

Myanmar Lawyers' Network to sue gov't and private company for turning historic building into hotel



Lawyers marching past the Yangon Divisional Court building which is currently under renovation to be turned into a hotel by a private company.—PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 28 May — The Myanmar Lawyers' Network is planning to sue the government within a month for leasing the

Yangon Divisional Court building to a private company which will turn it into a hotel, criticizing the government for lack of transparency on the project.

"We will file the Civil

Regular Lawsuit under Section 42 of the Specific Relief Act against the chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission and the private company which is renting the Yan-

gon Divisional Court building to run it as a hotel," said U Soe Tint Yi, Advocate, of the Myanmar Lawyers' Network, during a demonstration on Wednesday against the government's

decision to lease the historic building to the private company.

According to Section 42, the government shall restore the status quo of the over 90-year old building where governmental offices including township courts and Yangon Divisional Court had been located for 85 years.

During the protest, around 200 lawyers, holding placards, gathered outside of the former Supreme Court building and marched to the building of the Yangon Divisional Court.

The Lawyers' Network also staged a protest on 17 October, 2012, for the first time, demanding the government not to lease the historic building to a private company.

"We sent a 60-day notice to the government on 9 April, 2013, to stop the plan and informed them in the notice that we will sue the government if they continue their plan," said Advocate U Kyi Myint of the Myanmar Lawyers' Network, who will lodge

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Myanmar tops ASEAN list of betel-quid-with-tobacco consumers, 10 percent of teenagers smoke

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

According to a new survey, the number of smokers above 15 years of age in Myanmar has been increasing since the Control of Smoking and Consumption of Tobacco Product Law in 2006 was passed, officials said at a forum on Wednesday at the National Health Museum in Yangon.

"The result of the survey is that 60 per cent of men and 15 per cent of women in South East Asian Nations are smokers or consumers of tobacco products, with Myanmar betel-quid-with-tobacco users topping the list in SEA," said Dr Tint Tint Kyi, Specialist of Insein General Hospital at the

health communication forum to mark World No Tobacco Day which falls on 31st May.

She also said that lung cancer is most common with tobacco users including passive smokers, with oral cancer one of the most common cancers in the ASEAN region. 82 percent of smokers live in developing countries, with Myanmar's urban population of smokers standing at 21 percent, while the figure in rural areas is reported as 27 percent. Smokeless tobacco users, like betel nut product chewers, have been on the increase with 25 percent in urban and 22 percent in rural areas. The GYTS—a school-based

survey of students aged 13 to 15 —states that 10 percent of that age group is smoking cigarettes, while

5 percent consume other tobacco products.

Retired Director of Health Education Bureau

Dr Khin Maung Lwin said, "The Ministry of Health has been raising awareness

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Betel-quid-with-tobacco costs K50, making it affordable to low income people who are getting increasingly addicted, with Myanmar people the top consumers in SE Asia.—PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

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ASEAN Scholarship applicants to be tested in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 28 May— Applicants for the ASEAN Scholarships will be tested in Mandalay on Saturday, according to an announcement.

The Government of Singapore offered ASEAN Scholarships to Myanmar for the 2015 Academic Year to award outstanding local students. The selected students will study four years studies in Singapore Government schools from Secondary Three to Pre-University Two level, officials said. The criteria for scholarships include being born between 1998 and 2000, completing Grade 9 in the year of application, good results in English, Maths and Science subjects.

The shortlist will be announced in September 2014.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Myanmar Parliament reconvenes with talks on anti-terrorism bill, writ petition bill

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May—Parliament reconvened on Wednesday, with Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann extending greetings at the first day of the tenth regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

During the session of submitting a report to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, members of the Bill Committee submitted two bills—the anti-terrorism bill and 2014 writ petition bill—sent back by the President to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw with remarks. While seeking parliamentary approval for the 2014 writ petition bill, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw decided to approve the bill that was passed in the Parliament.

During Wednesday's session, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw decided to give the green light to plans to borrow an agriculture loan of



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann extends greetings at tenth regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.—MNA

K500 billion from the Central Bank of Myanmar and \$20 million for the Ministry of Education from the Work Bank.

At the session of the Lower House, discussions

on the Standardization Bill sent back by the Upper House with a 23-point amendment took place with the Speaker's decision to be put forward to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. During the Upper

House session, Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Aung Than Oo answered questions by two representatives on distribution of electric power, with details not yet made public.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's second day session will be held on 2 June while the Lower House and Upper House will continue their sessions on Thursday.

MNA

Sulphuric Acid Factory receives ISO certificate

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May — Following complaints from locals about safety standards at a factory in upper Myanmar that deals with hazardous chemicals, the investigation commission for Latpadaung Copper Mine Project recommended that the factory owned by Myanma Eco-

nomics Holdings should apply for an ISO certificate meeting international standards, with factory officials announcing on Wednesday that the plant has received the certificate in April.

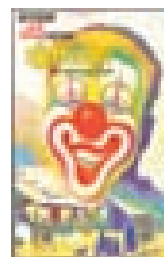
Moe Gye Sulphuric Acid Factory received a certificate that states quality management system,

environmental management system and occupational health and safety management system are now meeting international standards.

The Ministry of Industry gave permission for the factory to be established on 12, July 2013.

MNA

Winners in understanding of Buddha's teaching contest awarded



YANGON, 28 May—The prize presentation and "Daddy Joker" book launching ceremony took place on Wednesday at Central Hotel in Yangon.

During the ceremony, an official presented cash prizes to the winners who won the understanding of Buddha's teaching contest in which first and second winners donated their cash prizes K5 million totally to the Myitta Shin Orphanage. Daddy Joker book written by Writer Ledwintha Saw Chit is aimed at understanding the father's love.—Thant Zin Win

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of the dangers of smoking and conducting educational programs through media. Still, cooperation among people and the will to quit is weak."

Dr Hla Mya Thwe Eainda, Assistant Director of the Bureau, suggested that officials concerned should increase the tobacco tax rate and to use the tax money for health care services.

Khin Maung Chin, the spokesman of the Myanmar Motion Pictures Association, also gave a lecture on the health hazards to the 80 attendees. "Film stars seen smoking in movies is one of the causes why young people start smoking. They are movie fans and want to be like their heroes," he said.

The participants of the talks also discussed ways on how to quit smoking and how to create a tobacco-free environment in schools, sports grounds, hospitals and public places.

The Control of Smoking and Consumption of Tobacco Product Law states that whoever sets up signboards or broadcasts advertisement for wide distribution and sale of cigar and tobacco products will be punished with a fine of between K20,000 and K50,000 for the first offence and be punished with imprisonment for a term which may be extended to 2 years. The offender shall also be liable to a fine of minimum K50,000, with K200,000 slapped on those who commit a second or subsequent offences.

Tender forms released as Yangon Region Government is planning bridge construction

By Ye Myint

Six tender forms were released to interested parties one day after the Yangon Region government invited open tenders for the construction of one overpass and one creek crossing bridge through national newspapers on Tuesday, a deputy director of Yangon Region Government Office told the New Light of Myanmar on Wednesday afternoon. Proposals for the two projects have not yet been received, he added.

According to the open invitation to tenders by the Yangon Region Government, an overpass con-

struction will be conducted at Myaynigon junction in Sangyoung Township and a bridge linking Dawbon and Thingangyun Townships will be built on Ngamoeyeik creek.

The tender invitation work committee said interested companies are to separately submit their sealed bids together with a technical proposal and a financial proposal for each project to the secretary of the regional government no later than 30 June. The application costs K 1 billion, with those losing out on the bid to be reimbursed, according to officials.

According to reports, Myaynigon junction over-

pass will be 650 metres in length and 14.5 metres in width, with Ngamoeyeik creek -crossing bridge 300 metres long and 12 metres wide.

The regional government said in its tender advertisement that winners will be selected following a public tender opening session. The two projects will be implemented at a cost of more than K 26 billion during this fiscal year, local sources reported.

With the aim of reducing heavy traffic congestions in Yangon, the government has carried out several projects, including new bridges at Hledan, Bayintnaung and Shwegondine junctions.



Photo shows Myaynigon junction, one of traffic-congested spots in Yangon.—PHOTO: YE MYINT

NATIONAL

Myanmar to cement military ties with Japan

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May — President U Thein Sein on Wednesday discussed strengthening military co-operation between Myanmar and Japan, according to an official statement.

The Japanese Self-Defense Forces led by Chief of Staff General Shigeru

Iwasaki arrived in Myanmar on Monday. The Japanese delegation met commander-in-chief of defence services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on Tuesday, and discussed bilateral military ties and mutual cooperation in security and disaster relief.

Discussions at the President Office also included technologies, grants and loans which will be provided by the Japanese government to Myanmar.

This is the first visit of Japan's army chief to Myanmar since the Second World War.

The meeting was attended by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, ministers and Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Tateshi Higuchi.

The former colonial country cut military relations with Myanmar under the rule of the military government.—MNA



President U Thein Sein shakes hands with Chief of Staff of Japanese Self-Defense Forces General Shigeru Iwasaki.—MNA



President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo with Japanese military delegation led by Chief of Staff General Shigeru Iwasaki.—MNA

Myanmar Lawyers' Network...

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the lawsuit against the government's Myanmar Investment Commission and the private company on behalf of the Lawyers' Network.

At a negotiation with U Soe Thane, the Union Minister at the President Office, after the first protest, the Myanmar's Lawyers Network demanded that the government preserve the historic building and not allow any private companies to run it as a hotel in an attempt to maintain the integrity of the country, according to U Ko Ni, Advocate of the MLN.

During the negotiations, Union Minister U Soe Thane said the government was leasing the building as

it could not afford restoration of the building, U Ko Ni said.

"It is of great regret to know that the Yangon Divisional Court building will be used as a hotel

because this building is a historic building. And, the architecture of this building is just for a court," he added.

According to historic records, the second parliamentary meeting of the Upper House was held at the building of the Yangon Di-

visional Court after Myanmar gained its independence in 1948.

Township courts and the Yangon Divisional Court residing at the building were forced to vacate the building in early 2012, according to MLN.

Union Minister fulfills requirements of local people in Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May—Chairman of the Development committee for Socioeconomic Life in Rakhine State Union Minister for Industry U Maung Myint, together with Security and Border Affairs Minister of Rakhine State Col Htein Lin and officials, arrived at the Setyokya Rakhine rehabilitation camp in Sittway on

Tuesday evening.

Then, the union minister presented clothes, mosquito nets, blankets, sewing machines and vests worth K 2 million manufactured by the Ministry of Industry for the local people. In addition, the union minister, at the request of the local people, donated K 2 million to build a building at the school at the

camp. The school is crowded as there are a total of 337 students at the camp.

Later, the union minister continued to Daung Dokka Rehabilitation Camp and donated clothes, mosquito nets, blankets, sewing machines and vests worth K 2 million manufactured by the Ministry of Industry for the local people.—MNA

President U Thein Sein congratulates South African President

NAY PYI TAW, 29 May — U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr. Jacob Zuma for being re-elected as President of the republic of South Africa.

MNA

Union FM felicitates South African counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 29 May — U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to Her Excellency Ms. Maite Nkoana-Mashabane for being re-appointed as Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of South Africa.

MNA

Media essential for stability and democracy: Indonesian Ambassador

YANGON, 28 May—The media is essential for long-term stability and strengthening of democracy, said H.E Dr Ito Sumardi, the ambassador of Indonesia to Myanmar, at the Indonesia-Myanmar Bilateral Inter-Media Dialogue held at Inya Lake Hotel in Yangon on Wednesday morning.

With the aim of promoting the role of mass media between the two countries, the dialogue was organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of

Indonesia, the Indonesia information board and the Ministry of Information of Myanmar.

The topics of the dialogue included the role of the media in nation building, media coverage for conflict solution and regulation of press freedom in democratic societies.

In his reply to questions raised at the dialogue, Deputy Minister for Information of Myanmar U Ye Htut pointed out that there were some problems in Indonesia

concerning media reforms including the monopolization of the media, which he said seems to be controlled by four or five media companies with the population not able to choose from a wide selection of opinions and information.

He also said media reforms cannot be carried out overnight or by simply adopting a law, promising to overcome the challenges of Myanmar's media reform. The dialogue is going on until 29 May. —MNA



Participants of Indonesia-Myanmar Bilateral Inter-Media Dialogue pose for photo.—MNA

Fitness and aerobic competition held in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May — A fitness and aerobic competition organized by Ottara District Women Affairs Organization in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area was held in Tatkon on Tuesday evening.

Teams from Bo Min Yaung BEMS, Magyibin BEHS Branch, Nyaung Lyunt BEHS Branch, Shwe-myo BEHS Branch, Dahat-gon BEHS Branch and Defence Industry BEHS participated in the competition.

Chairwoman of Nay Pyi Taw Council Women Affairs Organization Daw Mya Mya Moe and officials presented prizes to the winners.

Tin Tin Khine
(IPRD-Tatkon)



Minister receives head of EU cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 28 May — Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun received Mrs Isabel Faria de Alneida, the Head of Cooperation of the European Union Delegation to Myanmar, and delegation Wednesday morning.

They discussed matters related to Myanmar

climate change alliance, forest law enforcement, governance, trade and land utilization plans, capacity building programmes, assistance for satellite photos and cooperation in community forestry, reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and mangrove rehabilitation.—MNA



Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun discusses matters related to cooperation in forestry sector with Mrs Isabel Faria de Alneida.—MNA

Myanmar amateur golfer win first prize at the "Singha Championship 2014"



Myanmar amateur golfer Ye Htet Aung won the first prize at the "Singha Championship 2014" inter Round Robin Golf tournament held from 22 May to 25 May, 2014 at the Rayong Green valley Country Club in Thailand.—NLM

Myanmar, UK university hold linguistics society conference

YANGON, 28 May — The 24th Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society is being held here from 27 to 31 May, according to the Department of Higher Education.

The event was jointly organized by the Ministry of Education of Myanmar and the University of London of the United Kingdom. As many as 120 scholars from more than 30 countries and 80 Myanmar scholars are taking part in the forum, and more than 100 papers of Southeast Asia linguistics will be presented at the event held at the National Centre for English Language in Yangon.

The papers on the histories of Myanmar, Mon, Khmer, Tibet, Kayin, Chin and Himalayan languages, sentence structures and phonetic structure through the socio-linguistic and historical linguistic approaches will be presented at the conference.

The linguistic scholars have also been discussing the use of information and communication technology.

The Southeast Asian Linguistics Society holds its annual meeting alternately in regional countries. The event is the first in Myanmar in 30 years.

MNA

Mizuho Bank to offer scholarships for YIE students

YANGON, 28 May — The scholarship programme for students of Yangon Institute of Economics was explained at the Sedona Hotel in Yangon on Wednesday morning.

Under the scholarship programme, Trust Mizuho Asia Fund will offer 300-dollar scholarships for an academic year to a total of 25 students as of this year.

The scholarships, which were previously granted to students in Thailand, are now available for

Myanmar students, according to Chief Representative Mr Tetsuro Nonaka of the bank.

The MoU for the scholarship will be signed on 30 May at the YIE.

Those who would like to apply for the scholarship must be Myanmar citizens below 25 years of age who have not received any other scholarship and are required to have at least grade 3 in every subject. Priority will be given to those who have pecuniary difficulty.

MNA

Myanmar Journalists Network issues statement calling for release of Thai journalists

By Aung Khin

The Myanmar Journalists Network on Tuesday issued a statement calling for the release of Thai journalists arrested by the Royal Thai Army.

Commander-in-Chief General Prayuth Chan-Ocha's RTA arrested eighteen local journalists after the military staged a coup d'état on 22 May, the statement said.

The military coup in Thailand has fully controlled the government's

processes, including the suspension of the country's constitution and broadcast of some radio and television channels.

The MJN said the arrest of journalists and suspension of some media, the ears and eyes of the country, are inappropriate during such an important period, not only for the Thai Media industry but for the rest of the neighboring ASEAN countries.

The statement added that the role of Thai journalists is very crucial in providing accurate infor-

mation and manifesting diverse political opinions.

Voicing its strong support for these journalists and deep sympathy for their families, MJN strongly demands the National Council for Peace and Order to free the arrested journalists as soon as possible and to respect the freedom of press.

France-based Reporters Without Borders said General Prayuth called in 19 editors and publishers to discuss their coverage of the country's situation.

School enrollment event held in Nay Pyi Taw



NAY PYI TAW, 28 May — A ceremony for school enrollment was held in Khema Wunnthi Primary School in Nay Pyi Taw on

Wednesday morning.

Member of the Nay Pyi Taw Council U Phone Zaw Han delivered a speech at the ceremony. Member of the

Nay Pyi Taw Council Col Myint Aung Than and officials provided note books, textbooks and stationery for students. — Shwe Kokko

REGIONAL

Thai military rulers appoint advisers; economy in doldrums



Former General Prawit Wongsuwan

BANGKOK, 28 May — Thailand's junta has appointed as advisers two retired generals with palace connections, putting powerful establishment figures hostile towards former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra firmly in the ascendant in the country's long-running power struggle.

Hoping to show things are getting back to normal, the military has also relaxed a night-time curfew brought in after it seized power in a 22 May coup, and is expected to speed up efforts to get the economy moving again after months of debilitating political protests.

Data on Wednesday showed factory output fell 3.9 percent in April from a year earlier, the 13th monthly drop in a row.



Protesters against military rule face soldiers at the Victory monument in Bangkok on 26 May, 2014.— REUTERS

The Commerce Ministry reported another slump in imports, down 14.5 percent in April from a year before as companies, unsure how the politics would develop, stopped importing machinery and consumers reined in spending.

Exports have not been able to offset the depression in the domestic economy: they fell 0.9 percent in April, although the ministry said it was still hopeful for 5 percent export growth this year.

The team of advisers

announced in a brief statement late on Tuesday included a former defence minister, General Prawit Wongsuwan, and former army chief General Anupong Paochinda.

The two men are towering figures in Thailand's military establishment and have close ties to coup leader General Prayuth Chan-ocha. All three are staunch monarchists and helped oust Thaksin, who remains at the heart of the political crisis, in a 2006 coup.

A Reuters report in December revealed that Prawit and Anupong had secretly backed the anti-government protests that undermined the government of Thaksin's sister, Yingluck Shinawatra. She was removed by a court on 7 May for abuse of power and the coup ousted remaining ministers two weeks later.

Also among the advisers is Pridiyathorn Devakula, overseeing the economy. A former central banker, he was finance minister

in an interim government after the 2006 coup, when strict capital controls were introduced to hold down the baht, causing the stock market to plunge 15 percent in one day.

Thailand's gross domestic product shrank 2.1 percent in the first quarter of 2014 as the anti-government protests frequently shut down ministries, damaged confidence and scared off tourists.

The military has moved quickly to tackle economic problems, notably

bly preparing payments for hundreds of thousands of rice farmers that the ousted government was unable to make.

But General Prayuth has not set any timetable for elections, saying broad reforms were needed first.

That may further complicate relations with foreign governments that have called for a speedy return to democracy, an end to censorship and the release of politicians, protest leaders, journalists and others detained.

"We're going to have to continue to calibrate how we'll work with the government and military when they don't show any pathway back to civilian rule," a senior US official told Reuters in Washington.



Former General Anupong Paochinda

"We're very concerned and there will be an impact on our relationship."

Reuters

Abe calls on Diet to understand Japan's defence reforms

TOKYO, 28 May — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on Wednesday stepped up his efforts to win support for Japan's planned defence reforms, speaking before the Diet in intensive discussions that highlighted criticism from opposition parties of his position.

Abe underscored the need for Japan to strengthen its security alliance with the United States by lifting its self-imposed ban on the right to collective self-defence, or coming to the defence of an ally under armed attack even when Japan itself is not subject to the attack, an issue that has caused debate even within the ruling bloc.

"I want to establish a solid defence system that will help enhance our deterrent force and ensure we can protect people's lives and properties," Abe told a session of the House of Representatives' Budget Committee.

"Further cooperation

between Japan and the United States will contribute to the safety of Japan. It is especially vital," the premier said.

Japan's use of the collective self-defence right would be reflected in a revision of the guidelines for bilateral defence cooperation, he said, expressing his intention to discuss thoroughly "what Japan and the United States can do together" based on the framework for "devising security policy from a new standpoint."

Japan and the United States have agreed to update the guidelines again by the end of 2014.

The lower house session is the first full deliberation in parliament since Abe received a proposal on using the right from a panel of experts earlier this month when he also held a press conference and expressed his desire to implement a set of defense reforms to ease some postwar restrictions on the Self-Defence Forces.

Abe cited as an example of envisioned collective defence an emergency in which the SDF protects US military vessels transporting Japanese citizens from a third country in the event of an emergency.

And he said that under the current interpretation by the government of the nation's pacifist Constitution, such an activity is prohibited. Exercising the collective self-defence right requires the government to change the interpretation.

"We need to consider whether the Constitution bans every kind of collective self-defence, as well as whether we can really protect people's lives" with such restrictions, Abe said.

Japan's current position is that it has the right under international law but cannot exercise it due to the limits imposed by the war-renouncing Constitution that bans the use of force to settle international disputes. — Kyodo News



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (L) meets with former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh (C) and his wife Gursharan Kaur at Singh's residence in New Delhi on 27 May, 2014. India's Bharatiya Janata Party leader Narendra Modi was sworn in as the 15th prime minister of India on Monday. — XINHUA

US business leader praises growth of free enterprise in Cuba

HAVANA, 28 May — The head of the US Chamber of Commerce praised the growth of free enterprise in Cuba upon his arrival in Havana on Tuesday at the start of a three-day visit that was criticized by a leading supporter of the US embargo in Washington.

Chamber President Thomas Donohue has long opposed the US trade embargo against Cuba as an impediment to free enterprise for American companies that want to do business in the communist-ruled country.

Now that free market reforms in recent years under Cuban President Raul Castro have created a class of small-business owners and private cooperatives and the government is courting foreign investment, Donohue has returned for the first time in 15 years.

"I'm here because of the evidence that we're seeing in Cuba of an extraordinary expansion of free enterprise, the reduction in government jobs, and more private hiring, all of which is moving in the right direction," said Donohue, whose chamber is an influential lobbying group that bills itself as the world's largest business organization.

"As you know the chamber for years has been opposed to the sanctions as they are used," he told re-



US Chamber of Commerce President and Chief Executive Officer Thomas Donohue arrives at Cuba's foreign ministry in Havana on 27 May, 2014.—REUTERS

porters shortly after his arrival and before he met with Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez.

Earlier this month an unprecedented group of 44 policy reform advocates and former US officials signed a letter urging the White House to expand licensed travel for all Americans to Cuba and seek to promote the island's fledgling private sector. In February a public opinion poll found a strong majority of Americans favour loosening Cuba sanctions.

But in Washington, New Jersey Democratic Senator Robert Menendez expressed serious concern

about the chamber's trip, fearing it would strengthen a government that "jails foreign business leaders without justification, violates international labour standards and denies its citizens their basic rights."

"Such conditions hardly seem an attractive opportunity for any responsible business leader," said Menendez, a leading Cuban-American voice for maintaining strict economic sanctions on the one-party state.

Donohue and a dozen others including a representative of US commodities company Cargill [CARG. UL] planned to visit a pri-

vate auto repair cooperative and the special development zone in the port of Mariel. Donohue was due to give a speech at Havana University on Thursday just before departing.

It was not known whether he would meet with Raul Castro, who ushered in the reforms after taking over for his ailing brother Fidel in 2008.

Donohue declined to say whether he expected any US policy change toward Cuba, which Washington has sought to undermine and isolate since the island's 1959 revolution took it down the path of communism.—Reuters

Krstic: We took Emirates' loan as it was best possible offer

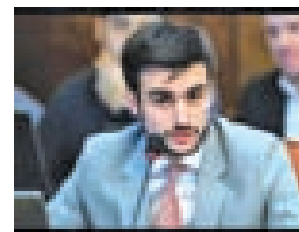
BELGRADE, 28 May — Serbian Finance Minister Lazar Krstic said on Tuesday that Serbia has taken a USD 1 billion loan from the Abu Dhabi government under favourable conditions, and he believes it will have a positive effect on investors.

The 2014 Serbian budget provides for Serbia taking EUR 3 billion in loans from the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and so far, an agreement was signed in March on the first tranche of USD 1 billion that is currently before the parliament for Serbian MPs to ratify.

We were able to obtain the favourable conditions thanks to our good political relations, Krstic said in the parliament while explaining the proposal for the ratification of the first tranche loan agreement between the Serbian and Abu Dhabi governments.

Had Serbia not taken this loan, it would have had to borrow in the way in usually does on the international banking market.

"Compared to the benchmark interest rate at which we would have to take loans right now, this loan helped save USD 300 million on account of interests that we would be paying back over a period of



Serbian Finance Minister Lazar Krstic

10 years," he said.

Explaining a proposal to ratify a USD 97 million loan agreement between the Serbian government and the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development for irrigation projects, Krstic said that the loan is intended for 14 different projects.

"This loan is envisaged by the budget and planned to be drawn over the next four years," said Krstic.

The Finance Minister said a third international agreement — APEX III/A loan for small and medium businesses — between the the European Investment Bank and the Republic of Serbia, and National Bank of Serbia — is also quite favorable and MPs should ratify it over the next few days.

The total volume of assets is EUR 500 million, and EUR 120 million will be made available to commercial banks immediately after the ratification, said Krstic.—Tanjug

2nd US drone arrives at Misawa base for deployment until October

AOMORI, 28 May — A second US Global Hawk surveillance drones arrived on Wednesday morning at the Misawa Air Base in northeastern Japan for deployment there until October. The Guam-based Global Hawk arrived at 6:30 am, according to the local bureau of Japan's Defence Ministry. The first drone came to the base last Saturday. The two reconnaissance aircraft are scheduled to start operating in the Asia-Pacific region in early June and engage in surveillance activities about twice a week.

Kyodo News

More than 50 rebels killed in biggest Ukraine government assault

DONETSK, 28 May — Ukrainian aircraft and paratroopers killed more than 50 pro-Russian rebels in an assault that raged into a second day on Tuesday after a newly elected president vowed to crush the revolt in the east once and for all. The unprecedented offensive throws a challenge to Russian President Vladimir Putin, who has said he reserves the right to defend Russian speakers under threat, but whose past assertions that Kiev is led by an illegitimate "junta" were undermined by the landslide election victory of billionaire Petro Poroshenko.

Reuters journalists counted 20 bodies in combat fatalities in one room of a city morgue in Donetsk. Some of the bodies were missing limbs, a sign that the government had brought to bear heavy firepower against the rebels for



A Ukrainian Mi-24 gunship manoeuvres over a residential area near Donetsk international airport on 26 May, 2014.—REUTERS

the first time.

"From our side, there are more than 50 (dead)," the prime minister of the rebels' self-styled Donetsk People's Republic, Alexander Borodai, told Reuters at the hospital.

The government said it suffered no losses in the assault, which began with air strikes hours after Ukrainians overwhelmingly voted to elect 48-year-old confectionery magnate Poroshenko as their new president.

Putin demanded an immediate halt to the offensive. Moscow said a visit by Poroshenko was not under consideration, though it has said it is prepared to work with him.

Until now, Ukrainian

forces have largely avoided direct assaults on the separatists, partly because they fear tens of thousands of Russian troops massed on the border could invade.

But Poroshenko and his government appear to have interpreted his victory as a clear mandate for decisive action. He won more than 54 percent of the vote in a field of 21 candidates, against 13 percent for his closest challenger.

Poroshenko and other leaders in Kiev may have calculated that the election, by bestowing legitimacy on the authorities, makes it harder for Putin to justify intervention.

Putin said in recent weeks he would withdraw troops from the border. A NATO military officer said most of them were still there, although some showed signs of packing to leave.

Reuters

WORLD

Obama to answer foreign policy critics in Military Academy speech

WASHINGTON, 28 May — President Barack Obama will seek to counter unrelenting criticism of his foreign policy on Wednesday in a speech that may open the door to a slightly deeper US involvement in Syria.

In the commencement address to graduates at the US Military Academy in West Point, NY, Obama will lay out a broad vision for America's role, one that is reliant on international diplomacy and avoids over-reaching or unilateral action.

He will set out a counter-terrorism strategy to reflect a threat that is less focused on Afghanistan as the war there winds down, and redirect resources to places like North Africa.

He is expected to express a willingness to expand assistance to Syrian opposition groups who are trying to oust President Bashar al-Assad, but officials do not expect him to announce a plan for training Syrian rebels.

Obama's tendency to rely on diplomacy and steer clear of foreign entanglements has drawn fire from opposition Republicans in



Soldiers take photos as US President Barack Obama (C) shakes hands with troops after delivering remarks at Bagram Air Base in Kabul, on 25 May, 2014.—REUTERS

Congress and various foreign policy pundits, who would prefer a more robust approach.

It has prompted many foreign diplomats privately to bemoan what they regard as a lack of leadership from Washington after more than five years of the Obama presidency, much of which has been taken

up with reviving a deeply troubled economy at home.

"There's an extreme indecisiveness and cautiousness that just worries people," Senator Bob Corker, the senior Republican on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, told *Reuters*.

"I'm not for policing the world but I do think

that our lack of leadership has created a vacuum and I think that into that vacuum problems are being created," he said.

OBAMA'S LEADERSHIP

Obama critics fault him for not intervening in the Syrian civil war and for not being more effective at countering China's

assertiveness in the South China Sea and Russia's annexation of Crimea from Ukraine. "Rather than leading countries to do things, Obama announces ideas and concepts and then at the end of it you wonder, some months or a year later, well, what actually got executed? Where did the president's words take

the form of a program that showed real leadership?" said Anthony Cordesman, a national security expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Reuters

Obama says it's not US responsibility to make Afghanistan a perfect place

WASHINGTON, 28 May — President Barack Obama said on Wednesday in announcing a plan to leave 9,800 troops in Afghanistan in 2015 that Afghanistan will not be a perfect place and it is not up to the United States to make it one.

Anticipating criticism of his decision for a near-total US pullout at the end of 2016, Obama said Afghanistan security forces have shown they are capable of defending their country.

"We have to recognize that Afghanistan will not be a perfect place and it is not America's responsibility to make it one," Obama said in the White House Rose Garden.—*Reuters*

Bomb attack on hospital in southern Thailand wounds ten

BANGKOK, 28 May — At least ten people were wounded in a motorbike bomb attack in the southern Thai province of Pattani, police said on Wednesday.

The attack occurred on Wednesday morning at the parking area of the Kok-Pho hospital in the Kok-Pho District of Pattani, injuring at least 10 people and damaging more than 60 motorcycles, according to police.

The explosive device was hidden inside a mo-

torcycle and detonated by a mobile phone. Initial information indicates the motorbike was stolen earlier this year, according to police. Public health permanent secretary Narong Sahamethapat later said in a ministry statement that three people were in serious condition and most of the injuries were patients or relatives of patients.

The latest attack was the first on a medical agency under the public health ministry, according to

Narong. Police said earlier two security volunteers are among those who were hurt.

The latest attacks occurred while the country is under martial law after the military staged a coup d'etat last week.

Since violence in the predominantly Muslim southern provinces of Yala, Pattani and Narathiwat started in 2004, Thai authorities estimate more than 6,000 people have been killed.—*Kyodo News*

Arson attack causes fire in S Korean subway, one injured

SEOUL, 28 May — An arson attack caused fire at a subway train in the South Korean capital city of Seoul, local broadcaster YTN reported on Wednesday.

The fire broke out at around 10:50 am local time and was put out some 15 minutes later. One was in-

jured with a sprained ankle, and no fatalities were reported. The arsonist in his 60s sprayed an inflammable, known as paint thinner, within the train pulling into the Dogok station of the Line No 3 in southern Seoul before lighting a fire.

He was arrested by police while receiving retreat-

ment in a nearby hospital. The suspected arsonist said to police that he sought to kill himself for economic difficulties. About 370 passengers were evacuated. The subways resumed normal operations from 12:10 pm local time after passing by the Dogok station without stoppage. — *Xinhua*



French national Charlene Savarino (2nd L) and Australian national Ann Yoshe Taylor (1st R) are taken to the Phnom Penh Municipal Court to hear their verdict in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 28 May, 2014. The Phnom Penh Municipal Court on Wednesday convicted three foreigners including a Nigerian man, a French teenager and an Australian woman of drug trafficking and sentenced them to between 23 and 27 years in jail, according to a verdict read by Judge Kor Vandy. XINHUA

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 29 May, 2014

Democratic practices can prevent military coups

By Aung Khin

The military coup in Thailand on 22 May has some repercussions for Myanmar, raising some concerns on whether a similar incident will happen in Myanmar as the demand of a constitution amendment has been reiterated by protesters.

Myanmar senior government officials are confident that a coup d'état is impossible in the

country, insisting the new administration is on the path of democratic reform.

In the martial law announcement on 20 May, the Commander of the Royal Thai Army (RTA) denied that a coup d'état was underway. After the RTA failed as a mediator in the negotiations between the groups, it staged a takeover claiming to restore order in the Kingdom.

Generally, some reasons for military coups include political impasses, injustices, exploitation and ideology affected by colonialism that justified the attainment of power through forces.

The recent 2013 Egyptian coup and 2014 Thai coup happened after opponent groups started riots. Lack of sufficient democratic practices on side of the administration and citizens may trigger a military coup.

A strong administration and citizens of a

democratic society will not accept any military takeover. However, they themselves play a key role to prevent such a situation. Recent military coups in Guinea-Bissau in 2012, Mauritania in 2008 and Fiji in 2006 showed yet again that instability, political chaos and violence are the main causes. The countries that have not fully developed democratic practices cannot be granted 'no military takeover'.

Therefore, Myanmar will be free from military coup if all levels pursue democratic practices.

Write for us

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

School Age Children to be in Schools

It is indeed heartening to see the authorities and civil societies actively participating in a campaign this last week of May 2014, to put school-age children in schools. And the best part is that beginning academic year 2014-15 the Government will provide free education up to the level of middle school. This is indeed good news as it will ease the burden of parents to put their children of school age into the schools.

Every one knows the importance of education, particularly in this 'age of knowledge', to enable a child to be prepared for life. In fact every child has a right to education which the parents or guardians of the child should enable the child to acquire. After all, the five duties of parents towards their children as accepted in Myanmar culture are: "Steer them away from the wrong; Guide them to the right; Enable them to learn a vocation; Help set them up in life and Help them choose their life partners". These duties of parents were held true since ancient times. One can say they are still valid.

But what of the children who are in employment. Children who enter into employment usually leave their families at an early age. Often they are pledged by

their families or guardian to work with the employer on payment of an agreed sum of money. They are thus deprived of the care of parents and an education. This in the long run, will be detrimental to their growth and development as well as to their future life. They may also be made to work in hazardous conditions which may endanger their health and well being. Besides some employers may abuse or ill treat children in their employment.

The ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973(No.138) sets a "general minimum age of not less than the end of compulsory education and at least 15 years for admission to employment". This is to ensure that the child acquires a basic education before he/she enters the labour market. The Convention allows some flexibility for developing countries to set a lower minimum age where their economies or educational facilities are insufficiently developed.

In Myanmar, according to the Factories Act(1951) and the Shops and Establishments Act(1951) the minimum age for employment is (13) years below which no child is allowed to work in a factory or establishment. A 'child' of age between (13) years and (15) years, may be allowed to work in a fac-

tory for not more than 4 hours a day, if certified by a Registered Medical Practitioner. 'Adolescents' of age (15) to (18) years may be allowed to work in a factory as adults, if certified by a Registered Medical Practitioner that he or she is fit to do so.

Myanmar is not a signatory to the ILO Convention No.138. However it is a signatory to the ILO Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (No.182) which calls for the total abolition of such child labour. In addition Myanmar has ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and enacted the Child Law in 1993. According to the Child Law, 'child' means a person who has not attained the age of 16 years. The said law embodies the rights of a child and the measures to be taken to ensure enjoyment of such rights.

The provisions of the Factories Act(1951) and Shops and Establishments Act (1954) regarding the minimum working age perhaps needs to be reviewed in the light of the definition of 'child' in the Child Law and in the light of recent developments viz, the policy of the new Government that all school age children should attend school. However, as of now employers should at

least abide by the existing labour laws relating to work of children and not employ any children who is under (13) years of age.

Children who are under (13) years of age are being employed in many factories, shops and establishments in the major cities. In some cases they accompany an adult working member of the family to the factories and are assigned easy tasks to perform by the employers — for which they are 'paid' a paltry sum of money. Then there are the child workers who are 'employed' to sell journals, flowers, snacks, etc at busy traffic light points in the city or at railway stations and bus terminals. Many are also employed, usually together with their parents or guardians, in road building and construction works both of which may be hazardous to their safety and health.

Many more young children, in some cases even as young as (8) or (10) years of age, are in domestic employment having been pledged by their parents or guardians to the employer. The usual reason given for child employment is that the parents are too poor and cannot afford to send their children to school. Hence they are 'bonded' into employment to help out their family.

Lokethar

Looking at child labour from the aspect of the economy, many economists say that child labour may, not only deprive the child of its various rights including the right to basic education, but also deprive working age adults of job opportunities and generally depresses wages for adult workers. In addition it is morally unacceptable for any factory, shop or establishment to hire child workers to be 'competitive.'

With regard to enabling young persons, especially from the rural areas, who have completed at least primary education or those who are drop outs from basic education, if they are of age (16) years and above, they may be encouraged to join formal apprentice or learner programs of the various Industries and Enterprises, as far as possible, in the States and Regions where they

live. Such programs will help them learn a vocation as well as earn income which will help them to support their families.

Regarding employment of child workers, employers and the general public should be made more aware that taking on child workers would deprive them of the opportunity to be under the care of parents which is crucial for their all round development, and acquire an education which will see them through to a better life. As the saying goes, if the 'demand' is reduced so will be the 'supply'.

If employment of under-age children is reduced or eradicated those children will have a better chance to be in schools. Thus it will contribute, in no small measure, to the policy of the Government to enable school age children to be in schools.

GOLD PRICE, FE RATE
(29-5-2014)

Yangon Gold Price

Buying K655,700 per tical: Selling K656,200

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K655,500 per tical: Selling K656,000

FE RATE

USD Buying K 965 - Selling K 968.5

SGD Buying K 767 - Selling K 775

Euro Buying K 1313 - Selling K 1328

LOCAL NEWS

Energy Minister's China Trip



NAY PYI TAW, 28 May — During his trip to the People's Republic of China from 18 to 25 May, Union Energy Minister U Zeyar Aung visited 60-year-old Daqing Oil Field which still has a capacity to extract crude oil through polymer flooding

process. The union minister also observed work procedures of South East Asia Pipeline Control Station which controls gas pipeline linking Made Island of Myanmar to China.

The union minister's trip also included visits to LNG Gas Station, West to

East Pipeline Control Station and Yunnan refinery plant project. During his trip, the union minister met the chief of China National Energy Bureau, the chairman of China National Petroleum Corporation, and the chairman of South East Asia Pipeline Company.

Their meeting focused on strengthening friendship between the two countries, more investment by China in Myanmar's energy sector, current co-operation between the two countries and the future plans.

MNA



Fire hydrant and water tank for Natogyi dwellers

NATOGYI, 28 May — Mandalay Region Hluttaw granted nearly five million kyat to build three hydrants and three million kyat for building water tank with the capacity of storing 10000 gallons for Natogyi dwellers. The fire fighting facilities have been built by Fire Services Department with the cooperation of Fire Prevention Committee. Another two hydrants are also under installing in No. 2 Ward in Natogyi.—*Than Aung Zaw (Natogyi)*

Trade promotion course for govt staff in Myingyan



MYINGYAN, 28 May — Staff under the Trade Promotion Department in Myingyan and Meiktila

districts received a two-day course on 26 and 27 May for trade promotion skills. Altogether 24 trainees — 11 from Meiktila, one from Yamethin, nine from

Myingyan and three from NyaungU — attended the course. The course focused on dos and don'ts in discharging their duties.

U Zaw Min Naing
(Myingyan)

Kachin State's endeavour to prevent illicit drugs



MOHNYIN, 28 May — Children from Mohnyin took part in painting contests to mark 17th International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 26 May. Although there have been long term

plan to fight against menace of drugs through supply reduction, demand reduction and law enforcement, the problems of drugs have increased. Some commented current method should be reviewed.—*NLM- 001*

MONYWA, 28 May — School enrollment activities started on 25 May in Monywa. It is a good news for parents to know that a student will get a half dozen of exercise books free of charge and 1000 kyat in cash. Approximately five million primary school children across the country will be provided with text books and exercise books. Moreover, free education will be introduced for Grade VI to Grade IX students. One of the parents who came to the school to enroll her child expressed her thanks to leaders of the country for introducing free education as she is to live from hand to mouth.

Po Chan- Monywa

Monywa schools welcome newcomers



TODAY'S MYANMAR NEWS SITES

Taungtha Township sees five new primary schools and two middle schools

TAUNGTHA, 28 May — Basic Education Department gave the green light to schools in Taungtha Township in central Myanmar to upgrade their schools. According to the plans of upgrading schools which is a part of the education sector development programme, five basic education pri-

mary schools (branch) in Ywalay, Htankyin, Newun, Wahgyiei and Zabuthiri villages got permission to upgrade their schools into primary schools and Hsagon and Thazi middle schools (branch) into middle schools.

Kyaw Myo Naing
(Taungtha)

US cannot confirm Nigerian claim to have located kidnapped girls

WASHINGTON, 28 May — The United States said on Tuesday it does not have information that would support Nigeria's claim that it knows the whereabouts of more than 200 kidnapped schoolgirls, and US and European officials voiced skepticism about the statement.

"We don't have independent information from the United States to support" that statement, US State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki told reporters. "We, as a matter of policy and for the girls' safety and wellbeing, would not discuss publicly this sort of information regardless." Nigerian Chief of Defence Staff Air Marshal Alex Badeh said on Monday that the country's military knew the location of the schoolgirls, abducted by the Boko Haram Islamic



A poster with the Twitter campaign hashtag #BringBackOurGirls is seen during a prayer vigil showing support for Nigerian schoolgirls abducted by militant group Boko Haram, outside the Nigerian Embassy in Madrid on 22 May, 2014. — REUTERS

militant group on 14 April.

Five US and European security officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said they had no

credible information on the location of girls and were skeptical that the Lagos government knows where they are.

The five officials said the United States and some European allies had provided technical intelligence, including information from

spy aircraft and satellites, to Nigerian authorities, who lack such intelligence capabilities.

But the officials said that as far as they knew technical intelligence systems had not produced precise or credible information establishing the girls' location. The five officials said that if the Nigerians had obtained such information from informants on the ground, it has not been shared with US and allied agencies.

One impediment to finding the girls, the officials said, was that since their abduction seven weeks ago they had been divided into small groups. Boko Haram is also believed to be hiding them in densely forested terrain where it would be hard for modern technical intelligence systems to gather information.

Reuters

Egypt extends presidential election to help Sisi

CAIRO, 28 May — Egypt's presidential election was extended by a day on Tuesday in an effort to boost lower than expected turnout that threatened to undermine the credibility of the frontrunner, former army chief Abdel Fattah al-Sisi.

After Sisi called for record voter participation, low turnout would be seen at home and abroad as a setback for the field marshal who toppled Egypt's first freely elected leader, the Muslim Brotherhood's Mohamed Mursi.

The two-day vote was originally due to conclude on Tuesday at 10 pm (1900 GMT) but was extended until Wednesday to allow the "greatest number possible" to vote, state media reported.

Sisi faces only one challenger in the election: the leftist Hamdeen Sabahi, who came third in a 2012 vote won by Mursi and was seen as a long-shot in the race against an army man who became popular after ending Mursi's divisive year in office.

"I was going to vote for Sisi because he will be the president anyway, and because I was grateful to him for removing the Brotherhood from power," said Hani Ali, 27, who works in the private sector. "But now I won't go as I felt people are unhappy with the chaos of the past months and are not as pro-Sisi as I thought."

Reuters

Central California wildfire burns out of control, threatens 100 homes

SAN FRANCISCO, 28 May — A wildfire burning west of Yosemite National Park in central California threatened more than 100 homes on Tuesday as it raged out of control in brush left bone dry by severe drought, state fire officials said.

California's fire season has been particularly severe this year, with one of the worst droughts in the state's history playing a key role in the size and number of wildfire outbreaks.

The blaze that erupted on Monday afternoon has already charred more than 1,300 acres (526 hectares) and was burning on the southeastern shores of Lake McClure in Mariposa County, according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. Five firefighters have been injured battling the blaze, including one who suffered serious lacerations in a chainsaw accident, said Cal Fire spokesman Daniel Berlant. That firefighter was taken to hospital, Berlant said, but his condition was not known. Injuries to the other four were minor, he added.—Reuters

Libyan Islamists to US: Don't interfere or face worse than Iraq

BENGHAZI, (Libya) 28 May — The leader of Islamist militant group Ansar al-Sharia in Libya's Benghazi city warned the United States on Tuesday against interference or it would face worse than the conflicts in Somalia, Iraq, or Afghanistan.

Libya's young democracy is in turmoil three years after the NATO-backed war that ousted Muammar Gaddafi, with rival Islamist, anti-Islamist, regional and political factions locked in a complex struggle for influence in the OPEC member state.

Four decades of Gaddafi's one-man rule left few institutions or national army to resist competing militias and brigades of former rebels who have become de facto power-brokers. Ansar al-Sharia, listed as a foreign terrorist organization by Washington, was accused of orchestrating the 2012 attack on the US consulate in Benghazi in which US Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans died.

Mohamed Zahawi, head of the Benghazi brigade of Ansar al-Sharia,

accused the US government of backing renegade former general Khalifa Haftar, who has begun a self-declared campaign to purge Libya of Islamist militants. "We remind America, if they intervene, of their defeats in Afghanistan, Iraq and Somalia, because they would face in Libya something much worse," he said in a statement. "It was America who urged Haftar to turn the country towards war and bloodshed."

The United States has an embassy in Tripoli, but closed its consulate in Benghazi after the 2012 at-

tack. A former general under Gaddafi, Haftar earlier this month launched attacks with his irregular forces on Islamist militant bases in Benghazi because he said the government had failed.

Ansar al-Sharia also runs a network of social services in the city and has operated its own checkpoints.

Many Libyans are fed up with violence and Islamist militants accused of assassinations and bombings especially in the eastern city, and Haftar gained some support from regular army units.—Reuters

UN peacekeepers to focus on protecting South Sudan civilians

UNITED NATIONS, 28 May — The UN Security Council on Tuesday authorized peacekeepers in South Sudan to focus on protecting civilians instead of state-building activities, backing the use of force by UN troops amid worsening violence in the world's newest nation.

The US-drafted resolution, unanimously adopted by the 15-member council, "emphasizes that protection of civilians ... must be given priority in decisions about the use of available capacity and resources within the mission." Fighting erupted in South Sudan in December after months of tensions sparked by President Salva Kiir's decision to fire



A South Sudanese child suffering from cholera sits on a bed in Juba Teaching Hospital in Juba, on 27 May, 2014. — REUTERS

longtime rival Riek Machar from the deputy president's position. Deep ethnic divisions also have fueled the

violence, pitting Kiir's Dinka people against the Nuer of Machar.

The council authorized

UN troops to "use all necessary means" — code for robust military force — to protect civilians, moni-

tor and investigate human rights abuses, assist the delivery of humanitarian aid and support a cessation of hostilities deal.

The two sides fighting in the oil-producing country, which declared independence from Sudan in 2011, have twice agreed to a ceasefire - in January and then earlier this month.

A report this month by the UN peacekeeping mission, known as UNMISS, accused government and rebel forces in South Sudan of committing crimes against humanity, including murder, rape and other sexual violence, during the fighting that has left thousands of people dead.

Reuters

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Climate changes push native Montana trout toward extinction



A catch and release rainbow trout is seen in a net during a winter blizzard at the Project Healing Waters third annual Fall FlyFest in Hopeville Canyon, West Virginia on 8 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

NEW YORK, 28 May—Climate changes that have made Montana streams much warmer over the last 30 years are helping inva-

sive trout push their native cousins toward extinction, researchers said on Tuesday, saying study is an example of global warming reducing

biodiversity.

The study led by ecologists with the US Geological Survey links warming streams and reduced spring

flows in the Flathead River basin in western Montana and Canada to a sharp rise in interbreeding between rainbow trout introduced by government fishery managers and native westslope cutthroat trout.

The study, published in the latest edition of the journal *Nature Climate Change*, shows evidence that a warming planet could decrease biodiversity by supporting cross-breeding between invasive and native species, authors said.

Rainbow trout, stocked in Rocky Mountain streams and lakes to lure anglers, fared better than westslope cutthroat during a warming trend in the Flathead basin that saw summer water temperatures nearly triple between 1978 to 2008, the

study shows.

Like other invasive fish, rainbows have greater tolerance for environmental alterations like lower stream flows because of drought while native trout adapted to local conditions that historically brought colder water in greater volumes.

Variables such as habitat degradation were the focus of previous research on the impact on climate changes on native fish in the western United States.

While hybridization is a well-established threat to native cutthroat trout in western North America, the study led by USGS ecologist Clint Muhlfeld and others demonstrated how factors such as rising water temperatures influence evolutionary processes by accelerating

interbreeding with rainbow trout and corrupting the natural genetic pool that allowed westslope cutthroat to adapt and survive in local streams for more than 12,000 years.

“Hybridization was a time bomb waiting to go off under the right set of conditions,” Muhlfeld said.

Cross-breeding reduced the overall fitness of the native fish, likely decreasing the resiliency and adaptive capacity that helped it survive cataclysmic events like glaciation, researchers found.

“If these nonnative rainbow trout populations persist, we think the writing is on the wall and there will be the loss of these native cutthroat trout, a genomic extinction,” Muhlfeld said.

Reuters

New methods needed to protect endangered species

CANBERRA, 28 May—Australian scientists found that efforts to protect endangered species may not be as effective as they could be by their new research, according to a latest research statement from the Australian National University (ANU) on Wednesday.

The ANU’s research concluded that methods for measuring the full gamut of animal species in a particular location are flawed, which means that efforts to protect endangered species may not be as effective as they could be. “Our study shows methods for measuring biodiversity are built on assumptions that do not hold in all circumstances, and this might lead to poor environmental decisions,” said Dr Westgate, lead author of the paper published in *Nature Communications*.

“For example, poor measurement might cause us to think that biodiversity is stable or increasing, when in fact some species are in decline,” Westgate explained.

Xinhua

Suspected dinosaur fossil discovered in N China

SHIJIAZHUANG, 28 May—Chinese researchers said they have discovered a suspected dinosaur fossil in a hilly area in northern Hebei Province. The femoral and cervical spine fossil pieces were discovered on May 21 on a hill at Liqilong Village in Fengning Manchu Autonomous County, said Wang

Chaolin, curator of Fengning Ancient Fossils Museum on Wednesday. It was another important discovery in Fengning County, where archaeologists unearthed the fossil of the world’s earliest bird in 2005, said Wang.

The new fossil piece is estimated to be seven to ten meters long and was

initially judged to be that of a dinosaur, he said. The site has been under around-the-clock protection.

Local government said it would soon invite archaeologists from the Chinese Academy of Sciences to carry out excavation after obtaining approvals.

Xinhua

Intel to make tablet chips with China’s Rockchip

SAN FRANCISCO, 28 May—Intel Corp said on Tuesday it reached an agreement with Chinese mobile chipmaker Rockchip to make chips for inexpensive tablets running Google Inc’s Android platform. The deal teams Intel up with a chipmaker specializing in low-end mobile devices that often cost less than \$100 and are popular in China and other fast-growing markets. This represents a major move for the Santa Clara, California company that has struggled to gain traction in smartphones and tablets. Intel gains access to Rockchip’s ability to quickly launch inexpensive mobile chips as well as access to the company’s strong relationships with local Chinese manufacturers focused on the country’s fast-growing consumer market.

“They’re absolutely bringing us speed and execution and proliferation for

us that would not otherwise get done,” Intel CEO Brian Krzanich said on a conference call. “They also bring these relationships and partnerships that go well beyond what ours are.”

With sales of high-end mobile devices losing steam in North America, manufacturers have been turning their attention to lower-end tablets and smartphones designed for consumers in China.

Under the agreement, Rockchip and Intel will make a quad-core mobile chip using Intel’s architecture and branding, Intel said. While Intel excels at developing processors for laptops and desktop computers, it has less experience designing “system on chips,” or SoCs, that combine features like modems, wifi and memory.

Fuzhou, China-based Rockchip and other mobile chipmakers focus on making

SoCs for smartphones and tablets. Those chips typically include ARM processor technology that competes against Intel’s technology.

Krzanich said the agreement with Rockchip does not include an investment between the two companies.

Intel said the chip will include 3G connectivity and be available in the first half of 2015.—Reuters

Spotify to ask users to re-enter passwords after cyberattack

SAN FRANCISCO, 28 May—Music streaming service Spotify AB will ask some of its 40 million users to re-enter their passwords and upgrade their software in coming days after detecting unauthorized access to its internal systems and data.

Chief Technology Officer Oskar Stal said in a blogpost on Tuesday that it has found evidence of attackers accessing just one user’s data, which did not include payment or password information. But as a precaution, it intends to ask “certain Spotify users” to re-enter their log-in credentials, and upgrade their Google (GOOGL.O) Android app.

Spotify said it is not recommending any action yet for users of Apple Inc (AAPL.O) iPhones or devices based on Microsoft’s

(MSFT.O) Windows.

The intrusion was the latest to hit a major tech company.

In past months, cyber-attackers have infiltrated databases and systems at eBay Inc and Adobe, though no financial information has so far been taken, according to the companies.

Spotify, which is expected to seek an IPO soon, has more than 40 million active users scattered across more than 50 markets.

“We have taken steps to strengthen our security systems in general and help protect you and your data—and we will continue to do so. We will be taking further actions in the coming days to increase security for our users,” Stal said in his blogpost.

Reuters



Intel processors are displayed at a store in Seoul on 21 June, 2012.—REUTERS

Japan, N Korea to wrap up talks, possibly with abduction probe deal

STOCKHOLM, 28 May — Japan and North Korea are set to wrap up three days of negotiations on Wednesday in Stockholm, with observers watching whether the two governments will reach an agreement for reinvestigating the fates of Japanese nationals Pyongyang abducted in the 1970s and 1980s.

Speaking to reporters after the second day of talks, Japanese delegate Junichi Ihara said on Tuesday night that he had “serious discussions” and a “tough exchange of words” with North Korea, but he declined to elaborate, saying talks will continue on Wednesday morning.

Ihara, director general of the Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau at the Foreign Ministry, said he had a total of five hours of talks Tuesday with Song Il Ho, North Korea’s ambassador for talks to normalize relations with Japan. The two talked for a total of four hours on Monday.

Ihara and Song appear to have discussed details of possible deals such as launching a reinvestigation and the timing of lifting some of the sanctions Japan has unilaterally imposed on North Korea.

Ihara is believed to



Junichi Ihara, director general of the Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau at the Japanese Foreign Ministry, speaks to reporters at the Japanese Embassy in Stockholm, Sweden, after the second day of talks with North Korea on 27 May, 2014.—KYODO NEWS

have told Song that Japan is considering partly lifting its sanctions, depending on progress in the reinvestigation.

Government sources said earlier Japan may show readiness to partly ease sanctions once it confirms the launch of a reinvestigation, even before seeing tangible results, in order to make North Korea more forward-looking in undertaking it.

North Korea has conducted investigations into the abductees in the past,

but Japan has dismissed the results, saying they are unconvincing. In 2008 Pyongyang promised to reinvestigate, but it has yet to do so. Ihara also declined to comment on whether the two sides would issue a document after the talks in Stockholm.

A major focus of the Stockholm session is how North Korea will respond to Japan’s demand for a reinvestigation and for abductees to be returned to Japan, made at the last round of talks in late March in Beijing. Pyongyang has said the abduction issue has already been settled.

Japan officially lists 17 nationals as abductees but suspects North Korea’s involvement in other disappearances. While five of the 17 were repatriated in 2002, Pyongyang claims eight have died and four others never entered the country.

Under the policy of “dialogue and pressure,” Japan, in collaboration with the United States and South Korea, is trying to comprehensively resolve the abduction issue and get North Korea to abandon its nuclear weapons and missile programs.

Kyodo News



People use their sunshades and hats to block the sun when visiting the Tian'anmen Square in Beijing, capital of China, on 28 May, 2014. The city's meteorological department issued this year's first yellow alert for heat on Tuesday. —XINHUA

Edward Snowden says he was trained ‘as a spy’

WASHINGTON, 28 May — Former US spy agency contractor Edward Snowden, who leaked details of massive US intelligence-gathering programs, said in a US TV interview he “was trained as a spy” and had worked undercover overseas for US government agencies.

In an advance excerpt of his interview in Moscow with “NBC Nightly News” that aired on Tuesday, Snowden rejected comments by critics that he was a low-level analyst.

“Well, it’s no secret that the US tends to get more and better intelligence out of computers

nowadays than they do out of people,” Snowden told NBC news anchor Brian Williams.

“I was trained as a spy in sort of the traditional sense of the word in that I lived and worked undercover overseas - pretending to work in a job that I’m not - and even being assigned a name that was not mine.”

Describing himself as a “technical expert,” Snowden said: “I don’t work with people. I don’t recruit agents. What I do is I put systems to work for the United States. And I’ve done that at all levels from - from the bottom on

the ground all the way to the top.”

He said he worked undercover overseas for both the CIA and NSA and lectured at the Joint Counterintelligence Training Academy “where I developed sources and methods for keeping our information and people secure in the most hostile and dangerous environments around the world.”

“So when they (critics) say I’m a low-level systems administrator, that I don’t know what I’m talking about, I’d say it’s somewhat misleading,” Snowden added.

Reuters

Fire at hospital for elderly kills 21 in latest major South Korea accident

SEOUL, 28 May — A fire at a rural South Korean hospital for chronically ill elderly patients on Wednesday killed 21 people and injured eight in the second major fire this week as the country still mourns victims of a ferry disaster last month.

The midnight blaze at the hospital in the southwest region of Jeolla was put out relatively quickly, but most of the victims were elderly patients unable to walk or move freely, leading to the large number of casualties, fire officials said.

All the victims were on the second floor of one building, and most of them suffered smoke inhalation, a local fire department official said by telephone.

The hospital held patients who required long-term care, many with dementia or disability as a result of a stroke, local media reports said.



Photo released by Newsis shows policemen carrying the injured to a hospital in southern South Korea, early morning on 28 May, 2014 (local time). Twenty-one people were killed and seven others injured in a fire at a hospital in southern South Korea early on Wednesday. —XINHUA

South Korea, Asia’s fourth-largest economy and a leading manufacturing powerhouse, has developed into a vibrant and technically advanced democracy,

but it faces criticism that regulatory controls and safety standards have not kept pace.

The country is mourning the deaths of more than 300 people who drowned when a heavily overloaded ferry capsized and sank on 16 April, the country’s worst maritime disaster in 20 years.

A fire at a large shopping mall complex killed eight people on Monday when smoke and toxic fumes spread rapidly. Fire screens designed to stop the spread of fire and smoke did not function in the relatively new building.

There have since been two subway accidents that left nearly 200 people injured.

Reuters

71-year-old arrested for vandalizing bus stops in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 28 May — A 71-year-old man was arrested on Wednesday for vandalizing bus stops in Singapore, the police said.

The arrest came after a report of graffiti on the advertisement board of a bus stop on 23 May.

Local broadcaster Channel NewsAsia said that the graffiti at one of the bus stops read “We support CPF Blogger. Return our CPF money.” — in apparent reference to a blogger who has published a blogpost alleging Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong has misappropriated funds contributed to the Central Provident Fund.

The blogger has admitted the accusation was false and taken down the blogpost after receiving a lawyer’s letter from the prime minister.

Workers are not

allowed to take retirement money from their CPF account before a certain age. The government has clarified that this is necessary to provide for retirement as people live longer.

Police said officers also found another 11 other bus stops affected with similar graffiti. Ground inquiries and stake-out operations, combing through video footage from cameras situated at the affected areas, helped police identify the man.

The suspect faces up to three years’ jail, or a fine of up to 2,000 Singapore dollars (1,600 U.S. dollars). Those found guilty of vandalism also face no less than three strokes of the cane, and no more than eight. However, only male offenders below the age of 50 can be caned.

Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

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 Email address: myanmar@tilleke.com
 Dated: 29 May 2014.

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MV E.R. TURKU VOY NO (045)

Consignees of cargo carried on MVE.R. TURKU VOY NO (045) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.5.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S RK SHIPPING & TRADING CO, LTD
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Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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

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

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 Ong Minn U, Advocate
 May Phyo Kin, H.G.P
 For Altacor Inc.
 Myanmar Global Law Firm
 Ph:0973220023
 Dated: 29 May 2014

Suspicious item prompts temporary shutdown of part of LAX terminal

LOS ANGELES, 28 May — The security and ticketing area in a terminal at Los Angeles International Airport was shut down on Tuesday after a suspicious item was found, a spokeswoman for the airport said.

The suspicious item was spotted at about 3:45 pm Pacific Daylight Time in the screening area of Terminal One at the massive airport, prompting the temporary shutdown of that part of the airport only, said spokeswoman Amanda Parsons.

Reuters

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Reg. No. 3362 / 2014

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KUO THO OHN, LL.M.
 Advocate
 No. 3, 34th Street, Yangon.
ohn_associates@gmail.com
 Dated : 29 - 5 - 2014

Ministry of Energy Myanmar Petroleum Products Enterprise Invitation for Opened Tender (2/2014)

1. Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in Myanmar Kyats and United States Dollars(CIF Yangon)

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Qty	Remark
(1)	MPPE/LP/MCY/CAP/T/1	Toyota Towing Tractor (Brand-New) for Aviation Dispenser	4 Nos.	Kyats
(2)	MPPE/LP/MCY/CAP/T/2	Server, and Accessories	11 Items	Kyats
(3)	MPPE/LP/MCY/CAP/T/3	Projector, Copier, Printer, Fax and Scanner	5 Items	Kyats
(4)	MPPE/LP/MCY/CAP/T/4	Air Conditioner	5 Sets	Kyats
(5)	MPPE/LP/MCY//T/1	Battery	2 Items	Kyats
(6)	MPPE/LP/TTS/T/1	Tyre with Tube and Flap	2 Items	Kyats
(7)	MPPE/LP/CHEM/T/1	Shell Water Detector Capsules	890 Boxes	Kyats
(8)	MPPE/MCY/CAP/T/1	400 IGPM Fuel Transfer Centrifugal Pump (Motor Driven) and 300 IGPM Fuel Transfer Centrifugal Pump (Engine Driven)	2 Items (each 2 nos)	USD
(9)	MPPE/MCY/CAP/T/2	Fire Fighting Angus Engine Driven Pump with Trailer inductor	2 Sets	USD
(10)	MPPE/MCY/T/1	Butterfly Valves, Swing Joints, Expansion Joints and Flexible Connectors	8 Items	USD

2. Tender Closing Date & Time - 24-6-2014, 12:00 Hrs.
 3. Tender document are available at our office starting from 27-5-2014 at during office hours and for further detail please contact: Phone 067-411487.

Planning Department
Myanmar Petroleum Products Enterprise
Ministry of Energy, No(6) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw

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Angelina Jolie takes the vile out of villain in 'Maleficent'

LOS ANGELES, 28 May — Angelina Jolie, in taking her first major acting role in years, wanted something “crazy and silly” to counter the more serious parts of her life and her idea of fun was to play a baddie who looks pretty darn scary to children.

Maleficent is a villain, and one of Disney's most popular since she appeared as the wicked fairy in the 1959 animated feature “Sleeping Beauty,” in which she casts an evil spell on the princess.

The modern reimagining of that fairytale in “Maleficent” allows Jolie to show the hurt that sparked her character's evil side and how she overcomes it. It may be dark at times — “the darkest Disney will go” says Jolie — but kids and adults will get laughs from its wicked humor, an uplifting tale of justice and a new cinematic heroine with a gothic twist.

“There are people today, especially kids, that have been bullied and felt like they are outsiders or felt different,” said Jolie of her character, who sports black horns and sharp



Actresses Angelina Jolie (R) and Elle Fanning pose during a photocall for the film “Maleficent” (Malefique) in Paris on 6 May, 2014.—REUTERS

cheekbones. “And I loved that this goes in that direction.”

So apparently did her six kids, who encouraged her to take the role and helped her find her memorable Maleficent voice.

“My children have seen it and it really makes them happy,” she said.

The film, a big Walt Disney Co production that cost \$200 million, opens on Friday in US theaters and the studio has launched an

ambitious marketing campaign that includes Maleficent lines of MAC Cosmetics and clothing and shoes by designer Stella McCartney. The audience sweet spot is girls age 10 and up, an older group than

the younger children who swooned for the empowering princesses in the Disney's animated blockbuster “Frozen,” according to Phil Contrino, chief analyst at Boxoffice.com.

Riding on the momen-

tum of “Frozen,” “Maleficent” should bring in \$64 million in ticket sales in its opening weekend in the United States and Canada, Contrino said, and Jolie's global appeal hints at big sales overseas.

The other star of the film may be the elaborate visual production, the creation of first-time director Robert Stromberg who won two Academy Awards as production designer on “Avatar” and “Alice in Wonderland.” In a lush palate influenced by classic painting in which artists heightened landscapes, Stromberg created two worlds; Maleficent's forest kingdom and the human kingdom ruled by Stefan, the man who wronged her.

Maleficent disrupts the christening of King Stefan's daughter Aurora and lets it be known that the princess she calls “Beastie” will go into a deep slumber when she turns 16, a spell that can only be broken by the kiss of true love. Aurora, the Sleeping Beauty played by an angelical Elle Fanning, tests Maleficent's hard resolve with her innocence.—Reuters

Ex-Beatle Paul McCartney leaves Japan after illness, cancels Asian tour



Musician Paul McCartney attends The Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles 23rd Annual Simply Shakespeare benefit reading of “The Two Gentlemen of Verona” in Santa Monica, California on 25 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

TOKYO, 28 May — Former Beatle Paul McCartney, who cancel led

his Asian concert tour and was treated at a Japanese hospital after falling ill in

Tokyo, has recovered and left Japan, concert organizers said on Tuesday. McCartney, 71, left on a charter flight on Monday, they added. No destination was given, but Japanese media said he had headed for London.

“Paul McCartney himself hopes to return to Japan for more concerts as soon as possible,” the organizers said in a statement, adding that this would be negotiated.

McCartney called off his sold-out Japan tour last week after falling ill with a viral infection, much to the disappointment of fans — some of whom had paid

100,000 yen (\$980) to see him. He later canceled a concert set for South Korea.

McCartney and drummer Ringo Starr are the two surviving members of the Beatles, which Guinness has ranked as the world's biggest-selling musical group, and which broke up in 1970.

A native of Liverpool who largely taught himself how to play, McCartney has been known for a long and versatile musical life that included a stint with the band “Wings” after the Beatles, followed by a flourishing solo career.

Reuters

Walking helps in keeping one's body toned: Elizabeth Hurley

LONDON, 28 May — Actress Elizabeth Hurley credits walking for her toned body but insists that exercise is essential to remain in shape.

The 48-year-old actress avoids salty foods and carbonated drinks and try to consume healthy products, reported Contactmusic.

“It's more important to be toned than it is to be thin.

Going for a fast walk every day really makes a difference to your legs. Throw in some crunches and arm exercises and you can look like a goddess, even if you're a lot larger than sample size,” Hurley said.—PTI



Elizabeth Hurley

Ballerina Kida becomes 1st Japanese to win Benois award

MOSCOW, 28 May — Japanese dancer Mariko Kida on Tuesday won the Benois de la Danse competition in the ballerina category, becoming the first Japanese to receive the prestigious Russian award.

Kida, an Osaka native who serves as the first soloist with the Royal Swedish

Ballet, shared the award with Polina Semionova, a principal dancer with the New York-based American Ballet Theatre.

Kida performed the same day a scene from “Juliet and Romeo” at the Bolshoi Theater. She was given the role of Juliet in 2013.

Kida began ballet as a 4-year-old, and won Switzerland's Prix de Lausanne competition for young dancers at age 16 in 2000 while attending high school in Japan. She studied ballet in San Francisco and performed with companies in Canada and other locations before entering the Royal

Swedish Ballet in 2012.

The Benois award was established in 1992 to recognize the world's most accomplished dancers and choreographers each year. Previous winners include French dancer Sylvie Guillem and Swiss dancer and director Maurice Bejart.

Kyodo News

GENERAL

China sentences 55 in Xinjiang mass trial



A Uighur man looks on as a truck carrying paramilitary policemen travel along a street during an anti-terrorism oath-taking rally in Urumqi, Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region on 23 May, 2014.—REUTERS

BEIJING, 28 May — Local officials in China's western Xinjiang region held a public rally for the mass sentencing of criminals on Tuesday, handing out judgements for 55 people and at least three death sentences for crimes such as "violent terrorism", state media said.

The public sentencing, reminiscent of China's revolutionary era rallies, attracted a crowd of 7,000 at a sports stadium in Yining city in the northern prefecture of Yili.

Photos showed packed stadium bleachers and trucks parked on the sports field loaded with prisoners in orange vests being guarded by armed police.

The mass trial follows a similar event last week in the region where 39 people were sentenced to jail on terrorism charges.

China is waging a year-long anti-terrorism operation nationwide after a series of attacks, but has

focused on Xinjiang, home to a large Muslim Uighur minority, following a series of bloody attacks that Beijing blames on Islamists and separatists from the region.

The latest prisoners were sentenced for a range of crimes, including intentional murder, separatism, and leading or participating in terrorism groups, People.cn, the website associated with the ruling Communist Party mouthpiece, the *People's Daily*, said on Tuesday night.

The public sentencing made clear the determination of the ruling Communist Party to strike hard at "violent terrorism, separatism and religious extremism", the prefecture's deputy Party secretary Li Minghui said at the rally.

"[We] must resolutely strike criminals ... and boost the confidence and will to fight for all ethnicities among the masses," Li said.

The public specta-

cle was originally reported by the official *Xinhua* news agency, but links to the story appeared to have been taken down.

China has said five suicide bombers carried out an attack at a morning vegetable market in Xinjiang's capital of Urumqi on Thursday, which killed 39 people and injured 94.

It was the second attack in Urumqi in just over three weeks, after a bomb went off at a train station in late April, killing a bystander and wounding 79.

Beijing says separatist groups in Xinjiang are seeking to form their own state called East Turkestan, though experts dispute the influence and reach of the most prominent group, the East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM).

Exiles and rights groups say the real cause of the unrest is China's repressive policies that put curbs on Islam and the culture of Uighurs, Muslims who speak a Turkic lan-

guage. Uighurs have long complained of official discrimination in favour of the Han, China's majority ethnic group.

Individuals named in the report on the latest sentencing rally all appeared to have Uighur names.

China's leadership has been eager to reassure the public of stability in view of the recent deadly attacks.

Following a knife attack at a train station in the southwest China city of Kunming in March, which the government blamed on militants from Xinjiang, tourist traffic to the region had dropped 40 percent over the same period the previous year, China Radio International quoted Xinjiang's tourism administration chief Yinamu Naisierding, as saying.

He said the government is preparing to offer 500 yuan (\$80.02) travel rewards for tourists, but gave no details.

Reuters

MYANMAR TV
(29-5-2014, Thursday)

- 6:00 am
- 1. Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 6:45 am
- 2. Documentary
- 7:00 am
- 3. News
- 7:20 am
- 4. People Talks
- 8:00 am
- 5. News/ International News
- 8:30 am
- 6. India Drama Series
- 9:00 am
- 7. News/ International News
- 9:30 am
- 8. Shwe Yin Khone Than
- 10:00 am
- 9. News
- 11:15 am
- 10. Sing & Enjoy
- 12:00 pm
- 11. News / International News / Weather Report
- 1:15 pm
- 12. Documentary
- 2:00 pm
- 13. Fine Arts- Bosorn of Dramatic Performance
- 3:00 pm
- 14. News
- 4:20 pm
- 15. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Second Year (Myanmar)
- 5:00 pm
- 16. News
- 5:30 pm
- 17. India Drama Series
- 6:00 pm
- 18. News / Weather Report
- 6:20 pm
- 19. Apporaching Science Discovery World
- 7:00 pm
- 20. News
- 7:20 pm
- 21. TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm
- 22. News/International News/Weather Report
- 8:50 pm
- 23. Hit Songs Of Stars
- 9:00 pm
- 24. News
- 25. Documentary
- 26. CLEVER
- 27. Teleplay

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(29-5-14 07:00am~
30-5-14 07:00am) MST

- * Local News
- * Lawka Nandar Wild-life Sanctuary And Its Rare Star Tortoises
- * World News
- * Sagaing Guitar
- * Local News
- * Gold:King Of All Metals
- * World News
- * Myanmar Harpist
- * Local News
- * Product Of Myanmar - Shin Ma Taung Thanakhar
- * World News
- * A Monk's Robe
- * Local News
- * A Short Trip To Upper Myanmar Sagaing,Kawlin
- * World News
- * Myanmar Master-class Class "Contemporary Art"
- * Local News
- * Product Of Myanmar - Craft Blacksmithing
- * World News
- * Distinguished Myanmar Ladies "Ma Myint Zu"
- * Local News
- * A Day In Bagan
- * World News
- * A Lucky Boy
- * Local News
- * A Diary of a Fisherman
- * World News
- * Writer
- * Local News
- * Travelling In Shan Mountain Ranges(Ya Za Gyi Village)
- * World News
- * A Way of Life: Karatedo

Two hit by car at German team sponsor driving event

BERLIN, 28 May — Two people were taken to hospital after being hit by a car in a driving event staged by team sponsor Mercedes at Germany's pre-World Cup training camp in northern Italy on Tuesday.

Mercedes-Benz Motorsport said in a statement that the car was being driven by German Touring Car (DTM) driver Pascal Wehrlein. "While driving on a closed circuit...Wehrlein injured two people whom he unexpectedly encountered walking on the closed course," it said. No players were injured but it was not imme-

diately clear if any had been in the car at the time of the accident. "We will work in full cooperation with the authorities in determining the exact circumstances of the accident," Mercedes said.

Mercedes Formula One championship leader Nico Rosberg and Wehrlein had earlier held a news conference prior to taking the cars out on track. "I am shocked by the accident. My thoughts are with the two people who were injured and I wish them a fast recovery," Rosberg said on Twitter.

Germany team manager Oliver Bierhoff said the



Germany's national soccer manager Oliver Bierhoff listens during a news conference in St. Leonhard, northern Italy, on 22 May, 2014.—REUTERS

injured were taken to hospital after being treated on the spot. "At the moment all our thoughts are with those injured. We do not have more information at this moment," he said.—Reuters

Sony, JICA to host public screenings of World Cup games in Ivory Coast

TOKYO, 28 May — Sony Corp and the government-linked Japan International Cooperation Agency said on Wednesday they will jointly host public screenings of World Cup soccer games in Ivory Coast, where many people cannot watch television due to the lack of infrastructure.

Ten public viewing events for the World Cup finals in Brazil, including a match between Japan and Ivory Coast on June 14, are planned to be held at five locations in three

cities including the largest city Abidjan as well as the capital Yamoussoukro, they said.

Sony will provide the equipment to screen the matches on high-definition 200-inch screens, aiming to enhance its brand recognition and generate local interest in its products.

It will also provide its own power supply system for venues without electricity.

In addition to screening the Ivory Coast's live and recorded games from this year's World Cup,

the team's major games from the past will also be shown, Sony and JICA said.

They hope to attract audiences of about 8,000, mainly children and young people.

Ivory Coast has been undergoing reconstruction after struggling with social and economic turmoil since the 1990s, and soccer has been a source of hope that has enabled people to envisage peace and reintegration, according to JICA.

Kyodo News

Li Na stunned in first round of French Open

PARIS, 28 May — Second seed Li Na followed the footstep of Stan Wawrinka to crash out of the French Open as she lost to France's Kristina Mladenovic 7-5, 3-6, 6-1 in the first round on Tuesday.

Paris has turned out to be a less than hospitable to those two winners of early exit came less than 24 hours after Wawrinka bowed out to Guillermo

Li seemed unsure about her game to commit a total of 37 unforced errors. "No matter whom I played today, I would always lose the match," said the Chinese player. "I lost to myself and it had nothing to do with technique. Something was inside myself, I have no idea what it is."

Mladenovic, the 2009 French Open junior champion who is ranked No. 103, broke Li three times in the first set and twice in the deciding set.

Despite bouts of visible and audible frustration in the first two sets, Mladenovic calmed herself down in the third, taking advantage of Li's downward spiral.

Li hit just five winners to 15 unforced errors in the final set, while Mladenovic cleaned up her game to hit five winners and five unforced errors.

Li said she felt ill at ease on clay court despite the fact that she won the title here in 2011. "When the clay season began, I have not been as confident as seemed to be. From what I felt from inside, I don't have that much confidence," she said.

Mladenovic next plays American Alison Riske, who defeated Mirjana Lucic-Baroni 7-6 (7-2), 6-3.—Xinhua

this year's Australian Open. Li's Garcia-Lopez.

errors to lose the match. Chinese player. missing



Li Na of China serves during the Women's Singles first round match against Kristina Mladenovic of France on day 3 of the French Open at Roland Garros in Paris on on 27 May, 2014. Li lost 1-2. —XINHUA

Real and Atletico face UEFA charges over European final



Atletico Madrid's coach Diego Simeone (C) walks off the pitch after losing to Real Madrid in their Champions League final soccer match at Luz stadium in Lisbon, May 24, 2014 file photo.—REUTERS

NYON (Switzerland), 28 May — Real Madrid and Atletico Madrid are facing disciplinary action over their behaviour during the Champions League final in Lisbon, UEFA said on Tuesday. Atletico coach Diego Simeone

faces a hearing after he ran on to the pitch and was sent off by the referee near the end of extra time, the European governing body said in a statement. Real midfielder Xabi Alonso, who could not play in the match because

of suspension, has been charged with breaching general principles of conduct, UEFA added. Simeone said he had been angry because Real's France defender Raphael Varane flicked the ball at him but the Argentine conceded he should not have acted as he did. "At that point it was pointless for the player to create that situation," said Simeone.

Alonso's charge is understood to relate to his conduct at the edge of the pitch. Both teams also face charges of "improper conduct of the team" after receiving five or more yellow cards each

during Real's 4-1 win, while fans set off fireworks at the Stadium of Light. UEFA said the disciplinary panel would hear the case on 17 July.

Reuters



Kristina Mladenovic of France celebrates during the Women's Singles first round match against Li Na of China on day 3 of the French Open at Roland Garros in Paris on 27 May, 2014. Li lost 1-2.—XINHUA

Japan, France, US all win as World Cup looms

LONDON, 28 May — France, Japan and United States recorded solid victories on Tuesday as the finalists continued their preparations with the start of the World Cup just over two weeks away.

France 4-0 Norway (Paris)

France winger Mathieu Valbuena was in a class of his own as he set up three goals in a 4-0 victory at home to Norway to help his side start their World Cup warm-up games in style.

Valbuena excelled in a one-sided encounter, providing perfect crosses for Paul Pogba and Olivier Giroud, who netted twice, to get on the scoresheet along with substitute Loic Remy.

"Scoring four goals is never easy at international level, it's good for our confidence," France coach Didier Deschamps told TF1.

— US 2-0 Azerbaijan (San Francisco)

The United States got



Graham Zusi (R) of the US drives the ball as Azerbaijan's Gara Garayev defends during an international friendly soccer match in San Francisco, California on 27 May, 2014.—REUTERS

their World Cup preparations off to a positive start with a comfortable 2-0 friendly win over a well-disciplined Azerbaijan at Candlestick Park in San Francisco on Tuesday.

Substitute Mix Disk-

erud pounced to drive home from close range in the 75th minute before Aron Johannsson headed a second eight minutes later.

Juergen Klinsmann suffered a blow shortly before kick-off when Clint

Dempsey was withdrawn with a 'sore groin' but the German told ESPN that the forward should recover from his injury in a few days.

— Japan 1-0 Cyprus (Saitama)

Fullback Atsuto Uchida slotted the only goal as a dominant Japan grabbed a 1-0 victory over Cyprus in a largely uninspiring World Cup send off in front of 59,000 fans.

The Schalke 04 defender, on his return to the Japan side after a thigh injury curtailed his season in Germany, drove home at the second attempt two minutes before halftime after his initial effort was blocked.

Shinji Kagawa, Yoichi Kakitani and Keisuke Honda went close to adding to the lead for the Japanese, who dominated possession and were rarely tested in defence.

"I think the team did okay. We had a physically hard training camp in Ibusuki so there was not so much sharpness, but our decision making was good," Japan coach Alberto Zaccheroni told reporters.

Reuters

Milan to sack Seedorf, hire Inzaghi as coach

MILAN, 28 May — AC Milan are set to fire coach Clarence Seedorf and replace him with youth team coach Filippo Inzaghi, Italian media said on Tuesday.

Seedorf is only four months into a two-and-a-half year contract and has overseen a considerable improvement in results, but rumours about the Dutchman's future have been rife for several weeks.

Club president Silvio Berlusconi met chief ex-



AC Milan's coach Clarence Seedorf gestures during their Italian Serie A soccer match against Atalanta at Atleti Azzurri d'Italia stadium in Bergamo on 11 May, 2014.—REUTERS

ecutive Adriano Galliani to discuss the move at the former's villa in Arcore, around 20 kilometres outside Milan, late on Monday night, media reported.

Italy's three sports papers, Gazzetta dello Sport, Corriere dello Sport and Tuttosport, all carried similar reports, which were un-sourced. Seedorf, 38, who spent 10 years of his playing career at Milan, took over at the end of January to replace Massimiliano Allegri, who was fired after two-and-a-half years in charge. —Reuters