

Vice President U Nyan Tun inspects development tasks in Sittway

SITTWAY, 6 March— Vice President U Nyan Tun arrived in Sittway by special flight on Friday and he was greeted frankly by the local people and government staff on both sides of the road to Sittway. Then, the vice president and party inspected the upgrading of roads in Sittway with the technical assistance from Korea by local companies, installation of power lines and other development tasks and greeted the local people cordially.

At the briefing hall, Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Maung Maung Ohn reported to the vice president on the upgrading of drainage system, beautification of the mouth of the Kaladan river and urban development tasks along the river being carried out with the arrangements of the state government.

Then, official reported to the vice president on building of 2,250-mile long banks along the river and



Vice President U Nyan Tun meets local people in Sittway.—MNA

urban land development under the Kaladan Project, benefits for local people, and development of hotel industry.

After hearing reports, the vice president urged the

officials to place an emphasis on beautification of the town so that people can lead healthy lives, to cooperate with foreign and local experts for the successful implementation of the project

and to consult with environmental conservation associations so that the project will not pollute the river and affect the water flow.

Then, the vice president and party proceeded to

the cape of point in Sittway where he heard reports on development of the cape with cultural heritages and natural beauty. The chief minister also reported to (See page 3)

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Stakeholders gather to provide suggestions on 2015-2016 Union Budget

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 6 March— Lawmakers, economists, civic groups and other stakeholders gathered Friday in Yangon to share ideas for the 2015-2016 budget, which is soon to be discussed in parliament.

At the pre-budget consultation workshop, panelist U Zaw Pe Win called for a balanced budget,

pointing out that the country has had a persistent deficit totalling more than K7,200 billion for the three previous fiscal years.

In his presentation of points to be considered before drafting and approving the Union budget, U Zaw Pe Win, who is also the principal of the Human Development Institute, stressed the need for raising revenues and reduc-

ing spending to mitigate the persistent deficit in the budget.

Another panellist, Myanmar Fishery Federation vice chairman U Hnin Oo, said, "It is impossible to increase spending without improving the national economy through increased productivity", suggesting import substitution and export promotion of the country's productive sectors as

remedies for the balance of trade deficit.

The MFF vice-chair highlighted the importance of effective resource management to increase earnings. He compared earnings from marine products between Vietnam and Myanmar, with the former gaining \$9 billion from the sector while the latter received only \$400 million, despite having a similar amount of coastline.

If the country earned \$4 billion from this sector this year, the trade deficit of nearly \$3 billion could be covered, thereby contributing towards more spending on the education and health sectors, he added.

In his discussion, U Than Lwin, former vice governor of Myanmar's central bank, suggested creating a medium-term budget process for the projects that cannot be completed before the end of the budget year to carry on the next two or three (See page 3)

Some clauses amended in previous military administrative order

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March — The Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services has released a new military administrative order that amends some clauses in the previous one, according to officials.

According to the amendments announced on Friday, the military tri-

bunal reserves the right to sentence violators of any law described in Index A to death sentence, prison term of unlimited years or highest imprisonment depending on specific violations.

The order was signed by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing himself.—MNA

Myanmar will restrict fishing in bid to conserve marine stocks

YANGON, 6 March — In a bid to conserve fish stocks in Myanmar's waters, the Livestock and Fisheries Ministry will tighten its limits on where and when fishing can be conducted from the 2014-2015 season.

Myanmar has lost more than 90 per cent of its pelagic fish stocks and about 60 per cent of demersal fish stocks due to

overfishing, Deputy Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Area Development U Khin Maung Aye said.

The ministry has shortened the annual open fishing season from three months to 45 days – from May 1 to June 15 in 2013.

Marine fisheries resources surveys undertaken between 1980 and 1983 (See page 2)



Stakeholders take part in a pre-budget consultation workshop in Yangon on Friday.—PHOTO: YE MYINT

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March — The 12th regular session of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continued for the 22nd day in Nay Pyi Taw on Friday, with ministries presenting projects to be included in the 2015-2016 National Planning Bill.

Union Minister for Electric Power U Khin Maung Soe outlined power sector spending to improve access to electricity in regions and states.

Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Win Myint elaborated on the Moe Pwint project for issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards, while Deputy Minister for Energy U Myint Zaw explained measures being taken to control the quality of imported fuel. Deputy Minister for Industry U Myo Aung spoke about

matters related to factories, raw materials and access to local and foreign markets, while Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan explained trade volumes on a year-on-year basis and progress in trading with other countries.

Deputy Minister for Sports U Zaw Win and Deputy Minister for Education Dr Zaw Min Aung presented the undertakings of their respective ministries, as did Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint, Deputy Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security U Htin Aung, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Myint Thein, Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Dr Tin Shwe and Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw.—MNA

Ministries present projects in National Planning Bill



Representatives of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw debate national planning bill.—MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw

Political parties give suggestions on amendment to education law



The hearing for the bill amending National Education Law in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March — Political parties suggested amendments to the education law at the Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) on Friday.

Fifteen political parties held discussions with

the Bill Committee and the Commission for Political, Economic and Legal Affairs, with the chairman of the Bill Committee urging participants to pool ideas to draft a bill to amend the National Education Law.

It took nearly two years of coordination with international scholars and UN agencies for the national education bill to become a law, he stated. Despite being passed by parliament, the law sparked protests, prompting

authorities to rework it.

Student protesters accepted the parliament's invitation to discuss the amendment to the law, but were unable to send a representative, prompting them to ask for another chance. According to the chairman, the parliament will inform them of a new date two or three days in advance. He pledged his committee will give careful consideration and special attention to suggestions made by political parties in writing the bill.

The political parties contributed their opinions to the amendment to the National Education Law.

MNA

Gender-focused photo contest gives opportunity to shutterbugs

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 6 March — Aspiring photographers have the opportunity to gain training and exposure through a competition that aims to bring gender issues into focus.

Organized by the non-profit Gender Equity Network (GEN), the photo contest will run from 15 to 27 March, with 12 candidates to be chosen from the field of applicants.

"The competition is also aimed at ensuring that people know the different impacts of culture and social influences on both males and females through photos," said Daw Tin Mar Shein of GEN.

Before the contest, the shortlisted candidates will

undertake training conducted by the organizer.

"The course covers basic photojournalism, documentary photography, street photography, codes of ethics, basic gender concepts and key points of social norms and cultural practices research," said Daw Tin Mar Shein.

The organizing body will present K700,000 for first prize, K500,000 for second and K300,000 for third, with three consolation prize winners to each receive K100,000.

Interested photographers must send an application to GEN's office in Yangon or gen.myanmar@gmail.com no later than 7 March.—GNLM

Myanmar will restrict...

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estimated a biomass of roughly 1.0 million tonnes of pelagic fish and 0.8 million tonnes of demersal fish in Myanmar waters. Out of this total biomass, 0.5 million tonnes of pelagic fish and 0.55 million tonnes of demersal fish (totalling 1.05 million tonnes of marine fish) were estimated as the Maximum Sustainable Yield, (MSY).

Developing efficient breeding methods and implementing sustainable fishing practises are the two main issues currently facing the country's fishing industry, according to Myanmar Fisheries Federation.

However, to solve the difficulties, Myanmar's fish breeders need more financial assistance, according to the Myanmar Fisheries Federation.

Myanmar Fisheries Federation held a meeting in Yangon on Monday to gather information about the fisheries industry in all parts of the country in attempts to create plans and strategies for development of the country's fisheries industry.

GNLM

Workers at fish processing factory.

PHOTO:
AYE MIN SOE



NATIONAL

Vice President U Nyan Tun inspects development...

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the vice president on the development of the cape.

Afterwards, the vice president and party inspected the dredging of

Satyokya creek and building of banks to prevent land erosion along them. The vice president attended to the needs for the project.

MNA

Rehabilitation to improve peace and stability in Kokang region

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March —Kokang Self-Administered Zone rehabilitation supporting committee is aiming at rehabilitating the socioeconomic status of local people who faced deterioration of peace and stability in Laukkai region, Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun told departmental officials in a meeting on Thursday.

At the General Administration Department of Shan State in Lashio, the union minister who chairs the committee stressed the need to soonest restore peace and stability and prevalence of law and

order in the region for ensuring life security of the people and to undertake rehabilitation tasks in respective sectors.

He called for resumption of administrative machinery in Kokang region with the efforts of service personnel.

Vice Chairman of the committee Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat explained situation in Kokang region, and plans of rehabilitation in the region in respective fiscal years.

After the meeting, the union minister presented K30 million donated by the President to abbot of Thi-

Myanmar, Thailand to promote bilateral relations and cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March —Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing Friday held talks with Permanent Secretary General Sirichai Distakul of the Ministry of Defence of Thailand at Zeyathiri Beikman hall, here, to discuss further strengthening bilateral relations and cooperation between two armed forces of Myanmar and Thailand.

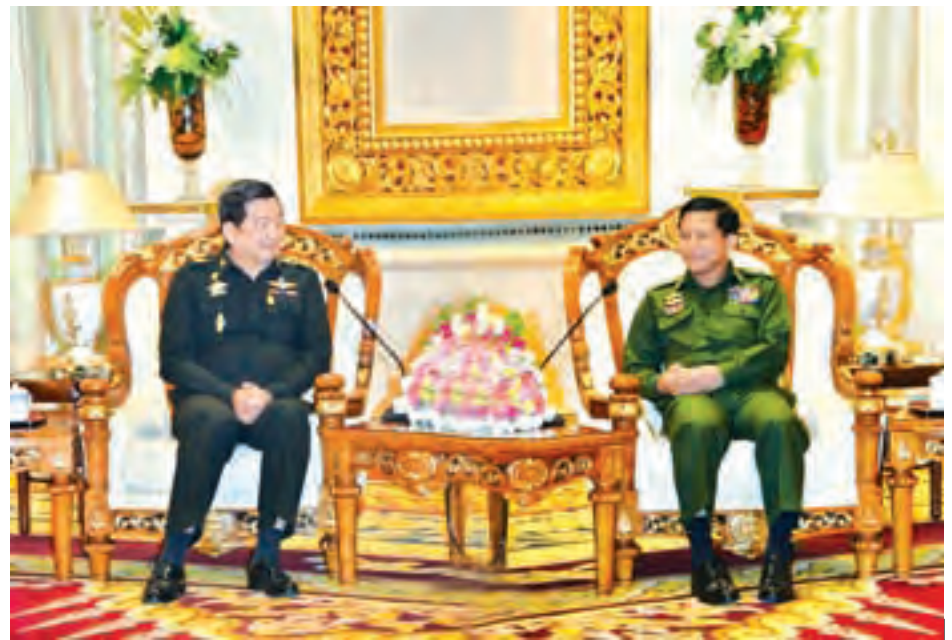
Also present at the call were Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and senior military officers of the office of the commander-in-chief.

The Thai delegation

ri Mingala Manhsu Shan monastery Agga Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja Bhaddanta Punnanda.

He also inspected warehouses of the Ministry of Commerce.

MNA



was accompanied by Thai Military Attaché (Army) Colonel Salawin Uttarak.

Myawady

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Permanent Secretary General Sirichai Distakul of the Ministry of Defence of Thailand.

MYAWADY

3rd Education & Career 2015 attracts Yangonites

YANGON, 6 March — The 3rd Education & Career 2015 kicked off at Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road, here, on Friday morning.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Region Minister for Planning and Economy U Than Myint, Joint Secretary of Myanmar Publishers and Distributors Association, managing director Jemin

Popat of My Jobs.com.mm and director U Aung Aung of Dagon Exhibitions Ltd. launched the exhibition and visited there.

A total of 60 companies keep open 90 booths regarding education services of universities and colleges at home and abroad, local private education schools, business and management schools, IT schools, entrance schools

for foreign languages and foreign universities, hotel and tourism schools, engineer and medical schools, aviation schools, job opportunities and stationery.

Visitors may observe education scholarship in UK, US, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Japan, Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

The exhibition will run up to 8 March.—Kyemon



Union Minister U Hla Tun highlights rehabilitation in Laukkai region.—MNA

Stakeholders gather to . . .

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years, to avoid spending on unwanted matters. He also called for a system of checks and balances in the monetary process.

During the discussion session, those from CSOs and the media called for disseminating simplified budget information for bet-

ter understanding among the people, and for increasing accountability through budget transparency.

Since 2012-2013, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (RUMFCCI) and Action Aid Myanmar has been organizing the

workshop as part of budget advocacy and transparency in order to engage CSOs, government officials, parliamentarians and other stakeholders on budget issues. The third workshop is aimed at continuing the same approach to ensure budget transparency and public awareness on the budget process.

GNLM



Chief Minister U Myint Swe visits booths at 3rd Education & Career 2015.

KYEMON

Anti-human trafficking units receive training to help victims

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 6 March — Police will receive training on a new, victim-centered approach to human-trafficking cases at a workshop from 10 to 13 March in

Nay Pyi Taw, a source said Friday.

A police official said, “The aim of the workshop is to introduce a system focused on a victim-centered

approach to the members of Anti-Human Trafficking Police Force.”

The three-day workshop will be organized by Myanmar’s Central Body for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons (CB-

STP) under the Ministry of Home Affairs in cooperation with the Warnath Group, an advisory firm which is helping implement the joint Myanmar-United States strategy.

The central body is

now rewriting the current Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law. Police Lt-Col Khin Maung Hla said the law requires amendment due to loopholes.

According to official figures, the number of human trafficking cases from 2006 to 2014 reached 1123

nationwide, with the majority of victims from Shan State, who were sold into forced marriages in China.

The authorities exposed 13 cases between January and February this year involving 79 victims, with 30 able to be rescued, an official said.—GNLM

Township police head shares knowledge about electoral security



NAY PYI TAW, 6 March — With general elections set to be held nationwide this year, the Myanmar Police Force needs to take security measures to ensure voting

is conducted free from interference, Police Major Aung Than, commander of Ottarathiri Township Police Force, told a meeting of officers and departmental officials.

At the meeting Thursday at the township General Administration Department, Police Major Aung Than said police must be prepared to play a crucial role in providing

security for the general elections in 2015.

After that, Chairman of the township election sub-commission U Thein Zaw explained laws and rules on elections. Some 60 police officers and staff from a number of stations in the township attended the meeting.

Shwe Ye Yint



Mobile library service raises reading skills of rural people



NAY PYI TAW, 6 March — A mobile library service is providing books to rural people

with limited access to new reading material.

The service, run by the Information and Pub-

lic Relations Department, under the Ministry of Information, made trips to Letpankhahla and Gonminin villages on Thursday morning.

The mobile library is helping to improve the reading level of rural children, librarian Daw Phyu Sin Ei said.

As children need to read under shelter in the long school holidays in hot season, Township IPRD staff visit Letpankhahla and Gonminin villages every Thursday to provide mobile library services.

Thant Maung (IPRD)

Model plot of gram produces 18 baskets per acre

NYAUNGU, 6 March— Yezin species of gram plants, also known as chickpea, were recently harvested on the model plot in North Phettan village, NyaungU Township, Mandalay Region.

With the technical assistance of staff from Agriculture Department and Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), local farmers harvested the plants on an eight-acre plot on 2 March, producing 18.65 baskets of gram



per acre.

Before harvesting the peas, Head of NyaungU Township Agriculture Department Daw Khin Htay Yi explained characteris-

tics of gram, use of high-yield species, cultivation of plants on model plots and distribution of quality saplings to local growers.

Kyaw Htay

GOLD PRICE, FE RATE (6-3-2015)

Yangon Gold Price

Buying K669,500 per tical: Selling K670,500

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K669,000 per tical: Selling K677,000

FE RATE

USD Buying K 1035: Selling -----

SGD Buying K 760: Selling K766

Euro Buying K 1,135: Selling K1,165



Chairperson Daw Hla Wady of MWEA and 13 CEC members pose for group photo at Yangon International Airport on 4 March before departure for Vietnam to attend ASEAN Women Entrepreneur Forum 2015 (AWEF) in Hanoi on 6 and 7 March.—MWEA

LOCAL NEWS

Fund allotted for undertaking development tasks



MYANAUNG, 6 March — The Township Development Supporting Committee this week handed over K60 million for public works projects in Myanaung, Ayeyawady Region.

The funds were the second phase of a total K100 million allocated to township authorities by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for the 2014-15 fiscal year for development tasks such as construction of roads,

bridges, libraries and supply of potable water.

Ayeyawady Region Hluttaw MPs U Aung Win Swe and U Aung Myo Nyunt and Township Administrator U Min Min Tun explained progress of development tasks, spending the fund and keeping accounts, and the Township Audit Officer elaborated on the manuals for spending the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw fund.

Win Bo (Township IPRD)

New school building ready to accommodate students in coming academic year

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March — An inauguration ceremony marked the opening this week of a new school building at the No 18 Basic Edu-

cation Post-Primary School in Maungyan Village, Ot-tarathiri Township.

Township Education Officer U Khin Maung

Win and managing director U Thawda of Hlyan Htoo Aung Company were in attendance.

Officials handed over

documents related to the one-storey "Sandaku" building, constructed with funds allotted by the Ministry of Education.—Shwe Kokko



People honour servicemen for their sacrifices of life

NYAUNGLEBIN, 6 March — Local residents, town officials and civic groups have made cash donations to the family of Lieutenant Zarni Aung of No 115 Light Infantry Regiment, who was killed in the line of duty in Laukkai region on 1 March.

People of Nyaunglebin Township expressed their sympathy over the fallen serviceman by donating cash to

his parent U Soe Nyunt-Daw Toe Toe at No 73 on Thama Seikti Street in Ward 2, Nyaunglebin, Bago Region.

Township Administrator U Thein Zaw Kan, Chairperson of Township Women's Affairs Organization Daw Nang Shwe Nwe, Chairman of Township Development Affairs Supporting Committee U Thein Naing and officials comforted the parents of

the serviceman and presented cash donations.

U Maung Gyi, a family member of Lieutenant Zarni Aung accepted cash donations and expressed thanks.

People of the township also donated K2 million for military servicemen from Toungoo Township who sacrificed life for the nation in Laukkai region in February.

Nay Lin (Nyaunglebin)

Talks spread knowledge about consumer protection

NYAUNGLEBIN, 6 March — Bago Region Commercial and Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce held a talk about the consumer protection law at the hall of Nyaunglebin Township Gen-

eral Administration Department, Bago Region, on Thursday.

Staff Officer U Aung Thaik of Bago Region Department provided details about the consumer protection law, inappropriate foodstuffs, as well as

rules and regulations for consumers.

Staff of the department distributed pamphlets on consumer laws and a list of inappropriate foodstuffs to local people.

Nay Lin (Nyaunglebin)



Free vaccination programme aims to eradicate preventable disease

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March — Health staff of Zabuthiri Township have been visiting rural areas to vaccinate children under one-and-a-half years old and pregnant mothers in an effort to reduce the number of deaths from preventable diseases.

On Thursday, midwife Daw San San Myint of Shadaw rural health branch vaccinated the children and expectant mothers against measles, polio, TB and BCG

free of charge.

Health staff of Shadaw health branch

give health care services to children and people every Tuesday,

Wednesday and Friday.—Thant Maung (IPRD)



Singapore ex-leader Lee's condition in intensive care "unchanged"

SINGAPORE, 6 March — The condition of Singapore's former Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, who has been in the intensive care unit of a hospital aided by mechanical ventilation for the past month, remains "largely unchanged," the Singapore government said on Friday.

The 91-year-old Lee, regarded as the founding father of modern Singapore, has been staying at a state-owned hospital since being admitted with severe pneumonia on 5 February.

His "condition remains largely unchanged since the last update," said a statement from the office of Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, his son, adding that

"the doctors continue to monitor his condition."

The previous update on 28 February had said that his condition "has improved slightly" but that "he remains sedated and on mechanical ventilation in the ICU at Singapore General Hospital" and was continuing with his antibiotics.

In late February, several state-owned media quoted government sources in dispelling rumours that he had died. The senior Lee was Singapore's prime minister from 1959 until 1990 and has been credited for the small island state's transformation from a colonial backwater into Southeast Asia's wealthiest economy.—Kyodo News

MH370 search to continue: Malaysian official

PUTRAJAYA, (Malaysia), 6 March—The search for the Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370 that disappeared on 8 March last year will continue, Malaysian Transport Minister Liow Tiong Lai told reporters on Friday.

Liow told a Press conference in the Ministry of Transport, "so far, over 26,000 square km of the seafloor, or over 40 percent of the total priority zone, have been searched for the missing Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370." The searching vessels are focusing on a 60,000-square-km priority zone, with the hunt scheduled to end in May.

Questioned on whether there would be no more search when the searching of 60,000 square km end in May, the official said, "it totally depends on the conclusion of the experts including those involved in the investigation of the incident."

He said Malaysia had already spent about 60 million Ringgit (about 18 million US dollars) on the search which is also funded by Australia and supported by China.

He said the weather condition in the South Indian Ocean is at present comparatively good and one more ship from Malaysia is to join the search.

The Malaysia Airlines jet disappeared enroute from Kuala Lumpur for Beijing on 8 March, 2014 with 239 people on board. So far no trace has been found despite a massive surface and underwater hunt.

The search is jointly carried out by Australia, Malaysia and China in the Indian Ocean some 1,600 km off Australia's west coast, with four ships using sophisticated sonar systems to scour a huge underwater area.

Xinhua

Japan eyes MI6-style spy agency as it seeks to shed pacifist past



A pedestrian walks past television screens displaying a news programme about Japanese journalist Kenji Goto, who was held hostage by Islamic State militants, on a street in Tokyo in this 1 Feb, 2015 file photo.

REUTERS

TOKYO, 6 March — Japan is looking into creating an overseas intelligence agency possibly modelled on Britain's MI6 spy service, ruling party lawmakers say, 70 years after Allied victors dismantled Japan's fearsome military intelligence apparatus following World War Two.

A new foreign intelligence agency would be an integral part of a security framework Prime Minister

Shinzo Abe is building as he seeks to loosen the post-war pacifist constitution's limits on the military's ability to operate overseas.

The idea that Japan's fragmented intelligence community needs a makeover has also gained momentum since the killing of two Japanese captives by Islamic State militants in Syria earlier this year showed how much Tokyo relied on friendly countries for in-

formation. Abe has already set up a US-style National Security Council and enacted strict state secrets legislation, and is now working on laws to lift a ban on exercising the right of collective self-defence, or militarily aiding an ally under attack.

"To become a 'normal country', an intelligence agency is vital," said Takushoku University professor Takashi Kawakami, using a phrase referring to shedding constitutional constraints that conservatives say limit Japan's ability to defend itself.

Lawmakers in Abe's Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) hope to draft proposals in the autumn after visiting countries such as Britain, whose MI6 foreign intelligence service is a possible model. If the LDP and the government conclude a new agency is needed, legislation could be enacted next year, LDP lawmaker Takeshi Iwaya told Reuters in a recent interview.

"In an age when we

don't know when or where Japanese lives will be at risk ... we need to collect more overseas information," said Iwaya, who heads a team studying the issue.

Asked about the idea of a new spy agency in parliament recently, Abe said his government wanted to research the issue while working to bolster Japan's intelligence capabilities.

Japan's existing intelligence community has about 4,400 personnel split into units under different ministries, but has been hampered by a reluctance to share secrets across bureaucratic lines, experts say.

That reluctance to work closely stemmed partly from a lack of rules setting common standards for preventing leaks of classified information, a problem that has been eased by the state secrets law that took effect in December. Turf battles, however, persist, complicating the outlook for a new intelligence agency.

Reuters

Australia complains over Indonesia's treatment of death row prisoners

SYDNEY/JAKARTA, 6 March — Australia has complained about the treatment of two drug smugglers, who face execution in Indonesia, and wants to lodge a formal protest after a smiling Indonesian police chief was photographed posing with the men, officials said on Friday. The planned executions of Myuran Sukumaran, 33, and Andrew Chan, 31, have ramped up diplomatic tension between Australia and Indonesia after repeated pleas for mercy on their behalf. They are among a group of up to 11 convicts, mostly foreigners, due to be executed on the prison island of Nusakambangan.

The pair were moved from their prison in Bali on

Wednesday, shackled and under heavy guard and taken by armored vehicle, first to board a flight to Java and then a short ferry ride to the island. Photos of a senior police officer posing with the two men on board the flight to Java, surrounded by balaclava-clad security officers, provoked outrage in Australia. "DFAT (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade) have spoken with the Indonesian ambassador and lodged a complaint about the treatment — it's not just the photographs, it's the overall treatment of the two boys," a spokeswoman for Foreign Minister Julie Bishop said.

"The foreign minister will be seeking to meet with the Indonesian ambassa-

dor," she said. No time for the meeting had been set. Indonesian Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi said the government had taken note of Australia's most recent complaint and did not want to damage the relationship with "our friends".

"We understand the request because it's part of every government's effort to protect their nationals," she told reporters. "However, once again, this is an issue of the sovereignty of law of another country. Please also respect that." On Thursday, Indonesia rejected a proposal from Bishop for a prisoner swap made in an 11th hour effort to save the lives of Chan and Sukumaran, saying there was no legal basis.

Australia does not have the death penalty and a recent survey by the Sydney-based Lowy Institute think tank showed nearly two-thirds of the public disapproved of the executions. Indonesia is expected to decide on the date for the executions in a few days. "We need to take note that there are legal processes currently being carried out, there are technical matters we need to prepare," attorney general spokesman Tony Spontana told reporters. "We will check one by one, so when the time comes to carry out (the executions) everything is clear and there are no problems later." He said the executions would not take place this week.

Reuters

'Made in China' nuclear reactors a tough sell in global market



Workers (bottom) stand in front of a nuclear reactor as part of the Taishan Nuclear Power Plant seen under construction in Taishan, Guangdong Province, on 17 Oct, 2013. — REUTERS

HONG KONG/BEIJING, 6 March — As China signs global deals to export its nuclear power technology, it faces a huge obstacle: it still

needs to show it can build and safely operate these reactors at home.

Aided by foreign technology acquired during three

decades of development, China has the highest number of reactors being built and ambitions to export its home-grown models to an overseas market worth hundreds of billions of dollars. Premier Li Keqiang told an annual parliamentary meeting this week that the China aimed to increase its share of global sales in a range of advanced industries, including implementing major projects in nuclear power. And in a sign of progress on export-

ing its own nuclear technology, China signed a preliminary agreement last month to sell its flagship Hualong 1 reactor to Argentina. But despite state media describing the deal as the model's "maiden voyage", China has not yet built Hualong 1, raising questions about the country's capacity to deliver reactors for the global market. "Our fatal weakness is our management standards are not high enough. There is a big gap with international

standards," said Xu Lianyi, a senior expert at China's State Nuclear Power Technology Corp (SNPTC), referring to the challenges China faces expanding its nuclear power sector. SNPTC, which was set up to receive technology transferred from Westinghouse Electric Co, is trying to develop another reactor ultimately targeted at the world market.

Although China has operated Western-designed reactors at home for more

than 20 years, it will need to convince buyers of the reliability of its own technology, particularly given a checkered reputation on industrial standards and safety in some other areas such as mining. China's first Hualong 1 project, in Fujian province, may not be completed until 2020, assuming it breaks ground this year and construction goes smoothly, said Li Ning, dean of the School of Energy Research at Xiamen University.—Reuters

Japan, France to hold “2-plus-2” security talks in Tokyo

TOKYO, 6 March — Japan and France will hold a meeting of their foreign and defence ministers in Tokyo on 13 March, Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida said on Friday.

Kishida told a Press conference that the ministers will meet to confirm their cooperation in the fight against terrorism in the second round of the so-called “two-plus-two” meeting.

“France is a key partner in moving forward Japan’s policy of proactive contributions to peace,” he said.

Japan and France held the first meeting of their foreign and defence chiefs in Paris in January last year.

France suffered terrorist attacks this January which left 17 people dead, while two Japanese citizens were taken hostage and killed by Islamic State extremists.

Kishida said he and Defence Minister Gen Nakatani will attend the talks, while Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius and Defence Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian will represent the French side.

The ministers are expected to agree on a pact to jointly develop defence equipment such as an unmanned underwater vehicle for warning and surveillance activities, according to sources close to bilateral ties.

Kishida said he and Fabius will hold a strategic dialogue the day after the meeting on the sidelines of a UN conference on disaster risks in Sendai, Miyagi Prefecture.

The fifth round of such dialogue between Kishida and Fabius, who will attend the conference, is expected to focus on issues such as disaster management, the ministry said.

Kyodo News

South Korea police investigate US ambassador attacker’s visits to North

SEOUL, 6 March — South Korean police said on Friday they are investigating possible links between a knife attack on the US ambassador to Seoul and the assailant’s multiple visits to North Korea, as they also sought to charge him with attempted murder.

US ambassador Mark Lippert needed 80 stitches after his face was slashed at a forum discussing Korean unification in the capital, Seoul, on Thursday. The attack was carried out by a Korean nationalist who said he was protesting against annual US-South Korean military exercises that began this week.

A senior official in the team investigating the attack said police had requested a formal detention warrant, on charges that include attempted murder, for the assailant, identified as 55-year old Kim Ki-jong.

Investigators have established that Kim made seven visits to North Korea between 1999 and 2007.

“We are investigating whether there is any connection between the suspect’s visits to North Korea and the crime committed against the US ambassador,” Yoon Myeong-seong, chief of police in Seoul’s central Jongno district, told reporters.

Most South Koreans have never visited the secretive North. The two states technically remain at war under a truce that ended the 1950-53 Korea War, and a heavily armed border divides the peninsula.

Kim denied on Friday that his actions were connected in any way with North Korea, calling the suggestion “nonsense”, and told reporters he had never been to the North, as he left a police station and headed to court for his warrant hearing.

According to South Korea’s Unification Ministry, Kim planted trees near the North Korean city of Kaesong, near the border, during his visits there. The ministry said it had authorised his visit requests at the time. Kim also faces charges for assaulting a foreign envoy and obstructing business operations. Police raided his home and office early on Friday, looking for evidence of whether he also broke a state security law that bans supporting North Korea.

In 2010, Kim tried to attack the Japanese ambassador to South Korea by throwing a piece of concrete and was given a suspended jail term, according to police.—*Reuters*

Iran minister says sanctions must be lifted before nuclear agreement

MONTREUX, (Switzerland), 6 March — Western economic sanctions should be lifted completely, rather than gradually, before an agreement can be reached in talks on the Iranian nuclear issue, Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said on Thursday in an exclusive interview with *Kyodo News*.

“Sanctions and an agreement don’t go together,” said Zarif, showing a significant difference with nuclear negotiators called the P5+1, at a time when both sides are aiming to conclude a framework agreement by the end of March.

Zarif said a gradual lifting of the sanctions on Iran is not “very conducive” to confidence building. “We have a very clear mandate that all sanctions must go.”

The talks are expected to resume 15 March in Geneva, Switzerland.

neva, Switzerland.

The P5+1 group, referring to the five nuclear powers plus Germany, and particularly the United States, is pushing for step-by-step lifting to ensure that Iran will fulfill its commitment under the intended nuclear agreement.

Iran’s supreme leader Ali Khamenei, who has the last word on foreign policy, has emphasized that all sanctions must be removed as a vital condition for a comprehensive accord.

Zarif said the remaining difficulties in the talks are not technical anymore and are political, urging the West to make a political decision.

The foreign minister stressed the importance of creating a verification mechanism to secure the implementation of the agreement, as how to ensure the transparency of Iran’s nuclear programme

has been another focus of the talks.

“If there is an agreement and our parliament approves, Iran is accepting to abide by even more stringent international controls,” he said.

However, he said Iran will not accept “arbitrary and unfounded” requests about the Parchin military facility near Teheran, which has been suspected as a nuclear test site.

In Vienna last November, both sides in the talks agreed to aim at a framework agreement by late March.

But Zarif said “before all details come together, we will not have an agreement,” in line with the supreme leader’s sudden opposition to a two-stage agreement.

About the possibility of reaching a final deal, he said he saw signs and difficulties as well.



Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif

One of the difficulties apparently comes from the US Congress where Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu made a speech on Tuesday opposing such an agreement with Iran.

Zarif criticized the speech as an attempt to make reaching an agreement more difficult. The Iranian foreign minister was in Montreux, western Switzerland, for three-day nuclear talks through Wednesday with US Secretary of State John Kerry. It was his first exclusive interview with Japanese media.—*Kyodo News*

After battle, frostbite in the ruins of Ukraine’s Donetsk

DONETSK, 6 March — Former crane-operator Alexander Zubko staggers along the dark hospital corridor leaning on a stick. He survived when a mortar bomb hit his house but lost his toes to frostbite after sleeping in the snow-covered rubble.

Zubko, 57, saw the war in East Ukraine at its worst.

An eight-month long battle over the Donetsk international airport levelled his neighbourhood, a region of Donetsk called Oktyabrski, laying waste to its one-storey houses and leaving the tails of rockets sticking out of the pavement.

In December, at the height of violence, he came home to find out his house had been hit.

“I had no other place to live. My documents were burnt. I had nothing to wear and froze without windows,” Zubko recalls. So he slept in the frozen ruins.



A Ukrainian army armoured vehicle, destroyed in fighting with the separatist self-proclaimed Donetsk People’s Republic army, lies outside a terminal at Donetsk airport on 3 March, 2015—REUTERS

“I didn’t feel my feet. The skin came off. I felt they were frozen and figured I should go to hospital,” he said pointing at the small stubs of his feet, covered in valenki, or heavy felt boots, sized to fit a child.

Separatists won the battle in January over the airport, once a gleaming new structure rebuilt for the 2012

European football championship, then the most bitterly contested ground in a war that has killed 6,000 people.

The airport itself was reduced to rubble in a months-long siege that saw both sides fire barrages of artillery and heavy rockets. The small, once picturesque neighbourhoods that surrounded it were demolished

in the crossfire.

In Zubko’s neighbourhood of Oktyabrski, rebels still man positions on the lookout for signs of a Ukrainian advance.

In hospital, Zubko has no hot water or heating. Some wards are closed due to damage from shelling. Sergei Gurtovoy, a doctor on duty, says following a freezing winter, others among his 70 patients had been admitted for frozen limbs. Zubko stays in the hospital and says he has no place to go.

Many of the nurses whose homes have been damaged or destroyed also live in the dank basement, where pools of water collect under the ageing pipes of the old building.

The chief nurse sleeps on a bench in a room reserved for medical archives. Her colleagues build makeshift beds out of chairs.

Reuters

APEC meeting seeks to boost infrastructure development

MANILA, 6 March — Deputies from finance ministries and central banks of member economies of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) on Friday discussed ways to develop infrastructure construction and improve financial resiliency in the region.

The senior officials gathered in Tagaytay city in northern Philippine province of Cavite for the APEC

Finance and Central Bank Deputies’ Meeting, which was held from 5 to 6 March. Some of the pertinent topics of the meeting were withstanding external shocks, surviving weak global markets, and natural calamities. “Boosting financial resiliency and infrastructure development poses the benefit of ensuring that economic gains of the region can be sustained,” said the Philip-

pine Finance Undersecretary Gil Beltran on Friday during the meeting. Financial resiliency and infrastructure development are the third and fourth pillars, respectively, of the Cebu Action Plan, which is a medium- to long-term development roadmap for Asia-Pacific economies that is proposed by the Philippines.

Along with efforts by the Philippines and other

APEC member economies toward financial resiliency and infrastructure development, there was a consensus that it is necessary to implement more measures. The discussions that took place during the Finance and Central Bank Deputies’ Meeting will be taken up once again in the APEC Finance Ministers’ Meeting in central Philippine city of Cebu this September.—*Xinhua*

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 7 March, 2015

No time to lose for the good of the country

By Kyaw Thura

Nobody is foolish enough to risk their lives for a pointless exercise. As we cannot get something for nothing, we have to earn a living at least for our basic subsistence needs.

There is nothing wrong with aiming high. In today's world, everyone dreams of a society that encourages upward social mobility. High ambition propels us into action, but only a few are found to be able

to swing into high gear in pursuit of their dreams. In this respect, the widely-held belief that we are all created equal is not flawless.

It is safe to assume that in every country across the world there is a silent majority. It is important to listen to their voices, which in fact reflects the real situation of the country.

People elect governments to serve their interests and the wellbeing of their own country, in the hope that parliamentarians stay in touch with the grassroots. Nobody likes being ignored by their elected representatives.

General Aung San, a national leader who was assassinated by stooges kept by colonialists, once stated that the government should be blamed if the majority has to eke out a miserable existence. No leader in his right mind will turn a blind eye and a deaf ear to their plight.

Thus, all governments are responsible for indentifying unvoiced frustrations of the silent majority, es-

pecially of those who stay away from protests. It is not a good idea to sweep disruptions under the rug, which will sooner or later become a bump that is difficult to handle.

The time has come for the powers that be to come together and flex their leadership muscle and try to decide what should be done for the good of the country.

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Invest in Health to Build a Safer, Happier and Healthier Future for Women

Dr. Aung Soe (a) Aung Kyaw Moe
Retired State Medical Superintendent

An early morning scenario of an extended family living in an average household: grandma Phwa Sein is reciting prayers in the front room; mother Daw Moe is busy preparing breakfast for the family; eldest daughter Ma Saw is in hurry to fill tiffin-boxes in time for her school going brother and sister, while her younger sister Ma Latt is in rush to select thick files before heading to an INGO where she works. Other male and female family members are also getting prepared for their respective day-long activities.

This happy home scenario in Myanmar coincides with the International Women's Day on 8 March. The UN adopted International Women's Day creates awareness all over the world for welfare of woman, accounting fairness, gender equity, development, political, social economical achievements, safety, protection from violence and so forth.

Observing to vicinity, in families and communities, in political, social and economical fields, we may find some positive gains in women's welfare. Lady politicians, government officials, parliament members, doctors, engineers, architectures, professors, CEOs, INGO, NGO executives are not scarce.

On the other face of the coin, unfortunately, violence and sexual abuse prevails, including the shocking news of child rape! Around the globe, one young woman was gang-raped to death, another

committed suicide out of a sense of shame that should have attached to perpetrators, while young teens were shot at short range for daring to seek education, as described in UNSG's statement.

If we look at women around us, who cherish in our families and communities, we may note a statistical likelihood that many of them have suffered violence in their lifetime. Many have comforted a sister, daughter, aunt or friend, sharing their anger and grief following a violence. One should convert his or her outrage into action and declare to prosecute crime, against weaker sex, determine never to allow women to be subjected to punishments for the abuses they have suffered. In homes and workplaces, in war zones and placid countries, we should renew our pledge to combat this global health menace. Such social, economical, psychological and health issues as teen-age pregnancies, in adequate ante-natal care, criminal abortions, pre-terms, malnutrition, unhygienic confinements, post-partem hemorrhages, improper post-natal care, incomplete puerperal attention, insufficient child cares, post-traumatic psychological distress and disease (PTSD) are prevalent end-results. It should be the duty of every human being to contribute changing the mind set of evil people who allow crimes and violence to continue. A special promise should be made to women in conflict situations, where sexual offence too

often becomes a tool of war aimed at humiliating the enemy by destroyed their dignity and prestige.

In New York, at the Commission on the Statue of Women, world's largest-ever UN assembly was held in 2013 on ending violence against women. Many governments, groups and individuals contributed to this gathering and campaign. The United Nations system is advancing its UNiTE to End Violence against Women campaign, which is based on the simple but powerful premise that all women and girls have a fundamental human right to live free of violence.

On this auspicious day of International Women's Day, let me discuss some health-related issues of women, viz, health awareness, life expectancy, disease prevention, life-style, occurrence of communicable as well as non-communicable diseases such as cancer, etc.

Health consciousness is one of the key factors for protection from health challenges including cancers, which in turn add more years to life. Eminent Hollywood film actress Angelina Jolie who devoted herself in social welfare deeds in some under developed countries, such as raising poor children and orphans and HIV victims is an example of health conscious woman. Realizing that she is prone to get cancer of her reproductive organs which first originates in breast, due to presence of a cancer-promoting enzyme, and being 'positive' familial history, she daringly underwent a surgical operation and sacrificed her both breasts,

which, of course, accounts for her unique feminine beauty, attraction and artistic performances. Thanks to modern scientific technology, artificial prostheses completely masked her from disfiguration and maintained the curves. Although over forty years of ages, she stood first as the most beautiful woman on this earth, over passing the youngsters, in a recent world-wide referendum among film fans, conducted by Hollywood film industries.

Please don't run away with the idea that all cancer suspected woman should undergo bilateral mastectomy. Instead, women should be careful of environment, diet and life style to prevent cancer, up to some extent. At least 30 percent of all cancers are preventable, it is learnt. To quit smoking, stop alcohol, avoid betel quads during pregnancy and lactation are advised for women's health as well as children's well-being.

Vaccinations for Hepatitis B, examination of Pap smear and vaccination against Human Papilloma Virus are recommended. In Asia, in every four minutes one woman dies due to cervical cancer, statistics reveal. Regular cervical screening in accordance with guidelines should continue alongside vaccination. Intra muscular Anti Tetanus Toxoid beyond first trimester of pregnancy three times, at two weeks intervals is a schedule for prevention of maternal as well as neonatal tetanus.

Early detection of breast cancer is crucial. Every adult and adolescent woman should learn and

practice breast-self-examination on daily basis before and during showers.

Women should avoid eating for two during pregnancy. Women who "eat for two" when they are pregnant are increasing the chances of problems giving birth and lifelong health issues for their children, according to a New Zealand-led international study.

The study found that 74 percent of women pregnant for the first time, gained excessive amounts of weight during pregnancy, quadrupling the chance of having an excessively large child at birth and increasing the number of cesarean deliveries in labour.

"Big babies become big children and big adults later on," said Professor Lesley McCowan, of the University of Auckland, who led the study.

"Babies born large are at risk of traumatic birth, and cesarean delivery increases the chance of complications for the mother," said Mcwan in a statement.

"These adverse outcomes can be modified by achieving optimal weight gain in pregnancy. This should be an important focus of ante-natal care."

Weight gain during pregnancy was also an important cause of obesity in women. "Most women who gain too much weight are not able to lose that weight after pregnancy and it puts those women on a trajectory to becoming obese." She said.

"Excessive weight gain during pregnancy will not only exacerbate existing obesity, but will contribute to later obesity in women who start pregnancy with a

normal body mass index but have excessive weight gain in pregnancy," she said.

Myanmar is struggling hard to get out of Least Developed Countries list by multispectral strategies and expecting some gains. Life expectancy gap is growing between rich and poor world women, the World Health Organization reveals. Worldwide life expectancy for women at 50 has improved according to scientific data, but the gap between poor and rich countries is growing and would worsen.

A WHO study, one of the first to analyze the causes of death of older women, found that in wealthier countries deaths from non communicable diseases has fallen dramatically in recent decades, especially from cancers of the stomach, colon, breast and cervix. Women over 50 in low and middle income countries are also living longer, but chronic ailments, including diabetes, kill them at an earlier age than their counterparts, it said. The gap in life expectancy between such women in rich and poor countries is growing, said the WHO study, part of an issue of the WHO's monthly bulletin devoted to women's health.

More women can expect to live longer and not just survive child birth and childhood. But what WHO found is that improvement is much stronger in the rich world than in the poor world.

On this auspicious International Women's Day awareness should be created to invest in health to build a safer, happier and healthier Myanmar.

NATIONAL

Elections and responsibility of the media

By Ye Khaung, Nanda, Myat Thandar

The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

(Clause 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights)

Free and fair elections are fundamental to the democratic system. The media plays a role by rapidly disseminating information about politicians, parties, the government and the election commission before and during elections. In addition, the media also has a responsibility to communicate the expectations, desires and will of the people to competing political parties and political forces.

It is a challenge for the media to be fair and unbiased in reporting election news. The election of a trustworthy government to fulfil the will

of the people relies on the coverage of the media.

In his latest message, President U Thein Sein said that the General Election would be held in the first week of November, 2015. The international community is closely watching the 2015 General Election in Myanmar's transition.

Embassies of Australia, Denmark, the EU, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States have been notably assisting the Myanmar Government and non-governmental organisations in the

election process, according to a statement of the embassies dated 3 March.

The statement also said such assistance is being given as the election is proof of democratic reform in Myanmar.

Also mentioned in the statement is one of the assistance programs, a course for the media to report trustworthy and unbiased news. Media freedom, freedom of expression, being free from racial discrimination and protection of human rights by the people are essential for trustworthy elections.

With the assistance of the US Government, the

Washington-based International Center for Journalists organized courses on covering election news in Yangon and Mandalay for the first time.

Although coverage of the 2010 elections was lower in the printed media, by-elections in 2012 were covered and reported in a relatively freer manner. The media has a chance to play an important role in 2015 General Election.

Myanmar journalists are required to be prepared for the elections. Secretary of Myanmar Journalist Network U Myint Kyaw said it is necessary for Myanmar

journalists to enhance their skills in reporting election news and, as the media is the interpreter for the public, journalists need to understand the language of elections to interpret what they see. In reporting election news, it is important to be fair and unbiased ethically.

Otherwise, the party favoured by a news report may be happy but those that are not favoured will lose trust in the media. Therefore, it is important to be professional, according to the secretary of the MJN.

At a course on election news writing organised in February at the American Centre, Union Minister for Information U Ye Htut said the government media will provide space to political parties equally. In addition, he added that the government media will be careful about news reports on the activities of the government ministries, so that they cannot be considered campaigning for elections, and the government media will explain important facts for the elections in simple language and in the languages of ethnic national races so that the public can easily understand them.

He said on 25 February

that it is necessary that the 2015 General Election is free and fair and the election results are acceptable and that government newspapers will carry news reports in a fair manner regardless of party.

There are still weaknesses in the Myanmar media in reporting election news. It is the responsibility of the media to disseminate the true images of candidates and political parties and information about the election to the public in no time.

Trainer Daw Khin May Zaw of the ICFJ said that elections depend on the will of the people. What people desire is free and fair elections, with the media responsible for helping them be realised. In many countries, situations deteriorated and violence broke out due to media reports on election tensions. Therefore, the responsibility of the media is to act as the ears and eyes of the people. The media disseminate knowledge about elections to the public. Only then, will people be able to elect candidates correctly.



More than 2,700 people come back Laukkai



A senior military officer welcome back residents in Yanlonkyaing, Laukkai region.—MYAWADY

NAY PYI TAW, 6 March — As Laukkai restores peace and stability thanks to all-out efforts of the Tatmadaw, local residents come back home.

On Friday, a total of 74 people from 27 houses returned to Laukkai through the border post No 125. Officials welcomed back and resettled them.

On Friday morning, departmental officials reopened Yanlonkyaing border checkpoint that was shut during the period of armed conflicts in Laukkai region. A total of 106 people came back Laukkai through the checkpoint.

Commander of Laukkai Region Control Command Col Saw Myint Oo

and officials met internally displaced persons who arrived back in Laukkai.

So far, a total of 2,746 people from 946 households have arrived back home.—Myawady

Police officer meets student protesters in Letpadan.

LU NAT CHAN THAR

Some students who staged protest in Letpadan taken for negotiations

LETPADAN, 6 March — Some students from the ongoing sit-in student strike in Letpadan staged a protest in front of Myoma Market in Letpadan, Bago Region and they are being taken for negotiations on Friday.

Five students, four boys and one girl, went to Myoma Market in Letpadan at about 9 am,

holding placards and loud speakers and waving flags to stage a protest without permission. Members of Letpadan Myoma Police Station tried to discuss with them unsuccessfully and they were taken to Thayawady Myoma Police Station for negotiations.

One of the students from the sit-in strike, Ma Yu Thin Naing of Mying-

yan University was taken back home by her father U Hlaing Win with the arrangement of the officials this afternoon. A total of 54 people including 5 monks, 30 males and 19 females are participating in the sit-in strike and four monks, 3 males and 7 females are staying at Aung Myay Beikman Monastery in Letpadan.—009



Review of Hillary Clinton emails to take months

WASHINGTON, 6 March — A growing controversy over Democrat Hillary Clinton's use of personal email for work while she was US secretary of state could drag on for months, threatening to cloud the expected launch of her 2016 presidential campaign.

Clinton tried to cool the brewing firestorm late on Wednesday, saying she wanted the State Department to release the emails quickly. But a senior State Department official told *Reuters* on Thursday the task would take time.

"The review is likely to take several months given the sheer volume of the document set," the official said.

At the same time, the department is investigating whether Clinton violated policies intended to protect sensitive information when she conducted all of her official business through a personal account while serving as secretary from



Former secretary of state Hillary Clinton delivers dinner remarks at EMILY's List 30th Anniversary Gala in Washington on 3 March, 2015.—REUTERS

2009 to 2013, the *Washington Post* reported on Thursday, citing a senior department official.

Using personal email did not automatically break rules, but the department is determining whether work emails sent from that private account contained information that must be handled on a system meeting specific security protocols, the *Washington Post* reported.

The State Department has said there was no prohibition during Clinton's tenure on using personal email for official business as long as it was preserved. It had no immediate comment on the *Washington Post* report.

Fox News on Thursday released a State Department cable sent from the secretary's office in 2011 reviewing some email policies that encouraged

employees to avoid conducting official business from personal accounts.

An extended review or investigation could dash any Clinton hopes of putting the controversy to rest quickly.

"I want the public to see my email," Clinton said in a tweet. "I asked State to release them. They said they will review them for release as soon as possible." The controversy landed Clinton in trouble just as she prepares to enter the race for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2016. It has prompted some Democrats to wonder whether someone else should be their candidate in the bid to succeed President Barack Obama.

A total of 55,000 pages of documents covering the time Clinton was in office has been turned over, according to the State Department. But Clinton and her aides controlled that process, and the emails

were not archived on government servers.

Secretary of State John Kerry told reporters during a visit to Saudi Arabia that the State Department would review the documents "as rapidly as possible."

Clinton's tweeted statement came hours after a congressional committee investigating the 11 September, 2012, attack on a US diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya, subpoenaed her emails.

The US House of Representatives Select Committee on Benghazi demanded all Clinton communications related to the incident and told Internet companies to protect relevant documents.

The panel's Republican chairman, Representative Trey Gowdy of South Carolina, told reporters he wanted the documents within two weeks or a "really good explanation" for why not. Republicans have scrutinized Clin-

ton's actions regarding the Benghazi attack in which Ambassador Chris Stevens and three others were killed and have also criticized Clinton's transparency and ethics. The former first lady and US senator has been a lightning rod for Republican detractors dating back to the administration of her husband, former President Bill Clinton.

Clinton is the presumptive favourite for the 2016 Democratic presidential nomination, and there was no sign the controversy was forcing a change of plans. A Democratic source familiar with campaign planning said to expect a Clinton announcement on her intentions in the spring.

The Republican National Committee's top lawyer on Thursday asked the State Department's inspector general to investigate if Clinton's email use violated federal law.

Reuters

EU says US policy change helps its own talks with Cuba

HAVANA, 6 March — The sudden US engagement with Cuba has helped the European Union's own bilateral talks on improving relations with the Communist-led island, a top European diplomat said on Thursday at the conclusion of two days of negotiations in Havana.

When the United States and Cuba announced on 17 December they would restore diplomatic relations, the rapprochement between longtime adversaries overshadowed the EU's ongoing attempt to rewrite a political agreement with Cuba.

After the United States and Cuba quickly arranged high-level meetings in Havana and Washington, the twice-postponed EU-Cuba talks finally took place this week, the first face-to-face meetings since August.

Asked at a news conference if European interests were threatened by the US engagement, the chief European negotiator called the US role "very positive." This lifts a cloud that has been hanging over the region ... for a long time (and) opens new possibilities," said Christian Leffler, the EU's top diplomat for the Americas.

"The two processes



Christian Leffler, chief European negotiator for the EU-Cuba talks, speaks during a news conference in Havana on 5 March, 2015.—REUTERS

complement each other and we very much welcome the step of the United States away from confrontation," Leffler said.

Though not as severe as the open conflict between the United States and Cuba, Europe's relations with the Caribbean island have been strained through the years.

A year ago the EU agreed to deepen relations with Cuba in its most significant overture since the bloc lifted diplomatic sanctions in 2008.

Crucial to Cuba was the EU's decision to replace its Cuba policy known as the common position, which placed a priority on democratic reforms and improved human rights in Cuba.

Reuters

Pride, frustration in Selma 50 years after 'Bloody Sunday' march

SELMA, (Ala), 6 March — Lynda Lowery still bears a scar above her right eye from the beating she took from a policeman's club 50 years ago on "Bloody Sunday," when roughly 600 peaceful civil rights activists were attacked crossing the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama.

Lowery, who was just 14 at the time, remains proud of her role in the 7 March, 1965, incident that appalled the nation and became a catalyst for the landmark Voting Rights Act of 1965. But as President Barack Obama prepares to visit Selma on Saturday to commemorate the event's 50th anniversary, she is among the marchers who lament what they see as a failure to capitalize on their hard-fought victory for social progress.

In an interview with *Reuters* last week, Lowery said her frustration extended to those protesting the shooting death of 18-year-old Michael Brown, who was black, by a white police officer last year in Ferguson, Missouri.

"While you were walking with your hand up, you should have had your hand in the voting booth or on that ballot," she said, referring to protesters' "hands up, don't shoot" chant,



Barbara Carter of Tuscaloosa holds a sign as she waits to join a commemorative march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, in this file photo taken on 18 Jan, 2015. On the 50th anniversary of the original march this Saturday, President Barack Obama will join events that will include a music festival, workshops on topics from voting rights to environmental justice and a march across the bridge.

REUTERS

while noting that Ferguson is a majority-black city run by whites.

"You are the majority ethnic group and you don't get out and vote. You have elected what you hate, or what hates you," said Lowery, now a mental health counsellor in Selma.

Ricky Brown, 59, who returned to Selma last year from Michigan after three decades away, recalls being kept home by his mother on the day of the march. He watched the violence unfold before getting his BB gun and firing from his window at the horses of white state

troopers and local police who shot teargas into the crowd and beat dozens of protesters.

Brown, a landscaper, said the racial tensions that he remembers from the Selma of his youth persist.

"They don't speak unless I speak," he said, referring to white residents in town. "When I speak, they are surprised or irritated by it." However, he sees the election of Barack Obama as the United States' first black president in 2008 as a sign of how far the country has come.

Reuters

Delta jet skids off runway during snowstorm at NY airport

NEW YORK, 6 March — A Delta Air Lines Inc jet landing during a snowstorm at New York's LaGuardia Airport on Thursday slid off the runway and struck a fence before coming to rest on a snow-covered embankment just feet from the frigid waters of Flushing Bay.

None of the 127 passengers and five crew members were seriously injured as Delta flight 1086 from Atlanta skidded on the tarmac at about 11 am EST (1600 GMT).

Images on local media showed the plane's nose had pushed through a chain-link fence and was jutting out over an embankment. LaGuardia, the smallest of the New York area's three major airports, was immediately closed after the mishap. By the time its runways started to reopen at about 2:30 pm EST, air traffic was snarled throughout the US East Coast and beyond.

Hundreds of flights were cancelled at LaGuardia, compounding weather-related travel disruptions in many parts of the country.—*Reuters*

WORLD

UN Security Council to vote on chlorine arms use in Syria

UNITED NATIONS, 6 March — The United Nations Security Council is due to vote on Friday on a US-drafted resolution to condemn the use of chlorine as a weapon in Syria and threaten to take action if such arms are used again in the conflict.

French UN Ambassador Francois Delattre, president of the council for March, said on Thursday that he hoped the resolution

would be adopted unanimously by the 15-member council. Diplomats said it was unclear how Russia, a Syrian ally, would vote.

The new draft resolution, obtained by *Reuters*, does not lay blame for previous chlorine attacks in Syria. It “condemns in the strongest terms any use of any toxic chemical, such as chlorine, as a weapon in the Syrian Arab Republic.”

If inhaled, chlorine gas

— a deadly agent widely used in World War One — turns to hydrochloric acid in the lungs, which can lead to internal burning and drowning through a reactionary release of fluid in the lungs.

The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) has found evidence that chlorine gas was “systematically and repeatedly” used as a weapon in Syria. The

United States, Britain and France accuse the Syrian government of the attacks, which it denies.

The draft resolution “stresses that those individuals responsible for any use of chemicals as weapons, including chlorine or any other toxic chemical, must be held accountable.”

Syria agreed in 2013 to destroy its entire chemical weapons programme under a deal brokered with

the United States and Russia after hundreds of people were killed in a sarin gas attack on the outskirts of the capital, Damascus. Russia supported a UN Security Council resolution covering the deal.

Although chlorine is not a prohibited substance, its use as a chemical weapon is prohibited under the 1997 Chemical Weapons Convention, which Syria joined in 2013. —*Reuters*

Islamic State bulldoze ancient Nimrud city

BAGHDAD, 6 March — Islamic State fighters have looted and bulldozed the ancient Assyrian city of Nimrud in northern Iraq, the government and a local tribal source said. The destruction at Nimrud came a week after the radical Islamist militants released a video showing them destroying Assyrian era statues and sculptures in the city of Mosul, which they seized in June last year.

“Islamic State members came to the Nimrud archaeological city and looted the valuables in it and then they proceeded to level the site to the ground,” the tribal source from near Mosul, where ancient Nimrud is located, told *Reuters*. “There used to be statues and walls as well as a castle that Islamic State has destroyed completely.”

Iraq’s Ministry of Tourism said the Islamic State militants were defying the world with their destruction of antiquities. “They assaulted the ancient city of Nimrud and bulldozed it with heavy machinery, appropriating the archaeological attractions dating back 13 centuries BC,” it said in a statement issued late on Thursday.

Reuters

Palestinian leaders say they’ll cut security coordination with Israel

RAMALLAH, 6 March — Palestinian leaders in the West Bank said on Thursday they would halt the security coordination with Israel which is widely credited with keeping order in the territory and preventing attacks in Israel.

The Palestinian Central Council, whose votes are usually binding on the Western-backed Palestinian Authority, said it made the decision because Israel had breached bilateral agreements, including by withholding tax revenues it collects on behalf of the Palestinians.

A spokesman for President Mahmoud Abbas, who must make the official decision to sever security ties with Israel, was not



Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas gestures as he speaks during a meeting for the Central Council of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, in the West Bank city of Ramallah, on 4 March, 2015. — REUTERS

available and it was unclear whether the PCC decision would go immediately into effect. An Israeli security official, asked about the decision, told *Reuters* there had been no changes in se-

curity cooperation. Israel said in January it was freezing \$127 million of monthly Palestinian tax revenue in protest against Abbas’ decision to apply for membership of the International

Criminal Court and pursue war crime charges against Israel.

The tax money covers around two-thirds of the Palestinian budget and is used to pay tens of thousands of public sector employees.

A statement issued by the 110-member PCC read: “Security coordination in all its forms with the authority of the Israeli occupation will be stopped in the light of its (Israel’s) non-compliance with the agreements signed between the two sides.”

It said Israel “should shoulder all its responsibilities towards the Palestinian people in the occupied state of Palestine as an occupation authority accord-

ing to international law.”

An end to agreement on security coordination, which dates from the Oslo peace accords of the mid-1990s, could have an immediate impact on stability in West Bank cities such as Hebron, Nablus and Jenin, where anti-Israel unrest is common.

Palestinian security forces also require Israeli permission to send patrols into some areas of the West Bank to preserve law and order. Bassm Al-Salhe, a PCC member, told *Reuters* the council’s decision would be put into effect.

“This is a decision that was taken and the PLO executive committee will follow up on the implementation,” he said. — *Reuters*

Syrian army kills top al-Qaeda leader

BEIRUT, 6 March — The Syrian army carried out an operation that killed the military commander of the al-Qaeda-linked Nusra Front on Thursday in northwestern Syria, Syrian state media reported. Abu Humam al-Shami was killed by an explosion during a meeting of Nusra Front leaders in Idlib Province. Insurgent sources said at least three other Nusra Front commanders were killed in the blast.

The Syrian state news agency SANA, quoting its correspondent, said Abu Humam and a number of other Nusra leaders had been killed in an army operation targeting the meeting held in the village of Hobait in a rural area of Idlib. It also cited a military source saying the army had carried out “concentrated strikes” against Nusra and other Islamist groups in the Abu al-Duhur area, which is to the northeast of Hobait. — *Reuters*

Libyan factions hold peace talks in Morocco

SKHIRATE, (MOROCCO), 6 March — Libya’s warring factions held United Nations-backed talks on Thursday in an effort to end a conflict between two rival governments that threatens to drive the country into full-blown civil war.

Air strikes between rival forces intensified before Thursday’s negotiations on Libya, where Western governments worry spreading chaos is allowing Islamist militants to gain ground in a threat to mainland Europe across the Mediterranean.

The internationally-recognized government and elected House of Representatives have had to operate out of the east of the north African oil state since an armed alliance known as Libya Dawn took over the capital Tripoli and set up its own self-declared government last year.

Both centres of power are backed by heavily-armed alliances of former rebels who fought together to oust Muammar Gaddafi in 2011 but later fell out in a battle for con-

trol of oil wealth.

Western officials see the UN talks in Morocco as the only hope of forming a unity government and halting the fighting. But previous talks have yielded little. “There is a sense, of, if it’s not optimism, at least a sense that it is possible to make a deal, and that is something very important because in the last months, this was not the case,” UN envoy Bernardino Leon told reporters after the first session. Delegates at the

talks in the coastal town of Skhirate near Rabat met separately with the United Nations mediators. The talks agenda includes a unity government and security.

Tripoli representatives said one delicate point would be the role of Khalifa Haftar, a former Gaddafi ally, who last year began his own military campaign against Islamist militants in Benghazi. He is now the recognized government’s army chief. Critics in Tripoli call him a war criminal.



Libya’s North African neighbours are also concerned about spillover and the growing threat of Islamist militants claiming allegiance to Islamic State in Iraq and Syria. Just before the Morocco talks, Libyan forces from the recognized government said they would halt air strikes for three days.

Warplanes from both factions have for three days hit Tripoli’s Maitiga, oil ports in the east and an airport in the western down of

Zintan, but without causing major damage. A security source in Maitiga airport said an air strike around midday had lightly wounded an employee of Almaha company, which operates flights to Al-Buri oilfield.

The OPEC state declared force majeure and halted production at 11 oilfields late on Wednesday because of deteriorating security after Islamist fighters overran the Bahi and Mabrouk fields in the central Sirte basin. Fighting had already closed two main oil ports, Ras Lanuf and Es Sidra, leaving Libya’s production at around 400,000 barrels per day, less than half the 1.6 million bpd it produced before the NATO-backed war that ousted Gaddafi.

Most diplomats and foreign companies pulled out of Libya last summer when fighting escalated and Libya Dawn, an alliance of former rebel brigades mostly loyal to Misrata city, including some Islamist brigades, took over the capital. — *Reuters*

A Libya Dawn fighter measures trajectory through his binocular near Bir al-Ghanam, in Libya, on 5 March, 2015. REUTERS

Nile dam talks reach preliminary agreement

KHARTOUM, 6 March — The three main countries that share the Nile River's waters have reached a preliminary agreement on a mechanism for operating the Renaissance Dam, the Egyptian water minister said on Friday. The planned \$4 billion Renaissance Dam will be Africa's biggest dam and aims to provide cheap power for countries as far away as South Africa and Morocco. The project, being built by Italy's Salini Impregilo SpA, aims to produce 6,000 megawatts of electricity for a power-hungry region.

But it has raised concerns in Egypt, which relies almost exclusively on the Nile River for farming, in-

dustry and drinking water for a rapidly growing population.

"The principles that were agreed to are concerned with the systems and mechanism for operating the Renaissance Dam and the mechanism for cooperation on this dam," said Egyptian water minister Hosam Moghazy after talks in Khartoum.

Sudanese foreign minister, Ali Ahmed Karti, said the countries had reached agreement on "principles that govern us on how to benefit from the Eastern Nile Basin and the Renaissance Dam ... the document represents the beginning of a new page in relations between the three countries".

The deal will now be sent to the leaders of the three countries for final approval, he said, at the end of three days of tripartite meetings with the countries' foreign and water ministers.

Ethiopian foreign minister Tadros Adhanom said the principles represented a "new chapter" in relations between the three countries.

The ministers did not elaborate on specific points of the deal.

Cairo is concerned that years of filling the new dam's 74 billion cubic metre reservoir will temporarily cut the river's flow, and that surface water evaporation from the huge new lake will then reduce it permanently.

Reuters



Residents and firefighters work together to extinguish a fire that struck a densely populated area at Tanah Abang in Jakarta, Indonesia on 5 March, 2015. As many as 23 fire engines were deployed to extinguish the fire which destroyed hundreds of houses in the densely populated area. There were no casualties reported in the incident.—XINHUA

Australia backs farmers on foreign ownership gripes

CANBERRA, 6 March — The Australian government has sided with farmers who say official data vastly underestimates foreign ownership of the nation's farmland, as it moves to clamp down on overseas purchases of agricultural land.

Foreign ownership is a key concern for many farmers, a crucial part of the conservative government's support base, who worry that anecdotal reports of Chinese investors buying large amounts of prime agricultural land will strip the country of its food security.

Others in the industry, however, say the level of foreign investment is still way too low to present a threat and are concerned the government's moves will deter much needed agricultural investment from grain silos to new ports.

A 2014 survey of ag-

ricultural businesses by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) put the figure at around 12 percent, but Agriculture Minister Barnaby Joyce told a conference this week the figures did not reflect the real picture.

"The ABS statistics are way below what I think the truth is," said Joyce, himself a farmer in northern Queensland state. "A lot of people just don't bother to fill out the ABS paperwork if they don't want their story being told."

The exact size of foreign ownership is almost impossible to gauge as all acquisitions of farmland under the value of A\$252 million (\$197 million) have been free of regulatory oversight.

The ABS put foreign owned farmland at just under 50 million hectares, or an area the size of Spain, but the figure also drew

widespread disbelief within rural communities.

Australia's National Farming Federation, the industry body representing the interests of agricultural producers, said the true number could be more than 20 percent.

"It is definitely higher than 12 percent, perhaps around the late teens or even the lows twenties, but that is a guess based on anecdotal evidence," said Simon Talbot, the federation's chief executive.

Facing political pressure, the government last month announced a crack-down on foreign ownership. Agricultural land acquisitions over A\$15 million will be subject to regulatory approval from Australia's Foreign Investment Review Board (FIRB).

The tax office will conduct a "stocktake" of

land ownership in June, with a registry of foreign ownership to come at an unspecified date.

The changes have generally been welcomed by farmers, but others say the new rules are more of a sop to public opinion and will have little impact on Australia's food security.

"You would have to buy and invest an enor-

mous amount to have any particular impact on food security or ability to influence the market," said Mick Keogh, executive director of the Australia Farm Institute think-tank.

Official figures also show the United States is the largest holder of Australian farmland ahead of Canada, Singapore and China.—Reuters



Freshly cut wheat stands under approaching storm clouds near Roma, 430 km (267 miles) west of Brisbane in this 29 Oct, 2011 file photo.—REUTERS

Knife attack at Guangzhou railway station injures nine civilians

GUANGZHOU, 6 March — Nine civilians and a police officer were injured after a knife attack by two assailants at a railway station in China's southern business hub of Guangzhou City on Friday morning, according to local police.

The attack happened at about 8:18 am when the pair stabbed people outside the square of the railway station, according to the city's railway public security bureau.

Police shot dead a suspect and caught another who was injured.

Chen Huichao, the police officer whose left

thumb was injured, told Xinhua that he fired three shots and another colleague fired five shots at the suspects.

"A suspect was running from the exit of the railway station and chasing a woman and child who fell on the ground," said Chen. "It was really dangerous and we were afraid we would hurt the woman and innocents."

Chen said the suspect was injured and the woman and child did not suffer any injuries.

The injured have been hospitalized at the General Hospital of Guangzhou

Military Area Command of the People's Liberation Army. As of 11:30 am, four injured civilians were still receiving emergency treatment, while another five victims and the suspect are in stable condition, according to the hospital.

Police are investigating the case. The identities of the attackers are not yet known. The order at the station is normal.

It was the second attack targeting a Guangzhou train station in a year. Six people were wounded in a similar knife attack at a train station in Guangzhou on 6 May last year.—Xinhua



SWAT members keep guard at the railway station in Guangzhou, capital of south China's Guangdong Province on 6 March, 2015. Nine people were injured and one suspect was sent to the hospital after two knife-wielding attackers slashed frantically at crowds near the railway station in Guangzhou at around 8:20 am (0020GMT) on 6 March. One attacker was shot dead and the other was captured after they ignored a warning shot by the police. Four seriously injured people have been receiving emergency treatment by 11:30 am. The order of the railway station has been resumed.—XINHUA

Gov't offices searched over deaths of 7 workers off remote island

TOKYO, 6 March — Prosecutors and coast guard officials searched the land ministry and a ministry office north of Tokyo last month over the deaths of seven workers building port facilities off an uninhabited Japanese island in the Pacific, sources close to the case said on Friday.

The move came shortly before coast guard officials searched on Monday three Tokyo-based marine construction firms that were taking part in the construction project off Okinotorishima, Japan's southernmost island.

The Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office and the Japan Coast Guard are considering whether they can build a criminal case against parties involved in the construction project on suspicion of professional negligence resulting in deaths and injuries.

A floating pier overturned off the remote island in March last year while it was under construction. Of the 16 people who fell into the sea at the time, seven were confirmed dead.

Last July, an investigative panel established by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism released an interim report saying that the pier might have overturned after a crane mounted on the pier moved.

The ministry office searched on 26 February along with the ministry is the Kanto Regional Development Bureau in the city of Saitama.—Kyodo News

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV ROYAL 16 VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ROYAL 16 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.3.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.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 G LINK EXPRESS PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301191/2301178

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SHIP MARIN STAR VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SHIP MARIN STAR VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.3.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W (4) 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 G LINK EXPRESS PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301191/2301178

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV JI XIANG SONG VOY NO (017)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV JI XIANG SONG VOY NO (017) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.3.2015 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 COSCO SHIPPING CO LTD.

Phone No: 2301186

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV UBC CHILE VOY NO (70)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV UBC CHILE VOY NO (70) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.3.2015 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 THALAMAR SHIPPING AG

Phone No: 2301186

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(4/2015)

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

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB-166(14-15)	Maintenance / Requirement for Pipeline Centre (PLC) Daw Nyein	US\$
(2)	IFB-167(14-15)	Spares for National Torque Converter (21) Items	US\$
(3)	IFB-168(14-15)	Electrical Spares (14)Items for D ₃ T ₂ Rigs	US\$
(4)	IFB-169(14-15)	5" Drill Pipe (1000) M	US\$
(5)	IFB-170(14-15)	Maintenance / Requirement for Ywama Gas Distribution Station (GDS)	US\$
(6)	DMP/L-042(14-15)	UPS with Stabilizer (Online System, 10KW) & Auto Start Electric Generator (20 KVA)	Ks
(7)	DMP/L-043(14-15)	Echosounder (1) Lot	Ks
(8)	DMP/L-044(14-15)	Spares for F 1600 Rig Pump (5) Items	Ks

Tender Closing Date & Time - 31-3-2015, 16:30 Hr
Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 3rd March, 2015 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
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INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER (2/2015)
[TENDER NO. MPPE/ JET A1 / T / 1
(2014-2015)]

- Open Tender is invited for the Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of JET A1 (282,000 bbl±10%)
- Tender Closing Date & Time - 16-3-2015, 12:00 Hrs
- Tender Opening Date & Time - 16-3-2015, 13:00 Hrs
- Delivery Time - 1st April 2015 to 31st August 2015
- Tender documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, the Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing 5-3-2015 on payment of Myanmar Kyat one Hundred Thousand (Kyat 100,000) per set.
- Only bid from tender 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

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF CITY
GOLF RESORT FOR PAYMENT OF
MONTHLY FEES

It is found out that some members (Myanmars/Foreigners) of the City Golf Resort, Yangon City Development Committee, have failed to pay their monthly fees for various reasons. According to paragraph (9) of the rules and regulations of the City Golf Resort, those members (Myanmars/ Foreigners) who fail to pay their monthly fees for a period of one year and over shall cease to be a member of the Resort, and so they are notified to come and clear their outstanding dues by 31-3-2015 at the latest.

General Manager
City Golf Resort

Abu Sayyaf militants abduct
two teachers in S Philippines

ZAMBOANGA, (Philippines), 6 March — Two public school teachers were kidnapped by Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) militants in southern Philippine province of Zamboanga Sibugay on Thursday, local police said on Friday.

The police said the teachers, one of them female, were aboard their service motorcycle when they were flagged down by six suspects at around 7:30 am on Thursday in Moalboal village. The suspects identified to be members of ASG's urban terror group (UTG) forcibly dragged the victims into a waiting motorboat and sped off towards unknown direction, according to Jose Bayani Gucela, the provincial police director. The police said three of the suspects were identified to be locally based while the others were based either in Basilan and Sulu, areas known to have strong presence of the ASG. So far, no ransom demand for the hostages had been communicated.—Xinhua

Singapore ranks first among
Asian economies: intellectual
property study

SINGAPORE, 6 March — Singapore holds the highest rank among Asian economies on intellectual property; while China has improved its score in this area, according to an International Intellectual Property (IP) Index released by the US Chamber of Commerce's Global Intellectual Property Center (GIPC) on Thursday.

The 3rd annual edition of the IP Index "UP: Unlimited Potential" ranks 30 economies around the world, representing 80 percent of the world's gross domestic product (GDP). The Index is based on 30 measurable criteria critical to innovation including patent, copyright and trademark protections, enforcement and engagement in international treaties.

This year's international IP index found that 20 of the 30 economies improved their scores from last year, and also highlighted strength and weakness of these economies.

Out of 30 possible points, the United States

received the highest score of 28.53 points, while Singapore rank 5th among 30 economies with a relatively higher score of 25.38 points, making it a leading performer among Asian economies for the third consecutive year.

Executive Vice President of GIPC, Mark Elliot, said that Singapore's ranking was a "telling message."

The increase of Singapore's overall score is due to amendments introduced in July 2014, which successfully strengthened Singapore's copyright regime, particularly against online piracy.

The city state also offers an advanced national IP framework with an emphasis on strong protection for pharmaceutical patents and copyright, although there are still relatively high rates of physical and online piracy.

Gained a score of 11.9 points, China has increased from 39 percent of the total possible points in the second edition of the GIPC Index to 40 percent of that in the third one.—Xinhua

WEATHER REPORT

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Southeast Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 7th March, 2015: Light rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin State, weather will be partly cloudy in Chin, Kayin and Mon States and generally fair in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Actor Harrison Ford injured in small-plane crash in Los Angeles



Actor Harrison Ford

LOS ANGELES, 6 March — Film star Harrison Ford was injured on Thursday when the “Star Wars” actor crashed his vintage plane on a Los Angeles golf course shortly after taking off from a nearby airport, his publicist said.

The single-engine plane clipped a tree as it attempted to return to Santa Monica Airport shortly after take-off, and the pilot was “alert and talking” as he was taken to a local hospital, Assistant Los Angeles Fire Chief Patrick Butler said.

Butler declined to confirm that Ford was on board the silver and yellow aircraft, but Ina Treციokas, publicist for the 72-year-old actor, issued a statement confirming the details:

“Harrison was flying a WW2 vintage plane today, which had engine

trouble upon take off. He had no other choice but to make an emergency landing, which he did safely. He was banged up and is in the hospital receiving medical care. The injuries sustained are not life-threatening, and he is expected to make a full recovery.”

Ford’s son, Ben, said on Twitter that he was at the hospital. “Dad is OK. Battered but ok! He is every bit the man you would think he is. He is an incredibly strong man.”

A National Transportation Safety Board spokesman said the pilot of the plane reported losing engine power immediately before the crash at 2:20 pm PST (2230 GMT) but that the agency would conduct

a full investigation to determine the cause of the accident.

Butler said the pilot was initially tended to by bystanders before paramedics responded and transported him to a local hospital, where he was listed in fair to moderate condition.

Paramedics “initiated spinal immobilization, started an IV and began all the necessary medical protocols that we do,” Butler said.

Celebrity website TMZ reported that Ford suffered multiple gashes to his head and was bleeding profusely.

Ford, best known as archaeological adventurer Indiana Jones in “Raiders of the Lost Ark” and its sequels and as space hero Han

Solo in the “Star Wars” series, is a longtime pilot.

Carlos Lugo, 63, said he was playing golf at the Penmar Golf Course when he saw a plane that had just taken off from Santa Monica Airport lose power and turn around.

“When he flew over us we knew it was too late to make it back to the airport,” Lugo said.

The Ryan Aeronautical plane involved in the crash was built in 1942 and registered to the company MG Aviation Inc, according to FAA online records.

In 1999, Ford and a flight instructor went down in a helicopter crash north of Los Angeles, and the helicopter also was registered to MG Aviation, according to a *Los Angeles Times* report at the time.

Ford suffered a broken leg last year while filming on the set of Disney’s “Star Wars: Episode VII” set in England, in which he is reprising his role as Han Solo. Production on the movie was halted for two weeks as he recovered.

Reuters



Assistant Los Angeles Fire Chief Patrick Butler told reporters at the scene that the plane clipped a tree as it plunged down on the golf course.—REUTERS

Ariana Grande joins Cashmere Cat on new song ‘Adore’



Ariana Grande

LOS ANGELES, 6 March — Pop star Ariana Grande features on a new single by Norwegian musician Cashmere Cat called ‘Adore’.

The collaboration comes after Cat, 27, worked with Grande on a song off the singer’s latest album ‘My Everything’.

The mid-tempo electro-tinged R&B jam highlights the former ‘Nickelodeon’ star’s breathy vocals

as she tells the guy she likes to stop pretending they are just friends, reported *Ace-showbiz*.

Grande, 21, and Cashmere Cat are currently hitting the road together for her ‘Honeymoon’ tour.

The DJ, who serves as an opening act, first previewed “Adore” during a show in Kansas City last week.

PTI

I’m relieved at not bagging Grammy award: Iggy Azalea



Iggy Azalea

LOS ANGELES, 6 March — Australian rapper Iggy Azalea is happy that she did not win a single Grammy despite four nominations because she feels people would have hated her more had she won any award.

The ‘Fancy’ hitmaker has often been accused of cultural appropriation.

“I did not want to win that award. My speech would have been like, ‘F**k this. I don’t want it, take it. Get it away from me.’. People already hate me enough. I do not need to be hated any more,” she said in a new interview on *Power 106’s ‘The Cruz Show’*.

Azalea, 24, also questioned why people were fine with fellow white MC Eminem winning the Best Rap Album award at the ceremony held in early February.

“I found it to be kind of ironic. It was because I’m white, therefore I’m appropriating culture, but then Eminem won it — who’s white and won it many times — and they didn’t seem to say anything about that. I suspect it was just because they dislike me,” she said.

PTI

NEW YORK, 6 March — From a crime drama starring actress Glenn Close to an Arnold Schwarzenegger film about a deadly zombie epidemic to an expose of the financial crisis, the Tribeca Film Festival unveiled a varied slate of movies on Thursday.

After announcing the documentary and narrative films in competition on Tuesday, the festival revealed its full schedule of nearly 100 feature-length films.

As in previous years, the downtown New York event will pair films with live music, dance and comedy performances linked to them.

“Mary J Blige — The London Sessions,” about the recording of one of the rhythm and blues singer’s albums, will be followed by a concert at the Beacon Theater. A special dance performance will accom-

Tribeca Festival blends films, live performances in varied slate



File photo of a woman walking past a logo displayed on a red carpet on the opening night of the Tribeca Film Festival in New York, on 17 April, 2013.—REUTERS

pany “A Ballerina’s Tale,” which offers a peek into the daily life of Misty Copeland of New York’s American Ballet Theatre.

“Seeing a film together alongside a live performance heightens the experience, engages the imagination and brings audiences together in an unforgettable way,” Genina Terranova, the festival’s director, said in a statement.

The festival line-up will include the world premiere of “Anesthesia,” about a New York college professor mugged near his home and starring Sam Waterston, Glenn Close and Kristen Stewart.

Schwarzenegger, California’s former governor, will be back on the big screen in “Maggie” as a small-town farmer whose

daughter is infected in an epidemic threatening humanity.

And in “The Wannabe,” based on the events surrounding the trial of American mobster John Gotti in 1992, best supporting Oscar winner Patricia Arquette (“Boyhood”) embarks on a crime spree.

Documentaries, always a major component at Tribeca, include “The Emperor’s New Clothes,” an expose of the impact of the financial crisis by English writer/director Michael Winterbottom and comedian Russell Brand.

The festival, which runs from 16-26 April, was founded in 2001 by actor Robert De Niro, producer Jane Rosenthal and investor Craig Hatkoff to revitalize the downtown New York neighbourhood following the 11 September, 2001, attacks on the World Trade Centre.—Reuters

Prosthetic leg stolen from California blade-runner



Athlete Ranjit Steiner is shown during training at the University of Oregon's Hayward Field in this spring 2013 handout photo released to Reuters on 3 March, 2015.

REUTERS

LOS ANGELES, 6 March — A leading US amputee athlete seeking to compete in next year's Paralympic Games in Brazil has been sidelined from training

after his \$30,000 prosthetic running leg was stolen from his car in San Francisco, he said on Thursday.

The prosthesis, consisting of a carbon fiber blade and titanium, hydraulic-operated knee socket, had been specially designed to allow Ranjit Steiner to bend his right leg with human-like mechanics when he runs, he said. Steiner said he had been driving to work on Tuesday, his 24th birthday, when he realized that a rear window of his car had been smashed — apparently while parked on the street overnight in the Mission District — and he discovered that his laptop computer and prosthesis had been stolen. “There’s no value to anybody who can’t use this thing,” he said of the artificial leg. “I’m the only one who can

really use it. It’s customised to fit my limb.”

He said he hopes insurance will cover the loss if police are unable to recover the stolen leg. In the meantime, he has a second prosthetic he uses for walking and everyday functions, and has rigged up a back-up athletic leg from spare parts that he will try to use for yoga, cycling, swimming and weight-training. “But it’s not the same workout that I need to be doing,” he said, adding that he doubts he will be able to resume training for the 200-metre dash before some time in April, about mid-season for track.

Steiner, who competes with able-bodied athletes as a non-student at the City College of San Francisco, placed third in the 200-metre dash at the paralympic nationals last year. He

hopes to earn a spot on the US team for the international Paralympic Summer Games in Rio de Janeiro next year.

Steiner struggled with bone cancer in his lower right leg when he was 15, followed by a series of infections that led him to have his leg amputated above the knee at age 19. He said he has been cancer-free for eight years. He graduated last year from the University of Oregon and now works as marketing director for a San Francisco-based prosthetics company. By coincidence, a San Francisco police officer last week found another prosthetic leg on a street corner in the city’s financial district, but have not located its owner, police spokesman officer Albie Esparza said.—Reuters

mitv Myanmar International

(7-3-2015 07:00 am~ 8-3-2015 07:00 am) MST

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Big tsunami raked Mexico's Yucatan coast 1,000 years ago

WASHINGTON, 6 March — A wall of debris stretching about 30 miles (50 km) may be the remnants of a natural disaster that struck Mexico’s Caribbean coast more than 1,000 years ago in an area where tourists now flock to beach resorts and ancient Maya ruins.

A huge tsunami is the likely culprit, propelling debris including boulders made of reef material ripped from the seafloor far inland, scientists said on Thursday.

The tsunami appears to have struck during the height of the ancient Maya civilization, but may not have caused a large body count because the area was not densely populated, they said. The debris tracks the shape of the coast near the seaside tourist resorts of Playa del Carmen and Cancun and the ancient Maya ruins of Tulum. “Were it to occur today, there are about 1.4 million people who live along the Yucatan coast, which would be in its path,” said Larry Benson, an anthropology curator at the University of Colorado Museum of Natural History and a former US Geological Survey scientist.



A surfer carries his surfboard near a beach in Cancun in this 16 Oct, 2011 file photo.—REUTERS

The researchers said the tsunami waves reached at least 15 feet (4.5 metres) and maybe higher. Benson estimated the tsunami hit between about 450 AD and 900 AD, erecting the 16-foot (5-metre) tall berm formed from debris thrust about 1,200 feet (365 metres) inland by the force of the waves. “Its 30-mile extent along the shore is impressive,” said geologist Charles Shaw, the former director of the Centro Ecológico Akumal ecological organization in Mexico who worked with Benson in the research

published in the *Journal of Coastal Research*.

The researchers said other evidence suggests the wave may have extended along about 150 miles (250 km) of Yucatan coastline.

Some later Mayan structures, dating from between 900 AD and 1200 AD, were built atop the berm, they said.

The berm’s boulders are made up of coral and limestone, and an impressive amount of force was needed to tear this reef material from the seabed, the researchers said. The researchers added

they do not know what unleashed the tsunami, whether it was an earthquake or something else.

Benson said that while this tsunami was powerful, it likely was not as potent as the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami that was triggered by a 9.15-magnitude earthquake and killed about 226,000 people.

“Tsunamis can be very destructive when they strike densely populated areas, so an historical example should be a wake-up call against complacency,” Benson said.—Reuters

HK official says flu season peak past

HONG KONG, 6 March — An official of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region said on Friday that Hong Kong is past the peak of the flu season. Under Secretary for Food and Health, Professor Sophia Chan, said the highest number of reported cases was in January and that in the past weeks surveillance data has shown a decreasing number of cases.

But she still urged the public to remain vigilant as the

flu activity remains high. The influenza outbreak has killed 332 people in Hong Kong so far. In comparison, the SARS epidemic of 2003 killed 299 people. However, Chan thinks it is not appropriate to compare the two figures.

“They are different, during SARS we were facing a great uncertainty with an uncertain virus and at the time there were no treatment. But for seasonal influenza it is something that we are expecting,” she told the RTHK.—Xinhua

MRTV Entertainment Channel

(7-3-2015, Saturday)

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 6:00 am | 7:20 am |
| • Honour Song for Alinka Kyaw Swar Myoma Nyein Classical Song | • Teleplay |
| 6:20 am | 7:45 am |
| • Myanmar Series | • Musical Programme |
| 6:30 am | 8:05 am |
| • Fashion Show | • Dramatic Arts |
| 7:05 am | 9:30 am |
| • Classical Song | • Myanmar Video |
| | 12:00 am |
| | • Close down |

Inn for day labourers restyled to accept growing foreign tourists



People sit in the lobby of a hotel in Osaka, western Japan, refurbished from what used to be accommodation for day labourers in this photo taken in January 2015, amid a surge in the number of travelers from overseas. The hotel is equipped with WiFi wireless Internet connection as well as a kitchen corner in the lobby where patrons such as vegetarians and Muslims can cook their own meals.—KYODO NEWS

Finalist of Myanmar women squad consists of 23 players

MANDALAY, 6 March—The Myanmar Football Federation has issued the finalist of Myanmar women's squad that will take part in the first round of Olympic qualifiers in playing against India and Sri Lanka women's teams at Mandalay Thiri Stadium in Mandalay from 11 to 15 March.

The players in the national squad consist of goalkeepers Mya Phu Ngon, Khin Thida Aye and Thanda Oo, defenders Khin Than Wai, Zin

Mar Win, Wai Wai Aung, Phu Pwint Khaing, Nang Kyay Ngon, Nge Nge Htway, Zargyi Oo and Aye Aye Moe, midfielders San San Maw, Than Than Htwe, Naw Ahlo Wah Phaw, Khin Moe Wai, Yupa Khaing, May Sabei Phu and Lei Lei Hlaing, forwards Yi Yi Oo, Khin Marlar Tun, Win Thein Tun, May Thu Kyaw and Hla Yin Win. The squad is under control of manager Daw Myat Myat Oo, technical adviser U Aye Maung Gyi, head coach Daw Thet Thet Win, coach Daw San



San Thein, goal coach U Ko Ko Aung, medical officer Daw Khin Saw Oo and nurse Daw Pyone Pan Ei.

Myanmar will meet with Sri Lanka on 11 March and India on 15 March. Sri Lanka will vie with India on 13 March. All the matches will be held at 5 p.m. daily at Mandalay Thiri Stadium.

Myanmar beat India 2-0 in their final meeting in the AFC Cup qualifier in Palestine in 2013.

GNLM

New boys Kaka, Villa help kick off MLS's 20th season



Player David Villa (C) stands on stage during the unveiling of the new home jersey for the New York City Football Club in New York on 13 Nov, 2014.

REUTERS

NEW YORK, 6 March — Major League Soccer, having struck a last-minute labour deal to avoid a players strike, can now focus on opening its loudly-heralded 20th season this weekend with plenty of new faces.

Expansion sides New York City FC and Orlando City SC kick off their MLS existences on Sunday when they go head-to-head in front of what is expected to be a sellout crowd of 62,000 at the Orlando Citrus Bowl Stadium.

That game will feature former AC Milan and Real Madrid midfielder Kaka lining up for Orlando against New York's David Villa, the former Barcelona and Spain forward.

The two players joined the league as "designated players," a rule that was adopted when David Beckham joined the league in 2007 and allows for big-money deals outside of the salary cap.

No expansion team has ever won the MLS Cup in their first season and the

favourites this year are once again the defending champion LA Galaxy who will be seeking a sixth title.

The Galaxy have lost their franchise player in all-time MLS leading scorer Landon Donovan, who retired last year, meaning they will rely even more on the goal-scoring prowess of Republic of Ireland striker Robbie Keane.

The 34-year-old former Tottenham striker has scored 53 goals in 84 appearances for LA, winning three MLS Cup titles since joining the club in 2011, but much of the buzz around the Galaxy focuses on the arrival of former England captain Steven Gerrard.

Gerrard will not move to MLS until his Premier League season with Liverpool is over but his presence will give the league a mid-season boost especially coming in conjunction with his ex-England teammate Frank Lampard's switch to NYCFC in July.

Reuters

New FIFA ethics chief won't be pushed around

ZURICH, 6 March — Younger than some professional footballers, Swiss attorney Cornel Borbely is at first sight an unlikely choice as the man to step into Michael Garcia's shoes and try to keep corruption out of FIFA.

A disillusioned Garcia, the former US attorney with a long track record in complicated, international, high profile cases, resigned in December, saying he felt he was no longer making progress and that football's governing body "lacked leadership."

Widely regarded as the man most likely to get to the root of FIFA's problems, Garcia's departure was seen as another sign that the organization was incapable of reforming itself.

Borbely, who has enjoyed a remarkably swift rise through the Swiss legal world, has landed the role as FIFA's chief ethics investigator at the age of

36, having been promoted from his previous role as Garcia's deputy.

In football terms, he is like a young coach who has made a good start to his career with middle-ranking teams and has now been appointed to lead a large, volatile, internationally renowned club with an army of fickle supporters.

In his first interview with international media, Borbely told Reuters he would not be pushed around and rejected suggestions he will act on FIFA president Sepp Blatter's orders.

"This is absurd and any such claim is not founded in any facts that I could comprehend or cite. I can only emphasise that I am not an employee of FIFA," he said.

"I run my own law firm and I don't take any orders at all from FIFA — none whatsoever. I alone decide whether to open, conduct and conclude an



FIFA's new chief ethics investigator Swiss attorney Cornel Borbely speaks during an interview with Reuters in Zurich 4 March, 2015.—REUTERS

investigation and on its result.

"I am completely independent of any FIFA officials. Otherwise I couldn't, and wouldn't, do this job. Nobody interferes — neither the (FIFA) executive committee nor anybody else."

He added: "My contact to the executive committee is purely professional. Some of these contacts have become pub-

lic, but it is imperative for my independence that they remain professional, otherwise I could not fulfil my mandate.

"I can't disclose details of how often I have met with Sepp Blatter, but my contacts with him are limited to purely professional encounters. He has no authority to give directives to me."

Reuters

IMPOSING FIGURE

Cisse faces long ban after accepting FA spit charge

LONDON, 6 March — Newcastle United striker Papiss Cisse will face a severe punishment after accepting a FA charge of spitting at Manchester United defender Jonny Evans in Wednesday's Premier League match.

"Both ourselves and Papiss agree this kind of behaviour is not acceptable," Newcastle managing director Lee Charnley said in a statement on Thursday.

The precise sanction the FA will hand out is not yet known but media reports said the Senegalese international faced a lengthy ban. Evans has

also been charged for spitting at Cisse but he denies any wrongdoing.

"In life when you do something wrong you have to front up, admit your mistakes and accept the punishment," Charnley added.

"Papiss was proactive this morning in making a full and heartfelt apology which he did in advance of any notification from the FA regarding this charge. This was something he felt strongly about and we fully support him in accepting the charge."

The FA said the incidents, unseen by match officials, were caught on



Manchester United's Jonny Evans clashes with Newcastle's Papiss Cisse during their Barclays Premier League at St James's Park, England on 4 March, 2015.—REUTERS

video and reviewed by a three-man panel of former elite referees who agreed

unanimously that both players should have been sent off.—Reuters