

President U Thein Sein attends ceremony to donate meals to Buddhist monks dedicating to martyrs

NAY PYI TAW, 19 July — President U Thein Sein joined the ceremony to offer meals to members of the Sangha dedicating to the martyrs at the hall of Nay Pyi Taw Council in Zabuthiri Township, here, on Sunday.

President U Thein Sein and party received Five Precepts from State Ovadacariya Zaygon Monastery abbot Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru, Agga Maha Pandita Bhaddanta Kavisara. Members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

While the president donated offertories to abbot of Zaygon Monastery, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing offered provisions to Maha Thihanada monastery.

Union ministers and

party also donated alms to members of the Sangha.

The congregation led by the president shared merits gain for martyrs General Aung San, Thakin Mya, Deedok U Ba Cho, U Ba Win, Mahn Ba Khaing, Mongpaw Sawbwa, U Razak, U Ohn Maung and Yebaw Ko Htwe who were assassinated by lackeys of imperialists on 19 July 1947.

The president, the senior general and party offered meals to members of the Sangha.—MNA

President U Thein Sein together with Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing offer meals to Buddhist monks.

MNA



Yangon's Secretariat opened on Martyrs' Day, attracting thousands of visitors

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 19 July — The Secretariat, the colonial-era building in Yangon where Myanmar's national hero General Aung San was assassinated in 1947 along with eight others, was opened to the public on Martyrs' Day on Sunday, attracting thousands of people.

The building, which is more than 100 years old and currently being restored, was opened to visitors for

only the second time in decades on the occasion of the anniversary..

The visitors got a rare chance to look inside the very room where gunmen burst in and shot General Aung San dead as he held a meeting with other cabinet ministers on 19 July, 1947.

Five minutes before the exact time of the assassination, the dispersed visitors gathered on a lawn facing the western wing of the building where General Aung San and the cabi-

net ministers were gunned down 68 year ago and paid tribute to the fallen martyrs at 10:37 am. Some stood in silence at the place where they arrived in the Secretariat, bowing their heads, to pay tribute to the fallen leaders. Some shed tears during the one-minute silence, throughout which a siren rang out over the premises as those present paused to remember the nine fallen national heroes.

Afterwards, the visitors broke up into groups and

entered the building intent on finding the room where the tragedy occurred.

About 10 minutes later, the corridor outside the room was thronged with visitors. A guard stationed by the company which is carrying out the conservation to the national heritage building was requesting the visitors to move along once they were done viewing the room, warning that the corridor might not withstand the crowd.

The space inside the

room is now a prayer area, with much of the area devoted to a Buddhist shrine. A portrait of uniformed General Aung San is seen on top of a blue-painted cupboard, alongside three small vases of flowers. The floor and walls have been replaced with modern parquet.

"Where have the table and chairs gone?" said U Thet Win, 48. "The reason why we want to come here is to see original and final moments of our martyrs."

He had come from the

western outskirts of Yangon along with his family, imagining that the table and chairs would still be in the room along with bullet holes in the wall.

Showing a picture of the room complete with tables and chairs before the time of the assassination to visitors outside the room, a middle-age man was explaining to visitors the seating arrangements in the final moments of the meeting 68 years ago.

(See page 2)

Monsoon gets stronger and stronger in Bay of Bengal

NAY PYI TAW, 19 July — Monsoon gets stronger and stronger in the Bay of Bengal and in the Andaman Sea while it is relatively weaker in the rest of the Bay of Bengal.

Scatter showers are predicted in Magway Region while it will rain sporadically in lower Sagaing Region, Mandalay Region, Kachin State, Shan State and Kayah State.

Lower Sagaing Region, Bago Region, Taninthayi Region, Shan State, Rakhine State, Kayin State and Mon State will experience heavy rains until tomorrow evening.

Wind in Myanmar waters may be as strong as 40 miles per hours.

Heavy rains will continue in southern Myanmar for next two days.

MNA



People pay respects at the Secretariat.—PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Yangon's Secretariat opened on ...*(from page 1)*

Some young visitors speculated that the room which everyone was attempting to view had been turned into a shrine and that the room where the assassination actually happened was somewhere else.

Elsewhere, a group of middle-aged people were arguing over the route used by the gunmen to access the meeting room.

Meanwhile, the crowd continued to throng to the door to see the room through the glass and to take pictures.

"In the history our

country, an event which no one will ever forget happened in this room. But, how

can I clarify to our younger generation that our leaders were assassinated in this room?" said Thet Win.

GNLM



The room where General Aung San and cabinet ministers were assassinated.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE



Visitors throng to view the room where General Aung San and cabinet ministers were assassinated.—PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Taiwan firms eye Myanmar for auto parts, machinery, electronics**By Ye Myint**

YANGON, 19 July — Taiwanese companies are preparing for a trade show in Yangon showcasing Myanmar's market potential for auto parts, machinery and electrical equipment, an organizer of the event said Saturday.

The three-in-one trade show aims to bring together firms from Taiwan, Myanmar and a host of other countries, Ms Rachanee Su from Taipei World Trade Centre Co., Ltd told The Global New Light of Myanmar.

"Since Myanmar is the growth hub of Asia and tipped to become the factory nation of the world, the country must embrace advanced industry and know-how to get there," she said.

According to the TWTC, the number of Taiwan companies in Myanmar has doubled in the last three years to 300. Many are building fac-

tories here, Ms Rachanee Su said.

TWTC Chairman Mr Francis Kuo-Hsin Liang said Myanmar-Taiwan trade grew 20 percent last year to reach U.S. \$322 million.

"With the opening of Myanmar's Taipei Trade Office last month, we believe these three exhibitions will further enhance our friendship and trade," He said.

Ms Rachanee Su estimated more than \$300 million in Taiwanese capital has been invested in Myanmar.

Mr Michael Yeoh, director of the Taiwan Trade Centre Yangon, said one-on-one meetings established via the event were likely to generate more than \$24 million in business. The trade show, encompassing three exhibitions —Auto Expo Myanmar 2015, Myanmar International Machine Tool & Automation Exhibition 2015, and Power Myanmar 2015 —will run for four days at Myanmar Event Park from 22 July.— GNLM

MPT, KSGM donate cash to home for the age, youth development centre

NAY PYI TAW, 19 July—A ceremony to donate cash to the funds of Buddhist Home for the Age in Pyinmana and Maha Parahita Youth Development Centre on Sama Hill in Thawutti was held in commemoration of the first anniversary of signing the agreement between Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications and KSGM Company on Saturday.

General Manager U Thein Hoke of Economic Division from MPT and party presented K5 million and equipment for older persons to the home for the age through Chairman of the home U Kyaw Shin and K5 million and milk and foods for orphans to the Maha Parahita Youth Development Centre in Thawutti.

MNA

Myanma Timber Enterprise to sell teak, hardwood through open tender

NAY PYI TAW, 19 July — Myanma Timber Enterprise announced on Saturday that it will sell teak and hardwood round logs and sawn timbers by the open tender system in US dollars.

The forest products include more than 1,240 tons of teak logs, 410 tons of teak hand-sawn and conversion, 184 tons of hard wood logs including Padauk, 7,380 tons of hard wood logs including In-Kanyin, Sagawa and Thinwin and about 905 tons of hardwood hand-sawn conversion, according to the announcement of the enterprise of the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry.

The announcement statement that the open tender sales will be held at noon on 24 July, 2015, and at 1 pm on 27 July, 2015, at Taw Win Hall in Gyogone, Insein Township.

The enterprise said further information is available at its website www.myanmarntimber.com.mm.

GNLM

Hospital to get new building to cope with growing number of infants**By Khaing Thanda Lwin**

YANGON, 19 July — A two-story building is being constructed within the compound of Yangon's Central Women's Hospital with the aim of providing better healthcare to newborns, according to an official of the hospital.

Prof Dr Daw Aye Aye Thein of CWH said, "The Neonatal Intensive-care Unit of the hospital is facing difficulties in receiving newborn infants as it does not have enough space."

In order to alleviate this problem, a local well-wisher donated funds for

construction of the building in a vacant lot in front of the Unit, she told The Global New Light of Myanmar on Sunday.

Construction of the building got underway in June this year and is expected to finish at the end of December, Prof Dr Daw Aye Aye Thein said, adding the health ministry has pledged to contribute funds for its construction if there is a funding shortfall.

"We normally receive 50-60 infants and sometimes 70-80 babies at the Neonatal Intensive-care

Unit, which was established in mid-2014", she said.

At present, there are around 70 infants and more than 600 mothers at the CWH, which was provided a wide range of medicines free of charge since the government increased its funding two years ago.

Despite assistance from the government and NGOs, the hospital is in need of medical equipment such as ultrasound and cardiotocography (CTG) due to the growing number of hospitalized pregnant women, a hospital official said at a donation ceremony in June.



Photo shows construction site in front of Neonatal Intensive-care Unit of Central Women's Hospital.—PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN

The hospital is also facing an unbalanced ratio of health care providers to pregnant mothers, a hospital doctor said.

GNLM

President U Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to Colombia

NAY PYI TAW, 20 July — U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Juan Manuel Santos Calderon, President of the Republic of Colombia, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Independence Day of the Republic of Colombia, which falls on 20 July 2015.—MNA

On behalf of President, Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham lays wreaths at mausoleum

YANGON, 19 July — On behalf of President U Thein Sein, Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, together with Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann, Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo attended the 68th Anniversary of Martyrs' Day, 2015, at the mausoleum in Yangon on Sunday.

First, the vice president saluted martyrs and laid wreaths at their graves before sharing merit gained.

Also present at the ceremony were Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Mya Nyein, Union Ministers U Aye Myint Kyu and U Tint Hsan, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Chief of General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Hla Htay Win, senior military officers from the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), the commander of

Yangon Command, deputy ministers, family members of late martyrs and officials.

First, the vice president, the Pyithu Hluttaw speaker, the Amyotha Hluttaw speaker, the chief justice of the union, the union ministers and the chief minister warmly greeted the families of the martyrs, before saluting and laying wreaths for martyrs.

During the ceremony, the state flag was raised half-way to mark memorials for the martyrs.

On behalf of the president, the vice president and party shared the merit gained by standing two minutes in silence.

The vice president and party left the mausoleum in the morning.

Later, family members of the martyrs saluted them and laid wreaths at their tombs. First, U Aung San Oo, son of General Aung San, and wife Daw Lei Lei Nwe Thein saluted the



Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann, Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and Chief Justice of the Union U Tun Tun Oo pay tribute to martyrs.—MNA

martyr and laid a wreath at his tomb, before paying homage to late father and sharing merit gained.

Afterwards, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, daughter of General Aung San,

and family members of Thakin Mya, Deedok U Ba Cho, U Ba Win, Mahn Ba Khaing, Mongpaw Chief-tain Sao San Tun, U Razak, U Ohn Maung and Comrade Ko Htwe saluted the

martyrs and laid wreaths at their tombs before paying homage to martyrs.

Afterwards, the chief minister and Yangon Region Government, region Hluttaw, political parties and organizations including Myanmar War Veterans Organization, Myanmar Fire Brigade, Myanmar Red Cross Society, and Myanmar Motion Picture Organization saluted the

martyrs and laid wreaths at their tombs.

Later, ambassadors and representatives of foreign missions in Myanmar including the EU and the UN agencies saluted the martyrs and laid wreaths at their graves.

The public also visited the mausoleum to salute and pay respects to the martyrs the whole day.

MNA

Union FM sends message of felicitations to Colombia

NAY PYI TAW, 20 July — U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Ms. Maria Angela Holguin Cuellar, Minister of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Colombia, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Independence Day of the Republic of Colombia, which falls on 20 July 2015.—MNA



Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham cordially greets U Aung San Oo and wife Daw Lei Lei Nwe Thein.—MNA



Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham cordially greets Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.—MNA

Crowds throng General Aung San Museum

By Ko Moe

YANGON, 19 July — The General Aung San Museum in Bahan township here was packed with

General Aung San Museum crowded with people on 68th anniversary of Martyrs' Day.
TUN AUNG KYAW



enthusiasts on Sunday, Martyrs' Day, which has entered its 68th anniversary.

Tens of hundreds of visitors including students and monks went on a study tour at the museum, a place where General Aung San lived with his family before being assassinated.

"I'm a man but today I'm in tears," said Ko Wunna, a regular visitor to the museum on every anniversary

of the celebration of Martyrs' Day, adding that he also paid tribute to the fallen heroes at Martyrs' Mausoleum.

On display at the museum are the library, the dining room, the bedroom and the car the national leader used.

Daw Dhammatheri, aged 78, a Buddhist nun from a town in Bago Division, said that it was her first tribute ever paid at the mausoleum.

"I'm not feeling well, but I have never been to the mausoleum and so I have ever wanted to pay tribute to the martyrs assassinated by treacherous persons at least once."

The General Aung San Museum is kept open to the public except Monday and national holidays.

Similarly, crowds thronged parks with the Statue of General Aung San.

GNLM

Thambuddhe Bayyankin Pagoda under construction near Saka-in toll gate on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway



MANDALAY, 19 July — A ceremony to lay cornerstones for construction of Thambuddhe Bayyankin Pagoda near Saka-in toll gate on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway was held in TadaU Township, Man-

dalay Region, on 18 July, attended by Chairman of Mandalay Region Sangha Nayaka Committee Ma-soeyein Monastery Abbot Bhaddanta Vicittabhivamsa and members of the Sangha. Well-wishers offered

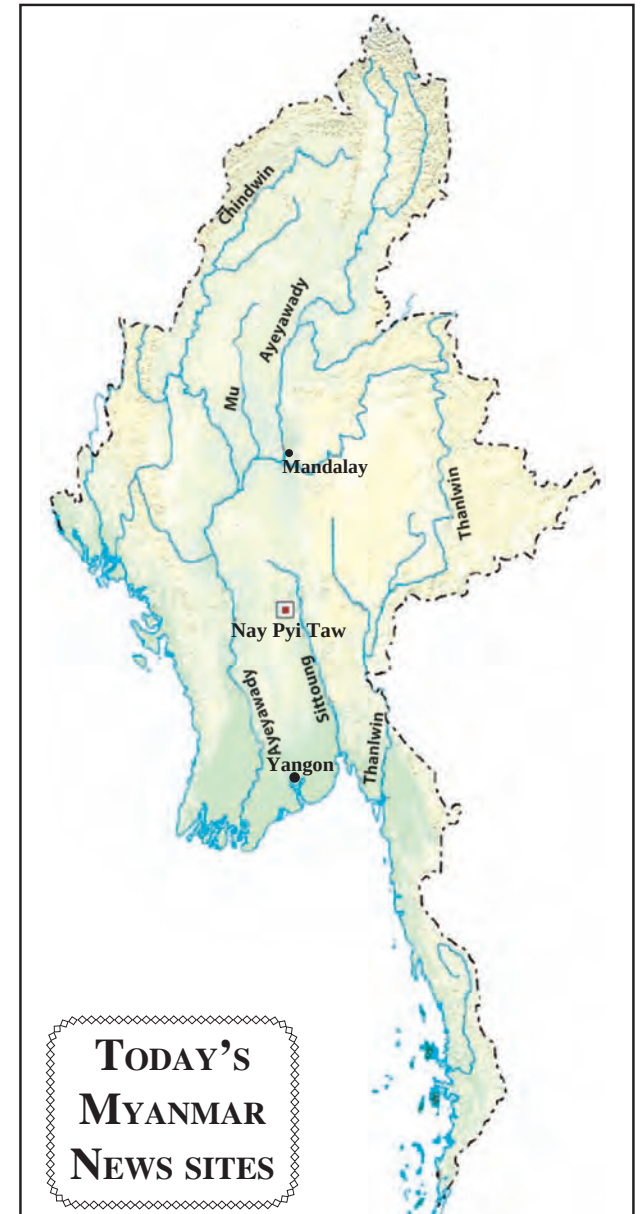
stakes, cornerstones and provisions to members of the Sangha.

Chief Minister of the region U Ye Myint, well-wisher U Aung Myat and officials drove stakes and laid cornerstones for

construction of the pagoda.

The ceremony was also attended by Speaker of the region Hluttaw U Win Maung, Deputy Speaker U Aung Htay Kyaw and departmental officials.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)



TODAY'S
MYANMAR
NEWS SITES

Former outstanding youth gather at talks



MANDALAY, 19 July — Outstanding youth group of Upper Myanmar (1964-88) organized a roundtable discussion on development of new generation youths at the hall of Myanmar Medical Association (Man-

dalay) in Chanayethazan Township on 18 July.

Chairman of the group (Upper Myanmar) Professor Dr Than Win opened the talks with his speech.

Former outstanding student U Aung Myint Tun

gave talks on good citizens replied to queries together with retired professor U Maung Maung Lay and Daw Thanda Phone Win of Myanmar Women's Organization.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Medical students show skills in football tournament

MANDALAY, 19 July — Joker team secured champion with a 5-4 win over Satan team in the final match of the University of Medicine (Mandalay) Rector's Cup football tournament in 2015 at the sports ground of Mandalay University, here, 17 July.

Both teams could not break the deadlock of a 1-1 draw till the final whistle. In the penalty decision, Joker's players could shoot four goals into the net of Satan while Satan's players could translate five kicks into three goals.

Faculty members and students enjoyed the final match of the tournament.

Chairman of the



sport committee of the university Professor Dr Maung Maung Htwe gave best players in places to respective winners, Pro-Rector Dr Aye Aye Chit,

the second prize to Satan team and Rector Professor Dr Khin Maung Lwin, the championship trophy to Joker team.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

MANDALAY, 19 July — Directorate of Trade, Mandalay Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Mango Exporters Association held a meeting on ways to solve problems in export of mango to China at the hall of chambers in Chanayethazan Township on 18 July.

Director-General U Nyunt Aung of Directorate of Trade, directors of Trade Promotion and Consumer Affairs Department, Vice Chairman of the MRCCI U Kyaw Min and executives, Chairman of Mango

Exporters Association U Soe Than Min Din and mango growers attended the meeting.

The meeting focused on high rates of packaging, commercial tax, brokerage charges, money exchange rate and transport charge in export of mango, and difficulties in export process.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Talks on difficulties in export of mango to China in progress at Mandalay Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Challenges in mango export at the top of the agenda of meeting among officials, exporters, growers



REGIONAL

Anti-Abe posters raised across Japan in protest over security bills

TOKYO, 19 July — Posters bearing the message “We will not tolerate Abe’s politics” were raised on Saturday across Japan by a large number of protesters against controversial security bills that were forced through the lower house on Thursday.

Roughly 5,000 people rallied with the posters in front of the Diet building in Tokyo, according to organizers. The nationwide protest activity was launched by writer Hisae Sawachi, journalist Shuntaro Torigoe and other activists.

“Many people felt repulsion at the way the premier handled (the bills) but don’t know what to do,” said Torigoe, referring to the bills being rammed through the House of Representatives by the ruling coalition led by Abe’s Liberal Democratic Party.

“We’d like to unite our hearts by this message,” he said. The bills would allow Japan to exercise the right to collective self-defence, or coming to the aid of the United States or other friendly nations under armed attack even if Japan



People hold papers bearing the message “We will not tolerate Abe’s politics” in front of JR Akita Station in the northeastern Japanese city of Akita on 18 July, 2015. Similar protests were held across Japan that day to express opposition to a government plan to give Japan’s Self-Defence Forces a greater role in overseas operations.—KYODO NEWS

itself is not attacked. If enacted, the legislation would mark a major shift in Japan’s post-World War II exclusively defence-oriented security policy.

At a drugstore in Sapporo on Japan’s northernmost main island Hokkaido, the posters were put up on its windows. “I’m afraid (Japan’s) participation in a war will become an accomplished fact while people are not aware of it, and a mood where nobody can raise voices prevails,” said

35-year-old Shizuka Ueda, an employee of the store, which has held study sessions about the security legislation two or three times a week since late May.

Amid a drizzle in Natori, Miyagi Prefecture, hit hard by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami, 15 people including survivors of the disaster gathered.

“I’ll never forgive politics that will threaten the lives of the Self-Defence Forces members who provided support following the

disaster and younger people who will take charge in the future,” said Emiko Otomo, 67, whose house was destroyed by tsunami.

Roughly 120 people including survivors of the 1945 wartime US atomic bombing staged an antiwar rally in downtown Hiroshima, western Japan.

“Unless Hiroshima stands up, peace will not be relayed,” said 70-year-old Masaharu Kawamoto, who was 3 months old at the time of the bombing.

The posters were also raised in Okinawa, home to the bulk of US military bases in Japan. In front of the US Marine Corps’ Camp Schwab near the coast of Henoko in Nago, where the Japanese government plans to build a replacement facility for Marine Corps’ Futenma Air Station, Katsuko Furugen, a 51-year-old company employee, said Abe’s “high-handed” handling of the security bills is the same as the central government’s stance to force Okinawa to host the bases. “The method ignoring public opinion is unforgivable,” she said.—Kyodo News

Xi stresses strict management of troops in visit to NE army group

CHANGCHUN, 19 July — President Xi Jinping called for strict management and training of the Chinese army to adapt to new situations and tasks and achieve the goal of a stronger army. Xi, who is also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC), made the remarks when visiting the 16th army group on Saturday.

Xi stressed the army should keep up military training and combat preparedness.

The visit came just days ahead of Army Day, which is observed on 1 August and marks the founding of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army (PLA).

On behalf of the CPC Central Committee and the CMC, Xi extended regards and festive greetings to military personnel during the visit.—Xinhua



Chinese President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, meets with senior officers while visiting the 16th army group, on 18 July, 2015.—XINHUA

Indonesian infrastructure promises derailed by bureaucrats

JAKARTA, 19 July — Investors hoping for President Joko Widodo to speed work on Indonesia’s infrastructure projects have been disappointed, with a plan for a \$2-billion airport railway line in the capital spotlighting the delays and bureaucratic infighting involved.

Nearly half the 10 projects to which Widodo gave priority when he took office last year are languishing for lack of cooperation among ministries he has been unable to whip into line.

“Somebody has to coordinate the orchestra of stakeholders,” said Emma Sri Martini, head of government-owned infrastructure finance firm Sarana Multi Infrastruktur (SMI). “If decisions for infrastructure are slow, there won’t be activity in any sector.”

Widodo is racing against time to create sufficient jobs for the 2 million Indonesians who enter the workforce annually, as he struggles to revive economic growth that has fallen to

the weakest pace in around six years.

His promised splurge on roads, ports and power plants is critical as Indonesia’s traditional engines of growth, consumption and commodity exports, are faltering, while businesses are shedding jobs fast.

When governor of Jakarta, Widodo had managed to break an almost decade-long impasse over construction of a ring road around the Indonesian capital, and investors had hoped to see him, as president, repeat the feat on the national level.

Nine months into his tenure, the signs are not encouraging.

The airport railway line, designed to cut the travel time to one of the world’s busiest airports to 30 minutes from as much as three hours, has suffered a delay of at least two years in construction.

Officials have locked horns over its route and how to fund it, but in the absence of significant gov-



A view of the construction taking place on the new Terminal 3 at Soekarno-Hatta International airport near Jakarta, Indonesia on 7 July, 2015 is seen in this photo taken by Antara Foto.—REUTERS

ernment support, it hardly offers private investors a worthwhile return.

“The project is indeed taking quite a long time because of the preparation for all the studies,” said transport ministry official Sugadi Waluyo.

Just last month, for example, newspaper *Bisnis Indonesia* reported that Transport Minister Ignasius Jonan had sought a route change to take advantage of

existing tracks.

But all the authorities involved must sign off on the change, leading to a delay, SMI’s Martini said. “A single decision might seem simple, but the consequence can be a delay multiplier.”

The route must be hammered out before potential investors from countries such as China, Japan and South Korea will take even the first step, she added.—Reuters

Building collapse in Delhi leaves five dead

NEW DELHI, 19 July — At least five people are dead and seven were injured after a dilapidated, six-story building collapsed in Delhi on Saturday night.

Rescue workers continued on Sunday to search for survivors under the debris of the building, located amid narrow and congested lanes in the Vishnu Garden area in west Delhi.

“There was a huge sound and I felt as if there was a strong tremor. I ran out in a state of shock only to find this building reduced to rubble,” said a one neighbour. Another neighbour,

whose house is located opposite the ill-fated building and suffered damage when it collapsed, said the building’s three upper floors were illegally constructed.

Neighbours surmised that the recent laying underground sewerage pipes by local government had damaged the foundation of the building, which was built some 23 years ago, and that seepage from recent rains had added to its instability.

At the time of the collapse, most of the building’s Muslim residents had gone to their hometowns for the Eid festival.—Kyodo News

Two wounded in S Philippine bomb blast

MANILA, 19 July — Two people were wounded in a motorcycle bomb blast in a village in southern Philippines’ Sulu Province on Saturday night, the military said on Sunday.

The victims, a 35-year-old lady and a 2-year-old baby boy, were sent to hospital soon after the blast, said Alan Arrojado, commander of the joint

task group in Sulu. Initial investigation showed that the motorcycle was parked by two unidentified men at around 5:30 pm and the blast had partially damaged the wooden fence of a karaoke bar.

No organization has claimed responsibility for the blast so far. Police investigation is still going on.—Xinhua



U Aung San Oo and wife Daw Lei Lei Nwe Thein pay tribute to national leader General Aung San.—MNA



Daw Aung San Suu Kyi pays tribute to national leader General Aung San.—MNA

Families of martyrs pay tribute to fallen leaders



Family members of Mongpaw Sawbwa Sao San Tun arrive at mausoleum to pay tribute.—MNA



Family members of Thakin Mya pay tribute to martyrs at mausoleum.—MNA



Family members of U Ba Win pay tribute at mausoleum.—MNA



Family members of Deedok U Ba Cho pay tribute at mausoleum.—MNA



Family members of U Ohn Maung pay tribute at mausoleum.—MNA

PHOTO GALLERY



Family members of U Razak pay tribute at mausoleum.—MNA

Families of martyrs, diplomats, people pay tribute to fallen leaders



Family members of Mahn Ba Khaing pay tribute at mausoleum.—MNA



Family members of Mahn Ba Khaing pay tribute at mausoleum.—MNA



A diplomat pays tribute to martyrs at mausoleum.—MNA



Family members of Yebaw Ko Htwe pay tribute at mausoleum.—MNA



People seen at Martyrs' Mausoleum to pay tribute at mausoleum.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 20 July, 2015

Martyrs' Day lessons:
No more stooges

By Kyaw Thura

Leadership is generally defined as an art of inspiring people to realize a particular development goal in an effective and efficient way. This highlights that a good leader is all that matters most to a developing country like Myanmar.

In this competitive world, especially in this

age of globalization, our country is in urgent need of good and gifted leaders with the calibre somewhat comparable to that of the murdered martyrs.

On 19 July 68 years ago, the people from all walks of life were saddened and shocked by the news that General Aung San and eight others had been assassinated by a gang of armed thugs. The fateful event has since caused the country to suffer a vicious spiral of unstable politics and sluggish economy.

The motive behind the assassination was allegedly due to the colonialists coveting the country's great wealth of natural resources and certain stooges wanting to seize power through unscrupulous methods.

Just as a happy ending never follows a negative action, the conspirators had to be under sentence of death. Worse, their dirty acts did shed a

shadow of shame on their families for some years.

The important thing for all of us is to discourage such an atrocity from happening again by nipping such a plot in the bud. Yet, the best we can hope for is no more stooges that would deprive our country of good and capable leaders.

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Significant terms and their meanings in International Law and Diplomacy

U KHIN MAUNG (A retired diplomat)

Please allow me, first, to present to you the significant terms and their meaning in international law, although international law and diplomacy are closely connected and collaborated. Why? Simply because "diplomatic relations between states are established by friendly contacts of any form between governments". And when talking about states, states are the political entities which fulfill the essential ingredients to gain recognition as a state by other states. To mention in brief; the state, as a subject of international law, should or must have the following qualifications:

- A permanent population.
- A well-defined territory.
- Government with sovereignty and independence.
- capacity to perform international obligations.
- Capacity to enter into relations with other states.

In essence, to achieve the status of a state, a state must have fulfilled all the essential ingredients, as prescribed by international law so as to become a member in the family of nations or in other words, eligible to become a member in the United Nations Organization. And all states, rich or poor, big or small are equal under international law.

Myanmar, our homeland, is not a big state. And yet, Myanmar has made history by formulating historic principles jointly with the two big neighbours, namely China and India. These principles are the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. If my memory serves me correct, these principles were formulated and propagated by Myanmar, China and India in 1954, when the cold war between the two super-powers, the United States of America representing the capitalist bloc, and Soviet Union representing the communist bloc, was at its height and climax. Our present government celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of proclamation of these

five principles of peaceful co-existence in 2014. These "Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence" are reproduced as follows:

- (1) Mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty.
- (2) Mutual non-aggression
- (3) Mutual non-interference in each other's internal affairs.
- (4) Equality and mutual benefit.
- (5) Peaceful co-existence and peaceful settlement of disputes.

Well, now, the significant terms and their meanings in international law are mentioned below:

- (1) **Accession is a noun of verb.** "accede" meaning to agree or consent to enter a treaty or accord. It is the absolute or conditional acceptance by one or several nations of a treaty, already concluded between other sovereign states.
- (2) **Accord: (n/concord; (n/concordat: (n)**
Each term means an amicable agreement between parties, especially between people or nations. Each term also means compact or treaty.
"Accord" means a treaty of peace signed between two or more states.
Accord is the less formal word and the more frequently used term today.
"Concord" is a formal word meaning "an amicable arrangement between parties, especially between peoples or nations". "Concord" also means compact; treaty. "Concordat" is an agreement between "church" and "state".
- (3) **Accredit (v)**
Accredit is to supply credentials or authority, authorize.
It also means to appoint as an ambassador to a

foreign government.

Accredited is a word meaning officially giving the authority to represent a government in another country.

- (4) **Act of God: (n); force majeure (Fr): (n); Vis major (Lat): (n)**

Act of God is a common English phrase used in legal writing, referring usually to the destruction caused by forces of nature – like storm, earthquake, tornado, flood, lightning or a forest fire due to natural causes, or which either the arrival or the force, could not have been foreseen or guarded against.

Force majeure is a French equivalent and means literally "a superior force" denoting an event or effect that can be neither anticipated nor controlled. Vis major is Latin equivalent.

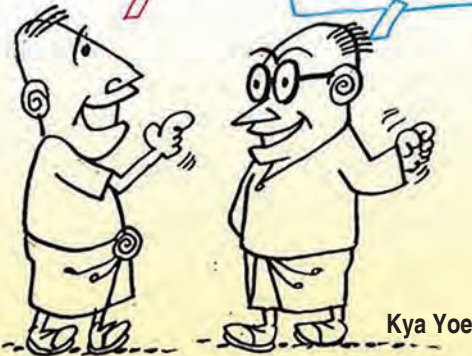
- (5) **Ac-qui-esce (Lat): (vi)**
Acquiesce means to consent or comply passively or without protest. It is the indication of agreement or consent by permitting things to be done or claims to be made without objection.
- (6) **Ad hoc (Lat) : (adj & adv)**
Ad hoc is a term meaning "for the specific purpose, for the specific case, for the specific situation at hand": e.g. **ad hoc** committee to address the issue of salaries; an **ad hoc** compensation committee.
- (7) **Ad infinitum (Lat) : (adj & adv)**

Ad infinitum means "to infinity; having no end".

- Reference: (1) Significant terms and their meanings in international law and diplomacy. Vol: (1), Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
(2) Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary.
(3) Diplomatic Handbook. Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

I wonder why the entire population still remembers and admires General Aung San.

No wonder he is remembered! Not only did he live his life in the interests of the nation and the people, but he also made the supreme sacrifice.



Kya Yoe

MYINGYAN, 19 July—Myingyan Township marked the 68th anniversary of Martyrs' Day in the compound of No 1 Basic Education High School in Myingyan, Mandalay Region, on Sunday.

People from all walks of life saluted the State Flag and paid tribute to the fallen soldiers.

Township authorities presented prizes to winners in the essay contest at different levels of basic education schools in commemoration of the Martyrs' Day.—Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

Myingyan Township marks martyrs' day



NATIONAL

Tatmadaw, BGF combs KKO of Kawkareik area



NAY PYI TAW, 19 July — Members of the Tatmadaw and the BGF combed hills on the east and west of Kaungmu village in Kawkareik Township from 15 to 17 July for remnants of KKO groups led by Saw San Aung

Bullets and shells seized by Tatmadaw from KKO in Kawkareik Township. Myawady

and Kyaw Thet.

During the two days, members of the Tatmadaw and the BGF encountered the ethnic groups in a fighting, seizing four assorted weapons, 26 bombs, 32 land mines, 3,866 rounds of bullets, 81 magazines, 44 rice bags and ammunition and a motorcycle.

Members of the Tatmadaw also seized four assorted weapons, 32 rounds of bullets, a wallie-talkie and two unlicensed vehicles in a house in Kyunywa (West) Ward in Kayik-

maraw on 15 July.

On 18 July, members of the Tatmadaw and the BGF continued combing the areas near Kaungmu village and seized 66 bombs, one communication tower, five solar panels and seven assorted weapons, 31 magazines, 18 land mines, two RPGs, 180 rounds of bullets and 70 rice bags.

Members of the Tatmadaw and the BGF are continuing their operations in the areas.

Myawady

Water released to prevent damage of reservoirs across the country



Rescuers evacuate flood victims to safe place.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 July — Officials from the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation are releasing water from 12 dams and reservoirs across the country to prevent damage of these irrigation facilities with increasing levels of water caused by torrential rains in recent days.

The officials are monitoring the water levels at the dams in Kayin state, Sagaing region, Bago region, Magway region, Rakhine state, Yangon, and Ayeyawady regions.

While the officials are monitoring the situation, the locals have been evacuated to safe havens to minimize any risk of life and property.

Due to heavy rains beginning on 15 July, a total of 36,689 acres of summer paddy and 3,147 acres of monsoon paddy have been flooded on Saturday, according to the official figures of the ministry.

Floods caused damage to bridges and roads in Kawlin, Kyunhla and Kanbalu townships, Sagaing Region, as of 16 July, but water level began to ebb on 19 July, said a local in Kyunhla Township.

Water level at Minmyin Dam in Kanbalu



Tatmadaw men carry out evacuation of flood victims to safe places.

MNA

Township reached 69.30 feet due to 7.83 inches of rainfalls. Therefore, the dam drained out water from the spillway. The release of water from this dam to prevent damage has inundated some nearby areas. On Sunday, the water level at the dam down to 688.60 feet. Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye and officials inspected evacuation tasks of Tatmadawmen and provided foods to them.

Volunteers evacuated flood victims to monasteries and schools. While local authorities and social organizations donated foods and bottles of purified drinking water to the victims, medical teams of Township Public Health Department gave health care services to the victims.

Mandalay-Myitkyina trains suspended transport schedules. Inundation over the roads and damaged bridges caused difficulties to transportation.

In Shwebo and Katha Districts, local authorities opened relief camps for flood victims and provided foods, clothes and drinking water to them.

MNA/Myawady/Min Htet Aung (Mdy Sub-printing House)/Aung Ye Thwin/Sagaing Region IPRD

KBZ awarded Euromoney's best bank prize in Myanmar for second time

YANGON, 19 July —Kanbawza Bank on Thursday received "Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2015: Best Bank in Myanmar" awarded by London-based Euromoney, at Island Shangri-La Hotel in Hong Kong.

The KBZ bank was selected due to its deposit amount of people, first service of electronic payment gateway for e-commerce and online payment, the most profitable bank in the country, top lender for SMEs and

diversifying its services though branches.

KBZ, the top private bank and taxpayer in the country, was also awarded Euromoney's best bank prize last year.

Euromoney, the leading authority for the world's banking and financial markets, annually gives the best banking prize to the countries around the globe.

At Euromoney's award ceremony, Wells Fargo Bank in the U.S, Commerz Bank in Ger-

many, ICBC Bank in People's Republic of China, Bank of Tokyo Mitsubishi (MUFG) in Japan, OCBC Bank in Singapore and Bangkok Bank in Thailand were also awarded "the Best Bank", while the U.S's Citi Bank secured "Best Global Bank" this year.

Present at the ceremony were more than 200 senior officials, CEOs, managing directors, chairpersons of 48 banks from 21 countries in Asia.

KBZ

An official seen with Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2015: Best Bank in Myanmar. KBZ





Voters queue outside a polling station in Pyongyang, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), on 19 July, 2015. The election of deputies to local assemblies in the DPRK started on Sunday.—XINHUA

Beijing launches app for handling minor traffic accidents

BEIJING, 19 July — Starting in August, Beijing will promote the use of an cell phone app to handle minor traffic accidents in an effort to reduce traffic jams.

The Beijing Insurance Regulatory Commission said on Sunday that 172 traffic accidents were resolved via the trial version of the app, which was put in use on 13 May in some areas of the city's Haidian and Changping districts.

When a minor traffic accident occurs, users post

pictures of the scene via the mobile app, and traffic police can determine responsibility and damage online. Without police presence, drivers can reach agreements and remove their vehicles away from the scene faster.

The app is suitable for accidents in which vehicles are slightly damaged and passengers sustain only minor injuries. More than 90 percent of traffic accidents in the city are considered minor.

The commission said

the app will be upgraded when it is officially launched citywide in August. Beijing has tried various means to address traffic congestion, which has been called the city's most serious "urban disease." In addition to the app, the city has moved 121 markets out of the downtown area. On 11 July, the local government announced that it would speed up construction of a "subsidiary administrative centre" in the suburban district of Tongzhou.—Xinhua

S Korea spy found dead with note denying agency targeted citizens

SEOUL, 19 July — A South Korean intelligence agent found dead in an apparent suicide left a note denying his team had used spyware to tap the mobile phones and computers of private citizens in the latest scandal involving the spy agency.

Police in the suburban district of Yongin south of

Seoul said on Sunday that a 46-year-old man found dead in his car of an apparent carbon monoxide poisoning was an employee of the National Intelligence Service (NIS).

The note released by police, who confirmed the writing to be the agent's, said there was no spying whatsoever against domestic

citizens or related to elections.

"I believe excessive zeal for work has created this situation," the agent, whose identity or rank in the intelligence service was not disclosed, said in the note.

The case comes after a rare public admission last week by the agency that it had purchased a spyware

from an Italian firm used to eavesdrop mobile phone and computer communication but it was intended for research or for use against foreign targets.

The revelation marks the latest in a series of scandals centred on the intelligence service that has struggled to shed the image of a political tool of sitting presi-

dents and to reform to focus more on counter espionage against North Korea.

A former spy chief under President Park Geun-hye's predecessor is fighting a guilty conviction for trying to influence the 2012 election that brought the conservative leader to power. Park denied benefiting from attempts by NIS

agents to sway voters but said after another scandal at the intelligence agency last year that more could be done to reform it. Park's father, Park Chung-hee, was assassinated in 1979 by the disgruntled head of the agency's precursor at the peak of a power struggle that involved the late president's close aides.—Reuters

LDP deputy chief defends security bills amid falling public support

TOKYO, 19 July — The ruling Liberal Democratic Party's deputy chief on Sunday defended the governing coalition's recent move to ram controversial security bills through the all-important lower house despite a consequent drop in the Cabinet's public approval ratings.

"The history of the LDP has been one of moving forward with what it believes is necessary for the citizens even if support ratings fall to some extent," Masahiko Komura said in a program aired on national broadcaster NHK.

His remarks came after the passage on Thursday by the House of Representatives of the bills aimed at expanding the Self-Defence Forces' role, triggering protests across the country and causing support for the Cabinet of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to fall in media polls.

In the latest *Kyodo News* poll conducted on Friday and Saturday, the approval rating plunged by 9.7 percentage points to 37.7 percent while the disapproval rating rose by

8.6 percentage points to 51.6 percent, with over 70 percent of respondents opposed to the way the bills were pushed through the lower house by the LDP and its junior coalition partner the Komeito.

Komura said important decisions could not have been made in the past "if we relied only on momentary public opinions."

"We thought the time was ripe. It is the proper practice for the constitutional government to make a majority decision in the end," he said.

The proposed legislation would allow Japan to defend the United States and other friendly nations under armed attack.

Opposition lawmakers and constitutional scholars argue such an operation even if Japan itself is not attacked would violate the country's war-renouncing Constitution. Diet deliberations on the bills follow a landmark Cabinet decision in July last year that reinterprets the Constitution to allow Japan to exercise the right to collective self-defence.—Kyodo News

Train service disruption affects 320,000 passengers in western Japan

OSAKA, 19 July — West Japan Railway Co. said on Saturday that it has temporarily suspended services on its 14 train lines after a powerful typhoon brought a more than permissible level of rainfall, affecting 700 train runs and 320,000 passengers in Osaka and other parts of west-

ern Japan.

The operations were disrupted on the first day of a three-day weekend and also of summer holidays for many schools in Japan.

The typhoon left western Japan early Saturday morning and became a tropical depression after making landfall in the re-

gion the previous day. The rain in central Osaka eased off by the morning.

But rain gages showed that the total rainfall from early Friday to Saturday exceeded the maximum allowable level for train operations. JR West said it is not able to resume operations until four hours after

the rain stops and after it carries out safety checks according to its safety regulations.

It is rare to halt train services even after a typhoon has passed away. One of the 14 lines resumed service shortly before noon.

"We apologize for causing trouble and would like to rework measures to take after a typhoon has passed," a JR West official said.

Services at other railway companies operating in the same area were also disrupted on Saturday but operations of only few lines were suspended.

JR West said on Friday that it cancelled a total of 137 limited express train runs and totally or partially suspended local train services on its nine lines, affecting about 200,000 people. Late that night, about 1,600 passengers had been trapped on a JR West train for four hours after the train stopped near a station in Kyoto due to heavy rain.

Many passengers felt sick and some vomited. A total of 19 passengers were taken to hospital.

Kyodo News



JR Osaka Station is crowded with passengers on 18 July, 2015, as West Japan Railway Co temporarily suspended services on its 14 train lines that day after a powerful typhoon brought a more than permissible level of rainfall for train operations.—KYODO NEWS

Greek banks to re-open Monday as Tsipras eyes new start

ATHENS, 19 July — The Greek government ordered banks to open on Monday, three weeks after they were shut down to prevent the system collapsing under a flood of withdrawals, as Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras looked to the start of new bailout talks next week.

The decree to re-open the banks came hours after new ministers were sworn in following a cabinet reshuffle in which Tsipras replaced dissident members of his ruling Syriza party following a revolt over the tough bailout terms. In a move that marked a split with the main leftist faction in the ruling Syriza party, Tsipras sacked hardline former Energy Minister Panagiotis Lafazanis and two deputy ministers following a party rebellion in which 39 Syriza lawmakers withheld support from the government over the package.

Panos Skourletis, a close Tsipras ally who left the labour ministry to take over the vital energy portfolio, said the reshuffle marked “an adjustment by the government to a new reality”.

The reshuffle allowed Tsipras to replace cabinet rebels with allies of his own or from his junior coalition partners, the right-wing Independent Greeks party.

The first action of the new cabinet was to sign off on a decree to reopen banks on Monday with slightly more flexible withdrawal limits that allow a maximum of 420 euros a week in place of the strict limit of 60 euros a day currently in place.

But restrictions on transfers abroad and other capital controls remain in place. The move had been widely expected after the European Central Bank



Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras leaves the Presidential Palace escorted by newly appointed Energy Minister Panos Skourletis (R), manager of the PM political office Dimitris Tzanakopoulos (C), Government Spokeswoman Olga Gerovassili (2nd R) and Deputy Foreign Minister Sia Anagnostopoulou (L) in Athens, Greece on 18 July, 2015.—REUTERS

agreed to re-open the emergency credit lines which the tottering Greek banking sector needs to survive.

Tsipras now intends to seal the bailout accord with European partners over the next few weeks before like-

ly new elections which Interior Minister Nikos Voutsis said this week could happen in September or October.

“Our aim is to negotiate hard for the terms of the agreement, not just to seal it, but on how it will

be implemented. There are many vague terms in the text,” said newly-appointed Labour Minister George Katrougalos.

He said the government, elected in January on an anti-austerity platform, would fight for an agreement that was “socially just” and dismissed suggestions that it would have to take on the powerful labour unions and risk street protests. “The Left is with demonstrations. The Left wants the people on the streets,” he said.

The deal, approved with the support of opposition parties on Thursday after 39 Syriza rebels withheld their backing, agrees a painful mix of tax hikes, spending curbs and pension cuts as well as a rollback of collective bargaining agreements.

In addition, 50 billion euros (32 billion pounds) in public assets are to be

placed in a special privatisation fund as collateral for loans of up to 86 billion euros that must be agreed with European partners.

Acceptance of the tough bailout terms marked a turnaround for Tsipras after months of acrimonious talks and a referendum that resoundingly rejected a less stringent deal proposed by the lenders. But opinion polls suggest the prime minister’s popularity remains high.

A poll published on Saturday in the leftwing *Efimerida Ton Syntaknon* newspaper suggested Syriza would get 42.5 percent of the vote if an election were held now, almost double conservative New Democracy’s 21.5 percent.

In addition, 70 percent said they would prefer to accept the bailout deal if it kept Greece in the euro.

Reuters

Trump dismisses McCain’s war record, angers fellow Republicans



US Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump arrives for a news conference at the Family Leadership Summit in Ames, Iowa, United States on 18 July, 2015.—REUTERS

AMES, (Iowa), 19 July — Republican presidential contender Donald Trump disparaged US Senator John McCain’s war record on Saturday, saying the former prisoner in North Vietnam was only considered a war hero because he was captured.

The confrontational real estate mogul, who has been feuding with the Republican senator from Arizona for days, also criticized McCain’s work in the Senate and called him “a loser” for his defeat in the 2008 White House race.

“He’s not a war hero,” Trump said at a gathering in Ames, Iowa, of religious conservatives after the event’s moderator, pollster Frank Luntz, used the phrase to describe McCain.

“He was a war hero because he was captured. I like people who weren’t captured.”

At a news conference later, Trump softened his comments, saying, “If a person is captured, they are a hero as far as I’m concerned.”

McCain, a Navy fighter pilot, spent more than five years during the Vietnam War in a Hanoi prison after being shot down, and was tortured by his captors.

Trump also criticized McCain for failing to do enough in the Senate for military veterans.

“John McCain talks a lot, but he doesn’t do anything,” Trump told reporters.

His comments drew swift denunciations from many rival Republican

presidential contenders and became the latest in a series of controversies to engulf the publicity-loving billionaire since he jumped into the race with harsh rhetoric about Mexican immigrants.

The comments also were certain to remind party leaders, already nervous about Trump’s recent rise to the top of opinion polls, about his unpredictability ahead of the first Republican debate in early August.

The harsh reaction seemed to indicate that many Republicans had lost patience with Trump.

“There is no place in our party or our country for comments that disparage those who have served honorably,” said Sean Spicer, chief strategist for the Republican National Committee.

Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker said on the campaign trail in Sioux City, Iowa, that McCain was clearly a hero. “Enough with the slanderous attacks,” former Florida Governor Jeb Bush said on Twitter.

“Donald Trump owes every American veteran, and in particular John McCain, an apology,” said former Texas Governor Rick Perry, who said Trump’s comments called into question his legitimacy as a potential president and commander in chief.

In a statement released

after his appearance, Trump said he was “not a fan” of McCain and added: “I have great respect for all those who serve in our military, including those that weren’t captured and are also heroes.”

But Trump said at the news conference he would not apologize to McCain. McCain did not immediately respond to Trump.

Trump told reporters he used student deferments and later a medical deferment for what he said was a bone spur to avoid military service during the Vietnam War.

“I was not a big fan of the Vietnam War,” he said.

He made the McCain comments during the summit sponsored by Christian conservative groups. Iowa is the first state to vote in the nominating contests leading up to the November 2016 election.

Luntz, the event’s moderator, launched the discussion when he questioned Trump’s recent criticism of McCain as a “dummy,” which came after the senator said Trump’s candidacy had brought out the “crazies.”

“I supported McCain for president,” Trump said of the Arizonan’s 2008 run. “He lost and let us down. ... I’ve never liked him as much after that. I don’t like losers.”

Reuters

Insiders removed from Bitici brothers’ murder investigation

BELGRADE, 19 July — Serbian War Crimes Prosecutor Vladimir Vukcevic said on Saturday that important changes were made to the team of prosecutors and judicial officers conducting the probe into the murder of brothers Bitici in July 1999, as persons suspected of leaking information to potential suspects were excluded from the investigation.

Based on our information, some of the team members gave away information to persons of interest, Vukcevic told *Tanjug News Agency*.

The prosecutor welcomed the decision of Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic to abandon the idea of setting up an independent commission to establish the truth about the murder of the Bitici brothers, stressing that the investigation should be left to professionals.

According to Vukcevic, the changes to the police team are also important, considering that certain police officers leaked information to the suspects.

However, the prosecutor warns that the in-



Vladimir Vukcevic

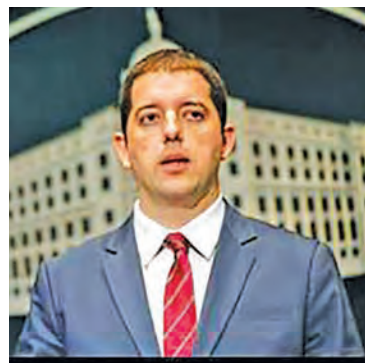
vestigators are still faced with obstructions.

Fatos Bitici, brother of the murdered Ili (25), Agron (23) and Mehmet (21), told the Belgrade-based daily *Danas* that the decision not to entrust this case to a commission is good and stressed the importance of witnesses.

His brothers were killed in July 1999 at a police training ground in Petrovo Selo, near Kladovo, immediately after the end of the military operation in Kosovo, and their bodies were found in a mass grave at that site.

The brothers, who were US citizens, fought in the 1999 Kosovo conflict as members of the so-called Atlantic Brigade of the former ethnic Albanian paramilitary formation “Kosovo Liberation Army”.—*Tanjug*

Djuric: Initiative to join UNESCO is deeply cynical



Marko Djuric

BELGRADE, 19 July — The government of Serbia and its diplomats do not accept the idea of Kosovo being a member of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Director of the Serbian government's Office for Kosovo-Metohija (KiM) Marko Djuric said on Saturday, qualifying this initiative as deeply cynical and politically irresponsible.

Those who now seek to join this organization are the main culprits for the destruction of hundreds of sacred sites in Kosovo, Djuric told Belgrade-based TV Pink, stressing that this fact is offensive to Serbs.

The very idea that former war-time commanders turned politicians now want to manage and make decisions about the sacred sites they themselves sought to destroy is deeply cynical and politically irresponsible, Djuric said.

He stressed that Serbia will take all diplomatic steps possible to prevent Kosovo from joining UNESCO.

When asked how this initiative will reflect on the Belgrade-Pristina dialogue, Djuric said that the talks should proceed in a way that will enable the people of KiM to live normal lives.

Kosovo applied for UNESCO membership on 16 July, and its Foreign Minister Hasim Taci posted on Twitter that he expects Kosovo to join this organization in November.—*Tanjug*

Veteran activists urge citizens to think, act for democracy

TOKYO, 19 July — Three veteran grassroots campaigners from Japan's pacifist movement shared a half-century of experiences with college students recently against a backdrop of protests over the government's policy of lifting constitutional constraints on Japanese forces.

During a symposium at Keio University in Tokyo, Shinobu Yoshioka, Taketomo Takahashi and Yukio Yamaguchi recounted their involvement in the anti-Vietnam War campaign and other civil movements since the 1960s.

"While Japan was getting excited over the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games, war was raging in a corner of Asia and the US started bombing North Vietnam in 1965," Yoshioka, a popular nonfiction writer, said. "As junior and senior high school students at the time, we felt frustrated because we did not have any means to express our views."

It was after entering Waseda University in Tokyo that Yoshioka joined the Japan "Peace for Vietnam!" Committee, known by its Japanese acronym "Beheiren".

Involved in Beheiren's secret operation to provide shelter to US deserters and help them escape from Japan to third countries, Yoshioka said, "It was quite interesting to hang around with US soldiers of my generation and meet with their supporters — more interesting than attending college classes, so I dropped out."

Countless people all over Japan allowed deserters to stay at their homes or provided them with food, without making their involvement public.

Takahashi took charge of the operation after quitting his post as an associate French literature professor at Rikkyo University in Tokyo.

He learned how to forge passports in Paris with the assistance of underground groups and provided doctored passports to two deserters so they could leave Japan between 1970 and 1971.

"I joined Beheiren as a common man without titles and affil-



Nonfiction writer Shinobu Yoshioka (2nd from R) speaks at a symposium on grassroots civic campaigns at Keio University in Tokyo on 19 July, 2015, with Koichi Takakusagi (L), Takemoto Takahashi (2nd from L) and Yukio Yamaguchi listening to him. Keio Prof Takakusagi organized the symposium to hear the experiences of the other three about their involvement in the anti-Vietnam War protests and other civil movements.—KYODO NEWS

iations," Takahashi said. "This behavioural principle has been handed down to those involved in current grassroots campaigns. I think it is one of the most historically significant legacies of Beheiren."

Takahashi now serves as chief of Wadatsumi-kai, an antiwar association which collects and displays mementos left behind by conscripts, mostly college students, who died in battle.

"It is illegal to forge passports to help deserters, but I believe it was the right thing to do as only through acting illegally could we save them (from the military service)," he said.

Beheiren started in April 1965, when around 1,500 people led by the late Makoto Oda, an influential writer, and other young intellectuals staged a street demonstration in downtown Tokyo in protest against the Vietnam War.

When Beheiren was actively campaigning against the war, Yamaguchi was studying in the United States after completing a doctorate in physics at the University of Tokyo on the path to becoming a researcher.

After returning to Japan, however, he was involved in campaigns to stop the shipment of tanks from a US military logistics facility near Tokyo to Vietnam and in support of farmers whose lands were to be seized to build Narita International Airport.

As a physicist, he also grappled with a personal dilemma, namely, that it had been physicists who had developed the atomic bomb. "Looking back on my academic career, I was taught the logic of science and technology, but not the ethics." His experiences as a scientist and civil activist made it difficult for him "to live as a pure expert," he said. He is now a co-representative of the Citizens' Nuclear Information Centre, a nonprofit organization that is working to create a society that does not rely on nuclear power.

Emphasizing that the 2011 nuclear disaster at the Fukushima Daiichi complex shows that nuclear power is a technology "that is founded on the sacrifice of ordinary people," Yamaguchi said, "We need to have the attitude to question government policies and to make satisfactory choices for ourselves. We no longer live in an

era where we can rely on experts to make decisions on important issues."

The symposium was organized by Professor Koichi Takakusagi to commemorate Yuichi Yoshikawa, former secretary general of Beheiren, who died of heart failure on 28 May aged 84. Yoshikawa was active in various pacifist movements until his death.

Given the steamrolling through the House of Representatives of controversial security bills that expand the role of the Self-Defence Forces overseas, Takakusagi said it is difficult to stop the oppressive politics carried out in parliament by the ruling majority, but that democracy exists outside parliament, too.

"Mr Yoshikawa as well as the three panelists — Mrs Yoshioka, Mr Takahashi and Mr Yamaguchi — were at the center of the civil movements in the 1960s and 1970s, when people rose up in the belief that they could not leave democratic politics up to parliament," Takakusagi said. "They indicated that it is important that each of us think and act to maintain and enhance democracy."

Kyodo News

Crash victims' families reject Germanwings compensation offer

FRANKFURT, 19 July — Some of the close relatives of those killed in the Germanwings plane crash in March have rejected the carrier's offer of 25,000 euros (17,304 pounds) in compensation payments for their pain and suffering.

A lawyer representing some of the German victims, Elmar Giemulla, said on Saturday he had notified Germanwings earlier this week in a letter that the offer was inadequate. He added a low six-digit amount would be adequate compensation.

Germanwings, a unit of Lufthansa (LHAG.DE), was not immediately available to



People lay flowers outside Cologne Cathedral during a memorial service for the 150 victims of Germanwings flight 4U 9525 in Cologne, on 17 April, 2015.—REUTERS

comment outside usual business hours.

Evidence shows co-pilot Andreas Lubitz locked the captain out of the cockpit of Germanwings flight 4U9525 from Barcelona to Duesseldorf and deliberately steered the plane into a remote mountainside, killing all 150 onboard.

The 25,000-euro offer is on top of 50,000 euros already paid as immediate financial assistance to relatives. German law does not usually provide for a separate award for pain and suffering, unlike in the United States.

The proposed payout for emotional distress would be made

to parents, widowed spouses, partners and children of the victims and does not require proof of damages incurred to be presented in order for it to be made, Germanwings said in June.

Relatives living in Germany may also claim an additional 10,000 euros each as compensation for any health problems without needing to offer formal proof, the company said.

Families of the victims still have the right to make further claims for other financial costs, such as burial costs or lost pensions, although this will require proof of damages incurred.

Reuters

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MYANMA RAILWAYS
Amendment of Tender Opening Date

The Following Tenders Opening date shall be amend as follows.

Sr No	Tender No	Description	Initial Closing Date & Opening Date	Extension of Closing Date & Opening Date
1	2/MR/INDIA(M) 2015-2016	Machinery (4) Items	29.7.2015	17.9.2015
2	6/MR/INDIA(M) 2015-2016	Diesel Rail Crane 60 Tons (at 9 M radius and 360° slew) (1)Item	29.7.2015	17.9.2015
3	7/MR/INDIA(E) 2015-2016	Ballast Cleaning Machine (2) Items	29.7.2015	30.9.2015
4	8/MR/INDIA(E) 2015-2016	Track Geometry Measuring Trolley(6)Nos Rail-Road Excavator with Five Attachments (5)Nos, Self-Propelled Trolley for Ultrasonic Rail Inspection(2)Nos and Track Off-Trackable Tamping Machine (6) Nos	29.7.2015	30.9.2015
5	9/MR/INDIA(E) 2015-2016	Small Track Maintenance Machines (10) Items	29.7.2015	30.9.2015

Enquiry about tender can be made to Managing Director, Myanma Railways(Fax No. 95-67-77016) by fax or by phone to 95-67-77001, 95-67-77181, 95-1-291994, 95-1-291985 during office hours.

Managing Director, Myanma Railways,
Ministry of Rail Transportation, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY
MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE
EXPORT MARKETING & MILLING DEPARTMENT
INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER

1. MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE WILL SELL TEAK & HARDWOOD ROUND LOGS AND SAWN TIMBERS BY OPEN TENDERS IN US DOLLARS. PARTICULARS OF THE OPEN TENDER SALES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- (a) DATE & TIME - (24-7-2015) (12:00)Noon (27-7-2015)(13:00)PM
(b) COMMODITIES & VOLUME - TEAK LOGS (1243)TONS
- TEAK HANDSAWN & CONVERSION (410) TONS

- HARD WOOD LOGS (184) TONS
- PADAUK (184) TONS
PYINKADO/TAUNG TAMAR / HNAW / THITYAR/INGYIN/ IN-KANYI N/SAGAWA/ THINWIN/TAUKKYAN/YEMANE ABOUT (7380) TONS
- HARDWOOD HANDSAWN CONVERSION PADAUK/TAMALAN ABOUT (905)TONS

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Japanese fishing boat captured by Russian authorities

KUSHIRO, (Japan), 19 July — A Japanese salmon and trout fishing boat from Hokkaido was seized by Russian authorities on Friday for breaching the fishing quota, the Hokkaido government said on Saturday.

Masato Ito, the captain of the 29-ton boat Hokomaru, and 10 crew members are uninjured, it added. The Japanese Foreign Ministry asked the Russian Embassy in Japan to return the vessel and release the crew members at an early date.

According to a local fisheries cooperative in the town of Hiroo in Hokkaido, the drift-net fishing boat left a fishing port in Nemuro, eastern Hokkaido, on 6 July for Russia's exclusive economic zone.

After completing the fishing, the boat was checked by Russian authorities at around 6:50 pm Friday and found to have exceeded the quota by 472 kilograms, the cooperative said.

The boat was originally scheduled to return to Nemuro on Saturday morning.

Russian authorities may take the boat to Kunashiri — one of the Russian-controlled islands claimed by Japan — northeast of Nemuro, the Hokkaido government said.

As Russia is set to ban drift-net fishing in its economic waters from January to conserve natural resources, Japanese salmon and trout fishing through that method is expected to be terminated in the sea area later this month.—Kyodo News



Photo taken on 17 July, 2015, shows the Japanese Embassy in Seoul. The embassy built in 1970, five years after Japan and South Korea normalized their ties, will be re-built due to aging.

KYODO NEWS

Twenty people killed, 30 others wounded in two incidents in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 19 July — At least 20 people were killed and 30 others wounded in two separate incidents that happened over the weekend in Bangladesh after the holy Eid-ul-Fitr, police confirmed on Sunday.

Six people, three of a family, were buried in mudslide in Bangladesh's southeastern Chittagong port city on Friday night due to heavy rains. The other three persons were of two families. Chittagong deputy commissioner, head of administration, has given 10,000 taka (nearly 129 US dollars) for the burial of each of the dead persons.

In another incident, at least 14 persons were killed and 30 others injured in a road crash in Western Sirajganj district as two passenger buses, one from capital Dhaka and the other from western Rajshahi, collided head-on at Sirganj, the western end of Bangabandhu Bridge over the Jamuna river in the early hours on Saturday.

The injured persons were admitted to different hospitals in Sirajganj, with several passengers in critical conditions. The police feared the death toll might increase.

Xinhua

Teen arrested in Aichi for killing, robbing 65-year-old man

NAGOYA, 19 July — Police on Sunday arrested a 17-year-old high school boy in the central Japan prefecture of Aichi for killing and robbing a man who was found lying in the street with more than 10 stab wounds last week.

The teen living in the city of Nisshin admitted to killing Norimichi Kawamura, 65, and taking his bag, according to the Aichi prefectural police.

The police believe that the boy and Kawamura, who lived in the same city

and was serving as the head of a local town association, were not known to each other. The boy emerged as a suspect after the police went over footage from surveillance cameras near a convenience store where the victim shopped shortly

before he was found bleeding on the street on the night of 12 July.

The teen, whose name is being withheld because he is minor, is suspected of stabbing Kawamura several times with a knife and stealing his bag containing

some 6,000 yen (\$48), the police said.

The boy told the police he threw away Kawamura's bag near the scene of the crime. The police found the bag on Saturday, but the murder weapon has not been found.—Kyodo News

WEATHER REPORT

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong to vigorous in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 20th July, 2015: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Magway Region, fairly widespread in Lower Sagaing and Mandalay Regions, Kachin, Shan and Kayah States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Bago and Taninthayi Regions, Shan, Kayah and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough sea will be experienced Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon - Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) m.p.h. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar water.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Continuation of increase of rain in the Southern Myanmar areas.

China's single-day box office hits record high of 400 mln yuan

BEIJING, 19 July — China's total box office sales surpassed 400 million yuan (about 64.4 million US dollars) on Saturday, a record for a single day, data from the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television (SARFT) revealed on Sunday.

The biggest contributor was domestic fantasy-comedy "Monster Hunt," which brought in 180 million yuan on Saturday.

"Jian Bing Man," a

domestic comedy that tells the story of an actor's experience in the film industry, came in second, grossing 149 million yuan.

"Monkey King: Hero is Back," the 3D animated adaptation of the classical epic "A Journey to the West," took in 62 million yuan to be the third biggest contributor on the day.

Total ticket sales on Saturday broke the 383-million-yuan record made on 12 April, when "Fast and Furious 7" opened on Chinese screens.—Xinhua

Johnny Depp's daughter Lily-Rose becomes new face of Chanel

LOS ANGELES, 19 July — Lily-Rose Depp, the teenage daughter of Johnny Depp and Vanessa Paradis, has followed in her mother's footsteps.

The 16-year-old model has just been named the new face of Chanel. She will front the campaign for the elite fashion house's new eyewear collection.

"Lily-Rose is ravishing, she is a girl from the new generation with star qualities," head designer Karl Lagerfeld says of his new muse.

She is described as a "baby doll in a world imbued with sweetness and femininity".

In her first ad, she wears a lace-collared blouse with pearl-embellished sunglasses perched on her nose.—PTI



Lily-Rose Depp



American hip hop group Black Eyed Peas

Black Eyed Peas returns with new single

LOS ANGELES, 19 July — American hip hop group Black Eyed Peas has returned with their new single "Yesterday" sans Fergie on the 20th anniversary of their debut.

will.i.am, apl.de.ap and Taboo pay tribute to their hip-hop roots by referencing some old school records including NWA's "Straight Outta Compton",

Wu-Tang Clan's "Killa Bees" and Beastie Boys' "Paul Revere", reported Ace Showbiz.

The music video features will.i.am, apl.de.ap and Taboo in a record store, promoting the vinyl for sale. As they select some classic hip-hop album covers, they recreate the artworks almost by magic.

"We're paying hom-

age to the folks that inspired Black Eyed Peas. The video is a visual version of (the song)," will.i.am said.

"Yesterday" is the first new song to be released in five years since their last album The Beginning.

Black Eyed Peas will release their new album later this year.—PTI

Bill Cosby testified he was adept at picking up on romantic cues: New York Times

NEW YORK, 19 July — Comedian Bill Cosby, who faces accusations that he drugged and sexually assaulted women in incidents dating back years, described himself in a deposition from a decade ago as adept at picking up on cues about sex, the New York Times reported.

The newspaper obtained the record of Cosby's testimony over four days in 2005 and 2006 and posted excerpts on its website on Saturday, with the former star of television's "The Cosby Show" providing descriptions of methods he used to pursue women and



Actor Bill Cosby

how he obtained Quaaludes.

A judge this month released a document with excerpts from the deposition that included Cosby's admission that he obtained Quaaludes, the brand name for a sedative and muscle relaxant widely abused as a recreational drug in the 1970s, with the intent of giving it to young women to have sex with them.

The New York Times reported it has since obtained the deposition transcript with further details.

The accusations against the 78-year-old Cosby have left the career of the once-beloved comedian in tatters. Cosby has never been criminally charged and most of the allegations exceed the statute of limitations.

In the deposition, Cosby described why he viewed what he said was a sexual encounter with the plaintiff in the case as consensual, according to the newspaper. The woman accused him of drugging and molesting her.

"I walk her out. She

does not look angry. She does not say to me, don't ever do that again," Cosby said in the deposition, according to the newspaper. "She doesn't walk out with an attitude of a huff, because I think that I'm a pretty decent reader of people and their emotions in these romantic sexual things, whatever you want to call them," he said.

Reuters

British girls vie for co-star chance in Harry Potter spin-off movie

LONDON, 19 July — Thousands of girls queued to audition in east London on Saturday for a chance to co-star in the planned Harry Potter spin-off movie "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them".

Whoever gets the role will star alongside Academy Award winner Eddie Redmayne, who will portray "magizoologist" Newt

Scamander.

Some girls queued from as early as 3 am (0200 GMT) for the auditions, having travelled from all over Britain to the ExCel exhibition centre in London's Docklands, in the hope of entering JK Rowling's world of magic in the eagerly anticipated film.

Movie group Warner

Bros and the film makers are looking for a girl aged between eight and 12 to take on the role of Modesty, a character they describe as "a haunted young girl with an inner strength and stillness". Modesty also "has an ability to see deep into people and understand them".

Eleven-year-old Holly said she had taken the audition seriously with a lot

of preparation.

"I really love Harry Potter, I love the magic and everything. It's really imaginative.

"And I love acting. Yeah, and I just kind of started to consider the character, and I, like, almost put myself in her shoes."

Reuters

Ariana Grande calls US 'greatest country in the world'

LOS ANGELES, 19 July — Pop star Ariana Grande declared her love for the US during her Florida concert days after issuing an apology for slamming the country.

She returned to the stage for the first time on Thursday, 16 July at the Amalie Arena in Tampa, Florida for the second-half of her "Honeymoon" tour.

In a video posted on YouTube by a fan, Grande could be heard saying to her fans during the show, "I'm so grateful to be here in Tampa! And I'm so, so grateful to be performing in the USA, the greatest country on the world! I love you guys so much."

Last week, a video showing the 21-year-old "Problem" hitmaker licking an un-purchased donut and saying "I hate Americans I hate America."

The "Love Me Harder" singer released a public statement, clarifying that she was, in fact, proud to be an American while also condemning the way Americans eat.

But after that was also criticised, the Nickelodeon alum shared a sincere YouTube video, directly apologizing for her actions.

PTI



Pop star Ariana Grande

GENERAL

NASA scientist Claudia Alexander, last Galileo project manager, dies at 56

LOS ANGELES, 19 July — NASA scientist Claudia Alexander, who was a project manager for the Galileo spacecraft mission to Jupiter and worked on the European Space Agency's Rosetta comet chaser, has died at age 56.

Alexander died on 11 July after a 10-year battle with breast cancer, NASA said on its website this week. The post did not say where she passed away.

"Claudia brought a rare combination of skills to her work as a space explorer," Charles Elachi, director of NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena, California, said in a written statement.

"Of course with a doctorate in plasma physics, her technical credentials

were solid," Elachi said. "But she also had a special understanding of how scientific discovery affects us all, and how our greatest achievements are the result of teamwork, which came easily to her."

Born in Canada, Alexander moved at a young age with her family to California's Silicon Valley, where she grew up.

She began working at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in 1986 when she joined the team behind the Galileo spacecraft, three years before it was launched on a mission to study Jupiter and the planet's moons.

She later became the Galileo mission's final project manager. In 2003, she oversaw the end of the spacecraft's odyssey when



NASA scientist Claudia Alexander

it was purposely set on a collision course to disintegrate in the planet's dense atmosphere. "We learned mind-boggling things," Alexander said at the time. "This mission was worth its weight in gold."

In 2000, Alexander was chosen as the lead US project scientist on the European Space Agency's Rosetta mission to the comet

67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko.

Rosetta is the first spacecraft to orbit a comet's nucleus and last year a lander from the Rosetta mothership made the first soft-landing on a comet.

She told the Los Angeles Times in an interview last year that, as an African-American woman in a field largely filled with white males, she was able to effectively act as a bridge between NASA and the European Space Agency. "I'm used to walking between two different cultures," she told the newspaper. "For me, this is among the purposes of my life — to take us from states of ignorance to states of understanding with bold exploration that you can't do every day."—Reuters

MRTV Entertainment Channel

(20-7-2015, Monday)

- 6:00 am**
- Mono Classical Songs
- 6:20 am**
- Pyi Thu Ni Ti
- 6:40 am**
- Fashion Show
- 7:05 am**
- TV Drama Series
- 7:50 am**
- TV Drama Series
- 8:35 am**
- Musical Programme
- 8:45 am**
- Myanmar Video
- 9:50 am**
- ASEAN China Cultural Show
- 10:15 am**
- Myanmar Video
- 12:00 noon**
- Closed Down

mitv Myanmar International

(20-7-2015 07:00 am~21-7-2015 07:00 am) MST

- * News
- * Myanmar Traditional Identity "The Sphinx of Egypt And The Manousiha of Myanmar"
- * History of Wishfulfilling Mai-Lamu Pagoda
- * News
- * Entrepreneur — Dr Thant Thaw Kaung
- * Paper Products ... Plain but Pretty
- * News
- * Myanmar Betels
- * ABU Song Festival
- * Culture Show: Theatrical Make Up
- * News
- * Youth of the future "Audio Mixer (Khy Htoo)"
- * Philatelic Pleasure
- * News
- * Food Trip (Ep-5)
- * Colonial Buildings and a New Yangon
- * News
- * Orchidologist Dr Saw Lwin
- * Temple Stalls
- * Kyaikhteeyoe: My Father The Porter
- * News
- * The Martyr's Day
- * Making of Nawarat Rings
- * News
- * Myanmar Scout
- * Traditional Snacks
- * News
- * Short Trip With Steve (Mon State)
- * Kindhearted Pet Lovers
- * News
- * Creator of Imagination
- * Chaung Tha Souvenir Business

Matsuyama in contention at St Andrews with Japanese record 66

ST ANDREWS, (Scotland), 19 July—Hideki Matsuyama was four shots off the pace and tied for 10th place after two rounds at the British Open, leading all players in the second round with a 66 on Saturday.

With eight birdies against a pair of bogeys, Matsuyama's 66 was the lowest score ever by a Japanese at St Andrews. The round was delayed 10-1/2 hours by unplayable strong winds that will force the final round to be held on Monday.

Dustin Johnson topped the leaderboard with a 10-under 134 total. Tiger Woods, at 7 over, failed to make the cut.

"I'm really happy about a 66 here, at this course," Matsuyama said. "I putted very well which led to the good score." Matsuyama started the day on just three hours of sleep, needing four more holes to complete the second round. But after one hole, the gusts kicked in, leaving Matsuyama to wait nearly half a day before being able to resume play.

The 23-year-old, though, was nothing short of impressive once he headed back out on the course with a second-round low of 24 putts. Matsuyama was the only Japanese to make the cut, and he believes one more productive day on the greens will give him an opportunity to win his first major championship. "I made a bunch of adjustments along the way but I'm not sure what's right and what's not," he said. "If I putt well for another day, I think I might have a shot at the title."—Kyodo News

"Mega Dinosaur Exhibition 2015" ongoing in Japan's Chiba



People look at replicas of dinosaur skeleton fossils during the "Mega Dinosaur Exhibition 2015" in Chiba, Japan, on 18 July, 2015.—XINHUA

Hockney plays with perspective in new photos, paintings at LA exhibit



British artist David Hockney

LOS ANGELES, 19 July — From his classic 1967 Los Angeles pool scene "A Bigger Splash" to his interpretations of Yorkshire forests, British artist David

Hockney has always injected the world around him with a vibrant palette, most recently in a study of perspectives.

"David Hockney: Painting and Photography,"

opening this week at the LA Louver gallery right near California's Venice Beach, features acrylic paintings and photographs that play with spatial effects and vanishing points.

"Thirty years ago, I did a Vogue for Paris using these ideas, but it's only with digits (digital) that you can really take off, and I only just realized that two years ago," Hockney, 78, told Reuters.

The 28 works in the collection were done by the artist over the past two years since he moved back to Los Angeles.

The paintings echo the

photographic collages that were created using software to seamlessly blend hundreds of photos depicting people mingling and socializing in Hockney's home studio, surrounded by tables, chairs and his artworks.

Technology has always played a key part in Hockney's works, from his 1986 "Pearlblossom Hwy," a composite shot of a California highway created using hundreds of photographs of the scene, to a collection of iPad sketches of Yorkshire's forestry, displayed in 2012's "A Bigger Picture" exhibit in London.

"The technological change is enormous now, enormous, and people haven't quite got it yet," he said.

The Yorkshire-born artist, who said he mainly confines himself to his Hollywood Hills home due to his poor hearing, said he's still inspired by Los Angeles, a city he first moved to in the 1960s that has influenced his vibrant colour palettes.

"The light here is marvellous, it's a lot better than England," he said. "I don't go out much but there's a reasonably sophisticated city down the hill."

Hockney is one of Brit-

ain's most influential artists, his works a hot commodity in the art market. Earlier this month, his "Arranged Felled Trees" sold for 3.4 million pounds in London.

Hockney said he has found himself working more than ever now, painting his Los Angeles garden and portraits of people — he has completed 65 works so far.

"They all sit in the same chair, they all just sit down and I let them sit down, and they all sit in different ways," he said. "I've plenty to do working in portraits like this, I could go on for an awful long time."—Reuters

Arsenal dazzle to Asia Trophy success over Everton

SINGAPORE, 19 July — A full-strength Arsenal added another piece of silverware to their recent FA Cup success by beating Everton 3-1 in the final of the Premier League's Asia Trophy on Saturday.

Theo Walcott, Santi Cazorla and Mesut Ozil scored the goals in a strong display that left manager Arsene Wenger pleasantly surprised by his team's free-flowing, attacking play.

"I'm pleased with the performance. For long periods we played in a very convincing way and the way we want to play, together, good team play and everybody shared the same vision," the Frenchman told reporters.

"Little bit (surprised) because yesterday we had quite a good strong session and I found the players a bit tired but they were quite sharp today."

Walcott struck the opener in the 22nd minute, lashing home after a neat lofted ball from the impressive Cazorla, who added a second in the 55th after some trademark quick feet and a low finish past Everton goalkeeper Joel Robles.

Arsenal, who beat a Singapore Select XI 4-0 on Wednesday with a youthful lineup, then turned the screws with Cazorla orchestrating a third for Ozil four



Arsenal's Santi Cazorla celebrates scoring their second goal against Everton during Barclays Asia Trophy Final at National Stadium, Singapore on 18 July, 2015.—REUTERS

minutes later as Everton wilted in the hot and humid conditions at Singapore's National Stadium.

Everton's best spell came in the first half where they were unfortunate to be denied an equaliser four minutes before halftime when Arouna Kone's shot deflected off Gareth Barry and into the Arsenal net but was ruled out for offside.

New signing Cech produced a brilliant finger tip save from a Steven Naismith header before Kone smashed home the disallowed effort and also produced a strong save in the second period to deny Luke Garbutt's long

range drive.

The tall Czech's arrival after 11-trophy laden years at Chelsea has sparked hope among the club's supporters of a first Premier League title since 2004 and his every touch was loudly cheered by the majority of the 52,107 in attendance.

He looked set for a first clean sheet before Everton substitute Ross Barkley beat him with an emphatic 75th minute consolation.

Manchester City were the last winners of the biennial Asia Trophy in Hong Kong and went on to win the Premier League the



Arsenal's Theo Walcott celebrates scoring their first goal.

following season, a fact which brought a smile when pointed out to Wenger.

"If it was as simple as that everybody would like to play the Asian Trophy every year," he joked.

"I'm long enough in the job to know that it depends on the quality of our performances but it's good to increase the level of confidence with performances like that."

Stoke, beaten by Everton on a penalty shootout on Wednesday, beating the hosts 2-0 in Saturday's third-place playoff.

Reuters

Ex-FIFA official Webb pleads not guilty to US charges

NEW YORK, 19 July — Jeffrey Webb, one of seven high-ranking officials of soccer's world governing body FIFA who were arrested in Switzerland on corruption charges, pleaded not guilty in US federal court on Saturday.

Extradited to the United States, the former FIFA vice president and president of the CONCACAF regional soccer federation appeared at a hearing in Brooklyn, New York. A US lawyer for him declined to comment.

Webb faces US charges of racketeering conspiracy, wire fraud and money laundering. He was released on a \$10 million bond co-signed by family members.

The four co-signers present in court, his wife and her parents and grandmother, were advised by the judge of the gravity of their financial undertaking.

The bond was secured by 10 properties, three cars, a case of jewellery and watches belonging to Webb and his wife and financial assets, including his 401k retirement account.—Reuters

Murray brothers carry Britain to brink of Davis Cup semi-final

LONDON, 19 July — Brothers Andy and Jamie Murray carried Britain to the brink of a Davis Cup semi-final berth after they beat France in the doubles rubber to take a 2-1 lead ahead of Sunday's reverse singles.

Andy shrugged off a hip injury following a tumble on the slick grass as the Murray brothers registered a 4-6, 6-3, 7-6(5), 6-1 victory over Jo-Wilfried Tsonga and Nicolas Mahut at a sun-kissed Queen's Club in west London.

There had been some doubts whether the picturesque venue, renowned for being prim and proper, was the correct choice for hosting a Davis Cup tie.

However, a raucous crowd, draped in Union Jack flags and face paint, fervently roared on the Scottish brothers.

A nervous Britain were off the pace in the opening set and surrendered the early lead but, thereafter, were dominant and completed victory when Jamie smashed past his stranded opponents.

"I thought both of us served well apart from the first game when I was broken I don't be-



Great Britain's Andy Murray and Jamie Murray in action during their doubles match against Jo Wilfried Tsonga and Nicolas Mahut of France during Davis Cup World Group Quarter Final at Queen's Club, London on 18 July, 2015.—REUTERS

lieve they had any break point until Jamie's last service game," a fired up Andy told the BBC.

Andy received treatment to his groin and hip following a slip during the third set but the double grand slam champion said he should be fit to compete in Sunday's singles.

"It's sore but there's only one more match then I can rest after that," the 28-year-old added.

"I'll get patched-up and hopefully put on another good

performance. They have such a strong team and I'll need to play great tennis to win."

Britain just need to win one of two singles matches against a strong French team — which also includes Gilles Simon and Wimbledon semi-finalist Richard Gasquet — to reach their first Davis Cup semi-final since 1981.

The winners will face either Kazakhstan or Australia in the semi-finals in September.

Reuters

US bumps Canada from top of Pan Am medals table

TORONTO, 19 July — The United States finally nudged Canada from top spot on the Pan American Games medal table on a sweltering on Saturday that saw scorching conditions and sizzling performances.

As temperatures climbed into mid-30s Celsius (95 Fahrenheit) and officials issued a heat alert the red-hot Americans were piling up podiums across the city.

Laura Zeng, 15, won the rhythmic gymnastics all-around, 2012 Olympic champion Kim Rhode struck gold in the women's skeet, Khatuna Lorig hitting the bulls eye in women's individual archery and Paige Railey sailed away with gold in the women's laser radial.

But it was American swimmers who made the biggest splash, snatching three of six gold medals on offer on the last day of competition in the pool.

Natalie Coughlin, a 12-time Olympic medallist and the Games' biggest name, finally got her first Pan Am gold helping the United States to victory in the 4x100m medley relay.

After settling for silver in the 100m free and 4x100m freestyle relay and a bronze in the 50m

free, Coughlin saved her best for last, reaching the top of the podium in the final women's event.

"I had a really successful meet, I did exactly what I was set-up to do on my path next year to the Olympic Games," said Coughlin. "As a team, I think we did a really fantastic job. We kept building every single day and we got closer as a team and had a lot of fun swimming as well."

Allison Schmitt, winner of five medals at the 2012 London Olympics, was also part of the relay effort, collecting her third gold medal to go along with a silver.

Caitlin Leverenz and Sierra Schmidt had the other US golds, touching first in the 200m individual medley and 800m freestyle.

The United States was also on fire on the wrestling mat, getting gold from 2012 Olympic champion Jordan Burroughs in the 74kg weight class, Kyle Snyder in the 97kg division and Zack Rey in the 125kg.

The United States have dominated the Pan Ams, topping the medal standings at every Games since 1955 and winning over 2,000 more medals than the next closest nation Cuba.—Reuters