

President receives Japanese PM's special adviser



President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo with Hiroto Izumi, Special Adviser to the Prime Minister of Japan.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 May— President U Thein Sein met a Japanese delegation led by Hiroto Izumi, Special Adviser to the

Prime Minister of Japan at his palace here on Wednesday.

They discussed development of human resources,

finance, communication, industry, electricity, cooperation in infrastructural development and the establishment of Thilawa and

Dawei special economic zones.

The president was accompanied by Union Ministers U Soe Thane, Dr Kan

Zaw, U Kyaw Lwin and U Than Htay, and the Japanese special adviser by Japanese ambassador to Myanmar Tateshi Higuchi.—MNA

Yangon to privatize garbage collection by Sept, pending public approval

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 13 May — The Yangon City Development Committee is planning to outsource waste management for the city's 33 townships, with two private companies lined up to take over garbage collection for over 700,000 households, the YCDC revealed

Wednesday.

The information was released by the Committee's pollution control and cleansing department in a meeting with private companies and media in Yangon.

The department plans to conduct waste collection through a public-private partnership that will utilise

the latest collection technology to create a cleaner and healthier environment for Yangonites, officials said.

According to the department, the city is losing K13.3 million a day on garbage collection under current arrangements. The cost of garbage pickups from streets to final disposal sites is K 15,198 per ton of trash,

while the city receives K6, 736 per ton from residents via the waste collection charge, with some 1,600 tons collected each day.

While outlining the city's plan to outsource waste management to private entities, the department insisted that public consultation will be sought on a proposed increase in waste collection charges.

"Privatized garbage pickup in Yangon will be given the go-ahead by the region government only when the majority of Yangon residents show support (See page 2)

A sweeper cleans Bogyoke Road in downtown Yangon, where waste management services are targeted for privatization from September.

PHOTO: YE MYINT



Community healthcare programme targets autoimmune diseases

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 13 May— Plans are under way for a community healthcare programme targeting autoimmune diseases in Kayah State or Kawthaung in Taninthayi Region next year, one of the doctors behind the programme said Wednesday at a World Lupus Day event in Yangon.

The annual programme is aimed at reducing the treatment gaps among people with autoimmune diseases, especially systemic lupus erythematosus, said Prof Chit Soe, consultant physician and rheumatologist at Yangon's 500-bed Specialty Hospital.

"SLE is a chronic inflammatory disease that can damage any part of the body, and it is more common in women than men," the professor said.

A mobile medical

team from the hospital has carried out the programme since 2004 around the country, particularly in far-flung areas where the team has found roughly 20 people with SLE.

It also offered free medical checkups to about 400 people in Letpadan Township in Bago Region this year, but no cases of SLE were reported at there, Prof Chit Soe said.

According to the hospital data, SLE was the eighth-most common reason for hospitalization at Yangon General Hospital in 2012. About 57 percent of patients at the Rheumatology Department at the specialty hospital receive treatment for SLE.

Currently about 250 patients are being treated at the hospital, half of them (See page 2)

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Pyithu Hluttaw

Deputy Attorney-General says 66 laws need amending, 33 repealing and replacing: Pyithu Hluttaw

NAY PYI TAW, 13 May — The parliament has found 66 laws to be amended and 33 repealed and replaced since its inception in March 2011, said U Tun Tun Oo, Deputy Attorney-General, at the Pyithu Hluttaw here on Wednesday.

Deputy Minister for

Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint, responding to complaints about land grabs, said the Central Committee for Land Management is dealing with cases and will submit a progress report to parliament on individual complaints left to be scrutinized.

In connection with

the replacement of age-old watercraft used in Rakhine State, Deputy Minister for Transport U Han Sein explained measures for strict supervision over vessel conditions, life-saving materials, seating capacity and cargo loading.

He added assistance has been sought from Ja-



Deputy Minister for Transport U Han Sein.—MNA

pan for vessels in need of replacement.

Brig-Gen Htay Naing, who is a Defence Service-



Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint.—MNA

es personnel representative, submitted a report on health care for villagers of Kyaukkyi Township in



Deputy Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo.—MNA

Bago Region who have suffered various physical impairments.

MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw



Deputy Minister for Education U Thant Shin.—MNA



Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo.—MNA

Chin MP calls for state-run technical high school in Matupi

NAY PYI TAW, 13 May — Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo and Deputy Minister for Education U Thant Shin fielded questions from parliamentarians about school facilities Wednesday as the Amyotha Hluttaw continued its 12th session.

U Paw Lyan Lwin, MP of Matupi Township constituency, called for the

establishment of a state-run technical high school in Matupi Township.

Dr Ko Ko Oo said his ministry is not ready to open a government technical high school in Matupi Township during fiscal 2015-2016, as it is establishing schools in states and regions under human resource development and economic projects.

U Phone Myint Aung,

MP of Yangon region constituency 3, asked for students to be allowed to enter school compounds hours before exams.

Deputy Minister U Thant Shin said for the sake of security, as well as to ensure the secrecy of exam papers, students must only be allowed to enter school compounds once teachers have prepared exam rooms.

Defence Services Personnel representative Major Myo Tun Aung asked what plans, if any, the education ministry has for renovation of old and fragile school buildings in fiscal 2015-2016.

U Thant Shin said school buildings still requiring repairs will be fixed by the ministry in fiscal 2016-2017.—MNA

Yangon to privatize

(from page 1)

for increased trash collection fees," an official said.

If a majority of residents give the green light to new charges for garbage pickup, residents in satellite towns will pay K1,200 instead of the existing charge of K300 per month, those in suburban areas will pay K1,400 instead of K450, and those in downtown areas would pay K1,600 instead of K600.

An information campaign and ballot on the privatization plan will be conducted soon, with residents required to indicate whether or not they support the new system and charges. The handover of the city's waste

management is expected to occur this September if the regional authorities give approval, provided they have support from a majority of Yangonites, the official said.

In their presentations on the waste collection system for Yangon, representatives of the two companies selected under a 10-year contract outlined their plans to use a modernized waste collection fleet, adding that it is impossible to obtain a profit in the short term.

The two companies chosen are Zeya & Associates Co Ltd and TYTC Services Co., Ltd. They will each carry out waste management in two of Yangon's

four districts.

Zeya & Associates won a tender to generate electricity from landfill waste in Yangon's East and South district while a Korean company will take care of the process in Yangon's West and North district. There are two main landfills in Yangon.

If collection is contracted out, 3,847 daily-paid collectors of the department will be allowed to move to the private companies if they meet requirements, both sides said. During the press conference, the department said the companies will employ its staff in accord with conditions negotiated under their current contracts.

According to the department, its employees are paid

K3000 a day plus accommodation and health benefits. The companies will offer a basic pay of K120,000 per month plus a lump sum of K30,000, as well as housing for those who will be employed.

"K120,000 plus K30,000 would be favourable to me if I was provided a place to live," a cleaner assigned to sweep Bogyoke Street in downtown Yangon told The Global New Light of Myanmar.—GNLM

Community healthcare . . .

(from page 1)

from Yangon, with the experts estimating the numbers may increase to 1,000 by the end of this year. On average, about 80 to 100 people are expected to be added to the list of new patients each year.

The country has only one Rheumatology Department and five professors in the Rheumatology field, but the Ministry of Health

plans to open such a department in Mandalay, the second-largest city of Myanmar, in the coming one or two years, said Prof Chit Soe.

According to an international survey, an estimated 5 million people worldwide have some forms of lupus and 70% of lupus cases diagnosed are systemic lupus erythematosus.—GNLM

Models vie for media's choice section of beauty pageant

YANGON, 13 May—Thirty-one hopefuls took to the catwalk Wednesday for the media's choice section of the Miss Golden Land Myanmar national beauty pageant at the Sule Shangri-La Hotel.

The contestants were selected and trained by the Miss Golden Land Myanmar Organization with an

eye to entering one of five international beauty contests. First prize was won by L Bauk Nu, second by W. May Shinn Sein and third by Khin Injin Kyaw.

"The selected models were closely trained by experts for beauty, personal qualities and skills," said CEO Ko Wai Yan Aung of the Miss Golden Land Myanmar Organization. The 31 models will take part in a grand novitiate ceremony which will be organized by the chairman of Yangon region Sangha committee at Bukine Model Village in central Sagaing Region, before participating in environmental conservation activities and tourism pro-

motion campaigns together with more than 20,000 locals for seven days.

Ko Wai Yan Aung also said his organization will hold the further sections of the pageant including Miss Talent in Mandalay on May 25, the swimsuit section in PyinOoLwin on May 27 and the sport competition in Bagan on May 31.

Five models will be selected overall and will contest the five international beauty pageants of Miss Earth, Miss Supranational, Miss Intercontinental, Miss Tourism and Miss Face of Beauty which will be celebrated in five foreign countries, the organizer said.

Khin Yadana



Miss Golden Land Myanmar L Bauk Nu seen with runners-up W. May Shinn Sein and Khin Injin Kyaw.
PHOTO: MIN THIT (MYANMA ALINN)

Myanmar concludes 21st Traditional Performing Arts Competition

NAY PYI TAW, 13 May— The 21st Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competition concluded Wednesday with the presentation of medals and awards at a prize-giving ceremony.

The ceremony was held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre (2) and attended by Vice President U Nyan Tun, the patron of the contest organizing committee, union ministers, deputy ministers and the panel of judges.

At the ceremony, U Nyan Tun said cultural exchange has taken a significant role in diplomatic relations in the world, urg-

ing Myanmar's new generations to promote traditional arts through the use of modern technologies.

Vice President U Nyan Tun and chairman of the organizing committee, Union Minister U Aye Myint Kyu, awarded prizes to winners of the classical song competition.

Union ministers, senior military officials and the chairman of the Anti-Corruption Commission gave prizes to other contestants in singing, dancing, song composition and traditional instrument categories.

Contestants from Yangon region received the highest number of prizes

and the championship trophy.

Three medals went to Kachin State, six to Kayah State, 10 to Kayin State, two to Chin State, nine to Mon State, nine to Rakhine State, 20 to Shan State, 23 to Sagaing Region, six to Taninthayi Region, 33 to Bago Region, 15 to Magway Region, 42 to Mandalay Region, 113 to Yangon Region and 40 to Ayeyawady Region, respectively.

In the evening the dinner was hosted at the same venue for judge panels and all the participants in the contests.

MNA



Vice President U Nyan Tun presents championship trophy to Yangon Region team in 21st Performing Arts Competition.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw speaker receives Indian Ambassador, special adviser to the Japanese PM



Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann shakes hands with Indian Ambassador Mr. Gautam Mukhopadhyaya. MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 May—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received Indian Ambassador Mr. Gautam Mukhopadhyaya at the hall of Pyithu Hluttaw in Hluttaw Complex, here, on Wednesday morning.

The speaker also held talks with Mr. Hiroto Izumi, special adviser to the Japanese Prime Minister at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Complex in the afternoon to discuss further cementing bilateral ties and co-operation between the two

countries.

Also present at the calls were Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo, Japanese Ambassador Mr. Tateshi Higuchi and officials of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office.—MNA

Ygn Region Chief Minister receives State Councillor and Secretary General of China's State Council

YANGON, 13 May— State Councillor and Secretary General of the China's State Council Mr Yang Jing and party called on Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe at Sedona Hotel, here, on

Wednesday.

They discussed development of Yangon Region and business and investment opportunities.

Also present at the call were Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U Sein Tin

Win, ministers and Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Yang Houlan.

The Chinese State Councillor and party visited Kandawgyi Karaweik Garden in a motorcade.

MNA

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits Belgrade Fortress

NAY PYI TAW, 13 May — Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on Tuesday visited the Belgrade Fortress located on the confluence of the River Sava and

Danube, in the urban area of modern Belgrade, the capital of Serbia.

The visiting Myanmar military delegation observed the documents about Serbia military there.

Senior General Min

Aung Hlaing and party enjoyed the dinner hosted by Myanmar ambassador to Serbia in the evening.

The senior general and party proceeded to Abu Dhabi of UAE in the afternoon.—Myawady



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and party visit Belgrade Fortress in capital of Serbia.—MYAWADY

Two foreigners caught as army uncovers plot of timber smuggling

NAY PYI TAW, 13 May— Government troops engaged in fighting with some members of Kachin Independence Army (KIA) near Nantlinpa village in Kachin State on 11 May while combing the area for

security reason after a tip-off about the illegal smuggling of timber.

The army arrested two foreigners while securing the area.

On 5 and 7 May, the army engaged in fighting

with KIA near the same village, seizing timber logs, trucks and foreigners.

Action will be taken against the two foreigners according to the law.

Myawady

Two villages in Ottarathiri Tsp receive supply of electricity



NAY PYI TAW, 13 May — A ceremony to mark whole-village electrification through solar panels was held in Hsekan and Phaunglaung villages in Ottarathiri Township on 11 May.

After a speech of Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Phone Zaw Han, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area Electri-

cal Chief Engineer U Kyaw Nyein gave a rundown on the process through which electricity is being supplied to the villages.

Township Administrator U Myat Soe handed over solar panels and equipment to the administrator of Mington village-tract after speaking about development of the villages.

The council member, the chief engineer and the township administrator launched supply of electricity to the villages.

Innovative Consulting & Technological Service (ICTS) Company installed solar panels and equipment at 247 houses in two villages.—*Shwe Ye Yint*

Workshop raises human rights awareness

NAY PYI TAW, 13 May — The Myanmar National Human Rights Commission and Sweden-based Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI) jointly held a workshop Wednesday to raise awareness of human rights at Kandaw Hall in Pynmana.

Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Than Htay spoke on the occasion while Vice Chairman of the commission U Sit Myaing explained the purpose of the workshop.

Vice Chairman U Sit Myaing and member U Yu Lwin Aung and U Khin Maung Lay gave lectures on human rights.



It was attended by members of social organizations, NGO and INGO, and members of village and ward development supporting committees. A similar workshop will be held in Lewe on 14 May.

Tun Tun Win (Pynmana)

New asphalt road commissioned into service in Pobbathiri Tsp

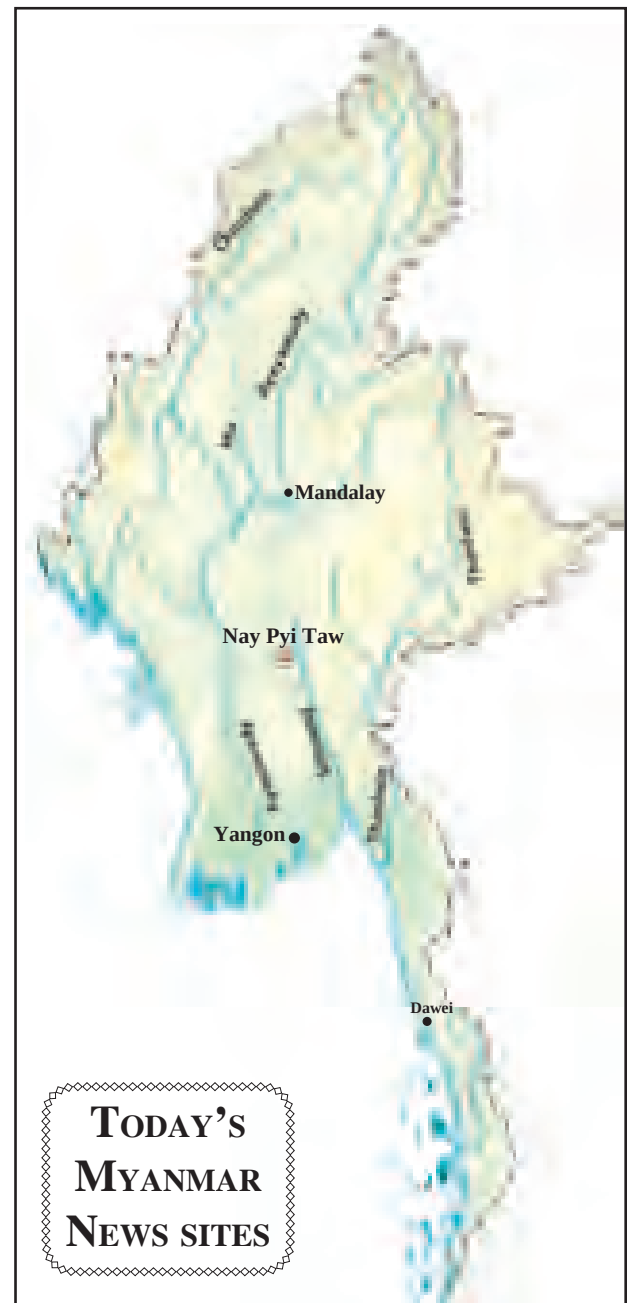


NAY PYI TAW, 13 May—An asphalt road to Nyaungbingyisu village was inaugurated in Pobbathiri Township on Tuesday, with Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Than Htay in attendance.

The council member explained tasks of the council for development of Pobbathiri Township.

Director (Engineer) of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee U Win Htay reported on construction of the 7,300-foot-long and 12-foot-wide asphalt road.

The council member, Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee member U Kyaw Myint and township administrator U Htet Aung Phyo formally opened the road. The newly-opened road will contribute to smooth transport for local people.—*Shwe Kokko*



Talk aims to increase knowledge of census data collection, usage

DAWEI, 13 May—A census talk covering the collation and usage of population data was held at the city hall in Dawei in Tanintharyi Region on 12 May, with the aim of increasing knowledge about the census among people from a variety of fields.

Admin Officer U Myat Min Oo of Dana Hsayhsaung Myanmar Group spoke about the census conducted in 2014, as well as the compilation of census data and its usage.

U San Win Aung and Daw Yu Yu San of the group replied to queries raised by attendees. The group hosted a lunch to attendees.

It was also attended by Deputy Director U Yin Htwe of District Immigration and National Registration Department, departmental officials, members of social organizations and political parties, and local residents.

Po Shwe Thun (Dawei)



Japan, China, S Korea to hold antiterrorism talks Friday in Beijing

TOKYO, 13 May — Japan, China and South Korea will hold a working-level meeting in Beijing on Friday to discuss measures to combat terrorism, the Japanese Foreign Ministry said on Wednesday.

During their talks, representatives of the three nations will share information on terrorist activities across the world, the ministry said.

Attention is focused on how the Asian neighbours

can cooperate in dealing with new challenges such as the Islamic State militant group, by overcoming differences over wartime history and territory that have soured Japan's relations with the other two countries.

Earlier this year, two Japanese hostages were beheaded by Islamic State extremists.

It will be the third such working-level meeting, following the previous one

in July 2012. Japan will be represented by Tsukasa Kawada, the ministry's ambassador in charge of international cooperation on countering terrorism and international organized crime.

During their meeting in Seoul in March, the foreign ministers of Japan, China and South Korea agreed to resume the working-level meeting on anti-terrorism measures.

Kyodo News

M-6.8 quake rocks northeastern Japan



Junior high school students wait for a shinkansen bullet train at the main station in Sendai, northeastern Japan, after a powerful earthquake caused a delay in train services on 13 May, 2015. No tsunami warning was issued. —KYODO NEWS

TOKYO, 13 May — A magnitude 6.8 earthquake rocked a wide area of Japan centering on the northeast early on Wednesday, the Japanese weather agency said. No tsunami warning was issued.

There have been no reports of injuries from the 6:13 am quake or of abnormalities at nuclear power

facilities, but bullet train services were temporarily disrupted on the Tohoku and Joetsu shinkansen lines due to power outages, according to local officials and operator companies.

The quake registered upper 5 on the Japanese seismic intensity scale of 7 in Hanamaki in the southern part of Iwate Prefec-

ture, and lower 5 in other parts of Iwate and Miyagi prefectures, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

Tremors from the quake originating in the sea off Miyagi about 46 kilometres below the surface were observed in areas ranging from Hokkaido in the north to Gifu Prefecture in central Japan. —*Kyodo News*

Indonesian court expects verdict on French death row convict in two weeks

JAKARTA, 13 May — An Indonesian judge said on Wednesday a court will decide in two weeks whether to proceed with a last-ditch appeal by a French death row inmate who is challenging the president's refusal to grant him clemency.

Convicted drug trafficker Serge Atlaoui was due to face the firing squad with other convicts last month but was granted a last-minute reprieve to allow for the completion of

his legal appeals.

France's foreign minister has warned Indonesia it would face repercussions if the Southeast Asian nation goes ahead with the execution.

The Jakarta administrative court would hold another hearing on the case next Wednesday, with a verdict expected on 28 May, said Judge Ujang Abdullah.

The Attorney General's Office has said Atlaoui's current legal challenge

would be his last appeal.

Atlaoui was sentenced to death for his involvement in an ecstasy factory in Jakarta that was capable of producing 100 kg (220 lb) of the illegal pills per week.

Indonesian President Joko Widodo has rejected pleas for clemency from various foreign nationals who are among a group of around 60 drug convicts scheduled for execution. Fourteen have been executed so far this year.

Shanghai, Singapore ink four agreements in services sector

SINGAPORE, 13 May — China's Shanghai and Singapore on Wednesday inked four agreements in services sector to foster economic relations between the two sides during Shanghai Mayor Yang Xiong's first visit to the city state.

Yang Xiong, who is on a visit from Tuesday to Thursday, and Singapore's Minister for Trade and Industry Lim Hng Kiang witnessed the signing process.

Teo Eng Cheong, CEO of International Enterprise Singapore (IE Singapore), said Singapore companies can participate in Shanghai's growth, especially in the services sector.

IE Singapore, the city state's government agency driving its external economy, and the Shanghai Municipal Commission of

Commerce inked an agreement that signals closer ties between both governments. It includes promoting trade in services as well as exploring collaboration in trade, finance, insurance, education, environmental services and smart city developments, said IE Singapore in its latest press release.

On the business front, Raffles Medical Group is to cooperate with Shanghai New Bund International Business District Investment Group in setting up a 400-bed integrated international hospital in Qiantian, Shanghai.

EtonHouse Education Group also signed an agreement to establish its third international preschool in Shanghai at the Shanghai Hongqiao Vanke Business Centre, which is scheduled

to open in September 2016.

Singapore-owned MyChina Channel is also collaborating with China Business Network to distribute the latter's media programs in the region through its core team of media professionals.

Trade between Singapore and Shanghai increased 5.6 percent year-on-year to reach 12.8 billion US dollars in 2014. Meanwhile, Singapore's investments into Shanghai grew over 78.1 percent year-on-year to 2.19 billion US dollars.

Shanghai has attracted an estimated 10 percent of Singapore's total Foreign Direct Investments into China, with over 3,900 projects across a wide spectrum of sectors.

Xinhua

Cambodia inaugurates S Korean-funded eye care centre

PHNOM PENH, 13 May — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen and visiting South Korea's Speaker of Parliament Chung Ui-hwa on Wednesday jointly inaugurated a four-storey Eye Care Centre in the complex of Ang Duong Hospital in Phnom Penh.

Hun Sen said the building, dubbed Cambodia-Korea Friendship Eye Care Centre, was constructed under South Korea's

grant aid of 5.5 million US dollars. The building comprises of 75 rooms, including outpatient examination rooms, inpatient rooms and operating rooms.

In addition, Kim's Eye Hospital, one of the South Korea's finest hospitals specializing in eye care, has provided technical transfer to Cambodian ophthalmologists at the centre. "The centre will provide high-standard eye care

services to all patients," he said. "It is a new achievement of increased cooperation between the Cambodian and South Korean governments."

In his speech, Chung said the centre would improve the capacity of ophthalmic research and medical services and contribute to blind prevention rates and improvement in general eye care services in Cambodia. —*Xinhua*

Three injured in Bangladesh Army helicopter crash in southeastern Chittagong

DHAKA, 13 May — Three persons were injured when a training helicopter of Bangladesh Army crashed on Wednesday in the country's seaport city Chittagong, some 242 km southeast of capital Dhaka,

police said.

The police official said the helicopter crashed near the runway at Shah Amanat International Airport in Chittagong during an emergency landing at around 11:15 am local

time. Of the injured, the official who did not like to be named said the pilot and the co-pilot are in critical condition. They were rushed to the Combined Military Hospital (CMH) in Chittagong. —*Xinhua*

Death row inmate Serge Atlaoui of France arrives for signing documents for his judicial review at Tangerang District Court in Tangerang, Banten Province on 1 April, 2015. —REUTERS



UN nuclear watchdog says can push for access to Iran military sites



Yukiya Amano, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) speaks during the Opening Meeting of the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) at United Nations headquarters in New York on 27 April, 2015. —REUTERS

VIENNA, 13 May—The UN nuclear watchdog can push for access to Iranian military sites under the terms of a preliminary deal with Teheran, the head of the body told the *Associated Press* in an interview.

Iran reached a deal with six world powers on 2 April to allow UN inspectors to carry out more intrusive, short-notice inspections under an “additional protocol” — though there have been sharply differing interpretations from both sides on the details of that access.

“In many other countries from time to time we request access to military sites when we have the reason to, so why not Iran?” Yukiya Amano, the director general of the UN International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was quoted as saying by AP.

“If we have a reason to request access, we will do so, and in principle Iran has to accept it,” he added.

Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who has the final say for Iran on any deal, has ruled out any “extraordinary supervision meas-

ures” over nuclear activities and said military sites could not be inspected.

The Islamic republic dismisses accusations by Israel, Washington and other Western powers that it wants to develop nuclear bombs, saying its atomic research is for electricity generation and other peaceful purposes.

Negotiations are pushing ahead in Vienna this week as Iran and the six world powers — the United States, Russia, China, France, Britain and Germany — have set themselves an end-June deadline for a final deal to curb Iran’s nuclear work in exchange for sanctions relief.

Meanwhile, Iran has been stalling a parallel IAEA investigation into its programme which is in part aimed at clarifying whether its nuclear activities have ever had any possible military dimensions.

When asked whether the implementation of the Additional Protocol would help the IAEA’s investigation, Amano said the agency did not know about that yet as it depended on the pace of Iran’s cooperation.

Reuters

One killed in shooting spree at S Korean reserve army training camp

SEOUL, 13 May — A South Korean reserve army soldier went on a shooting spree at a training camp on Wednesday, killing one and injuring three others before killing himself on the spot, a South Korean Army official said. The shooting took place at around 10:44 am at the camp south of Seoul.

Similar shootings have occurred in military barracks, causing deaths and injuries of soldiers, but such incidents seldom happen at reserve army training camps.

Kyodo News

Vucic, Matviyenko on friendly ties between Serbia, Russia



Chairman of the Russian Federation Council Valentina Matviyenko and Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic

BELGRADE, 13 May—Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic conferred with Chairman of the Russian Federation Council Valentina Matviyenko on Tuesday concerning friendly bilateral

ties and economic cooperation.

Vucic underscored that Serbia maintains sincere and friendly ties with Russia and is trying to preserve them even in the difficult times, states the

release by the Serbian government Office for cooperation with the media.

He underscored that efforts should be invested in improvement of relations in all sectors and expressed gratitude for

the support of the Russian Federation to Serbia’s territorial integrity. Serbia is the pillar of stability in the region, in both political and economic terms, Vucic said and added that Serbia is cooperating with Russia in energy and infrastructure, but there is still room for improvement in other fields as well.

Matviyenko underscored that Russia appreciates Serbia’s independent policy, and emphasised that Serbia is one of Russia’s most important political and economic strategic partners. The agreement on strategic partnership is being successfully implemented, Matviyenko said and added that the bilateral trade improved by eight percent last year but this is not sufficient since there are major economic potentials for further development, especially in the agricultural sector.

Tanjug

Motorcycle gunmen kill 43 in bus attack in Pakistan’s Karachi — police

KARACHI (Pakistan), 13 May — Gunmen on motorcycles opened fire on a bus in Pakistan’s southern city of Karachi on Wednesday, killing at least 43 people, police said, in the latest attack directed against religious minorities this year.

Television channels carried pictures of a pink bus covered in bullet holes and lines of waiting ambulances.

“There were six attackers. They boarded the bus and carried out the shooting,” Police Superintendent Najib Khan told *Reuters*.

He said all the passengers were from the Ismaili community, a minority Shi’ite Muslim sect in majority-Sunni Pakistan.

A splinter group of the Pakistani Taliban called Jundullah claimed responsibility.

“These killed people were Ismaili and we consider them kafir (non-Muslim). We had four attackers. In the coming days we will attack Ismailis, Shi’ites and Christians,” spokesman Ahmed Marwat told *Reuters*.

At least 43 people had been killed and 13 wounded, provincial police chief

Ghulam Haider Jamali told media.

Ayesha Aly, a member of the Ismaili community, wept on television as she explained that the bus picked up people for work and dropped them off every day.

“It was on its usual rounds when this attack happened. People were just getting on with their normal lives, out to earn a living,” she said.

Taliban splinter groups have bombed sev-

eral mosques belonging to religious minorities this year.

In March, suicide bombings outside two churches in Lahore killed 14 people and wounded nearly 80. Days later, a bomb after Friday prayers wounded 12 people outside a minority Bohra mosque in Karachi.

In February, 20 people were killed in an attack on a Shi’ite mosque in the northeastern city of Peshawar, and 60 were killed in a

January attack on a Shi’ite mosque in the southern province of Sindh.

Many religious minorities blame the government for not doing enough to protect them. Police are routinely underpaid, poorly equipped and poorly trained.

Karachi, a megacity of 18 million that is Pakistan’s financial heart, is also under the responsibility of the paramilitary Rangers, who report to the generals.—*Reuters*



Ambulances and people gather outside the hospital after an attack on a bus in Karachi, Pakistan on 13 May, 2015.—REUTERS

Matviyenko: Russia appreciates Serbia's independent foreign policy

BELGRADE, 13 May — Russia highly appreciates Serbia's free and independent foreign policy, Chairman of the Russian Federation Council Valentina Matviyenko said on Tuesday after a meeting with Serbian Parliament Speaker Maja Gojkovic.

Gojkovic and Matviyenko inked an agreement on inter-parliamentary coop-

eration between the Serbian parliament and the Russian Federation Council, and told reporters that the two countries' parliamentary relations are very good and do not lag behind the cooperation on all other levels of government. Gojkovic said at a joint press conference that the agreement signing is an indicator how much wish and room there is for further

promotion of relations that are already good.

Matviyenko said that the talks tabled cooperation between the two parliaments' working bodies, foreign delegations to international organizations, exchange of data and opinion on many internal and foreign issues, and also cooperation between female MPs.

The Russian delegation

comprises Chairman of the Social Policy Committee of the Federation Council Valery Ryazansky, First Deputy Chairman of the International Affairs Committee Vladimir Dzhubarov, Deputy Chairman of the International Affairs Committee Arsen Kanokov and member of the Food Policy Council Yevgeny Gromyko.—*Tanjug*

Clearer security arrangement between GCC, US critical to terrorism fight — Kerry



US Secretary of State John Kerry speaks at the NATO Foreign Minister's Meeting in Antalya, Turkey on 13 May, 2015.—REUTERS

ANTALYA, (Turkey) 13 May—Defining a clearer security arrangement between Gulf countries and the United States is critical to fighting terrorism, US Secretary of State John Kerry said on Wednesday.

Kerry was speaking in Turkey before a summit in the United States later with Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states.

"Defining ... a clearer defence arrangement between the GCC and other friendly countries and the United States is going to be critical to helping to push back against the terrorism and violence and some of the other activities that take place in that region that are unsettling all of those countries," he told reporters.

Kerry also said it was a critical moment for action by Russia and pro-Russia separatists in east Ukraine to live up to the Minsk ceasefire agreement and said he was very hopeful

of a successful conclusion of the Iran nuclear negotiations.

NATO says will look at what more it can do in fight against Islamic State

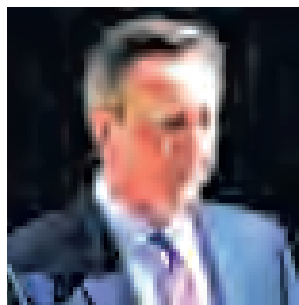
NATO foreign ministers meeting in Turkey on Wednesday will look at how the alliance can do more to fight Islamic State, NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg said.

"One of the important issues at this meeting, in different formats, will be how NATO can do even more in fighting terrorism and in fighting ISIL (Islamic State)," Stoltenberg told reporters at the start of the meeting.

He also called for the full implementation of the Minsk ceasefire agreement in Ukraine. "We call on Russia to stop supporting the separatists and to withdraw all its forces from eastern Ukraine," he told reporters.

Reuters

Cameron to set out new laws to tackle radicalism



Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron

LONDON, 13 May — Prime Minister David Cameron will on Wednesday set out new laws intended to curb organizations and individuals who promote

militant ideologies at home and recruit young people to radical Islamist groups abroad.

The legislation will include powers to restrict the activity of those who seek to radicalise young people and who use inflammatory speech in public places. Charities will be subject to greater scrutiny to stop funds being diverted to militant organizations, and the broadcast regulator will be given new powers to act against channels showing extremist content.

Cameron, who won a

surprise majority in national elections last week, is expected to tell a meeting of his top security advisers that new laws will be fast-tracked through parliament in the first year of his government.

"Whether they are violent in their means or not, we must make it impossible for the extremists to succeed," Cameron will tell a meeting of his National Security Council, according to extracts released by his office. The need to tackle radicalism in Britain has been underlined by the

flow of hundreds of Britons to join Islamic State militants in Iraq and Syria — most notably Kuwaiti-born Londoner Mohammed Emwazi, who has appeared in videos showing the beheading of Western hostages.

"For too long, we have been a passively tolerant society, saying to our citizens: as long as you obey the law, we will leave you alone," Cameron will say. "This government will conclusively turn the page on this failed approach."

Reuters

Bill Clinton says if Hillary wins, he'll move back to White House — 'if asked'



Former US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton (L) and her husband former US President Bill Clinton listen to remarks at the 37th Harkin Steak Fry in Indianola, Iowa on 14 Sept, 2014.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 13 May — Former US President Bill Clinton said on Tuesday he will move back into the White House if his wife Hillary wins the presidency next year — "if I'm asked."

In an excerpt from an interview on the CBS "Late Show with David Letterman," Bill Clinton, who served as president from 1993 to 2001, was asked how he would rate his chances of moving back into the executive mansion.

"First of all, Hillary has to win the nomination.

If she wins the nomination, then she has to win the election," Clinton said of his wife, the front-runner in the race for the 2016 Democratic presidential nomination.

"If she wins the election, the chances are 100 percent I'll move back ... if I'm asked," he said to audience laughter.

Clinton added: "My experience is that since I left the White House, when a president of either party asks, you say yes. So I hope I'll be invited."

Reuters

Seattle activist tries to block Shell's fuel — transfer station

SEATTLE, 13 May — An activist perched herself on a 15-foot tripod to try to block the entrance of a Royal Dutch Shell fuel-transfer station on Tuesday, in a harbinger of expected protests over the company's plan to store Arctic drilling rigs in Seattle.

Annie Lukins staged her protest on Seattle's Harbor Island a day after the US Department of the Interior conditionally approved Shell's plan to explore for oil in the Chukchi Sea off Alaska, where it has not

drilled since a mishap-filled 2012 season.

Environmental activists are also preparing for three days of demonstrations starting on 16 May against Shell's plans to store two drilling rigs in Seattle. Protesters say they will meet one of the drilling rigs in kayaks as it arrives in the port later this week.

Seattle resident Lukins erected the tripod early on Tuesday, backed by other anti-Shell activists, according to a news release and image. It was unclear if she

was arrested. "I want the next generation to be able to eat fish from the ocean whose flesh doesn't carry the killing toxins of crude oil," Lukins said in a statement. "We need to ban Arctic drilling now."

The Puget Sound region has a decades-long history as a hub for equipment used in energy drilling in Alaska even as some environmental groups and politicians have pushed for the region's economy to move beyond oil, gas and coal and into clean energy.—*Reuters*



A police boat patrols as activists protest the Polar Pioneer, an oil rig leased by Royal Dutch Shell Plc that is bound for the Arctic, at a rally and march in Seattle, Washington, United States on 26 April, 2015.—REUTERS



Thursday, 14 May, 2015

Myanmar needs more talented teachers

By Aung Khin

“IF you go to an Asian classroom you’ll find teachers who expect every student to succeed. There’s a lot of rigour, a lot of focus and coherence.” These are the words of Andreas Schleicher, the Special Advisor on Education Policy at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

His remark is supported by data. The Paris-based OECD economic think-tank recently published the biggest-ever global school rankings, with Asian countries in the top five places based on test scores of 76 nations.

These top five Asian countries are, in order, Singapore, Hong Kong, South Korea, Japan and

Taiwan. The OECD concluded that these countries have the most talented teachers in the most challenging classrooms, and that every student has the opportunity to learn from excellent teachers.

The education industry in Myanmar is less competitive than neighbouring countries in terms of services from both government and private-sector schools, with a handful of international schools too expensive for ordinary families.

Many Myanmar children at nursery schools are taught by the teachers who are not well-trained or do not possess teaching certificates. They lack knowledge of child psychology and classroom control, and try only to teach the young children reading and writing instead of nurturing their physical and mental development. Unsystematic teaching poses a tremendous setback to the development of the country.

Education policy is closely linked to the economic gains of the country. The differences in education between the developed and developing world remain stark. Even before international standard education policies are adopted, the education industry needs talented teachers with competitive skills.

Skilful teachers provide positive role models for

young children. Caring, engaging teachers are one of the greatest sources of motivation for children to pursue education.

With the aim of promoting equitable and inclusive quality education and lifelong learning for all by 2030, the World Education Forum 2015 will be held in the Republic of Korea from 19 to 22 May.

Myanmar had a good rank for education in the past due to the efforts and skills of senior teachers who could promote the dignity of the country within the global community. Present-day teachers and education policymakers are responsible for uplifting the position of Myanmar.

Write for us

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

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish “Letter to the Editor” that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

A short introduction to Community Colleges in some countries

By Sayar Mya

(Continued from yesterday)

Comprehensive Community Colleges

Many schools have adapted the term comprehensive to describe their institutions. These schools typically offer six facets of education:

1. **Transfer education** – The traditional two-year student who will then transfer to a four-year institution to pursue a BS/BA degree.
2. **Career education** – The traditional two-year student that will graduate with an Associate Degree and directly enter the workforce.
3. **Developmental** – Remedial education for high school graduates who are not academically ready to enroll in college-level courses.
4. **Continuing** – Non-Credit courses offered to the community for personal development and interest.
5. **Industry training** – Contracted training and education wherein a local company pays the college to provide specific training or courses for their employees.
6. **eLearning** – Distance learning is available online using one’s computer and proctored exams. Pell grants and federal aid apply to eLearning also. For example, studying Spanish in an eLearning environment is possible when a student is in another state and federal aid is applied to out-of-state tuition.

Within the transfer education category, comprehensive schools typically have articulation agreements in place that provide prearranged acceptance into specific four-year institutions. At some community colleges, the partnering four-year institution teaches the third and fourth year courses at the community college location and thereby allows a student to obtain a four-year degree without having to physically move to the four-year school.

There are institutions and organizations which provide community college research to inform practice and policy.

Research

There are research organizations and publications that focus upon the activities of community college, junior college, and technical college institutions. Many of these institutions and organizations present the most current research and practical outcomes at annual community college conferences.

- **The American Association of Community Colleges (AACC)** has provided oversight on community college research since the 1920s. AACC publishes a research journal called the **Community College Journal**.

- **The Community College Research Center (CCRC)**, located at Teachers College, Columbia University, is the leading independent authority on the nation’s two year colleges. CCRC annually publishes numerous papers, reports, briefs, and practitioner packets on issues pertaining to community colleges and open-access four year colleges to help college and system leaders, administrators, faculty, and support staff improve institutional performance and student success.
- **The Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT)** has provided education for community college boards of directors and advocacy for community colleges since 1972. ACCT President and CEO have authored a book about the past, present, and future of community colleges called **Charting a New Course for Community Colleges: Aligning Policies with Practice**.
- The mission of the **Community College Research Center (CCRC)** from Teachers College at Columbia University is to “conduct research on the major issues affecting community colleges in the United States and to contribute to the development of practice and policy that expands access to higher education and promotes success for all students.”
- The **Center for Community College Student Engagement (CCCSE)** at the University of Texas at Austin administers surveys and provides data analysis support to member colleges regarding various factors of student engagement and involvement in community colleges in the United States and Canada.
- The **Office of Community College Research and Leadership (OCCRL)** at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign studies policies, programs, and practices designed to enhance outcomes for diverse youth and adults who seek to transition to and through college to employment. OCCRL’s research spans the P-20 education continuum, with an intense focus on how community colleges impact education and employment outcomes for diverse learners. Results of OCCRL’s studies of pathways and programs of study, extending from high school to community colleges and universities and to employment, are disseminated nationally and internationally. Reports and materials are derived from new knowledge captured and disseminated through OCCRL’s website, scholarly publications, and other vehicles.

Additionally, several peer-reviewed journals extensively publish research on community colleges:

- **Community College Journal of Research and Practice**



(Photo: Google.com)

- **New Directions for Community Colleges**
- **Community College Review**
- **Journal of Applied Research in the Community College**
- **Journal of Transformative Leadership and Policy Studies**

Conclusion

On Wednesday 22 April 2015, the online news press FCNP.com printed an article by Jody Fellows and Bob Hull regarding the community colleges. It refers that the **movie actor, director, and producer Tom Hanks** wrote an opinion piece in the New York Times, entitled **“I Owe It All to Community College,”** in which he described his experience as an underachieving high school student in Oakland, California, who attended **Chabot Community College** in Hayward, California.

He depicted a school that offered a full array of both practical and academic subjects for thousands of students of all ages and backgrounds commuting from communities throughout that region. What Mr. Hanks said he experienced were “riveting” history lectures and drama classes where he read contemporary plays that he was able to see in productions in San Francisco and Berkeley. “Those plays filled my head with expanded dreams,” he recalled.

He transferred to a state university, but left after a year to go on about his life. However, he said that the classes he took at Chabot “have rippled through my professional pond.” Mr. Hanks concluded his piece by stating that he “drove past the campus a few years ago with one of my kids and summed up my two years there this way: **“That place made me what I am today.”**”

At the serious advice of a faculty member in Yangon, the author of this article is just presenting a simple and plain article on community colleges being established in some countries to the esteemed readers of the Global New Light of Myanmar and the educators in the sphere of teaching.

Last in sequence but not least in importance, actor Tom Hanks had termed the community college as the place that made him what he is today.

LOCAL NEWS

Plan underway to maintain stone inscriptions at Kuthodaw Pagoda

MANDALAY, 13 May — Arrangements are being made to clean 729 plaques with stone inscriptions at Kuthodaw Pagoda in Mandalay with the use of chemicals, as well as the renovation of pagodas where the plaques are housed.

Photo records of the renovation of the pagodas will be made, while translations of the stone inscriptions will be posted online as of the first week of June.

With the assistance of Japan's Chuo Academic Research Institute, experts from Sydney University in Australia and staff of the Archaeology and National Museum Department (Mandalay) will cooperate on the three-year project, according to Director U Nyo Myint Tun of the department.

"Maintenance will help the longevity of stone inscriptions, and the posting of the translated Buddhist inscriptions will help

spread them across the world," he added.

The government arranges maintenance of ancient cultural heritages made of wood and bamboo with the use of chemicals and technology. Likewise, mural paintings, artistic works and ancient literature works are being renovated through modern techniques.

*Min Htet Aung
(Mandalay Sub-printing House)*



Seminar on strengthening consumer protection in Myanmar staged in Mandalay



MANDALAY, 13 May — A seminar on strengthening consumer protection

in Myanmar took place at Mandalay Hill Resort Hotel on 11-12 May.

Director-General U Hla Maw Oo of Commercial Promotion and

Consumer Affairs Department under the Ministry of Commerce made the opening address at the seminar entitled Myanmar: Effectively Implementing a New Law on Consumer Protection and International Perspectives.

USAID Country Director Mr Steve Parker also spoke on the occasion, along with General Secretary U Aye Lwin of Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and Deputy Director Daw Myo Myo Htaik of the department.

Attendees also participated in discussions on Myanmar's existing laws for consumer protection and its consumer union.

*Tin Maung
(Mandalay)*

Panasonic opens showroom in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 13 May — Japanese electronics and home appliance maker Panasonic opened a showroom and service center in Mandalay on 10 May.

Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint and guests visited

the showroom and viewed various types of electronic equipment.

Osaka-based Panasonic has in recent years increased its focus on the production of solar power equipment.—*Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)*



Government of India support for training in English language for Law Enforcement Officers at MICELT, Yangon

YANGON, 13 May — To mark the commencement of English language training for Myanmar Law Enforcement Officers (Police Officers) at Myanmar-India Centre for English Language Training (MICELT) at Yangon University, an opening ceremony was held on 11 May at MICELT according to the press release of Indian Embassy.

The Myanmar-India Centre for English Language Training (MICELT) was set up with Indian assistance under the Initiative for Asian Integration (IAI) programme in 2009 at Yangon University, with an aim of providing a permanent venue for teaching and raising the general level of pro-

ficiency in English language in Myanmar. MICELT conducts short term courses on English proficiency, which are very popular amongst journalists, entrepreneurs, Government officials and academia.

30 Myanmar Law Enforcement Officers have been selected, on the basis of written and viva tests, to undertake the current course. As part of the programme, the officers will be imparted training to enhance their English language proficiency, and be better equipped for discharging their duties domestically and in their engagements with foreign counterparts. The course will also provide the par-



ticipants the opportunity to sit and clear the Inter-

national English Language Testing System (IELTS)

examination. The initiative is being financed by the

Government of India under the IAI-NDG (Initiative for ASEAN Integration/Narrowing Development Gap) Division of ASEAN Secretariat, on behalf of the SOMTC (Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime) for CLMV (Cambodia, Lao DPR, Myanmar and Vietnam) Countries.

Aptech India, which is already running a successful Academy in Yangon, conducting popular courses in Computer Science and English language, is supporting the programme through its experienced faculty, who will help MICELT, in conducting this two-three month programme.

GNLM

Yemen truce starts after shelling, Iran sends cargo ship

CAIRO / ADEN, 13 May — Saudi-led air strikes hit the rebel-held Yemeni capital Sanaa hours before a five-day humanitarian truce took effect on Tuesday, and Washington cautioned against “provocative actions” after Iran dispatched a cargo ship to Yemen.

The ceasefire began at 11 pm (2000 GMT), said Brigadier General Ahmed Asseri, spokesman for a Saudi-led coalition that has been striking Yemen’s Houthi rebels since 26 March, but clashes persisted after that in some areas.

It is intended to allow the shipment of food and medicine to the country, which aid groups warn faces a humanitarian catastrophe after more than seven weeks of war but it will end if the Houthis do not also lay down arms, Riyadh has

warned. There was no let up in fighting before the truce.

The Houthis shelled Saudi border areas in Jizan Province until the last moments before the ceasefire started, Asseri said on al-Arabiya television, adding that this gave him no confidence the rebel group intended to keep to the truce.

Witnesses said as the ceasefire neared the Saudi-led alliance bombed Houthi positions in the southern port of Aden, where local armed groups were still fighting the rebels.

After the ceasefire formally began, fighting continued in al-Dhala and Marib provinces in southern and eastern Yemen, said residents and tribal sources. The sound of shelling continued until morning in the city of Taiz,



An air strike hits a military site controlled by the Houthi group in Yemen’s capital Sanaa on 12 May, 2015.—REUTERS

residents said.

The United States said it was tracking Iranian warships accompanying the cargo vessel bound for

Hodaida port, and urged Iran instead to use a UN distribution hub in Djibouti to provide help to people in the war-damaged Arabian

Peninsula country.

“We would discourage any provocative actions,” said US State Department spokesman Jeff Rathke.

Iran is an ally of the Houthi movement, Yemen’s most powerful political faction which the coalition accuses of toppling the rightful government.

Iranian warships will escort the vessel, a naval commander was quoted as saying by state news agency IRNA.

“The 34th fleet, which is currently in the Gulf of Aden, has special responsibility to protect the Iranian humanitarian aid ship,” Admiral Hossein Azad said, referring to a destroyer and support vessel in international waters off Yemen.

Asseri said any Iranian vessels sailing to Yemen, whether accompanied by warships or not, needed the permission of the Yemeni government or the coalition to make the journey.

Reuters

ICC prosecutor says could investigate Islamic State in Libya



An Islamic State militant holds a gun while standing behind what are said to be Ethiopian Christians in Wilayat Fazzan, in this still image from an undated video made available on a social media website on 19 April, 2015.—REUTERS

UNITED NATIONS, 13 May — The International Criminal Court can investigate alleged crimes by Islamic State militants in Libya, but it is first up to individual states to prosecute their citizens accused of offences, The Hague-based court’s prosecutor said on Tuesday.

The United Nations Security Council asked the court in 2011 to investigate crimes committed since the start of an uprising the same year that led to the fall of leader Muammar Gaddafi.

Libya has since descended into chaos, with two competing governments backed by militia brigades scrambling for control of the oil-producing country and creating havens for Islamist militants and traffickers.

ICC prosecutor Fatou Bensouda told the UN

Security Council on Tuesday that she had noted the 15-member body’s calls for accountability for alleged crimes against civilians committed by groups claiming allegiance to Islamic State.

“My office considers that ICC jurisdiction over Libya prima facie extends to such alleged crimes,” Bensouda said. “I recall however the principle that states, in the first instance, bear the primary responsibility to investigate and prosecute their nationals who have joined forces with (Islamic State) and are alleged to be committing ... crimes.”

Militants loyal to Islamic State have claimed several high-profile attacks on foreigners in Libya this year, including the beheading of 21 Egyptian Christians in February. That attack prompted air strikes

by Egypt on Islamic State targets in Libya.

Last month, a video purportedly made by Islamic State appeared to show the beheading of some 30 Ethiopians in Libya.

Ultra-radical Islamic State controls swathes of territory in Syria and Iraq and last year declared a caliphate. France said in March it would push the Security Council to refer Islamic State to the international courts.

Bensouda said she was also concerned about alleged indiscriminate attacks by parties to the Libyan conflict.

“My office is actively considering the investigation and prosecution of further cases, and will not hesitate to take such action as may be needed to contribute ending impunity in Libya,” she said.

The ICC wants to try Gaddafi’s son Saif al-Islam for war crimes, but Libya has failed to hand him over. Since his arrest in 2011, he has been held by a faction of former rebels in the Zintan region who often operate beyond the authority of the internationally recognised Libyan government.

Libyan UN Ambassador Ibrahim Dabbashi told the council that Libya still wants to try Gaddafi himself and hopes the ICC would acknowledge that.

Reuters

South Africa delays deportation of 200 foreigners after protests

JOHANNESBURG, 13 May — South Africa temporarily halted the deportation of 200 foreigners on Tuesday after a legal challenge by a human rights group, which said authorities were unfairly targeting them following anti-migrant riots in which seven people were killed.

More than 800 undocumented migrants have been arrested across South Africa in the past three weeks under “Operation Fiela”, a series of raids launched after last month’s violence which was centred on the province of KwaZulu Natal.

But the Lawyers for Human Rights (LHR) group filed a petition in court on Tuesday seeking legal access to detainees arrested last week, and asked the Home Affairs Ministry to halt their deportations which were due

to start on Wednesday.

Wayne Ncube, coordinator of the migration detention unit at LHR, said Home Affairs officials had agreed to halt the deportation for two weeks to ensure that the 200 migrants arrested at a Methodist Church in the early hours of Friday morning had a chance to get legal representation.

“We settled on an order whereby we will get access to all the detainees who were arrested as part of Operation Fiela,” Ncube said. “A list will be compiled and handed over to us regarding every person who was arrested.”

The violence, which ended after troops were sent to affected areas, flared up after Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini said in remarks reported by local media that foreigners should leave South Africa.

Zwelithini has since said his comments were misinterpreted.

Unemployment, which economists say is much higher than the official rate of around 25 percent, has been blamed for periodic outbreaks of anti-immigrant violence along with widespread poverty and income disparities.

The government has denied that Operation Fiela is targeting foreign nationals. “We would like to categorically and emphatically state that these claims are far from the truth,” spokeswoman Phumla Williams said in a statement.

“This is an operation aimed at making our country safer to enable all people who live in our country to enjoy their freedoms in an environment that is free from crime.”

The People’s Coalition Against Xenophobia has held two protests outside the Johannesburg Central Police Station to oppose the arrests and detention of foreign migrants.

“To equate crime to the presence of undocumented people in our society is not tackling xenophobia, it’s legitimising xenophobia,” the group’s coordinator Stephen Faulkner said. “It is saying to the general public, we have to tackle xenophobia by getting rid of illegal immigrants.”—Reuters



Demonstrators carry placards during a march against xenophobia in downtown Johannesburg on 23 April, 2015.—REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Economy watcher sentiment up for 5th straight month in April

TOKYO, 13 May — Business confidence among people in Japan with jobs sensitive to economic conditions improved in April for the fifth consecutive month, the government said on Wednesday, showing the economy continues to improve from the downturn triggered by last year's consumption tax hike.

Among such workers as taxi drivers and restaurant employees, the diffusion index of sentiment regarding the country's current economic condition rose 1.4 points from the previous month to 53.6, the Cabinet Office said.

That was the highest

since 57.9 in March 2014, just before Japan's consumption tax — a charge on virtually every sort of purchase and financial transaction — was raised by 3 percentage points to 8 percent on 1 April last year.

The diffusion index is computed by subtracting the percentage of respondents who view economic conditions as worsening over the past three months from the percentage reporting improvement. Results topping 50.0 percent thus show improving sentiment.

Despite the continued increase in the sentiment index, the government left unchanged its assessment

of the economy as "recovering moderately."

"While there are positive comments, some still point to cautiousness over spending" amid concerns about higher product prices, a government official said.

The sentiment index for economic conditions in coming months climbed 0.8 point from the previous month to 54.2 in April, amid growing hopes for wage growth and expanding demand by foreign visitors to Japan, the office said. The Cabinet Office surveyed 2,050 workers across Japan from 25 to 30 April of whom 1,856 or 90.5 percent responded.

Kyodo News

Chinese researchers find potential drug target for Parkinson's disease

WASHINGTON, 13 May — US and Chinese researchers said on Tuesday they have identified a possible drug target for neurodegenerative disorders such as Parkinson's disease. Neurodegenerative diseases are marked by abnormal buildup in the brain of misfolded proteins called α -synuclein, which disrupt and kill brain cells.

In a study published in the US journal *Science Signaling*, the researchers found that misfolded α -synuclein can activate immune cells' Toll-like receptors (TLR) 1 and 2 to trigger inflammation

and that preventing this inflammation is the key to controlling neurological diseases.

The real job of TLR1/2 is to protect our bodies by getting rid of invading pathogens, said study author Yin Hang, professor of Tsinghua University, but misfolded α -synuclein caused them to overreact, leading to long-term chronic inflammation which damages the brain.

The findings were based on the research of microglia, cells that act as the main form of immune defense in the central nervous system.

Yin's team, in collab-

oration with researchers at the Georgetown University, also showed that a new small molecule compound called CU-CPT22, which specifically targets TLR1/2, can significantly reduce this inflammation.

"The small molecule blocks the receptors and fine-tunes the system, balancing out the overprotective microglia and keeping inflammation at bay," Yin said.

They also found a hypertension drug that blocks TLR 2 has a similar therapeutic effect, raising the possibility of repurposing it for Parkinson's disease. —Xinhua

China April factory output, investment, retail sales all miss forecasts, more easing seen

BEIJING, 13 May — China's factory output rose 5.9 percent in April compared with the same period last year, slightly below forecasts and reinforcing expectations that the government will have to step up its efforts to boost the cooling economy.

A weak reading had been expected after the central bank cut interest rates early this week for the third time in six months to lower companies' borrowing costs and boost activity as the economy heads for its worst year in a quarter of a century.

Analysts polled by Reuters had forecast a 6.0 percent rise, up from 5.6 percent in March, which was the weakest reading since the global financial crisis. Fixed-asset invest-

ment, a crucial driver of the world's second-largest economy, rose 12 percent in January-April from the same period a year ago, the slowest pace since December 2000, the National Bu-

reau of Statistics showed on Wednesday. Economists had expected a 13.5 percent gain, the same as in the first quarter of the year.

A breakdown of fixed-asset investment

showed slower growth in both government and private sector spending, and a sharp drop in the metal mining sector. Overall spending on new projects stalled.

Retail sales, meanwhile, rose 10 percent last month, missing expectations for a 10.5 percent rise and easing from March.

Data last week showed weaker-than-expected exports, imports and inflation, highlighting that China's economy is under persistent pressure from soft demand at home and abroad.

The economy grew 7 percent in the first quarter of this year, the slowest pace in six years, and the April data suggest the world's second-largest economy lost more momentum heading into the second quarter, intensifying the challenge for Beijing to find the right policy mix to shore up activity.

China's economic growth was within "a reasonable range" in April,

but the government still needed to work hard to keep growth steady going forward, the National Bureau of Statistics said on Tuesday.

In addition to cutting interest rates, the central bank has also lowered banks' reserve requirement ratio (RRR) twice this year to spur bank lending and economic growth, and relaxed restrictions on home purchases to shore up the ailing property market, which accounts for about 15 percent of the economy. Analysts expect policymakers to deliver more cuts in interest rates and RRR in the coming months. Policy insiders told Reuters earlier this month that the government may also ramp up state spending to shore up growth. —Reuters

France outpaces Britain, Germany with fastest growth in two years



People walk on the esplanade of La Defence in the financial and business district west of Paris, on 7 May, 2015. —REUTERS

PARIS, 13 May — Cheap oil and a weak euro lifted the French economy in the first quarter to growth of 0.6 percent, its fastest rate in two years and easily beating analysts' expectations.

The strong quarter-on-quarter data was supported by consumer spending, corporate investment, industrial output and inventories, while exports slowed.

It was the highest growth reading for the French economy since the second quarter of 2013 and was twice as high as that in Britain and Germany, which both reported a slowdown in the rate of output growth.

"The sharp acceleration in activity during the first quarter ... points to growth in 2015 being somewhat stronger than the

1.0 percent expected by the government," IHS Global Insight economist Diego Iscaro said. "However, we still do not estimate that the recovery will be strong enough to make a significant dent into France's high unemployment rate".

The jobless rate was 10.4 percent at the end of last year. President Francois Hollande will be hoping the improving outlook boosts his record-low approval ratings. He has said he would not run for a second mandate in 2017 if unemployment has not dropped.

The government has forecast the economy would grow by at least 1 percent this year after eking out only 0.2 percent growth last year, a figure statistics office INSEE revised down on Wednesday from a previous 0.4 percent

estimate.

It revised the 2014 debt-to-GDP rate to 95.6 percent of GDP from a previous 95.0 estimate while the 2014 public deficit was confirmed at 4.0 percent.

INSEE also revised the 2013 growth rate to 0.7 percent from 0.4 percent and the 2012 rate to 0.2 percent from 0.4 percent.

The European Commission has forecast that the French economy will grow by 1.1 percent this year and 1.7 percent in 2016.

Business investment stood at its highest level in the first quarter of this year since the second quarter of 2008. Household investment, however, contracted for the seventh straight quarter, showing that real estate remains a drag on the economy.

Reuters



Employees work at a steel factory in Dalian, Liaoning Province in this 16 March, 2015 file picture. —REUTERS

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

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

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

Tender Closing Date & Time - 9-6-2015, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 12TH May, 2015 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

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

Technical conditions met for direct flights to US

BELGRADE, 13 May — Serbian Minister of Transport and Infrastructure Zorana Mihajlovic said on Tuesday that all technical conditions have been met for direct flights between Serbia and the US, expressing hope that they will be introduced “as soon as possible”.

The minister of transport and US Ambassador to Serbia Michael Kirby on Tuesday initialled an air traffic agreement between the US and Serbian

governments.

At a joint press conference, Mihajlovic said that direct flights between the US and Serbia will resume after a 23-year break.

“I am particularly glad that the US Federal Aviation Administration has granted Serbia the Category 1 rating — in aviation, it means that a country is safe”, Mihajlovic said.

Ambassador Kirby said that he expects direct

flights between the US and Serbia to be established in the not too distant future.

As far as the US and Serbian governments are concerned, we believe that it is a matter of months, but it is better to ask the companies that should establish the direct flights, Kirby said.

He said that the open sky agreement suggests that more companies will have the opportunity to fly and have direct flights.

Tanjung

Amtrak train derails in Philadelphia, killing at least five

PHILADELPHIA, 13 May — An Amtrak passenger train with more than 200 passengers on board derailed in north Philadelphia on Tuesday night, killing at least five people and injuring scores of others, several of them critically, authorities said.

Authorities said they had no idea what caused the train wreck at about 9:30 pm local time that left some rail cars mangled, ripped open and strewn upside down and on their sides in the city's Port Richmond neighbourhood along the Delaware River. Survivors described scenes of horror and chaos as passengers and luggage were tossed about careening train carriages.

Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter told a news conference that at least five people were killed in the accident. He later said 65 others were taken to area hospitals, six of them critically injured. Philadelphia-area hospitals and health systems collectively reported taking in 135 patients from the wreck.

“It's an absolute disastrous mess,” Nutter said. “I've never seen anything like this in my life.”

Amtrak said there were 238 passengers and five crew members aboard the derailed No 188 train on route from Washington, DC, to New York. Seven cars, including the engine, left the tracks, according to the mayor.

“I cannot say everyone is accounted for at this time,” he said, briefing reporters again well past midnight.—Reuters

Prince Charles' 'black spider' letters to be published on Wednesday

LONDON, 13 May — A series of potentially embarrassing letters written by Britain's Prince Charles to government ministers in 2004-2005 will be published on Wednesday, a step that could cast doubt over the political neutrality of the future king.

The British government has long blocked disclosure of what it has called the “particularly frank” letters, but its veto on publication was declared unlawful by the Court of Appeal last year, a decision which was upheld by the Supreme Court in March.

The 27 letters to ministers in seven government departments have been dubbed the ‘black spider’ because of the prince's scrawled handwriting.

They will be published, with some redactions, after a ruling on Tuesday by the Upper Tribunal of Britain's Administrative Appeals Chamber that they should be released on Wednesday.

They will be handed over to the *Guardian* newspaper, which has fought through the courts for a decade to obtain the letters sent to ministers under then-Prime Minister Tony Blair.

A *Guardian* spokesman said they would be published on the paper's website and on that of the Information Commissioner, although no precise time was yet available.

In March, Prime Minister David Cameron called the Supreme Court judgement to allow publication “disappointing.”

“This is about the principle that senior members of the royal family are able to express their views to government confidentially. I think most people would agree this is fair enough,” Cameron said.

A spokeswoman for Prince Charles at Clarence House, his official London residence, said she expected a statement would be issued on Wednesday. At the time of the Supreme Court decision, Charles' office said: “Clarence House is disappointed the principle of privacy has not been upheld.”

Under Britain's unwritten constitution, the royal family is supposed to remain politically neutral.

Queen Elizabeth has kept her opinions to herself during her 63-year reign, but



Britain's Prince Charles and his wife Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall arrive at Westminster Abbey for a thanksgiving service on the final day of 70th anniversary Victory in Europe (VE) day commemorations in central London on 10 May, 2015. —REUTERS

heir-to-the-throne Charles has expressed views about subjects close to his heart such as nature conservation and architecture. His letters

will prove controversial if they create the perception he disagreed with ministers and tried to influence policies.—Reuters

Hundreds search for missing US helicopter after second Nepal quake kills scores



Local residents evacuate onto a street minutes after an earthquake in central Kathmandu, Nepal on 12 May, 2015.—REUTERS

CHARIKOT, (Nepal), 13 May — Hundreds of Nepali troops were searching for a missing US Marines helicopter with eight people on board on Wednesday,

a day after the second powerful earthquake in less than three weeks killed scores and sent panicked residents into the street.

The Himalayan nation

is still reeling from a devastating quake measuring 7.8 last month that killed more than 8,000 people and injured close to 20,000.

The US helicopter was delivering aid in Dolakha, one of the hardest-hit areas from the 25 April quake, on Tuesday when it went missing with six Marines and two Nepali troops on board.

The Marine Corps UH-1Y Huey helicopter lost radio contact after its crew was heard talking about fuel problems.

A Nepali military official said it appeared the helicopter might have come down in one of the rivers that snake through

valleys in the district of Dolakha east of the capital, Kathmandu. Six other helicopters joined hundreds of ground troops in the search for the missing aircraft.

“The info we have is that it is down in one of the rivers, but none of the choppers has seen it yet,” Major Rajan Dahal, second-in-command of the Barda Bahadur Battalion, told *Reuters* in the district capital, Charikot.

“There are 400-plus of our ground troops looking for it also. By this evening, we might get it,” he said.

Nepal Home Ministry official Laxmi Prasad Dhal said no trace of the missing helicopter had been found

but she feared the search was diverting resources from relief and rescue work. “The work of sending relief and rescuing the injured people to hospitals has been delayed due to this,” she told *Reuters*.

Tuesday's 7.3 quake killed 67 people and destroyed swaths of housing in the area. Charikot, about 75 km (45 miles) east of Kathmandu, was one of the hardest-hit areas.

Most of the fatalities reported from Tuesday's quake were in towns and villages like Charikot, which were only just beginning to pick up the pieces from last month's quake.

Reuters

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV CALMY CORAL VOY NO (088)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CALMY CORAL VOY NO (088) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.5.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-3 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SINAR BIAK VOY NO (433N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BIAK VOY NO (433N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.5.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA
SHIPPING LINE**

Phone No: 2301185

**INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER (3/2015)
[TENDER NO. MPPE/ JET AI / T / 1 (2015 — 2016)]**
1. Open Tender is invited for the Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of JET AI (282,000 bbl ± 10%)
2. Tender Closing Date & Time - 26 - 5 - 2015, 12:00 Hrs
3. Tender Opening Date & Time - 26 - 5 - 2015, 13:00 Hrs
4. Delivery Time - 1st July 2015 to 31st October 2015
5. Tender documents and details are available at the Department of Finance, the Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing 11 - 5 - 2015 on payment of Myanmar Kyat One Hundred Thousand (Kyat 100,000.) per set.
6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from the Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.
Managing Director
Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise
Ministry of Energy, No(6) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw
Contact Phone No.
067-411487/411486/411280

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (406N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (406N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.5.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S EVERGREEN
SHIPPING LINE**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV LINDAUNIS VOY NO (00038)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV LINDAUNIS VOY NO (00038) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.5.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

**Indian gov't clears amendments to
allow children under 14 to work in
family businesses**

NEW DELHI, 13 May — Indian government cleared amendments to the child labour law on Wednesday to allow children below 14 to work in “non-hazardous” family enterprises, said local media. The government said it would encourage children to learn at home as it led to entrepreneurship, said local daily *The Hindustan Times*. It also said the children would be allowed to work only if their education wasn't being hampered.

A draft provision in the Child Labour Prohibition

Act said the prohibition on child labour would not apply if they were helping the family in fields, forests and home-based work after school hours or during vacations, or while attending technical institutions, said the report. The new norm would also apply to the entertainment industry and sports except the circus.

Children between 14 and 18 years would not be allowed to work in hazardous industries but in a wider fields of labour than for children under 14.—*Xinhua*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Attention:

Director General

Department of Electric Power (DEP)

Street Address: Building No. 27,

Ministry of Electric Power (MOEP)

Floor/Ground No.: Ground Floor

ZIP Code: 15011

Country: The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Tel: +95 (67) 410256

Fax: +95 (67) 410256

Email: ecoplantep@gmail.com

WEATHER REPORT

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman sea and South Bay and generally fair elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 14th May, 2015: Weather will be partly cloudy in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Regions, rain or thundershowers are likely to be scattered in Taninthayi Region and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (60%).

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of rain or thundershowers in the extreme Southern Myanmar areas.

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Group urges Abe to suspend drilling for planned Okinawa base

TOKYO, 13 May — An environmental protection group on Wednesday submitted a letter with some 10,000 signatures urging Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to suspend an ongoing drilling survey for constructing a US Marine Corps base in northern Okinawa Prefecture.

FoE Japan filed the signatures with an official

of the Defence Ministry in Tokyo after it collected them from citizens and groups in some 20 countries, including Japan, the United States, South Korea and the Philippines, saying the planned base construction would destroy beautiful sea and coral reefs.

The collection started in late March after the

Defence Ministry's local bureau resumed the drilling survey in waters off the Henoko area of Nago for constructing the base to replace the Futenma Air Station in the more crowded city of Ginowan in the prefecture.

The group, a member of Friends of the Earth International, has complained that the bureau's throwing

of concrete blocks into the sea for the drilling survey has damaged corals and seaweed.

At a rally in Tokyo before the submission of the letter, Tsuyoshi Kitaueda, a participant in the ongoing protest against the survey in the Henoko waters, called on people to support the protest.

Kyodo News

Peng Dan awarded Most Popular Actress in Sino-American Int'l TV Festival



LOS ANGELES, 13 May — Chinese actress Peng Dan has been awarded the Most Popular Actress in the 2nd Sino-American International TV Festival here on Sunday. In her acceptance

speech, Peng said in fluent English that Los Angeles is her lucky place, where she had got the awards of Best Actress last year and of Best Director in the 10th Sino-American Film Festival last year as well.

Although Peng had had her education in art in the United States, and had performed several times on Broadway and at the Lincoln Centre in New York, the Chinese artist said she had always had a “Chinese dream” which was to be awarded in the United States with a TV series about China’s stories that

she stars in.

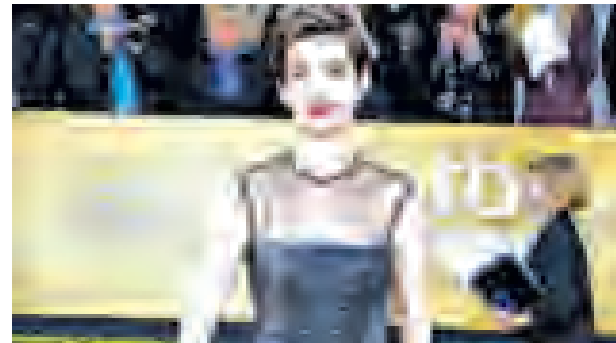
It was like a dream come true in Beverly Hills, she said, expressing gratefulness to each director she had worked with in the United States and Hong Kong.

Peng also took the chance to thank her mom as the event coincided with this year’s Mother’s Day.

After the ceremony, she told reporters that she wished to do more TV series or films that embody the national spirit of China and promote the Chinese culture.

Xinhua

Anne Hathaway to star in ‘Colossal’



Hathaway will play Gloria, an ordinary woman who, after losing her job and her fiancé, decides to leave her life in New York to move back to her hometown.—PTI

LOS ANGELES, 13 May — Oscar-winning actress Anne Hathaway is set to star in “Colossal”, written and directed by Nacho Vigalondo.

Hathaway will play Gloria, an ordinary woman who, after losing her job and her fiancé, decides to leave her life in New York to move back to her hometown, said *The Hollywood Reporter*.

But when news re-

ports surface that a giant lizard is destroying the city of Tokyo, Gloria gradually comes to realise that she is strangely connected to these far-off events via the power of her mind.

“Colossal is my most ambitious script so far, and probably also the most personal one. Having Anne and this terrific team around goes beyond my craziest expectations,” Vigalondo said.—PTI

Art house to ‘Mad Max’ — Cannes festival has it all



A Chopard representative displays the Palme d'Or, the highest prize awarded to competing films, during an interview before the start of the 68th Cannes Film Festival in Cannes, southern France on 12 May, 2015.—REUTERS

CANNES, (France), 13 May — The world’s most important film festival is about to start in Cannes with a mix of stardom, art house cinema, Hollywood blockbusters and everything in between, though its director would be happier if the “selfie” had never been invented.

After making a selection from 1,854 films, festival director Thierry Fremaux said this edition, which opens on Wednesday, would stand out for the new names it introduces.

“We put new names on the map and we’ll see in 12 days what will be the re-

sult of everything,” he told *Reuters*.

Apart from the screening, parties and deal-making that mark the festival every year, Fremaux has had to consider an activity of more recent origin — selfies — and what they mean for Cannes.

“We have 2,200 people entering in the main theater and if every one of them makes three stops to take a photo of himself, I mean, the process is very slow,” he said.

“The film could be late and in Cannes, we respect time,” said Fremaux, who thinks selfies are “ridiculous and grotesque”.

There will be plenty of familiar faces at the festival this year, with the feature film jury being presided by Joel and Ethan Coen.

The 2012 jury president, Nanni Moretti, is in competition with “Mia Madre” as well as Palme d’Or laureate Gus van Sant (“The Sea of Trees”) and Todd Haynes (“Carol”).

Hollywood is pitching in by holding the world premiere for “Mad Max: Fury Road” on Thursday, and there will be plenty of other Hollywood and world stars on the red carpet.

Fremaux, however, was disappointed by the American cinema’s offering. “It’s wonderful to have Gus Van Sant, to have Todd Haynes, to have Woody Allen or to have George Miller — he’s Australian but it’s an American film,” he said. “But in America, they must pay more attention to auteur cinema.”

Variety critic Jay Weissberg said the most anticipated film could well be a new version of Shakespeare’s much-filmed “Macbeth”, starring French actress Marion Cotillard and Germany’s Michael Fassbender.

“These are two pow-

erhouse actors, actors who we respect enormously who’ve shown an extraordinary range...It’s one of the most anticipated titles,” he said.

The festival will open for the first time with a woman director’s film, “La Tete Haute” by Emmanuelle Bercot and starring French icon Catherine Deneuve, but Weissberg thought that did little to compensate for a general lack of women in the directing profession.

“We need to ask why there aren’t more women directors...We need the profession of director to be more open to women.”

Other films in the various festival strands deal with heavy topics of prostitution and poverty in Latin America, but Weissberg said the lineup still had what it takes to put Cannes on the world media map and in the pages of the glossy fanzines.

“Cannes has to be a combination of glamour combined with kitsch combined with a sort of cheap glamour, sexy glamour as well as the more meaty part of the festival which is why most of us are here.”

Reuters

Sylvester Stallone to exhibit paintings



Hollywood action star Sylvester Stallone

LONDON, 13 May — Hollywood action star Sylvester Stallone will exhibit his artwork in Nice, France, from this weekend.

The 68-year-old actor will showcase some of the artwork he has created over the last 50 years at Musée d’Art Moderne et d’Art Contemporaine in Nice, and will personally be at the event’s opening on Saturday, 16 May, reported

Female First.

Following the opening, VIPs will gather at the Place Massena with the mayor of the city for a celebratory dinner

Many of the “Expendables” star’s paintings are inspired by his movie roles, or feature references to the likes of Michael Jackson, James Dean and his ex-wife Brigitte Nielsen.

PTI

My divorce from Bruce had biggest impact on Rumer Willis: Demi Moore

LOS ANGELES, 13 May — Actress Demi Moore says her separation from second husband actor Bruce Willis in 2000 affected their eldest daughter, Rumer, the most.

“When their father and I decided to divorce it probably had the biggest impact on her,” Moore said.

The struggle became

more pronounced as Rumer, who was then just 12-year-old, suffered public scrutiny for her appearance in the midst of her adolescence, reported *People* magazine.

“Media attention is tough when you are a kid, it is definitely weird to have that be such public knowledge,” she explained in the segment.

“A couple of times, things would happen in my family — whatever drama it was — I couldn’t leave my house for a week. As I got older and people started you know, commenting on how I look, that’s when it really started to affect me.”

Moore took notice of the criticism and stood by Rumer, 26, as she worked

through it.

“There really wasn’t anything I could do to stop it,” the Charlie’s Angels actress said. “Her self-esteem was nothing. I could only just keep loving her and loving her until she could love herself.”

Rumer currently appears on reality TV dance show “Dancing With the Stars”.—PTI



Demi Moore

GENERAL

First stable relationship makes happy, but hardly changes personality

BERLIN, 13 May — The first relationship that a young person enters into increases his satisfaction with life, but changes his personality only slightly, said a study on Tuesday.

Researchers at German universities of Kiel and Tuebingen compared changes in personality and life satisfaction of 312 young adults who established their first relationships or remained

single in the course of four years. The results have been published in the journal *"Social Psychological and Personality Science"*.

The study results showed, young adults who established their first stable relationship are more satisfied with their lives than singles.

This applies to persons who have a steady partner between 21 and 23 for the

first time, as well as for those who later enter in a relationship at age of 23 to 25 for the first time.

However, study participants who had their first relationship at age of 21 and 23 didn't differ in their personality from the singles.

Only those who established the first partnership at age of 23 to 25 are compared to same-aged singles more extrovert, that is, more

social, more conscientious, emotionally more stable and less prone to depression.

"It's been found, on the one hand, social relationships makes one happy, on the other hand, balanced and stable people have greater opportunities to enter into social relationships," said Prof Andrea Abele-Brehm, the president of the German Society of Psychology.

Xinhua

FC Tokyo's Muto to choose Mainz over Chelsea

TOKYO, 13 May — Japan striker Yoshinori Muto's European destination will likely not be Chelsea but Mainz of the Bundesliga, sources with knowledge of the FC Tokyo man's decision told *Kyodo News* through Tuesday.

According to the sources, Tokyo and Mainz are deep into talks for the 22-year-old's services. Muto and Tokyo will further outline their plan on Thursday, after the national team's two-day training camp starting on Tuesday in Chiba Prefecture.

"He has a dream and his own vision for his career," said one Tokyo official.



Yoshinori Muto (L) of Japan fights for the ball with Mario Figueira of Brazil during their friendly soccer match at the national stadium in Singapore on 14 Oct, 2014.

REUTERS

"Hopefully, we can come to a decision that best suits him and the club."

Tokyo received an offer for Muto in March from

newly crowned Premier League champions Chelsea. The fee has been reported to be around 700 million yen (\$5.8 million).

Mainz — who are 12th in the Bundesliga with two games left in the season — plan to raise the money to buy Muto by selling their top scorer, Muto's international teammate Shinji Okazaki, who was linked with a move to England during the winter transfer window.

The sources say Muto stalled at the Chelsea offer because he feared he would not get enough playing time. If he chooses England, the second-year J-League star also would likely struggle to obtain a work permit.

Muto scored 13 goals for Tokyo last season, a record-tying mark by a J1 debutant. — *Kyodo News*

Texas, Arkansas governors declare disasters after deadly tornadoes

VAN, (Texas) / LITTLE ROCK, 13 May — The governors of Texas and Arkansas declared disasters on Monday in parts of their states hit by tornadoes and floods in a storm series that slammed central states, leaving at least five people dead, injuring more than 50 and reducing buildings to splinters.

A husband and wife were killed near a trailer park in Van, Texas, about 70 miles (115 km) southeast of Dallas, a town of about 2,500 people where scores of homes were shattered. The National Weather Service said an EF3 category tornado packing winds of around 140 mph (225 kph) hit the town.

Near the west Arkansas town of Nashville, a baby girl was pulled from the wreckage of a mobile home where her parents died in a tornado. About 10 people were injured in the state.

"She barely had a scratch on her. It's absolutely a miracle," Howard County coroner John Gray said. In Van, workers with search dogs scoured the



A young boy rests his head in his hands in front of a house which was destroyed after a tornado swept through the area the previous night in Van, Texas on 11 May, 2015. —REUTERS

wreckage looking for three adults who are unaccounted for, raising the possibility the death toll will rise.

"This storm spun up real fast and the warning time was extremely limited," Van Zandt County Fire Marshal Chuck Allen said.

Media reported that another person died due to flooding in Corsicana, Texas. After what was probably the strongest tornado to hit the town in more than 70 years, neighbours

sought comfort in front of destroyed houses and residents packed up whatever belongings they could find as they walked to evacuation shelters.

Van resident Brandi Preston, her husband and two sons pushed a wheel barrel and collected debris from their yard. Rain-soaked pink insulation from nearby damaged houses littered the ground like soggy pieces of cotton candy.

"We were in our hall-

way and we were holding our hands praying. I know that's the only reason we're OK," said Preston, 35.

Texas Governor Greg Abbott declared a state of disaster in Van Zandt and six other counties. Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson declared a disaster area in 10 counties.

"Sadly, we've been through this before, and we know how devastating these storms can be," Hutchinson said. — *Reuters*

mitv Myanmar International

(14-5-2015 07:00 am ~ 15-5-2015 07:00 am)

- | | |
|---|--|
| * News | * News |
| * Myanmar Traditional Instruments — Myanma Harp (Episode-2) | * Products of Myanmar — Craft Blacksmithing |
| * Tea | * Distinguished Myanmar Ladies "Tin Moe Lwin" |
| * News | * News |
| * A Visit to Today's Along-Daw-Katthapha | * Myanmar Charitable Labour Association |
| * The Caves | * Yatana Theinga City and Shwe Bon Yatanamingalar Palace |
| * News | * A Monk's Robe |
| * Products of Myanmar — Mya Setkyar Pure Silk Fabric from Inle Lake | * News |
| * Pet Fish Biz | * The Richly Blessed Gem Land |
| * Parents' Day | * TECH School |
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| * Shwe U Min Natural Cave in Kalaw | * Local Tour Guide: Pho Khant |
| * Kay Tu Mar Lar "The Family" | * Dhamma School |
| * Inspiration | * Myanmar Harpist |
| * News | * News |
| * A Visit to Kyuak Kyi | * Myanmar Traditional Toys |
| * Today Myanmar "U 20" | * Strolling Along A Memory Link — U Pein Bridge |

MRTV News Channel in Brief

(14-5-2015, Thursday)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 6:00 am | 2:35 pm |
| • Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw | • Teleplay (Traffic) |
| 7:00 am | 3:00 pm |
| • News / Weather Report | • News |
| 7:35 am | 4:35 pm |
| • Weekly Entertainment | • University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) — Second Year (Botany) |
| 8:00 am | 5:30 pm |
| • News / International News | • Head Line News |
| 9:35 am | 6:35 pm |
| • Beautiful ASEAN | • People's Talk's |
| 10:35 am | 7:00 pm |
| • Documentary | • News |
| 11:35 am | 8:00 pm |
| • Science and Technology Programme | • News / International News / Weather Report |
| 12:00 noon | 9:00 pm |
| • News / International News / Weather Report | • News |
| 12:35 noon | • Hluttaw Image |
| • Hluttaw Image | • Sport |
| 12:50 pm | • Clever |
| • Fine Arts-Bosom of Dramatic Performance | • Talk on Old Film (Part-1) |

MRTV Entertainment Channel

(14-5-2015, Thursday)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 6:00 am | 9:25 am |
| • Mono Classical Songs | • Musical Programme |
| 6:15 am | 9:40 am |
| • Myanmar Series | • Pyi Thu Ni Ti |
| 6:45 am | 9:55 am |
| • Fashion Show | • ASEAN CULTURAL FAIR(2014) |
| 7:05 am | 10:20 am |
| • TV Drama Series | • Myanmar Video |
| 7:50 am | 12:00 noon |
| • TV Drama Series | • Close Down |
| 8:25 am | |
| • Myanmar Video | |

Donors fund successful organizing of General Aung San Cup

YANGON, 13 May — Under the arrangement of the commander-in-chief of Defence Services, families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) donated K10 million for successfully holding the General Aung San Cup Football Tournament in commemoration of the centenary of General Aung San.

President of Myanmar Football Federation U Zaw Zaw expressed thanks for donation of families of Defence Ser-

vices (Army, Navy and Air). Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Tun Tun Naung presented cash donation to the MFF president who also accepted cash donations of other well-wishers. On the occasion, KBZ Bank donated K10 million, Dr. Sai Sam Tun (Yadanabon FC owner) K10 million, Max Energy K10 million, Fresh Air-con K10 million, Myanmar Motion Picture Organization K3 million and film star Pyae Ti Oo K 1 million.—MFF

Djokovic survives Almagro scare, Serena through in Rome

ROME, 13 May — Holder Novak Djokovic scraped over his first hurdle at the Rome Masters with a 6-1, 6-7(5), 6-3 victory over Spanish claycourt specialist Nicolas Almagro on Tuesday. The world number one, given a bye into the second round, was in total control as he swept through the opening set at the Foro Italico, but the aggressive Almagro settled down to his task and made the Serb work hard for an 18th consecutive Tour victory.

Djokovic looked poised for victory when he built a 5-2 lead in the tie-break but Almagro fought back and when Djokovic netted a tame forehand at 5-5 Almagro seized his



Novak Djokovic of Serbia returns the ball to Nicolas Almagro of Spain during their match at the Rome Open tennis tournament in Rome, Italy, on 12 May, 2015.—REUTERS

chance, clinching the second set with a powerful first serve. Almagro, who missed the second half of last year after foot surgery and has slipped to 174th in the rankings, continued to worry Djokovic with his power at the start of the third set. Djokovic kept his nose in front on serve though and broke in the eighth game after winning a long baseline exchange. The three-times

Rome champion completed the job on his second match point when Almagro fired a backhand long.

Former Australian Open champion Stanislas Wawrinka also reached the third round but was stretched before overcoming Argentina's Juan Monaco 4-6, 6-3, 6-2.

Ninth seed Marin Cilic was the highest-ranked casualty, losing in straight

sets to Guillermo Garcia-Lopez, but there was no hiccup for seventh seeded Spaniard David Ferrer who came through 6-4, 7-5 against France's Richard Gasquet. In the women's event, top seed and defending champion Serena Williams crushed Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 6-1, 6-3 in her first match since Petra Kvitova ended the American's 27-match unbeaten run in the semi-finals of the Madrid Open last week.

Williams needed 62 minutes to dismiss the former world number 13 in straight sets, smashing 25 winners and converting five of seven break points in a one-sided encounter.

Reuters

Barca reach Champions League final despite Bayern loss



Barcelona's Lionel Messi fights the ball against Bayern Munich's Sebastian Rode and Mehdi Benatia during UEFA Champions League Semi Final Second Leg at Allianz Arena, Munich, Germany on 12 May, 2015.—REUTERS

MUNICH, 13 May — Barcelona's Neymar struck twice to put the Spanish side in the Champions League final despite a 3-2 loss at Bayern Munich on Tuesday as they progressed 5-3 on aggregate and will face Real Madrid or Juventus next month.

The tricky Brazil forward's double in 14 first-half minutes killed off the hosts' slim chances following the Spanish side's 3-0 first leg win at the Nou Camp last week over their former coach Pep Guardiola's team. The Spaniards are now one victory away from triumphing in each of the three titles they are chasing including a domestic league and Cup double and the Champions League where they will play in the showpiece game in Berlin on 6 June.

Neymar was twice picked out by striker Luis Suarez, after Bayern's seventh minute lead through

Medhi Benatia had briefly reignited the Germans' hopes.

Bayern struck back with second-half goals from Robert Lewandowski and Thomas Mueller but were still left needing another three to qualify for the showpiece match.

"We are where we want to be each year, one step from winning everything, and we'll try to take that step," Barca midfielder Andres Iniesta said.

"We can't stop now, we can't be satisfied with what we have achieved already, because in the end the titles are what count and it would be incredible for the fans and the team."

Barcelona, into an eighth European Cup final, will make their first appearance since 2011, when they won the trophy under Guardiola.

It was Barca's first Champions League away defeat this term as Bayern

ended a four-game losing run in all competitions, but Guardiola's aura of invincibility has been hit after he failed for the second season to reach the final with the German club.

Barcelona almost got a goal after five minutes through Ivan Rakitic but Bayern keeper Manuel Neuer palmed the Croat's shot wide at full stretch.

Two minutes later Bayern got the early goal they needed when Benatia was left completely unmarked to head home.

The Spaniards survived some intense pressure and responded in style when Lionel Messi, pulling the strings from a deep position, sent Uruguayan Suarez through to feed Neymar for an easy tap in after a dazzling South American combination.

Neymar all but ended Bayern's hopes by drilling a low shot home in the 29th after Suarez's cross from the right, with the hosts going into the break needing five goals to advance.

Barcelona eased off in the second half, losing Suarez substituted to a minor muscle problem, and Bayern's Robert Lewandowski notched an equaliser just before the hour, shaking off Javier Mascherano and sending Ter Stegen the wrong way. Mueller added another in the 74th but it was too little too late for the home side, who were missing several key players, including injured wingers Arjen Robben and Franck Ribery.

Reuters

Fans flock to see beaten Pacquiao arrive back in Manila

MANILA, 13 May — An injured Manny Pacquiao arrived back in the Philippines to a hero's welcome on Wednesday, the boxer still adamant he did enough to win his welterweight megabout against Floyd Mayweather Jr at the start of the month.

The 36-year-old southpaw was wearing a sling on his right arm following shoulder surgery on a torn rotator cuff suffered prior to his unanimous points decision loss to the American in the heavily hyped fight in Las Vegas on 2 May.

Pacquiao, a world champion a eight different weight classes and regarded as one of the sport's great entertainers, was sued in a US court last week by two people who felt defrauded by his failure to disclose the pre-bout injury.

The Filipino, smiling for photographers, told reporters at Manila Airport his focus was not on boxing for now.

"I haven't discussed

with anyone about my next fight. My focus right now is my shoulder recovery and to make it 100 percent okay, and my focus is on my congress work and family," he said.

The Sarangani congressman was evasive when asked if he would seek a higher position in the government, possibly a veiled method of trying to discover if he was contemplating retirement from the sport to further political ambitions.

"I haven't thought about it, but you know, God's plan is higher than our plan. His thought is higher than our thought, so who can say?" he said.

Pacquiao, whose record slipped to 57-6-2 following the Mayweather defeat, was then taken on a motorcade through Manila, where thousands of fans lined the streets to greet their favourite sporting son.

His fans had taken the defeat against the defensively astute and unbeaten Mayweather (48-0) hard,

demanding a rematch and suspecting foul play in the scoring.

For his part, the boxer remained steadfast in his opinion that he deserved the decision following 12 rounds of fairly insipid action.

"Even if I do not feel well after the third round, fourth round, if we look at it round by round, you'll see that we didn't lose. But like I said, we respect the decision of the judges," Pacquiao said.

Mayweather initially appeared keen on the possibility of a rematch for a bout that networks HBO and Showtime said generated record pay-per-view revenues of \$400 million in the United States.

But the American has since changed tack, accusing Pacquiao of being a sore loser and insisting there would be no second bout.

Pacquiao opted against getting into a verbal sparring match over Mayweather's criticism.—Reuters



Boxer Manny Pacquiao waves to the crowds during a motorcade in Manila on 13 May, 2015 after arriving back from Las Vegas.—REUTERS