

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw representatives attend 43rd day session—MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continues for 43rd day session

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—At the 43rd day session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on Monday, the Hluttaw put the visits of Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and party to the People's Republic of China and the United States of America, the visit of Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa and party to Malaysia and Pyithu Hluttaw MP U Maung Toe and party to

Vietnam on record.

The joint bill committee explained its findings and remarks on the health-care for control of population rate bill and the Myanmar nurse and midwifery council bill sent back by the President with remarks.

The Hluttaw approved a report of the Public Accounts Committee over the actual accounts for 2013-14 fiscal year.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw

No free transportation for voters, says UEC



Deputy Minister for Finance Dr Lin Aung.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May — The government will not make any transport arrangements for voters in the upcoming general elections, even in remote areas, said Union Election Commission member U Win Ko to Pyithu Hluttaw on Monday.

In response to a query from Htantabin Township MP U Thein Yi, the UEC member told the Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House)



Union Election Commission member U Win Ko.—MNA

that such facilitation by any political party or electoral representative is tantamount to a breach of the electoral law.

U Win Ko also said polling stations will open in remote areas in accordance with the law, following consultation with sub-commissions on the appropriate number of polling stations for each township.

He then noted voter education will be conduct-

ed by media, election commissions in constituencies, political parties and civil service organizations.

Regarding the benefits of switching from the National Single Window to the ASEAN Single Window, Dr Lin Aung, the deputy minister for finance, said the system could reduce the time and cost involved in foreign trade by streamlining customs processes and improving management of trade departments.

The deputy minister added that Myanmar is setting up the Automated Custom Clearance System and information system with financial assistance of the Japanese government to replace the existing manual system and the Myanmar e-custom system.

U Khin Maung Nyo also read out the report on Television and Broadcasting Bill with amendments transferred by the Amyotha Hluttaw.—MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw

Amyotha Hluttaw session addresses remote area hospitals, rural development



Deputy Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Tin Ngwe.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May — The Department of Medical Care has a plan to provide ambulances to township-level people's hospitals in fiscal 2015-2016, but not to station hospitals in remote areas at this stage, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Daw Thein Thein Htay told the Amyotha Hluttaw on Monday.



Deputy Minister for Health Dr Daw Thein Thein Htay.

MNA

The deputy minister made the admission during the 45th day session of the Upper House after U Hla Swe, MP of Magway Region Constituency No 12, asked whether the department under the Ministry of Health planned to provide ambulances, drivers and fuel to station hospitals in remote areas for transport of emergency patients.



MP of Magway Region Constituency No 12 U Hla Swe.

MNA

U Soe Aung of Mandalay Region Constituency No 11 asked for a plan to repair Thapaya Lake near Thanpayakan Village in Mahlaing Township. Deputy Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Tin Ngwe told the Upper House that the ministry has no plan to immediately dredge the earthen lake to store rainwater but undertakes rural development tasks as a priority.

The Hluttaw approved the amendment of the Pyithu Hluttaw over the bill on rights for people with disabilities.

Member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee U Tin Yu submitted a report of the committee to the Hluttaw to enable MPs to discuss the Myanmar Buddhist Women's Special Marriage Bill sent back by the Pyithu Hluttaw with amendments.

MNA

Increased focus on human ...

(from page 1)

Report published by the United States under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act. The report places countries in four tiers, with Tier 1 including those which fully comply with the State Department's anti-trafficking standards, and Tier 3 including nations which are least compliant.

"The body could expose more cases in 2014," said Police Captain Min Naing. "We therefore expect to list as Tier 3 in the next report that will be released in June this year."

Forced labour and sexual exploitation are serious international crimes. Myanmar women have been victims in human trafficking cases in which they were destined to China for forced marriages.

GNLM

Union Energy Minister visits operation of plants

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—Union Minister for Energy U Zeyar Aung viewed the running of Reformer Plant that produce advanced petroleum at Group of Petrochemical Plants in Thapayakan, Magway Region, on 9 May.

The union minister inspected maintenance of earthen walls along the Southeast Asian oil and gas

pipeline in parallel with Minbu-An road section linking Ngaphe and An townships, with instructions to grow trees for strengthening the earthen walls and take security measures.

He visited Hsingontaing oil pump station of Southeast Asian oil pipeline and heard reports on appointment of workers and

security measures.

At Mann oil field in Minbu Township on 10 May, the union minister reviewed the reports of oil field manager over environmental conservation and socio-economic support for local residents. While in Minbu, the union minister viewed the regular running of Liquefied Natural Gas Plant.—MNA

NATIONAL

President U Thein Sein . . .

(from page 1)

The president said border townships near the bridge will see progress in the near future, and the appropriate ministries must prepare for infrastructural projects in the Pasho-Kenglak area in Tachilek Township.

He also urged the government officials to draw a town plan for Kenglak as soon as possible, without damaging cultivated lands and farms.

U Thein Sein added that the infrastructural plan should include building of hotels, schools, markets, hospitals and telecommunication networks, as well

as the upgrading of the Kengtung-Tachilek motorway, a small airfield and jetties near the bridge.

He emphasized the formation of a joint-committee by the ministries for construction of dams and reservoirs for multiple cultivation and electricity generation projects for the area to meet the needs of its increasing population.—MNA

President U Thein Sein addresses meeting on infrastructure development plans to be implemented near Myanmar-Lao Border.

MNA



Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham inspects regional development tasks in Pathein



NAY PYI TAW, 11 May — Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, together with union ministers and deputy ministers, left Nay Pyi Taw for Pathein in Ayeyawady Region on Monday morning.

The vice president and party inspected Pathein General Hospital and greeted patients warmly before meeting with doctors and health staff at the hospital.

At the meeting, med-

Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham comforts patients at Pathein General Hospital.—MNA

ical superintendent of the hospital Dr Tin Maung Nyunt reported to the vice president on treatment of patients, with Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung addressing the needs of the hospital.

Afterwards, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint reported to the vice president on arrangements to be made for the hospital by the ministry.

After the meeting, the vice president greeted hospital staff.

In the afternoon, the vice president and party visited a garment factory of Hakers Enterprise (Myanmar) and observed the production process.

The vice president and party later attended a ceremony to explain regional development tasks held at a garment factory of Delta Industrial Group.

The chief minister of the region reported to the vice president on transportation, electricity supply, greening works and future tasks.

Company officials later reported to the vice president on the Platinum Pathein Housing Project, Industrial City Project and Mya Kyuntha Housing Projects.

In his concluding remarks, the vice president said it was encouraging to see development tasks in Pathein and pointed out the need to develop infrastructure for the long term, and to promote tourism for the short term, before adding that the town will become developed if the projects are successfully implemented.

MNA

Vice President, Chinese State Councillor talks to cement bilateral ties

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May — Vice President U Nyan Tun and Chinese State Councillor and Secretary General of the State Council Mr Yang Jing of the People's Republic of China held discussions on Monday to promote bilateral ties between the two countries.

The meeting at the Shwe San Ein Hotel focused on promotion of strategic cooperation between the two countries, the visits of senior government offi-

cials, trade, energy, oil and gas, supports of PR China for development programmes in Myanmar and sustaining non-intervention policy on sovereignty and internal affairs.

Also present on the occasion were union ministers, deputy ministers and the Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar.

The vice president hosted a special dinner to Chinese delegation at the same venue.

MNA

Vice President U Nyan Tun cordially shakes hands with Chinese State Councillor and Secretary General of the State Council Mr Yang Jing.

MNA



Nyaungbingyisu Bridge under construction in Ingapu Tsp

INGAPU, 11 May — Township Administrator U Hlwan Moe Han and township level officials inspected progress of the Nyaungbingyisu Bridge in Kwinkauk region, Ingapu Township, Ayeyawady Region, on 2 May.

Shwe Dana Oo Construction Company is building a 70-foot-long bridge with K34.2 million from the Township Department of Rural Development.

Upon completion, the bridge will benefit rural development tasks for more than 8,100 people from 14 villages and contribute to swift transportation of commodities including rice, beans and pulses to other regions.—*Township DRD*



Township authorities honour outstanding students in Kyangin

KYANGIN, 11 May — A ceremony to honour outstanding students for 2015 was held at AyeyaU hall in Kyangin, Ayeyawady Region, on 9 May.

Township Administrator U Phyo Min Htaik and Township Education Officer U Thein Win praised the students for their efforts.

Officials presented prizes and gifts to the out-

standing students. Matriculation student Ma Yun Mie Mie Htet spoke words of thanks.

Matriculation student Ma Yun Mie Mie Htet, 10th grader Ma Htet Eindra Lin

and ninth graders Maung Wai Yan Phyo Oo and Ma Aye Khant Kyaw emerged as outstanding students in Kyangin Township in 2015.

Ma Thu (IPRD)

Tax talks focus on legal amendments, penalties



MANDALAY, 11 May — A talk on tax regulations, enforcement and legal amendments took place at the city hall in Mandalay on 8 May, with the deputy speaker of Mandalay Region, the chairman of Mandalay Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry and members of the business community in attendance.

Mandalay Region

Minister for Finance Dr Myint Kyu and head of Region Internal Revenue Department U Than Zaw Win gave talks, with the latter covering several aspects of taxation law,

as well as the tax hike on cigarettes, beer and ingredients in betel quid, and penalties for failure to stamp tax vouchers.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Well-wishers donate cash and kind to fire victims

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May — Pyinmana Township Administrator U Myo Naing, Chairperson of Township Women's Affairs Organization and well-wishers donated cash and kind for fire victims in Ywakauk Ward, Pyinmana Township, on 10 May evening.

Relief and Resettlement Department provided mosquito nets, T-shirts, towels, sarongs, blankets, soaps and kitchen utensils to the households of victims. Local people donated K3.5 million, bags of rice and foodstuffs to the fire victims.—*Zaw Myo Naing*



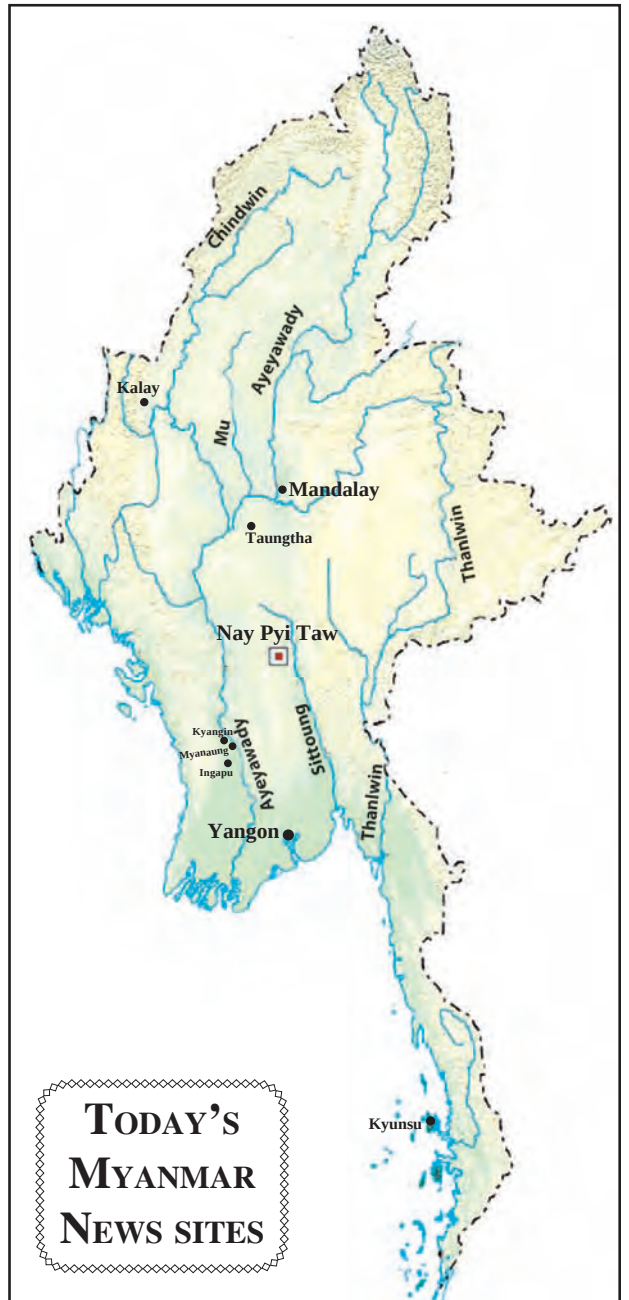
Information and Public Relations Dept staff begin training course

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May — Information and Public Relations Department staff began a training course Monday aimed at improving their office work skills.

Department Director-General U Ye Tint addressed the 31 trainees from district and township offices who will undertake the course until 5 June.

The opening ceremony of the course was attended by Deputy Director-General U Maung Pe, Director (Admin) U Aye Kywe and officials.

Tun Tun Win (IPRD)



Storm victims receive assistance for reconstruction of houses

TAUNGTHA, 11 May — Concerned residents and local authorities have donated cash and building materials to people whose homes were damaged in a storm that struck Taungtha Township, Mandalay Region, on 7 May.

The storm damaged monasteries, one basic ed-

ucation primary school and 14 houses in Kywehsin, Kanywa, Nyaunghan and Kyaukkataungkon villages.

Well-wishers and the Township General Administration Department donated corrugated iron sheets and cash to the victims on May 8.

Okawthan (Taungtha)

LOCAL NEWS

Salon ethnics in Kyunsu Township receive health and education assistance



KYUNSU, 11 May—Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin, Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Myat Ko and ministers visited Donpaleaw Village in Kyunsu Township, Taninthayi Region, on 10 May. They observed the

lifestyle of Salon ethnics in the village and made plans to improve health and education facilities.

Officials performed medical checkups and pro-

vided medicine, notebooks, clothes, foodstuffs and household goods to residents.

Kyunsu (IPRD)

Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee provides assistance to youth training school

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—The Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee donated food and cooking ingredients to the Philanthropic Youth Development School on Sama Hill for the 37th time on 10 May.

Head of Public Relations and Information Department U Win Naing of the committee and officials handed over donations to the school.

The committee has donated 50 bags of rice, 30 viss of cooking oil, 50 viss of chickpeas and 30 viss of salt to the school every

month as of May 2012.

The school located four miles from Thawutti in Lewe Township houses more than 400 orphans. The committee donated K20.035 million for education costs and school uniforms for the students and K30 million to the fund on 9 June, 2011. The committee also donated on 2 December, 2012, K79.94 million for a three-storey building, one kitchen worth K63.5 million, and tables and chairs worth K2.97 million.

Kyemon (107)



Election sub-commission launches course for members



MYANAUNG, 11 May—The Myanaung Township Election Sub-commission ran a training course for its members at the Basic Education High School on Monday.

Altogether 250 trainees from 35 ward and village sub-commissions attended the course.

The township sub-commission is scheduled to open more courses

at Inbin BEHS for trainees from 19 village-tracts on 13 May and those from 15 village-tracts at Shwekyin BEHS on 14 May.

Win Bo (Township IPRD)

Concrete bridge under construction in Kalay Tsp

KALAY, 11 May—A reinforced concrete bridge is under construction on Cikon-Kalay Road in Kalay, Sagaing Region.

Public Works is building the new bridge, which accommodates a 44-foot-wide motorway, using

K65 million from the fiscal 2014-15 special maintenance fund.

The bridge, which will cross Upok Creek, will improve access for larger vehicles.

Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha

Aye has given instructions for the road to be completed as soon as possible. Chairman of Kalay District Management Committee U Maung Htoo inspected progress of construction tasks on 8 May.

Joe Net

New mall targets tourist market

MANDALAY, 11 May—Operators of the Mandalay Yatanar Mall are making preparations to open the new shopping centre aimed at showcasing Myanmar-made jewellery, silk products and handicrafts to the tourist market.

The mall, on the second floor of Yadanabon Super Centre at the corner of 78th and 34th streets in Chanayethazan Township, will include 389 shops to showcase gold and gemstones, Myanmar handicrafts, silk, and mosaic paintings.

The mall, slated to open on 1 April, 2016, will



include banks and money changers. Shop premises will be sold through installment as of the second week of May, 2015. Those wish-

ing to operate stores at the mall should contact the operators on 09-5045777 and 09-259288886.—Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



China's CRCC agrees railway, port projects in Russia



SHANGHAI, 11 May — A China Railway Construction Corp Ltd (CRCC) unit has signed a memorandum of understanding to build rail and port projects in Russia, the firm said in a stock exchange statement on Monday.

The agreement was one of a series signed between China and Russia on the sidelines of a visit by

Chinese President Xi Jinping to Moscow to mark the anniversary of the end of World War Two in Europe.

China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC) said it had agreed with Russian firm Tuva Energy Industrial Corporation LLC (TEIC) to consult on and help source funds from Chinese institutions for projects including a 410 km (255 miles) track across the central southern part of Russia from Elez to Kuragin.

The other projects comprise a railway line connecting the Tuvan Republic, in the same area of

Russia, to western China, and a port project in eastern Russia.

CCECC said the firms would sign a contract for general contracting once the projects obtained financing. It did not say what the deals were worth.

Last week, Russian Transport Minister Maxim Sokolov said the countries would invest 1 trillion roubles (13 billion pounds) in a rail link between Moscow and the Russian city of Kazan to be completed by 2020. Putin said the level of Chinese investment would be around 300 billion roubles.

Reuters

Russian President Vladimir Putin (R) and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping (L) speak at a reception hosted by Putin in Moscow, Russia, on 9 May, 2015.—REUTERS

Japan's ruling bloc formally approves new security legislation

TOKYO, 11 May — Japan's ruling coalition gave formal approval on Monday to a series of security-linked bills that will expand the scope of operations by the Self-Defence Forces, setting the stage for Cabinet approval and submission of the bills to parliament.

After months of negotiations, the Liberal Democratic Party and its junior coalition partner, the Komeito party, agreed on the content and wording of the security bills that will enable Japan to exercise the right to collective self-defence, lawmakers said.

With Monday's accord paving the way for one of the most drastic changes to Japan's postwar security policy, the Cabinet of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will give final approval at an extraordinary meeting on Thursday. Abe is also set to give a press conference on Thursday to explain the government's decision.

The ruling parties are seeking to set up a special panel in the House of Representatives to deliberate the bills from later this month, shifting the stage to Diet debate with the opposition camp.

"Upon approval by the ruling parties, a Cabinet decision will be made quickly and (the bills) submitted

to the Diet," Abe said at a meeting with the ruling parties before coalition lawmakers met later Monday afternoon to formally agree on the proposed legislation.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told reporters separately that the government plans to submit the bills to parliament by the middle of this month.

If passed, the new legislation will expand the scope of overseas SDF operations, putting into effect a landmark Cabinet decision last July that reinterprets the Constitution to allow Japan to exercise the right to collective self-defence, or coming to the aid of allies under armed attack even if Japan itself is not attacked.

Ahead of such efforts to give a legal basis to a greater global role for the SDF, Japan and the United States revised their defence cooperation guidelines last month for the first time in 18 years. The guidelines reflected the ideas in the security-linked bills. The legislative work includes amending 10 existing security-linked bills, including laws on the SDF, responding to armed attacks, and dealing with contingencies "in areas surrounding Japan." Another pillar is developing a law for the

dispatch of SDF troops in a timely and speedy manner to provide logistical support for foreign troops.

Until now, Japan has enacted time-limited, case-specific laws for overseas missions, such as refueling missions to support US-led antiterrorism operations in and around Afghanistan, and humanitarian and reconstruction efforts in Iraq. The new law on "international peace assistance" now allows for the dispatch of SDF personnel whenever necessary. Under the envisaged revision to the law concerning Japan's response to armed attacks, Japan can use the right to collective self-defence if there is a "clear danger" to Japan's existence due to an armed attack on a country with which it has close ties.

In revising the law to deal with contingencies "in areas surrounding Japan," which was enacted to prepare for contingencies on the Korean Peninsula, the SDF will no longer be bound by geographical constraints and can cooperate with US and other foreign troops in situations that "significantly influence Japan's peace and security."

During Thursday's meeting, the Cabinet will also give approval for the swift dispatch of the SDF



Photo taken on 11 May, 2015, shows Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga attending a press conference at the prime minister's office in Tokyo.

KYODO NEWS

to "gray zone" incidents, which stop short of military attacks on Japan, such as an armed group disguised as fishermen taking control of a remote Japanese island.

The LDP and Komeito resumed talks in February to narrow their differences over loosening the legal constraints on the SDF.

Wary of expanding the SDF's role on the global stage, Komeito had pushed to keep the SDF's operations abroad in check. Last month, the LDP and Komeito agreed that sending the SDF overseas to provide logistical support needs Diet approval "without exceptions."

Kyodo News

Strong typhoon lashes northeast Philippines, two dead

MANILA, 11 May — Heavy rains and strong winds flattened houses on coastal areas as typhoon Noul crashed into the northeastern tip of the Philippines, killing two people and prompting more than 3,000 residents to move to shelters.

The typhoon weakened slightly after hitting land, with winds of 160 kph (99 mph) near the centre and gusts of up to 195 kph (121 mph) as of Monday. It is expected to move north at 19 kph and head to southern Japan by Tuesday, the weather bureau said. British-based Tropical Storm Risk downgraded Noul on Monday to category four typhoon from category five.

Noul made landfall on Sunday in the rice- and corn-producing province of Cagayan about 400 km (250 miles) north of the capital, Manila, toppling trees and cutting power in wide areas of the province. It is now hovering 185 km north of the town of Aparri in Cagayan.

"The typhoon has moved away, but our problem so far is how to fix what was destroyed. The small houses of our poor townmates in coastal areas were badly hit," Darwin Tobias, mayor of Santa Ana town in Cagayan, said in a radio interview.

The national disaster

agency said two men died from electrocution as they were strapping down a tin roof on a house during the height of the typhoon in Aparri.

More than 3,400 residents from Cagayan and Isabela provinces were moved to evacuation centres in schools, gymnasiums and town halls before the typhoon, officials said.

Tobias said some residents from his town started returning to their homes early on Monday when the rains stopped.

Despite the destruction wrought by Noul, it also brought much needed rains to rice and corn farms that had been hit by intense summer heat.

"The rains brought by Dodong (local name of Noul) helped our farmers greatly," said James Geronimo, public information officer of Isabela, the country's top corn producer and the second biggest rice-growing province.

An average of 20 typhoons cross the Philippines annually, with the storms becoming fiercer in recent years. More than 8,000 people died or went missing and about a million were made homeless by Haiyan, another category 5 typhoon that struck the central Philippines in 2013, bringing 5-metre high storm surges.

Reuters

SINGAPORE PRESS-Call to expand joint patrols in piracy hot spots — Straits Times

SINGAPORE, 11 May — After keeping pirates at bay in the Malacca Strait, Singapore and its neighbours want to expand their joint patrols in new piracy hot spots in the South China Sea, the *Straits Times* reported. Chief of Navy Lai Chung Han was in talks with his counterparts in the littoral states, such as Malaysia and Indonesia, to carry out joint patrols in

the southern reaches of the South China Sea. The area and the Phillip Channel, which is 16 km south of Singapore, were places highlighted by Rear-Admiral Lai as new piracy hot spots. Pirates attack one small coastal oil tanker every two weeks in the waters off South-east Asia, the reported said, citing International Maritime Bureau.—Reuters

Japanese, S Korean lawmakers meet in Seoul

SEOUL, 11 May — Senior Japanese and South Korean lawmakers met on Monday in Seoul to discuss the agenda and schedule of a future meeting of the two countries' parliamentary

groups promoting bilateral ties.

Takeo Kawamura, secretary general of the non-partisan Japan-Korea Parliamentarians' Union, said at the outset of the talks,

"(Japanese) Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's thought of adhering to the opinions of past prime ministers and wanting to advance Japan-South Korea relations is unwavering."

Kang Chang Il, Kawamura's counterpart in the South Korean lawmakers' group, said, "We hope to aim carefully toward the prosperity of both Korea and Japan."

The meeting of the two groups' executives, held at a Seoul hotel, is also expected to cover the issue of Japan's proposal for the listing of the "Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution" as a UNESCO World Heritage, which South Korea is opposing, with Kawamura planning to explain Japan's position.

Seoul has expressed opposition, saying seven of the facilities included in the proposal involved the use of a total of 57,900 conscripted Korean labourers in violation of their human rights.

On this issue, the Japanese and South Korean governments are scheduled to hold talks between their officials in Tokyo on 22 May.—Kyodo News

Bureau: No indications conflicts will spill over to Serbia



BELGRADE, 11 May — The current security situation in Serbia is satisfactory and there are no indications that the conflicts in the territory of Macedonia will spill over to Serbia in the coming period, it was concluded at a session of the Security Service Coordination Bureau.

The Bureau suggested to the Serbian government to form a special body that will coordinate the action of all security structures and forces, and to the Serbian president to pass a decision so that the units of the Serbian Army could be adequately deployed in the territory of Serbia's southern municipalities in the border area with Macedonia.

The session was chaired by Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic. "The current situation in Serbia is satisfactory and there are no indications that the conflicts in the territory of Macedonia will spill over to Serbia in the coming period. All security structures have taken measures to prevent this from happening," Military Security Agency Director Petar Cvetkovic said.

Police Director Milorad Veljovic said that the current situation is stable and that the police in cooperation with the security services are in full control of the situation in the zone of Serbia's southern municipalities.—Tanjug



Senior Japanese and South Korean lawmakers meet in Seoul on 11 May, 2015, to discuss the agenda and schedule of a future meeting of the two countries' parliamentary groups promoting bilateral ties. Takeo Kawamura (far R), secretary general of the nonpartisan Japan-Korea Parliamentarians' Union, said, "(Japanese) Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's thought of adhering to the opinions of past prime ministers and wanting to advance Japan-South Korea relations is unwavering."—KYODO NEWS

South Korea expresses concern over North's submarine missile test

SEOUL, 11 May — North Korea's recent test-firing of a ballistic missile from a submarine was "very serious and concerning", South Korea said on Monday, with one defence official suggesting Pyongyang could have a fully operational platform in two or three years.

Pyongyang's official KCNA news agency said on Saturday North Korea's leader, Kim Jong Un, oversaw the test-launch of the missile from an offshore location. Such a development could pose a new threat to the isolated country's neighbours and the United States.

"We urge North Korea to immediately stop developing SLBMs (submarine-launched ballistic missiles), which hinder the stability of the Korean peninsula and Northeast Asia," Kim Min-seok, spokesman for South Korea's defence ministry, told reporters on Monday.

He said North Korea still needed time to develop additional equipment in order to make its submarine-launched missile system fully operational.

However, a South Korean

defence official said separately that North Korea could develop a fully operational submarine with ballistic missiles within two or three years.

The official, who asked not to be identified because of the sensitivity of the issue, said photographs from North Korea showing a rocket launched from the sea appeared to be authentic.

North Korea's state media often boasts of successful military and space accomplishments, including the launch of a functional communications satellite, which are not independently verified by outside experts.

It is believed to have launched a long-range rocket and put an object into orbit in December 2012, defying scepticism and international warnings not to pursue such a programme, which could be used to develop inter-continental missiles.—Reuters

North Korea can develop missile-equipped submarines in 2-3 years

SEOUL, 11 May — North Korea could build a fully operational submarine equipped with ballis-



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un watches the test-fire of a strategic submarine underwater ballistic missile (not pictured), in this undated photo released by North Korea's Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) in Pyongyang on 9 May, 2015.

REUTERS

tic missiles within two or three years, a South Korean defence official said on Monday.

The official, who requested anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter, said photos of North Korea's test of a submarine-launched ballistic missile appeared authentic.

North Korea said on Saturday it had successfully test-fired a ballistic missile from a submarine. Such a development, if verified, would mark a significant new technological achievement for Pyongyang.

Reuters

Iran obtains 15 civilian aircraft in boost to ageing fleet

DUBAI, 11 May — Iran has bought 15 second-hand civilian aircraft in the last three months, the transport minister said in published remarks, bolstering an ageing fleet hit by US sanctions that restrict trade of aircraft and parts.

ISNA news agency on Sunday quoted Abbas Akhoondi as saying nine of the planes had been obtained in the past week, without specifying who had sold them or how they had been bought.

"With the arrival of these new aircraft, the average age of the active planes in Iran has fallen from 20 years to 19 years," Akhoondi was quoted as saying. The report did not identify the type of aircraft purchased. A long-standing ban on the sales of spare parts was eased under an interim nuclear deal between Iran and world powers in late 2013, but the US sanctions regime still restricts sales of aircraft.

Iranian airlines have suffered several fatal crashes in recent years due to mechanical failures. Thirty-nine people were killed in August last year when a locally-built plane of Ukrainian design crashed after taking off from Teheran.

Akhoondi said the ongoing nuclear negotiations, and the potential lifting of sanctions if a deal is reached next month, might allow Iran to negotiate directly with manufacturers to purchase high-quality aircraft.—Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 12 May, 2015

Proper tax collection benefits government and people

By Myint Win Thein

With the government increasingly reliant on taxes collected from businesses and individuals, the Internal Revenue Department, which is responsible for assessing and collecting taxes, plays a more important role than ever.

It is important for the department to collect taxes properly since correct use of this revenue will benefit both the country and taxpayers. However, its aim should not be to merely maximize revenue but to also allow taxpayers to enjoy their legitimate entitlements such as tax exemptions for some categories of business and people of various walks of life.

It is therefore essential for the department to educate taxpayers about its procedures. In this light, it should provide training to financial officers in companies and businesses who have to withdraw tax payments from the salaries of employees and declare income and profit to the department.

In addition, the department should also occa-

sionally provide financial officials with checklists, instructions and advice for withdrawing taxes from salaries. Although it is true that a new tax system cannot be implemented overnight, systematic steps should be taken for systematic collection of taxes in the near future.

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Victorious Living

By Kyi Mun

"I make my living by what I get, and I make my life by what I give".

- Winston Churchill

"We should live and move and have our being in vitality, virility, valor, vision and values."

- Anonymous

"Victorious living certainly requires discipline, diligence, daring, devotion and dedication."

- Anonymous

James Bond said: "We only live twice". Twice, in my opinion, means we have lived up to now the old life, and we intend to live the new life from now on for the whole future.

Our Strategy for Living Should be Victorious Living.

Please let's explore the meanings of living victoriously in the following manner:

V for **Vision & Values**
I for **Integrity**
C for **Commitment**
T for **Trust**
O for **Objective**
R for **Resources**
I for **Insight**
O for **Opportunities**
U for **Unique Strengths**
S for **Strategy**

L for **Love & Service**
I for **Initiative**
V for **Vitality**
I for **Inspiring**
N for **Networking**
G for **Going All-out in Serving Others**

VISION & VALUES

Vision means what we desire and will strongly and clearly to become in the future. Vision is a mental picture for shaping our future life. Or, Vision is creating the essential ingredients of a better life in the future. Conceiving, believing and achieving the ascending future caliber of our life is our vision.

Values are the qualities of life that we hold high in our esteem and that we passionately cherish as the ideal aspects of our life, such as honesty, honour, health, happiness and harmony.

INTEGRITY

Integrity means honesty, uprightness, probity, strait-forwardness, dignity, honour, truthfulness, etc. of our character. Without integrity, our life will surely be hollow without any core values.

COMMITMENT

Everyone has good intentions to do good for oneself as well as for others. It is said that : "the road to hell is paved with good intentions". So, we should walk the talk. We had better be committed to executing our intentions, expectations, plans and dreams, without fail.

TRUST

Family, team, organization, the whole nation, etc. are built and cemented on trust. Without trust, there can be no friendship, association, society, party, etc. But, to build trust, we have got to be trustworthy based upon character and competence, at the least, always bearing win-win relationship in mind.

OBJECTIVE

Your objective is your goal. Every undertaking must have an aim and object. Just as every journey has a definite final destination, port or station, we should also have our objective in our business, career or any other plan of action.

RESOURCES

Man, in order to carry out his/her mission, must have the appropriate ways and means such as money, members of the team or organization, material, machine, method, etc. In an organization, the essential resources will be in the forms of human resource, financial resource, technological resource, material resource and information resource.

INSIGHT

Insight means in-depth ideas. You have insight if you can penetrate the form and see the content. If you are able to see the big picture and far into the future with various relevant scenarios in-between, you are said to be endowed with strategic insight. Insight means the power of seeing through and through the various layers of outer cover of forms and colours.

OPPORTUNITIES

Every human being has some hopes and expectations. If you have a certain passion or desire, you had better find the means of translating that craving or want into reality. To make things happen and to get the desired results, you have got: "to strive, to seek, to find and not to yield!" until you get the coveted desire or passion satisfactorily fulfilled. Napoleon Bonaparte said: "I don't seek opportunities; I create them!"

UNIQUE STRENGTHS

Hercules had very unique strengths, both physically and spiritually. Buddha, Christ, Mohammed, Lao Tzu, Confucius, Ramakrishna, etc., have tremendous, unique strengths of mind, heart and soul. Mighty Pens such as the pens of Tagore and Shakespeare and Tolstoy had colossal, unique strength, and the swords of the historical heroes such as the samurais had awesome, unique strengths. You can also possess certain unique strengths. Find them, nurture them, cultivate them and develop them!

STRATEGY

Strategy is the MEANS; Goal is the END. Strategy is the definite PLAN OF ACTION TO IMPLEMENT SOME POLICY OBJECTIVE. "Strategy is: HOW TO GET & objective is WHAT YOU WANT".

LOVE & SERVICE

To live victoriously, the fundamental ingredients of gloriously living a life is: LOVE & SERVICE. No man can live alone and for himself alone. A person has got to live among the people, with the people, through the people, by the people and, of course, for the people. All people have to live and move and have their being interdependently. So, to build and forge and cement human relationships, love and service is imperative. Love and service must thrive both ways, giving and receiving. But it is in giving that we receive!

INITIATIVE

In living, moving and having our being, superior people and people of high principle and caliber must be active, dynamic, proactive, progressive and creative. In living victoriously, we have got to constantly exercise the two fundamental factors of success, vig. INITIATIVE AND RESOURCEFULNESS.

VITALITY

Vitality means energy, strength and endurance. To live gloriously and victoriously, we have got to live and move and have our being in vigour, virility, fervor and strong expectations. We have to stand tall and walk in the newness of life. We must not be contented with mediocrity and we must strive for climbing and reaching the summits of life.

Letter to the Editor

Where are you going, you monster?

Sir,

I am a High School Headmaster (Retired). Annually I receive respect with offering of what we would need in the evening of our life and monetary donation from my old pupils, decent products of my school. As always, I set out on a long journey from my home town Padaung near Pyay to my old State High School of Nyaung Kyo village, Ingapu Township, Ayeyawady Region.

Until recently I used to travel by train (RP) which leaves Patheingyi through Ingapu for my town Padaung. I like to ride this train because I had to pay only two thousand kyats for a return ticket. I very much appreciate it as it is within my means. I could afford this fair fare.

However, our lovely monster has failed to turn up for more than two years. I could do nothing but rely on bus. I had to pay twenty thousand kyats for a return ticket. What a difference! The charges are too high for a poor pensioner as well as for a poor worker.

Though there are a station master and station with workers yet there is no train. Everything stands idle. About five miles is a distance between Kyangin and Padaung. Why this monster can't run this distance?

I appeal to the authorities concerned to look into the matter as soon as possible.

U Aye Pe (Padaung)

INSPIRING

We have got to be the role models for others, if we want to live victoriously. We must be able to lead, to motivate, to inspire others in building the ideal lives for ourselves. We must be the able and willing coaches, mentors, teachers, friends and comrades to others.

NETWORKING

To live victoriously, we have got to work with other able and willing people. Striving for peace and happiness is inside-out and getting position, prestige, power and possession is outside-in. So, with peace and happiness secure in our mind and heart, we must strive and seek and find success and sustainable relationships with others in the circles of family, friends, workers, producers and creators.

GOING ALL-OUT IN SERVING OTHERS

To live a victorious life, we can't live for ourselves alone. We should be friends or helpers or benefactors for the less fortunate people. We should be the sowers of the seeds of LOVE, JOY, HOPE, PEACE, FAITH AND LIGHT. We, the people who aspire to live glorious and victorious lives must be bold and relentless strivers for PEACE, PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY!

CONCLUSION

"This to me is life.

That, if life be a burden,

I'll join to make it

But the burden of a song!"

- Poet Bailey

About author : U Hla Maung went to school in London and graduated from London's Imperial College of Science and Technology in 1966.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits museums in Serbia

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—A Myanmar military delegation in Serbia led by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visited Yugoimport Company on Sunday afternoon.

Mr Aleksandar Lijakovic of the company explained the production of the company to the delegation and the senior general raised questions on some interesting points.

Then, the delegation proceeded to the Museum of Yugoslav History and viewed round the museum.

The museum is an historic national museum of Serbia and is located in 3.2 hectare park where the tombs of former President

Marshall Tito and wife are situated. It displays over 200,000 items of exhibits and it is combined with the May-25 Museum and the Museum of the Revolution.

Myawady

Commander-in-Chief

of Defence Services

Senior General Min

Aung Hlaing and

party visit Museum of

Yugoslav History.

MYAWADY



Samsung seeks home-grown app developers through training course



Officials from Samsung Electronics and universities together with selected students for Android mobile application development training are in group photo.—PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 11 May—Samsung Myanmar is providing free Android mobile application development training to university students, with the aim of turning out qualified developers in the country, the company's marketing manager U Kyaw Swar Lin said Monday.

The one-month programme runs from 4 to 31 May, with a competition for the budding developers scheduled for 27 May.

A total of 50 computer science students from the University of Yangon (YU) and Dagon University have been split into 25 teams to compete in the mobile application contest.

"We believe that those students can build amazing apps to improve their com-

munities," U Kyaw Swar Lin said at an opening ceremony on Monday at the University of Yangon.

One of the trainees, a male student from the University of Yangon, said he "expects to get invaluable knowledge from the courses" and believes the programme "helps develop the Myanmar mobile products manufacturing sector."

Samsung will award US \$2,000 to the first-place team, \$1,500 for second and \$1,000 for third. In addition, winners will receive Samsung products.

As part of its social responsibility activities, the South Korean electronics giant has been running the Samsung Tech Institute Android Mobile Application Development Training Program since 2013 and

has admitted more than 100 computer science students to its courses.

"This programme is so successful that we have decided to extend its reach to more universities this year," Samsung head of marketing Mr Richard See said.

"Samsung plans to offer training opportunities to up to 200 students this year," said U Kyaw Swar Lin. "The next training for remaining students from universities of computer studies in Yangon and Mandalay is scheduled for October and November."

Before starting those courses, Android application road shows will be conducted at universities in June, with the aim of increasing student participation.—GNLM

Feasibility studies conducted for generating hydropower

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Maw Tha Htwe together with Leading Body Chairman of Naga Self-Administered Zone U Ruh San Kyu and officials viewed feasibility

studies for generating small-scale hydropower at Nampok, Nansalein and Honnyi creeks, 11 miles north of Hkamti on 9 May.

According to the feasibility studies, Honnyi and Sansalein creeks can

generate hydropower for Htanpakhwe sub-township in Lahe Township and Hkamti. In meeting with Naga ethnics in Hwekun and Lankhin villages, the deputy minister provided cash assistance.—MNA

BMW adds new vehicle to range in Myanmar

By Kyaw The-ein (MNA)

YANGON, 11 May — In a further sign of growth in Myanmar's market for luxury goods, the country's authorised importer and dealer for German automaker BMW has announced it is expanding its range of vehicles for sale.

Prestige Automobiles

has introduced the BMW 2 Series Active Tourer, which it describes as "a premium compact class model that skilfully blends comfort and functionality."

"It will also appeal to young families with a penchant for lifestyle appeal, sporty performance, practicality and adaptability," said Mr Chan Mya, Managing Director of Prestige

Automobiles.

While the importer has not indicated a price tag for the local release, prices for the BMW 2 Series in the United States start from around US \$33,000.

According to the IMF, Myanmar's GDP per capita in 2015 is estimated to be roughly US \$5,200, adjusted for purchasing-power parity.



Vucic: We celebrate victory of strong, triumphant Serbia



Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic

BELGRADE, 11 May — Serbia sacrificed itself in WWII for the great idea of anti-fascism, which lies at the foundation of today's Europe, Serbian Prime Minister Al-

eksandar Vucic has said.

Vucic said at a ceremony marking the 70th anniversary of the Victory Day in WWII that we have the right to be happy and celebrate the victory of a strong, triumphant Serbia.

Today we are celebrating the fact that our people freed themselves from the Nazi boot and the Ustasha knife, and all the others who believed that the extermination of Serbs will be the solution to their problems, the prime minister underlined.

Vucic thanked Russian Ambassador to Serbia Alexander Chepurin for his beautiful speech and apologized because sometimes we forget that it was the Red Army that gave the greatest contribution to peace.

"This is our day, a great day for our Serbia, the Victory Day and that is way our soldiers are proudly marching today on Red Square in Moscow alongside the Russian soldiers, our allies and the winners of the war," Vucic said.—*Tanjung*

Putin says Ukraine peace 'moving forward' despite problems



Russian President Vladimir Putin and German Chancellor Angela Merkel attend a news conference after talks at the Kremlin in Moscow, Russia on 10 May, 2015.—REUTERS

Moscow, 11 May — Russian President Vladimir Putin said after talks with German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Sunday that the peace process in eastern Ukraine was progressing despite difficulties.

Merkel reaffirmed her support for the peace efforts and repeated her calls to Putin to use his influence with pro-Russian separatists battling Kiev government forces to end a conflict in which more than 6,000 people have been killed since April 2014.

"There is every reason to believe the Minsk process is moving forward, though with problems," Putin told a joint news conference with Merkel, referring to the peace deal signed in February in the Belarusian capital.

"With all the problems in east Ukraine, it has nevertheless become quieter," he said, adding that direct dialogue between the Kiev government and the separatists was crucial for peace. Relations between Russia and Germany, which have multi-billion-dollar trade and energy links, have soured

sharply over Moscow's annexation of Ukraine's Crimean region and its support for the separatists. Berlin has strongly backed the Western economic sanctions subsequently slapped on Russia.

"But still, the lesson of history is that we have to try everything to solve conflicts — as difficult as they might seem — peacefully and in dialogue and that means diplomatically," Merkel said.

The German chancellor was visiting Russia for events to mark the 70th anniversary of the end of World War Two in Europe, although she stayed away from a military parade on Red Square on Saturday.

Merkel and French President Francois Hollande helped broker the Minsk ceasefire deal on 12 February but it has been violated many times. Both sides report small numbers of casualties on an almost daily basis.

Before their talks on Sunday, Putin and Merkel took part in a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the walls of the Kremlin.—*Reuters*

Victorious Cameron to brief party on EU strategy

LONDON, 11 May — Buoyed by a surprisingly clear-cut election victory, British Prime Minister David Cameron will name his new cabinet on Monday and meet Conservative lawmakers keen to hear how he plans to claw back more powers from the European Union.

Cameron won an outright majority in Thursday's parliamentary election with 12 seats more than all the other parties combined, freeing him to ditch his previous Liberal Democrat coalition partners and govern alone.

He has promised to renegotiate the country's relationship with the EU and then call a referendum by 2017 on whether to stay or leave, a decision with far-reaching implications for trade, investment and Britain's place in the world.

But he faces a strong contingent of doubters within his own party who loathe what they see as the dead hand of Brussels bureaucracy and will take plenty of convincing to accept anything other than a British exit.



Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron

The last Conservative prime minister to govern with a small majority — albeit larger than Cameron's — was John Major, whose premiership two decades ago was fatally undermined by 'eurosceptics' within his own party.

So four days after winning re-election, Cameron can expect a rousing reception from the so-called 1922 Committee of Conservative members of parliament, but will know from Major's example that the honeymoon may not last.

"A Conservative party that yearns for less meddling EU government will

be urging the prime minister on to the full restoration of home rule," leading eurosceptic John Redwood wrote in the *Observer* newspaper. "There is no disagreement about the aim, but the prime minister has to avoid disappointment about how much has been achieved to further it."

Also on the agenda will be Cameron's blueprint for eliminating Britain's budget deficit. Having halved it to around 5 percent of gross domestic product since 2010, he has promised another 30 billion pounds (\$46.3 billion) of "consolidation" in the next two years including 12 billion of savings from the welfare budget, but has not spelt out how this will be achieved.

A Downing Street spokesman said Cameron would reappoint former party leader Iain Duncan Smith as work and pensions secretary in charge of welfare reforms, which opponents call draconian but which the government says are necessary to make working more attractive

than receiving state handouts.

The spokesman declined to comment on a Sky News report that rising party star Sajid Javid, a former banker, would be promoted from culture minister to business secretary in the new cabinet, which is also expected to feature more women.

Opposition Labour MPs will also meet for the first time since the election, in which they were beaten by the Conservatives in England and thrashed by Scottish nationalists in their traditional stronghold north of the border.

Labour health spokeswoman Liz Kendall was first to declare herself a candidate to take over as leader from Ed Miliband, who quit the day after the election. Former soldier Dan Jarvis has ruled himself out.

Senior Labour figures have said the party must return to the political centre ground and respond to the aspirations of millions of voters it ignored in its election campaign.

Reuters

Sweden's Supreme Court upholds Assange detention order

STOCKHOLM, 11 May — Sweden's Supreme Court said on Monday it rejected an appeal by WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange to revoke a detention order over allegations of sexual assault.

The 43-year-old Australian has been stuck inside Ecuador's London embassy since

June 2012 to avoid a British extradition to Sweden, which wants to question him on allegations of sexual assault.

The detention order was issued by prosecutors in 2010. Assange denies the allegations and says he fears that if Britain extradited him to Sweden he would then be extradited to the United States where

he could be tried for one of the largest information leaks in US history.

The court said in a statement that the prosecutors' decision to question Assange in London supported the ruling to uphold the detention order.

"We are of course disappointed, and critical of the Supreme Court's way of handling the case. This

decision has been taken without letting us close our argument," Assange's lawyer Per Samuelson told *Reuters*.

Prosecutors first insisted Assange should come to Sweden for questioning, but in a U-turn in March agreed to conduct the interview in London.

One of the five Supreme Court judges dis-



WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange

sented and argued for the arrest warrant to be lifted.

Even if Sweden drops the investigation, Assange faces arrest by British police for jumping bail granted while the British courts considered the European arrest warrant issued by Sweden.

Reuters

WORLD

After surviving Boko Haram, returnees face hunger in Nigerian towns

MICHKA, (Nigeria), 11 May — Since Nigeria's army began clearing large areas of the country's northeast from Boko Haram, some of the 1.5 million internally displaced people have started returning home. But thousands could now face severe food shortages as reconstruction lags behind.

Along the main roads heading north from Adamawa's state capital Yola, some trade has resumed in the towns but ghostly pockets and haunting reminders of the insurgent takeover are evident. Some three months after the fighting ended, the smell of rotting corpses still clings to the air by the headquarters of the Church of the Brethren near Mararaba.

Islamist militant group Boko Haram grabbed swathes of Nigeria's northeast last year, killing thousands in an unprecedented land grab. It took over most of Borno state, the birthplace of the group, and parts of Adamawa and Yobe while

increasing incursions on neighbouring countries.

The army began pushing back when Boko Haram was about 100 km (60 miles) from Adamawa's state capital. In the last few months, many people have returned to Adamawa but health clinics, banks and schools are still lacking, especially in the northernmost areas, and vast stretches of farmland between towns stand barren.

In the town of Michika, which saw some of the fiercest fighting, residents are too afraid and lack the equipment and manpower to farm, and at least for the moment they will not be able to live off the land.

Meanwhile there is no sign of government aid.

"Most people coming back are in hardship because there's no food. People are sick but there are no hospitals ... no vegetables, no lemons, no bananas ... We're not ready to go back to farming. All our machinery was burned or taken," a Christian community leader, Sini



Women travel in the back of a truck in the town of Mararaba, after the Nigerian military recaptured it from Boko Haram, in Adamawa state on 10 May, 2015.—REUTERS

T-Kwagga, told *Reuters*.

People will drive to Mubi, a city about an hour's drive south, to get goods but this vital route will be blocked once the rainy season comes into full swing next month.

Many bridges were blown up by Boko Haram, including the important link to Mubi, to try

to stop the offensive by Nigerian troops. The river is already starting to fill up with early rains and men have to push cars through the muddy waters while women sell mangoes to passers-by.

Madagali, the northernmost major town in the state and the last to be liberated in Adamawa in

February, also depends on this route.

Mubi itself was a Boko Haram stronghold at one point. Life is bustling again but its banks are still closed and in ruin.

Rusting tanks with Arabic writing, burnt cars and military equipment litter the main roads in northern Adamawa. Boko

Haram writings cover the beige outdoor walls of buildings, roofs are collapsed and gutted churches stand charred.

Some landmines are still dotted around Michika and the main farming areas are far away from military checkpoints.

"We have to stay, we have nowhere to live, no money for rent. We are afraid to farm ... about a week ago a bomb exploded when people went to clear the land. They were hurt," Rebecca Ishaya said.

She came back two weeks ago with her children but sent a few away again because of the lack of schools.

Boko Haram militants liberally employed landmines, often handmade in their bomb factories, to protect their strongholds. The military said this strategy was slowing their offensive into the Sambisa forest reserve, which is the militants' last bastion and where hundreds of abducted women and children have been found.

Reuters

Heavy bombing on Yemen border area by Saudi forces and Houthis

CAIRO, 11 May — Yemen's Houthi militia and Saudi forces traded heavy artillery and rocket fire in border areas on Monday, residents said, a day before a five-day humanitarian truce was due to take effect.

The Houthis said they fired Katyusha rockets and mortars on the Saudi cities of Jizan and Najran on Monday, after the Saudis hit Saada and Hajjah provinces with more than 150 rockets.

Saudi planes also struck positions of the Iranian-allied Houthi group in the central city

of Taiz and in the oil-producing Marib province east of the capital Sanaa.

There were no immediate details on any casualties.

More than six weeks of air strikes by Sunni Muslim Gulf monarchies' jets have failed to push back the Shi'ite Houthis and militia and army units loyal to the Houthis' ally, ex-president Ali Abdullah Saleh.

The rebels, whose ties to regional rival Iran has rattled the Gulf Arabs, remain the dominant political force in the impoverished Arab country

that borders Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil exporter.

Saudi Arabia has offered a five-day ceasefire starting on Tuesday evening to allow delivery of humanitarian supplies into the country, but warned that the truce depended on the Houthis abiding by that deal.

A group of 17 international aid agencies said on Sunday that five days was not sufficient to provide relief to the country, which after weeks of an air and sea blockade is suffering severe food and medicine shortages.

Reuters

Syrian army steps up bid to regain town and rescue besieged troops

AMMAN / BEIRUT, 11 May — Syrian troops backed by heavy air strikes have edged closer to a hospital in northwestern Syria where dozens of Syrian soldiers and loyalist fighters have been holed up for the past two weeks, the army said on Sunday.

An army source told *Reuters* that its troops were now several kilometres away from the besieged hospital, the last remaining army foothold in the town of Jisr al-Shughour in the province of Idlib.

The town was overrun last month by insurgents, including al-Qaeda's wing in Syria, Nusra Front. President Bashar al Assad said on Thursday troops would head to the hospital on the outskirts of the town.

Rebels have so far failed to storm the hospital despite repeated suicide bombings and intense mortar shelling from nearby positions. The compound is situated on a hilltop overlooking a main highway and has several underground levels that have sheltered the troops from the rebel shelling.

The UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which tracks violence across the country, said insurgents got into one of the hospital buildings on

Sunday, after a suicide bomber from Nusra Front blew himself up at dawn. But pro-government sources said the army repulsed the attack.

The Syrian army is determined to achieve a victory, to restore morale and regain momentum against the rebels, after losing Jisr al Shughour and on 28 March the provincial city of Idlib. Large parts of the rich agricultural province are now in rebel hands.

The army strategy is to keep the rebels, who are fighting to end Assad's rule, from getting any closer to Latakia along the coast, the heartland of Assad's minority sect, the Alawites.

The Observatory said at least 16 raids were conducted on Sunday and two rebel sources said the army had been advancing slowly in the last few days nearer the hospital area.

"There are hundreds of raids and the bombing is not stopping. But God willing they will be defeated and we will move the battle next to their own areas," Abu Obada, a rebel commander from Jaish al-Nasr, a coalition of rebel groups involved in the fighting, told *Reuters* via Viber.

Reuters

Turkish ship attacked as it approached Libya's Tobruk — Foreign Ministry

ISTANBUL, 11 May — A Turkish dry cargo ship was shelled from the Libyan coast as it approached the port of Tobruk and then attacked from the air as it tried to leave the area on Sunday, the Turkish Foreign Ministry said on Monday.

The third officer on the Cook Islands-chartered Tuna-1 vessel died and other crew members were wounded in the attacks, which the ministry condemned in a statement. It did not specify who launched the assaults.

"We condemn strongly this

contemptible attack which targeted a civilian ship in international waters and curse those who carried it out," it said. Ankara had protested to authorities in Libya. There was no immediate comment from Libyan officials.

A Libyan warplane from forces loyal to the internationally recognised government bombed a Greek-operated oil tanker anchored off Libya's Mediterranean coast in January, killing two crewmen amid hostilities between factions vying to rule the oil-producing North African

country.

Internationally recognised Prime Minister Abdullah al-Thinni said in February his government would stop dealing with Turkey because it was sending weapons to a rival group in Tripoli so that "the Libyan people kill each other".

The cargo ship, owned by a Turkish company, was carrying plasterboard from Spain to Tobruk when it was hit 21 km (13 miles) from the port, suffering some damage, the Foreign Ministry statement said.—*Reuters*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV TAY SON-2 VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TAY SON-2 VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.5.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.P.T(2) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S VINALINES SHIPPING CO**
Phone No: 2301186

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (7J031R)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (7J031R) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.5.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CMA CGM**
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (TPN-633)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (TPN-633) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.5.2015 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.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES**
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV NINOS VOY NO (1033W)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NINOS VOY NO (1033W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.5.2015 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.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING LINES**
Phone No: 2301185

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE (INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER) (8/2015)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars / Myanmar kyat.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB-009(15-16)	Electrical Spares for HDD Rig (46) Items	US\$
(2)	IFB-010(15-16)	Spares for Cooper Well Servicing Unit (11) Items	US\$
(3)	IFB-011(15-16)	Spares for Rig Engine / Rig Pump Ex HDD Rig (16) Items	US\$
(4)	IFB-012(15-16)	Casing Lines (3) Items	US\$
(5)	IFB-013(15-16)	Spares for National Drive Group Ex NAT-55 Drilling Rigs (3) Items	US\$
(6)	IFB-014(15-16)	Spares for Kenworth Trucks (6) Items	US\$
(7)	DMP/L-004(15-16)	33 KV Current Transformer for GCB (5) Sets	KS

Tender Closing Date & Time - 9-6-2015, 16:30 Hr
Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 12TH May, 2015 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph.+95 67-411097/411206

Chepurin: Serbs, Russians never against each other



**Russian Ambassador
to Serbia Alexander
Chepurin**

BELGRADE, 11 May — Russian Ambassador to Serbia Alexander Chepurin has said that the future lies in a united Europe, and expressed belief that Russians and Serbs will never be against each other.

Russians will never be against Serbs, and I believe that Serbs will never turn against Russians, Chepurin said on Saturday evening at a ceremony marking the 70th anniversary of the Victory Day in WWII.

He underlined that the future of Europe, including Russia and Serbia, much depends on how we preserve what is valuable. The future lies in a great and united Europe. Development can be achieved only if there are no walls, he said.

Expressing gratitude to all allies that fought in WWII, Chepurin said that the greatest contribution certainly came from the Soviet and Yugoslav peoples.

With the very deep feel of gratitude, we will always remember the feat of our peoples, soldiers and veterans, Chepurin said. The ceremony held at Sava Center was attended by the Serbian prime minister, parliament speaker, ministers, representatives of embassies, religious communities and others.—*Tanjug*

Full picture of Clinton charities' foreign govt funding remains elusive

NEW YORK, 11 May — The Clinton Foundation has acknowledged that the government funding totals omitted from their tax returns cannot be found on their website either, despite the foundation's acting chief executive officer earlier suggesting they were available there. The foreign government funding received by the globe-spanning charities of Hillary Clinton's family has received particular scrutiny in recent weeks as Clinton seeks to become the Democratic nominee in the 2016 presidential election.

The foundation's acknowledgement means precise totals for government grants to the charity for the last three years of Clinton's four-year tenure as secretary of state have still not been publicly disclosed. All US charities have to separately disclose each year how much they get in government funding, both domestic and foreign. Shortly before taking office in 2009, Clinton promised the Obama administration heightened transparency concerning donors to her family's charities to avoid accusations of



Former US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton (L) takes part in roundtable of young Nevadans discussing immigration as she campaigns for the 2016 Democratic presidential nomination at Rancho High School in Las Vegas, Nevada on 5 May, 2015. —REUTERS

conflicts of interests when she became the nation's most senior diplomat. In recent months, the charities have said they did not comply with some parts of the agreement. In April, Maura Pally, the foundation's acting chief executive officer, said it was a mistake not to separately list government grants on its public tax forms for 2010, 2011 and 2012 after a *Reuters* review found errors, but added that the public could find the break-outs elsewhere. "Those same grants have always been properly listed and broken out and available for anyone to see on our audited finan-

cial statements, posted on our website," she wrote in a statement on the foundation's website.

The audited financial statements, however, do not break out government grants separately, foundation officials told *Reuters*. Instead, they combine them with an unspecified amount of funds from private grant-making organizations, in keeping with generally accepted accounting principles, the foundation officials said. The revenue tables in the statements do not make explicit that any revenue at all comes from governments. Asked if Pal-

ly's statements were therefore incorrect or misleading, a foundation spokesman, Kamil Bazbaz, said no, because it was not necessary to separately break out government grants on audited financial statements.

Pally had been correct to say they were "properly listed and broken out" because in this context it means they were properly combined with the funds from private grant-making organizations. "Sorry for any confusion here," Bazbaz said in an email. He also acknowledged additional complications in some of the audited financial statements: the statements reported some \$200 million more in grants and associated spending in 2010 and 2011 than was reported in some of the charities' tax returns for those years. These inconsistencies were not errors, the officials said, but were rather the result of unresolved disagreements between the charities' various accounting firms over calculating revenue streams. Meredith McGehee, the policy director of the non-profit watchdog group the Campaign Legal

Center, said the foundation was "hiding behind technicalities." "These explanations do nothing but raise more questions," she said of Bazbaz's comments. "It gives the feeling that they're not coming clean." Transparency watchdog groups and experts in charity law have said the issues with the foundation's public financial records are not evidence of deliberate wrongdoing, but they make it more difficult to grasp how the charities raise and spend money. "It's clear that anyone wanting an accurate picture of the money flowing in and out of the Clinton Foundation using public records would fail miserably because the public records are both inaccurate and fairly opaque," McGehee said. The foundation declined to provide *Reuters* with the government grant break-outs that should have been disclosed on the foundation's tax returns for 2010, 2011 and 2012. The foundation has said it is seeking an independent review of some of its financial records and plans to refile erroneous tax returns, a process it said may take some time.—*Reuters*

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

Ministry of Energy Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise

Extension of the request for the Letter of Expression of Interest (LOEI)
Joint Venture Project of No. (3) Fertilizer Factory (Kyawzwa)

Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise (MPE) had invited the interested local and international investors for the request of the Letter of Expression of Interest (LOEI) regarding the joint venture project of No. (3) Fertilizer Factory (Kyawzwa) from 17.3.2015 to 23.3.2015 in the national newspaper and to be submitted not later than (12:00) noon at the date of 4.5.2015.

MPE hereby announces that the submission of LOEI shall be extended up to 4.6.2015 from 4.5.2015.

INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER (3/2015)
[TENDER NO. MPPE/ JET AI / T / 1 (2015 — 2016)]
1. Open Tender is invited for the Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of JET AI (282,000 bbl ± 10%)
2. Tender Closing Date & Time - 26 - 5 - 2015, 12:00 Hrs
3. Tender Opening Date & Time - 26 - 5 - 2015, 13:00 Hrs
4. Delivery Time - 1st July 2015 to 31st October 2015
5. Tender documents and details are available at the Department of Finance, the Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing 11 - 5 - 2015 on payment of Myanmar Kyat One Hundred Thousand (Kyat 100,000.) per set.
6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from the Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director
Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise
Ministry of Energy, No(6) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw
Contact Phone No.
067-411487/411486/411280

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV BRIGHT STATE VOY NO (112)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BRIGHT STATE VOY NO (112) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.5.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ECL (S'PORE) PTE LTD.**
Phone No: 2301191/2301178

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV WING SAIL VOY NO (1502)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WING SAIL VOY NO (1502) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.5.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S BRIGHT SAIL SHIPPING LTD.**

Phone No: 2301186

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THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE
UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
(ANNOUNCEMENT)

INVITATION TO OPEN DISCUSSION FOR THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFSHORE
SUPPLY BASE JOINT VENTURE

1. Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise (M.O.G.E), a state owned oil and gas company under Ministry of Energy, is responsible for upstream oil and gas industry, both onshore and offshore, in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
2. Currently, numerous international oil and gas companies are conducting petroleum exploration and production operations in Myanmar offshore and more new PSC blocks are being awarded by recent bidding round. To support those petroleum operations, Offshore Supply Bases are inevitably required.
3. Thus, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise would like to invite international and local developers who are interested to construct and operate an Offshore Supply Base and related facilities in Myanmar, jointly with MOGE.
4. The interested local and international companies are cordially invited to come and discuss with MOGE management during the period of 25th May 2015 to 12th June 2015 in office hours, at appropriate appointment.
5. The letter of request for the appointment shall be addressed to;
**The Managing Director
Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Complex 44, Nay Pyi Taw
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Tel: 95-67 411055 / 411056
Fax: 95-67 411125 / 411178**
6. For further inquiry for information, please contact the followings:-
(1) Managing Director, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Tel: 95-67 411055 / 411056
Fax: 95-67411125/411178
email: -mogemd@energy.gov.mm
pamdoffice@gmail.com
(2) General Manager, Thaketa Offshore Base, Yangon, Myanmar
Tel: 95-1 542732 / 450369
Fax: 95-1 450454
email: - mogegmtka@energy.gov.mm
kntun135@gmail.com

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV VINE-2 VOY NO (01)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VINE-2 VOY NO (01) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.5.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T(5) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S THALAMAR SHIPPING BG**
Phone No: 2301186

WEATHER REPORT

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Southwest Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.
FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 12th May, 2015: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin and Chin States, isolated in Mandalay and Magway Regions, Shan, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES- FIRMS SELECTION)

**The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Electric Power
Myanmar Electric Power Project (MEPP)
Credit No.: 5306-MM**

**Assignment Title: Myanmar Power Sector Study of Electricity Tariffs and Subsidies Mechanisms
Reference No.: MEPE CS-4**

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of increasing capacity and efficiency of gas fired power generation and strengthening the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Electric Power.

The consulting services ("the Services") include *study of Myanmar Power Sector study of Electricity Tariffs and Subsidies Mechanisms over a period of 12 (Twelve) months.*

The Ministry of Electric Power (MOEP) now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the above Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The short-listing criteria are:

- (i) The interested consultants should have previous experience in the area of electricity tariffs design, analysis and modeling;
- (ii) A minimum of 10 years of experience in carrying out consulting services as a consulting firm in the field of assignment; and
- (iii) At least 3 contracts of similar nature and complexity, or more complex and relevant, that the firm has successfully completed in the past 10 years.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's *Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants [under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants]* by World Bank Borrowers, edition: January, 2011 ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality- and Cost-Based Selection Method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during the 11:00 AM to 16:00 hours on working days.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by fax, or by e-mail) by 16:00 hours of **02 June, 2015.**

Attention:

**Director General
Department of Electric Power (DEP)
Street Address: Building No. 27,
Ministry of Electric Power (MOEP)
Floor/Ground No.: Ground Floor
ZIP Code: 15011
Country: The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Tel: +95 (67) 410256
Fax: +95 (67) 401256
Email: ecoplantep@gmail.com**

Bird cafe in Tokyo attracts young woman



Customers at a bird cafe touch a java sparrow in Tokyo's Minato Ward on 16 April, 2015. Cafes where people relax while watching or touching birds are increasing in Japan as birds are gaining popularity, especially among young women.—KYODO NEWS

Mumford & Sons score second UK number 1 album



Marcus Mumford, lead singer of Mumford & Sons, performs on the Pyramid Stage at the Glastonbury music festival at Worthy Farm in Somerset on 30 June, 2013.—REUTERS

LONDON, 11 May — Folk-rock band Mumford & Sons captured top spot in the UK album charts on Sunday with their third album “Wilder Mind”, the Official Charts Company said, matching the success of its predecessor “Babel”.

British band Blur slipped a place to number two with “The Magic Whip”, their first chart-topping album in 12 years. Sam Smith’s “In The Lonely Hour” bounced to number three, and Ed Sheeran’s “x” climbed three places to four. Sia’s “1,000 Forms

Of Fear” rounded off the top five, up eight places.

In the singles chart, the top three were unchanged: Felix Jaehn’s remix of “Cheerleader” by Omi held on to number one, with “See you Again” by Wiz Khalifa at two and “I Really Like You” by Carly Rae Jepsen in third position. Next came deep house duo Blonde with “All Cried Out”, the week’s highest new entry, while “Lean On” by Major Lazer slipped one place to number five.

Reuters

Watkins aces Cumberbatch as best actor in British TV awards

LONDON, 11 May — Jason Watkins beat out Benedict Cumberbatch to take the best actor honour at Britain’s top television awards on Sunday, while Georgina Campbell was named best actress by the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA). Cumberbatch, who plays Sherlock in the hit series of the same name, has been nominated more times than anyone else in the top categories of the BAFTA television awards, but had to forgo it once again as Watkins won for his portrayal of the title character in “The Lost Honour of Christopher Jefferies”. The drama, which tells the true story of the title character’s false accusation of murder and the media vilification that followed, also received the award for best mini-series.

Campbell won for her portrayal of a victim of domestic abuse in the BBC Three drama “Murdered by My Boyfriend”. Stephen Rea won Supporting Actor for his role in the political thriller “The Honourable Woman”. Gemma Jones, who was last nominated in 1977, received her first BAFTA for “Marvellous”, a biopic of Neil Baldwin, who had been diagnosed as having learning difficulties but went on to become a successful circus clown.

“Marvellous” also won in the category of “Single Drama”. The winner in the international category was “True Detective”, starring Matthew McConaughey and Woody Harrelson as two Louisiana detectives in their 17-year pursuit of a killer.

Reuters



Actor Jason Watkins

Agnes Varda to receive Palme d’Or at Cannes 2015



French director professor Agnes Varda

LOS ANGELES, 11 May — French director professor Agnes Varda will be honoured with the prestigious Palme d’Or at the upcoming Cannes International Film Festival for the global impact of her body of work.

The 86-year-old helmer becomes the first woman to be selected for this distinction, reported Deadline.

Only three other directors, Woody Allen, Clint Eastwood and Bernardo Bertolucci, have been recognized with the honour.

She will be honoured at the closing ceremony of the 12-day festival (May 13-24).

From her first film, “La Pointe Courte” in 1954, Varda’s style reflect-

ed elements of what would become the French New Wave although because she preceded that movement her work is more Left Bank in style.

Her next feature, “Cleo From 5 To 7”, was a documentary style look at a singer awaiting results of a biopsy, which foreshadowed Varda’s fascination with human mortality.

Her films tended to focus on women and her subsequent “Vagabond” in 1985 examined the investigation of the death of a female drifter.

She married film director Jacques Demy in 1962 and after his death in 1990, she made “Jacquot de Nantes”, about his life and death.—PTI

‘Avengers: Age of Ultron’ Tops With \$77.2 million, ‘Hot Pursuit’ Flounders

LOS ANGELES, 11 May — “Avengers: Age of Ultron” iced out “Hot Pursuit” at the weekend box office, picking up \$77.2 million (50 million pounds) and topping charts for a second consecutive time.

Disney and Marvel’s comic book adventure has made \$312.9 million domestically since debuting stateside ten days ago. That massive figure makes it the second fastest film to clear \$300 million domestically, and its sophomore weekend is the second biggest in movie history, surpassing “Avatar’s” \$75.6 million haul.

The film “Avengers: Age of Ultron” trails on both counts? Its predecessor, 2012’s “Marvel’s The Avengers,” which had earned \$373 million at a similar point in its run after scoring a \$103 million second weekend.

“It’s a dominant force,” said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst at Rentrak. “These second weekend numbers would be a great opening weekend debut for a lot of films.”

Internationally, “Avengers: Age of Ultron” picked up \$68 million, pushing the film to \$875.3 million globally. Given that major markets such as China and Japan are still left to open and domestic audiences continue to embrace the film, “Avengers: Age of Ultron” should have no trouble becoming the second 2015 release to clear \$1 billion globally, behind “Furious 7.”

With Hulk, Iron Man, Captain America, and the rest of the super team dominating ticket sales, Warner Bros.’ “Hot Pursuit” landed with a thud, picking up a frosty \$13.3 million opening from 3,003 locations. The Reese Witherspoon and Sofia Vergara retread of “The Heat” was crippled by withering reviews, with its debut falling short of projections that pegged an opening of \$18 million or higher. It’s also on the low-end of Witherspoon’s recent bows for more commercial fare such as “Water for Elephants” (\$16.8 million debut) and “This Means War” (\$17.4 million debut).

“Given our expectations it was a little lighter than we had hoped for,” said Jeff Goldstein, Warner Bros distribution executive vice president.

He argued the negative critical reaction took a toll.

“Where we did business, we way over-indexed in the South and in the small towns,” said Goldstein. “We were lighter in the East in review-driven markets.”

The film about an anal retentive cop (Witherspoon) trying to protect a drug boss’ widow (Vergara) was also backed by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and Witherspoon’s Pacific Standard production company. “Hot Pursuit” attracted an audience that was 62% female and 82% over 25 years old.

Beyond the modest debut number, a C+ CinemaScore means word-of-mouth will be of the cautionary variety. The budget was a relatively economical \$35 million, but the film will struggle to become profitable without a much warmer reception in foreign territories.

In third place, Lionsgate’s “The Age of Adeline” earned roughly \$5.6 million, dropping 10% from its previous haul and bringing its total to \$31.5 million.

Universal’s “Furious 7” slid into fourth place with \$5.2 million pushing its domestic total to \$338.4 million after six weeks in theaters. Globally, the action sequel has earned \$1.5

billion.

Sony’s “Paul Blart Mall Cop 2” snagged fifth place with just under \$5.2 million, bringing its domestic total to \$58.1 million.

A24 continued to expand “Ex Machina,” moving it from 1,279 theaters to 2,004 locations where it earned \$3.5 million. The twisty sci-fi thriller has made \$15.7 million during



Cast member Scarlett Johansson poses with a fan at the premiere of “Avengers: Age of Ultron” at Dolby theatre in Hollywood, California on 13 April, 2015. The movie opens in the US on 1 May.—REUTERS

its theatrical run.

Among art house titles, IFC Films released the Jack Black/James Marsden high school reunion comedy “The D Train” on 1,009 screens where it did a mediocre \$469,185. Fox Searchlight tried to capitalize on the Mother’s Day holiday, moving from 10 to 99 theaters and pulling in \$760,721 in the process. The adaptation of Thomas Hardy’s classic novel has earned \$1 million since debuting last week.

Despite the presence of Earth’s Mightiest Heroes, the overall box office trailed ticket sales from the year-ago period by roughly 5%. “Avengers: Age of Ultron” easily topped the second weekend of “Amazing Spider-Man 2,” which made \$35.5 million in its sophomore frame, but “Hot Pursuit” paled in comparison to “Neighbors” \$49 million debut.

Next weekend brings “Mad Max: Fury Road” and “Pitch Perfect 2,” two highly anticipated sequels that should goose ticket sales.

Reuters

GENERAL

Prince takes the stage for 'Rally 4 Peace' show in Baltimore

BALTIMORE, 11 May — Reclusive rocker Prince took the stage on Sunday in a "Rally 4 Peace" concert in response to the death of a 25-year-old man, whose death from injuries suffered while in police custody triggered riots, telling the crowd: "We are here for you."

The Grammy-winning musician, appearing at Royal Farms Arena along with his backing band 3RDEYEGIRL, performed such hits as "When Doves Cry" and "Raspberry Beret", as well as a new song called "Baltimore," which he dedicated to the city.

"We are here for you tonight," he said.

"It's going to be all right. We're going to figure this thing out," Prince said while performing "Purple Rain."

"It's going to take the young people to fix it this time. We need new ideas," he said.

Fan Jamal Terrell, 41, said: "I think he showed why he's still extremely important. He brought a com-

Prince performs during the Billboard Music Awards at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas, Nevada in this on 19 May, 2013 file photo.
REUTERS



munity together."

"It's much bigger than a colour issue. There's people from all walks of life here," Terrell said.

Surprise guests were promised, and delivered, including Doug E Fresh and Miguel.

Returning to the stage for one of many encores, Prince said, "No curfew," a reference to the citywide curfew put in place after rioting in Baltimore last month. Many concert-goers wore gray in response to promotional images, an

apparent reference to Freddie Gray, who died in a Baltimore hospital a week after his arrest on 12 April.

Streaming service Tidal, which carried the event, said a portion of the proceeds would go toward funding Baltimore youth charities. Gray's death became the latest flashpoint in a national outcry over police killings of unarmed black men and other minority groups in the United States. It provoked weeks of protests punctuated by a day of riots, arson and looting in

Baltimore on 27 April.

Days later Baltimore's chief prosecutor announced charges against all six police officers involved in Gray's arrest, ranging from misconduct in office to second degree murder.

Prince released "Baltimore" ahead of the concert, featuring performer Eryn Allen Kane and which includes a mention of Gray. While Gray was not killed by gunfire, the song urges: "Let's take all the guns away."

Reuters

'Overrated' Fowler wins Players Championship in playoff

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, (Florida), 11 May — American Rickie Fowler produced a stunning finish to claim the lucrative Players Championship in a playoff at TPC Sawgrass on Sunday.

The 26-year-old outlasted 2008 champion Sergio Garcia and world number 123 Kevin Kisner in extra holes after finishing his final six holes of regulation in six-under-par.

In a week where he was labelled "overrated" in an anonymous player poll, Fowler clinched victory on the famous 17th island green with his third birdie on the hole in the day, taking home \$1.8 million.

Fowler faced a nervous wait after finishing eagle, birdie, birdie across the daunting last three holes in regulation to shoot a five-under 67 and post 12-under for the tournament.

Both Garcia (68) and Kisner (69) had putts on the 18th green that would ultimately have given them the tournament but the Spaniard's 19-foot effort missed and Kisner's 10-foot at-

tempt hung agonisingly on the lip.

The trio then headed to a three-hole aggregate playoff over holes 16-18 where Fowler and Kisner managed to birdie the 17th to stay alive as Garcia managed only three pars.

When they returned to 17 in sudden death, Kisner missed a 12-foot birdie attempt to leave the door open for Fowler to drain a four-footer and win his second US PGA tour title.

"I felt really good all week, it's pretty fun, this is special," said the Fowler, whose previous win came

at the 2012 Wells Fargo Championship, also after a playoff. "I laughed at the poll, but, yeah, if there was any question, I think this right here answers anything you need to know."

"I was always looked at as only having one win on tour, and I always felt that I needed to put myself in position to win more often, and I did that last year."

"I wasn't able to end up as the last guy standing then but it feels good to be back in that position, and I'm hoping to be back in the same position more often."



Rickie Fowler holds up The Players Championship trophy after winning the final round of The Players Championship at TPC Sawgrass, Stadium Course, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL, USA on 10 May, 2015.—REUTERS

Americans Ben Martin (70) and Bill Haas (70) tied for fourth at 11-under with South African Rory Sabbatini (69) and American Kevin Na (71) sixth at nine-under.

Martin bogeyed the 18th to fall out of the playoff and former FedEx Cup champion Haas had a putt from the fringe to join it but it failed to drop.

Overnight leader Chris Kirk had a day to forget, shooting 75 to drop five shots off the pace.

Fowler said the win would give him confidence at the remaining three majors of the season having finished in the top five of all four in 2014.

"It's only going to help move me forward," Fowler said.

"I look at this event as basically like a major. It has the major feel, obviously one of the best fields we play all year, on a tough golf course. "This will definitely give me momentum going into the US Open and makes me feel confident about being in this situation and taking care of business."—Reuters

mitv Myanmar International

(12-5-2015 07:00 am ~ 13-5-2015 07:00 am)

- | | |
|--|---|
| * News | * Taste of Myanmar (Rice Salad with Vegetables) |
| * Insight Myanmar (Library) (Ep-1) | * A Life In The Ring |
| * Myanmar Library Survey | * News |
| * The Iron Rider | * Marketable Goods (Myanmar Arts & Handicrafts) |
| * News | * Myanmar Alternative Medicine (Noni) |
| * National Literary Icon and Guiding Light of Myanmar Literature "Sayar Zaw Gyi" (Episode-2) | * Art Students: Theatrical Art |
| * Culture Shows: Composer Ma Mya Lay | * News |
| * News | * National Literary Icon and Guiding Light of Myanmar Literature "Sayar Zaw Gyi" (Episode-1) (Childhood and Student Life) |
| * Choral Dance (Duel) | * Sagaing: Youth Leader |
| * Lucrative Myanmar Rattan Industry | * News |
| * Kyaikhteeyoe: My Father The Porter | * Flying Without Wings-My Great Limitless Adventure — Inle Lake (Part-2) |
| * News | * Black Gold (P - II) |
| * Jeyyanandi (A Day in the Life of a Nun) | * News |
| * Crab Business (Part-I) Mud Crab | * Youth Filmmaker: Lwin Ko Ko Oo |
| * News | * The Art of Making Glaze Ware |
| * Short Trip With Steve (Mon State) | * Traffic Police |
| * Today Myanmar "Visiting Neighbours Thailand" | |
| * News | |

MRTV Entertainment Channel

(12-5-2015, Tuesday)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 6:00 am | 8:30 am |
| • Mono Classical Songs | • (21 st) Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competition |
| 6:15 am | |
| • Myanmar Series | |
| 6:50 am | 9:20 am |
| • (21 st) Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competition | • Radio Teleplay |
| 7:10 am | 10:15 am |
| • TV Drama Series | • ASEAN CULTURAL FAIR (2014) |
| 7:55 am | 10:20 am |
| • TV Drama Series | • Myanmar Video |

Intensive search held in disaster-hit coastal areas

SENDAI, (Japan), 11 May — Police officers conducted intensive searches on 11 May, 2015, in coastal areas of northeastern Japan, seeking traces of those who have been unaccounted for since the 11 March, 2011, earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disasters.

"I am determined to search for as many traces as possible, down to the last person," said Tomohiko Sato, a senior officer of Miyagi Prefecture, one of the three prefectures worst hit by the disaster. As of 8 May, 15,891 people have been confirmed dead due to the disaster, while 2,579 people are missing, according to the National Police Agency.

Kyodo News

Motoyuki Sato, professor at the Centre for Northeast Asian Studies of Tohoku University, seeks traces of those still unaccounted for since the 11 March, 2011, disaster in the northeastern Japan town of Namie by using a portable radar on 11 May, 2015.
KYODO NEWS



Murray stuns clay king Nadal to win Madrid Masters

MADRID, 11 May — Andy Murray continued his remarkable run on clay when he pulled off a stunning upset to dethrone home favourite Rafa Nadal 6-3, 6-2 in the Madrid Masters final on Sunday and claim his second title on the surface in a week.

Following up his debut triumph on the red dust on Monday in Munich, Murray denied Nadal a third straight triumph in the Spanish capital — and record fifth overall — and raised fresh doubts over the Spaniard's form heading into the French Open.

The Briton's strong performances this week suggest he may be a real contender in Paris, when holder Nadal, who has struggled for consistency since returning from injury and illness, will be bidding for a record-extending 10th Roland Garros crown. "To play Rafa in Spain is extremely tough and this is the reason why we play tennis for these matches," Murray said after receiving the trophy from Spain's Queen Sofia. "It's one of the toughest things in tennis to try to beat Rafa on clay," added the 27-year-old. "I'll keep trying to play well over the next few weeks with Roland Garros just around the corner."

Murray had never beaten third-seeded Nadal on clay in six attempts but raced into a 3-0 lead at the futuristic magic box arena and fended off three break points to close out the set.

The world number three broke Nadal twice more to open a 4-0 lead in the second and finished him off on his first match point when the Mallorcan sent a weak forehand return into the net. Nadal, 28, congratulated Murray for a "great season" and said he would try to keep working back to top form at this week's Rome Masters before heading to the French capital. "Obviously, this wasn't the match I wanted or expected to play today," Nadal said.

"Although it's not nice to end it like this, it has been a very important week for me, very positive, in which I rediscovered sensations I had not had on a tennis court for a long time," he added.

It was Murray's 10th Masters crown and 33rd career title, while Nadal missed out on a record-extending 28th Masters and 66th title overall. Nadal needed a win to stay fourth in the world rankings and he will drop to seven when they are updated, putting him outside the top five for the first time in a decade.—Reuters



Britain's Andy Murray (R) and Spain's Rafael Nadal hold their trophies after their final match at the Madrid Open tennis tournament in Madrid, Spain on 10 May, 2015.—REUTERS



Players of silver medalist Myanmar women's football team in AFF Women's Championship 2015 being welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by officials of Myanmar Football Federation, staff of Ayeyawady Bank, players of Myanmar U-19 women's team and Myanmar U-18 men's team and families on 11 May afternoon.—MFF

Atletico miss chance to pull away in third

MADRID, 11 May — Atletico Madrid squandered a chance to all but secure their place in next season's Champions League group stage when Fernando Torres had to come off the bench to rescue a 2-2 draw at La Liga strugglers Levante on Sunday. After fourth-placed Valencia drew 2-2 at Real Madrid on Saturday, a win for the champions would have propelled them six points clear in third with two games left but they slipped up against a team fighting for their top-flight status.

Villarreal made no such mistake in their match at home to Elche, a 1-0 victory thanks to Joel Campbell's first goal for the club securing sixth place and a berth in Europa League qualifying.

Sevilla's hopes of overhauling Valencia and clinching a spot in Champions League qualifying suffered a setback, however, when the Europa League holders let slip the lead and drew 1-1 at mid-table Celta Vigo. Atletico have

77 points from 36 matches, with Valencia on 73 and Sevilla in fifth on 70, 13 ahead of Villarreal. Malaga, who won 2-1 at Almeria on Sunday, are seven points behind Villarreal in seventh.

Leaders Barcelona (90 points) are on the brink of a fifth title in seven years after they won 2-0 at home to Real Sociedad on Saturday to stretch their advantage over Real (86) to four points.

Levante's David Barral tapped in at the far post in the 32nd minute to put the 14th-placed club ahead at their Ciutat de Valencia stadium before Guilherme Siqueira levelled for Atletico with a smart volley three minutes later.

Atletico fell behind again in the 63rd minute when Kalu Uche bundled the ball over the line and Torres secured a point when he nodded powerfully home

following a corner 10 minutes from time.

"We knew what it means to play here, where Levante are very strong," Siqueira told Spanish television.

"In this final part of the season every point is crucial," added the Brazilian. "We have two games left to make sure of the third spot that we want."

This weekend's matches are being played under the cloud of a possible strike orchestrated by the Spanish soccer federation (RFEF) and the players' union (AFE) due to a dispute over a new law on collective bargaining for the sale of television rights.

The two organizations, who complain the law does not take their interests sufficiently into account, have threatened to halt games from 16 May, meaning the last two La Liga match days and the King's Cup final between Barca and Athletic Bilbao are under threat.

Reuters



Atletico Madrid's Arda Turan (L) and Levante's Kalu Uche fight for the ball during their Spanish first division soccer match at the Ciudad de Valencia stadium in Valencia, Spain on 10 May, 2015.—REUTERS

Chelsea competed for Premier League dignity: Mourinho

LONDON, 11 May — It was not a vintage Chelsea performance but manager Jose Mourinho said his newly-crowned champions competed for the dignity of the Premier League in their 1-1 draw against Liverpool on Sunday.

The visitors welcomed Chelsea on to the pitch with a guard of honour at Stamford Bridge and the hosts responded by taking the lead after five minutes when John Terry headed

in from a corner. Visiting captain Steven Gerrard capitalized on some slack defending to nod home the equalizer just before half-time but neither side could make the decisive breakthrough in the second half. "It was a proper game. It was not a pre-season game. Both teams were trying to get a result. Were Chelsea at their top? No. But were we at a level where we show we want to compete? Clearly," Mourinho told the BBC.

"It's normal, people like Jon Mikel Obi, Loic Remy, Ruben Loftus-Cheek, many weeks without playing, in the second half they felt it.

"The second half was a bit difficult for us but we competed for what we have to compete for, the dignity of the Premier League."

Gerrard, teased by Chelsea fans about his slip last season which allowed Demba Ba to score at Anfield and undermined their title hopes, got a standing

ovation when he was substituted as he prepares to join LA Galaxy at the end of the season. Mourinho was delighted Gerrard, a player he tried to sign for Chelsea, Inter Milan and Real Madrid, was given a warm send off by the home crowd. "I'm so happy with that. The negative song Chelsea fans sing for him is respect for an old, dear enemy that fought so much against us in every competition," the Portuguese coach said. "After

that, the standing applause is amazing. To get it at Anfield he gets it week in week out, year after year but away from home it shows a lot.

"Moments like that and when Crystal Palace come here and fight and win, Burnley fight like lions, us losing at home to a League One team in Bradford, moments like that make this country special."

Chelsea have 84 points from 36 games, 11 more than second-placed Man-



Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho

chester City, and visit West Bromwich Albion and host Sunderland in their final two matches of the season.

Reuters