official said the investigation was looking into the possibility of an object stowed on board causing the disaster.

Security experts and investigators have said the plane is unlikely to have been struck from the outside and Sinai-based militants are not believed to possess the technology to shoot down a jet from a cruising altitude above 30,000 feet.

Any evidence that a bomb knocked the plane out of the sky would deal a heavy blow to tourism in Egypt, a pillar of the economy that is struggling to recover after years of political turmoil, and would also undermine Sisi's assertions that Cairo has brought under control Sinai Province's insurgency.

Sinai Province has killed hundreds of Egyptian soldiers and police since Sisi, as army chief, toppled Islamist President Mohamed Mursi in 2013 after mass protests against his rule.

Sisi was elected president last year on promises he would stabilise Egypt and rebuild its shattered economy. Critics say his tough crackdown on Islamists will only create more radicals in Egypt, which has fought militants for decades.

Investigators have extracted and validated the contents of the flight

from it. Sinai Province has said it had brought down the airliner "in response to Russian air strikes that killed hundreds of Muslims on Syrian land."

In an audio message posted on a Twitter account used by the group, Islamic State's Egyptian affiliate insisted on Wednesday it was behind the crash. The claim could not immediately be authenticated.

"We, with God's grace, are the ones who brought it down, and we are not obliged to disclose the mechanism of its demise," the speaker said.

Russia, an ally of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, launched air raids against opposition groups in Syria including Islamic State on 30 September. The hardline group has called for war against both Russia and the United States in response to their air strikes in Syria.

Late on Wednesday the Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) directed all Irish airlines on Wednesday not to fly to or from the Sinai Peninsula until further notice. The Russian-operated plane was registered in Ireland and the IAA is taking part in the official investigation into the crash.—Reuters

INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER (TENDER NO. 4(T)MPE/MIXED LPG (1)/2015-2016)

1. Open Tender is invited for the Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise the Ministry of Energy for the supply of Mixed LPG (1,800 MT ± 5%).
2. Tender Closing Date : 1.12. 2015 at (12:00) noon.
3. Tender Opening Date : 1.12. 2015 at (13:00) hrs.
4. Delivery Time : Within 14th -18th February 2016
5. Tender Documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing 5.11.2015 on payment of the Myanmar Kyat One Hundred Thousand (Kyat 100,000) per set.
6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director

Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise

Contact Phone no. 067-411108/411193

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV MOROTAI VOY NO (275YFR)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOROTAI VOY NO (275YFR) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.11.2015 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 Claim's 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 CMA CGM LINE

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV SINAR BIAK VOY NO (450N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BIAK VOY NO (450N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.11.2015 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 Claim's 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (136W)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (136W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.11.2015 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 Claim's 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 ORINET OVERSEAS

CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 2301185

OPINION

Loyalty must be earned, not assumed

By Kyaw Thura

IT isn't easy to see our own true colours, let alone those of others – particularly when it comes to those in positions of power. We have developed an ingrained habit of judging a book by its cover – and as a result, we fail to comprehend the thin line that exists between illusion and reality.

Yet despite this, many of us are trapped in an illusory sense of self worth. And at the same time, there exists a prevailing belief in Myanmar that

employees must be loyal to the organisation that employs them, regardless of whether such loyalty is deserved. This has led to a widespread misperception of what loyalty entails. When loyalty is unwarranted but granted nonetheless, it is in fact a form of bondage. The fear that many of us feel is interpreted as faithfulness by those who wield power over us.

The average person in Myanmar is generally content with their monthly earnings. We are often unaware that our loyalty is being abused, or that we are grossly underpaid for our skills, services and dedication. This may be attributed to those in senior positions using 'sweet talk' to convince staff that they should devote themselves to the task at hand, without feeling it necessary to provide any concrete incentive to do so.

Developing Myanmar's human resources necessitates the creation of a new work culture in which employers regard their employees as equal partners;

if not assets. Decision makers should seek to motivate their staff rather than dominating them as mere subordinates.

The illusion that exists between most employees and employers is more dangerous than we realise. Those who mistakenly place their trust in these 'workplace abusers' deserve so much more. Let us see the reality and create a new working environment that rewards merit and shuns power plays.

Write for us

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

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

Investing in Peacekeeping For Today and Beyond

Hervé Ladsous
Under-Secretary-General,
United Nations Peacekeeping
Operations

IN late September, more than 50 world leaders met at a remarkable Summit on the sidelines of the 70th session of the General Assembly to pledge support and new contributions to UN Peacekeeping. The Summit exceeded all expectations, with Governments pledging some 40,000 troops as well as much-needed critical enablers including more than 40 helicopters and aircrafts, 29 engineering units, 32 policing units and 12 field hospitals.

This historic show of support did not materialize overnight. It was the culmination of a continuous and consistent global effort over the last few years, in which member states across Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas lent their political weight to generate capabilities to fill critical gaps identified by the UN. These pledges, if realized, would make

a stronger and more resilient UN Peacekeeping for the people and communities we serve.

Why this surge of support now?

UN Peacekeeping has grown steadily in both scope and scale since the end of the Cold War. We are currently operating 16 peacekeeping missions across four continents serving a total population of over 125 million people. But peacekeepers have been increasingly targeted by armed groups including terrorist elements. In Mali alone, 42 peacekeepers have been killed and 126 injured since July 2013. Today the blue helmets operate in remote and austere environments, confronting asymmetric and complex threats each day in areas of political instability with little peace to keep and large vulnerable populations to protect. While violence and conflict are the primary threats, peacekeepers are often deployed in complex and dangerous contexts that require specialized skills, modern equipment, advanced technology and well trained forces.

In these increasingly chal-

lenging missions, we are also being asked to do more. The mandates entrusted to us by the Security Council have become broader and more complicated. Over 95% of our peacekeepers now work in missions with a protection of civilians mandate. In South Sudan, we protect in our bases some 185,000 internally displaced persons fleeing conflict and violence. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, our peacekeepers are actively engaged in fighting a number of vicious armed groups which have pillaged villages and murdered hundreds of civilians in the east of the country. A great deal is at stake.

Why do we need the support?

Put simply, real challenges require real capacities. Highly-trained military, police and civilian personnel enabled by technology and aviation support will allow UN Peacekeeping to conduct more effective and efficient operations. A key element to this approach is the use of new technologies that can help us monitor ceasefires more efficiently, enhance the safety and security of

our personnel, provide early warning and ultimately better protect civilians. But we also need dedicated personnel trained to the highest standards of professionalism. Being a peacekeeper is no easy task.

Where are we going from here?

As U.S. President Barack Obama noted at the Summit, our partnership with Member States "has often depended on the willingness of courageous UN peacekeepers to put their lives on the line in war-torn corners of the world". The Secretary-General has warned of a divide between troop contributing countries, the Security Council and major donors. Similarly, we have long urged Member States to be at a higher level of readiness so that we don't have to "build the ship while sailing it". The pledges made now need to be translated into tangible contributions that match needs and requirements on the ground.

Our engagement will not stop at the Summit. This month in New York, I held a meeting with the Member States that

committed their support to review the Summit's implications and how to move forward with the contributions and pledges. Most of the pledges generated at the Summit cannot currently be deployed to our ongoing missions, however, having a reserve of available contributions will help us provide UN Peacekeeping with greater predictability and the capacity to respond to crises rapidly and effectively. We will continue to work with world leaders and countries from around the globe to meet future needs and enhance our capabilities for the future.

Peacekeeping requires strength in unity and a commitment to improving rapid deployment, responsiveness, performance and accountability. This is the backbone in our efforts to contribute to sustainable peace and stability. Peacekeeping is a unique global partnership, and we will only succeed with the firm political support and commitment of resources from our troop and police contributing countries.

Two tech-savvy Myanmar youth to attend Telenor forum in Oslo

The event provides young innovators from around the world with the "social and professional experience of a lifetime," according to telecoms provider Telenor Myanmar

Khaing Thanda Lwin

TWO Myanmar youths have been selected to attend Telenor's Youth Forum in the Norwegian capital city of Oslo from 8 to 12 December.

The annual event is the third of its kind and aims to provide young innovators with a global platform to share ideas and meet with luminaries within their fields, according to a press release issued by Telenor Myanmar yesterday.

This year's topic is 'Knowledge for All' and

delegates under the age of 28 have been invited from the 13 countries where Telenor operates.

Myanmar's Ma Hsu Wai Phyo and Maung Phyo Thura Htay were selected to attend the forum because they have "clear objectives of influencing society through mobile connectivity," said Mr Petter Furberg, Chief Executive Officer of Telenor Myanmar, which received its telecoms licence in early 2014.

Telenor Myanmar invited applications for the forum in July, stating that it

was seeking "young opinion shapers, up to the age of 28 years, with fresh perspectives and strong voices."

Hsu Wai Phyo, 21, pitched her idea to develop an anonymous counselling hotline for victims of domestic violence.

"Many women who face domestic violence are afraid to discuss their situation with others because they feel ashamed about their situation," she said.

Maung Phyo Thura Htay, a 19-year-old student from Yangon Technologi-

cal University, has proposed developing a mobile app that can function as a digital library for university students.

"The app would give students extra resources to learn about their respective subjects," he was quoted by Telenor Myanmar as saying.

During the forum, a keynote address will be given by Jimmy Wales, the founder of Wikipedia, which is ranked among the ten most popular websites and is the world's largest general reference site.

Who said - "All is well that ends well"?

Mikey Mouse?

No, it was Shakespeare!



Tin Aung

Bridge brings better transportation to Tatkon Tsp

The old Painkaw Bridge in Tatkon Township, Nay Pyi Taw, which was recently replaced by a concrete bridge, opened on 4 November.

The bridge was upgraded by the Engineering Department of the Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee this year with the aim of ensuring residents better transportation to bring economic development to the township.

The bridge has a capacity of 10 tonnes. The bridge is 38 metres long and 4 metres wide and traverses the Nawin Creek.—*Tin Soe Lwin (IPRD)*



Local people strolling along new bridge crossing Nawin Creek in Tatkon Township. PHOTO: TIN SOE LWIN

Social Welfare Department provides dinner to children in Mandalay

THE Mandalay City Development Committee's Maternal and Child Welfare Association, led by Mayor U Aung Moun's wife provided dinner to children of training schools under the Social Welfare Department of Ministry of Social welfare, Relief

and Resettlement recently.

At the Infant Section, 21 children, from infancy to eight years old, were fed. Afterwards, 53 girls of the under-18 Girls Training School were also provided dinner by the association.

At the 18-above Women

Development Section, 46 women were donated dinner. The administrators of the sections and school thanked the department.

The donation is made regularly on the first day of every month, according to a member.—*Maung Pyi Thu-Mandalay*

Advance votes of Zabuthiri Township opened

THE advance votes received by Zabuthiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area were opened at the township election sub-commission office on Tuesday, witnessed by sub-commission members, members of political parties and journalists. The 83 votes were put into the

advance ballot box.

This meeting marks the second official advance voting collection.

On 30 October, 123 advance votes were opened and put into the advance ballot box.

The township has a total of 258 advance votes which was

applied for by Form (15) whilst 206 advance votes have already been received, according to the election sub-commission. Sub-commission chairman U San Maung says the remaining advance votes will be opened with transparency when received.—*Thant Maung*

Voter cards issued in Mingala Taungnyunt Tsp



Officials of ward election sub-commission issue tickets to local voters. PHOTO: AUNG THAN (MINGALA TAUNGNYUNT)

IN order to save voters' time while casting votes on election day, cards that guarantee the right to vote have been issued in 20 wards in Mingala Taungnyunt Township, Yangon Region, since 2 November from 8am to 6pm daily.

Since 3 November, ward election sub-commission officials have also issued the tickets to voters who cannot come to the office in the daytime. Ward election sub-commission chairman U Kyi Aye said that the commission has already prepared necessary arrangements for eligible voters who have no voter cards on election day. Ward administrator U Phone Myint Win said that officials will issue the tickets to voters outside the polling stations.

There are two polling stations and 3,348 voters in the township.—*Aung Than*

Sagaing Region villages get solar panels



Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye presents solar panels to local people. PHOTO: PHOE CHAN (MONYWA)

THE Sagaing Region government presented over 5,000 solar panels to 112 villages in 10 townships, including Monywa, Budalin, Wuntho and Khin-U on 4 November.

The total cost of the facilities was around K300 million

(US\$233,400). The regional government paid 50 percent of the cost, and the villagers contributed the rest.

The installation ceremony in Monywa was attended by Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye.—*Phoe Chan*

Police cast advance votes in Natogyi Township

ADVANCE votes in Natogyi Township in Mandalay Region were held on 3 and 4 November. More than 130 police officers, including 94 additional officers, have cast their votes, according to the Township Police Force.

Secretary of Township Election Sub-commission U Khin Maung Than yesterday instructed officials of ward and village sub-commissions to carefully monitor the ballot count.

A total of 80 officers of the Myanmar Police Force, 209 additional police and 836 members of the fire brigade will provide security services in five zones during the general election in Natogyi Township, Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Soe Win said. More than 152,000 people are expected to vote at 209 polling stations in the township on 8 November.—*Htay Myint Maung*

Carney to signal if early 2016 rate rise is still on cards

LONDON — The prospect of an interest rate hike by the Bank of England early next year could be revived on yesterday when Governor Mark Carney presents the British central bank's latest economic forecasts.

The BoE cut rates to a record low 0.5 percent in March 2009, around the nadir of the financial crisis, and has kept them there ever since.

It had been expected to start raising borrowing costs early next year, but since the BoE published its last outlook on the economy in August, investors have pushed back bets on the timing of a rate hike to late 2016.

That reflects China's economic slowdown, British inflation falling back below zero and the Federal Reserve's reluctance to start raising US interest rates from crisis-era lows.

But with signs that Britain's economy has not suffered a big hit from China's financial market turmoil, some economists think another BoE policymaker might join the one dissenter who has voted for a rate rise since August.

A pointed remark from Carney, or forecasts that show inflation significantly overshooting the Bank's target would also renew expectations of a rate rise as soon as February.

"We believe the Governor

will want to keep markets and borrowers alike alert to the possibility of tighter policy well before the end of 2016, where the first hike currently seems to be priced in," UBS economist David Tinsley said.

Normally the kind of solid domestic growth and plunging unemployment seen in Britain over the past two years would justify higher borrowing costs.

But inflation has been pushed below zero by falling oil prices. And while wage growth is rising, it is still not strong enough for inflation to hit the BoE's 2 percent target in the next two to three years.

More recently, a slightly bigger than expected slowdown in growth in the three months to September caused concern, though October purchasing managers' surveys this week have pointed to a stronger end to the year.

The BoE faces a similar dilemma to the Fed, which is weighing up whether to raise US borrowing costs next month.

Carney and his colleagues face the added complication that raising rates before the Fed could push sterling to its highest level in years, further squeezing hard-pressed manufacturing exports and depressing inflation even more.

Carney has said a decision



Bank of England Governor Mark Carney. PHOTO: REUTERS

on when to raise rates would come into "sharper relief" around the turn of the year, but in his most recent media interview the phrase did not appear.

Re-using that language or hinting that markets had misjudged the likelihood of a rate rise could revive bets on an early 2016 move. The BoE has talked up the prospect of rate rises in the past, however, only to be unable to follow through.

Former BoE policymaker Andrew Sentance, who now advises accountants PwC, said a rate rise was overdue and there was too much focus on the minutiae of timing the first move.

"The British recovery is now in its seventh year," he said.

"When we cut interest rates to 0.5 percent, it was when the economy was in danger of disappearing into a deep, dark hole. The notion that we have the same monetary policy now as we had then doesn't seem right to me." Many other economists say the decision is more finely balanced. They will seek guidance from the BoE's forecast for inflation in two years' time, which is based on recent market rate expectations and in August stood at 2 percent. If it rises, this would imply the BoE could move before markets think.—Reuters

Facebook revenue, profit beat forecasts; shares hit all-time high

SAN FRANCISCO — Facebook Inc (FB.O) posted surprisingly strong profit and revenue growth as the world's largest social network grew even larger, with a spike in mobile users and advertising that lifted its stock to an all-time high.

The company on Wednesday reported audience numbers that suggest it is poised to take on mainstream media as an advertising force, helping investors to overlook Facebook's huge spending on hiring and building data centres.

Facebook now has 8 billion video views per day from 500 million people, compared with 4 billion views in April.

And Facebook's website and Instagram photo-sharing app, which opened up its platform to all advertisers in the



Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg. PHOTO: REUTERS

third quarter, account for more than 1 in 5 minutes spent on mobile devices in the United States, Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg said.

"In the medium to long run, we believe that we're not competing between Facebook and Instagram. We're competing with other forms of media," Sandberg told analysts on a conference call after the earnings report.

Facebook had 1.55 billion monthly active users as of 30 September, up 14 percent from a year earlier. Of these, 1.39 billion used the service on mobile devices.

"Growth is happening across the board and we're of

course looking for a lot of growth in the future in emerging markets," Sandberg said in an interview. "We're also pretty focussed on helping bring the next set of people who are not online, online."

Market research firm FactSet StreetAccount had predicted 1.53 billion monthly active users, with 1.36 billion on mobile.

Ad revenue grew 45.4 percent to \$4.30 billion, with 78 percent of that coming from mobile versus 66 percent in the year-ago quarter. "Part of the upside came from Instagram. The Instagram monetization engine has been turned on really rapidly for the coming quarters and years," said Arvind Bhatia, an

analyst with SterneAgee.

Facebook did not disclose Instagram's ad sales figures. But the app is expected to bring in \$595 million (£387 million) in mobile ad revenues this year, research firm eMarketer said. Its ad revenue is projected to grow to \$2.8 billion by 2017.

Facebook's huge \$3.0 billion spending, up 68 percent from the third quarter last year, did not seem to worry investors or analysts.

"I think the investors would like the company to continue to invest given that the opportunity is pretty large," said Shyam Patil of Susquehanna Financial Group. The stock rose about 5 percent to an all-time high of \$109.34 in extended trading, before paring gains to about 4 percent. It closed earlier at \$103.94.

Total revenue jumped to \$4.50 billion in the third quarter, from \$3.20 billion a year earlier. Analysts had expected revenue of \$4.37 billion, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S.

Net income attributable to stockholders rose to \$891 million, or 31 cents per share, from \$802 million, or 30 cents per share.

Excluding items, the Menlo Park, California-based company earned 57 cents per share, ahead of analysts' average estimate of 52 cents per share.—Reuters

UK unveils powers to spy on Web use, raising privacy fears

LONDON — Britain unveiled plans on Wednesday for sweeping new surveillance powers, including the right to find out which websites people visit, measures ministers say are vital to keep the country safe but which critics denounce as an assault on freedoms.

Across the West, debate about how to protect privacy while helping agencies operate in the digital age has raged since former US intelligence contractor Edward Snowden leaked details of mass surveillance by British and US spies in 2013. Experts say part of the new British bill goes beyond the powers available to security services in the United States.

The draft was watered down from an earlier version dubbed a "snoopers' charter" by critics who prevented it reaching parliament. Home Secretary Theresa May told lawmakers the new document was unprecedented in detailing what spies could do and how they would be monitored.

"It will provide the strongest safeguards and world-leading oversight arrangements," she said. "And it will give the men and women of our security and intelligence agencies and our law enforcement agencies ... the powers they need to protect our country."—Reuters

Toshiba flags huge first-half operating loss

TOKYO — Toshiba Corp on yesterday said its first-half operating loss will be "roughly" in line with the 90 billion yen (481 million pounds) reported earlier by the *Nikkei* business daily. The troubled Japanese electronics giant said it would report its interim results on Saturday for the six months to September. The company's shares fell as much as 5.9 percent in morning trade, hitting their lowest level in almost a month. *The Nikkei* reported that sluggish sales of household appliances meant Toshiba would book a 90 billion yen operating loss, while a sale of non-core assets would help it book a net profit of about 40 billion yen.

The results come as Toshiba struggles to emerge from an accounting scandal in which it overstated past profits by 155 billion yen.—Reuters

"We're also pretty focussed on helping bring the next set of people who are not online, online."

Sheryl Sandberg
Chief Operating Officer

Oregon school pumpkin carving party suspected in norovirus outbreak

PORTLAND — A pre-Halloween pumpkin carving party may have caused a norovirus outbreak that has sickened more than 100 students, teachers and staff at an Oregon Catholic school, a public health official said on Wednesday.

Officials may never be able to definitively determine the cause of the outbreak, which prompted O'Hara Catholic School in Eugene, Oregon, to cancel three days of classes.

But Lane County Public Health spokesman Jason Davis said testing shows that at least 10 students and others who attended an event in which a "master carver" whittled a face into a massive pumpkin were infected with the virus.

The virus may also have spread at a breakfast for school staff and at other gatherings, Davis said.

The disease, which has a long lifespan, spreads from an infected person, contaminated food or water, or by touching contaminated surfaces, meaning that a student who did not wash his hands could have spread it to

others at the gathering, Davis said.

The virus causes the stomach or intestines or both to become inflamed, called acute gastroenteritis, which leads to stomach pain, nausea, and diarrhea, according to the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

It is the most common cause of foodborne-disease outbreaks and acute gastroenteritis in the United States, causing some 19 million to 21 million illnesses and 570-800 deaths annually, the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention said.

After O'Hara Catholic School canceled class early on Thursday, janitors sprayed hard surfaces at the school with a chlorine wash under guidance of environmental health experts, Davis said. Students were allowed to return to class on Tuesday. Other schools in Eugene, a city of 160,000 people, are also taking extra precautions against the spread of norovirus, Davis said. O'Hara Catholic School did not immediately respond to a request for comment. —Reuters

First known transmission of cancer cells from parasite to human identified

WASHINGTON — Scientists at the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said Wednesday they have found the first known case of a person becoming ill from cancer cells that arose in a common parasite.

The study, published in the New England Journal of Medicine, showed that cancer cells originating in a tapeworm called *Hymenolepis nana* took root in a 41-year-old man who was HIV positive, causing cancer-like tumours.

The results raised concern that other similar cases, if they occur, may be misdiagnosed as human cancer, especially in less developed countries where this tapeworm is widespread.

"We were amazed when we found this new type of disease — tapeworms growing inside a person essentially getting cancer that spreads to the person, causing tumours," lead author Atis Muehlenbachs of CDC's Infectious Diseases Pathology Branch said in a statement.

"We think this type of event is rare.

However, this tapeworm is found worldwide and millions of people globally suffer from conditions like HIV that weaken their immune system. So there may be more cases that are unrecognised. It's definitely

an area that deserves more study."

The case was first reported in January 2013, when doctors in Colombia asked the US CDC to help diagnose bizarre biopsies from the patient's lung tumours and lymph nodes.

"We were amazed when we found this new type of disease — tapeworms growing inside a person essentially getting cancer that spreads to the person, causing tumours."

Atis Muehlenbachs
CDC's Infectious Diseases
Pathology Branch

The tumours looked similar to a human cancer, but initial CDC lab studies revealed the cancer-like cells were not human.

The growth pattern was decidedly cancer like, with too many cells crowded into small

spaces and quickly multiplying, the US CDC said. But the cells were tiny — about 10 times smaller than a normal human cancer cell.

The researchers also noticed cells fusing together, which is rare for human cells.

As a result, researchers initially questioned whether it was an unusual cancer or an unknown infection.

After dozens of tests, they eventually found DNA from *Hymenolepis nana* tapeworms in the man's tumour in mid-2013. Unfortunately, the man died 72 hours later.

The researchers cautioned that drugs to treat tapeworm infections may not be effective against tapeworm cancer cells in people, but human cancer treatments may be beneficial.

Hymenolepis nana infects up to 75 million people at any given time, making it the most common tapeworm infection in humans.

People get the tapeworm by eating food contaminated with mouse droppings or insects or by ingesting feces from someone else who is infected.

Most people show no symptoms, but in people whose immune systems are weak, including people who have HIV or are taking steroids, the tapeworm thrives. — Xinhua

Low-hanging fruit: scientists unlock pineapple's genetic secrets

WASHINGTON — The pineapple, the tropical fruit enjoyed by people worldwide in slices, chunks, juice, upside-down cakes, jam, tarts, ice cream, yogurt, stir-fry dishes, piña colodas, glazed ham and even Hawaiian pizza, is finally giving up its genetic secrets.

Scientists on Monday said they have sequenced the genome of the pineapple, learning about the genetic underpinning of the plant's drought tolerance and special form of photosynthesis, the process plants use to convert light into chemical energy.

The genome provides a foundation for developing cultivated varieties that are improved for disease and insect resistance, quality, productivity and prolonged shelf life, University of Illinois plant biologist Ray Ming said.

Pineapples, domesticated about 6,000 years ago in what is now southwest Brazil and eastern Paraguay and currently grown in tropical and subtropical regions worldwide, are big business.

They are the second most important tropical fruit crop behind bananas, and are grown in more than 80 countries, with an annual value of more than \$8 bil-

lion. "The industrial production of pineapple in Hawaii a century ago made pineapple a popular fruit worldwide because of its extraordinary flavor and aroma," Ming said.

Pineapples are the most economically important crop that uses a type of photosynthesis called CAM, or crassulacean acid metabolism, that evolved in arid locales for high water-use efficiency.

It is one of three types of photosynthesis and differs from the forms in the vast majority of plants.

Most crop plants use a type of photosynthesis known as C3. Plants with CAM photosynthesis use 20 to 80 percent less water than typical crop plants and can grow in arid, marginal lands unsuited for most crops.

Mindful of global climate change forecasts, the researchers said understanding the pineapple genome may help to engineer drought tolerance into other crops and even engineer C3 photosynthesis crops like rice and wheat to use CAM photosynthesis.

"As such, CAM photosynthesis applications could hold major significance for the entire food industry," added plant mo-



Men work on a crop of pineapples in Pradera. PHOTO: REUTERS

lecular biologist Qingyi Yu of the Texas A&M AgriLife Research Centre at Dallas.

Some of the pineapple's photosynthesis genes are governed by its circadian clock

genes, which enable plants to distinguish between day and night and adapt their metabolism accordingly.

Ming said this makes sense because CAM photosynthesis

lets plants close pores in their leaves during daytime and open them at night, helping retain moisture. The research appears in the journal *Nature Genetics*. — Reuters

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(Reg. No. IV/10517/2011)

ZUCOX

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in respect of – "Pharmaceutical and medicinal preparations and substances for human use; vaccines"

MIVACRON

(Reg. No. IV/1409/1991)
(Reg. No. IV/5829/2010)

in respect of – "Pharmaceutical and medicinal preparations and substances being neuro-muscular blockers"

SCOTT'S

(Reg. No. IV/3429/2004)
(Reg. No. IV/2195/2007)

in respect of – "Pharmaceutical preparations and substances

for human use, vitamin supplements, cod liver oil"

TAGABID

(Reg. No. IV/810/1980)
(Reg. No. IV/2242/2007)

in respect of – "Pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary preparations and substances"

ZANTAC

(Reg. No. IV/246/1981)
(Reg. No. IV/5385/2011)

in respect of – "Pharmaceutical preparations and substances for human use and for veterinary use"

BOSATRIA

(Reg. No. 4397/2006)

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(Reg. No. IV/10516/2011)

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(Reg. No. IV/2776/2013)

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(Reg. No. IV/8487/2010)

ENO'S

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(Reg. No. IV/602/1983)

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(Reg. No. IV/7436/2008)

ZATOPIA

(Reg. No. IV/2765/2005)
(Reg. No. IV/7437/2008)

in respect of – Class 5:
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(Reg. No. 4/1976)
(Reg. No. IV/2706/1997)

in respect of – "Pharmaceutical, veterinary, medicinal and sanitary substances, disinfectants; preparations for killing weeds; vermin, pests and insects"

GRISOVIN

(Reg. No. IV/5080/2004)
(Reg. No. IV/2207/2007)

in respect of – "Pharmaceutical and preparations and substances and chemical preparations for use in horticulture, agriculture and forestry"

LOTRONEX

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(Reg. No. IV/7446/2008)

in respect of – "Pharmaceutical preparations and substances for the prevention, alleviation and/or treatment of gastrointestinal disorders affecting the nervous system"

RELVAR

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in respect of – Class 5:
"Pharmaceutical and medicinal preparations and substances all for the prevention, treatment and/or alleviation of respiratory diseases and disorders"

SUNISA

(Reg. No. IV/3161/2003)
(Reg. No. IV/10816/2011)

in respect of – "Pharmaceutical preparations and substances for the prevention/treatment and/or alleviation of diseases of the nervous system"

VALTRES

(Reg. No. IV/3498/1994)
(Reg. No. IV/8505/2010)

in respect of – "Pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary substances; infants' and invalids' foods; plasters, material for bandaging; material for stopping teeth, dental wax; disinfectants; preparations for killing weeds and destroying vermin"

SPANSULES

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in respect of – "Medicinal and pharmaceutical preparations and substances, particularly a unit of medication for oral administration comprising multiples of specialty coated globules each containing an increment of a medicament and providing for the gradual release of the medicament over an extended period of time"



FISHERMAN and cod circle device



FISHERMAN and cod device (2013 version) (in color) (blue/orange)



SCOTTY FISH device (2013 version)

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DISKHALER

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(Reg. No. IV/8486/2010)

in respect of – "Surgical, medical and dental apparatus and instruments and parts and fittings thereof"

ROTACAPS

(Reg. No. IV/10308/2012)

ROTAHALER

(Reg. No. IV/10309/2012)

in respect of – Class 10: "Medical and surgical apparatus and instruments, inhalers, parts and fittings for all the aforesaid goods all included in Class 10"

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(Reg. No. IV/8493/2010)

in respect of – "Pharmaceutical substances and medical equipment"

EVOHALER

(Reg. No. IV/1159/1997)
(Reg. No. IV/3903/2010)

in respect of – Int'l Class 5: "Pharmaceutical preparations and substance"

Int'l Class 10: "Medical and surgical apparatus and instruments, inhalers, parts and fittings for all the aforesaid goods all included in Class 10"

ROTADISK

(Reg. No. IV/1116/1983)
(Reg. No. IV/8501/2010)

in respect of – Int'l Class 5: "Pharmaceutical preparations and substances"

Int'l Class 10: "Medical; surgical and dental apparatus and instruments and parts and fittings thereof"

DISKUS

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(Reg. No. IV/2202/2007)

SERETIDE

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(Reg. No. IV/8502/2010)

SUREHALER

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RESAIR

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(Reg. No. IV/2212/2007)

REZAIR

(Reg. No. 35/2000)
(Reg. No. IV/7443/2008)

in respect of – Int'l Class 5: "Pharmaceutical preparations and substances"

Int'l Class 10: "Medical and surgical apparatus and instruments, inhalers, parts and fittings for all the aforesaid goods"

ELLIPTA

(Reg. No. IV/12278/2012)

in respect of – Class 5: "Pharmaceutical preparations and substances for the treatment and alleviation of respiratory ailments; and inhalers filled with pharmaceutical preparations for the treatment and alleviation of respiratory disorders"

Class 10: "Medical and surgical apparatus and instruments, namely, inhalers, and structural parts and fittings thereof"

ACTIPROTECT

(Reg. No. IV/3485/2009)
(Reg. No. IV/5711/2012)

VIRUCOAT

(Reg. No. IV/3486/2009)

in respect of – Class 3: "Facial masks"

Class 5: "Pharmaceutical preparations; namely, antiviral coatings"

Class 9: "Protection masks"

Class 10: "Respiratory masks for medical purposes"

AQUAFRESH FLEX

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(Reg. No. IV/7016/2010)

FLEX CONTROL

(Reg. No. IV/4977/2004)
(Reg. No. IV/7017/2010)

in respect of – Class 21: "Tooth-brushes, toothpicks, dental floss"

FLEXOCAT

(Reg. No. IV/4532/1999)
(Reg. No. IV/8488/2010)

FLEX 'N' DIRECT

(Reg. No. IV/925/2000)
(Reg. No. IV/9963/2011)

FLEXOSAURUS

(Reg. No. IV/926/2000)
(Reg. No. IV/9964/2011)

in respect of – Class 21: "Tooth-brushes, toothpicks, dental floss, plastic containers for holding toothbrushes"



(Reg. No. 5226/1995)
(Reg. No. IV/7475/2008)



(Reg. No. 5227/1995)
(Reg. No. IV/7468/2008)



(Reg. No. 5228/1995)
(Reg. No. IV/7469/2008)

in respect of – "Non-alcoholic drinks and preparations for making such drinks; fruit juices"

LUCOZADE

(Reg. No. IV/615/1983)
(Reg. No. IV/8495/2010)

RIBENA

(Reg. No. IV/616/1983)
(Reg. No. IV/8500/2010)

in respect of – "Non-alcoholic drinks, tonic beverages, food beverages and aerated beverages"

WELLCOME

(Reg. No. 1095/1982)
(Reg. No. IV/2708/1997)

in respect of – "Fine chemicals and drugs, all for use in industry and science; diagnostic and chemical reagent preparations and substances, all for in vitro use in relation to human and veterinary conditions. Medicinal, pharmaceutical and veterinary preparations and substances; vaccines, insecticides; additives for animal foodstuffs and foodstuffs for animals, all being medicated; preparations for killing weeds and destroying vermin"

GLAXO WELLCOME

(Reg. No. IV/3663/1995)
(Reg. No. IV/4706/2011)

in respect of – Int'l Class 1: "Chemicals used in industry, science and photography, as well as in agriculture, horticulture and forestry; unprocessed artificial resins, unprocessed plastics; manures; fire extinguishing compositions; tempering and soldering preparations; chemical substances for preserving foodstuffs; tanning substances; adhesives used in industry"

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Int'l Class 5: "Pharmaceutical, veterinary and sanitary preparations; dietetic substances adapted for medical use, food for babies; plasters, materials for dressings; material for stopping teeth, dental wax; disinfectants; preparations for destroying vermin; fungicides, herbicides"

Int'l Class 9: "Scientific, nautical,

surveying, electric, photographic, cinematographic, optical, weighing measuring, signalling, checking (supervision), life-saving and teaching apparatus and instruments; apparatus for recording, transmission or reproduction of sound or images; magnetic data carriers, recording discs; automatic vending machines and mechanisms for coin-operated apparatus; cash registers, calculating machines, data processing equipment and computer; fire-extinguishing apparatus"

Int'l Class 10: "Surgical, medical, dental and veterinary apparatus and instruments, artificial limbs, eyes and teeth; orthopaedic articles; suture materials"

Int'l Class 16: "Paper, cardboard and goods made from these materials; not included in other classes, printed matter; bookbinding material; photographs; stationery; adhesives for stationery or household purposes; artists' materials, paint brushes; type-writers and office requisites (except furniture); instructional and teaching material (except apparatus); plastic materials for packaging (not included in other classes); playing cards; printers' type; printing blocks"

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Chris Stapleton, Luke Bryan, Miranda Lambert win big at Country Music Association Awards

NASHVILLE — The divorce of country music superstars Blake Shelton and Miranda Lambert might be final, but it was Lambert who came out on top at Wednesday's Country Music Association Awards, copping a top prize while her ex went home empty-handed.

Lambert, 31, accepting her record sixth consecutive female vocalist of the year award, made only a glancing reference to her very public breakup with Shelton, saying "I appreciate it. I needed a bright spot this year."

But Shelton, after five straight wins, saw newcomer Chris Stapleton snatch away the male vocalist of the year award.

Earlier at the 49th annual CMAs, Shelton, 39, was a good sport, laughing heartily as hosts Brad Paisley and Carrie Underwood mined his summer divorce from Lambert for comic fodder.

While the spotlight at one of country music's biggest nights was trained on the one-time couple, it was Stapleton who emerged as perhaps the biggest winner, walking away with an unexpected three awards, including album of the year ("Traveller") and new artist of the year.

In one of three acceptance speeches, an emotional Stapleton paid tribute to his father, who died two years ago.

"I made this record thinking a lot about the music he would have liked," he said. "He would have liked to have seen this."

The top award at the three-hour, performance-heavy ceremony broadcast live on ABC televi-



Luke Bryan accepts the award for Entertainer of the Year at the 49th Annual Country Music Association Awards in Nashville, Tennessee, on 4 November 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

sion from the Bridgestone Arena went to Luke Bryan, who kicked off his acceptance speech on a religious note, saying "Thank you lord, thank you Jesus, thank you everyone in heaven looking out for me."

Bryan, who also took home the top prize a year ago, also paid tribute to Stapleton, saying "Watching Chris Stapleton have this night is so uplifting."

Other big winners included Little Big Town, whose "Girl Crush" was named single of the year and also won the song of the year prize for its three female composers.

The group was also named

vocal group of the year by the 6,800 professional members of the CMA who choose the winners. Florida Georgia Line won vocal duo of the year.

The show opened with a "Star Wars" takeoff featuring Underwood as Princess Leia and Paisley as Han Solo. Later "Star Trek" star William Shatner dropped in dressed as a storm trooper, joking that singer Sam Hunt's singing mimicked his own semi-spoken style. In a musical highlight, Justin Timberlake teamed up with Stapleton for a mashup of Stapleton's "Tennessee Whiskey" and Timberlake's "Drink You Away."—Reuters

DeVito says he and Schwarzenegger keen on 'Twins' sequel

LONDON — Hollywood actor Danny DeVito says he and Arnold Schwarzenegger are keen to reprise their roles as long-lost brothers in a sequel to "Twins", with Eddie Murphy joining the cast as another sibling.

Schwarzenegger and DeVito played mismatched twins who were separated at birth in the 1988 hit comedy — one tall, blond and naive and the other short, bald and a small-time hustler.

"With 'Triplets' with Arnie — yeah we've been talking about it for a while, everybody wants to do it, we just have to find time," DeVito told Reuters. "Eddie Murphy may be with us, playing our brother, long-lost twin brother."

DeVito, who also starred with Schwarzenegger in the 1994 comedy "Junior", was speaking on arrival at a London gala for late actor Paul Newman's charity, SeriousFun Children's Network.

Talk of a "Twins" sequel has been around for several years, but there has been little news of progress on the project.

Schwarzenegger, a former famed bodybuilder who has gone back to making movies after serving as the governor of California from 2003 to 2011, has made similar comments about "Triplets".

He told The New York Times this year that he felt "very passionate" about the project.—Reuters



Actor Danny DeVito hands over the award for life's work to Arnold Schwarzenegger at the 'Die Goldene Kamera' (Golden Camera) awards ceremony in Hamburg, on 27 February 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

Katy Perry's \$135 million tops Taylor Swift as highest music earner

NEW YORK — She didn't make as many headlines, nor sell as many albums, but Katy Perry handily beat Taylor Swift to become the highest-earning woman in music this year, according to Forbes.

Perry, 31, earned \$135 million in the past 12 months, thanks to a huge worldwide "Prismatic" tour and endorsements deals with beau-

ty companies like Coty and CoverGirl, Forbes estimated in a ranking released on Wednesday.

Swift, 25, was a distant second, with an estimated \$80 million, despite some 8.6 million sales globally for her "1989" hit album and the start of a world tour.

Perry's latest album "Prism" has sold some four million world-

wide since its release in 2013 and the "Roar" singer has been touring for most of the year.

British-American rock band Fleetwood Mac was placed third with \$59.5 million although only two of its five current line-up are women. Nevertheless, the return of 1970s veterans Stevie Nicks and Christine McVeigh was seen as a key to the success of the band's year-long tour "On With the Show," Forbes said.

Lady Gaga was ranked fourth with \$59 million — a long way behind her 2011 peak of \$90 million when she was grabbing headlines with outrageous stunts and costumes. Last year's top earner Beyonce slipped to 5th place with an estimated \$54.5 million.

The Forbes list measures estimated pre-tax income from June 2014 to June 2015, and includes earnings from albums, touring, endorsements and other commercial deals.—Reuters



PHOTO: REUTERS

Sonam perhaps better than Madhuri, Aishwarya: Salman Khan

NEW DELHI — Superstar Salman Khan feels his much-younger "PremRatanDhanPayo" co-star Sonam Kapoor beats his previous leading ladies Madhuri Dixit and Aishwarya Rai Bachchan in terms of beauty and talent.

Salman's on screen pairing with Madhuri, Aishwarya, Bhagyashree and SonaliBendre has been loved by the viewers.

While he and Sonam worked in her debut film "Saawariya", this is the first time they are teaming up for a Rajshri movie, which marks the return of the "BajrangiBhaijaan" star most lovable avatar Prem.

When asked if she is bogged by comparisons with Madhuri and Aishwarya, Sonam said, "I don't think I should be compared to them. They are amazing

in whatever they do.

I don't think I am nowhere close to being as beautiful as Aishwarya does or as talented as Madhuri.

"But having said that, I am Anil Kapoor's daughter.

I have seen comparisons since I started my career.

So the pressure does not bog me down, it just makes me work harder."

Salman added, "I think she is as beautiful and equally talented... Perhaps more."

The actor seemed to confirm the earlier reports, which claimed he found Sonam's work in the movie better than Madhuri's in "Hum Aapke Hain Koun..!".

"PremRatanDhanPayo", directed by SoorajBarjatya, releases on 12 November.—PTI

To celebrate the Thadingyut festival, FMI City organised a ceremony to pay homage to senior citizens living on its estate. Last Saturday, about 150 senior residents of FMI City in Hlaing Thar Yar were invited to the ceremony to receive blessings and gifts from community members. The management and staff of FMI City, families of the guests and other residents also attended the ceremony. The homage-paying ceremony was followed by a blessing by U Tha Mo, U San Aye, Daw Mya Kywe and Daw Aye Mya, who have been living on the estate for many years.



One of the seniors gave a blessing speech.



Senior residents of FMI City.



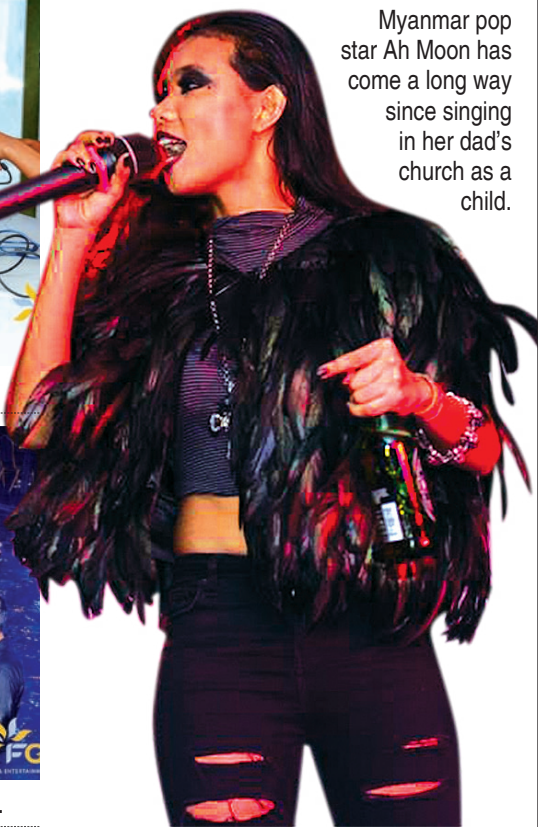
Audience paying respect to the seniors.



DJ Karl prepares to bring the noise.



Some people left their costumes in the pool.



Myanmar pop star Ah Moon has come a long way since singing in her dad's church as a child.



Yangon's finest expats.



Dancing Cat.

Fortuna Gold Media & Entertainment put on the scariest and most stylish Halloween party in Yangon on Saturday night at the Piano Bar at Parami Hotel. Straight out of a scene from Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' video, the dance floor bounced to monstrous beats all night long, fuelled by performances by X Galz, rapper Zay Ye and a surprise performance by Myanmar pop darling Ah Moon.

On the occasion of the Art COP21 – the global art festival for the UN climate conference in Paris – the Institut Français de Birmanie organised Mind Your Planet on Saturday as a day of activities dedicated to the environment.

Mya Chemical Free and Bamboo Lovers sold organic food and green furniture in the garden, while street artists improvised on the big stage. A conference featuring the NGOs Green Lotus and Canopée was held in the Rendezvous restaurant. The Institut also screened short films in partnership with Yangon Film School and Tagu Films. The day concluded with a live concert by Raga Music Band.



Echo from Raga Music Band



Thu Myat, 9Micro and Satan do some street art.



Performance artist Yadanar Win, famous for subverting gender roles.

Roma hold firm to sink Leverkusen in thriller



AS Roma's Miralem Pjanic (L) shoots and scores a penalty kick past Leverkusen's goalkeeper Bernd Leno during their Champions League Group E soccer match at Olympic stadium in Rome, Italy on 4 November 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS

ROME — AS Roma squandered a two-goal lead but recovered to beat Bayer Leverkusen 3-2 following a late Miralem Pjanic penalty on Wednesday to move into second place in Champions League Group E. The Italian side moved on to five points, five behind leaders Barcelona and one ahead of third-placed Leverkusen following their first win of the group stage. Roma exposed the visitors' defensive frailties with goals from Mohamed Salah and Edin Dzeko inside the first half hour, but Leverkusen levelled six minutes into the second period after a quickfire double from Admir Mehmedi and Javier Hernandez.

However, an 80th-minute penalty scored by Pjanic — following Omer Toprak's goalline push on Salah — earned the visiting captain a red card and secured victory for the home side.

"We certainly don't get bored when these two teams play

each other," Roma coach Rudi Garcia told Mediaset.

"We could have scored more goals in the first half and after the break there was this black-out, but we had the character to get back into it.

"The lads did well, because there are teams who would crumble if going from 2-0 to 2-2 in five minutes."

Barcelona's 3-0 home win over BATE Borisov extended the defending champions' lead at the top of the standings and they will qualify as group winners if they avoid defeat by Roma in their next match.

Roma heeded Garcia's pre-match calls to attack Leverkusen and it took less than two minutes to open the scoring.

Counter-attacking at pace, Salah's shot beat Bernd Leno after he was played in by a superb pass from Dzeko on two minutes.

Roma doubled their lead

with a strikingly similar goal, Radja Nainggolan beating his man just inside the home side's half before threading the ball to Dzeko who finished with aplomb on 29 minutes.

Just as they had done in the first match between the teams — a 4-4 draw — Leverkusen fought back, scoring twice within the first six minutes of the second half to stun the home fans.

Mehmedi met Kevin Kampl's cut back with a powerful angled drive that nestled in the roof of Wojciech Szczesny's net on 46 minutes and Hernandez made it 2-2 after being found by Karim Bellarabi's excellent pass in the 51st.

Roma retook the lead after 80 minutes when Tobrak pushed Salah into the net as the Egypt forward was about to pull the trigger from close range. The Leverkusen captain was shown a straight red card and Pjanic beat Leno from the spot.—Reuters

High hopes for Myanmar's football team led by German coach

Ko Moe

LOCAL football pundits have expressed confidence that Myanmar's national football team will perform well against their Hong Kong rivals during a warm-up match at Mong Kok Stadium in Hong Kong on 7 November.

Expectations are high for Myanmar's head coach, German citizen Gerd Friedrich Horst Zeise, to lead the team to victory, as he has a proven track record that dates back to 2011, when he coached Myanmar's youth team.

"Mr Gerd reconstituted Myanmar's national team by selecting the top players from the U-20, U-23 and former national team. The new line-up is sure to dominate its ASEAN rivals," said head coach U Soe Myat Min of Kanbawza FC, who is a former captain of Myanmar's national team.

"Mr Gerd is an excellent

coach and he will bring success to the team in its immediate and long term future," said Zwega-bin United's technical director U Hsan Win.

The German coach proved his capabilities during the 2014 Brunei Invitational Cup in 2014, in which Myanmar performed exceptionally well.

Other highlights include Myanmar's U-19 team qualifying for the semifinal of the AFC U-19 Championship 2015 and the U-20 team taking part in the U-20 World Cup held in New Zealand earlier this year.

"He's built a team by inspiring a concerted effort among all players. He does not rely on any single player for success," U Hsan Win added.

Serbian Rodjko Avramovic assumed responsibility of Myanmar's national team in February 2014. During this time, Myanmar tallied up seven victories, four draws and 11 losses. In 2014, he impressed football enthusiasts with a sterling performance by Myanmar's team in Philippine's Peace Cup.

Zenit down Lyon to reach Champions League last 16

LYON — Zenit St Petersburg qualified for the Champions League last 16 on Wednesday when Artem Dzyuba's double gave them a 2-0 win at Olympique Lyonnais, leaving the French club on the brink of elimination.

Dzyuba scored either side of the interval as Zenit stayed top of Group H with a maximum 12 points while OL are bottom on a single point. Third-placed Gent have four points after beating Valencia, who have six, 1-0 at home.—Reuters

Defending champion Spieth heads World Challenge field

NEW YORK — Six of the 10 top-ranked players in the world, headed by Jordan Spieth and Jason Day, will compete in the Hero World Challenge in The Bahamas next month, organisers said on Wednesday. The Tiger Woods-hosted event is moving outside the United States for the first time and will be played on the Albany course on the island of New Providence from 3-6 December.

American Spieth, the world number one and defending champion, and Australian world number two Day are in an 18-man field which includes British Open champion Zach Johnson, so all this year's major champions will be in action.

England's Justin Rose and Australian Adam Scott might enjoy a home course advantage given that they live in Albany.

Woods will not play as he recovers from two recent back operations, but he is expected to be present at the \$3.5 million event, which earns world ranking points but does not count towards official money or points on the PGA Tour.

The field (world ranking in brackets):

Jordan Spieth (1), USA; Jason Day (2), Australia; Rickie Fowler (5), USA; Justin Rose (7), England; Dustin Johnson (8), USA; Zach Johnson (10), USA;

Adam Scott (13), Australia; Hideki Matsuyama (14), Japan;

Matt Kuchar (15), USA; Jimmy Walker (16), USA; Brooks Koepka (17), USA; J.B. Holmes (18), USA; Patrick Reed (19), USA; Paul Casey (23), England; Billy Horschel (26), USA; Chris Kirk (27), USA; Bill Haas (28), USA; Anirban Lahiri (39), India.—Reuters



Jordan Spieth of the US tees off on the first hole during the pro-am of the WGC-HSBC Champions golf tournament in Shanghai, China, on 4 November 2015. PHOTO: REUTERS