

Myanmar president reshuffles cabinet

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug — The President's Office has announced a cabinet reshuffle involving the reassignment, assignment and retirement of union ministers and deputy ministers.

Union Minister Lt-Gen Wai Lwin and Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Kyaw Nyunt of Defence

and Union Minister Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win and Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Tin Aung Chit of Border Affairs were reassigned to their former military responsibilities.

U Tin Naing Thein, U Myat Hein, U Khin Yi and U Than Htay were allowed to resign as

union ministers of their own volition. They were from the Ministry of the President's Office-5, the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, the Ministry of Immigration and Population, and the Ministry of Rail Transportation, respectively.

Deputy Information Minis-

ter U Pike Htway, Deputy Religious Affairs Minister Dr Maung Maung Htay, Deputy Cooperatives Minister U Than Tun and Deputy Labour, Employment and Social Security Minister Daw Win Maw Tun were allowed to resign of their own volition.

Dr Kyaw Kyaw Htay, mem-

ber of the Union Civil Services Board, was also allowed to resign of his own volition.

Maj-Gen Than Htut, of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), was assigned to serve as deputy minister at the Ministry of Border Affairs.

MNA

500 HOMES ON THE MOVE CHIN STATE PLANS MASS RELOCATION DUE TO LANDSLIDES

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 12 Aug — The Chin State government is planning to relocate nearly 500 homes in the capital Haka that risk being damaged or destroyed by landslides.

About 480 homes including more than 370 in two wards face considerable danger and will be moved to a new site recommended by a team of geological experts, Haka Township Administrator U Thein Zaw Oo told *The Global New Light of Myanmar* on Wednesday.

The authorities are currently working closely with the team of geological experts on a land survey to find a site safe from landslides, he said.

"We are trying hard in order to relocate them to a new site within 15 or 30 days," U Thein Zaw Oo said.

Landslides and flash floods triggered by torrential rain caused severe damage in western Myanmar's Chin State, leaving major roads and more than 1,000 homes damaged or destroyed, mostly in Haka, affecting more than 7,670 people.

Four disaster-related deaths were reported in Chin State from

the mid-July to early August.

The city was left facing food shortages after the Haka-Gangaw Road, a vital route for supplies, was severely damaged by a land-

slide in early August.

Landslides have not occurred in recent days amid lighter rainfall, according to local residents.

The local government is

building an emergency earthen road linking Kalay, Sagaing Region, and Falam, Chin State, to transport aid from the plane area to the hilly region.

The Chin State government has distributed emergency aid to residents, giving priority to those in urgent need, a government official said.—GNLM



Residents leave their homes as they are in danger of landslides.—PHOTO: PANSY MAWI'S FACEBOOK

Nay Pyi Taw ceasefire summit tipped for last week of August

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 12 Aug — The president and top leaders of ethnic armed organizations are likely to meet in Nay Pyi Taw in the last week of August, a senior adviser at the Myanmar Peace Centre said Wednesday.

The two sides will meet "Maybe after 24 August, if the President agrees with the ethnic side's proposal for the meeting in Nay Pyi Taw," U Hla Maung Shwe told *The Global New*

Light of Myanmar.

After the ninth round of talks on the national ceasefire accord ended without a resolution on the number of ethnic armed groups to be included in the signing process, the senior delegation of EAOs proposed a meeting between some of their top leaders and President U Thein Sein to resolve the issue.

The MPC adviser said the government was unlikely to change its policy of only signing the deal with armed groups with

which it has already reached bilateral peace agreements.

However, he expressed hope that at least four to eight groups would initially sign the accord, with others to follow.

"I think the government will invite the groups it proposed to sign the truce pact, maybe in the first or second week of next month," U Hla Maung Shwe said.

Spokesmen for the ethnic side at the previous round of talks said they expected the Nay Pyi Taw meeting to be final, with the

NCA signing to take place prior to the election.

There would be no backing down, however, from their insistence that the signing of the truce deal include 17 groups — the 16 members of the senior delegation plus the All Burma Students' Democratic Front (ABSDF), they said.

The government has steadfastly refused to accept six of the groups represented by the senior ethnic delegation, and has sought to sign a deal exclusively with the

14 groups who have entered preliminary ceasefire agreements, plus the Kachin Independence Organization (KIO).

At the ninth rounds of talks in Yangon, the two sides emphasized the importance of the NCA signing, insisting that the single text is crucial to ending the country's more than 60-year-old civil war and starting a political dialogue with the inclusion of all stakeholders.

GNLM

Police searches of vehicles result in drug seizures



Photo shows packets of narcotic drugs seized in Thakayta Township.—MNA

YANGON, 12 Aug — Drug search operations have led to seizures of heroin and stimulant tablets in four Yangon Region townships, police said Wednesday.

The police searched vehicles in Tamway, Botahtaung and Bahan townships on Tuesday and Wednesday, leading to the seizures of heroin, WY-inscribed stimulant tablets and other drug paraphernalia.

Found inside the boxes were WY-inscribed stimulant tablets totaling 599,000 packed in small plastic bags.

MNA

Nomination for Hluttaw candidates continues

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug — A total of 106 candidates for Pyithu Hluttaw, 55 candidates for Amyotha Hluttaw, 197 candidates for state/region Hluttaws and 9 candidates for state/region ethnic affairs submitted their nomination for 2015 General Election on 12 August.

From 20 July to 12 August, 4,932 candidates including 1,400 for Pyithu Hluttaw, 740 for Amyotha Hluttaw, 2,648 for state/region Hluttaws and 144 for ethnic affairs constituencies.

They represent 84 political parties while 193 of them are individual candidates. Detailed nomination process is available at www.uecmyanmar.org.—MNA

Flood victims receive purified drinking water in Monywa district



Well-wishers donate aid to flood victims.

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug — More than 22,800 litres of purified drinking water was delivered to flood victims in 24 villages in Monywa District, Sagaing Region, according to Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development.

Rural Development Department in cooperation with Meta Water Co., Ltd (Japan) and Trendy Myanmar Co., Ltd, daily distributes purified drinking water by mobile water purified machine to the residents.

Nanda Win

Exhibition with a cause showcases photographers

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 12 Aug — A photo exhibition at Yangon Gallery featuring the work of local and foreign photographers is raising money for flood victims, organizer Daw Nila Thu said Tuesday.

“Art for Hope” runs until 13 August at the gallery, and features more than 100 color and black-and-white works donated by 39 photographers, covering a wide range of subjects in-

cluding the lives and culture of ethnic people.

“On the first day of the event, we sold nearly 15 photographs,” Daw Nila Thu told The Global New Light of Myanmar.

She added: “All works are available for sale both online and at the gallery, with prices ranging from US\$30 to \$190.”

Those unable to visit the exhibition in person can view works online at <https://www.facebook.com/PanoramicMyanmarTravel>.

“We plan to donate all money earned from the event to victims from disaster-hit areas, especially in Rakhine State and Ayeyawady Region, through the local non-profit Hope Charity Organization,” said Daw Nila Thu. Yangon Gallery is located within the compound of People’s Park, near the Planetarium Museum on Alone Road. The gallery is planning to host another charity exhibition entitled “Save and Save” on 15 August.—GNLM



Work by Photographer Ni Tut displays at Yangon Gallery.—PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN

Press Release

1. As a principle, Myanmar rejects country-specific mandates including that of the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of human rights in Myanmar as they do not create a conducive environment for constructive engagement and genuine dialogue for promotion and protecting of human rights. Myanmar firmly believes that the Universal Periodic Review-UPR process is the most dependable and uncontroversial monitoring mechanism to address and rectify human rights situations in all countries on an equal footing.
2. It has been in the spirit of cooperation and in good faith that Myanmar has invited and received successive special rapporteurs on the situation of human rights in Myanmar.
3. In this spirit, Myanmar invited and received Ms. Yanghee Lee, Special Rapporteur on the Situation of human rights in Myanmar for the third time to the country for a five-day visit from 3 to 7 August 2015. The duration and the places were balanced with the security concerned expressed on her part. In addition, the disagreement expressed by the people of Myanmar on her observations after her second visit to Myanmar in January 2015 was also taken into careful consideration.
4. The Special Rapporteur could not visit a state which was declared as one of the severely flooded States compounded by bad weather condition. A few requested meetings in Nay Pyi Taw were not able to accommodate as high authorities were engaged with natural disaster responses in the fields.
5. Myanmar positively took note the commitment of the Special Rapporteur to engage constructively and openly with the Government and all other stakeholders. It is also pleased to observe

- the efforts of the Special Rapporteur to listen to the diverse views and opinions. Myanmar, however, encourages the Special Rapporteur to further diversify and enrich her sources of information since her end of mission statement contained a wide range of allegations and speculations rather than truth and facts.
6. The rights to participation in political process of a country such as voting in elections is the rights of its citizens. There is no restriction for those who wish to become citizens to apply citizenship in accordance with the 1982 Myanmar Citizenship Law.
7. Myanmar continues to reject use of “Rohingya” since the people of Myanmar do not recognize that invented terminology.
8. One of the most significant progresses that Myanmar has made in its new era is in the area of freedom of expression, freedom of peaceful assembly and of association. No one is arrested or charged for simply exercising their rights peacefully.
9. Illegal migration in the region is driven by quest for greener pasture and victims are exploited by the people smuggling and human trafficking networks. Countries of origin, transit and destination in the region are redoubling their efforts to address it. On humanitarian grounds, Myanmar reacted as a responsible member of the international community by rescuing, temporarily sheltering and providing assistance to trafficked victims within its own resources. Repatriation of hundreds of the boat people is continuing in close cooperation with the country of origin.
10. It is hoped that the Special Rapporteur would produce a balanced report in future, refraining from selectivity and partiality, and for better promotion and protection of human rights of all citizens of Myanmar.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Nay Pyi Taw
12 August 2015

Aid must reach areas most in need: vice president

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug — The National Natural Disaster Management Committee held a work coordination meeting at the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement here on Wednesday, with an address delivered by Vice President U Nyan Tun.

As NNDMC chairman, the vice president spoke of three disaster rescue processes, describing them as prevention and preparedness plans, response and evacuation plans, and rescue and emergency

relief plans.

The post-Cyclone Nargis rehabilitation plan undertaken in 2009 identified eight crucial areas, with the vice president listing them as livelihood, shelter and settlement, education, health; water, sanitation and hygiene; disaster risk reduction, environment, and protection of vulnerable groups.

He called for distribution of assistance depending on regional needs, saying rescue teams should coordinate with local governments to ensure

their recovery activities help make flood-affected areas resilient to natural disasters.

In the evening, Vice President U Nyan Tun also attended a ceremony at which China's Yunnan

province donated emergency supplies for flood victims.

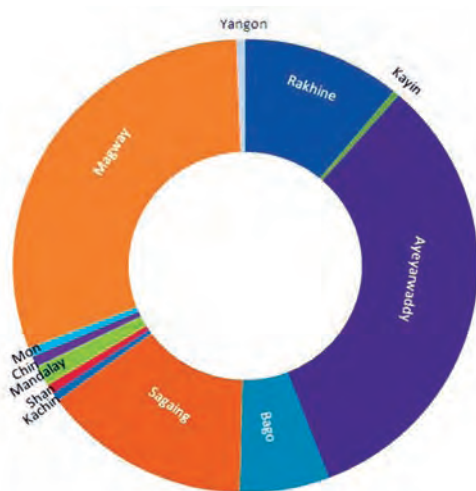
Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint received the donations through the Chinese ambassador to Myanmar.

The union minister also handed over K5.1 million pooled by his ministry's staff for flood victims. Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, accepted

the donations.

The Chinese contributions included K40 million plus mosquito nets, groundsheets, oil, rice, detergent, clothes, canned fish, tents, medicines and kitchen utensils.—MNA

Ratio of disaster affected zones



Vice President U Nyan Tun views relief aid donated by Dehong Prefecture of China for flood victims in Myanmar.—MNA

39 dams without damage, release excess water through spillways

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug—According to the observation at 6 pm on Wednesday, a total of 39 dams across the nation were releasing excess water through the spillways and there was no damage of embankments, said Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.—MNA

KOICA, KDI to hold national workshop on PPP and Unified Public Investment Management

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug — Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and Korea Development Institute (KDI) will hold the National Workshop on Public Private Partnerships and Unified Public Investment Management from August 14 to 16 in Nay Pyi Taw as a part of Myanmar Development Institute project.

The 3 days workshop will focus on public private partnerships (PPP) and public investment management (PIM) issues on which Myanmar government especially places emphasis to accelerate further the development of Myanmar economy. A number of

Korean experts will present their research, share experiences of PPP and provide practical guideline to implement PIM policy for Myanmar government to develop their knowledge and capacity of PPP and PIM.

The workshop will cover the crucial issues as follows: Pre-Feasibility Study, Total Project Cost Management and Reassessment Study of Feasibility, Project appraisal and monitoring in Myanmar, PP legal framework and government supports in Korea, Corporatization and Privatization Laws, and other related issues.

GNLM

UEC chairman, Chinese ambassador discuss general election

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug — Union Election Commission Chairman U Tin Aye invited Beijing to send observers to the upcoming general election at his meeting Wednesday

with the Chinese ambassador to Myanmar.

During the meeting in Nay Pyi Taw, the UEC chairman explained that the government has invited local and foreign ob-

servers to the 8 November election.

Human rights NGO the Carter Center and the European Union have signed agreements with the UEC to observe the

ballot, the UEC chairman said.

The UEC would invite election commissions from ASEAN countries and ambassadors to observe the elections.—GNLM

Gov't seeks to bring back 338 fishermen from Indonesia

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug — Myanmar is stepping up its efforts to repatriate 338 fishermen from Indonesia, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said Wednesday.

The announcement

came after the coordination meeting between ministries concerned in Nay Pyi Taw, saying Myanmar's foreign ministry is coordinating with the Myanmar Embassy in Jakarta.

During the meeting, U Thant Kyaw, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, and senior officials from the ministries of Home Affairs, Immigration and Population, Labour, Employ-

ment and Social Security, and Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement discussed bringing back the fishermen to Myanmar as soon as possible.

GNLM

Rehabilitation aid delivered to regions and states

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug — Union government and 4TV's warmly helping hands programme provided rehabilitation aid to Chin and Rakhine States and Sagaing

and Ayeyawady Regions.

A total of 2,000 family kits with 36 items of supplies donated by the union government were transported by car to Haka in Chin

State from Nay Pyi Taw on 11 August.

On 12 August, 12 vehicles are scheduled to transport 1,000 plastic containers each of rehabilitation aid to

Ingapu in Ayeyawady Region from Nay Pyi Taw, to Kalay and Tamu in Sagaing Region and to Minbya and MraukU in Rakhine State.

MNA

Planning Department, Action Aid Myanmar sign MoU

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Aug — Planning Department under the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development signed an MoU on pro-

viding assistance with Action Aid Myanmar (AAM) at the ministry, here, Wednesday.

Director-General U Maung Maung Tint of

the Planning Department and Country Director of AAM Mr Shihab Uddin Ahmah signed the MoU in the presence of Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw and

officials. The MoU will contribute to increasing income of rural people for their living standard and alleviation of poverty.

MNA

Tatmadawman carry out sanitation in Thaton Tsp



THATON, 12 Aug — recently in Thaton Township's Duiyinseik Village. More than 500 volunteers carried out sanitation works. The volunteers included

ed soldiers based at Thaton Station, health workers, firefighters, Red Cross mem-

bers and local residents.

"We chlorinated wells and cleaned the flood-affected wells," Head of the Township Health Department U Soe Aung said. "We will join hands with volunteers from social organizations to rebuild latrines."

Health workers are providing treatment at a temporary relief camp.

A camp official said soldiers and community volunteers had helped some evacuees move home after flood waters receded.

"As some areas are still inundated in the township, about 300 victims face difficulty returning home," the official said.

Aung Thet Oo

Regional bodies discuss multi-drug-resistant TB

MANDALAY, 12 Aug — Health representatives from around Southeast Asia began a meeting Tuesday in Mandalay to discuss strategies for combating multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis.

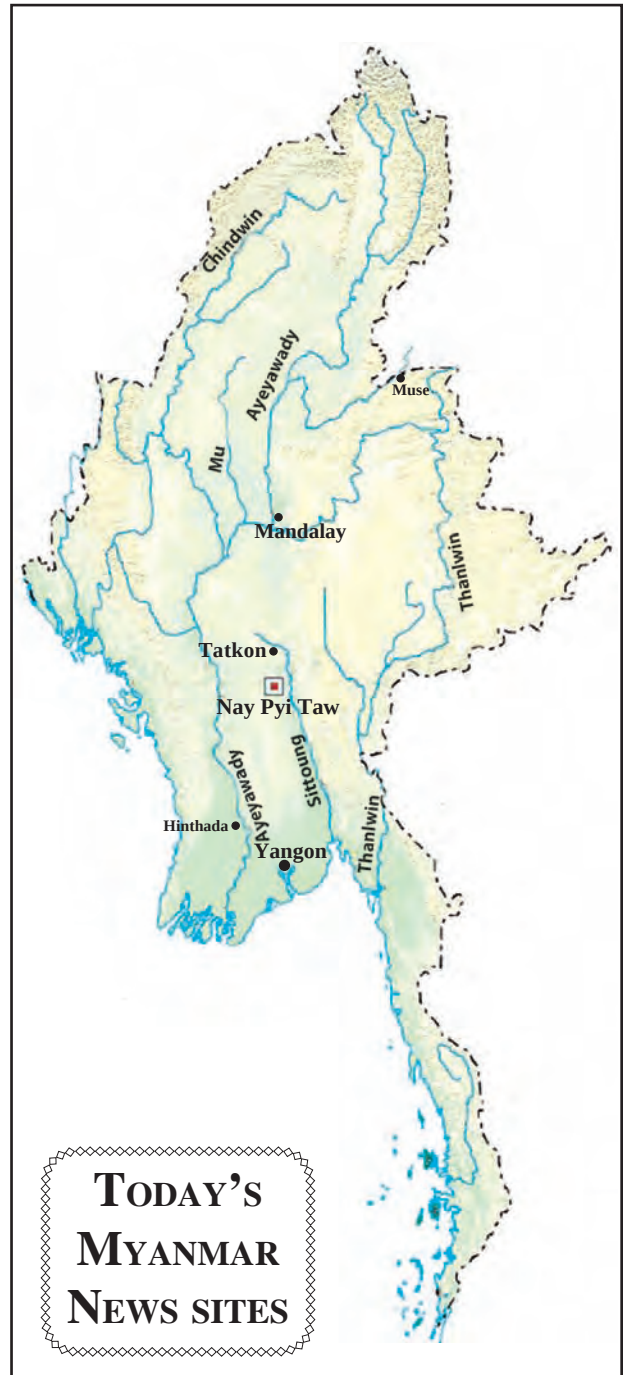
Mandalay Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Win Hlaing opened the seventh meeting of the SEA Regional Advisory Committee on MDR-TB, organized by the World Health Organization, Southeast Asia Regional Office, at the Sedona Hotel.

Participants approved the report of the advisory committee and discussed findings of surveys and challenges in treating multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis in Southeast Asia.—Tin Maung (Mandalay)

MWAF provides relief aid in Ayeyawady Region

HINTHADA, 12 Aug — Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation President Dr Zin Mar Tun and officials donated rice, cooking oil, clothes and medicines worth K2.1 million to flood victims in Nyaungdon and relief supplies worth more than K 2.2 million to residents in Zalun on 9 August.

They also delivered aid worth K7.5 million to evacuees at relief camps in Hinthada Township. While in Hinthada, they provided K500,000 for the tailoring course being conducted by the MWAF. Dr Khin Swe Myint of the federation gave a talk to 50 trainees and local women on responding to natural disasters.—Kyaw Kyaw (Hinthada)



Mobile team seizes jade in Muse Trade Zone



MUSE, 12 Aug — Authorities recently seized K26 million worth of jade found in an unaccompanied car in Muse District, northern Shan State.

A mobile team seized the vehicle and 260 kilograms of jade at the Asia World Toll Gate in the Muse 105th-mile Trade Zone.

Officials of the mobile team handed over the jade to the Myanmar Gems Brokerage and the vehicle to the Customs Department on 11 August.

L Soe (IPRD)

Vocational courses help improve lives of women

MUSE, 12 Aug — The basic domestic science course and advanced tailoring course concluded at the women's vocational training school in Muse, northern Shan State, recently.

Muse District deputy commissioner U Kyaw

Kyaw Tun and officials presented prizes to outstanding trainees while District Manager of the Department of Agriculture Daw Nang Lwin Lwin Sein gave certificates to all trainees.

"The training courses

will help improve the lives of local women," an official said.

Altogether 60 trainees attended the basic domestic course, while 15 trainees took the advanced tailoring course.

Ko Mong (IPRD)



IN PICTURE

China invested power plant completed in Bali, Indonesia



During its completion ceremony, a staff member walks in the coal-fired power plant in Celukan Bawang, Bali, Indonesia, Aug. 11, 2015. The plant, invested by China Huadian Engineering Co., Ltd, is a result of the two countries' energy cooperation.—XINHUA

Cambodian garment manufacturers vote against raise of workers' minimum wage for 2016

PHNOM PENH, 12 Aug — A majority of members of the Garment Manufacturers Association in Cambodia (GMAC), which represents the kingdom's 550 garment and footwear factories, have voted against any raise of minimum wage for the sector for 2016, a GMAC's senior official said Wednesday.

GMAC deputy secretary general Kaing Monika said the association conducted a survey with the participation of its 230 members on Sunday, giving them three options to choose from: no raise, a raise of between 1 and 5 U.S. dollars and a raise of between 6 and 10 U.S. dollars. "According to the preliminary result, 63 percent voted for no raise, 26 percent voted for an increase of between 1 and 5 U.S. dollars, and the rest were in favor of a raise of between 6 and 10 U.S. dollars," he told Xinhua via telephone.

The survey came after the Cambodian government increased a 28 percent minimum wage for the garment sector in January to 128 U.S. dollars per month, and is currently negotiating with the factories and trade unions to further raise the workers' minimum wage for 2016.

GMAC warned that a steep rise in wage will seriously affect the survival of many factories, especially those with poor financial stability and weak purchase order. "Based on the survey's result, the majority of our members want the minimum wage for the garment sector to remain at 128 U.S. dollars per month for 2016. However, the Cambodian government is the final decision maker on this issue," he said.

The government is expected to release the final decision on minimum wage for 2016 in October. The garment and footwear sector, the kingdom's largest foreign currency earner, consists of 1,087 factories with approximately 700,000 workers, according to the Labor Ministry.

The sector exported products in equivalent to 6.2 billion U.S. dollars last year, accounting for 80.5 percent of the country's total export.—Xinhua

Malaysia opposition party files suit against PM, state fund 1MDB

KUALA LUMPUR, 12 Aug — A Malaysian opposition party on Wednesday filed a civil suit against Prime Minister Najib Razak and indebted state fund



Malaysia's Prime Minister Najib Razak is pictured during the 19th Annual Leaders Consultation at Nurul Iman Palace in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, August 11, 2015.—REUTERS

1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB), saying they had violated electoral rules and a new election should be held.

1MDB, whose advisory board is chaired by Najib, and which has debts of more than \$11 billion, is under investigation for graft and financial mismanagement. The affair has triggered a political crisis for Najib.

The Wall Street Journal reported in July that investigators looking into 1MDB found that nearly \$700 million was deposited into Najib's accounts. Reuters has not verified the report.

Najib has denied taking any money for personal gain, saying the allegations are part of a malicious campaign to force him from office. 1MDB has denied transferring funds to Najib and an interim government report found nothing suspicious.

Last week, the national anti-graft agency said the funds in Najib's account were donations from the Middle East, and not from 1MDB.

Jailed opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim's People Justice Party (PKR) said the donation of 2.6 billion ringgit (\$645 million), the movement of funds and dealings involving 1MDB and its affiliates were linked to an election campaign in 2013.

"The fact is that the alleged amount spent by Najib far exceeds the allowable amount for elections," said Nurul Izzah Anwar, the party's vice president and Anwar's daughter. "This is a clear-cut breach of the election law," she told Reuters. Spokesmen for 1MDB and the government did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

The PKR said the \$645

million amount was more than 26 times the permissible amount allowed under the electoral law.

The party, according to a copy of its suit seen by Reuters, wants the judiciary to declare that Najib and 1MDB had acted illegally and the ruling National Front coalition should be de-registered and a fresh election called.

The suit names Najib, 1MDB, the Election Commission and the secretary general of the Najib's United Malays National Organisation's (UMNO), the dominant party in the coalition.

Anwar, a former finance minister and deputy prime minister, was jailed in February for five years for sodomizing a former male aide. He denies the charge, calling the case a conspiracy by Najib's government to cripple the opposition.

Reuters

Indonesian president reshuffles cabinet

JAKARTA, 12 Aug — Indonesian President Joko Widodo on Wednesday reshuffled his cabinet as the Southeast Asia's largest economy aims to speed up subdued economic growth.

Three coordinated ministerial posts, two ministerial posts and cabinet secretary post were

reshuffled.

President Jokowi, the popular name of the president, picked up general Luhut Binsar Panjaitan, former presidential chief of staff as security chief minister, replacing Tedjo Edhy Purdjatno.

Luhut was also former Indonesian Ambassador to Singapore

and used to post trade minister position. The president also appointed Darmin Nasution, former central bank governor as economic chief minister, replacing Sofyan Djalil.

Nasution was also former director general of tax office of finance ministry. The president

picked Rizal Ramli, a former activist and economic chief minister, as coordinating minister for maritime, replacing Indroyono Soesilo.

Rizal was also former finance minister, head of leading advisory group in economy, trade and industry, the ECONIT, and head of state logistic agency.—Xinhua



Photo taken on Aug. 11, 2015 shows the demolition of seven coal-fired units with a total capacity of 680,000 kilowatts in Chiping County, east China's Shandong Province. The local government has issued a project of cleaning up illegal constructions since last October. Some 7,019 construction projects which are of environmental violations have been cleared so far. —XINHUA

S. Korea opens research center for Japanese studies

SEOUL, 12 Aug — South Korea on Wednesday opened a research center aimed at focusing on Japanese affairs.

Present at the opening ceremony held at the Korea National Diplomatic Academy affiliated with the Foreign Ministry included South Korean Foreign Minister Yun Byung Se and Japanese Ambassador to South Korea Koro Bessho, among other dignitaries.

The newly opened Center for Japanese Studies has been established under the Department of National Security and Unification Studies of the diplomatic academy.

South Korea's Foreign Ministry said last Friday the decision for the opening of the center has been made in consideration of the growing importance for relations with Japan and studies on Japan as this year marks the 50th anniversary of bilateral diplomatic ties and the 70th anniversary of independence from Japan's colonial rule.

The new center is tasked with assisting the Foreign Ministry in formulating policies on Japan through policy research and also promoting ties with similar institutes at home and abroad.

Kyodo News

Former senior tourism official expelled from CPC, office

BEIJING, 12 Aug — Huo Ke, former deputy director of the China National Tourism Administration, has been expelled from the Party and public office for graft and leaking Party and state secrets, the anti-graft authority said Wednesday.

The Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI) of the Communist Party of China (CPC) found that Huo seriously violated party disciplines by accepting gifts.

He accepted bribes and took advantage of his post by seeking benefits for others through promotion of cadres and business operations. Huo bribed others to secure his own promotion, leaked state and Party secrets, and impeded the investigation by authorities, the CCDI said in a statement.

The statement said Huo is suspected of criminal offenses for accepting and offering bribes and leaking state and Party secrets.

The CCDI said Huo, as a cadre of the Party and state who worked in key posts for a long time, should have born in mind Party tenets, strictly abided by the Party's code of conduct, and maintained his integrity. Instead, the CCDI claimed, Huo grossly violated the Party's political, organizational and confidential disciplines, and he failed to refrain from wrongdoing even after the 18th National Congress of the CPC.

The CPC Central Committee approved Huo's expulsion from the Party according to CPC discipline regulations. The State Council approved his dismissal from public office.—Xinhua

Dollar could suffer if U.S. walks away from Iran deal — John Kerry

NEW YORK, 12 Aug — If the United States walks away from the nuclear deal with Iran and demands that its allies comply with U.S. sanctions, a loss of confidence in U.S. leadership could threaten the dollar's position as the world's reserve currency, the top U.S. diplomat said on Tuesday.

"If we turn around and nix the deal and then tell them, 'You're going to have to obey our rules and sanctions anyway,' that is a recipe, very quickly ... for the American dollar to cease to be the reserve currency of the world," U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said at a Reuters Newsmaker event.

Defending the July 14 Vienna agreement between Iran and world powers that he helped to negotiate, Kerry deployed a new argument in a feverish battle to prevent lawmakers from killing it. Congress has until Sept. 17 to act.

Kerry warned of a potential loss of U.S. financial and political clout. He said this was not something that would happen overnight but many countries were "chafing" under the present international financial arrangements.

He said U.S. Treasury experts "are doing a full dive on how this works and what the implications are. But the notion that we can just sort of diss the deal and unilaterally walk away as Congress wants to do will have a profound negative impact on people's sense of American leadership and reliability."

New York-based Boris

Schlossberg, managing director of FX Strategy, BK Asset Management, challenged Kerry's reasoning. He said the dollar's status could be compromised only if the United States was unable to compete economically on a global scale.

"The reality of the situation is that the U.S. dollar hasn't been this strong in decades. The thought that it could be replaced as a reserve currency is laughable at this point on a geopolitical basis and nothing in the Iran deal even remotely touches upon that issue," he added.

Economists and financial analysts have often conjectured that a competing currency like the euro or the Chinese yuan will eventually dethrone the dollar as global trade and financial patterns shift. But the U.S. currency's position has been largely immune — mostly for lack of any good alternative.

In an hour-long moderated discussion, Kerry also:

- * Acknowledged that the tone of the Iran debate had taken on a political edge.

President Barack Obama last week accused critics of the deal of making common cause with Iranian hardliners who chant "Death to America" and said some had beaten the drum for the Iraq war.

"You can squabble maybe with the choice of words," Kerry said when asked about Obama's comments. He stressed his view that the Iran deal should be argued on its merits. "I think the merits are very, very strong and I think the president does



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry speaks during a Reuters Newsmaker event on the nuclear agreement with Iran, in New York August 11, 2015.—REUTERS

too," he said.

- * Said it would be impossible for Iran to create a secret program for developing atomic fuel without the United States being able to detect it under the deal.

- * Said the Iranians were open to discussing disputes in the Middle East, where Washington and its allies accuse Tehran of backing proxies in Iraq, Lebanon, Syria and Yemen.

"They said to me, 'If we can get this deal done, then we're ready to sit down and talk about the regional issues and we may be able to work things in different places,'" Kerry said. Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif is currently in Lebanon and had already visited Kuwait and Qatar in a bid to reach out, he said.

- * Said violations by Iran of

an arms embargo or restrictions on its missile program would not force an automatic return or "snapback" of United Nations sanctions under the nuclear deal, although other options would be available.

The agreement gives Tehran some relief from economic sanctions in return for strict limits on a nuclear program that the West has suspected was aimed at creating a nuclear bomb.

Tehran has long denied seeking a nuclear weapon and has insisted on the right to nuclear technology for peaceful means. Obama has never ruled out military force if negotiations failed, and has said that he and future presidents would still have that option if Iran quit the agreement.

Reuters

Hillary Clinton to give private email server to Justice Department

NEW YORK, 12 Aug — Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton is giving the U.S. Justice Department her private email server and a thumb drive of work-related emails from her tenure as secretary of state, a spokesman for her campaign said on Tuesday.

Clinton's use of her private email for her work as America's top diplomat came to light in March and drew fire from political opponents who accused her of sidestepping transparency and record-keeping laws.

The private account was linked to a server in her New York home. For months, Republican lawmakers have demanded that Clinton relinquish the server for inspection by an independent party, which Clinton said she was not willing to do. Some of those lawmakers quickly began issuing statements on Tuesday night, saying their concerns were vindicated as not being motivated only by politics. The Justice Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation both declined to comment.

The FBI recently began looking into the security of the federal records and classified information contained among Clinton's emails. The U.S. government

considers federal records to be government property.

The Justice Department has said the FBI began investigating after the inspector general who oversees the U.S. intelligence agencies, I. Charles McCullough III, formally notified them of his concern that there was classified information not in the government's control.

McCullough has said he found at least four emails in a sample of 40 Clinton emails he was allowed to inspect contained information that was classified at the time it was sent, including two that contained information deemed "top secret", the highest classification level. The government forbids the sending of classified information outside unsecured networks because it could harm national security if intercepted. The statement from Nick Merrill, a Clinton campaign spokesman, suggested the hardware was being handed over as part of the FBI inquiry. It remained unclear whether this was in response to a government request, or even came as the result of a subpoena. "She pledged to cooperate with the government's security inquiry, and if there are more questions, we will continue to address them," Merrill



U.S. Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton listens to a question from the audience during a community forum about substance abuse in Keene, New Hampshire August 11, 2015. REUTERS

said in a statement. He declined to provide further details. David Kendall, Clinton's lawyer, did not respond to a request for comment.

The FBI has declined to give details about the nature of its investigation and who it might encompass, although it is likely to prove an unwelcome distraction for Clinton for months as she tries to keep voters focused on her policy proposals.

Throughout her four years as secretary of state under President Barack Obama, Clinton eschewed

an official state.gov email address in favor of a private clintonemail.com email account run from a home computer server. At least one senior aide, Huma Abedin, also used the server for some work email. Clinton said the unusual arrangement broke no rules that were in force at the time, although the arrangement has caused long delays in providing federal records to lawmakers and the public to which they are entitled, critics say. Trey Gowdy, the Republican chair of a U.S. House of Representatives committee investigating the killing of four Americans at a U.S. diplomatic building in Benghazi, Libya, has said his work has been hampered in this way. "This is a serious national security issue, and the seriousness of it should transcend normal, partisan politics," Gowdy said in a statement on Tuesday.

Last December, Clinton provided what she said were copies of all the work emails she had in her possession, nearly two years after she stepped down as secretary of state. Clinton handed over about 30,000 emails she sent and received, although her staff have since acknowledged without explanation that some work emails are missing. She did not hand over

another 30,000 emails from this period that she deemed personal and said she chose "not to keep".

The State Department has been steadily releasing the emails to the public in keeping with Clinton's request after redacting parts of them to remove sensitive or classified information.

A number of polls in recent months have found that more than half of voters find Clinton untrustworthy, although she remains the favorite to win the Democratic Party's nomination for the presidential election in November 2016. The development was quickly seized by Clinton's Republican opponents as a chance to portray her not worthy of the White House. "If Hillary Clinton believed in honesty and transparency, she would have turned over her secret server months ago to an independent arbiter, not as a last resort and to the Obama Justice Department," Reince Priebus, the chairman of the Republican National Committee, said in a statement. Republican John Boehner, the U.S. House of Representatives speaker, also released a statement saying that Clinton's "mishandling of classified information must be fully investigated."

Reuters

Brazil's Senate, Rousseff to propose market-friendly agenda



Brazil's Vice President Michel Temer talks with Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff during a ceremony for the Investment Program in Electricity at the Planalto Palace in Brasilia, August 11, 2015. REUTERS

BRASILIA, 12 Aug — Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff and leading senators plan to introduce an agenda of market-friendly proposals this week, in a move one senior official said was aimed at countering a revolt by lower chamber lawmakers.

The "Brazil Agenda" put forward by Senate President Renan Calheiros was discussed at a dinner Rousseff hosted for senators from her coalition on Monday as she looks to rekindle economic growth and overcome a major political crisis.

The conversation suggests a rapprochement between Rousseff and Calheiros, whose ties had been strained because of the senator's outrage at being investigated for alleged involvement in a corruption scandal at state-run oil firm Petrobras, formally known

as Petroleo Brasileiro SA (PETR4.SA).

A senior official in Rousseff's cabinet said the "positive" dialogue with the Senate leader was designed to counter the aggressive opposition of the speaker of the lower chamber, Eduardo Cunha, since his recent defection to the other side of the floor.

It also could help her fend off a potential impeachment attempt over a corruption scandal and a probe into government accounting practices.

"Many of Renan's proposals fully coincide with our own," Rousseff said during an event on energy investments. "They show on the part of the Senate an inclination to help Brazil find a way out of its difficulties as fast as possible."

Cunha reacted angrily to the

Senate agenda and said any attempt to isolate the lower chamber countered the constitution. "It won't fly, it's a dumb move," he told reporters.

In a minor victory for the government, the lower chamber on Tuesday prevented the inclusion of tax auditors in a proposal to hike the wages of some public servants. Last week, the chamber approved a bill to raise salaries, which would cost the government 2.5 billion reais (462 million pounds) in extra spending a year.

Many of the proposals are likely to draw opposition within Rousseff's own Workers' Party too. Among them are regulating outsourced labour, raising inheritance taxes and introducing paid services in Brazil's government-provided healthcare system.

The final list of proposals will be ready on Wednesday or Thursday, Senator Romero Juca, an influential senator from the PMDB party, said by Twitter.

The 27 measures fall into three areas: business and infrastructure, fiscal discipline, and social protection.

They also include raising the retirement age and fast-tracking environmental licensing for infrastructure projects.—Reuters

Italian navy rescues migrants, survivors say up to 50 feared missing

ROME, 12 Aug — The Italian navy rescued a boat carrying migrants off the coast of Libya on Tuesday and Italian reports said survivors spoke of as many as 50 others who had been on board but were feared missing.

The navy said on Twitter one of its ships, the Fenice, had rescued migrants from an inflatable rubber boat but gave no details or numbers. It said they had been transferred to a coast guard patrol boat.

Italian news agencies said about 50 people were rescued and that survivors said as many as 50 others may have been on board before it ran into difficulties and started deflating. The Italian navy could not be reached for comment. A spokeswoman for the coast guard said the rescued migrants were taken to the Sicilian island of Lampedusa.

But she said she had no information about what survivors had told rescuers about the number of people on board.

Some 200 migrants were presumed killed earlier this month off the coast of Libya when their boat capsized. More than 400 were rescued from that shipwreck.—Reuters



Italian authorities and the Red Cross wait for migrants as they disembark from the Medecins Sans Frontiere (MSF) rescue ship Bourbon Argos in Trapani, on the island of Sicily, Italy, August 9, 2015. —REUTERS

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 13 August, 2015

Country cannot afford to waste another 5 years

By Kyaw Thura

With the general election just less than 90 days away, nearly 100 political parties have been expected to vie for votes with all their might. The election campaign, however, has been overshadowed by the loss of life and destruction of property, trans-

port facilities and farmlands brought about by record floods triggered by weeks of torrential rain.

As a nascent democracy, Myanmar still has much to learn about democratic norms. It is not an easy task to choose candidates from more than 90 parties contesting the coming election.

It is highly unlikely that all communities will put the national interest before their regional interests. No doubt voters in rural areas and border areas, especially in states, are more likely to vote for political parties representing their ethnicities. Each party will try to appeal to all communities, with their candidates promising to bring benefits to their constituencies. It is no wonder that regional development is their primary concern.

Either way, it seems to be a battle of head and heart. We, the electorate, must use our heads in

selecting candidates by weighing up their merits and track records rather than their popularity. This time, the onus is on all of us to choose responsible and accountable candidates who are capable of undoing the errors our country has encountered on all fronts. Otherwise, the waste of another five years is too high a cost for the country to pay.

Write for us

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

Benefits of Doing Holiday Part-Time Jobs by University Students

By Myo Myint

When students return to university after enjoying their vacation, their friends and teachers are very curious about what they did during the holidays. Usually, some students say they attended a skill development course, others say they visited friends and relatives living in other towns, a few lucky ones say they went abroad with their families and a fewer number say they helped their parents with the family business or with household chores, or stayed at home and did nothing special.

In the West, it is nothing unusual for young people, even those from wealthy families, to spend their whole vacation, or part of it, doing some kind of work, even very humble ones, such as, cutting grass or hedges for neighbours, serving as waiters in restaurants or as assistants in public libraries to earn some pocket money. Parents in the West train their children to be independent from a very young age. They want them to think for themselves, be creative, be emotionally strong and possess all round development so that they will not only survive but also succeed in the challenging and competitive environment of a Western society that is goal oriented, and values time, hard work, individuality, and creativity. Part of the training to be independent involves encouraging young people to do part-time jobs so that they learn to value labour, and the money earn from work, and deal with people in a work environment.

In Myanmar, most parents regard their children who are pursuing university education as being still too young to start working, or being below the dignity of an educated person to be doing unskilled or manual work, and the university students themselves may harbour the same feelings. As market economy expands in the country, requiring a better educated workforce with new skills, and the number of matriculates growing from about ten thousand about forty years ago to more than two hundred thousand within the past decade, resulting in the equal growth in the number of university students, university students need to be better prepared to be able to compete in a more demanding job market. The sooner university students start preparing for the job market, the more likely they will succeed in the stiff competition. One effective way to prepare for the looming competition by university students is doing part-time jobs during their long summer vacation as in the West and they will discover that the benefits are numerous.

The recent enthusiastic participation of young people from universities and high schools in the activities to raise donations for flood victims using various strategies shows their creativity, their ability to work in groups, and their willingness to work hard, if they have a strong belief that something is beneficial for themselves, for other citizens and the nation.

What then are the long-term benefits of doing summer jobs for students? Tara Struyk in her Internet article of 4th June 2010, Top Benefits Of A Summer Job – Be-

sides Pay, discusses five benefits of working during school vacation for young people.

The first benefit, boosting confidence, is promoting belief in oneself that one is able to do certain things. Struyk says that confidence is increased at workplaces when one overcomes challenges in learning a new skill, surviving a stressful work environment or learning to deal with a hard-driving boss or a nasty coworker.

According to Struyk, time-management, the second benefit, is deciding priority for the day and learning how to juggle things to be done to make it happen. She states that time-management skill is promoted by having to prioritize, plan and learn to get a realistic sense of how much one can actually accomplish in the work environment.

The third benefit, a leg up, is meant having an advantage over others, and Struyk says that a student can have a leg up by possessing something to put on one's resume, even though it may be experience of having worked at a place like a burger shop.

The fourth benefit that Struyk mentions is getting to know you. This is discovering about oneself in relation to a workplace. Students come to learn many things about themselves from the experience of working in part-time summer jobs such as their likes and dislikes, and are able to evaluate their strengths and work on their weaknesses.

The final benefit that Struyk mentions about the benefits of doing summer jobs is the opportunity to broaden social/networking circle. She remarks that a

student is likely to spend a lot of time with people of their own age. She points out that, on the other hand, when working, a student is likely to be working with a range of very different people which is not only good for one's social skills, but it can also create a powerful impact on one's resume by including their recommendations. Struyk advises that as people need references all throughout their career, they ought to make an effort to connect with the people they meet along the way.

Apart from the five benefits that Tara Struyk mentions, there are also three other benefits, in my view, that Myanmar university students can enjoy by doing part-time summer jobs. Chief among them is development of communication skills. Working in an organization, either government, business, or social, involves meeting and interacting with a wide range of people, and gives students the opportunity to observe how more experienced co-workers communicate in real life situations. They also have the chance to learn why some people succeed in achieving their goals, why some fail to do so in specific situations, such as, presentations, negotiations, discussions at meetings, and giving instruction and feedback to staff, and how to interact with specific groups of people such as clients, superiors, subordinates, and co-workers. Students are thus able to learn a whole new set of much-needed communication strategies which will not only help them in their future careers, but also, when, as senior university students, they

strive to develop their leadership, management and cooperative skills. Another set of benefits is gaining the ability to gauge the value of the subjects they are studying, realizing which other skills they would need to survive and succeed in real-life working environment, appreciating the role of education in career progression, becoming motivated to complete higher education and comprehending the amount of time and effort people have to put in to earn money. The third set of benefits is the development of entrepreneurship spirit, a strong desire to acquire the skills needed by entrepreneurs, and the appreciation of the role of innovation and risk taking in starting enterprises, in students who have experience of doing part-time jobs. The above sets of benefits results from being able to observe the communication, management, technical, scientific, artistic and other innovations taking place in the world-of-work.

Since, in the past, part-time job culture is almost non-existent among Myanmar university students, there are hardly any part-time jobs available either in the public sector or the private sector for them to do during their vacation. The eight benefits derived from students doing part-time vacation jobs have been presented from the point of view of one of the group of beneficiaries, that is, students. However, it must be noted that there are at least five benefits for employing organizations too. Firstly, by initiating a holiday part-time job programme, organizations can solve some of their labour needs for intelligent workers during

peak seasons like pre-Thingyan, Thadinkhut, Christmas and New Year. Secondly, they can identify those with special talents from among the students doing part-time jobs and recruit them as full-time staff for more important positions once they graduate. Thirdly, organizations can learn the needs and wants of young people through their young part-time employees and based on this knowledge of a large portion of their customers, they can introduce new products for young people, make their current products more suitable for young people, and initiate more effective marketing strategies. Fourthly, the students it has given part-time jobs, together with their families may serve as a channel to promote good publicity for the organization, resulting in an increase in the number of loyal customers. Fifthly, employers can contribute to the skills development of successive generations of human resource, thereby, fulfilling their corporate social responsibility as well as their duty to the nation.

In conclusion, it is suggested that as vacation part-time jobs can be beneficial to both university students as well as the organizations that employ them, they should be popularized in the country like in more developed countries. It is also suggested that for the programme to succeed, universities and private and public organizations need to form partnerships in this important undertaking that will not only enable university students to gain professional skills, but also promote human resource development for the country.

RELIEF AND REHABILITATION

Letter to the Editor

The World of beauty

As I was a flood victim, I was flooded with a lot of food and clothing donated by the internal and external well-wishers. Living on the bank of the Ayeyawady River, I've had a lot of untold miseries wrought by floods. It can't be avoided to meet this danger. I'm accustomed to raging floods. I could, by the trained strength, stand danger. But this time when the river rose, the flood water flashed over the bank and swallowed up everything on the land. When I slipped into the water in my compound, it rose up to the neck. As I was unable to stand straight myself, my moral was ebbing away.

At the same time domestic and foreign aids flowed to us. From the bottom of their heart they rendered help. Besides they comforted us with material as well as moral encouragement. Their eagerness to help us get up on our own feet was greater than the great. A friend in need is a friend indeed. I've come to the conclusion that people around the world are not poor but abundant in *metta* and *cetana*.

Yours,
Aye Pe (Padaung)

JCCI expresses deepest condolence for flood victims

All members of Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Myanmar (JCCM) would like to convey deepest condolence to the flood victims hit by the terrible natural disaster recently happened in Myanmar.

We sincerely wish that our genuine sympathy could comfort all those affected people to suffer less and get soonest recovery from this devastating disaster. In that sense we would like to report that as a representative of 250 members of JCCM, we have given the 3000 US\$ donation to the Myanmar Government today thorough their Bank account.

JCCM is committed to make utmost efforts to contribute to the rehabilitation and re-establishments through Japan-Myanmar strongly tied-up business relationship at our best.

Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Myanmar

Scouts donate food, clothes, personal goods

YANGON, 12 Aug — Scouts held a ceremony to donate relief supplies for flood victims at Ahlon basic education high school No. 4, here, Wednesday.

Student scouts presented goods worth more than K 36 million and veteran scouts more than K 1.4 million, includ-

ing foods, clothes and personal goods to the chairman of Myanmar Scouts Federation and officials.

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Daw Su Su Hlaing accepted cash and goods from officials of the scout federation.

Ko Ko Zaw



Photo shows foods and personal goods donated by Myanmar Scouts Federation.
ZAW MIN LATT

Family kits, aid arrive from Australia



Members of Myanmar Aviation Police Corps (Yangon) unloading relief aid from aircraft of RAAF onto trucks.—HLA MOE

YANGON, 12 Aug—A Royal Australian Air Force aircraft carrying family kits donated by Australia and relief supplies from the ASEAN Coordination Centre for flood victims arrived at Yangon International Airport, here, Wednesday.

Members of the Myanmar Aviation Police Corps (Yangon) loaded four aluminium motorboats, 1,900 rolls of tarpaulins, 1,800 mosquito nets, 1,800 buck-

ets and 48 packets of family kits from the aircraft onboard the trucks.

Donations from the ASEAN Coordination

Centre will be delivered to flood victims through the Ayeyawady Region government. The aid packages from Australia will be dis-

tributed in flood-affected areas in Pwintbyu Township by NGO World Vision.

Min Thit

South Korea donates relief supplies for Bago Region



Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win, South Korean Ambassador Mr Lee Baek-soon and officials seen with relief aid for flood victims.—TUN AUNG KYAW

By Ko Moe

BAGO, 12 Aug — The South Korean government presented a shipment of flood relief supplies in a ceremony Wednesday at the Buddha Athan Dhamma Beikman building in Bago.

"Relief supplies donated by the Republic of Korea will be delivered

to flood victims as soon as possible," Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win said.

The relief supplies included rice, purified drinking water and clothes.

South Korea's Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Lee Baek-soon spoke about plans for another donation for Ayeyawady Region.

The governments of the two countries are set to coordinate the donation for flood-affected areas in Ayeyawady Region in the coming week.

Authorities will distribute 40 percent of the donated items to Monyo Township and 30 percent each to Thayawady and Letpadan townships.

GNLM

Libyan PM Thinni says on TV he will resign but spokesman says he stays



Libya's internationally recognized Prime Minister Abdullah al-Thinni speaks during an interview with Reuters in Bayda February 15, 2015.—REUTERS

TRIPOLI / BENGHAZI, (Libya), 12 Aug — Libya's internationally recognised Prime Minister Abdullah al-Thinni said in a television interview that he would resign, after the station's host confronted him with questions from angry citizens who criticized his cabinet as ineffective.

But in a move typical for a country in chaos where accurate information is hard to get as officials often contradict each

other, government spokesman Hatem al-Arabi told Reuters Thinni would stay on, adding that the premier had only meant he would quit if the people demanded it.

"I officially resign and I will submit my resignation to the House of Representatives on Sunday," he told "Libya channel", a private TV station in an interview broadcast late on Tuesday.

Thinni has been based

in eastern Libya since his government fled Tripoli a year ago after the capital was seized by an armed group that set up a rival administration, part of chaos four years after the ousting of Muammar Gaddafi.

Thinni has been in office since March 2014. He had said in April 2014 he would resign, saying his family had been attacked but later changed his mind and stayed on.

His cabinet, working out of hotels, has struggled to make an impact in the remote eastern city of Bayda, while citizens complained about shortages of fuel and a worsening security situation.

Ministries and key state buildings in Tripoli are under the control of the rival administration with its own premier that has not been recognised by world powers.

During the TV interview, Thinni became angry when the host presented him with questions

collected from viewers who criticized Thinni for a lack of security, government services and handling of aid for displaced people.

When the presenter asked Thinni what he would do if there were protests, he said: "People do not need to protest against me because I officially resign from my position."

"They can bring a new prime minister with magic to solve all the problems," he said. But when Reuters reached cabinet spokesman Arabi he denied that Thinni will resign. "The prime minister has not resigned officially. He said during the television interview that he would resign if the street demands it."

"A resignation needs to be handed in writing to the House of Representatives, which would accept or reject it," Arabi said.

Libya's east has been especially hit hard by the chaos as fighting between forces allied to Thinni and Islamist groups has choked

off wheat and fuel imports. The violence has also disrupted the power grid.

Libya also struggles with a public finance crisis as the chaos has cut oil production to a quarter of what the OPEC member used to pump before Gaddafi was ousted.

Critics say Thinni's cabinet mainly puts out statements that have no relevance. On Monday, Thinni's government said that Tripoli International Airport would be renamed after the late King Idris, toppled by Gaddafi in 1969.

The airport has been out of action since it was damaged when a rival faction seized Tripoli a year ago. Thinni's administration has no control of the airport.

"His government is a failure," Benghazi lawmaker Amal Bayou posted on her Facebook website in reaction to the resignation announcement, calling Thinni incompetent.

Reuters

Rebels attack Damascus with 50 rockets, killing 5

DAMASCUS, 12 Aug — At least five people were killed and 55 others injured when over 50 Katyusha rockets and mortar shells battered several districts of the capital city of Damascus Wednesday, the state news agency SANA said.

Mortars and rockets bombarded Damascus districts, surrounding the vicinity of the Russian Embassy, the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, as well as areas of the capital's old quarter, according to SANA and the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. Shelling started Wednesday, prompting the Syrian air force to escalate air raids on rebel-held areas, from where the mortars were fired, witnesses said.

The attack is the latest in a series of rebels' shelling against the capital, in apparent retaliation to the Syrian army's operations against militants in the city of Zabadani, northwest of Damascus, along with the western suburb of Daraya.—Xinhua

Two-day ceasefire agreed in Syrian town, villages

BEIRUT, 12 Aug — A 48-hour ceasefire was declared on Wednesday to halt fighting between Syrian insurgents and the army and its Lebanese militant Hezbollah ally in the rebel-held town of Zabadani and two Shi'ite Muslim villages in Idlib province.

The United Nations envoy for Syria said last month that government air strikes had caused widespread death and destruction in Zabadani, and expressed concern that civilians were trapped both there and in al-Foua and Kefraya villages.

Sources on both sides of the civil war told Reuters earlier on Wednesday the truce was to begin at 6 a.m. (0300 GMT), and negotiations would continue. The rebel group Ahrar al-Sham had led the negotiations on the insurgents' side.

"A ceasefire began at 6 a.m. today for 48 hours to halt military operations in Zabadani," Hezbollah's al-Manar reported. "It also includes the two villages of al-Foua and Kefraya in the Idlib countryside."

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a Britain-based group that reports

on the war, said no fighting had been reported in Zabadani, Kefraya or al-Foua after the ceasefire's agreed start time. "So far there is calm," Rami Abdulrahman, who runs the Observatory, told Reuters.

Hezbollah, an Iranian-backed Shi'ite group with a powerful militia, has been a crucial ally of President Bashar al-Assad in the four-year-old Syrian conflict.

Zabadani, about 45 km (30 miles) northwest of the capital Damascus and about 10 km from the border with Lebanon, has been the focus of a weeks-long offensive by the army and Hezbollah aimed at wresting control of the town from rebels.

The two Shi'ite villages have been targeted by an insurgent alliance that includes both the Sunni Islamist Ahrar al-Sham and the al Qaeda-linked Nusra Front.

The Observatory said talks would continue on evacuating fighters from Zabadani and sending food aid to Kefraya and al-Foua where thousands of people are under rebel siege.

Reuters

Turkey rescues 330 Greece-bound Syrians amid record surge of refugees

CESME, (Turkey), 12 Aug — The Turkish coastguard on Tuesday rescued 330 Syrians adrift in the Aegean Sea after failing to reach Greece, as the number of migrants attempting the treacherous passage to Europe surges.

Members of the group said they had been travelling on eight small boats. They included dozens of children, at least five of them newborn, and women, some of whom were visibly pregnant.

"We are told Europe will welcome us, but the door is closed in our face," said Abdul, 23, from Damascus. "We will try again every day to reach Greece."

Several of the refugees said their boat had been stopped by armed Greek coastguard officers who ordered them to dump fuel, stranding them at sea.

A spokesman for the Greek coastguard, Nikolaos Lagadianos, said it "categorically denied" the allegations, saying an incident had taken place off the Turkish town of Bodrum, further south, but that the Greek authorities had not



Members of the Turkish coast guards help a Syrian migrant family to disembark on the shore in Cesme, near the Aegean port city of Izmir, Turkey, August 11, 2015.—REUTERS

been involved. Crisis-hit Greece has seen a dramatic rise in the number of people seeking refuge. The United Nations refugee agency said 124,000 had arrived this year by sea.

Most are travelling to Greek islands in the Aegean from the nearby Turkish mainland. Turkey is home to more than 1.8 million

Syrian refugees escaping the four-year-old civil war.

One Turkish coastguard officer in the seaside resort town of Cesme said his crew had rescued 700 people in the past week, which he said was a record.

"There has been a calamitous increase, and we do not have the resources to meet their needs," the

officer said, declining to be named because he is not authorised to speak to the media.

Most are refugees from war-torn Syria, but others fleeing hardship and violence in Afghanistan, Iraq and Iran are also filling up the inflatable boats run by Turkish smugglers.

Reuters

S'pore researchers invent "intelligent system" for change of patients' diapers

SINGAPORE, 12 Aug — Researchers from the Institute of Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (IBN) in Singapore have invented an "intelligent continence management system," which alerts caregivers by SMS when the patients' diapers are soiled, the institute said on Wednesday.

The system comprises a thin disposable sensor strip, a compact wireless transmitter, a receiver and software, which has the potential to improve the care

of elderly and bedridden patients.

"Lying in soiled diapers for prolonged periods is not only uncomfortable and unhygienic, but may also cause skin rashes and infection for the wearer," the institute said.

"While increasing the frequency of diaper checks and changes may help to reduce this problem, it would also add to the workload of caregivers," said IBN Executive Director, Professor Jackie Y. Ying, who led the research effort.

Timely replacement of soiled diapers is a challenge for caregivers of patients who are unable to communicate this need, such as those who suffer from aphasia, the loss of speech after a stroke or brain injury.

IBN's sensor, which comes in the form of a thin, lightweight strip of metal, plastic and paper, can be easily integrated into the adult diapers currently available in the market to facilitate timely diaper change. The wireless transmitter, which is connected to

the sensor, can be easily attached and removed for reuse.

IBN conducted a clinical validation of the prototype on 20 elderly residents in 2013, the results show that system works well.

The technology has been licensed in March for commercialization, the institute said.

"Our diaper sensor would contribute toward better management of elderly and bedridden patients in nursing homes, hospitals and at home," Ying added.

Xinhua

Panasonic to close LED production plant in Indonesia

OSAKA, 12 Aug — Panasonic Corp. will close one of its Indonesian factories which makes light-emitting diodes by the end of October due to deteriorating profitability, company sources said Wednesday.

The plant exports a large part of its LED output to Japan, but the prolonged weakness of the Japanese yen has been hurting the profitability of the operation, they said.

About 80 percent of the plant's production will be moved to Japan, while the remaining production will be transferred to another factory in Indonesia, they said.

Some of the LED plant's workers will be axed, they said.

As a result of the plant closure, Panasonic will be producing all of its LEDs for domestic sale at Japanese plants, they said.

Kyodo News

India set to seek \$99 million in damages from Nestle after food scare: government source

MUMBAI, 12 Aug — India will seek damages of 6.39 billion rupees (\$99.3 million) from Swiss group Nestle after a food scare involving reports of excess lead in the firm's popular Maggi noodles forced a nationwide recall, a government official said on Tuesday.

Nestle, which has been accused of unfair trade practices, would be the first foreign firm to be asked to pay damages on be-

half of consumers, the official said, declining to be named.

Reuters reported in June that the Indian government had filed for damages from Nestle.

The claim, made on behalf of Indian consumers, was not filed through the courts but with the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission

(NCDRC), which has semi-judicial powers and will decide on the merits of the case and the size

of any damages.

Before the NCDRC could agree on the size of any damage, however, the government on Tuesday decided to fix the level of damages at 6.39 billion rupees, the official said.

A Nestle spokesman in New Delhi said the company would only be able to "provide substantive response" after it receives an official notice about the complaint filed to the NCDRC.

Nestle has been at the center of India's worst food scare in a decade after a regulator in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh in May said it found excess lead in a sample of Maggi noodles.

The company withdrew the brand from Indian stores last month and challenged the findings of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) at the Bombay High Court.—*Reuters*

China economic growth falters in July, yuan's slide adds to worries

BEIJING, 12 Aug — Growth in China's factory output, investment and retail sales were all weaker than expected in July, adding pressure on Beijing to roll out more measures to prevent a deeper slowdown, days after it shocked markets by devaluing its currency.

While the central bank insisted on Wednesday it would not let the yuan slide too far, the devaluation came days after data showed a hefty drop in exports and producer prices, which clearly weighed on Chinese manufacturers last month.

Nearly all data released for July was weaker than economists had forecast, pointing to further deterioration in the world's second-largest economy. Data for June had fuelled some hopes that activity was stabilising after policymakers unleashed the biggest burst of stimulus since the global financial crisis.

"This kind of data will only accentuate the negative outlook that everyone has about the economy," said Louis Kuijs, China economist at Royal Bank of Scotland in Hong Kong.

"Many people were expecting an improvement and there is no improvement. Things are getting worse rather than getting better. This kind of data makes it really challenging to achieve the official 7 percent growth (target)



A customer counts Chinese Yuan notes at a market in Beijing, August 12, 2015.— *REUTERS*

this year."

Factory output rose 6.0 percent in July from a year earlier, slowing from June's 6.8 percent rise and hitting a three-month low. Economists had expected a 6.6 percent rise.

Fixed-asset investment, a crucial driver of the world's second-largest economy, also disappointed, rising 11.2 percent in the first seven months compared with the year-ago period, the weakest pace in nearly 15 years, the National Bureau of Statistics showed on Wednesday.

Markets had expected an

11.5 percent rise, which would have been a slight improvement from June and put the outlook for the second-half of the year on somewhat more solid footing.

Property investment growth cooled to 4.3 percent, the weakest since March 2009, despite a pick-up in housing sales.

The investment figure is being closely watched as the government tries to quicken infrastructure spending to shore up growth.

Retail sales rose 10.5 percent in July from the same time last year, slightly below forecasts for

10.6 percent growth, which would have been even with June's reading. Auto sales fell 7.1 percent even as carmakers slashed prices and offered sweeter incentives.

The sluggish activity figures followed disappointing trade and inflation readings earlier this month that showed persistent weakness in the economy despite repeated stimulus measures.

The central bank has repeatedly cut interest rates and banks' reserve requirement to boost credit and lower borrowing costs, and further policy easing is widely expected to avert a sharper slowdown.

If conditions do not improve soon, growth could fall below 6.5 percent in the current quarter, from 7 percent in the second quarter, ANZ economists said in a note.

Some economists believe China's economy is already growing only half as fast as official data shows, or even less.

On Tuesday, the People's Bank of China shocked global markets by devaluing the yuan by nearly 2 percent, a move it billed as a free-market reform but which some suspect could be the beginning of an engineered, longer-term depreciation of the exchange rate to boost ailing exports.

The yuan fell further on Wednesday, taking its two-day

losses to more than 4 percent at one point.

"The July data is overall dovish (for policy) ... but in itself surely did not warrant such an extended fall in the yuan as the numbers are still highly respectable," said Chester Liaw, an economist at Forecast Pte Ltd in Singapore.

Regardless of Beijing's motives for the currency policy u-turn, analysts said the decline in the yuan so far was too mild to spur global demand for Chinese goods.

If the devaluation was a one-off move, economists at OCBC believe Beijing's next step may be to widen the yuan's allowable trading band and cut banks' reserve requirements further to offset the impact of capital flowing out of the country.

The central bank said last week that the economy may face headwinds in coming months due to its reform efforts, and it warned that monetary policy was being blunted by a lack of new growth drivers and lukewarm appetite for new investment.

While the property sector is showing some stabilisation due to government support, analysts say the sector will continue to drag on broader growth until high inventories of unsold homes are cleared.

Reuters

U.S. military helicopter crashes off Okinawa, 7 injured

NAHA (Japan), 12 Aug — A U.S. military helicopter crashed off Okinawa's main island on Wednesday afternoon, injuring 7 crew members, but all 17 on board were rescued, Japanese authorities said.

The crash occurred between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. about 30 kilometers east of the U.S. Kadena air base on the island, according to the Japan Coast Guard, quoting U.S. forces in Japan.

The helicopter is believed to be a U.S. Army UH-60, a government source said.—*Kyodo News*



Photo taken June 7, 2015, shows a U.S. Army UH-60 helicopter. A helicopter believed to be the same model crashed off Okinawa's main island on Aug. 12, 2015, injuring 7 crew members, but all 17 on board were rescued, Japanese authorities said.—*Kyodo News*

Newspaper deliveryman severely injured in apparent crossbow attack

NAGOYA, 12 Aug — A 31-year-old newspaper deliveryman was found severely injured in Aichi Prefecture in central Japan early Wednesday after apparently being shot with a crossbow as well as stabbed, police said.

The police are investigating the attack as a possible case of attempted murder and hunting for a man with a dark mask who fled from the scene in a van.

The victim told investigators that he was shot in the right chest with a crossbow when he was delivering newspapers at a public housing complex in the town of Taketoyo.

He was also stabbed in the abdomen and sustained cuts on his arm, the police said, adding his injuries are likely not life-threatening.

One month ago on July 12, a similar attack occurred in Handa, a neighboring city within the same prefecture, against a 30-year-old male company employee, who was slashed at from the behind. The attacker apparently wore a dark mask. A fruit knife was found at the scene.

In the latest case, after hearing what sounded like a quarrel, residents found the newspaper deliveryman lying on the ground and saw another man fleeing the scene in a black van. No weapons have been recovered from the scene.—*Kyodo News*



Police officers investigate the spot where a 31-year-old newspaper deliveryman was found severely injured in Aichi Prefecture in central Japan in the early hours on Aug. 12, 2015. The man was apparently shot with a crossbow as well as stabbed.—*Kyodo News*

Police release video they say shows Ferguson suspect with gun

FERGUSON, 12 Aug — St. Louis County Police released a video on Tuesday that they said shows a suspect, who has been accused of firing on police, drawing a pistol from his pants during protests in strife-torn Ferguson, Missouri.

Tyrone Harris, 18, was shot by police and is in critical condition. He has been charged with four counts of assault on law enforcement, five counts of armed criminal action, and one count of shooting at a vehicle. Bond for Harris, who is black, was set at \$250,000.

The incident occurred on Sunday in the St. Louis suburb where largely peaceful demonstrations over police shootings of unarmed black men have been punctuated by violence.

The 13-second video taken from a surveillance camera at an insurance agency shows a group of people milling about during Sunday night's protests



People are pictured outside Solo Insurance Services in St. Louis, Missouri in this still image capture from August 9, 2015 surveillance video footage in this August 11, 2015 St. Louis County Police Department handout photo. Police say the man indicated by the arrow is Tyrone Harris, who was later shot by police.—*REUTERS*

marking the one-year anniversary of the fatal shooting of unarmed black teenager Michael Brown by a white police officer.

During the video, shots are fired and a young man can be seen brandishing what looks like a pistol.

St. Louis County Police said: "The video shows

Harris grab a handgun out of his waistband once shots are fired during the protest in the West Florissant corridor."

Harris's father said his son did not have a gun.

"He was running for his ... life because someone was shooting at him," Tyrone Harris, Sr. said in

a telephone interview from his St. Louis-area home before the video was released.

According to St. Louis city court records, the younger Harris was free on bail awaiting trial on charges of stealing a motor vehicle, theft of a firearm and resisting arrest.

Reuters

Vanity saves Hiroshima man from A-bomb death

HIROSHIMA, 12 Aug — Sunao Tsuboi was at his home in Kure, Hiroshima Prefecture, when World War II ended but he did not know it because he was in bed unconscious.

Tsuboi finished breakfast at a small restaurant near the Hiroshima city office shortly after 8 a.m. on Aug. 6, 1945. A junior student at his university, who was with him, then said, "Let's eat another round as I can get food vouchers."

The proposal was attractive but Tsuboi declined it because he did not want a pretty girl working there to consider him greedy, so he left the restaurant.

Walking toward his boarding house, Tsuboi heard a noise from above,

was then blown off by a strong blast following a huge flash of silver light and lost consciousness.

He was about 1 kilometer away from the epicenter when the atomic bomb detonated over the city of Hiroshima at 8:15 a.m.

When he awoke, he saw houses around him totally demolished. He had burns on his arms and legs and was bleeding, he recalled. Informed that there was a clinic within a five-minute walk, he finally reached it after struggling to walk for more than an hour.

But the building had been demolished, and Tsuboi collapsed on the street and wrote with a



Sunao Tsuboi, 90

small stone on the ground, "I, Tsuboi, die here."

A small truck then came to pick up young men, like Tsuboi, considered useful for the war. A small girl of around 6 years old tried to climb into the truck but the driver chased her off. Aboard the truck, Tsuboi was too exhausted

to yell, "Help her."

He just saw the girl in tears run toward the blazing town.

The girl must have perished, Tsuboi, 90, said. "Even today, I groan in my sleep as I see that girl in a dream from time to time."

Tsuboi later heard that everyone in the restaurant died in the bombing.

After the truck picked him up, Tsuboi was taken to a hospital on Ninoshima, an island in the Bay of Hiroshima. Fortunately, he was discovered by his family and brought home.

Tsuboi then lost consciousness again and regained it on Sept. 25 the same year, 41 days after the end of the war.

Kyodo News

IMF welcomes China's move to improve forex formation system

WASHINGTON, 12 Aug — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Tuesday welcomed China's move to improve its foreign exchange formation system and said a more market-oriented exchange rate would facilitate the Special Drawing Right (SDR) operation if RMB was included in the basket.

"The new mechanism for determining the central parity of the RMB an-

nounced by the People's Bank of China (PBC) appears a welcome step as it should allow market forces to have a greater role in determining the exchange rate," an IMF spokesperson said in a statement on Tuesday. The spokesperson said that greater exchange rate flexibility is important for China as it strives to give market forces a decisive role in the economy and is rapidly integrating into

global financial markets. The IMF also said China has the ability to achieve an effectively floating exchange rate system within two or three years.

In regard to the IMF's ongoing review on whether RMB will be included in the SDR basket or not, the spokesperson said China's move has no direct implications for the criteria used in determining the composition of the basket.

But the spokesperson added that a more market-oriented exchange rate would facilitate SDR operation in case the RMB were included in the basket.

The People's Bank of China on Tuesday announced the decision to improve its central parity system to better reflect market development in the exchange rate between the Chinese yuan against the U.S. dollar.—*Xinhua*

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (TPN-651)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (TPN-651) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.8.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV ASSAD ULLAH VOY NO
(007/2015)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASSAD ULLAH VOY NO (007/2015) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.8.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(4) where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301186

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MOROTAI VOY NO (YF269R)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOROTAI VOY NO (YF269R) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.8.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CMA CGM LINE

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV GEORGIANA VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GEORGIANA VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.8.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T(5) where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S F.H BERTLING CHARTERING AND SHIP MANAGEMENT PTE LTD.

Phone No: 2301186

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (087N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (087N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.8.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

WEATHER REPORT

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (15:30) hrs MST today, the low pressure area over West Central Bay and adjoining Northwest Bay of Bengal still persists. Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 13th August, 2015: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Lower Sagaing and Magway Regions, Scattered in Mandalay Region and Kayah State, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Regions, Shan, Chin and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

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

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Increase of rain in the Northern Myanmar areas.

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Relatives mark 30th anniversary of JAL jumbo jet crash

UENO, (Japan), 12 Aug — Relatives of the victims of the 1985 Japan Airlines jumbo jet crash commemorated the 30th anniversary of the tragedy on Wednesday, climbing to the accident site in the mountains northwest of Tokyo to pray for their loved ones.

In what is still the world’s deadliest single-carrier aircraft accident, JAL Flight 123 bound for Osaka with 524 passengers and crew aboard crashed into the Osutaka Ridge in Gunma Prefecture, killing all but four. The tragedy happened during the Bon summer holidays.

The relatives climbed

the steep mountainside to the crash site to mourn for the dead at grave markers and a monument located on Osutaka Ridge.

JAL President Yoshiharu Ueki is also scheduled to climb the trail to pay his respects to the victims and pledge aircraft safety.

Just over two weeks ago, a small private aircraft crashed into a residential area in western Tokyo, killing three people and injuring five as homes were set on fire.

In the evening, a memorial ceremony will be held at “Irei-no-sono” (Memorial Garden) in the village of Ueno, Gunma Prefecture,

at the foot of the mountain, with relatives, villagers and JAL officials attending.

Participants will light 520 candles — one for each victim — and offer silent prayers at 6:56 p.m., the time the Boeing 747 crashed into the mountain around 40 minutes after taking off from Tokyo’s Haneda airport.

The B-747 crashed into the mountainous area, located near the borders with Nagano and Saitama prefectures, after a rupture in the plane’s rear pressure bulkhead blew off its vertical stabilizer and destroyed its hydraulics, rendering the aircraft uncontrollable.

In 1987, a Japanese government investigation commission concluded that the accident was caused by improper repairs conducted by Boeing Co., the maker of the aircraft, on the pressure bulkhead that JAL did not detect in its maintenance checks.

Gunma prefectural police charged 20 people including Boeing employees in 1988 with negligence,

but prosecutors declined to seek indictment after Boeing refused to cooperate.

With the year marking the 30th anniversary of the accident, some of the relatives have started to speak out, in the hope that the tragedy will not be forgotten and the importance of transportation safety will be passed on to younger generations.

A group of relatives published a collection of essays this summer written by around 40 people close to the victims, including by a child born after the accident. In 2006, JAL opened the Safety Promotion Center near Tokyo’s Haneda airport, a museum it positions as “cornerstone of safety” to hand down the lessons from the accident and reconfirm the importance of flight safety.

The center, open to the public, displays the wreckage of the crashed jumbo jet and items including the collapsed pressure bulkhead, damaged passenger seats and passengers’ notes addressed to their families.—Kyodo News



Mourners visit the cenotaph on Osutaka Ridge, the accident site of the 1985 Japan Airlines jumbo jet crash, on Aug. 12, 2015, the 30th anniversary of the tragedy, in the central Japan prefecture of Gunma. The world’s deadliest single-carrier aircraft tragedy killed all but four of the 524 passengers and crew on board.—Kyodo News



Photo taken on Aug. 11, 2015 shows the view of a flooded road in Lujan city, Buenos Aires province, Argentina. According to local press, the heavy rains in the province of Buenos Aires have left 3 people dead and thousands of people affected. —XINHUA

Disney's 'Descendants' soundtrack tops Billboard album chart

NEW YORK, 12 Aug — The soundtrack from the Disney Channel TV movie "Descendants" topped the Billboard 200 chart this week, as Taylor Swift and British singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran strengthened their dominance in album sales this year.

"Descendants," a fantasy film about the teen offspring of some of Disney's best-known animated villains, sold almost 42,000 units in its first week of release, according to figures from Nielsen SoundScan.

Disney Channel is a cable television unit of Walt Disney Co.

The Billboard 200 chart tallies album sales, song sales (10 songs equal one album) and streaming activity (1,500 streams equal one album).

In a soft week for new releases, Swift's best-selling album of 2014, "1989" rose to the No. 3 spot, with sales of 34,800 units, after 40 weeks on the chart. Sheeran's "X" notched its 58th week on the Billboard 200 and rose to fourth place.

Just two new albums made their debut in the Top 10 - rockers Led Zeppelin's newly re-issued 1979 hit "In Through the Out Door" in the No. 9 spot, and comedian Lil Dicky's "Professional Rapper," which entered the chart in seventh place.

Last week's chart-topper, R&B artist Jill Scott's "Woman," slipped to fifth place.

On the Digital Songs chart, which tallies digital single downloads, British boy band One Direction's "Drag me Down" took the top spot with some 350,000 downloads, followed by "Can't Feel My Face" by Canadian R&B artist The Weekend.

Reuters

Japanese cartoon Doraemon to run on British TV

TOKYO, 12 Aug — The popular Japanese cartoon program Doraemon will be shown in Britain from next Monday, making it the 38th country or region to run the animated series, TV Asahi Corp. said Tuesday.

Doraemon, based on manga comic books by Fujiko F. Fujio, will be aired in English on Boomerang, a cable and satellite channel popular among children, on

weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 8 a.m., prime time for schoolchildren, the Japanese broadcaster said.

The number of episodes to be screened has not been decided, according to the company.

Doraemon, a robotic cat who travels from the 22nd century to the present day to help elementary school boy Nobita, first appeared in manga in 1969 and has been spun off into movies and video games as well as the animated series. Boomerang describes Nobita on its website as "10-year-old Noby, a lazy uncoordinated terrible student who needs all the help he can get."—Kyodo News



Undated photo shows children looking at a Doraemon statue. Japanese broadcaster TV Asahi Corp. said on Aug. 11, 2015, that the popular cartoon program will be shown in Britain from Aug. 17, making it the 38th country or region to run the series. KYODO NEWS

ANGELINA JOLIE to produce animated film on Afghan girl

LOS ANGELES, 12 Aug — Actress-filmmaker Angelina Jolie is set to executive produce "The Breadwinner", an animated film centring on a young girl living under the Taliban regime in Afghanistan.

The film is an adaptation of Deborah Ellis' young adult novel of the same name, said The Hollywood Reporter.

It will be directed by Nora Twomey from a screen story by Ellis and screenplay by Anita Doron. The story revolves around Parvana, who disguises herself as a boy to become the breadwinner of the family when her father is unfairly imprisoned. "The Breadwinner" also showcases culture, history and beauty of Afghanistan. A version of the film will be produced in Dari (one of the official languages of Afghanistan) in addition to the English-language version.

"Millions of young girls like Parvana are growing up today under oppression or conflict, and helping their families to survive in those conditions. This story is a reminder of the immense value of their contribution," Jolie Pitt said in a statement.

"I am delighted to be working with a talented team of artists who I know will do justice to the richness, creativity and strength of Afghan culture and to little girls like Parvana."

The project is slated to begin production in August, and due for completion in early 2017. —PTI



Katy Perry

Singer Katy Perry hints at a Christmas album

LOS ANGELES, 12 Aug — Singer Katy Perry has hinted she is working on a holiday album in a video she shared on Instagram.

The 30-year-old "Roar" hitmaker's video showed four men in masks and bright-coloured sweaters sitting next to a decorated Christmas tree in a studio, reported Aceshowbiz. "When your derp squad writes a Christmas song in August," read the caption.

Perry is no stranger to singing holiday-themed tunes. She previously wowed fans with a live rendition of "White Christmas" at the Hotel Cafe. She also once sang an acoustic version of "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas". There's still no further word from Perry about whatever it is she's planning. If she does make a Christmas record, it will likely be her first album since 2013's "Prism" which peaked at Number 1 on Billboard 200 and spawned two Number 1 singles on Billboard Hot 100, "Roar" and "Dark Horse".—PTI

Meghan Trainor

cancels tour after vocal cord hemorrhage



Singer Meghan Trainor performs on NBC's "Today" show in New York May 22, 2015. REUTERS

LOS ANGELES, 12 Aug — U.S. singer Meghan Trainor canceled the remainder of her "MTrain Tour" on Tuesday after suffering a hemorrhaged vocal cord.

Trainor, 21, who broke out last summer with the body-positive song "All About That Bass," said she will be undergoing surgery.

"I have hemorrhaged my vocal

cord again. I got bronchitis & have been coughing a lot & that pushed it over the edge," she said in an Instagram post.

Trainor's tour, supporting her debut album "Title," kicked off in St. Louis in July and was scheduled to continue into September with stops including Nashville, Atlanta and Chicago. The singer had previ-

ously canceled performances in July due to vocal cord issues.

Trainor rocketed to the top of the U.S. pop charts last year with "All About That Bass," which also earned her two Grammy nominations. The accompanying music video is one of the most-watched videos on YouTube, with more than 970 million views.—Reuters

GENERAL

Daredevil Nik Wallenda walks high wire above Milwaukee racetrack

MILWAUKEE, 12 Aug — Acrobat Nik Wallenda on Tuesday completed his longest high-wire walk ever above the Milwaukee Mile racetrack during the Wisconsin State Fair, ending with a thumbs up to the crowd below giving him a wild ovation, a fair official said.

Wallenda took 33 minutes to walk 1,560 feet (475 m) on a wire no wider than a U.S. nickel 10 stories above the racetrack near the state fair grounds.

Wallenda, the self-proclaimed King of the High Wire, has several records listed with the Guinness World Records organization. His feats have included high-wire walks above the brink of Niagara Falls, between two Chicago skyscrapers while blindfolded and across the Grand Canyon, in Arizona.

Wallenda is part of the seventh generation of the famed Flying Wallenda family of acrobats. His great-grandfather, Karl Wallenda, slipped and fell to his death from a high wire in Puerto Rico in 1978.—Reuters



A historic Portland and Western Railroad trestle is seen on fire near Sherwood, Oregon, in this handout photo from the Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue Department released to Reuters August 11, 2015. REUTERS

Wildfire escalates in northern California, people flee homes

SAN FRANCISCO, 12 Aug — A wildfire burning in northern California grew rapidly on Tuesday near another massive blaze that has destroyed dozens of buildings, forcing some residents to evacuate their homes for the second time in as many weeks.

The so-called Jerusalem Fire, sparked on Sunday, has spread across 14,000 acres (5,665 hectares) and was burning aggressively through drought-parched vegetation north of Napa Valley wine country, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) said.

Evacuation orders were ex-

panded on Tuesday for residents in Lake County, but the number of people displaced was not known, the agency said.

Earlier in the day, official said 150 people were forced to leave their homes. The fire, burning about 100 miles (160 km) north of San Francisco, was 5 percent contained, Cal Fire said.

The blaze was advancing through an area just miles from the perimeter of the 69,636-acre (28,180-hectare) Rocky Fire, California's fiercest wildfire so far this season.

That blaze has destroyed 43 homes and 50 outbuildings and

forced hundreds of residents across three counties to evacuate the rural ranch lands, Cal Fire said.

Some evacuees who had been allowed to return home as firefighters gained control of the blaze over the weekend were again forced to flee the Jerusalem Fire, officials said. Strong winds were expected to increase the risk of fire in Northern California for several days this week, according to Cal Fire.

The two fires were among dozens burning across the American West.

Reuters

Courtois to miss Man City game after losing red card appeal



Chelsea v Arsenal - FA Community Shield - Wembley Stadium - 2/8/15 Chelsea's Thibaut Courtois looks dejected. —REUTERS

LONDON, 12 Aug — Chelsea goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois will miss the champions' visit to Manchester City on Sunday after an appeal against a red card for the Belgian international was rejected by the Football Association.

Courtois was sent off for denying a goal scoring opportunity in the 52nd minute of Chelsea's 2-2 draw against Swansea City at Stamford Bridge on Saturday.

An independent regulatory commission rejected Chelsea's appeal against the red card and upheld a one-match suspension, the FA said.

The ruling will give back-up keeper Asmir Begovic, signed from Stoke City earlier this summer as a replacement for Petr Cech, the chance to make his first Premier League start for Chelsea.

Reuters

Dembele wants to prove worth at Spurs, targets more goals



Tottenham Hotspur's Mousa Sidi Yaya Dembele (R) pushes the ball ahead of Real Madrid's Jese during their pre-season Audi Cup tournament soccer match in Munich, Germany, August 4, 2015. —REUTERS

LONDON, 12 Aug —Tottenham Hotspur midfielder Mousa Dembele recognises he needs to get more frequently on the score-sheet this season and says he is getting there. The Belgian international, who joined the club in the summer of 2012, scored one goal in 40 appearances for the club last season but made only 10 starts in the Premier League. "I want to score goals and make goals," the 28-year-old told the club's website (www.tottenhamhotspur.com).

"I've played a few games on the right now and I've been able to focus on being dangerous in front of goal and trying to do that more and more.

"The statistics will show that I

need to score more goals so this is something I want to improve this season and show I can be more potent in front of goal." Dembele, who started in his club's opening day 1-0 defeat against Manchester United at Old Trafford, is desperate to prove his worth at the north London club.

"I'm happy I started and I just try to develop every time I play, I want to show everyone what I can do," Dembele said.

"I hope to fight for the team and that's the first thing I'll do, fight for the team and try to do what the manager asks of me." Tottenham will host Stoke City in the Premier League on Saturday.—Reuters

mitv Myanmar International

(13-8-2015 07:00 am~14-8-2015 07:00 am) MST

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MRTV Entertainment Channel

(13-8-2015, Thursday)

- 6:00 am**
- Mono Classical Songs
- 6:20 am**
- Myanmar Series
- 6:45 am**
- Fashion Show
- 7:05 am**
- TV Drama Series
- 7:55 am**
- TV Drama Series
- 8:45 am**
- Myanmar Video
- 9:55 am**
- My Dream
- 10:00 am**
- Myanmar Video
- 12:00 noon**
- Close Down

MGF honours youth golfers



Patron of Myanmar Golf Federation Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Rtd) presents \$5,300 to Ma Thin Wai Khaing who won first prize in age-wise event in Hurricane Junior Golf Tour.—GNLM

YANGON, 12 Aug — Myanmar Golf Federation honoured victorious golfers in the Hurricane Junior Golf Tour in the US on 20 and 21 July, at the hall of the federation recently.

Patron of Myanmar Golf Federation Maj-Gen Win Hlaing (Rtd) presented \$5,300 to Thin Wai Khaing who stood first in an age-wise event.

Youth golfers recounted experiences in playing the golf tournament.—GNLM

Djokovic launches hard-court campaign with Rogers Cup win

MONTREAL, 12 Aug — World number one Novak Djokovic kicked off his bid for a fourth Canadian crown with a 6-3, 7-6(4) second round win over a stubborn Thomaz Bellucci at the Rogers Cup on Tuesday.

Bellucci, with just one win in five visits to Canada and coming off a first-round loss at Washington, appeared to be the perfect opponent for Djokovic to launch his buildup to the U.S. Open but provided a stiff test for the Serb.

“Match could have gone either way, honestly, especially in the second set,” Djokovic told reporters after battling Bellucci for an hour and 50 minutes. “But we both had our chances to break. We got to the tiebreak, which I thought was fair, then it was anybody’s game.”

“It’s the first hard-court match for me from Miami earlier this year in March. It takes a little bit of time to get into the rhythm, get into the groove.”

The top seed in Canada for the fifth straight year, Djokovic saved all three break points he faced in a tight opening set.

The Serb, who narrowly missed out on a fourth Canada title last year after losing to Jo-Wilfried Tsonga in the final, also saved two break points in the second as the set went to a tie break, which he quickly took control of and took 7-4 to register his 250th world tour Masters 1000 match win.

Only three players have beaten Djokovic in 2015 — Ivo Karlovic, Roger Federer and Stan Wawrinka.

For the second straight night, late action was suspended at the Rogers Cup. World number three Andy Murray had his match with Tommy Robredo postponed with the duel even at 4-4 in the first set.

In first-round action, Tsonga opened his title defense with a 6-4 6-4 win over Croatian teenager Borna Coric in a rain-interrupted match that began on Monday.

Czech Lukas Rosol upset South African 12th seed Kevin Anderson 7-6(2), 7-6(4) while Bulgarian 14th seed Grigor Dimitrov, a semi-finalist last year, advanced 6-4, 7-5 against Ukrainian qualifier Alexandr Dologopolov.

Reuters

Pedro strike hands Barca Super Cup in nine-goal thriller

TBILISI, (Georgia), 12 Aug — Barcelona substitute Pedro scored deep into extra time to secure the European Super Cup with a 5-4 win over Sevilla in a thriller on Tuesday after they surrendered a three-goal lead in Tbilisi.

Barca said before the game that Pedro wanted to leave the club but the 28-year-old came on to win the trophy, just as he did in 2009, pouncing on a rebound from a Lionel Messi shot.

Messi had himself scored a double with two stunning early free kicks while Rafinha and Luis Suarez also netted for the Catalans, who led 4-1 with just over half an hour left.

Barca’s fifth triumph in the competition, which means they have now won four trophies this year, moved them level with AC Milan on the all-time UEFA Super Cup winners list.

“I got the goal but it was down to the work of the team and I am happy with the win,” said Pedro. “When you know you may leave it is difficult. I was angry about not starting the game but as always I tried to be professional and go out and help.”

Ever Banega had given Europa League winners Sevilla the lead with a free-kick after three minutes but Messi stamped his mark on the game with stunning free-kicks after seven and 16 minutes.

The Argentine’s double for the Champions

League holders means he is again joint record scorer in European competition with Real Madrid’s Cristiano Ronaldo on 80 goals.

Rafinha slotted home a Luis Suarez pass just before the break and the Uruguayan scored himself after the restart having been found by Sergio Busquets to put Barca firmly in command.

Sevilla, though, fought back with goals from Jose Antonio Reyes, after 57 minutes, and Kevin Gameiro, with a penalty in the 72nd, before Yevhen Konoplyanka equalised with 10 minutes left to force the game into extra time.

“We went out looking to be creative and to cause danger,” Sevilla coach Unai Emery told a news conference.

“To get to European finals you need to earn respect and so attack the opposition which is what we did.”

“I don’t think that we got the reward we deserved from the game. We had clear chances at the end and Barca were looking worried.”

With Neymar out due to mumps, Barca coach Luis Enrique chose Rafinha ahead of Pedro in attack but three minutes into extra time the Canary Islander got his chance and made the most of it.

Pedro fired the winner into the roof of the net from close range with five minutes left as Barca stayed on track to win six trophies this calendar year on the back of last season’s treble.

Pedro also came off

the bench in the 2009 Super Cup final against Shakhtar Donetsk to score in the 115th minute and secure a 1-0 victory for Barca after they had won their first treble.

“We knew that this would be a difficult game and this really showed the merit of the team. It is difficult to win trophies and games,” the Barca coach said.

I am very happy with the way that we won and showed the hard work that is necessary.

“We didn’t know what to expect and it shows what you have to do to win a trophy.”

“It was great for the fans and after 50 minutes it looked as though the game was over but against a rival like that you never know.”

Reuters



Barcelona’s players, coaches and officials celebrate their victory over Sevilla in the UEFA Super Cup soccer match at Boris Paichadze Dinamo Arena in Tbilisi, Georgia, August 12, 2015.—REUTERS

Serena shakes off rust, Bouchard woes continue at Rogers Cup

TORONTO, 12 Aug — Serena Williams shook off some hard-court rust before rolling to a 2-6, 6-3, 6-0 win over Italy’s Flavia Pennetta at the Rogers Cup on Tuesday, but the home crowd failed to fire up local favourite Eugenie Bouchard, who slumped to another first round exit.

Williams, playing her first match of the North American hard-court swing after pulling out at Stanford last week with a sore right elbow, endured a ragged opening set in which she was broken four times and fired four double faults.

But the 33-year-old

American, a three-time champion on the Toronto hardcourts, eventually found her rhythm in the second round match.

While Pennetta would break on her next opportunity to lead 2-1 in the second set, Williams shifted into another gear and stormed through the next four games on her way to levelling the match at one set each.

Fans were treated to the sight of Williams in full flow in the third as the 21-times grand slam champion finished off Pennetta with a thundering backhand winner.

“It was tough holding serve today for me,” said the world number one, adding that she could not recall another match where she had been broken four times in a single set.

“It was definitely good for me to have a match like this, to play a good player like her, especially since I haven’t played a match on hard court since early April.”

While all four grand slam titles are already in her possession, a successful defence of her U.S. Open crown next month would put Williams in an exclusive club along with Mau-

reen Connolly, Margaret Court and Steffi Graf as the only women to have swept all four in a single season.

While Williams continues to dominate the game, the once-bright star of Canadian Bouchard lost even more of its lustre with a 6-0 5-7 6-2 loss to Swiss teenager Belinda Bencic in the first round.

Hailed as the new face of women’s tennis just 12 months ago, Bouchard’s downward spiral shows no signs of coming to a halt as the 21-year-old fell at the first hurdle for the eighth time in 10 tournaments.

Reuters