THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Two-century-old monastery boasts high cultural standard of Myanmar

MYEIK, 4 April— King Bodaw had been on the throne in Mandalay Royal Palace when he appointed the chief of Petaung district as the tenth commissioner of Myeik in 1175 Myanmar Era. The new commissioner had a mansion built there and ruled the town for three years. An emergency situation prompted the king to send for the commissioner to the palace. Having no desire to leave his mansion as it was, the commissioner donated it to a Buddhist monk named Bhaddanta Kosala through religious rites. As a result, the mansion was converted into a monastery, which was then named "Min Kyaung", literally meaning a monastery donated by a royal commissioner. Some ancient architectural features of the monastery remain intact even after more than two hundred years, displaying the high standard of Myanmar's architecture of ancient times. In addition, items of over 200 years can be seen there. Some of them include lacquer objects, bronze Buddha Images, bronze cups and trays, wall paintings and wardrobes embroidered in gold, and a portrait of the first presiding Sayadaw.

Bhaddanta Chandima, current presiding Sayadaw, maintains the religious edifice, where Buddhist literature is now taught to student monks and novices.

Min Kyaung is a must-go place for history enthusiasts.—*Zaw Myo Naing (Myeik, IPRD)*

Upper House speaker honours valiant citizens in northern Shan State city

NAY PYI TAW, 4 April— Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint, accompanied by famous artistes, visited Lashio in northern Shan State on Saturday to honour fallen soldiers in Laukkai conflict, and to comfort wounded military forces, members of Myanmar Red Cross Society and media persons.

The speaker said Laukkai conflict was not resulted from cracks in political ideology and ethnic issues, instead, it was based on the greed of drug lord who tried to control on the three estates of administrative, legislative and judicial in Kokang Self-administered Zone.

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Police save 83 trafficked victims in March

By *Khaing Thanda Lwin*

YANGON, 4 April— Police uncovered 14 cases of human trafficking in March, rescuing 83 victims, most of whom were men sold to work as forced labourers in Thailand, Police Captain Min Naing said Saturday.

In March, Myanmar's anti-human trafficking body arrested 18 traffickers, mostly women, he added.

According to police, the number of human trafficking cases between January and March this year has reached 29. Shan State tops the chart with 9 cases, followed by Kachin State and Bago Region with 5 cases respectively.

The police uncovered five cases during the period involving women who were forced into prostitution.

The authorities arrested 44 traffickers during the three months, but 24 suspects are still at large.

According to official figures, the number of trafficking cases from 2006 to 2014 reached 1123 nationwide. The majority of victims came from Shan State and were sold into forced marriages in China.

Figures for human trafficking incidents in 2014 exceeded the previous year's total of 102 nationwide, with police focusing more on such cases, Pol Cap Min Naing said at a conference.

Myanmar's Central Body for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons plans to increase temporary shelters for victims in border areas, especially in Tachileik, where many victims have taken shelter at monasteries.

Police usually take action against suspects under Section 24 and 25 of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law enacted in 2005, which is being rewritten in cooperation with both local and foreign legal experts, Police Lt-Col Khin Maung Hla said in an interview with the Global New Light of Myanmar.

GNLM

Ngapali's fame as beach destination on the rise

By *Ye Myint*

With crystal clear water and a pristine 8-mile stretch of sand, Ngapali in westernmost Myanmar is an unspoiled seaside getaway of the kind coveted by international travelers.

Situated 7 kilometers from Thandwe in Rakhine State, Ngapali overlooks the Bay of Bengal and is only a 30-minute flight from Yangon.

The beach is renowned for its safety for swimming, as well as the well-preserved natural state of its ecosystem. Nestled on palm-lined shores, its fame is growing throughout Myanmar and Southeast Asia.

Its reputation as one of the best beaches in Myanmar is a draw for tourists from around the world, especially Europeans. Visitors can take boat trips to explore nearby islands with coral reefs, or see the lifestyle of local people in fishing villages.

With more flights to Thandwe airport, which is being upgraded, and a growing number of hotels, tourist numbers are on the rise.

According to the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, measures are being taken to preserve Ngapali's ecosystem and environment by banning taking sand from beach, destroying submerged rocks and reefs, and littering.

Ngapali is increasingly famed for its pristine natural environment. —PHOTO: YE MYINT

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Solar-powered LEDs set to illuminate Upper Myanmar township

By *Kyaw The-ein (MNA)*

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 April — Industrial firm JJ-Pun, in partnership with First Myanmar Investment Co. Ltd. and Philips Lighting, recently announced plans to light up off-grid areas in Upper Myanmar with the installation of solar-powered LED "Community Light Centres."

The initiative aims to improve quality of life for people living off the electricity grid and to demonstrate the possibilities of sustainable development in rural areas of Myanmar, JJ-Pun said.

CLCs are areas of approximately 1000 square metres, the size of a small soccer pitch, illuminated using a new generation of highly efficient solar powered LED lighting. During the past year Philips Lighting has carried out CLC projects across Kenya, Ghana and South Africa, and is on target to reach 100 such centres by the end of 2015.

Drawing on this success, Myanmar's first CLC will be constructed in Ngar Zinyine village in the Ta-da-U Township of Upper Myanmar. Construction of the CLC is scheduled to be completed during October 2015.

"Bringing light to the vast amounts of people in Myanmar currently living off the electricity grid will act as an enabler for both social and economic development within these communities," JJ-Pun managing director Philipp Hoffmann said. "I am delighted the Community Light Centre programme gives us a sustainable means to achieve this and hope our actions demonstrate the important role sustainable development has to play in Myanmar's modernisation."

***Police, local authorities and officials explain traffic rules to road users in Myanaung, Ayeyawady Region on 1 April to reduce traffic accidents during the Maha Thingyan Festival period.*—Win Bo (Township IPRD)**

Well-wishers share merits for donations of religious edifices

Mandalay, 4 April — A ceremony to share merits for construction of two prayers halls, religious buildings and an archway was held at Weponlayama Makkhaya monastery in Chanayethazan Township on 3 April.

Well-wishers Thiha Thudhamma Theingi, Thiri Thudhamma Theingi Daw Nwe Nwe San and family offered donations to venerable monks on the occasion.

They donated religious edifices and social welfare worth K418 million in Mandalay, Sagaing, Mahaaungmye and Wetlet townships.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Health workers provide insecticide-treated nets in Malaria risk areas

Monyin, 4 April — Health workers in Monyin Township, Kachin State, provided 9575 insecticide-treated nets free of charge to people living in 15 villages in the township in March, according to health officials.

To prevent malaria transmission, the staff also demonstrated use of of the nets. During their tour of the villages they provided free health care to children under five, expectant mothers and elders.

In the past Monyin Township had only 245 health staff including 19 physicians, but in 2015 April, 10 new physicians were appointed in Monyin Township.—*GNLM-001*

Artesian well benefits people living in arid zone: ***NyaungU Township Rural Area Development Department, Mandalay Region, sank an artesian well in Nyaungbinkan village in 2014-2015 fiscal year. The well can provide villagers with 2500 gallons of water per hour.*** **Thiha Ko Ko (Mdy)**

Minds of youths improved with Buddhist culture

Kawlin, 4 April—The second Buddhist cultural course kicked off at the monastery in Gwaygyo village in Kawlin Township, Sagaing Region, in the last week of March, under the guidance of the advice of Natyedwin monastery Bhaddanta Pandita. On the occasion, well-wisher U Shwe Min-Daw Yin Yin Htwe donated K3 million and course equipment to village elders.

Shin Janaka, Shin Kavinda and Shin Khemacara of Thitsaweda meditation centre from Patheingyi Township have been giving lectures to the trainees on the 10-day course.

Ko Ko Nyein-Kaw Lin

Electrician killed repairing power supply after storm

Kawlin, 4 April —An electrician was killed trying to restore power following a severe storm in Kawlin, Sagaing Region, on 2 April.

The storm damaged homes and businesses. It blew the roof off Myoma Market, flinging goods and corrugated iron sheets into the air. Local residents evaded the sheets on the roads.

Electrician U Ba Maung died while trying to repair power lines.

Ko Ko Nyein (Kawlin)

Literacy campaign starts in Myawady Township

Myawady, 4 April — A basic literacy campaign began in Myawady, Kayin State, as of 1 April.

On 2 April, Deputy Commissioner of the district U Lwin Ko Oo and township departmental officials together with those of social organizations visited the teaching sessions in the wards and villages.

A total of 137 university students and 134 basic education teachers are instructing 1,490 local people at 142 teaching sessions in Myawady.

Htein Lin Aung (IPRD)

Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint lays a wreath at the Memorial for Fallen Heroes in Lashio.—MNA

Upper House speaker . . .

(from page 1)

U Khin Aung Myint said U Phone Kyar Shin was a former communist party member and produced illegal drugs at the border area before and after he returned to legal fold.

He said Phone Kya Shin's forces brutally killed 14 members of police after the government forces raided his drug and weapon factories in 2009.

Phon Kya Shin's insurgents attacked Laukkai area in early 2015 after strengthening his forces.

The Upper House speaker also congratulated U Moe Kyaw Than, a member of Myanmar Red Cross Society, who died of attacks by Kokang armed men.

U Khin Aung Myint also appreciated the works of media persons who covered the conflicts at risk of their lives.

The speaker and members of parliament provided cash and kind to the families of Myanmar Red Cross Society, wounded soldiers and their fallen army comrades.

The tour was joined by popular artistes such as Director Zin Yaw Maung Maung, Nan Su Rati Soe, Thiri Shin Thant, No No Kay, Ju Ju Kay and Han Thi.—*MNA*

Myanmar observes mine awareness day

YANGON, 4 April — International mine awareness-campaign was held here on Saturday as the world marks the 10th UN International Day of Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action designated by the United Nations.

Under the theme for this year's day—More than Mines — the ceremony was held at Kandawgyi Palace Hotel and jointly organized by civil service organizations and NGOs.

Yangon region's Chief Minister U Myint Swe said the number disabled persons has been increasing due to internal conflicts, adding that Myanmar opposes the use of land mines.

Myanmar has commemorated this day two consecutive years in 2013 at Myanmar Peace Centre and in 2014 in Loikaw, Kayah State. Dr Su Su Thar Tun, senior advisor at the UN on Peace and Development, read the message of UN Secretary-General, followed by explanation of Mr. Yann Faivre, programme director at Handicap International, on challenges of mine clearance works.

Later, Lt-Col Thant Zin, chairman of Peace Myanmar Aid Foundation, appreciated the guests, and the chief minister looked around land mine detected items and pictures displayed at the ceremony. Government and ethnic armed group signed draft ceasefire agreement last week after a marathon talks since President U Thein Sein administration has taken office in 2011.

With more than US$2.4 billion in assistance in over 90 countries for conventional weapons destruction programs since 1993, the United Nations has applied mine action expertise to an increasingly wide range of explosive hazards, from unexploded missiles, artillery shells, rockets, grenades and mortars, to unsafe and unsecured weapons and ammunition, improvised explosive devices and cluster bombs.—*MNA*

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe observes booths displayed at ceremony to mark International Day of Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action .—MNA

Pro-peace rallies held in Shan State

KYAUKME, 4 April — Some 15,000 ethnic people marched here on Saturday her to support draft peace deal between the government and armed groups signed in last week.

Under the slogan "Peace is expectation of all people; To a peaceful and prosperous new democratic state; Union Peace: Victory of Second Panglong Agreement", the rally in northern Shan State of Kyaukme township was taken part by people of Shan, Bamar, Danu, Palaung and Kokang ethnics.

Peace campaigners also called for continuous efforts for peace, national reconciliation and political dialogues with ethnic people.

In Linkyay Township, southern Shan State, a total of 1,200 locals launched peace demonstration, with messages "Stop fighting immediately; Peace is essential for genuine democratic state; Anarchists are our common enemies."

The protest organizer U Sai Aung Than said, "We got permit from authorities for this legal demonstration to support peace-making efforts in the country."

A local also said, "Anyone who died in more than 60-year old civil conflict is our nationals. It is a loss for both their families and the State."

He added their demonstration was aimed to prevail their thirst for lasting peace.—*MNA*

People take to street to show thier support for draft peace deal between the government and armed groups.—MNA

Myanmar's biggest property expo to come in May

By *Khaing Thanda Lwin*

YANGON, 4 April — iMyanmar Co. will hold the country's biggest property expo at Tatmadaw convention hall here in May, the online advertising group's managing director U Nay Min Thu said Friday.

Featuring talks by 20 real estate experts, the event will run from 1 to 3 May. Over 50 companies will sell flats and condominium apartments during the three-day expo, he said.

"At least 5,000 flats and condo apartments will be sold at the expo, with the organiser expecting more than 3,000 visitors to come to the free event," U Nay Min Thu said at a press conference.

House hunters will have access to home loan services through the Construction and Housing Development Bank, he said.

"We have a plan to hold another property expo in Mandalay by the end of this year and to conduct property seminars every two months," the managing director of iMyanmar told the Global New Light of Myanmar.

During the press conference on Friday, iMyanmar Co. also introduced its iMyanmarhouse android application and property magazine. Lead developer U Aung Khant Zaw said the new mobile app allows users to upload property advertising free of charge. Users can also read property-related news and videos through the app.

The May issue of the iMyanmarhouse.com property magazine was published ahead of schedule, with information about the economic impact of the housing market, Executive Editor U Thant Wai Soe said.

GNLM

Ex-Japan PM Murayama to attend China's WWII event in September

BEIJING, 4 April — Former Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama said on Friday he is planning to attend a ceremony that China will hold in September marking the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II.

"If I receive a formal invitation, I intend to go," Murayama, who served as prime minister from June 1994 to January 1996, said in a telephone conversation with *Kyodo News*.

Murayama said he recently got a call from China's ambassador to Japan, Cheng Yonghua, saying the country wants to invite him to the event.

China calls the anniversary its victory in a war of resistance against Japanese aggression.

The former socialist prime minister is known for penning a statement in 1995 apologizing for the suffering Japan inflicted on its Asian neighbours through colonization and wartime aggression. The so-called Murayama statement was released on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the end of the war. The document is highly regarded by China and many other countries.

China has invited world leaders, including Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, whom it sees as a historical revisionist, to attend the ceremony in Beijing.

Among major countries, besides Russian President Vladimir Putin, it is still unknown who will take part in the ceremony, which will be combined with a major military parade.

The likelihood of Abe travelling to China for the commemoration is very slim, Japanese government officials said last month.

China has been wary of what Abe may say on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of Japan's defeat in the war and has called on him not to water down the Murayama statement and other past apologies issued by Tokyo.

Last month, China said it has also invited foreign armed forces to march in the military parade expected to be staged in Tiananmen Square "to remember history, commemorate the martyrs, cherish peace and open the way to the future."

The last major military parade in China was held in 2009 to mark the 60th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

Until now, a military parade has been staged every 10 years in Beijing on the country's founding day on 1 October, but not on the war anniversary.

Kyodo News

A man cleans the ash from volcanic eruption of Mount Sinabung at Kuta Tengah village in Karo district of Indonesia's North Sumatra Province, on 3 April, 2015. Mount Sinabung volcano in Karo district of Indonesia's North Sumatra province erupted on Thursday afternoon, spewing a column of ash by up to 2 km to the sky and triggering small-scale evacuation, official said here earlier on Friday.—XINHUA

Suga wants "honest" exchanges with Okinawa amid US base row

NAHA, (Japan), 4 April — Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said on Saturday he wants to honestly communicate with the Okinawa governor, ahead of their meeting amid growing tensions over the planned relocation of a US military base within the prefecture.

Suga, the top government spokesman and one of the closest aides to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, arrived in Okinawa, where he will meet with Gov. Takeshi Onaga on Sunday, their first meeting since the governor was elected last year with support from voters opposing the relocation plan, which is part of a Japan-US agreement.

"I want to have an honest exchange of opinions with Governor Onaga over easing the burden of Okinawa in hosting (US) bases as well as promoting its (economic) development," Suga told a meeting of the local chapter of Abe's Liberal Democratic Party. At the talks with Onaga, Suga is likely to restate government hopes for understanding from people in Okinawa toward the long-standing plan to relocate the US Marine Corps Futenma Air Station within the island prefecture, which already hosts most of the US military facilities in Japan.

On Saturday, Suga will attend a ceremony marking the return to Okinawa of a housing area used by the US military, agreed by the two countries in 2013 as part of their efforts to ease the hosting burdens of the prefecture.

Kyodo News

Indian president signs land ordinance re-promulgated by Modi gov't

NEW DELHI, 4 April — Indian President Pranab Mukherjee has signed off on the land acquisition ordinance, which was reissued last week under unusual circumstances after the government failed to pass it in Parliament, said local TV channel NDTV on Friday.

This is also the first time for the president to bypass one house of the Parliament, the Upper House, to sign the ordinance to let it be re-promulgated.

The ordinance, or emergency executive order, seeks to make land purchase easier for industry and to develop roads, ports and power stations, among other infrastructure projects.

To reissue it, the government cut short the budget session in one house of Parliament, the Rajya Sabha or Upper House of Parliament, which refused to endorse the bill.

The Indian Constitution says the house where the bill is pending has to be prorogued, or cut short, for the government to re-promulgate an ordinance.

Parliament is currently on a month-long recess after the Budget session that started on 23 February.

However, the ordinance will now be presented in both houses of Parliament again.

The Lower House of Parliament or Lok Sabha has already overwhelmingly endorsed it. The ordinance includes nine changes made when a bill to replace it was passed in the Lok Sabha last month. With no possibility of the bill making it through the Rajya Sabha, where the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party and its allies are in a minority, the government had no option but to issue the ordinance again.

A united opposition led by the Congress has termed the ordinance anti-farmer and vowed not to let it pass.—*Xinhua*

China says Iran deal good for Sino-US relations

BEIJING, 4 April — This week's framework nuclear deal with Iran was also good for boosting relations between China and the United States, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said in a call with US Secretary of State John Kerry.

The agreement can be attributed to all sides seizing a historic opportunity through concerted efforts, Wang told Kerry, China's foreign ministry said in a statement released late on Friday.

"China and the United States, both taking on major responsibilities in safeguarding the international nuclear non-proliferation system, maintained good contact with each other during the negotiations, while instilling positive energy into bilateral relations," the statement cited Wang as saying.

"In a bid to finalise a comprehensive deal as scheduled, China will maintain close coordination with all parties concerned, including the United States, and continue to play a constructive role during the process," Wang added.

While China and the United States are at loggerheads over everything from cybersecurity to the value of China's yuan currency, the world's two largest economies also cooperate closely on certain international issues, including the Iranian and North Korean nuclear disputes.

The Chinese statement cited Kerry as saying that the United States appreciates China's important and constructive role in the latest Iran nuclear talks.

The tentative agreement, struck on Thursday after eight days of talks between Iran and six world powers in Lausanne, Switzerland, clears the way for a settlement to allay Western fears that Iran could build an atomic bomb, with economic sanctions on Teheran being lifted in return.

It marks the most significant step towards rapprochement between Washington and Teheran since the 1979 Iranian revolution, and could potentially end decades of international isolation, with far-reaching political consequences in the Middle East.

China and Iran have close diplomatic, economic, trade and energy ties.

China's crude oil imports from Iran jumped by nearly 30 percent last year to their highest average level since 2011, as Iran's largest oil client boosted shipments after an interim deal eased sanctions on Teheran.—*Reuters*

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi

Cambodia evacuates eight citizens from conflict-hit Yemen

PHNOM PENH, 4 April — Cambodia has evacuated eight Cambodian Muslim students stranded in conflict in Yemen, Koy Kuong, a spokesman for the Cambodian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said on Saturday. "The Cambodian Embassy to Kuwait has closely cooperated with the Malaysian Embassy to Yemen to evacuate 8 Cambodian Muslim students from Yemen because the current situation in this country could not guarantee security for our citizens," he said in a news statement. "Currently, the 8 Cambodian Muslim students are staying in a safe place during the waiting for the return to Cambodia," he said. Security sharply deteriorated in Yemen since early March when conflict erupted in several provinces in the country's southern regions. The conflict killed more than 500 people over the past two weeks.

The Shiite Houthi group launched attacks on Aden city, which Yemeni President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi declared as the temporary capital after he fled weeks of house arrest by the Houthis in the capital Sanaa.

Last Thursday, a Saudi-led coalition started airstrikes on Houthi targets in Sanaa and other cities, saying the multinational action was to protect Hadi's legitimacy and force the Houthis to retreat from cities it seized since September 2014.

Xinhua

UN kicks off new round of talks on Security Council reform

NEW YORK, 4 April — Diplomats at the United Nations are expected to shift into high gear for discussions on Security Council reforms in the weeks ahead following preliminary intergovernmental negotiations in late March.

As part of its push to join the exclusive club of permanent members, the Japanese government under Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is expected to lobby hard for reforms this year, the 70th anniversary of the founding of the global organization.

Japan will be working together with Brazil, Germany and India that form the so-called Group of Four (G-4) to revamp the organization's most powerful decision-making body.

Negotiations started on 26 March under the initiative of Jamaican Ambassador Courtenay Rattray, the chairman of the intergovernmental negotiations in the current General Assembly session, according to Japanese Ambassador Motohide Yoshikawa.

Rattray has presented a three-phase approach to the negotiations and asked member states to submit by mid-April their positions on key points of discussions, such as to what extent the council should be expanded, sources familiar with the matter said.

The second phase would be interactive dialogue sessions to explore each other's positions, followed by the third stage of condensing the document to produce a negotiation text, the sources said.

Any plan to transform the council, entrusted with such powers as imposing sanctions and even paving the way for military action, requires endorsement by two-thirds of the UN member states to amend the UN charter.

Reaching this threshold will be difficult, given the deep divisions among members over how reforms should be undertaken that were manifested in previous intergovernmental talks.

During a General Assembly meeting on Security Council reforms in November, Antonio de Aguiar Patriota, Brazilian ambassador to the United Nations, likened reform debates to a carousel running endlessly in circles, even after participants had exhausted the major points of contention, and made a plea to push the agenda forward.

The United Nations now encompasses 193 member states, nearly quadrupling from 51 when it came into being 70 years ago. The Security Council, however, has maintained a 15-state quota since four nonpermanent seats were added in 1965.

The council is currently made up of five permanent members with veto powers — Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States — and ten nonpermanent members who are elected from regional groupings for a two-year term.

Japan has served on the Security Council ten times as a nonpermanent member with the last stint in 2009-2010.

A majority of member states are believed to share the view that the council should have an expanded roster.

The G-4 is seeking to increase both permanent and nonpermanent membership. The Consensus Group, comprising Italy, South Korea and other countries, argues that only the nonpermanent quota should be expanded.

In 2005, the G-4 introduced a resolution to the General Assembly seeking to add six permanent and four nonpermanent members. It was eventually scrapped in the face of opposition from the United States, China and other countries.

Since 2009, intergovernmental negotiations have been conducted in every General Assembly session, but no major strides have been made. The 69th and current session opened last September and runs for one year.

Rattray took over the chair from Afghan diplomat Zahir Tanin, who had served in the post since 2009.

Tanin said in a recent interview with *Kyodo News* that he decided to leave the post he held over five years because he felt the political will to move forward was lacking.

Kyodo News

US says would back India buying US aircraft carrier technology

US Defense Acquisition Chief Frank Kendall speaks to journalists at a news conference at the 2014 Farnborough International Airshow in Farnborough, southern England on 14 July, 2014.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 4 April — The US government would support selling General Atomics' electromagnetic launching system for aircraft carriers, and other key technologies, to India, the Pentagon's chief weapons buyer told *Reuters* on Friday.

Defence Undersecretary Frank Kendall, who heads a joint US-India defence trade and technology effort, said he was optimistic about the two countries' efforts to cooperate on a planned aircraft carrier for India.

"I'm optimistic about cooperating with them on that," Kendall told *Reuters* in an interview, when asked about the possibility of India acquiring the Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System (EMALS) built by privately held General Atomics, which is based in San Diego, California.

"They're going to have to make their own decision about what technology they want, but I don't see any fundamental obstacles to them acquiring some of our carrier technologies, if they want them," he said.

India wants to use state-of-the-art US technology to boost the range and potency of a planned aircraft carrier, in a move that would deepen cooperation between both countries and counter China's military influence in the region.

General Atomics, which has also proposed selling the system to Brazil, says selling the system to foreign countries could help lower the cost of installing the system on the new Gerald R Ford class of US Navy aircraft carriers being built by Huntington Ingalls Industries Inc.

The new system helps jets launch off a flat deck at a faster rate and with less fatigue to the aircraft.

Kendall said the issue would be addressed by a new working group that is being set up by the two countries.

The Pentagon recently appointed Rear Admiral Thomas Moore, the Navy's two-star programme executive officer for aircraft carriers, to lead the US part of the working group, said Pentagon spokeswoman Maureen Schumann.

Moore will work with his Indian counterpart, Rear Admiral-select Surendra Ahuja, a former Indian test pilot, to set up the first meeting of the group in the next couple of months.—*Reuters*

Cabinet OKs bill to scrap overtime pay for white-collar workers

Participants in a rally held in Tokyo by the Labour Lawyers Association of Japan on 3 April, 2015, raise signs bearing a message expressing their opposition to a planned bill to scrap working-hour limits for high-income professionals with annual salaries of 10.75 million yen ($90,000) or more. Under the so-called white-collar exemption system, people who engage in research and development, and other professionals such as dealers at financial institutions will be given the option of being exempt from working-hour regulations.—KYODO NEWS

Key Taleban commander killed in eastern Afghanistan

KABUL, 4 April — Afghanistan's security forces raided Taleban hideouts in the eastern Wardak province early on Saturday, killing four militants, including key commander Mullah Wazir alias Mullah Farid, and injuring three others, the provincial government said.

"Units of security forces, acting upon intelligence reports raided Taleban hideouts in Jalriz and Jaghato districts in the wee hours of Saturday. As a result, four rebels, including a key commander Mullah Wazir alias Mullah Farid, were killed and three others injured," the government said in a statement.

Mullah Wazir, according to the statement, had served as military leader of Taleban outfit in Wardak province and his killing can be a major setback to the Taleban militants in Wardak and adjoining provinces.

During the operations, a number of arms and ammunitions, including 100 kg explosives, were also discovered from the hideouts of the militants, the statement said.

The Taleban has yet to make comment.

Xinhua

India's ruling BJP committed to peaceful ties with Pakistan

NEW DELHI, 4 April — India's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has adopted a new foreign policy formula, which calls for peaceful and cooperative relations with Pakistan in fighting terrorism, local media reported on Saturday.

The BJP adopted a resolution during its national executive meeting on Friday in the southern city of Bangalore, presenting a five-point formula of its foreign policy, said *The Hindustan Times.*

The policy pitched for peaceful engagement with Pakistan to gain the neighbour's cooperation to root out terrorism in the region, said the report.

It also praised the government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for "firmly and appropriately responding to the provocations on the border" allegedly by Pakistani troops.

The BJP is "committed to building peaceful and friendly relations with Pakistan, predicated on an end to terrorism," it said.

Xinhua

S Korea, Japan, US to hold talks on defence cooperation mid-April

SEOUL, 4 April — Senior defence ministry officials from South Korea, Japan and the United States will hold two-day talks from 16 April in Washington to discuss promoting trilateral defence cooperation, South Korea's Defence Ministry said on Friday. Details on the agenda are being worked out, but the talks are expected to focus on North Korea's growing military threats.

Prior to the trilateral meeting, South Korea and the United States plan to hold bilateral talks on defense cooperation on 14-15 April in Washington.

The South Korean ministry also said US Secretary of Defence Ashton Carter will visit South Korea on 9-11 April and hold talks with South Korea's Defence Minister Han Min Koo on 10 April.—*Kyodo News*

NPT confab chairwoman pays tribute to A-bomb victims in Nagasaki

NAGASAKI, 4 April — Algerian diplomat Taous Feroukhi, who will chair an upcoming UN conference to review the implementation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, visited Nagasaki on Saturday and paid tribute to the victims of a US atomic bomb dropped on the city in 1945. Feroukhi laid a white wreath at ground zero near where the bomb exploded nearly 70 years ago on 9 August. She told reporters that it was meaningful to have visited a city devastated by atomic bombing on the year marking its 70th anniversary.

Feroukhi's trip, including her visit on Friday to Hiroshima, another Japanese city that was hit with an atomic bomb, was aimed at getting a better understanding of the devastation caused by the weapon ahead of the review conference starting 27 April in New York.— *Kyodo News*

US Clinton campaign signed lease for Brooklyn HQ

WASHINGTON, 4 April — The campaign of likely US presidential candidate Hillary Clinton has signed a lease to house its headquarters in Brooklyn, New York, a source with knowledge of Clinton's plans said on Friday.

Clinton, a former US secretary of state and the wife of a former president, is expected to launch her White House bid for the 2016 election later this month. Her campaign will occupy two floors of an office building at 1 Pierrepont Plaza in the Brooklyn Heights neighbourhood, according to the source.

The identity of the lease holder on the Brooklyn space was unclear. If it is Clinton's campaign-in-waiting, the expenditure would trigger a 15-day window in which she must officially form her campaign.

Several criteria were considered by Clinton and her future campaign staffers when selecting the Brooklyn location, the source said. First and foremost, Clinton wanted the campaign headquarters to be outside of Washington, D C Brooklyn Heights was chosen for its accessibility, given its proximity to multiple metro lines and easy access to the city's airports. The availability of housing for staffers who will be relocating to the area and the perception that the neighbourhood is somewhere people will enjoy spending time were also factors, the source said.

Politico first reported the lease on the Clinton campaign headquarters on Friday.—*Reuters*

2nd black box confirms co-pilot's intention to down Germanwings plane

PARIS, 4 April — The second black box of the crashed Germanwings *A320* passenger jet has confirmed its co-pilot's intention to deliberately lower the aircraft's altitude, French authorities said on Friday.

The French Bureau of Enquiry and Analysis for Civil Aviation Safety (BEA) confirmed in a Press release on its website that the Flight Data Recorder was sent to the BEA office on Thursday evening, adding that BEA teams tried to open it immediately upon its arrival. A preliminary reading showed that the co-pilot in the cockpit used the autopilot to lower the plane to an altitude of 100 feet (around 30.5 metres), and that several times during the descent he changed the autopilot settings to increase the speed of the descending aircraft,the BEA said. The BEA said it would continue its analysis to determine the specific factual progress of the flight.

The BEA had managed to extract useful data from the first black box, the Cockpit Voice Recorder, which was retrieved last week. The study of the file indicated that the co-pilot deliberately destroyed the aircraft.

The airbus *A320*, operated by Lufthansa's budget airliner Germanwings, crashed in the southern French Alps on 24 March while flying from Barcelona, Spain to Duesseldorf, Germany, killing all 144 passengers and six crew members on board.—*Xinhua*

Big TV debate of British election campaign yields no clear winner

(L-R) Natalie Louise Bennett the leader of the Green Party, Nick Clegg the leader of the Liberal Democrats, Nigel Farage the leader UKIP, Ed Miliband the leader of the Labour Party, Leanne Wood the leader of Plaid Cymru, Nicola Sturgeon the leader of the Scottish National Party (SNP) and David Cameron the leader of the Conservative Party and Britain's current Prime Minister stand during the leaders televised election debate at Media City in Salford in North England, in this 2 April, 2015 handout picture provide by ITV. — REUTERS

SALFORD, (England), 4 April — The main TV debate of Britain's national election campaign yielded no clear victor with four opinion polls producing four different winners, but David Cameron's attempt to appear the most statesman-like appeared to have paid off.

The event, on Thursday night, was staged less than six weeks before a close national election on 7 May as polls suggest Cameron's Conservatives and Ed Miliband's opposition Labour Party are neck-and-neck with neither on track to win a majority.

The results of four snap opinion polls underscored why the election — that will decide who governs Britain and its $2.8 trillion economy — is being widely described as the closest and most unpredictable since the 1970s with voters naming no fewer than four winners.

One poll said Scottish nationalist leader Nicola Sturgeon had won, another said Labour's Miliband had narrowly triumphed, a third said Cameron, Miliband and UK Independence Party leader (UKIP) Nigel Farage had come joint first, while a fourth said Cameron and Miliband had both won.

None of the leaders managed to deliver a "killer line" that would set them apart from the other participants. "There was clearly no knock-out blow," said Peter Kellner of pollster YouGov.

Jonny Tudor, 17, who asked one of the questions on the night, told *Reuters* afterwards: "Some performed well in answer to certain questions, other performed well on different subjects, but there was no definitive winner."

In a result that will calm Conservative nerves, a Comres/ITV poll showed 40 percent of voters judged Cameron was the most capable of leading Britain, compared to 28 percent for Miliband.

However, the debate has had little effect on voting intentions according to the first national poll since.

A Survation survey for the *Daily Mirror* had Labour on 33 percent and the Conservatives on 31 percent, unchanged since its last poll a week ago, although Miliband's personal approval rating had received a boost.

In an unusual format for Britain, Cameron faced off against six political rivals in what was the first and only full TV debate of a campaign that has yet to stir voters, many of whom say they feel jaded despite a rising economy.

In one of Cameron's more animated moments in an otherwise reserved performance, he pointed to his rivals, one-by-one, and said: "What I'm hearing is more debt and more taxes, more debt and more taxes, a lot more debt and more taxes, some more debt and more taxes, and definitely more debt and more taxes."

A rare moment of drama came when a female audience member briefly interrupted Cameron to complain about the number of homeless people sleeping in the streets. —*Reuters*

Netanyahu says in any nuclear deal Iran must recognize Israel's right to exist

JERUSALEM, 4 April — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Friday that any final nuclear deal with Iran must include a commitment from Teheran recognising Israel's right to exist.

Netanyahu, whose address to the US Congress last month failed to stop the United States and five other major powers agreeing a framework accord with Tehran on Thursday, made the demand after his security cabinet met to discuss the deal.

"Israel demands that any final agreement with Iran will include a clear and unambiguous Iranian commitment of Israel's right to exist," Netanyahu said in a statement.

"Israel will not accept an agreement which allows a country that vows to annihilate us to develop nuclear weapons, period."

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu delivers a statement to the press at the Prime Minister's office in Jerusalem, on 3 April, 2015. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Friday any framework agreement between Iran and the international community must commit to recognizing Israel's right to exist. —XINHUA

US President Barack Obama, who called Thursday's agreement a "historic understanding", called Netanyahu within hours of the talks concluding, saying the deal represented progress toward a lasting solution that cuts off Iran's path to a nuclear weapon.

But Netanyahu said a final accord based on what was agreed in Lausanne, Switzerland "would threaten the survival of Israel" and rather than blocking Tehran's path to the bomb, "would pave it".

"This deal would legitimise Iran's nuclear programme, bolster Iran's economy and increase Iran's aggression and terror throughout the Middle East and beyond," Netanyahu said. "It would increase the risks of nuclear proliferation in the region and the risks of a horrific war."

Obama mentioned several times during his speech on the deal that the United States stood with Israel on security and would not allow "any daylight" between their positions, but the reassurances have not satisfied Netanyahu.

Israel, believed to be the only nuclear-armed state in the Middle East, has previously said it could take pre-emptive military action if necessary to stop Iran getting such weapons.— *Reuters*

Yemeni fighters repel Houthis in Aden after arms drop

ADEN, 4 April — Fighters loyal to Yemen's president pushed Houthi fighters back from central Aden on Friday after they were reinforced with weapons parachuted into their beleaguered section of the southern port city by Saudi-led warplanes.

The military setback for the Shi'ite Houthis came after days of advances in Aden, the last major foothold of fighters loyal to President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi, despite a week-old Saudi campaign of air strikes to halt the Houthis and bolster Hadi.

Sunni Muslim power Saudi Arabia, alarmed by the Iranian-allied Houthis' march on Hadi's power-base in Aden, launched its air campaign nine days ago along with regional backers.

The intervention marks Riyadh's most assertive move yet to counter what it sees as a spread of Shi'ite Iran's power in the region, a proxy struggle also playing out in Syria, Iraq and Lebanon.

Aden residents said the Houthi fighters and their allies withdrew from the central Crater district as well as one of Hadi's presidential residences which they took 24 hours earlier.

A spokesman for the Saudi-led coalition, Brigadier General Ahmed Asseri, said the logistical support airdropped at dawn on Friday had helped turn the tide for Hadi's fighters.

"They received the support and they were able to change the situation on the ground, driving the Houthi militias out of the palace and the areas that they had briefly taken control of," he told a news briefing in Riyadh.

The crates of light weapons, telecommunications equipment and rocket-propelled grenades were parachuted into Aden's Tawahi district, on the far end of the Aden peninsula which is still held by Hadi loyalists, fighters told *Reuters*.

The Houthis, fighting alongside soldiers loyal to former president Ali Abdullah Saleh, emerged as the strongest force in Yemen after they took over the capital Sanaa in September. After they turned on Aden last week, Hadi fled abroad and has watched from Riyadh while his remaining authority has eroded.

***Supporters of Yemen's former President Ali Abdullah Saleh, hold up their weapons during a rally against airstrikes, in Sanaa on 3 April, 2015.—*REUTERS**

Turmoil in the Arabian Peninsula's poorest country comes after year of separatism, tribal conflict, sectarian violence and an insurgency by al-Qaeda militants targeted by US drones.

Local militia forces said they killed 10 Houthis during the fighting which pushed the Shi'ite movement out of Crater.

Two brothers working for the Red Crescent were shot dead while evacuating wounded to an ambulance, the aid group said. Militia forces blamed the Houthis and said the fighters also killed two patients when they shot at the ambulance taking casualties from Aden's peninsula to a hospital on the mainland.

The coalition, trying to reassert Hadi's standing before any political settlement, has said that sending ground troops into Yemen remains an option.

Officials have declined to say whether special forces have already deployed. Saudi ambassador to Washington Adel al-Jubeir said on Thursday the kingdom does not have "formal" troops on the ground in Aden.

Tribal sources in Yemen said on Friday that Saudi Arabia had started to remove parts of a fence along its border with the northwestern Yemeni provinces of Saada and Hajja.

This could be a prelude to an incursion by ground troops, but may also be part of more modest efforts to secure the frontier area, which on some stretches includes a buffer zone between the two countries.

Saudi Arabia's Ekbariya television said two border guards were killed in an attack after dusk on Friday near Dhahran. It gave no details.

US government sources said on Thursday that, although Washington believes Saudi Arabia and its allies have deployed a military force along the border which is large enough to launch a full-scale invasion, there was no indication that Riyadh was planning such a move soon.

The UN relief coordinator Valerie Amos said 519 people have been killed in the fighting in the past two weeks and nearly 1,700 wounded, without specifying whether those figures included combatants.

The fighting has forced Washington to evacuate military personnel from Yemen, a main battlefield in its drone war against al-Qaeda.

Suspected al-Qaeda fighters stormed a military base in the port town of Mukalla, killing at least five soldiers and ransacking its ammunition store, residents said.

The attack came a day after the militants broke into Mukalla jail and freed scores of prisoners including a prominent local al-Qaeda leader, identified by officials as Khaled Batarfi.

Reuters

Somali militants threaten more bloody attacks against Kenya

MOGADISHU, 4 April — Somali militants on Saturday threatened to stage more bloody attacks on Kenya after the group's fighters killed nearly 150 people during an assault on a Kenyan university on Thursday.

Four masked al Shabaab gunmen went on a killing spree in a pre-dawn raid, hunting down and executing students in a college campus in Garissa, a north-eastern town about 200km (120 miles) from the Somali border.

The al-Qaeda aligned group said the attack was retribution for Kenya's presence in Somalia and mistreatment of Muslims within Kenya.

"No amount of precaution or safety measures will be able to guarantee your safety, thwart another attack or prevent another bloodbath from occurring in your cities," the group said in an emailed statement.

In the message, directed at the Kenyan public, the group vowed a long and gruesome war, saying Kenya's cities will "run red with blood".

The death toll in the attack on the Garissa University College has risen to 148, Interior Minister Joseph Nkaissery said late on Friday, adding that police were interviewing five suspects after making three additional arrests on Friday.

The raid on Thursday was the biggest attack on Kenya since 1998, when al-Qaeda bombed the US embassy in the capital Nairobi and killed more than 200 people.—*Reuters*

***Kenya Administration policemen stand in front of Garissa University College in Garissa on 4 April, 2015.—*REUTERS**

Russia calls UN meeting to discuss a humanitarian pause in Yemen

UNITED NATIONS, 4 April — The United Nations Security Council will meet on Saturday on Yemen after Russia called for a meeting to discuss a proposal for a humanitarian pause in Saudi-led air strikes on the country.

Saudi Arabia is leading a coalition of Arab states in an air campaign against Shi'ite Houthi fighters, who emerged as the most powerful force in the Arabian Peninsula's poorest country when they seized Yemen's capital last year. The Russian mission to the United Nations said it had called for the closed-door consultations of the 15-member council to "discuss an issue of humanitarian pause during coalition air strikes in Yemen."

The council is due to meet at 11 am (1500 GMT) on Saturday. Yemen President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi fled Aden last week in the face of the Houthi offensive, which has continued to advance despite nine days of air strikes by the Saudi-led coalition aimed at driving back the Iranian-allied Houthis and restoring Hadi's authority.— *Reuters*

Islamic State takes 90 percent of Damascus refugee camp

BEIRUT, 4 April — Islamic State has taken control of 90 percent of a Palestinian refugee camp on the Damascus outskirts where 18,000 civilians have suffered years of bombing, army siege and militia control, a monitoring group said on Saturday.

The hardline group's offensive in Yarmouk gives it a major presence in the capital. Islamic State, the most powerful insurgent group in Syria, is now only a few kilometers from President Bashar al-Assad's seat of power.

The United Nations has said it is extremely concerned about the safety and protection of Syrians and Palestinians in the camp. Civilians trapped there have long suffered a government siege that has led to starvation and disease.

"The situation in Yarmouk is an affront to the humanity of all of us, a source of universal shame," UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) spokesman Chris Gunness said. "Yarmouk is a test, a challenge for the international community. We must not fail. The credibility of the international system itself is at stake," he said.

The Islamic State on Wednesday launched an attack on other groups of fighters in Yarmouk, in particular Aknaf Beit al-Maqdis, an anti-Assad militia of Syrians and Palestinians from the camp.

Islamic State supporters posted photos on social media of the severed heads of two men they said had been beheaded after fighting for Aknaf Beit al-Maqdis.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which monitors the conflict from Britain, said Islamic State and al-Qaeda's official Syria wing, the Nusra Front, made gains overnight, pushing into the northeast of the district, close to central Damascus. They now control 90 percent of the camp, it said.

Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 5 April, 2015

Water shortages must be addressed in hot season

By *Aung Khin*

Summer season in Myanmar lasts from March to May, while April is the hottest month of the year, with daytime temperatures in the central areas normally peaking at above 40 degrees Celsius.

In arid zones, water shortages still need to be addressed. Many people in those areas are suffering the harmful effects of extreme heat. More than four thousand villages face water scarcity during the hot summer months in Mandalay region alone.

Hot weather also dries up drinking water ponds in many villages, forcing villagers to dig wells for water. Extreme day temperatures can also increase the risk of flu, skin allergies and other illnesses.

When the body's temperature control system is overloaded due to hot weather, people suffer heat-related illness. Normally, the body cools itself by sweat. Under some conditions, sweating is not enough to cool down the body. In such cases, a person's body temperature rises rapidly. Excess body temperatures can damage the brain or other vital organs. Labourers and vendors are most at risk from heat-related illnesses, in some cases dying from them. They cannot afford to follow the suggestion of the authorities and experts to stay indoors in the daytime.

Electricity shortages are another problem Myanmar experiences in hot season. Lower water levels in dams and reservoirs impact the country's productivity.

As the economy of Myanmar is largely reliant on water resource, sufficient supply of water is fundamental for the country.

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Competition

By *Kyi Mun*

* **Competition means** : (1) A situation in which people or organizations compete with each other for something that not everyone can have.
(2) An event in which people compete with each other to find out who is the best at something.
(3) Competition is rivalry between people or organizations.

* ***Let's explore the wider meanings of competition in the following manner :***

C	*for*	**Customer**
O	*for*	**Offerings**
M	*for*	**Marketing**
P	*for*	**Product, Price, Places, Promotion**
E	*for*	**Exceeding Expectations**
T	*for*	**Targeting**
I	*for*	**Innovation**
T	*for*	**Tough-mindedness**
I	*for*	**Insight**
O	*for*	**Online Marketing**
N	*for*	**Never Say Die**

*** CUSTOMER**

In doing business, you cannot avoid competition. Whatever sort of business you do, you have to compete for the customer, without whom, there could be no business. Theodore Levette, the business and marketing guru said: "Customer is business." Management guru Peter Drucker also said: "The business of business is to create customers." Every businessman knows quite well that Customer Is The Only Revenue Source." It is said in the Myanmar homegrown sense,

" If business is the Night,
Customer is the Moon, bright !"
" If business is the Fish, brother,
Customer is Water ! "

* **OFFERINGS**

A business offers its product or service. But, actually, what a business offers to its customer is the benefits, solution or answer to satisfy the needs and wants and expectations of the customer. It should be remembered that:

The Seller sells Benefits, and
The Buyer buys Value".

* **MARKETING**

In competition, marketing can be a competitive advantage. Marketing is Targeting the Customer. The main function of marketing is to get and to keep customers. There are three types of marketing, viz.:

- **Internal Marketing**
  (Between the business and the Employees)
- **External Marketing**
  (Between the business & Customers)
- **Interactive Marketing**
  (Between the Customer and the Employee)

✔ **The aim of Internal Marketing is:**
To recruit and retain Top Talents in the forms of Best of Breed or Best of the Class.

✔ **The aim of External Marketing is:**
To Exceed Expectations of the customers.

✔ **The aim of Interactive Marketing is:**
To deliver the Delightful Experience to the Customer in "The Moment of Truth."

*** PRODUCT, PRICE, PLACE AND PROMOTION**

(The 10-P's Marketing Mix)

• Product	……	to deliver	…… Core Benefits
• Price	……	to determine	…… Cost
• Place	……	to create	…… Convenience
• Promotion	……	to be in touch with the Customer in	Communication
• People	……	to provide	Caring
• Process	……	to provide Accuracy & Speed	Comfortability
• Physical-Evidence	……	to provide Image	Confidence
• Philosophy (Business)	……	to deliver Best Value	
• Purpose (Business)	……	to create Win-Win-Outcomes	
• Policy (Business)	……	to put the Customer First	

*** EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS**

To have a cutting edge in competition, it is very important for the business to be able to exceed the expectations of the stakeholders:

- **Customers**
- **Employees**
- **Owners/ Shareholders**
- **Community & the Entire National Economy**

* **TARGETING**

In competition, it is very important to thoroughly know:

- **Strengths** } **of Ourselves &**
- **Weaknesses** } **the Competitors**
- **Opportunities** } **for Ourselves &**
- **Threats** } **the Competitors**

"Knowing thoroughly well ourselves as well as the enemy will deliver to us a hundred victories in a hundred battles," said Sun Tzu. We must target at multiplying our strengths and opportunities and eliminating our weaknesses and threats. We should also target at having a winning edge in :

- **Strategy**
- **Objective**
- **Distinctive Capabilities**
- **Comprehensive Resources, and**
- **Morale**

* **INNOVATION**

To be competitive, to survive, to prosper and to grow, we have got to be creative and innovative. We must passionately cultivate a creative and innovative environment and culture. We should be always reinventing our business processes, vision and strategy. The whole organization must be working hard and smart victoriously with the conquering spirit. Our motto should be something like: **"Innovate or die".**

* **TOUGH-MINDEDNESS**

To compete effectively, we have got to be tough-minded. We must advance steadily from strength to strength. Strategically we must have an offensive plan of action, and tactically we must have a very strong and invincible defensive preparedness. We should be:

- **Tough & strong in financial viability**
- **Tough & strong in operational efficiency**
- **Tough & strong in managerial effectiveness**
- **Tough & strong in Customer & Employee Satisfaction**
- **Tough & strong in Competitive Advantage**

* **INSIGHT**

To be advantageously competitive, we must have insight into cultivating and inculcating :

- **Big View**
- **Long-term View as well as the Short-term Wins**
- **Prior Planning Plus Preparations Promoting Peak Performance Practice**
- **Distinctive Capabilities**
- **Comprehensive Resources and**
- **Indomitable Spirit**

*** ON-LINE MARKETING**

To beat the competitors, it is imperative to penetrate the on-line market. Market-share Growth must be relentlessly pursued in two-pronged attacks in the brick & motor market and in the Internet Market. Initially, online market should be penetrated in niches of our unique strengths and capabilities.

* **NEVER SAY DIE**

Business itself is a tough affair. Competition is tough, ruthless and big in scope. We have got to be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount all difficulties to win victory after victory. We must forever drive, strive, thrive, arrive and revive.

* **CONCLUSION**

Competition in Business is very intense, ruthless and very widespread. There is even cut-throat competition in the business world. Such a ruthless competition is dubbed: the rat race, dog-eat-dog culture and a mad practice. Anyhow, there are many decent, broad-minded and kind-hearted business people, also. In business, a fair and square type of competition can also be exercised. In such high-principled and decent competition, the competitors usually focus on the following winning characteristics of business objectives and strategies called QUIVERS:

- **Quality**
- **Uniqueness**
- **Innovation**
- **Value**
- **Excellence**
- **Relationships**
- **Service**

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ARTICLE

The last old Myanmar capital city "Ratanapon" [Mandalay] Part II

Maha Saddhamma Jotika dhaja Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

In the founding an urbanization of his new capital city "Yadanapon" [Mandalay] 'Yadanapon Naypyitaw', King Mindon was fortunate enough to have abundance of knowledge and experiences at his disposal. First and foremost was the two previous capital cities – Inwa and Amarapura which gave him good experiences and lessons to take and bad experiences and lessons to avoid. The strategic location and natural resources facilities of Inwa guided King Mindon to the site of Mandalay which covers by far much larger and wider areas than that of Inwa and which is surrounded by natural environment of forested hills, natural lakes, man-made reservoirs and dams, natural streams and dug-up canals. If Inwa could boast of its site on the four drained off and land filled natural lakes, Inbu In, Ohn hne In, Nga Gyi In and Kyauk hmaw In and its location at the confluence of five rivers, the Ayeyawady, the Samon, the Duhtawaddy, the Zawgyi and the Paunglaung, Mandalay Yadanapon Naypyitaw was composed in poem, sung in songs and eulogized in history and literature for its green environment and unsurpassing sceneries. Two prominent songs of the time which are still popular as classic are Mya Man Giri and Man Taung Letyar. They are as follows:-

မြမန်းဂီရိ

၁/[မြမန်းဂီရိ၊ သေလာတောင်
နန်းတည်ထောင်၊ ဘုန်းရောင်နေသို့လင်း
နောင်ညီကို၊ ရွှေဘိုန္တယ်တော်ရင်း၊
ရာဆူဆူ၊ ပြည်သူခဝပ်စင်း၊
ရွှေဘုန်းတော်၊ နှန်းလျော်စံပျော်ခင်း
တေဇာတိုးလို့ဖြိုးဝေ၊ မန်းဌာနေ
အောင်ဇေယျာပြည့်မင်း]၂

၂/[ပြောင်လူးနာဂရုစာ၊သော်တာငွေလှဲ
မိုးမြတ်ဆဒ္ဒန်၊ ရွှေနန်းဘုံတော်
ရောက်ရာရွှေကိုယ်တော်
ပြည်တော်နိုင်ငံရွှေဘုံတွင်း]၂

[ဆန်းမူရာ၊သူဇာရွှေခပင်း၊
ရွှေဘုန်းတော်၊နှန်းလျော်စံပျော်ခင်း၊
တေဇာတိုးလို့ဖြိုးဝေ၊
မန်းဌာနေ အောင်ဇေယျာပြည့်မင်း]၂

This song was composed by Prince Pyin Si. It eulogizes the glory and greatness of the two brothers [King Mindon and his younger brother Crown Prince Kanaung] who jointly founded the new capital city at the foot of Mandalay hill. The song traces the descendancy of the two brothers from the dynasty of Shwebo [Konbaung dynasty or King Alaungpaya's dynasty]. All tributary chiefs and subjects paid their allegiance and homage to the two brothers. They were related to Saddan White Elephant in their previous existences. Sadddan White Elephant was silvery white like the moon. Beautiful court ladies attend on them. They are victorious rulers of Mandalay capital city.

The second song was also composed by the same composer Prince Pyin Si. It is wellknown in classical song category. It is named Man Taung Let Yar.

မန်းတောင်လက်ျာ

[မန်းတောင်လက်ျာ၊ ဘုန်းနေလ၊ နှန်းလေတေဇာဝေဖြာ၊ ဝင်းထိန်လို့ဝါ၊ [များစွာပိုလ်ခြေဝေနေပေါင်း]၂ ကောင်းအောင်ခု၊ ကောင်းအောင်ခု၊ ဗုဒ္ဓင် လောင်းမို့၊ မြို့နန်းတည်ထောင်၊ [မင်းမြတ်နောင်၊ ကုန်းဘောင်နေညွန့်သွေး]၂ ဒီပါမြေပေါ်၊ ကျော်နှံ့ရေး]၂ ဘုန်းတော်ဟုန်၊ ခြောက်ဘုံနတ်ရွာ၊ လွန်ပျံ့မွှေးလို့ ဘေးတော်မြေးမှန် [ထီးရာစံ၊ နက်သန် ခိုခရေး]၂ ရွှေဘုန်းတော်နေလာဝေဖြာ၊ မန်းလက်ျာ နတ်ရွာရေသို့အေး]၂ ဒုမ္မာလေ ဒုမ္မာကြိုင်ပျံ့၊ မွှေးတယ်မွှေးတယ်လေး၊ နန္ဒာကန်သာရေမြေ၊ အေးတယ်၊ အေးတယ်၊ အေးတယ်လေ]၂

[ဟိုနေ့လေ၊ ရာဇဝိုလ်ပြည်လို့၊ စည်ဗဟိုတော်က ဟိန်းတာမို့]၂ ဘေးရန်ခပ်သိမ်းလေးတွေတို့၊ ဘေးရန်ခပ်သိမ်းလေးတွေတို့ ငြိမ်းလေ၊ ငြိမ်းလေပါလှ၊ ငြိမ်းလေငြိမ်းလေပါလှ၊ ကြာတံဆိပ်နဲ့ဗျာဒိတ်တော်လာ၊ မိန့်ခွန်းလေးခွန်းလေ ချိုမြသာ]၂

ယဉ်ဧရာ ပတ်ကာဝိုင်းသည်၊ တိုင်းလေးဌာနီ၊ ရွှေပြည်ရွှေဘုံနန်း၊ ရေယဉ်သွယ်ဖြာ၊ စီးလာမေါက်ဖြိုး၊ရွာသည့်မိုး၊ဘုန်းတန်ခိုး၊ရွှေမိုးငွေမိုးရွာ၊ဆင်ဖြူရုတနာဆက်မည်ခုရောက်လာ၊ အိုလေ ဘုန်းတေဇ၊ နေနှန်းဖြာ [နန္ဒာရေဝန်းရံခ၊ ပတ်လည်ကာ ရွှေမန်းတောင်တော်သာ]၂

[အိုဆန်းပါလှ၊ မြို့နန်းဝတိန်သာ]၂

[မြန်ချာဖန်လှနေညွန့်မှာ]၂ ဘုန်းလေမြတ်ဝေဆာ၊

[အိုလေစံကါမြန်းသည်၊ မန်းလေးရွှေပြည်၊ တိုင်းလေဌာနီ]၂

ပုံမဝေးဘု၊ ရောက်လုပါပြီ၊ မြတ်နောင်ညီ၊ သာကီနေသို့ထွန်း

[ရွှန်းရွှန်းဝေ၊ ထွန်းတက်နေ၊ ကျက်သရေ ငွေလစန်း၊

သေလာတောင် ရွှေမန်း၊ ဆန်းလေ့ ဆန်းစုံစွာ၊ ဝေယန်နတ်နန်း

ပုံသို့ပါ၊ နန္ဒာရေဝန်းရံခ၊ ပတ်လည်ကာ၊ ရွှေမန်းတောင်တော်သာ၊

အိုဆန်းပါလှ မြို့နန်းဝတိန်သာ၊ [မြန်ချာဖန်လှာနေညွန့်မှာ]၂

ဘုန်းလေမြတ်ဝေဆာ [အိုလေ စံကါမြန်းသည်၊ မန်းလေးရွှေပြည်တိုင်း လေဌာနီ]၂

[ပုံမဝေးဘု၊ ရောက်လုပါပြီ၊ မြတ်နောင်ညီ၊ သာကီနေသို့ထွန်း]၂

The song described in poetic language and imagery the founding of the new capital city and building of a new palace by the two brothers [King Mindon and Crown Prince Kanaung] who are descendants of Thetkya race of Gotama Buddha. They are great grandsons of royal ancestors. Their fame and glory spread to the six planes of celestial world. Cool, clear water from Lake Nanda, filled with fragrant Paudma lotus blooms, flows clockwise around Mandalay hill.

Like in days of yore in the royal city of Rajagaha in India of Buddha's lifetime, the Baho Si (central clock drum) boomed, driving away all dangers from new capital city of Yadanapon Napyitaw, The new capital city emerged according to the prophesy of Lord Gotama Buddha when sojourned on the summit of Mandalay hill.

The Ayeyawady river tenderly winds about the new capital city. A newly discovered white elephant is now presented to King Mindon. Mandalay Palace city looks like Tavatimsa, the celestial city of Saka Deva [Thunder god].

New capital city and new palace ruled and reigned by two brothers [King Mindon and Crown Prince Kanaung] are not far away. We have arrived now.

There are other classical songs extolling and eulogizing Mandalay new capital city and new palace.

Later song composers such as Nantaw Shey Saya Tin, Mandala Saya Hnyar (A.1. Saya Hnyar), Saya Tauk and Myo Ma Nyein made Mandalay hill and Yatanapon Naypyitaw Mandalay as their favourite themes in their hit songs. In Myanmar chronicles and history as well as in literature Mandalay hill and Yadanapon Naypyitaw Mandalay were extensively recorded or described.

The Yetkan zin hill, the Naga Yit hill, the Shin Ma Lei hill, the Mei U hill, the Ko-yin Maung hill, the Yankin hill, the Yeytagung hill, the Mandalay hill, the Kywe na-pha hill, nearby and the sagin marble hill range, PyinOoLwin [Maymyo] hills, Mogok hill range, Kyaukse hill range, Pyet-kawei hill range at not so far distances from which rain water and spring and fall waters constantly provide enough aquatic quantity to Mandalay Naypyidaw through the natural streams and dug-up canals connecting with the natural lakes and reservoirs such as Nanda and Aungpinle reservoirs, Seidaw Gyi, and natural lakes such as Hsinphyu Kan, Zaung Kalaw, Tet Jhey In. Shwe laung, Shwe Ta-chaung, Yatana Nadi, Thingaza which are the half natural half manmade stream-cum-canal supplying water to Yadanapon Naypyitaw.

Unlike Taungthaman In lake which blocked Amarapura for its urban expansion, the said aquatic sources at Mandalay site lie at safe distances giving extensive spaces for spillover of Mandalay urban population. Besides the mighty Ayeyawady river that winds about zigzaglly from its northern most reaches of the confluence of the Nmaikha and the Mali Kha (Myitsone) after passing many defiles, becomes mild and tame as it reaches the fourth defile at Thabeik Kyin, only half-a-day motor car drive to the north of Mandalay. From thence southward the Ayeyawady turns into a dancing lady, caressing and kissing Mandalay only to keep it apart from the Minwun and the Sagaing hill ranges along the banks, facing Mandalay. These hill ranges are dotted with religious monuments and edifices of the past historic periods of Myanmar history. Hence the topographical disadvantages of Amarapura were not repeated at the site of new capital city Yadanapon Naypyitaw (Mandalay).

King Mindon consulted his ministers, Brahmin Priests, Soothsayers, Astrologers, learned Buddhist monks, city and town planners, architects engineers and land surveyors. He left no stone unturned in the founding of his new capital city. By now, many experts from the advanced western countries had arrived at Myanmar capitals as King's servicemen or private consultants. We therefore, notice some influence and impact of Italian, the French and the German urban designers and city planners in King Mindon's capital city about which we will learn in the subsequent instalments of this article. Here we would learn how the new capital city was defined and demarcated and how palace city (Nan Myo Taw) was built in the centre.

In the definition and demarcation of the new capital city, King Mindon publicly announced and demarcated the Swe Myo Taw Thit Myey [the site of the new capital city) demarcated by golden chain (ရွှေကြိုးသတ်မြေ] as follows:-

"Starting from the south-east corner, which is the junction of the Thanbaya Stream with the Myitngè River on the east of the Shwezayan Pagoda, the boundary goes west along the water's edge on the right bank of the Myitngè river, with Mekkhaya Myonè (township) on the far side to the south-west corner which is the junction of the Myitngè river with the Ayeyawady river; thence north along the left bank of the Ayeyawady river to the Shwegyetyet Pagoda, thence along the water's edge on the west side of Pyilonan hlawgaza, Yindaw, Shangale and Kontha Islands, thence along the left bank of the Ayeyawady river to Thayethman, thence across the left arm of the Ayeyawady river and along the water's edge on the west side of Malaka and Alaung Islands, to Hlainggyun on the left bank of the Ayeyawady river to the north-east corner which is Powa North Village at the junction of the Natpauk branch of the Madaya river with the Ayeyawady river, with Ngasigu myonè on the far side; thence east along the left bank of the Natpuak branch of the Madaya river, which marks the boundary between Ngasingu myone and Kyawzin zeik to the north-east corner which is Nyaunggyaung village at the far end of Madaya myonè, with the point at which four myonès meet on the far side; thence south along the western foot of the hill range to the starting point."

The above demarcated area for the new capital city was about four square miles. But later it gradually extended as urbanization spilled over. The palace city [Nan Myo Taw) was built at the centre in accordance with Myanmar cosmography – the concept of the centre of the Universe.

Capital city surrounded the palace city on four sides, facing four cardinal directions. The east side was marked Ashey Pyin, the west side, "Anauk Pyin", the north side "Myauk Pyin" and the south side "Taung Pyin". Altogehter 54 living quarters were founded on these four sides. They were as follows:-

Ashey Pyin [East Side]

1. Kyun Lone Maw (2) Wizaya Mahi (3) Zeya Mingala (4) Bhumi Zeya (5) Maha Zeyabon (6) Pyi Gyi Myet Hman (7) Pyi Gyi Myet Shin

Anauk Pyin [West Side]

(8) Amarasan Khaung (9) Amarahtani (10) Pyi Lone Chantha (11) Mawgagiri (12) Pale ngwe yaung (13) Pyi gyi kyet thayey (14) Aung Myey Yan Lon (15) Zabu Kyetngan (16) Chan Aye Tha Zan (17) Tu Lut Yan Aung (18) Beymei Lut Shaung (19) Aung Nan Yeikthar (20) Yadana Bhumi (21) Maha Aung Myey (22) Kyun Lon Kyey Nyar (23) Shwe Phone Shein (24) Kyun Lon U Shaung (25) Tampawaddy (26) Than Hlyet Maw (27) Sein Pan (28) Dae Wun (29) Pyi Gyi Pyaw Bwe (30) Thiri Haymar (31) Thiri Marlar (32) Aung Myey Thar Zan (33) Pyi Gyi Yan Lon (34) Min Te E Kin (35) Phone Taw Yaung (36) Nyaung Kwe.

Myauk Pyin [North Side]

(37) Mya Kyun Tazaung (38) Mya Nan Aung Myey (39) Mya Nan San Yar (40) Mya Nan Bonthar (41) Mya Kyun Myey Ngu

Taung Pyin [South Side]

(42) Pat kon Pyaw Bwe (43) Zabu Myet Shin (44) Pat Kon Wun Kyin (45) Yan Myo Lon (46) Maha Nwe Zin (47) Thet Kya Nwe Zin (48) Mawra Giwar (49) Sitara mahi (50) Hay Mar Zala (51) Kinsana Mahi (52) Hayma Marlar (53) Chan Mya Tha Zi (54) Aung Chan Thar.

These quarters were given classical names by royal order, some are Pali names from Jataka stories, some are auspicious Myanmar names. But they were commonly known by the names of ethnic groups who occupied those quarters or names and status of their services or their occupation. For examples, Amarahtani, Magagiri, Haymazala, Kinsana Mahi, Sitara Mahi, Mawgagiwa are Jataka names. Chan Mya Tha Zi, Pyi Gyi Pyaw Bwe, Pyi Gyi Yan Lon, Aung Myey Thazan, Setkya Nwe Zin, Maha Nwe Zin, Yan Myo Lon were names given by the king. Besides military servicemen's living quarters have their own names such as Marabin, Taung taya Nga Ze, Shwe Lan, Atwin Chauk Su, Apin Chauk Su, Shey taw Pyey, etc. Kathe su, Ponagon, Kala pyo, Taryedan, Tayoketan, Yodaya Su, Lin Zin Yat are ethnic group's quarters. Wa Tan, Kyi thun khat Tan, Kyauk sit Tan, Dha Tan, Tittar Tan, Hpan chet Tan, Bi Tan, Hman Tan, Myet par Yat were quarters for traders, craftsmen, artists and professionals. The residents of these quarters faithfully lived in their quarters, If by chance, due to inter-marriage or due to turn of their fortunate life, they were obliged to move to other quarters they had to inform and get permit from the Council of the Elders of the quarters concerned.

All quarters were planned out on the designs of square or oblong, never on the designs of triangle or circle. They face the palace city as a token of respect and homage to the king and his royal family. Especially for the servicemen, house design and size must conform to the standard prescribed by royal order. Even with regard to the royal family from the Crown Prince down ward strict prescription of the design and size of their dwellings were faithfully adhered to on pain of punishment.

(to be continued)

Singapore eyes highest proportion of younger diabetes patients

SINGAPORE, 4 April — Singapore has the highest proportion of younger patients with type-2 diabetes across nine Asian territories, Channel NewsAsia reported on Friday, citing a study by the Asian Diabetes Foundation.

The two-year study polled 319 patients from Singapore, Thailand, China, the Philippines, Hong Kong, India, South Korea, Taiwan and Vietnam, it said, adding that in Singapore, three in 10 had diabetes before the age of 40, the highest proportion with younger patients.

Singapore currently has 498,190 patients with type-2 diabetes, and it still poses great challenge to keep glycaemic under control among them.

"Diabetes has no symptoms. So when you are young, you don't really think it's a problem because there is no symptoms, you don' t experience pain and you are not aware of its complications," Dr Ben Ng, consultant physician at Mount Elizabeth Novena Specialist Medical Centre told Channel NewsAsia.

"Because of that, people don't care. They think they are doing well. On top of that, many other lifestyles such as too good a diet, lack of exercise and a sedentary lifestyle all contribute to increasing weight and increasing risk of diabetes."—*Xinhua*

Toyota's Aqua likely to have been FY2014 top-seller in Japan

TOKYO, 4 April — Toyota Motor Corp's Aqua hybrid is likely to have been the top-selling car in Japan in fiscal 2014, maintaining the top spot for the third straight year, with sales estimated at about 228,000 vehicles, industry sources said on Friday.

Daihatsu Motor Co's Tanto vehicle was the top-selling car in calendar 2014, but Aqua overtook Tanto during the three months through March as Toyota revamped parts of the hybrid vehicle released in December 2011.

Final sales data for the fiscal year ended Tuesday will be available next Monday, when the Japan Light Motor Vehicle and Motorcycle Association releases data for minicars and the Japan Automobile Dealers Association sales figures for larger vehicles.

The Tanto is believed to have ranked second in fiscal 2014 with estimated sales of about 215,000, the sources said.

File photo taken in December 2014 in Nagoya, central Japan, shows a model of Toyota Motor Corp's Aqua hybrid. The Aqua is likely to have been the top-selling car in Japan in fiscal 2014, maintaining top spot for the third straight year, with sales estimated at about 228,000 vehicles, industry sources said on 3 April, 2015.
KYODO NEWS

Minivehicles, with engines up to 660 cc, are expected to account for seven of the top 10 best-selling models last fiscal year, the sources added.

With demand growing for less-expensive cars with superior fuel efficiency, minivehices account for about 40 percent of the new cars sold in Japan.

But the tax rate on minivehicles was raised this month, possibly having a negative impact on sales going forward.

Kyodo News

Heavy metal losses for China's rare earth companies

BEIJING, 4 April — Two of China's major rare earth miners reported sharp falls in profits in 2014, in the face of poor demand and weak prices.

Major producer, REHT reported on Friday 5.84 billion yuan (949 million US dollars) in operating revenue in 2014, down 31.1 percent from 2013. Net profits plummeted by 57.4 percent to 643 million yuan, according to the company's annual report.

On the same day, China Minmetals Rare Earth Co posted a 64.8 percent drop in operating revenue to 702 million yuan and its balance sheet turned from black to red with 55.8 million yuan in net losses.

China Minmetals deliberately reduced sales last year, leading to great losses. Both enterprises blamed weak demand and low prices. Rare earth prices are at a multi-year low, despite a slight rebound at the end of 2014.

Upgrading the industry, big enterprises were merged with dozens of small miners around the end of last year to establish six major rare earth groups: REHT, China Minmetals, Xiamen Tungsten Co, Aluminum Corporation of China, Guangdong Rare Earth Co and China Southern Rare Earth Group.

The rare earth branch of Xiamen Tungsten made a loss in 2014 and the remaining three firms have yet to release their annual reports.

Rare earths, a class of 17 minerals, are some of the most sought after metals due to their military use and role in green technology like wind turbines and car batteries. China meets over 90 percent of the world demand, but at the cost of much pollution.

To curb environmental degradation and protect resources, China began to set quotas and high duties on rare earth exports in 2010, causing friction with the European Union, Japan and the United States. A WTO ruling last August declared the measures inconsistent with WTO rules and China's Accession Protocol. China removed quotas on 1 January this year and will cancel export duties on 3 May.

China's rare earth industry has always been beset by problems including illegal mining, smuggling and a lack of competitiveness due to weak research and development.

"When all barriers are lifted, regulators will face fresh pressure and will need effective instruments if the industry is to prosper," said Wu Yiding of Jiangxi University of Science and Technology.

The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, watchdog of the rare earth industry, said new projects will be controlled, production planned and exports regulated.—*Xinhua*

US adds only 126,000 jobs in March, unemployment rate unchanged at 5.5 percent

WASHINGTON, 4 April — The US economy added 126,000 jobs in March, falling short of economists' estimate of 245,000 and the unemployment rate held steady at 5.5 percent, the latest sign the labour market might be slowing down, the Labour Department reported on Friday.

The increase in employment marked the first time the monthly job growth was below the key 200,000 benchmark, which was typically associated with a strengthening job market, over the past year.

Last month, employment continued to trend up in professional and business services, health care and retail trade, while the mining, manufacturing and construction sectors lost jobs, the department said.

The mining and logging industry, which includes oil and gas extraction, shed 11,000 workers in March and has lost 30,000 jobs so far in 2015 due to the recent decline in oil prices. The manufacturing and construction sectors also cut 1,000 jobs in the month, respectively.

After revisions, employment gains in January and February were 69,000 less than previously reported. Job gains have averaged 197, 000 per month in the first quarter of 2015, down from an average of 324,000 in the fourth quarter of 2014, according to the report.

The slowing job market might reflect the weak economic growth in early 2015, which was attributed to severe cold weather, inventory adjustments and the strengthening dollar.

"We are seeing some weakness in the incoming data on economic activity. That could be concerns about whether or not that would stall improvement in the labor market," David Stockton, senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics, told *Xinhua* in a recent interview.

Wage growth for US workers remained modest. Average hourly earnings rose 7 cents to 24.86 US dollars in March and were up only 2.1 percent over the past 12 months, which suggests underlying slack remains in the labour market.

The latest worse-than-expected job report might make the Federal Reserve, the US central bank, to be cautious in deciding when to start raising interest rates. The central bank has kept benchmark short-term interest rates near zero since December 2008.

Fed Chair Janet Yellen said last week she expected an increase in the target range for the federal funds rate to be warranted later this year, as long as the labor market continues to improve.

Stockton predicted the central bank is more likely to wait until September to start hiking interest rates, as Yellen signaled a little bit desired to see more data to confirm the improvement of the US economy.

Fed officials will make better judgment by September "whether the early part of the year's weakness in the data was just temporary or whether it signaled more serious slowdown," he said.

Xinhua

Teardown of new Samsung Galaxy smartphone suggests deeper loss for Qualcomm

SEOUL / SAN FRANCISCO, 4 April — Samsung Electronics Co Ltd used more of its own chips to power the new Galaxy S6 smartphone than it did for the predecessor S5, according to an early teardown report, in a blow to US chip supplier Qualcomm Inc.

Samsung is not only using its own Exynos mobile processor, as had been widely reported, but also decided to rely on its in-house semiconductor business to source other parts, including the modem and power management integrated circuit chips, Ottawa-based consultancy Chipworks said in a web posting dated on 2 April.

Samsung is counting on its new flagship Galaxy S6 and S6 edge phones to help revive earnings momentum after a disappointing 2014. Strong sales of system chips such as its Exynos processor could also help boost earnings, analysts and investors say.

The Galaxy S6 also comes with Samsung's Shannon modem chip, US phone carrier AT&T said on its website.

"It's pretty clear if they're using Shannon for the modem for AT&T that they're trying to use all-Samsung silicon," said Jim McGregor, an analyst at Tirias Research. "With their market share going down they're under pressure to increase profit margins."

The findings suggest a deeper loss of business for Qualcomm in the new generation of Samsung's flagship handsets than anticipated previously. Teardown reports of the predecessor Galaxy S5, released last year, showed the US chipmaker supplied several components that Samsung has supplanted with its own this year, based on the phone Chipworks investigated.

Qualcomm said in January that a key customer declined to use its new Snapdragon processor in an upcoming flagship phone presumed to be Samsung's Galaxy S6. But it had been unclear whether Samsung would drop Qualcomm's modem chips as well.

Qualcomm is the industry leader in LTE, the most advanced modem technology, but Samsung, Intel, MediaTek and others have developing their own offerings.

Samsung and Qualcomm did not immediately reply to requests for comment.—*Reuters*

***A hostess displays the new Samsung Galaxy S6 Edge smartphone during the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona on 2 March, 2015.*—REUTERS**

Mozilla to also reject Chinese Internet body's certificates

BEIJING, 4 April — Mozilla Corp, creator of the popular Firefox web browser, said on Thursday it would follow Google Inc and no longer recognize new certificates of trust issued by a Chinese Internet agency.

Google's Chrome and Mozilla's Firefox are some of the world's most widely used browsers, and the moves could disrupt users accessing a broad range of Chinese web sites.

As a result of Mozilla's step, users of Firefox may get a warning when attempting to visit sites certified after 1 April by the China Internet Network Information Centre (CNNIC), the body that administers China's Internet by allocating and certifying IP addresses and web domain names.

CNNIC issued a statement on Thursday calling Google's move "unacceptable and unintelligible" and asked the web giant to consider its users' interests.

Zhang Jing, a representative of CNNIC's media relations department, could not immediately provide comment about Mozilla's move when reached late Friday.

***A man is seen next to a Firefox logo at a Mozilla stand during the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, on 28 Feb, 2013.*—REUTERS**

Mozilla and Google have both objected to CNNIC delegating its authority to issue certificates to an Egyptian company called MCS Holdings, which mishandled the matter last week.

MCS Holdings attributed a security lapse that took place on a test network to human error.

Internet authorities around the world issue certificates of trust to websites to verify their authenticity when visited by a web browser. Hackers could in theory impersonate unverified websites and intercept data using a "man-in-the-middle" attack.

Google and Mozilla have said they would allow CNNIC to reapply so its certificates could be recognized again.

Chrome is the world's most popular desktop and tablet browser, with nearly 50 percent share, while Microsoft Corp's Internet Explorer has nearly 18 percent compared to Firefox at 16.9 percent, according Statcounter.

Reuters

Indonesia plays hardball with smartphone manufacturers

JAKARTA, 4 April — When Polytron became the first Indonesian company to produce 4G-capable smartphones last year, it changed the 'Manufactured in China' inscription on its handsets to 'Made in Kudus,' a town in Central Java.

Polytron relocated production from China to comply with 'local-content' rules introduced in 2012. The regulations have raised concerns about higher manufacturing costs and hung question marks over an industry championed by the Indonesian government.

The United States has pressed Indonesia to relax the rules, which it says will hamper efforts of tech giants such as Apple Inc (AAPL.O) to expand into one of the world's last big markets where use of smartphones has yet to truly take off.

Assembling far from China's electronics supply chain means it costs up to 50 percent more to manufacture a mobile phone in Indonesia, according to Polytron, a smaller player among local phone brands.

"Honestly, we are doing it because of the regulation, to be in compliance," Polytron spokesman Santo Kadarusman told *Reuters*.

The government ramped up enforcement of the rules last year. The regulations are part of a push under President Joko Widodo to transform Indonesia from an economy that consumes products into one that produces them, in his attempt to boost economic growth and eliminate the country's trade deficit.

Most mobile phones sold in Indonesia are made in China. There was no phone manufacturing industry in Indonesia until last year when 15 companies submitted plans to the Industry Ministry to start production. Among them was Samsung Electronics Co Ltd (005930.KS), which opened a factory near Jakarta.

The regulations require importers of smartphones to manufacture in Indonesia or have their import licenses revoked by 2016 or 2017, depending on when they received their licence.

Reuters

***Employees at a Polytron showroom pose with the company's line of smartphones and tablets in a shopping mall in Jakarta on 1 April, 2015.*—REUTERS**

Fault link means larger quakes possible on US west coast

SAN FRANCISCO, 4 April — Researchers with University of California at Berkeley have proven that two faults in the Golden State are actually one, and that the two could rupture together in an earthquake more destructive than previously thought.

"The maximum earthquake on a fault is proportional to its length, so by having the two directly connected, we can have a rupture propagating across from one to the other, making a larger quake," lead researcher Estelle Chaussard, of the Berkeley Seismological Laboratory, said in a press release issued on Thursday by UC Berkeley.

What the postdoctoral fellow and her colleagues have worked on are the 70-km-long Hayward Fault, known as one of the most dangerous in the United States as it runs through large population areas near San Francisco, and the Calaveras Fault, which runs about 123 km.

Knowing that the Hayward Fault ends just short of the Calaveras Fault, there has always been ambiguity about whether the two are connected, said Chaussard. "People have been looking for evidence of this for a long time, but only now do we have the data to prove it."

The UC Berkeley team used 19 years of data from European Space Agency satellites to map ground deformation and measure creep along the southern end of the Hayward Fault, and found that the creep did not stop at its presumed end, but continued on another 15 km and the trace merged with the trace of the Calaveras Fault.

In addition, seismic data show that micro-earthquakes on these faults 3-5 kilometres underground have also merged, Chaussard said. "With this evidence from surface creep and seismicity, we can argue for a direct junction on the surface and at depth for the two faults."

The researchers also found that the underground portion of the Hayward Fault meets the Calaveras Fault 10 kilometres farther north than where the creeping surface traces of both faults meet. This geometry implies that the Hayward Fault dips at an angle where it meets the Calaveras Fault.

The US Geological Survey (USGS) updated seismic hazards last month and estimated a 14.3 percent likelihood of a magnitude 6.7 or greater earthquake on the Hayward Fault in the next 30 years and a 7.4 percent chance on the Calaveras Fault.

The estimates are based on the assumption that the two faults are independent systems, and that the maximum quake on the Hayward Fault would be between magnitudes 6.9 and 7.0. Given that the Hayward and Calaveras faults are connected, the energy released in a simultaneous rupture could be 2.5 times greater, or a magnitude 7.3 quake.

"It would be even greater," Chaussard said, if the rupture extended south to where the Calaveras Fault meets the San Andreas Fault, which has produced major quakes in the past.

Xinhua

Malaysia charges cartoonist over tweets critical of judiciary

KUALA LUMPUR, 4 April — Malaysian prosecutors on Friday slapped a record nine sedition charges against a political cartoonist over a series of tweets he posted criticizing the incarceration of opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim.

Zulkifli Anwar Ulhaque, 52, better known by his pen name Zunar, pleaded innocent to the charges, which are based on a series of nine tweets he posted on 10 February slamming the Federal Court's decision on the same day to send Anwar back to jail for five years over a sodomy conviction. In one of the tweets, Zulkifli wrote in the Malay language, "The lackeys in black robes are proud to hand down the sentence."

Zulkifli went on to suggest that the judiciary was bought and the verdict was predetermined. Anwar has steadfastly maintained that his sodomy charge and conviction are the result of a plot by the ruling elites to ruin his political career.

"No one has been charged nine times for sedition. The most is two," Zulkifli's lawyer Latheefa Koya told reporters outside the courtroom.

A defiant Zulkifli appeared at court wearing a purple outfit similar to the uniform that police detainees wear while in lock-up. He even brought his own handcuffs and posed for photographers. Zulkifli had spent three days in a police lock-up after being picked up for investigation over the tweets on 10 February.

"How can I be neutral if even my pen has a stand? Being neutral in Malaysia means you are supporting the corrupt government," he told reporters.

To mark his day in court, he even posted a caricature of himself on Twitter with the words, "I will keep drawing until the last drop of my ink." If found guilty, Zulkifli faces up to three years in prison or a fine of up to 5,000 ringgit (about $1,370) or both.

Zulkifli has previously been detained on sedition charges, having had several brushes with the authorities over pointedly political cartoons that poke fun at the ruling elites. His works have been seized and some banned from publication.

The present nine sedition charges will likely not be the last for him.

Kyodo News

Heavy smoke and blaze are seen at a liquid storage facility of Ultracargo, one of the major liquid storage companies of Brazil, in Santos, Sao Paulo state in Brazil, on 3 April, 2015. The fire broke out here on Thursday, according to the local press.—XINHUA

Search to continue for 13 people missing after Russian trawler's sinking

VLADIVOSTOK, (Russia), 4 April — The efforts to search would continue on Saturday for the 13 people who were missing after the fishing freezer trawler they boarded sank off Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula Thursday morning, a local official said on Friday.

The past days went by without positive news regarding searching effort, said *RIA Novosti* in a report quoting an official with the Far East division of the Russian Emergency Situations Ministry as. According to him, 65 people aboard the trawler were identified.

The trawler, with 132 people on board, including 81 Russians and 51 foreigners, sank in freezing water of the Okhotsk Sea at 6: 15 am local time Thursday. Rescue crew hoisted 119 people from the water, of whom, 56 were proclaimed dead. There were 13 people missing. Sixty survivors, along with 56 dead bodies, were evacuated to the Korsakov port in Sakhalin region, while three fishermen in extremely serious condition were sent to the district hospital in Magadan city earlier on Friday, according to a spokesman for the ministry's Kamchatka department. The cause of the accident is under investigation. An investigative department of the Far East said that the investigation results of possible safety rules violation will be announced in a week.

Owner of the trawler, Magellan LLC, planned to pay compensation to the families of the victims and promised to cover the cost of sending the bodies home. Russian Defence Ministry earlier rejected media reports that the trawler collided with a Russian submarine, saying "no Russian Naval submarines were in that particular area of the Okhotsk Sea at the time of the tragedy." Russian President Vladimir Putin has ordered Yury Trutnev, Presidential Plenipotentiary Envoy to the Far Eastern Federal District, to work with relevant departments and take charge of the treatment of the injured and other necessary assistance. Chinese President Xi Jinping on Friday sent a message of condolences to Putin over the sinking of the trawler.

Xinhua

UK spied on Argentina over Falklands from 2006 to 2011

BUENOS AIRES, 4 April — Britain spied on Argentine military and political leaders to ensure the security of the Falkland Islands from 2006 to 2011, according to a local television channel, citing intelligence documents provided by US whistle blower Edward Snowden.

Channel TN (TN com. ar) said it got the documents from a team of reporters in Brazil who have been working with Snowden.

One of the documents, labelled Top Secret and dated 2010, described "efforts to collect high-priority military and leadership communications," it said.

Tensions over the Falklands still simmer more than 30 years after the two countries fought a brief war, won by Britain, for control of the South Atlantic archipelago.

The islands lie 300 miles (480 km) off the Argentine coast and 8,000 miles (12,870 km) from Britain. About 2,800 people live on the islands, where the main industries are raising sheep, fishing and some tourism.

Oil has also been discovered in the area, raising the stakes in the dispute over control of the archipelago. TN reporter Eddie Fitte said he learned of the documents several days ago when he received a series of telephone calls from Snowden's media team in Rio de Janeiro. Each call lasted less than one minute in order to scuttle wiretapping attempts, he said.

The caller summoned him to Rio the next day, and asked him to be at a designated corner of the city at 4 pm to collect the documents, Fitte said. He was taken to a "bunker" where he was asked to turn over his cellphone while he collected the material that appeared on TNs website on Friday. A spokesman for Britain's Foreign Office said the government would neither confirm nor deny the reports. No one from the Argentine government was immediately available to comment. Former US intelligence contractor Snowden lives in Russia after leaking sensitive information about US surveillance programs.

Argentine forces seized the Falklands in 1982 and Britain sent a task force to retake them in a brief war in which more than 600 Argentine and 255 British servicemen were killed.

Britain's government said last week it would reinforce its military presence on the Falklands to counter the "very live threat" posed by Argentina. Argentina dismisses such talk as posturing ahead of upcoming British elections.— *Reuters*

Libya Dawn fighters check passing cars near a local checkpoint in the al-Tusha area, west of al-Azizia, Libya, on 3 April, 2015. Clashes continued in al-Azizia on Wednesday between pro-government forces and the Islamist armed coalition Libya Dawn.

XINHUA

N Korea fires five short-range rockets into Yellow Sea in two days

SEOUL, 4 April — North Korea fired four short-range rockets into the Yellow Sea on Friday, a day after firing a similar rocket toward the same area, South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said.

The projectiles, believed to have a range of 140 kilometres, were fired between 4:15 pm and 5 pm from Dongchang-ri, North Pyongan Province, the JCS said in a statement. The North Korean military fired the rockets apparently as a gesture of defiance against an annual US-South Korean military exercise that has been under way since 2 March. The drill is scheduled to run until 24 April.— *Kyodo News*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV DAWEI STAR VOY NO (1004W)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DAWEI STAR VOY NO (1004W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.4.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CONTINETAL SHIPPING LINE PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KUO HSIUNG VOY NO (1031W)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KUO HSIUNG VOY NO (1031W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.4.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING LINES

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WAN HAI LINES PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SINAR BIAK VOY NO (430N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BIAK VOY NO (430N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.4.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

Two bombs explode near Cairo police station, no casualties

CAIRO, 4 April — Two bombs exploded in Cairo's residential Imbaba district on Saturday, causing no casualties, Egypt's state-run *Al Ahram* newspaper said on its website. *Ahram* said the bombs exploded in front of the Ahmed Oraby school near the Imbaba police station.

It said bomb exports had cordoned off the area and were searching for anymore explosives in the area.

Most of the worst in a campaign of bomb attacks in Egypt have hit the Sinai peninsula, a remote but strategic region bordering Gaza, Israel and the Suez Canal. But smaller blasts have become increasingly common in Cairo and other cities. Imbaba has been hit by similar incidents before. In February, a bomb exploded outside an Imbaba restaurant, killing one. An Egyptian militant group allied with Islamic State claimed responsibility on Friday for attacks on military checkpoints which killed 15 soldiers and two civilians in the Sinai.

Reuters

Passengers queue to get on train at the Guangzhou Railway Station in Guangzhou, capital city of south China's Guangdong Province, on 4 April, 2015. Guangzhou received a travel rush during China's traditional Qingming Festival, or Tomb-sweeping Day, which falls on 5 April this year.—XINHUA

WEATHER REPORT

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 5th April, 2015: Rain or thundershowers are likely to be isolated in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin, Chin and Rakhine (North) States and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

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

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuation of likelihood of isolated rain or thundershowers in the Northern Myanmar areas.

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Yemen air strike kills family of nine

SANAA, 4 April — An air strike on a village near the Yemeni capital Sanaa killed a family of nine, residents said on Saturday, in what appeared to be a hit by the Saudi-led military campaign against Houthi militia.

Five other people were wounded and some citizens remained under the rubble, state news agency *Saba* said.

The operation by Saudi Arabia and other Sunni Muslim states is aimed at stopping the Iranian-allied Houthis and former president Ali Abdullah Saleh winning control of Yemen, and at reinstating Saudi-backed President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi.

Residents near Okash village, which is near an air force camp on Jebel al-Nabi Shouieb mountain, said the air strike was on Friday night and killed nine people.

Saba said the family consisted of two men, a woman and six children. It posted a picture on its website showing three children lying next to each other with pieces of papers with the date 3 March, 2015 written on them. *Reuters* could not immediately verify the authenticity of photo.

Reuters

Tourists walk on the Bai Causeway at the West Lake in Hangzhou, capital city of east China's Zhejiang Province, on 4 April, 2015. Saturday was the first day of three-day-long holiday of Qingming Festival, or Tomb-sweeping Day.
XINHUA

No injuries in Germanwings plane emergency landing in Stuttgart

BERLIN, 4 April — No one was hurt when an Airbus plane of the German low-cost airline Germanwings made an emergency landing at Stuttgart Airport due to "technical error," the Focus Online reported on Saturday.

The pilot reported an unknown defect of the plane around 11 am local time, some one hour after the Germanwings Flight 4U 814 bound for Venice took off from Cologne.

The plane made an emergency landing at Stuttgart Airport around ten minutes later, with nobody being hurt, the report said, quoting the manager of the airport, Georg Fundel.

Fundel said it is being examined whether the passengers should switch to other Germanwings flights or the emergency landing aircraft can be repaired quickly.—*Xinhua*

Robert Pattinson, FKA Twigs engaged?

LOS ANGELES, 4 April — "Twilight" star Robert Pattinson is reportedly engaged to girlfriend FKA Twigs after just six months of dating.

The couple exchanged promise rings with each other last month, reported *Us* magazine.

"I hear they were telling people they were promise rings, but I haven't seen Pattinson wearing one. They only told a few people about the engagement.

"They've been inseparable. He's planning on going to Coachella to support her. They've been living together and he's been calling her his greatest love," a source said.

It was reported in September 2014 that the Brimstone actor, 28, and the buzzed-about British singer (real name: Tahliah Debrett Barnett), 27, were dating.—*PTI*

"Twilight" star Robert Pattinson & girlfriend FKA Twigs

"Mad Men" star January Jones

January Jones doesn't need marriage

LONDON, 4 April — "Mad Men" star January Jones says marriage isn't important to her because she does not "need the tax write-off".

The 37-year-old actress, who recently started dating her "The Last Men on Earth" co-star Will Forte, insists she is not afraid of tying the knot, reported Contactmusic.

"I think when I was younger I was keen on having marriage, kids and all that. But as I got into my late twenties and early thirties, all my ideals shifted and having a document to prove love wasn't really important to me. It's the relationships that were important, and I still think that way," she said.

But Jones admits she probably wouldn't reject a proposal from the right man.

"I mean, if someone came along and was obsessed with marrying me, I would think about that. But growing up, all my family was married and never really got divorced, so marriage was a big deal, it was something you definitely did, so it's not that I'm afraid of it. I just don't need the tax write-off."

PTI

Tom Hardy signed on for three more 'Mad Max' movies

LOS ANGELES, 4 April — Hollywood star Tom Hardy will reprise his key role in the three upcoming films of the hit "Mad Max" franchise.

In an interview with Esquire where he graced the cover for May issue, it is revealed the British hunk has inked a multi-picture deal to reprise his role in the franchise.

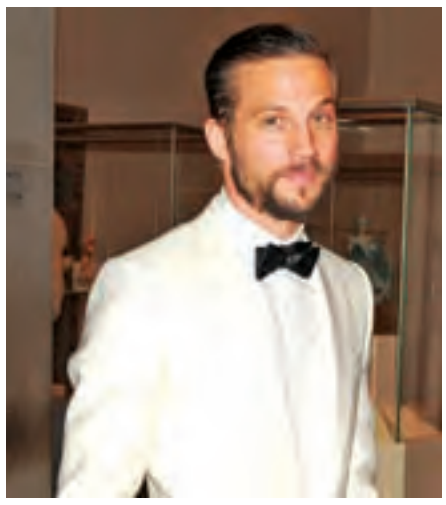
He is expected to play the titular role made famous by Mel Gibson in the next three more instalments.

Still, he plays it down as saying, "Everything's based on figures and how things are perceived. Inevitably it's a business."

The fourth entry in the franchise, "Fury Road" is directed by George Miller from the original movies.

It will arrive Stateside on 15 May. Charlize Theron, Nicholas Hoult, Rosie Huntington-Whiteley, Riley Keough, and Zoe Kravitz are among the cast.

PTI



Hollywood star Tom Hardy will reprise his key role in the three upcoming films of the hit "Mad Max" franchise.

PTI

Vin Diesel cemented his hand, footprints in Hollywood Boulevard

LOS ANGELES, 4 April — 'Fast & Furious' star Vin Diesel was honoured at a ceremony in Hollywood Boulevard.

He was accompanied by his girlfriend and his children as he left his hand and footprints, reported Ace Showbiz.

This 47-year-old actor looked manly with navy suit he wore. He is the 282nd movie star to receive the exclusive honour. Before the cementing process, he gave a speech and delivered it with some jokes. Diesel, who was born Mark Sinclair Vincent on 18 July, 1967, cemented his hand and footprints at the TLC Chinese Theatre in Hollywood. Not only his hand and footprints that were cemented, but he also asked his children to put their fingers on the cement. Showing her support for the actor at the ceremony, his girlfriend Paloma Jimenez looked stunning in an all-white dress. She flaunted her figure although she had just given birth to their third child, Pauline.—*PTI*

Disney announces 'Winnie the Pooh' live-action movie

LOS ANGELES, 4 April — Disney is working on a new adaptation of A A Milne's "Winnie the Pooh (2017)".

The Mouse House is developing a live-action movie based on the children favourite story with indie filmmaker Alex Ross Perry ("Listen Up Philip") on board, reported Ace Shhowbiz.

The new story will follow an adult Christopher Robin as he revisits Hundred Acre Wood and reconnects with the iconic residents that include the titular bear, his best buddy Piglet, Eeyore the donkey, Tigger, and Kanga the kangaroo among others.

The announcement comes after Disney revealed plan to revive Mulan in a live-action feature film. The studio is also bringing "Pete's Dragon" to life with indie filmmaker David Lowery ("Ain't Them Bodies Saints") at the helm. Other upcoming Disney remakes include "The Jungle Book" from director Jon Favreau, "Beauty and the Beast (2017)" from director Bill Condon, and "Dumbo" from director Tim Burton. They join "Alice in Wonderland", "Maleficent", and "Cinderella".—*PTI*

***Disney is working on a new adaptation of A A Milne's "Winnie the Pooh (2017)".*—PTI**

34th Istanbul Int'l Film Festival held in Turkey

***Turkish director Suleyman Turan (2nd L) makes a speech at the opening ceremony of 34th Istanbul International Film Festival in Istanbul, Turkey on 3 April, 2015. Over 200 films from Turkey and around the world, including Chinese movie "The Golden Era", will be shown in the following 16 days of 34th Istanbul International Film Festival.*—XINHUA**

Fire hits part of GE's Louisville facility, no injuries reported

LOUISVILLE, 4 April — A huge fire ripped through a section of General Electric's (GE.N) Louisville, Kentucky facility used for warehousing and offices on Friday, forcing the giant industrial park to shut down for at least the coming week, the company and union officials said.

"The fire at GE Appliance Park has been contained," said Kim Freeman, a GE spokeswoman. No one was injured in the blaze, according to company and city officials. Building six — a non-production building which warehouses production parts and contains offices — suffered extensive damage, according to the company spokeswoman.

Smoke from the fire at GE's Appliance Park could be seen more than 10 miles (16 km) away, and debris was found more than a half-mile away. Televised aerial footage showed a raging fire, dense dark smoke and collapsed building walls.

Nearly 200 firefighters battle a massive five-alarm fire at in building six General Electric Appliance Park in Louisville, Kentucky, on 3 April, 2015. — REUTERS

GE evacuated the remaining buildings in the 900-acre (365-hectare) complex, spokeswoman Kim Freeman said.

The fire was contained to the warehouse and office building, where no production took place, she added.

The fire will force the park, which serves as headquarters for the company's appliance division, to be shut for at least a week, a union official said.

GE said that an alternate space for the Building 6 warehousing operations has been identified and it does not anticipate any disruption for customers.

The Louisville Zoo, located nearby, was closed due to the fire as well as heavy rains. "Smoke clouds came directly over the zoo, and we are making sure the animals and staff are safe and putting animals inside for the day," said Louisville Zoo spokeswoman Kyle Shepherd.

"They need to make sure everything's safe," said Dana Crittendon, president of IUE-CWA Local 83761 which represents factory workers at Appliance Park.—*Reuters*

France bans super-skinny models in anorexia clampdown

PARIS, 4 April — France will ban excessively thin fashion models and expose modelling agents and the fashion houses that hire them to possible fines and even jail, under a new law passed on Friday.

The move by France, with its fashion and luxury industries worth tens of billions of euros, comes after a similar ban by Israel in 2013, while other countries, like Italy and Spain, rely on voluntary codes of conduct to protect models.

The measure is part of a campaign against anorexia by President Francois Hollande's government. Lawmakers also made it illegal to condone anorexia and said any re-touched photo that alters the bodily appearance of a model for commercial purposes must carry a message stating it had been manipulated.

"The activity of model is banned for any person whose Body Mass Index (BMI) is lower than levels proposed by health authorities and decreed by the ministers of health and labour," the legislation says.

The lawmaker behind the bill previously said models would have to present a medical certificate showing a BMI of at least 18, about 55 kg (121 lb) for a height of 1.75 metres (5.7 feet), before being hired for a job and for a few weeks afterwards.

The law, voted through the lower house of parliament by Hollande's Socialist majority despite opposition by conservative parliamentarians, envisages imprisonment of up to six months and a fine of 75,000 euros ($82,000) for any agency contravening it.—*Reuters*

United striker Van Persie not ready for Manchester derby

LONDON, 4 April — Manchester United forward Robin van Persie is unlikely to be fit for the Premier League derby match against Manchester City later this month, manager Louis van Gaal said on Friday.

The 31-year-old has missed the last five games with an ankle problem suffered in the 2-1 defeat at Swansea City on 21 February. The Dutchman has already been ruled out of this Saturday's league game at home to Aston Villa and asked if he would be fit to face City on 12 April, Van Gaal said: "I don't think so.

"The process has to give me signals he is ready for that but I know that from my experience it is not like that." Van Gaal earlier told MUTV that Van Persie was recovering along with left back Luke Shaw, who has been out with a hamstring injury.

Manchester United's Robin van Persie (R) scores his team's third goal from a penalty during their English Premier League soccer match against Burnley at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England on 11 February, 2015. —REUTERS

"Robin is coming back on the (training) pitch and Luke Shaw has already had a week on there but match rhythm is very important," said Van Gaal.

"You cannot compare a player who has been out for four or five weeks to those that have sufficient match rhythm."

Van Gaal explained later in his news conference: "We have a process for injured players in the medical department, they then go to a football coach for tests and then to me. "Robin still isn't with the football coach.

Reuters

mitv Myanmar International

(5-4-2015 07:00 am~ 6-4-2015 07:00 am) MST

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MRTV News Channel in Brief

(5-4-2015, Sunday)

6:00 am
- Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

6:30 am
- Physical Exercise

7:35 am
- Business News

8:00 am
- News/ International News

8:35 am
- Teleplay

9:35 am
- Weekly Entertainment

10:50 am
- Songs of Thingyan Festival

11:35 am
- Amazing World

12:00 noon
- News / International News / Weather Report

12:35 pm
- Round up of The Week's International News

1:20 pm
- Myanmar Movies (Part-1)

3:35 pm
- Myanmar Movies (Part-2)

4:45 pm
- University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) — First Year (Zoology)

5:35 pm
- People's Talks

6:30 pm
- Head Line News

7:35pm
- Documentary (Women in Myanmar Society)

8:00 pm
- News / International News / Weather Report

9:00 pm
- News
- Tasty Trip

MRTV Entertainment Channel

(5-4-2015, Sunday)

6:00 am
- Alinka Wutyi Music Troup

6:25 am
- Myanmar Video

7:00 am
- Song and Dance of Thingyan Festival

8:05 am
- Game for Children

8:25 am
- Pyi Thu Ni Ti

8:40 am
- Sing & Enjoy

9:45 am
- Myanmar Movie

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Sunday, 5 April, 2015

Djokovic and Murray to meet again in Miami final

MIAMI, 4 April — World number one Novak Djokovic will face Britain's Andy Murray in the final of the Miami Open for a third time on Sunday after the pair triumphed in their semi-finals.

The pair have one win each against each other at Miami but Djokovic will be looking for a repeat of his Australian Open win over the Scot and to improve his 17-8 career record against him.

Third seed Murray delivered a controlled and precise performance to beat Czech Tomas Berdych 6-4, 6-4 while Djokovic faced greater resistance in the form of big-serving American John Isner but still won 7-6(3), 6-2.

The first set was on-serve throughout but the Serb emerged victorious from the tie-break and never looked back.

The four-times Miami champion broke twice early in the second to open up a 4-1 lead and from then on the match was out of Isner's reach.

The big-serving American was unable to create a single break point in the game but the 29-year-old, ranked 24th in the world, will be encouraged by his run to the last four.

Andy Murray celebrates after his match against Tomas Berdych in a men's singles semi-final on day twelve of the Miami Open at Crandon Park Tennis Centre, Key Biscayne, FL, USA on 3 April, 2015. Murray won 6-4, 6-4.—REUTERS

"It is always tough to play someone who serves that well, at times it is frustrating," said Djokovic.

"It is important to hang in there mentally, be patient and make him play. I put a lot of pressure on his second serves, moved him around the court and always made him play an extra shot. I am pleased with my performance."

Earlier, in bright sunlight and Floridian heat, Murray broke Berdych early in both sets and looked in charge throughout, winning 80 percent of first-serve points while registering four service breaks.

Berdych made a break in each set himself but with Murray's defence strong and the Scot making few errors, the Czech was unable to overtake him.

The Scot feels comfortable at Miami where he won in 2009 and 2013 and lost to Djokovic in the 2012 final.

Murray spends his off-season practice time on the stadium court at the Crandon Park Tennis Centre and has clearly acclimatised to the heat and humidity. "I've obviously played some good tennis here over the years. The reason for that is because I'm extremely familiar with the conditions, with the surface, the way the court plays," he said.

"There are little things in the court that maybe players that haven't played on it that much won't really know. "Because I practice on it all the time, I know how the ball bounces in certain areas and which serves work into certain spots on the court and how the ball responds off different spins. So that's why I feel comfortable on it," he said.—*Reuters*

Saul to return for Atletico at Cordoba

MADRID, 4 April — Atletico Madrid midfielder Saul Niguez has recovered from a painful blow to the kidneys and will start for the champions in Saturday's La Liga game at bottom side Cordoba, coach Diego Simeone said on Friday.

Saul sustained the injury in the Champions League defeat at Bayer Leverkusen at the end of February and had to remain behind in Germany for treatment after the game.

"He is in very good shape," Simeone said of the 20-year-old Spaniard.

"He is an important player for us and we have always said that," the Argentine told reporters.

"Hopefully, tomorrow he can return in the same state as he left us in Germany, where he was participating very well.

"He gets into very good scoring positions, works well in the middle, knows what we want from him and is very competitive.

"We need his talents and tomorrow we hope he can respond in the way he was before he got injured."

A win for fourth-placed Atletico in Andalucia would lift them above Valencia into Spain's third automatic Champions League berth and close the gap on second-placed Real Madrid to two points.

Valencia host sixth-placed Villarreal on Sunday, when leaders Barcelona, four points clear of Real at the top, are at Celta Vigo and Real host Granada.

Reuters

Atletico Madrid's Saul Niguez (L) celebrates after scoring a goal at the Vicente Calderon stadium in Madrid on 7 Feb, 2015. REUTERS

Middlesbrough go top after Bamford scores again

LONDON, 4 April — Middlesbrough's on-loan Chelsea striker Patrick Bamford netted his 15th league goal of the season to help the second-tier promotion chasers top the Championship table with a 1-0 home win over Wigan Athletic on Friday.

Aitor Karanka's Middlesbrough have 75 points, one ahead of Bournemouth who drew 1-1 at Ipswich Town, and two in front of third-placed Norwich City after the Canaries won 1-0 at Brighton and Hove Albion thanks to Bradley Johnson's second-half goal.

Watford are fourth, on the same tally of 73 points as Norwich but with an inferior goal difference, after drawing 2-2 in a topsy-turvy encounter at sixth-placed Derby County.

Brentford are fifth on 69 points after romping to a 4-1 victory at London neighbours Fulham. Ipswich and Wolverhampton Wanderers are a further point back in seventh and eighth respectively, on the same points as Derby.

There are six games left in the season. The top two go up to the Premier League and the next four teams battle it out in the playoffs for one remaining promotion slot.

Middlesbrough striker Bamford will hope to have caught Jose Mourinho's eye at his more illustrious parent club Chelsea after scoring his fifth goal in their last six league games to take his season's tally to 17 in all competitions.

The England under-21 striker found the bottom corner with an effort from outside the penalty area in the 20th minute after being teed up by Jelle Vossen.

Bournemouth, who were top of the table at the start of the day, went behind at Ipswich following a sixth-minute goal by Freddie Sears but substitute Kenwyne Jones scored on his debut to level with eight minutes to go.

Norwich, relegated from the Premier League last season, helped their chances of an immediate return with Johnson scoring his 11th goal of the season at Brighton just past the hour mark.

Matej Vydra put Watford 1-0 up at Derby but the hosts hit back through Darren Bent, with a penalty, and Tom Ince.

The visitors had defender Marco Motta sent off in the 47th minute for tripping Johnny Russell in the box and giving away the spot kick before Odion Ighalo earned them a share of the spoils with an equaliser 15 minutes from time.

Two goals from Stuart Dallas and late efforts from Alan Judge and Jota helped Brentford to a thumping win over Fulham.

Benik Afobe and Bakary Sako (penalty) grabbed second-half goals for Wolves who held off a late Forest rally to win 2-1 at the City Ground.

Reuters

Middlesbrough's Patrick Bamford (R) scores past Manchester City's Fernando Reges during their English FA Cup 4th round soccer match at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, northern England on 24 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

Li Na in contention for Laureus award

SHANGHAI, 4 April — Retired Chinese tennis star Li Na will be up against Serena Williams in a six-woman field for sportswoman of the year in the Laureus World Sports Awards.

The other nominees are Valerie Adams, Marit Bjorgen, Genzebe Dibaba and Tina Maze.

In the men's field, Real Madrid star Cristiano Ronaldo will compete against number one golfer Rory McIlroy and Formula One motor racing champion Lewis Hamilton.

Also in the race are tennis world number one Novak Djokovic and World MotoGP title-holder Marc Marquez, as well as France's Renaud Lavillenie, who broke a 21-year-old world record for the pole vault last year. Ronaldo's club, Spain's Real Madrid, is in the running for team of the year, together with the German men's team which won the FIFA World Cup, European Ryder Cup team, Mercedes AMG Petronas Formula One team, NBA's San Antonio Spurs and Switzerland Davis Cup team.

The winners will be announced at the awards ceremony in Shanghai on 15 April.

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