CHIN AND RAKHINE PREPARE

Myanmar cannot produce adequate hepatitis B vaccines

MYANMAR cannot yet produce an adequate supply of hepatitis B vaccines for children, said Union Minister for Health Dr Myint Htun at a Pyithu Hluttaw session yesterday.

But, the ministry has adequately provided children with a combined vaccine set to be given at two, four and six months of age to protect them against five major childhood diseases, said the Union minister.

The ministry, if necessary, will purchase safe and effective hepatitis B vaccines to vaccinate the children with the use of its funds, he added.

According to the Union Minister, the Myanmar Pharmaceutical Factory under the Ministry of Industry is manufacturing hepatitis B vaccines for adults.

The Union minister also elaborated on measures being taken in regard to imported medicine, saying that the ministry has proper scrutiny over medicines imported by companies.

In March of this year three newborns died and seven were taken to the Yankin Children’s Hospital for intensive care after hepatitis B vaccinations in Bago. In that incident, a total of 28 infants were given hepatitis B vaccines bought from a pharmacy store in Bago that were later revealed to be defective. —Myanmar News Agency

Russia-ASEAN summit held in Sochi

PRESIDENT U Htin Kyaw delivered an address at Russia-ASEAN Summit in Sochi yesterday, expressing the summit as a landmark in ASEAN-Russia relations, saying that Russia is an important partner for ASEAN member nations.

“It is delightful Russia lays emphasis upon ASEAN’s centrality and Russian’s participation in ASEAN-led processes contributes a lot to regional peace and development,” said the president in his address.

President U Htin Kyaw went on to say that they have common views in economic cooperation that they would cooperate in overcoming the global economic difficulty, that Myanmar is exerting all-out effort to establish regional economic community, that they will continue to bridge the gap between the rich and the poor, that effort will be directed toward development of small and medium enterprises and that they would able to see Russia invest in energy and food sectors in ASEAN region.

President U Htin Kyaw continued to say that a cultural and art cooperation agreement between Russia and Myanmar has been signed in 2015, that measures have been taken to promote cultural and art cooperation following the said agreement, and

Myanmar News Agency Jaiden Coonan

MYANMAR’S Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) has issued an ‘orange’ alert for Cyclone Roanu as it moves through the Bay of Bengal. Roanu is set to make landfall over Cox’s Bazaar in Bangladesh tomorrow evening, it will cross into Myanmar’s Chin state as it recedes.

Disaster awareness is underway in Chin and Rakhine states.

Chief Editor of the Chinland Herald, Nuge Pi told The Global New Light of Myanmar that the government has been using the DMH warnings to warn the state.

“The DMH has also been alerting Pastors in the state to inform villages that the storm will be moving across the state,” said Nuge Pi.

Adding, “The people don’t seem to know how serious this storm may be.”

Henri, a worker for the NGO Marie Stopes, told The Global New Light of Myanmar that it had been raining for three days in Chin and that he hadn’t seen the sun for two days.

“Most people have been following the news on social media from DMH updates, they know that there is a storm coming,” he said.

Northern Rakhine state is also preparing for Roanu, Maung Win Thein of Maungdaw told The Global New Light of Myanmar that people have been stocking up on supplies and staying in doors.

“The local authorities have been driving around town with loud speakers on trucks alerting people about the storm,” he said. He added that he hopes there are evacuation plans for when the cyclone hits.

The reasoning for upgrading the storm warning to ‘orange’ is due to how close it will be to the Myanmar border, Hla Tun, Deputy Director of DMH told The Global New Light of Myanmar.

Source: World Meteorological Organisation

Cyclone Roanu as of 20 May at 6am.


Russian President Vladimir Putin shows way to Myanmar’s President U Htin Kyaw during welcoming ceremony for heads of the delegations at the Russia-ASEAN summit in Sochi, Russia on 20 May. PHOTO: REUTERS

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Citizenship scrutiny issue put on record after long debate at Pyithu Hluttaw

THE motion concerning the issue of citizenship scrutiny was put on record at the Pyithu Hluttaw yesterday after the voting turned to be 154 votes for and 228 against, with 7 abstentions.

Daw Khin Saw Wai brought the motion before parliament stressing that her proposal was national, not regional.

“The issue of citizenship scrutiny is a national concern, and it is not specific to the Rakhine State alone,” she said.

Labour, Immigration and Population Union Minister U Thein Swe proposed the motion on record, saying that the scrutiny process is included in his ministry’s 100-day plan.

In his discussion about the motion, U Aung Kyaw Zan of the Pauktauw constituency described the issue as unconnected with racial and religious matters as other people might have thought, putting the blame on illegal immigrants. He also called for the exercise of the Myanmar Citizenship Law 1892 in the scrutiny process, stressing that the law is up-to-date.

MPs from Hlegu, Myauk U and Myaingon constituencies spoke in support of the proposal, calling for a prompt action for citizenship scrutiny to ensure national security and rule of law in the new democracy.

Failure to implement the citizenship scrutiny process would amount to the inability to reinforce the rule of law, U Pe Than of the Myaybon constituency said, citing the government’s refusal to acknowledge the existence of the Rohingya race.

“They (the government) evicted their own citizens - squatting in huts on vacant lands in the name of the law, so their excuse for not carrying out the citizenship scrutiny process at the refugee shelters for Bengalis is somewhat ridiculous to hear,” he said.

Union Minister U Thein Swe responded that the undertaking of citizenship scrutiny required security and stability. He pledged greater transparency in the scrutiny process to be conducted across the country on a national scale after the establishment of scrutiny committees at different levels in all states and regions. He called for collective cooperation in the process, which he said would present challenges.

In the time of the previous government, immigration officers and police forces were attacked during their mission to take a national census in 14 townships of Rakhine State. The process was put on hold for security reasons.—Myanmar News Agency

MPs debate third revised bill on ward or village-tract administration law

REPRESENTATIVES began debating a bill to revise the ward or village-tract administration law for third time submitted by U Min Oo of Bago Region Constituency No 6 during the Amyotha Hluttaw session yesterday.

Regarding the bill, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Kyaw Thura allowed MPs to have an extra five minutes in their discussions.

In his view on the qualification of ward or village-tract administrator, U Kyaw Ni Naing of Shan State Constituency 11 suggested that the original provision that says ward or village-tract should be a person who has a qualification of fair education should be approved instead of the Bill Committee’s amendment to the law that says administrators shall need only primary education.

U Kyaw Miint Oo of Mandalay Region Constituency 10 called for a point that read that an administrator can be removed following complaints by 30 per cent of households living in the ward or village-tract to be added to law.

In her discussion, Daw Shwe Shwe Sein Lat of Bago Region Constituency 3 expressed her support for the third revised bill in conformity with democratic standards but suggested that an administrator be elected by the casting of a secret vote by household members over the age of 18.

Major Myo Aung, Defense Services personnel Amyotha Hluttaw representative, highlighted the importance of the sections related to guest registration.

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India, Myanmar to boost bilateral trade

MYANMAR and India are anticipating an increased volume in trade over the coming years, said Union Minister for Commerce Dr Than Myint.

Prospects for boosting bilateral trade were discussed at the India-Myanmar business summit in Yangon last Thursday in which a 25-member business delegation led by Mr Namal Samaithira, Minister of State for Commerce & Industry of India, Myanmar business groups attended.

The three-day meeting was hosted by the Indian Embassy in Yangon and ended yesterday. A 25-member business delegation from India attended the event under the theme: “Forging partnerships: How Myanmar – India business relations can contribute to the development of Myanmar.”

The two neighbouring countries have pledged to promote the annual trade volume which reached 1.4 billion kyat last year.

During the meeting, all sectors were discussed but farm produce was the main topic. To be able to promote the trade sector the main road linking the two countries will be upgraded. The two countries will co-operate on exporting products and enhancing small and medium businesses, it was reported.—Ky Moe

Myanmar delegation to attend Int’l Labour Conference 2016

A MYANMAR delegation will attend the 105th session of the International Labour Conference scheduled to be held in Geneva, Switzerland from 30 May to 10 June, according to a press conference yesterday.

As each delegation is only allowed five minutes discussion time at the conference, prioritised points focusing on social protection will be presented at the session, said U Maung Maung, President of the Confederation of Trade Unions-Myanmar, highlighting the importance of social protection for workers and farmers as well.

The president of the CTUM, expressing concerns over possible outbreaks of security breaches that can weaken legal protection for people.

In his discussion, U Htay Oo of Yangon Region Constituency 2 stressed the need to amend the provision that defines a household head, suggesting that it not be required to have a household registration form to be a household head as there are many people with no household registration and citizenship scrutiny cards in remote areas.

U Myo Win of Mon State Constituency 8 called for a platform to be created for ward or village-tract residents to point out improper any conduct by administrators and suggested that a five-member supervisory board be formed to supervise the election of the administrator. He further suggested that the board receive complaints and control administrators under close supervision.—Myanmar News Agency

U Kyaw Myint Oo of Mandalay Region Constituency No (10). Photo: MNA

Daw Shwe Shwe Sein Lat of Bago Region Constituency No (3). Photo: MNA

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U Maung Maung, President of the Confederation of Trade Unions-Myanmar (Centre) talks to media. Photo: Soe Soe Yu

and Daw Phyo Sandar Soe.

The conference is set to host discussions on global supply chains and to review the social justice declaration.—Soe Soe Yu

King Thibaw Centenary Ceremonies to be held in Mandalay and Ratnagiri

KING Thibaw Centenary Ceremonies are to be held in a series of Buddhist ritual ceremonies to mark the 100th death anniversary of the departed king who died on 16 December 1816. King Thibaw, the last king of the Konbaung dynasty of Burma (now Myanmar), was also the last king in the history of Burma who passed away during the time of his exile in the port town of Ratnagiri off the Arabian Sea in the State of Maharashtra in India.

In an exclusive interview with the Global New Light of Myanmar, Mr C. Ruthnasamy, Secretary-General of the Buddhist Cultural Foundation (India) on a visit to Yangon said that King Thibaw was a religious man who studied Buddhist text as a Prince. Later, towards the end of his life, he built a Buddhist Temple in Ratnagiri, the place of his exile.

The Buddhist Cultural Foundation (India) and the Committee for Centenary Celebrations (Myanmar) headed by Mr Soe Win, a descendant of the king, will be holding a series of Buddhist religious ceremonies in Ratnagiri and in Mandalay for the king.

Mr Ruthnasamy went on to say that the Buddhist Cultural Foundation (India) had earlier in November 2015 held an international conference in New Delhi on Acharya Bodhidharma, popularly known as Damo, who in Japan and China founded Zen Buddhism in the 6th century CE.—GNLM
Thilawa SEZ shares soar on its debut to a high of K50,000

KO Moe

THE Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings Public Limited that has become the second company to trade on the Yangon Stock Exchange began share sales with its stock reaching a price of K50,000 per share yesterday.

Despite the MTSH beginning sales with an opening price of K40,000 a share, its shares were traded on the exchange at the price of K50,000 following an increase in demand. The MTSH sold 5,340 shares in the morning.

The MTSH was established in March 2013 when the company sold K2.14 million in shares in total, setting the price at K10,000 per share, through bank branches across the country from 3 March and 9 April, 2014.

During yesterday’s stock trading, 4,083 shares of the First Myanmar Investment Co Ltd (FMI) were sold at the opening price of K31,500 per share.

According to sources, Myanmar Citizens Bank, First Private Bank Ltd, Great Horkham Public Co Ltd and the Myanmar Agribusiness Public Corporation Ltd (MAPCO) are on track to go public on the Yangon Stock Exchange in the future.—GNLM

Floating dyke building and dredging in NyaungOo suspended

Aung Thant Khaing

WITH river waters rising, the floating dyke building and dredging operation in NyaungOo waterway have been forced to suspend operations for a while, said U Aung Myo Khaing, deputy director from the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems (DWIR).

The department has been implementing Component-3 of the Ayeyawady Integrated River Basin Management Project with loans from the World Bank. To improve safety along the Ayeyawady-NyaungOo waterway. To ensure safety of the vessels in the river, a project under Component-3 which will give the water way markers in the river will be included.

The Ayeyawady River is being dredged in NyaungOo. PHOTO: AUNG THANT KHAING

The MTSH was launched on 1 April, 2016. These activities have been suspended for a while starting from 12 May because of the increased river water. Activity will resume as soon as the river water recedes, said U Aung Myo Khaing.

There are two floating dykes with a length of 550 metres and 420 metres each. The river water has risen by about six metres while implementing the project. Only 15 per cent of the project is completed. Dredging has also been put off.

Implementing the project is dependant on the weather. The Pakokku waterway improvement is also included in the project, provided by the World Bank. This task will be continued without delay, he added.

Downstream and upstream dredging in Pakokku waterway is expected to take three months. The total cost for the project on both the NyaungOo and Pakokku waterways stands at around US$ 1.2 million, according to the figures of the department.

There are cruises for tourists along the Ayeyawady-NyaungOo water way. To ensure safety of the vessels in the river, a project under Component-3 which will give the water way markers in the river will be included.

Russia-ASEAN summit held in Sochi

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that future will see increased exchange of cultural troupes, greater cooperation in human resources development and increased numbers of cultural exhibitions and festivals.

In conclusion, the president said that he is delighted to see the establishment of ASEAN community, vowing to further strengthen ASEAN-Russia relations.

The summit also released the Sochi declaration which includes further promotion of friendship, cooperation in political and security sector, in economic sector, in social and cultural sector, in making efforts for bridging gap of development and implementation of agreements.

Representatives from 16 nations including Myanmar, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Japan, China and Singapore met in Sochi on Thursday at the invitation of The Business Forum of the Russian Federation to discuss the potential for developing trade and economic relations, strengthening investment potential and intensifying business cooperation between Russia and ASEAN members. 400 delegates in total attended the summit with President U Htin Kyaw personally attending to represent the peoples and interests of Myanmar.

As part of the forum, several key international agreements were signed and Russian participants held bilateral meetings with the visiting representatives. The Forum participants noted that there is enormous potential to develop cooperation between Russia and the ASEAN nations. According to the Russian Export Centre (REC), “it can be said with a degree of certainty that within five years Russia could hold an up to 10% share of the export market of the ASEAN nations.”

The Business Forum opened with two panel discussions. The panel “Towards New ASEAN – Russian Economic Partnership: Essential Tools, Mechanisms and Drivers of Growth” was moderated by Russian First Deputy Minister of Economic Development Alexey Likhachev and Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Indonesia Rosan Roeslan. The second panel session, “Russia’s Export Potential: Implementing Strategic Priorities of ASEAN Member States” was devoted to searching for new opportunities for Russian companies to take part in the national industrial development programs of the ASEAN nations and to establish the financial tools required for Russian business to take part in different projects in the region.—GNLM

Electronic board showing stock prices at the Yangon Stock Exchange (YSX) in Yangon 20 May. PHOTO: NYI ZAW MOE
**Police arrest man on suspicion of murdering his boss**

POLICE have arrested a man who allegedly killed his boss on Thursday.

When interrogated, Win Kyaw alias Aung Than, 19, admitted that he had killed the victim during a brawl.

After killing him, the suspect left the corpse on Pyinma Myiang road, Thuwunna, Thingangyun township, Yangon.

A man from Pyinma Myiang called the police when he discovered the victim’s body. The police identified the victim as U Zaw Zaw, 36, from Minglar Taung Nyunt township.

The police have filed charges under section 302 of the Criminal Law.— Myanmar Police Force

**Man stabbed to death in quarrel**

A MAN has been charged with murder after allegedly killing his brother-in-law named U Tin Sein.

According to an investigation, Myo Ko, 23, was playing cane ball with the victim when he was hit by a stick in his arm. Myo Ko retaliated by stabbing the victim with a knife. The police have filed charges against Myo Ko.— Ye Ye (Pyinmana)

**Spokespersons for ministries announced**

THE government has announced the names of the spokespersons for its ministries on the website of the Ministry of Information at www.moi.gov.mm and on the Facebook named MOI Webportal Myanmar.

The spokespersons will meet for the first time at the Ministry of Information in Nay Pyi Taw on 23 May to discuss ways to handle media interviews, issue press releases and give press conferences.— Myanmar News Agency

**Chin and Rakhine Prepare**

A 22-wheel vehicle crashed into a lamp post, bridge and a house on Kwinkon-Phado road, Kyaukdaga township, Bago region yesterday, leaving two injured.

The vehicle was being driven by one Aung Lut Lat, 20, who crashed into the house of U Myint Oo when the driver lost control near Hsay Yo Khin village. The accident badly damaged the lamp post, the bridge and the house.

The accident injured U Myint Oo and his wife while they were sleeping inside the house. The driver Aung Lut Lat has been charged by police.— Khin Ko (Kyaukdaga)

**Crime NEWS**

**Vehicle collides with lamp post, bridge and house**

A combined team comprising officers and staff from Mawlamyne police searched the home of one Ye Htut on Sain Chai road, Myoma 4 ward, Mudon town and discovered 111 yaba pills.

Police have filed charges against all suspects under the Anti-Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances Law.— Myanmar Police Force

**Yaba and heroin seized**
Nearly 1,400 hotels, guest houses operating in Myanmar

THE number of hotels and guest houses up until the end of this April have reached 1,345 with 52,466 rooms across the country, according to official figures released by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Since 2011 the ministry has been relaxing restrictions relating to the issuance of operating licences to both local and foreign investors in the hospitality industry in order to provide better services for international visitors.

There are 338 hotels and guest houses with 16,218 rooms in Yangon, 176 hotels with 7,071 rooms in Mandalay, 63 hotels with 5,111 rooms in the capital Nay Pyi Taw, 32 hotels with 888 rooms in Taunggyi, 85 hotels with 2,621 rooms in Inlay and 81 hotels with 2,761 rooms in Bagan.

Tour operators say that tourist arrivals are likely to increase this year as a master plan, designed to promote the sector, is being implemented by the ministry.

The number of both local and international businesspeople wishing to operate service businesses in the country has also increased month by month.

Last year’s tourist arrivals reached a total of 4.68 millions. That number is expected to be surpassed this year.

The ministry has permitted 2,091 licences to tour companies, 536 tourist transport licences, 3939 tour guide licences and 2369 local tour guide licences.—ML/Union Daily

Philippines invites Myanmar to carry out paddy joint venture

THE Philippines-based agriculture company SLAC has invited local Myanmar agribusiness operators to enter a joint venture in paddy growing.

Currently, trial plantings of two different strains of high yielding paddy are being carried out in Dagon in Yangon by the Filipino company.

The company attempted to form a strong business relationship by way of a joint venture with Myanmar citizens through a contract system. The company plans to export their product to its native country which currently faces agriculture losses because of climate change. The new strains can better survive in bad weather and yield 30 per cent more than other strains.

Myanmar enjoys fertile land that makes it suitable for growing paddy nation-wide. This is one of the given reasons for SLAC to make efforts to cooperate with local businesspeople. The amount of rice exported by Myanmar is also expected to rise in the future if the JV project is successful.

The demand for Myanmar rice in Europe has risen this year. Myanmar exported about 1.8 million tonnes of rice, including 400,000 tonnes of broken rice, over the 2014-2015 fiscal year, up from 1.27 million over the 2013-2014 FY and 1.46 million over the FY 2012-2013.—PPN/Union Daily

Industrial Zones development co-operation committee formed

AN industrial zones development co-operation committee has been formed under the guidance of the Federation of Industrial Manufacturers (FIM) with a view to co-ordinating and aiding co-operation between and among industrial supervisory committees to find solutions to common problems.

The industrial zones development cooperation committee includes a chairman and seven joint chairmen, four secretaries and 52 members from 29 industrial zones of Yangon Region.

Small and medium sized enterprises are in the majority in Yangon industrial zones. The industrial zones are faced with difficulties relating to infrastructure. The committee has been formed to fulfill the needs of the industrial zones and to effectuate the economic development of the entrepreneurs of the zones, said U Aung Thein, the vice chairman of FIM.

The committee needs to make efforts for the required laws and policies to be formulated. It will report on the difficulties of SMEs to responsible persons. It will conduct to build the new industrial zones. It will also have to upgrade the zones to meet international industrial zones standards. The industrial development committee will have to submit reports to the ministry concerned and the regional government in a timely manner.—PTK/Union Daily
Viet Nam rights record puts Obama in a fix as US seeks new Asian alliance

HANOI/WASHINGTON — With police watching his home around the clock, Viet namese blogger Huynh Ngoc Chenh sneaked out through a back door and reappeared the next day in a public square to hold a one-man anti-government protest.

But having been given the slip of time, police wasted no time in nabbing him after only five minutes.

It was one of many free-speech experiments squeezed by Viet nam’s communist government, underscoring the dilemma US President Barack Obama has ahead of a visit on Monday in which human rights will be central to decisions about how far Washington is willing to engage its former enemy.

Chenh, 64, who不像 many dissidents, has been arrested for Sunday’s demonstration in Ho Chi Minh City, which got him 12,000 Facebook “likes” for making a stand against what he calls an endemic problem of abusive police.

“There are six men watching my house right now,” said Chenh, 64, who was escorted home and told to stay there.

“Sometimes, they stop me from leaving, other times they let me go out but they follow me everywhere.”

His sit-in came as rights groups and activists accuse police of using heavy-handed measures to stop protests held in cities for the past two Sundays to demand government answers over an unexplained environmental disaster that caused mass fish deaths last month. The timing of protests could not be worse for Viet Nam. The White House on Thursday said Obama was still grappling with a decision on whether to lift a lethal arms embargo on Hanoi, one of the last vestiges of the Viet Nam War.

The United States has been clear that it’s removal hinges on progress on rights.

US President Barack Obama周一 in which human rights will be a key question for US President Barack Obama’s top Asia adviser Daniel Kritenbrink on Wednesday told reporters human rights would be a key factor in “whatever arms sales decisions we may or may not make”.

Obama will not try to dodge the issue. He is expected to meet dissidents and will address human rights in Viet Nam “both publicly and in private”, Kritenbrink said.— Reuters

Australian police raid opposition Labour in tight election campaign

SYDNEY — Australia’s election campaign was hijacked on Friday by police raids on the Labour opposition, over a suspected leak of documents citing cost blow-outs in a multi-billion dollar broadband upgrade, sparking concerns about abuse of power.

Labour questioned the timing of the raids and whether the government had put pressure on police, while Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and the head of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) rejected any suggestion of political interference.

The controversy capped the second week of campaigning ahead of a national election set for 2 July, in which polls indicate a tightly contested race between Labour and Turnbull’s Liberal-National coalition government.

The unprecedented timing of the raids, which carried on until the early hours of Friday morning, also led to concerns it could have a negative impact on whistleblowers.

“This is about the right for the public to know the truth. Mr Turnbull is going to extraordinary lengths to stop Australians finding out the truth about the cost of the NBN (National Broadband Network),” said Labour leader Bill Shorten.

“He is going after whistleblowers and he is smearing his political opponents. The public have a right to know the truth and whistleblowers have a right to protection.”

Turnbull said that he had no prior notice of the raids and chastised Labour for questioning the integrity of police.

“The first I heard of the AFP investigation was yesterday when I was advised by the Justice Minister shortly after he’d been advised by the Commissioner,” he told reporter.

Turnbull was communications minister for more than two years before being pushed by Tony Abbott in a party coup last year. He drew criticism for his decision to scale back the A$38 billion broadband programme, stopping short of connecting homes directly to the network amid cost overruns.

NBN aims to connect 93 per cent of Australian homes and workplaces with optical fibe, providing broadband services in urban and regional areas. It was created in 2009 by the Australian government and is expected to be ready by 2020.

The AFP said in a statement that it had informed both the government and opposition before conducting the raids, as is standard procedure.

“In regard to government and political influence that has been commented on this morning, there has been no influence on the AFP in the conduct of this investigation,” AFP Commissioner Andrew Colvin told reporters.

University of Sydney Emeritus Professor of Political Science and the Media, Rod Tiffen, said that the raids, coming as they have in the midst of a federal election campaign, were “unprecedented” and that it was unclear how it would play out.

“We, it’s certainly extraordinary. I’ve never seen anything at all like it in an election campaign,” he told Reuters. “I think that’s really the key question: whether it was politically motivated in some sense.” — Reuters
PHNOM PENH — Hundreds of people gathered on Friday at one of Cambodia’s infamous killing fields to remember the two million people who died under the communist Khmer Rouge regime.

Officials and relatives laid flowers and gave offerings on the “Day of Remembrance”, once known as the “Day of Hatred”, and students performed a re-enactment of Khmer Rouge soldiers taking prisoners.

The 1975-79 ultra-Maoist regime killed a fifth of the population through execution, torture and starvation in a bid to turn Cambodia into a communist state. Dictator Pol Pot was toppled from power when Viet Nam invaded the country in 1979.

“During my prayers, I said to those who were killed that nowaday the government cooperates with the Khmer Rouge court to try to find justice for all the victims so they might rest in peace,” Khmer Rouge survivor Yi Kim Seur said at Choeung Ek, about 15 km (9 miles) outside the capital, Phnom Penh.

A hybrid UN-Cambodian tribunal has reached verdicts in three high-profile cases since it was set up almost a decade ago but new cases have faced resistance. Kaing Guek Eav, alias “Duch”, the head of the notorious Tuol Sleng prison where as many as 14,000 people were executed, received a life sentence in 2010.

Senior Khmer Rouge leaders Nuon Chea and Khieu Samphan have also been handed life sentences.— Reuters

JAKARTA — Indonesia has set plans to improve the development and reinforce its border areas by building up military bases in the areas, expected to be ready to operate next year.

The plan to have military bases in key border areas originally came from President Joko Widodo who previously said that condition in border areas must be changed into maximum level within three years, Indonesia’s Home Minister ThaNano KumoNo said.

“By 2017, border areas must be reinforced with military bases,” the minister said in his remarks to inaugurate the new office of National Agency of Border Management (BNPP) here on Thursday.

According to the minister, government had initially allocated funds to finance the plan in the last two years. However the allocation continued to decrease as it was used to finance government’s other priorities to develop infrastructure, health sector and many others.

“The allocation was 16 trillion rupiah (about 1.1 billion US Dollars) last year. This year it deduced to 14 trillion rupiah (about 1 billion US Dollars). It could be further decreased next year as government is still focusing on other priorities,” ThaNano added.

As the ultimate project, government would make Natuna island near South China Sea into a military base. The other military bases would also be built in the nation’s border area between Bitung and Morotai islands in eastern region, he added.

Government also has plans to build a military base in Saumlaki, an Indonesia’s area close to Timor Leste, the minister said.

To make those would be operated military bases effective, the minister said that a major military coordination would essentially be required. He added that the navy fleet should no longer be focused on their operation from Jakarta and Surabaya like what they do at present.

Tjahono said that his ministry would coordinate with the military commander to immediately shift and enhance the military forces in the Natuna, Bitung and Morotai border areas so as to secure and effectively anticipate possible security threats from foreign elements.

“It takes swift moves to prevent security breaches in border areas,” the minister said.— Xinhua

Early parliamentary general election in Viet Nam kicks off for remote, border areas

HANOI — Residents in remote and border areas of Viet Nam cast their votes earlier than the nationwide election date to elect deputies to the 14th National Assembly (NA) and People’s Councils at all levels for 2016-2021 tenure.

In central Quang Nam Province (some 650 km south of capital Hanoi), the voting was conducted in 49 polling stations across the province on Thursday, reported Viet Nam’s state-run news agency VNA.

Also on Thursday, early voting was held at Tho Chau island in southern Kiên Giang Province (some 1,220 km south of capital Hanoi). Earlier, voters at border areas in northern Lai Châu Province (some 300 km northwest of capital Hano) also cast their votes.

Outcomes of the early voting will be reported to the relevant central agency together with results of the voting on Sunday.

On Sunday, the general election to elect lawmakers to the country’s parliament and members of all-level people’s councils will officially kick off nationwide.

Voters will cast votes to choose 500 deputies to the 14th NA of Viet Nam among 870 candidates. Meanwhile, Provincial People’s Councils across Viet Nam will have 3,918 deputies to be vied by 6,528 candidates. At the district level, as many as 24,993 out of 41,777 candidates will be elected as council members. The respective figures for the communal level are 294,055 and 497,312.

The results of the election of deputies to the 14th NA will be announced within 20 days after the election, according to the National Election Commission Office.

The first session of the 14th NA is scheduled to take place in July 2016 when state leaders of the country will be re-elected.

During the final session of the 13th NA, Vietnamese parliament replaced top leadership positions of the country.

On 31 March, Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan became the country’s first NA chairwoman, while Tran Dai Quang was elected the new President on 2 April, and Nguyen Xuan Phuc was elected to become the country’s new Prime Minister on 7 April.— Xinhua

China demands end to US surveillance after aircraft intercept

WASHINGTON/BEIJING — Beijing demanded an end to US surveillance near China on Thursday after two of its fighter jets carried out what the Pentagon said was an “unsafe” intercept of a US military reconnaissance aircraft over the South China Sea.

The incident, likely to increase tension in and around the contested waterway, took place in international airspace on Tuesday as the plane carried out “a routine US patrol,” a Pentagon statement said.

A US Defence official said two Chinese J-11 fighter jets flew within 50 feet (15 metres) of the US EP-3 aircraft. The official said the incident took place east of Hainan island.

“Initial reports characterised the incident as unsafe,” the Pentagon statement said.

“It must be pointed out that US military planes frequently carry out reconnaissance in Chinese coastal waters, seriously endangering China’s national security,” China’s Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei told reporters.

“We demand that the United States immediately cease this type of close reconnaissance activity to avoid having this sort of incident happening again,” Hong said.

Speaking at a regular press briefing, he described the Pentagon statement as “not true” and said the actions of the Chinese aircraft were “completely in keeping with safety and professional standards.”

“They maintained safe behavior and did not engage in any dangerous action,” Hong said.

The encounter comes a week after China scrambled fighter jets as a US Navy ship sailed close to a disputed reef in the South China Sea.

Another Chinese intercept took place in 2014 when a Chinese fighter pilot flew acrobatic maneuvers around a US spy plane.

The incident occurred days before President Barack Obama travels to parts of Asia from 21-28 May, including a Group of Seven summit in Japan and his first trip to Viet Nam.

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

Washington has accused Beijing of militarizing the South China Sea after creating artificial islands, while Beijing, in turn, has criticised increased US naval patrols and exercises in Asia.

The Pentagon statement said the Department of Defence was addressing the issue through military and diplomatic channels.

China’s Defence Ministry said in a fax that it was looking into reports on the incident.— Reuters
Diversity does no mean division

Kawsar Thura

THERE is a widespread assumption that fear is a hard-

wired response when people experience close encoun-
ters with something fearful. It is normal to fear the

unknown and the unknown is a constant threat. Even organisms are found to commit crime in fear of their own stupidity. This highlights that education is one thing and stupidity is another.

People are inclined to turn to religion when faced with difficulty beyond their control. There is ample evidence that religion effects morality. It is, therefore, absolutely impera-
tive to develop moral instincts through religious faiths. No religion incites hatred against other faiths. All religions main-
tain their faith on the virtues of love, kindness and generosi-
ty. The primary principle of every religion is to hinder the urge to build selfish and eliminate that in its followers.

From the Buddhist point of view, existence is at all-
times a struggle. Therefore, Buddhism advocates to break on our inanity in order to better understand the true essence of life. We are therefore called to question our current existence, and then will we be able to avoid ill consequences of our own mis-

The natural environment begins to suffer as well. All that beauty once found on earth is now gone. Herbicides grow in the Mrauk U area in northern Rakhine, and one can only experience the bliss of nature in its habitat.

During the study tour, officials of the Ministry of Mines and Resources told the haunted talks on planting of Bodhi trees. There are many evidences in the book of Mahavamsa that Bodhi tree is green in Myanmar.

The Buddhists advised human beings to fear committing evil deeds. The Buddha advised human beings to fear committing evil deeds. The Buddha advised human beings to fear committing evil deeds. The Buddha advised human beings to fear committing evil deeds.

During the study trip, officials elaborated the importance of evaporation causing perspiration under the sun. There is so much water shortage. Kason is the month in which the main event is to pour water. But Kason is also an event to pour water. Nature loves to pour water. Kason is the month in which the main event is to pour water.

In Buddhism, Kason is an auspicious and holy month. Kason festival shows Buddhism is green. The festival is called “Tamshin”. Kason means to pour water. But Kason is also an event to pour water. Nature loves to pour water. Kason is the month in which the main event is to pour water.

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Clinton calls Trump too unsteady to be president

WASHINGTON — Democratic presidential front-runner Hillary Clinton pivoted to a general election match-up against Republican candidate Donald Trump on Thursday, saying he is dangerously unpredictable and not qualified to be president.

Confident that she is finally close to defeating US Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont for the Democratic nomination, Clinton turned heavy fire on Trump, who has been running about even with her in national polls of voters looking ahead to the 8 November presidential election.

On the Republican side, Trump promoted top aide Paul Manafort to serve as campaign manager and chief strategist, the Trump campaign said. Corey Lewandowski, the Trump aide who has been campaign manager, retains that title and will continue to oversee day-to-day operations, the campaign said.

In addition, Trump has hired veteran Republican lawyer A.B. Culvahouse to help vet potential vice presidential running mates, a source close to the campaign said.

In a CNN interview, Clinton used the example of the apparent downing of an EgyptAir plane from Paris to Cairo to say that Trump “lacks the skills to bring together US allies to respond to global threats.”

“I know how hard this job is and I know we need steadiness, as well as strength and smarts in it, and I have concluded that he is not qualified to be president of the United States,” Clinton said.

Trump, the Republicans’ presumptive presidential nominee, has been intensifying his criticism of Clinton by lobbing personal attacks at her and her husband, former President Bill Clinton.

Clinton, a former US secretary of state, said she would resolutely refuse to respond to Trump’s goading. “He can say whatever he wants,” she said.

But she said the EgyptAir crash reinforces the need for American leadership and that Trump’s proposed temporary ban on Muslims entering the United States has sent the wrong signal to countries that Washington will need to work with in the fight against Islamic militants.

“He says a lot of things that are provocative, that actually make from Japan in a rush of building-states coalition, bringing everybody to the table and defeating terrorism more difficult,” she said.

“It sends a message of disrespect and it sends a message that makes the situation inside those countries more difficult.”

Clinton suggested the Democratic race was over because of her nearly insurmountable lead in delegates to the nominating convention, despite Sanders’ insistence on staying in the race.

“I will be the nominee for my party,” she said. “That is already done, in effect. There is no way that I won’t be.”

She said Sanders will have to eventually help her unify the Democratic Party after the prolonged nomination fight.

“I am absolutely committed to doing my part, more than my part. But Senator Sanders has to do his part,” she said. — Reuters

Lacking new ideas, G7 to agree on ‘go-your-own-way’ approach

SENDAI (Japan) — A rift on fiscal policy and currencies is likely to set the stage for G7 advanced economies to agree on a “go-your-own-way” response to address risks hindering global economic growth at their finance leaders’ gathering on Friday.

As years of aggressive monetary printing stretch the limits of monetary policy, the G7 policy response to anaemic inflation and subdued growth has become increasingly splintered.

Finance leaders gathering in Sendai, northeast Japan, sought advice from prominent academics, including Nobel Prize-winning economist Robert Shiller, on ways to boost growth in an informal symposium held on the sidelines of an official G7 meeting on Friday.

Participants of the symposium agreed that instead of relying on short-term fiscal stimulus or monetary policy, structural reforms combined with appropriate investment are solutions to achieving sustainable growth, a G7 source said. If so, that would dash Japan’s hopes to garner an agreement on the need for coordinated fiscal action to spur global demand. Germany showed no signs of responding to calls from Japan and the United States to boost fiscal stimulus, instead warning of the dangers of excessive monetary loosening. “There is high nervousness in financial markets” fostered by huge government debt and excess liquidity around the globe, German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble said on Thursday. — Reuters

Migration to New Zealand continues record growth

WELLINGTON — New Zealand gained a record number of migrants in the year to the end of April, with Indians and Chinese making the biggest groups of non-New Zealand citizen arrivals, the government statistics agency said on Friday.

The annual net gain of migrants (more arrivals than departures) reached a new high 68,100 in the April year, according to Statistics New Zealand.

Migrant arrivals drove the new high, up 9 per cent to 124,700, although returning New Zealand citizens made up a quarter of these.

It was the 21st month in a row that the annual net gain in migrants had set a new record, said a commentary from the agency. — Xinhua

Tsai ing-wen sworn in as Taiwan’s 1st female president

TAIPEI — Tsai Ing-wen took the oath of office as the new president of Taiwan on Friday, marking the start of a new and potentially tricky chapter in the self-governing democratic island’s relations with arch-rival China.

After the 9am swearing-in ceremony at the Presidential Office in Taipei, Tsai delivered a 30-minute inauguration speech from 11am to nearly 20,000 people gathered outside the building. The American Institute in Taiwan, Washington’s de facto embassy on the island, congratulated Tsai on her inauguration, saying it “marks another milestone in the development of Taiwan’s vibrant democracy.”

Tsai, who won a landslide victory in January, is not only Taiwan’s first female president but also just the second non-Nationalist Party (KMT) leader since the island’s first democratic presidential election in 1996. — Kyodo News

Attacks suspect Abdeslam arrives at Paris court

PARIS — Paris attacks suspect Salah Abdeslam arrived at the main Paris law court on Friday for his first hearing before French judges.

Abdeslam is believed by investigators to be the sole survivor among a group of Islamist militants who killed 130 people in a series of shootings and suicide bombings in Paris on 13 November.

Transferred to France from Belgium on 27 April, Abdeslam has been held in solitary confinement in a high-security prison in Fleury-Merogis in the Paris region, with his cell under CCTV surveillance.

The Belgian-born Frenchman was placed under formal investigation on terrorism and murder charges in France on 27 April after his extradition from Belgium, and he promised to talk to judges during his next hearing, his French lawyer said at the time. — Reuters
Japan to accept 150 Syrian university students over 5 years

TOKYO — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced on Friday that up to 150 Syrians will be allowed to enter Japan over the next five academic years to study at universities, as part of the government’s efforts to help refugees in the war-torn Middle East country. The plan came to light ahead of the Group of Seven summit next week in central Japan, at which Abe will seek to lead talks on the refugee crisis in the Middle East, among other economic and political issues. Japan is often criticised for its low acceptance of refugees.

Japan’s previous assistance came in the form of financial contributions to countries that have accepted large numbers of Syrian refugees, namely Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon.

Under the new plan, Japan will offer education to young Syrians by using existing schemes such as government-sponsored scholarships and technical cooperation projects organised by the Japan International Cooperation Agency. Japan is known for its strictness in accepting refugees.

In 2015, the Ministry of Justice received 7,586 asylum applications but accepted 27, far less than many other developed countries. Abe also said at a newly established Cabinet meeting on achieving UN development goals that Japan will offer around $6 billion over the three years from 2016 to help stabilise the Middle East, including training assistance for about 20,000 people in developing countries.

Other measures Abe unveiled at the meeting included an offer of $1.1 billion to fund international health organisations’ measures to tackle pandemics and a plan to provide training to around 5,000 women seeking to work as public officials.

The G-7 summit will bring together the leaders of Britain, Canada, Italy, France, Germany, Japan, the United States as well as the European Union.

_—Kyodo News_

Syrian army takes control of strategic areas in Eastern Ghouta

DAMASCUS — The Syrian army backed by the Lebanese Hezbollah group have taken control of the entire southern part, which groups over 10 towns, in the strategic region of Eastern Ghouta in east of Damascus, a monitor group reported Friday.

The huge advance, which has been achieved over the past 24 hours, was supported by air strikes, and artillery shelling, said the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

The army is now in control of the key towns of Zahlin and Deir al-Asafir, as well as other towns, namely Noor, Baynun, Harasta al-Qantara, Hosh Homsi, Hosh Dweir, Bala, Kbakibeyh and al-Bayad in the southern sector of Eastern Ghouta region east of Damascus, according to the UK-based watchdog group.

The Observatory, which claims to rely on a network of activists on ground, said hundreds of families have fled the southern sector toward other areas in Eastern Ghouta, following the progress of the Syrian army.

It contributed to the military progress in that area, which has been under the control of disparate jihadi groups, to the huge infighting that has recently erupted between the Saudi-backed Islam Army and the Qatari-backed Jaish al-Fus-tat, Falaq al-Rahman and the al-Qaida-linked Nusra Front.

_Axinhu_

Afghan army must block Taliban gains to spur talks: Pakistan

ISLAMABAD — Afghanistan must limit military gains by the Taliban and offer incentives to the insurgents to revive a faltering peace effort, Pakistan’s top foreign ministry official said, after the latest round of talks yielded little progress.

The Afghan Taliban control or contest more territory than at any time since they were ousted by a US-led intervention in 2001. The militants did not show up at talks on Wednesday in Islamabad, which also involved China and the United States.

Afghanistan declined to send a full delegation to Islamabad in protest against what it says is Pakistan’s unwillingness to do more to pressure Taliban leadership, including those on Pakistani soil, to join talks.

_Pakistani Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmed Chaudhry, the ministry’s top bureaucrat, said efforts to persuade the Taliban to talk directly to the Kabul government could only bear fruit if the Afghan army stopped the Taliban from gaining the upper hand._

“We believe that there should be effective action by Afghan national security forces to ensure that there are no military gains by the Taliban,” Chaudhry told Reuters in an interview late on Thursday.

The Taliban “need to realise that we would have more to gain on the table than they can do on the battlefield”, he said. Afghan security forces have struggled to contain the Taliban since NATO-led forces pulled out of combat operations in 2014. Fighting has been fierce and more than 6,600 Afghan soldiers and police were killed last year, according to the US Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction.

The US, despite the brief capture by the militants of the northern city of Kunduz last year, have not been able to capture and hold any provincial capital. Chaudhry said officials at the Islamabad talks had told him Taliban gains in an offensive this year were not as big as the insurgents had claimed.

The first formal talks with the Taliban since their 2001 ouster collapsed in 2015 after it was announced that their founder, Mullah Mohammad Omar, had been dead for two years, throwing the militant group into disarray.

_Pakistani Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmed Chaudhry said the Taliban “need to realise that we would have more to gain on the table than they can do on the battlefield”. Reuters_
French PM calls for end to labour protests marred by violence

PARIS — France’s prime minister urged union leaders on Thursday to call off protests against reforms to labour laws, saying turnout was waning but violence mounting as some people were hijacking legitimate protests to attack police.

“Union leaders need to live up to their responsibilities,” Manuel Valls said in a radio interview as fresh demonstrations drew hundreds of thousands of people.

“If rioters turn up at each and every protest it’s time to ask whether some of these protests are worth it.”

He singled out an incident on Wednesday when two officers were forced to flee their patrol car when it was surrounded by a crowd and torched in central Paris, describing the attackers as “people who want to kill a cop.”

The government says about 1,300 arrests have been made during weeks of protests which have been joined by a youth movement called Nuit Debout (Night Rising).

More than 300 police have been hurt and protesters have complained of injuries sustained in seemingly isolated cases of police brutality.

President Francois Hollande has said he will not withdraw plans to reform labour laws to make hiring and firing easier, which he says will encourage firms to recruit and combat an unemployment rate above 10 per cent.

Truck drivers continued to blockade strategic parts of the road network on Thursday and train services were reduced by more than 50 per cent by a second straight day of strikes.

As the police said some protests could be broken up by police, Valls said attempts to cut off oil refineries and food supply depots could not be tolerated for much longer. Valls aimed his plea primarily at leaders of unions such as the hardline CGT, saying the number of legitimate protesters was waning after more than two months of demonstrations, some marred by violence.

CGT chief Philippe Martinez said ahead of this week’s protests it was time to “move up a gear” with rolling strikes and marches to force the government to climb down. Thursday’s turnout appeared to have surged despite the prime minister’s claim, with the police saying 129,000 people took to the streets nationwide, about twice the number they reported at similar demonstrations on Tuesday and a week ago.

Police said they arrested 115 people, taking the total over weeks of skirmishes to almost 1,500. Thursday’s arrests included 19 individuals seeking to tamper with the subway train network in Rennes and 66 in Nantes, both hotspots in Western France.

Riot police, who have repeatedly clashed with masked youths hurling petrol bombs and paving stones, staged a protest of their own on Wednesday to highlight what they described as a surge of “anti-cop hatred”.

Police are already working overtime to ensure heightened security after Islamist attacks on Paris last November and face the task of keeping millions of soccer fans safe when the country hosts the Euro 2016 tournament next month.

The CGT union, whose estimates are systematically three or four times higher than those of police, said 400,000 people took part in Thursday’s protest and more protests would be organized in support of the prime minister’s claims that protests were waning.—Reuters

Egypt finds belongings, debris from plane crash at sea

CAIRO — The Egyptian navy said on Friday it had found the personal belongings of passengers and other debris floating in the Mediterranean, confirmation that an EgyptAir jet had plunged into the sea just south of where the signal from the plane was lost.

Although suspicion pointed to Islamist militants who blew up another airliner over Egypt just seven months ago, no group had claimed responsibility more than 24 hours after the disappearance of flight MS804, an Airbus A320 flying from Paris to Cairo.

Three French investigators and a technical expert from Airbus arrived in Cairo early on Friday to help investigate the fate of the missing plane, airport sources said.

Egyptian Prime Minister Sherif Ismail said on Thursday that it was too early to rule out any explanation for the disaster. The country’s aviation minister said a terrorist attack was more likely than a technical failure.

Friday’s announcement that debris had been found followed earlier confusion about whether wreckage had been located. Greek searchers found some material on Thursday, but the airline later said this was not from its plane.

While there was no official explanation of the cause of the crash, suspicion fell on the militants who have been fighting against Egypt’s government since Sisi toppled an elected Islamist leader in 2013.

In October, the Islamic State group claimed responsibility for blowing up a Russian jetliner that exploded after taking off from an Egyptian tourist resort. Russian investigators blamed a bomb smuggled on board.

Last year’s crash devastated Egypt’s tourist industry, one of the main sources of foreign exchange for a country of 80 million people, and another similar attack would crush hopes of it recovering.

While most governments were cautious about jumping to conclusions, US Republican candidate for president, Donald Trump, tweeted swiftly after the plane’s disappearance: “Looks like yet another terrorist attack. Airplane departed from Paris. When will we get tough, smart and vigilant?”

Later in the day, his likely Democratic rival, Hillary Clinton, also said it appeared to be an act of terrorism, although she said an investigation would have to determine the details.

Officials from a number of US agencies told Reuters that a US review of satellite images so far had not produced any signs of an explosion. They said the United States had not ruled out any possible causes for the crash, including mechanical failure, terrorism or a deliberate act by the pilot or crew.

Amid uncertainty about what brought down the plane, Los Angeles International Airport became the first major US air transportation hub to say it was stepping up security measures.—Reuters

54 rescued from human trafficking in Japan in 2015: gov’t report

TOKYO — A total of 54 people were rescued from human trafficking operations in Japan last year, up 29 from the previous year, a government report showed on Friday.

Of the rescued victims, some were arrested for prostitution and of police, said 400,000 people took part in Thursday’s protest and more protests would be organized in support of the prime minister’s claims that protests were waning.—Reuters

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Spain bans killing in controversial bull-lancing festival

MADRID — A bull-lancing festival known as “Toro de la Vega” (Bull of the Plain) which has spurred controversy in Spain will take place as usual in September but participants will no longer be allowed to kill the bull, Spanish authorities ruled on Thursday.

During the festival, which dates back to 1534 and is held yearly in Tordesillas, in central Spain, hunters on horseback with lances and on foot chase the bull through a pine forest before killing it. The event has become a symbol for opponents to bull-fighting. Spain’s traditional spectacle, which has suffered from the economic crisis as well as reduced subsidies from new left-wing administrations in many towns.

Jose Antonio de Santiago-Juarez, a senior official in the Castilla y Leon region, where the Toro de la Vega takes place, said that the decision was made in order to protect the event and avoid an outright ban.

“What we have done today is to protect 500 years of tradition. The other alternative was to entirely ban it,” he told a news conference.—Reuters

Storage of Colombian peace deal in Switzerland welcomed by authorities

GENEVA — Swiss authorities saluted on Thursday the decision taken by the Colombian government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) to deposit its weapons in Switzerland the final day the decision taken by authorities saluted on Thursday.

Starting around 1964, protracted fighting has caused the deaths of some 220,000 people. An additional 45,000 individuals have gone missing while 7 million have been internally displaced.—Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV FSL SANTOS NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FSL SANTOS NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.5.2016 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 MYANNA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: MS YANG MING LINES
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DYNAMIC OCEAN-27 VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DYNAMIC OCEAN-27 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.5.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.P.T-2 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 MYANNA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: MS BAY LINE SHIPPING CO LTD.
Phone No: 2301928

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV UBC CHILE VOY NO (86)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV UBC CHILE VOY NO (86) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.5.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon. Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim’s Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT MYANNA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: MS MERIDIAN SHIPPING AGENCIES PTE LTD.
Phone No: 2301928
Adele named songwriter of the year at Britain’s Ivor Novello awards

LONDON — British singer Adele added to her list of many accolades on Thursday, winning Songwriter of the Year at Britain’s Ivor Novello Awards.

The 28-year-old, whose latest album “25” shot up the charts around the world upon its release last year, received her third Ivor Novello — a music industry award recognising British and Irish songwriting and composing.

However Adele, who has several Grammy and BRIT awards as well as an Oscar to her name, did not make it to the glitzy luncheon ceremony in London, where Blur’s Damon Albarn picked up a Lifetime Achievement award.

Other winners included British singer Jamie Lawson who took the prize for Best Song Musically and Lyrically for “Wasn’t Expecting That”, beating Ed Sheeran, who signed him to his record label last year.

British James Bay won in the Most Performed Work category for his popular hit “Hold Back The River” while the Album Award went to “Darling Arithmetic” written by Conor O’Brien, who records his music under the name Villagers.—Reuters

Mendoza spotlights Manila family’s poverty in Cannes film ‘Ma Rosa’

CANNES — Against the glamorous backdrop of the French Mediterranean resort of Cannes, prolific Filipino director Brillante Mendoza’s latest offering at the world’s biggest film festival is an exploration into the difficult living conditions of a poor family in Manila.

“Ma’ Rosa,” which premiered this week at the Cannes Film Festival, tells the story of Rosa Reyes (Jaciyn Jose), a woman who owns a convenience store in a poor neighbourhood of Philippines’ capital Manila, making ends meet with her husband Nestor (Julio Diaz) by selling drugs.

Both are detained at a police station after their home is raided, leaving their three children to find the money needed to pay off corrupt police officers in order to free their parents.

“This situation is really happening back in the Philippines and it’s quite alarming because it comes to a way of life,” Mendoza told Reuters on Thursday.

“The small-time drug selling and all that is happening and it’s quite alarming and something needs to be done. That’s why I decided to make a story out of this situation.”

Mendoza believes the story has wider appeal as the Philippines is not the only country plagued by corruption.

“It’s a painful truth,” the filmmaker said. “There is a lot of bigger corruption that is happening all over the world maybe on a different scale.”

“Ma’ Rosa” is among 21 films competing for the festival’s coveted top Palme d’Or prize, which will be awarded on Sunday.

Mendoza, 55, who previously won the best director award at Cannes in 2009 for “Kinatay,” said that showcasing a film in the festival’s main film competition would help get the world to think about the topics of the film.

“This is where the whole world, you know, watch films from different walks of life and from different parts of the world,” he said.— Reuters

Kesha’s record label reinstates her Billboard awards performance

LOS ANGELES — Pop star Kesha will sing at the Billboard Music Awards after her record label on Thursday reversed a decision to stop her performance amid concerns she would address her failed legal bid against Sony Corp’s Sony Music and producer Dr. Luke.

Kemosabe Records, a unit of Sony Music and founded by Dr. Luke, said in a statement that had initially revoked approval for Kesha’s performance at Sunday’s awards show because it had “learned Kesha was to use the performance as a platform to discuss the litigation.”

Kesha, 29, unsuccessfully tried to scrap her six-album recording contract with Sony Music earlier this year in court after filing a sexual assault lawsuit against Dr. Luke in 2014.

“Now that Kemosabe has obtained assurances, that it is relying upon, from Kesha, her representatives and Dick Clark Productions that neither Kesha nor her supporters will use the performance as such a platform, the approval has been restored,” the label said.

Representatives for Kesha did not immediately respond to Reuters for comment on Thursday.

Billboard Music Awards organisers Dick Clark Productions said in a Thursday statement that it was pleased the singer and her label had come to agreement.

Kesha, 29, said in an Instagram post on Tuesday that she had been “very excited” to sing “It Ain’t Me, Babe” as a tribute to Dy- lan and that her performance had no connection to her legal prob- lems with her label or Dr. Luke, whom she has accused of sexual assault.

The singer’s legal case sparked the #FreeKesha campaign on social media and earned sup- port from artists such as Taylor Swift, Adele and Lady Gaga.— Reuters

‘Sherlock Holmes 3’ to start filming this year

LOS ANGELES — A month after Robert Downey Jr revealed that the third “Sherlock Holm- es” movie is being planned, producer Joel Silver confirms that the film, to be directed by Guy Ritchie, could start its production later this year.

Silver, originally promot- ing “The Nice Guys” in an in- terview, supported Downey claim and also hinted that more “Sherlock Holmes” movies may arrive in the future, report- ed Ace Showbiz.

“It looks like it could happen this fall. Downey said he wants to do it. He’s gotta launch into another ‘Avengers’ movie right after the new year. So we’re trying to get it done,” Silver said.

“We have a script that we like. Jude Law is available and Downey is available, and we’re hoping we can get it done. If it works, great. If not, we’ll do it another time. But it looks like it could happen now.”

Downey Jr, Law and Ritchie’s respective schedules have been one big problem that keeps “Sherlock Holmes 3” from happening.

Downey Jr has been busy with his role as Tony Stark a.k.a. “Iron Man” in Marvel’s movies while Law and director Ritchie are working on “Knights of the Roundtable: King Ar- thur.”—PTI

Plenty of pickles fill my diet: Selena Gomez

LONDON — Pop star Selena Gomez enjoys pickles whilst backstage on tour and also loves a “good plate of fried chicken.”

The 23-year-old “Good For You” hitmaker is currently in the midst of her Revival world tour and is ensuring she stays fit with a “pretty simple” backstage diet, re- ported Female First. “I keep things pretty simple backstage. Plenty of water and pickles. On the tour bus, hot Cheetos and chocolate are sta- O'Brien, who records his music under the name Villag- ers.—Reuters

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Kesha, 29, said earlier this week that Kemosabe had rescinded approval for Kes- ha’s planned tribute to Bob Dylan at the live televised ceremony af- ter a 11 May media report.

Celebrity news outlet TMZ.com, citing unnamed sources, reported on 11 May that Kesha was planning a “statement performance” at the awards show that would be focused on “her ongoing legal battle with Dr. Luke” and “might even include images of him.”

Kesha, 29, said in an Insta- gram post on Tuesday that she had been “very excited” to sing “It Ain’t Me, Babe” as a tribute to Dyl- lan and that her performance had no connection to her legal prob- lems with her label or Dr. Luke, whom she has accused of sexual assault.

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Romania calls on citizens to help buy Brancusi sculpture

ROMANIA — Romanians can collectively own a work of their greatest artist, the modernist giant Constantin Brancusi, by joining a government-led campaign to buy one of his sculptures.

After an epic 18 month walk from his tiny Romanian village, the 27-year old sculptor arrived in Paris in 1904 and eventually worked under French star Auguste Rodin.

In 1907, he left Rodin’s studio saying “Nothing grows under big trees” and created “The Marketplace of the Earth” — a vulnerable, crouching female nude of primitive simplicity — later selling it to Romanian engineer Gheorghe Romascu.

The communist regime seized it in 1957. Romascu’s heirs got it back in 2012 after a protracted legal battle. Bucharest launched a campaign on Thursday to raise 6 million euros to buy the piece, “Cumnitenda Pamatulita” in Romanian.

“I am calling on Romanians to take individual responsibility because I want Brancusi to unite us, not divide us,” Prime Minister Dacian Ciolos said.

The fundraising drive carries the slogan “Brancusi is mine.” Donations come with tax exemptions.

The government will put up 5 million euros of the 11 million euros ($12.32 million) price tag, hoping to raise the rest from Romanians by end-September.

“This sculpture — representative for his entire work — is the last one that the Romanian state can recover and make accessible to the wider public and art lovers,” the government said in a statement.

Brancusi was born in the small village of Hobita near the Carpathian Mountains, but lived in Paris for most of his life. He bequeathed his studio and some of his art to the French state after his death in 1957. He wanted to leave his art to Romania, but the then communist government declined the offer.

Little of Brancusi’s art is in Romania, with the notable exception of an open air monumental ensemble that includes the “Endless Column” in the city of Targu Jiu, a 1937 tribute to fallen World War I soldiers.

In 2009, one of his sculptures sold for a record 29 million euros. — Reuters

Dogs to dust: pets get send-off with a human touch

BRUSSELS — Chantal Detimmerman weeps at the funeral of her beloved Chico. The 27-year old sculptor arrived in Paris in 1904 and eventually worked under French star Auguste Rodin.

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In 2009, one of his sculptures sold for a record 29 million euros. — Reuters
Benteke seeks talks with Klopp to find out Liverpool future

LONDON — Striker Christian Benteke will talk to manager Juergen Klopp to find out if he has a future at Liverpool after enduring a difficult first season with the English Premier League side.

The Belgian played second fiddle to forwards Daniel Sturridge and Divock Origi for most of the campaign since his 32.5 million pounds ($47.31 million) move from Aston Villa in the close season under former boss Brendan Rodgers.

Klopp has preferred starting attacking midfielder Roberto Firmino up front when Sturridge and Origi were out injured, pushing Benteke further down the pecking order at Anfield.

“I signed for five years, I didn’t sign for one year, and now I have to speak with the manager and see his plans for next season. It has been a tough (first season),” Benteke told British media.

“I knew Liverpool is a massive club with a lot of pressure and a lot of good players, and it has not been easy (to settle in). But I keep going and never doubt myself. I’m now going to focus on the Euros and see what happens next season.”

The 25-year-old made 15 out of his 29 league appearances from the bench and scored 10 goals, several of them crucial.

“It was not my best season, I know that, but the goals I scored (did not make it) 5-0 or 4-0,” he said.— Reuters

Kaka highest paid MLS player, Lampard also in top 10

NEW YORK — Brazilian veteran Kaka is the highest paid player in Major League Soccer, with a 2016 guaranteed salary of $7.167 million (£5 million), according to figures released by the Players’ Union on Thursday.

Orlando City’s Kaka tops the list for the second successive year. Toronto’s Italian striker Sebastian Giovinco is the second highest paid player on $7.115 million a year. Toronto’s Italian striker Sebastian Giovinco is the second highest paid MLS player, veteran Kaka is the highest paid player in Major League Soccer, according to figures released by the Players’ Union on Thursday.

PARIS — World number one Novak Djokovic is on a French Open semi-final collision course with nine-times champion Rafael Nadal after the draw was made on Friday.

The Serb, who holds 11 grand slam titles but is still chasing his first win at Roland Garros, will start his campaign against Taiwan’s Lu Yen-hsun. Nadal has been paired with big-serving Australian Sam Groth. The Spaniard, promoted to fourth seed after Roger Federer pulled out citing fitness concerns, could meet France’s Jo-Wilfried Tsonga in the quarter-finals.

In the other half of the draw, second-seeded Briton Andy Murray is on course to meet Japanese fifth seed Kei Nishikori in the last eight defending champion and third seed Stan Wawrinka in the semi-finals.

French hopes of lifting the trophy for the first time since Yannick Noah won in 1983 took a hit when former semi-finalist Gael Monfils — a perennial crowd favorite in Paris — pulled out because of a virus.

In the women’s draw, top seed and defending champion Serena Williams has been paired with big-server Ana Ivanovic in the last eight and last-four clash with Germany’s Angelique Kerber, who beat her in this year’s Australian Open final.

FA Cup would be a big title for United — Louis Van Gaal

LONDON — A Manchester United FA Cup triumph at the “temple of English soccer” would bring a big title to the club and could act as a catalyst to help recapture the glory days, manager Louis van Gaal said on Thursday.

Eleven times FA Cup winners United face Crystal Palace in the final at Wembley stadium on Saturday looking to end their three-year trophy drought.

Despite increasing speculation about the future of the Dutchman, van Gaal said a victory in the final is far more important for the Premier League club than himself.

“It is not good to speak about my interests. It is important for the club, the players, the manager and his staff,” he told reporters on Thursday.

“I have read that the last FA Cup (we won) is 2004, so also for Manchester United it is a big title.”

“We are playing in the most prestigious temple of England. It confirms how important it is.”

The emergence of youngsters such as Marcus Rashford, Anthony Martial and Jesse Lingard has confirmed how important it is.”

Despite increasing speculation about the future of the Dutchman, van Gaal said a victory in the final is far more important for the Premier League club than himself.

“You must win these games. In one match you can lose a lot. You have to cope with that pressure. It is a step in their development,” he added. Van Gaal also confirmed that Matteo Darmian and Marcos Rojo have recovered from injury.

“There are many players (available). (Marouane) Fellaini is not suspended, Darmian and Rojo are not injured anymore,” he said.

United play Palace in a repeat of the 1990 final won by Alex Ferguson’s men in a replay that success chased the pressure on the Scot who went on to build a dynasty that won 13 league titles and two Champions League trophies and a host of domestic cups.— Reuters

Djokovic, Nadal on semi-final collision course in Paris

The Musketeers’ Trophy and the Suzanne Lenglen trophy are pictured during the drawing ceremony for the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, France, on 20 May 2016. Photo: Reuters

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The French Open starts on Sunday and ends on 5 June with the men’s final.— Reuters

Editors: The Global New Light of Myanmar