

President meets locals in Kalay

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PERSPECTIVES

The end justifies the means

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32 MIL ELIGIBLE VOTERS

Nationwide electoral registers to be publicized in September

YANGON, 23 Aug — The nationwide electoral registers will be released only in September, according to the Union Election Commission.

The commission had initially planned to publicize the voting lists nationwide from 23 August to 6 September, but the country's devastating floods in 12 states and regions have caused the announcement of the lists to postpone.

"People across the country are engaged in the rehabilitation process, so they are unable to check whether their names are on the electorate register," UEC's director U Thaung Hlaing said.

The voters will have 14 days to verify their legitimacy to vote. According to the initial announcement made by UEC, there are 32 million eligible voters across the country. Candidates will start campaigning for support in their constituencies from 8 September to 6 November.

The General Election 2015 has been scheduled for 8 November.—*Ye Khaung Nyunt*

People check voter list at West Sawyanpaing Ward in Ahlon Township.—*Po Htaung*



WEATHER NEWS

Typhoons Goni, Atsani show signs of abating

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Aug—Typhoons Goni and Atsani in the Pacific Ocean, both having wind speeds of 80 miles per hour, are showing signs of abating, according to the Emergency Operation Centre of the Relief and Resettlement Department on Sunday.

partment on Sunday.

Typhoon Goni is likely to move northward with a wind speed of 95 mph within the next 24 hours, according to the centre

Typhoon Atsani is likely to move northeastward within the next 24 hours, it added.—*MNA*

National library law aims to ensure permanent preservation of country's literary heritage

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 23 Aug — A draft law on promoting the role of the National Library of Myanmar is close to completion, its director, Daw Mya Oo, said Sunday.

The National Library Law that is being drafted by the Culture Ministry will help meet the

NL's goal of becoming a major center that collects and preserves all the country's publications to safeguard the national literary heritage, she added.

"The draft law includes a provision that publishers shall have to provide the NL with five copies of every publication. It would help the NL in conserving

two copies of every publication permanently," she said.

After enactment of the law, the publishers will get a Cataloguing-in-Publication (CIP) service offered by the National Library before making publication, she told The Global New Light of Myanmar.

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Engineers reopen Kanbalu-Htangan railroad section with repairing derailment of train

KANBALU, 23 Aug — The 42-down Mandalay-Myitkyina train driven by U Aung Nyunt derailed between mile posts 485/6 and 485/4 on Kanbalu-Htangan railroad section in Kanbalu about 11.30 p.m. on 22 August.

Engineers and skilled workers from Myanma Railways repaired the wheels of train and rail tracks.

Due to blocking of the 42-down train on the railroad section, the 56-down express train stopped over at Kanbalu station as of 3 a.m. on 23 August.

As engineers finished repairing of railroads in the heavy rain at 7 p.m. on 23 August, the 56-down train departed Kanbalu station at 7.55 a.m. after 42-down Mandalay-Myitkyina train had resumed its runs.

Shwe Lin Pyae Sone

Experts discuss Myanmar's environment



Forestry experts holding talks on environmental conservation in Myanmar with past, present and future prospects.—TIN MAUNG (MANDALAY)

MANDALAY, 23 Aug — A talk entitled “past, present and future environmental conservation in Myanmar” was staged at the hotel in Mahaaungmye Township, here, on 22 August.

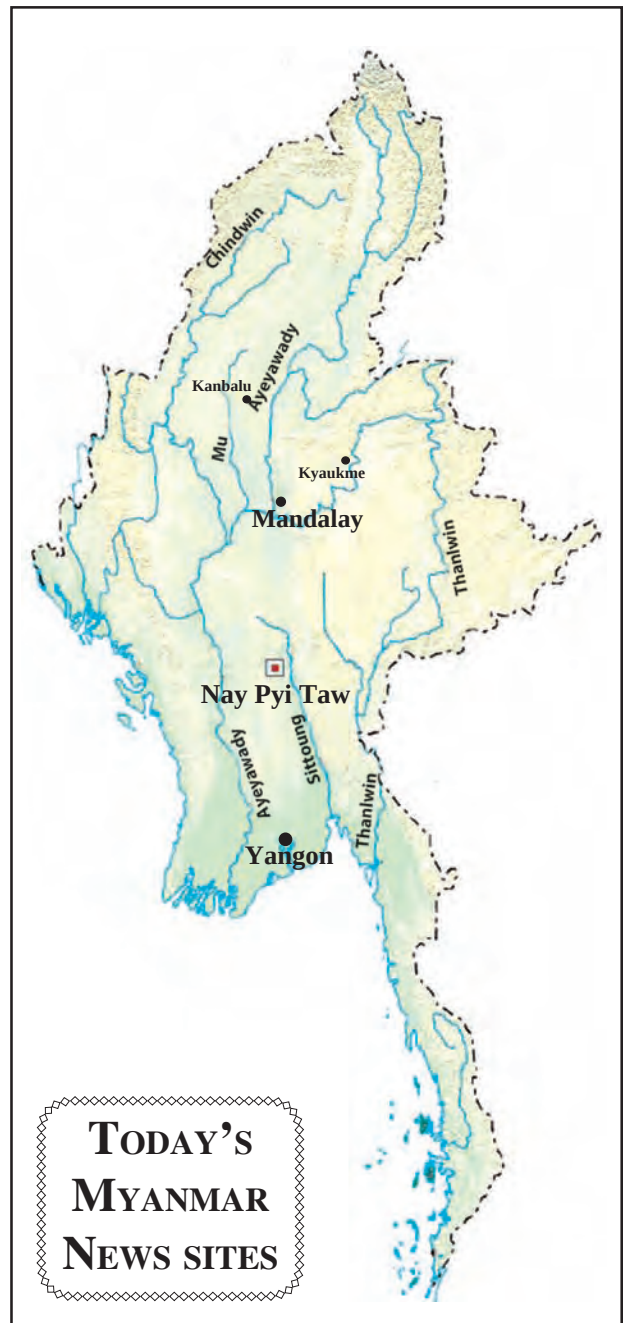
Patron of Myanmar

Forestry Association U Ohn Lwin and Chairman U Soe Win Hlaing extended greetings.

Speakers of the talks gave lectures on deforestation, conservation of bio-diversity and environmental changes.

Retired director U Tun Paw Oo of Forest Department spoke about environmental conservation for all, while writer Hsu Hgnet explained Yadanabon Mandalay and environment.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)



Flash flooding in Kyaukme returns to normalcy



KYAUKME, 23 Aug — The flash overflow of Namsaungngaung creek inundated residences in Ward 6 and a basic education primary school in Ward 5 in Kyaukme, Shan State

on 22 August.

As the water level of the creek ebbed on 23 August, local people cleared debris at the flood-affected areas. Firefighters cleaned silt on the floor of No 1

BEPS and sprayed there in the afternoon.

There was no casualty in the sudden flooding in the township, according to an official.

Myint Aung (KaMa)

Talks focus on preservation of Myanmar traditional culture

MANDALAY, 23 Aug — Mandalay University's Literature and Culture Committee organized a talk on Myanmar culture at the Inwa Hall of the University on 21 August, with Rector Dr Maung Thin, pro-rec-

tors, faculty members and students in attendance.

The master of ceremonies introduced speaker Shwe Nann Tin to the audience. Sithu Shwe Nann Tin, Vice Chairman of Myanmar Theatrical Drama

Organization, gave talks on preservation of Myanmar traditional culture.

After the talks, Rector Dr Maung Thin presented gifts to the speaker.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Myanmar, China showcase books in various subjects

MANDALAY, 23 Aug — As a gesture of honouring the 65th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Myanmar and China, a book show was opened at the city hall on 22 August.

Mandalay Region Minister for Finance Dr Myint Kyu, Consul-General of China Mr Wang

Yu and officials opened the book show and Myanmar-China translated book publishing forum.

Mr Liang Zong Hua of Information Department from Yunnan Province presented books on State administration and politics of Xi Jinping to Head of Mandalay Region Information

and Public Relations Department U Kyaw Than Tun.

The book show and publishing forum are aimed at introducing beautiful insights and nature of Myanmar to China and the world as well as cementing friendly ties between Myanmar and China.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



President U Thein Sein sends messages of felicitations to Ukraine

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Aug — U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent messages of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Petro Poroshenko, President of Ukraine, and His Excellency Mr. Arseniy Yatsenyuk, Prime Minister of Ukraine, on the occasion of the Independence Day of Ukraine which falls on 24 August 2015.—MNA

President meets locals in Kalay

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Aug — President U Thein Sein spoke about people's suffering from flesh flooding in all regions and states except one region and two states as of mid-July 2015, at a meeting with local residents to rehabilitate the Kalay region at the city hall in Kalay on Sunday.

The president explained the assistance being provided by the government for rehabilitation of the flood victims and plans to cover the basic needs of flood victims in Kalay district.

Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye reported on plans to carry out rehabilitation of flood victims and flood-affected areas as well as prevention of natural disasters in the region.

The president presented 36 items of relief and rehabilitation equipment for Cikon village, basic foodstuffs and clothes for HsedawU village, instant foods for Htoma village and working equipment for Natchaung village as well as K2.5 million cash assistance for staff of Kalay University through officials.

The chief minister accepted JCB heavy machinery, computers, printers, science lab equipment, library materials and band equipment donated by Alliance Star Group Company and MPRL



President U Thein Sein waving at departmental officials and local people at entrance to Kalay.—IPRD

oil company. Representatives of union ministers U Myint Hlaing, U Khin Maung Soe, U Win Tun,

U Win Myint, U Ohn Myint and well-wisher U Moe Myint donated 100 bags of rice worth K2.7

million for staff of Kalay General Hospital through the medical superintendent.

The president cordially greeted the attendees at the meeting. MNA

Dy C-in-C visits places of interest in Tokyo

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Aug — Vice Senior General Soe Win, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and also Commander-in-Chief (Army), visited places of interest in Tokyo, Japan, on Saturday.

The Myanmar delegation led by the deputy command-

er-in-chief visited Tokyo Skytree, which is a broadcasting and observation tower with 634 metres in height.

Vice-Senior General Soe Win and his entourage went to the Great Buddha of Kamakura in Kamakura, a city located in the south of Tokyo.

They also visited a recreation island called Umihotaru through the Tokyo Bay Aqua Line, which is a bridge-tunnel combination facility built across Tokyo Bay. The recreation centre is located at the bridge-tunnel crossover point.

Myawady

New school building under construction in Ngazun Tsp

MYINGYAN, 23 Aug—Chairman of Myingyan district construction Scrutiny Committee district's deputy commissioner U Myint Thin Aung and party inspected construction of Basic Education Middle School

in Myotha (West), Ngazun Township, Mandalay Region recently.

After the inspection, the chairman instructed tender winner Myanma Sandaku Company to give priority to safety of work-

place, use of qualified construction material, and timely completion.

The 120x30 square feet building cost K43.2 million of from the union budget.

Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

National library law aims to ensure . . .

(from page 1)

Daw Mya Oo said, "The ministry has been drafting the law for around two years, based on the international library laws, with a plan to forward it

to the department concerned after seeking advices from legal experts."

The National Library was established in Yangon in 1952, and is now located on Kaba-Aye

Pagoda Road in Yankin Township. Numerous rare publications and ancient manuscripts, palm-leaf and folded paper books are kept in the library.

GNLM

Myanmar, Indonesian artists perform entertainments at joint cultural show



Indonesian artists perform traditional dances at Indonesia-Myanmar Joint Cultural Show 2015.—MNA

YANGON, 23 Aug — The Indonesia-Myanmar Joint Cultural Show 2015 was staged at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street, here, on 22 August.

Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Ito Sumardi extended greetings and presented

gifts to Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu.

The audiences enjoyed the traditional dances of Myanmar and Indonesia.

After the show, the union minister and the ambassador presented gifts to artists from both countries.—MNA

North, South Korea on alert as talks resume in bid to end standoff

South Korean army's Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) are deployed just south of the demilitarized zone separating the two Koreas in Yeoncheon, South Korea, August 23, 2015. —REUTERS



SEOUL, 23 Aug — Top aides to the leaders of North and South Korea resumed talks on Sunday after negotiating through the night in a bid to ease tensions involving an exchange of artillery fire that brought the peninsula to the brink of armed conflict.

The meeting at the Panmunjom truce village inside the Demilitarised Zone (DMZ) began on Saturday evening, with both sides on military alert, shortly after North Korea's deadline for Seoul to halt anti-Pyongyang propaganda broadcasts or face military action. It broke up before dawn on Sunday.

The envoys, shown on TV exchanging handshakes and tight smiles at the start of their meeting, discussed ways to resolve tensions and improve ties, South Korea's presidential Blue House said in a brief statement.

"Both sides are under big pressure to get something out of this," said Jeon Young-sun, professor at the Institute of the Humanities for Unification at Konkuk University in Seoul, who said the length of the high-level meet-

ing may be unprecedented.

The talks took place in South Korea's Peace House, just south of Panmunjom's often-photographed sky-blue huts, and the same venue where lower-level talks between the bitter rivals took place in February 2014, without ending in agreement.

The negotiations were interrupted with breaks for both sides to consult with their respective governments, and for snacks, the South's Yonhap News Agency reported.

"North Korea wants to stop broadcasts, while South Korea can't do it without achieving anything back," Jeon said.

North Korea and South Korea have remained technically in a state of war since their 1950-53 conflict ended in a truce, not a peace treaty, and inter-Korean relations have been in a deep freeze since the deadly 2010 sinking of a South Korean warship. Pyongyang denied responsibility.—Reuters

Thai police bemoan lack of equipment nearly a week after blast

BANGKOK, 23 Aug — Nearly a week after a bomb in Thailand killed 20 people, authorities appear no closer to identifying suspects or a motive, with police saying on Sunday a lack of modern equipment was hampering their investigation.

The blast last Monday at one of the capital's most famous shrines, packed with Asian visitors, will inevitably dent the tourist industry, one of the economy's few bright spots.

Economic woes could undermine the military government as it steers the country towards an election next year under a new constitution critics say will not end a decade of turbulent politics.



People ride their motorcycles past a digital billboard showing a sketch of the main suspect in Monday's attack on Erawan shrine, in Bangkok, Thailand, August 23, 2015. REUTERS

The strongest evidence appears to be grainy CCTV footage of a young man who left a backpack at the Erawan Shrine before the explosion. He disappeared into the night, on a motorcycle taxi.

Authorities have issued confusing and at times contradictory statements about the suspect's appearance, the number of accomplices he might have had and the likelihood of foreign involvement.

National police chief Somyot Pumpanmuang said progress was being made but a lack of equipment was a problem.

"We don't have modern tools to support our work ... we have difficulties with technology and data," he told reporters, without elaborating. "We have to wait for cooperation from abroad, to come and help with this equipment."

Police are also investigating another piece of CCTV footage that could provide clues to who was responsible for a small blast on Tuesday at a river pier that caused no injuries.

Police said they were investigating the footage of a man who appeared to push a bag off a walkway into the river. They have not confirmed the blasts were linked.

The Erawan Shrine, dedicated to a Hindu deity, is hugely popular with tourists from China and seven of the 14 foreigners among the dead were from mainland China and Hong Kong.

Police initially speculated Muslim ethnic Uighurs from western China might have been responsible but officials later cast doubt on an international link and said China was not targeted.

Muslims waging a low-level insurgency in southern Thailand have never been known to carry out such an attack and neither have activists from a decade-long struggle for power between the establishment and populist former premier Thaksin Shinawatra.

The government has offered \$85,000 for information leading to the arrest of the bomber and the family of the self-exiled Thaksin has offered \$200,000, the Bangkok Post reported.

As the hunt for the bomber went on, authorities said two people had been arrested for spreading "confusing information" on social media.

Reuters



Chinese Commerce Minister Gao Hucheng (6th R) poses for a group photo with his ASEAN counterparts in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on Aug. 23, 2015. The China-ASEAN (10+1) trade ministers' meeting was held in Kuala Lumpur on Sunday.—XINHUA

ASEAN to "upgrade" FTAs with Japan, China and S. Korea by year-end

KUALA LUMPUR, 23 Aug — Free trade agreements that a grouping of Southeast Asian countries has with China, Japan, and South Korea will be "upgraded" by year-end to boost services and investments sectors, Malaysian trade minister Mustapa Mohamad said Sunday.

Trade ministers from the 10 member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on Sunday held talks with the grouping's three dialogue partners China, Japan and South Korea separately and later, jointly.

Mustapa said they discussed "upgrading" their FTAs to make them more "comprehensive."

ASEAN and Japan in 2008 concluded their FTA, which covers only trade in goods. Negotiations are ongoing on the services and investments chapters.

The grouping's FTA with South Korea was concluded

in 2006 and also covers only trade in goods, while the one with China, which covers goods, services and investments, is being fine-tuned. "We will try to reach an agreement so that by the November summit, we will have some achievements to report to our leaders," Mustapa told reporters. The FTAs will help ASEAN and the three countries reach the trade targets they have set to achieve by 2020, which is \$1 trillion with China, and \$200 billion with each of Japan and South Korea.

ASEAN also has concluded FTAs with Australia and New Zealand. It is in discussions with India on the ratification and entry into force of trade in services and investments agreements. ASEAN groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.—Kyodo News

India-Pakistan peace talks collapse, deadlock sours relations



Advisor to Pakistan's Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz, shows dossiers on Indian intelligence agency's involvement in promoting terrorism in Pakistan, during a news conference at the Foreign Ministry in Islamabad, Pakistan, August 22, 2015.—REUTERS

NEW DELHI / ISLAMABAD, 23 Aug — The collapse of planned peace talks between India and Pakistan hours before they were to start on Sunday has raised questions about the arch-rivals' willingness to overcome mutual mistrust, built since their separation almost seven decades ago.

This is the second time the nuclear-armed neighbours have cancelled talks since Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi took office in May last year, with both sides choosing to engage in a war of words ahead of the planned two-day meeting of their top security advisers.

Since Modi and his Pakistani counterpart, Nawaz Sharif, agreed on the talks in Russia last month, ceasefire violations across the countries' border have increased. Analysts fear they may escalate.

"(What it means is more) mutual accusations, acrimony, more provocations," said Sidharth Varadarajan, a political analyst and former editor of the Hindu newspaper in India.

"In other words, contribution of the pattern we have seen in the past few weeks."

India and Pakistan have fought three wars since becoming independent nations in 1947, two of them over the Himalayan region of Kashmir, which both claim in full but rule in part.

New Delhi has for years accused Pakistan of backing separatist Muslim rebels in India's part of Kashmir. Pakistan denies the allegations and blames India for fomenting unrest inside Pakistan.

In the now-cancelled talks, India wanted to only discuss terrorism-related issues and objected to Pakistan's intentions of meeting separatists from Kashmir. Pakistan wanted a wider agenda.

Pakistani National Defence University professor Pervaiz Iqbal Cheema told the country's Express Tribune newspaper calling off the talks was not good for regional peace, and that Kashmir will always be on the agenda of any India-Pakistan talks.

Aakar Patel, a long-time Modi observer and the new head of Amnesty International in India, said New Delhi's position had been weakened.

"How will not talking solve this?" he wrote in the Times of India. "If we are serious about getting something out of them, we have to engage with them."

Pakistan's decision to pull out followed Indian Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj's ultimatum to stick to a terrorism-related agenda.

India called Pakistan's decision "unfortunate". Swaraj said on Saturday Sharif was under domestic pressure to pull out.

In August last year, India called off planned meetings between the countries' foreign secretaries as Pakistan wanted to meet with Kashmiri leaders - as has been the practice that is now opposed by the Indian government led by nationalist Modi.

The prospects of the long-awaited talks had been clouded in recent weeks by a series of militant attacks and border skirmishes. Swaraj said there had been 91 ceasefire violations since the meeting between Modi and Sharif in Ufa in Russia.—Reuters

China's female honor guards to appear in V-Day parade

BEIJING, 23 Aug — China's female guards of honor will for the first time attend a military parade to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II on Sept. 3 in Beijing.

A total of 51 servicewomen from the Army, Navy and Air Force will march alongside with 156 male honor guards, 17 in each line, said a military source.

In average, they are 20 years old and 1.78 meters in height.

The servicewomen are the first females in the 63-year history of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) honor guards. They have been in active service since last May. In the Sept. 3 parade, the PLA will dispatch the largest ever honor guard formation.

For the most formal occasions, such as the visit of a foreign head of the state, there are normally 151 honor guards from the army, navy and air force at the



Soldiers take part in a training for a military parade in Beijing, capital of China, Aug. 4, 2015. China will hold a grand military parade on Sept. 3 to mark the 70th anniversary of the victory of the Chinese People's War of Resistance.—XINHUA

welcome ceremony.

A 102-strong Chinese honor guard unit attended the V-Day parade in Moscow on May 9.

For the upcoming parade, the

honor guards will aim at a higher standard and put up an even better performance, said Han Jie, leading officer of the honor guard formation.—Xinhua

One killed, nine injured in east China chemical plant blast

JINAN, 23 Aug — One person was killed and nine others were injured after a blast ripped through a chemical plant in east China's Shandong Province on Saturday night, local authorities said on Sunday morning.

The explosion occurred at Shandong Runxing Chemi-

cal Technology Co. Ltd at 8:56 p.m. in Dongfu Village, Huantai County after a separator in the plant caught fire, according to the county government's publicity office. The fire was put out at around 1:50 a.m. on Sunday, it said. The victim was identified as a worker at the plant.



Runxing Chemical Technology Co. Ltd. is on fire due to explosions at Dongfu Village in Huantai County, east China's Shandong Province, Aug. 23, 2015. Nine people were injured in a blast ripping through the chemical plant in Huantai Saturday night.—XINHUA

The environmental protection departments of both Zibo City and Huantai County said they have not detected any contamination after the blast.

The cause of the fire is still being investigated.

With a registered capital of 200 million yuan (31.3 million U.S. dollars), the Shandong Runxing Chemical Technology Co. Ltd is a subsidiary of Shandong's Runxing Group.

The privately-owned company was set up in 2012. The plant was during the phase of trial production after the construction work of it was completed in July.

It produces chemicals, mainly adiponitrile, a colorless liquid that can give off toxic fumes after exposed to heat. The factory's annual production capacity of adiponitrile is 100,000 tonnes.

The blast came 10 days after the warehouse explosions in north China's Tianjin Municipality that have left 123 people dead and 50 missing.

Xinhua

Cambodia hails Chinese firm for helping develop telecom industry

PHNOM PENH, 23 Aug — Cambodian Minister of Post and Telecommunications Prak Sokhonn on Sunday praised Chinese-owned Southeast Asia Telecom (Cambodia), or SEATEL, for investing a huge amount of capital in the development of 4G services in Cambodia.

Speaking at the official launch of a SEATEL 4G network

here, the minister said the launch of advanced mobile Internet technology would enable Cambodia to narrow the digital gap and improve the efficiency of communications.

"SEATEL's strategic investment on the expansion of network and coverage area to 17 provinces and cities in Cambodia is a timely response to this grow-

ing demand and will also bring further benefits to the Cambodian people," he said.

"I'd like to thank all telecommunication companies, including SEATEL, for their commitment to Cambodia's social progress, economic development and livelihood improvement."

SEATEL's general manager Han Hanchou said the company's

total investment is about 400 million U.S. dollars, of which 100 million U.S. dollars has been invested so far.

Han said in response to China's One Belt, One Road initiative, SEATEL has built the Southeast Asia Chamber of Commerce (Seacc) website, offering website design, resource and operation support to local chambers

of commerce and companies free of charge.

Tan Qingsheng, political counselor of the Chinese embassy to Cambodia, said SEATEL will make great contributions to the progress of Cambodian telecom industry and play an active role in connecting information and people across Cambodia.

Xinhua

France train gunman identified as Islamist militant

PARIS/MADRID, (France), 23 Aug — Fingerprint evidence shows that the gunman overpowered by passengers on a train in France is a Moroccan known to European authorities as a suspected Islamist militant, according to a source familiar with the case.

Two people were wounded in the struggle to subdue the Kalashnikov-toting attacker aboard the high-speed train from Amsterdam to Paris on Friday. Three young Americans, one of whom suffered knife wounds, were among the passengers who stopped the gunman.

French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve told reporters the gunman appeared to be a 26-year-old Moroccan who had been “identified by the Spanish authorities to French intelligence services in February 2014 because of his connections to the radical Islamist movement”.

Cazeneuve did not give a name, but the source named him as Ayoub el Khazzani and said he was believed to have flown from



U.S. Colonel Brendan B. McAloon (L), the Senior Defense Official and Defense Attache at the American Embassy in Paris, and Dr Patrick Goldstein (R), head of the Emergency Services at the CHR Lille Hospital, arrive at the Clinique Lille Sud, which specializes in hand injuries, in Lesquin, France, August 22, 2015. —REUTERS

Berlin to Istanbul on May 10 this year. Turkey is a preferred flight destination for would-be jihadists heading for Syria.

According to a Spanish counter-terrorism source, Spanish authorities had a suspect they identified as Khazzani under

surveillance before he left Spain for France in 2014, traveled to Syria, and then came back to France.

In Spain, he lived in Madrid between 2007 and 2010 before moving to the southern port of Algeciras. He was arrested in Spain

at least once for a drug-related offence, the Spanish counter-terrorism source said.

Cazeneuve said he had also lived in Belgium and that inquiries “should establish precisely the activities and travels of this terrorist”. French newspaper *Le Voix du Nord* said the suspect may have had connections to a group involved in a suspected Islamist shooting in Belgium in January. The Belgian government confirmed an inquiry was under way but would not comment further.

French authorities have been on high alert since January, when 17 people were killed in shootings by Islamist militants in and around Paris.

The train attacker was armed with a Kalashnikov assault rifle and an automatic pistol, both with accompanying ammunition clips. He also had a box cutter knife. Cazeneuve said the struggle started when a Frenchman on his way to the toilet tried to stop the man entering a carriage.

The wounded American, Spencer Stone, an airman from the U.S. air base in Lajes, Azores, was treated on Saturday at a specialist hospital for hand injuries in the northern French city of Lille.

Among the other passengers who helped stop the attacker were Stone’s friends: National Guardsman Alek Skarlatos and another American, student Anthony Sadler. Skarlatos had returned last month from a tour of duty in Afghanistan and the three were on holiday together in Europe.

Cazeneuve said the other wounded person was of Franco-American nationality and hit by a bullet while seated. Hospital authorities said the person had a chest wound and was in a serious but stable condition.

French actor Jean-Hugues Anglade was also slightly hurt, and had stitches in his hand.

“We were stuck in the wrong place with the right people,” Anglade was quoted as saying on BF-MTV. “It’s miraculous.”

Reuters

Obama hails Americans who took down gunman on train in France

ARRAS, (France), 23 Aug — President Barack Obama called two U.S. servicemen and their civilian friend on Saturday to congratulate them for overpowering a gun-wielding suspected Islamic militant on a train in France.

Obama telephoned lifelong friends Airman First Class Spencer Stone of Sacramento, California, National Guardsman Alek Skarlatos, 22, of Roseburg, Oregon, and Anthony Sadler, 23, a student from Sacramento, in France to commend them for their heroics against the attacker, who had a Kalashnikov rifle, a handgun and box cutters.

Stone, 23, who was the first to take on the gunman, was cut in the incident but was expected to be released from a hospital on Saturday.

“The president expressed his gratitude to these three individuals for their heroic actions forestalling an even greater tragedy,” White House spokesman Eric Schultz said in statement issued at Martha’s Vineyard, Massachusetts, where the president is vacationing.

“The president wished Airman Stone a full and speedy recovery and expressed how proud all Americans are of their extraordinary bravery.”

The three men had been on vacation, partly to celebrate Skarlatos’ return from a tour of duty in Afghanistan. “Airman Stone and Specialist Alex Skarlatos are two reasons why - on duty and off - ours is the finest fighting force the world has ever known,” U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter said in a statement.

French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said the gunman’s identity had not been confirmed but that if he was telling the truth to his interrogators, he was a 26-year-old of Moroccan national with connections to Islamist militants. —Reuters



A combination photo shows U.S. Airman Spencer Stone (L), Anthony Sadler (C) and U.S. National Guardsman Alek Skarlatos (R) as Stone departs a clinic in Lesquin, France and as Sadler and Skarlatos pose after were recognized for their bravery in Arras, France August 22, 2015 respectively. —REUTERS

Britain reopens embassy in Tehran — Reuters witness

TEHRAN, 23 Aug — Britain reopened its embassy in Tehran on Sunday, a historic step in the thawing of relations between the Islamic state and Western powers, a Reuters witness said.

British Foreign Secretary

Philip Hammond declared the embassy open and raised the Union Jack flag in the garden of the nineteenth-century residence in the Iranian capital that was stormed by protesters nearly four years ago. —Reuters



The convoy of British Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond enters the British Embassy in Tehran August 23, 2015.—REUTERS

Military pressure on Ukraine will last decades, president says

KIEV, 23 Aug — Military pressure on Ukraine from Russia and the separatists that Moscow supports is likely to last decades and future generations will have to undergo military training, President Petro Poroshenko said on Saturday.

Poroshenko made one of his gloomiest predictions on prospects for peace in his country days before he meets German and French leaders in Berlin for a summit he called to urge them to put pressure on Russia to comply with a six-month-old peace plan strained by ceasefire violations and shelling.

Poroshenko, speaking at a military rally in Kharkiv region at which he handed over new weapons and equipment to the army, praised Ukrainian forces for combating what he called a “Russian offensive” in the separatist conflict which erupted in the eastern Don-

bass region in April 2014.

But he saw a possibility of a “large-scale escalation” of military action from Russian-backed separatists around Ukraine’s Independence Day which falls on Monday.

“The military threat from the east is a tangible reality for decades to come. This threat will not go away in the near future and every generation of Ukrainians must have army experience,” he said.

Military call-up and mobilization would continue, he added. “The time of ill-considered pacifism and short-sighted neglect of the defence issues have now receded into the past,” he said.

More than 6,500 people - Ukrainian soldiers, civilians and rebel forces - have been killed in the conflict. Pro-Russian rebels took up arms in the east after Russia annexed Crimea in March 2014

in response to the overthrow of a pro-Moscow president in Kiev by street protests a month earlier.

Kiev and Western governments, which have imposed sanctions on Russia, say there is irrefutable evidence of Russian involvement in the separatist resistance. Moscow denies it is providing men or arms.

Ukrainian authorities have mobilized huge numbers of police and interior ministry troops to reinforce security for independence celebrations on Sunday and Monday which will include a march in Kiev of soldiers serving on the front line.

After attending celebrations on Monday, Poroshenko is due to fly to Berlin to meet German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Francois Hollande.

Reuters

Over 50 people killed in Syrian missile strikes at rebel areas near Damascus

AMMAN, 23 Aug — At least 50 bodies were retrieved from buildings levelled to the ground after Syrian army missiles hit residential areas in the rebel-held northeast of Damascus on Saturday, rescue workers said.

They said more bodies were believed to be under the rubble of buildings occupied by dozens of families in the city of Douma, about 15 km (10 miles) northeast of Damascus, with dozens

of victims taken to field hospitals, many seriously wounded.

Rescue workers said 20 bodies were identified. A further 32 victims remained unidentified and the toll was expected to rise as civil defence workers step up the search amid the rubble of the four multi-storey buildings that were directly hit.

"There are entire families still under the rubble. We couldn't reach them yet, because

as you know the process of removing debris must be done with extreme caution," said Majd, an official from the Syrian civil defence corps, a group which operates in rebel-held areas.

The latest casualties follow last Sunday's air strike on a bustling market place in the same area which killed at least 100 people.

Sunday's attack on Douma was one of the bloodiest in the four-year-long war that has killed

an estimated quarter of a million people and driven 10 million from their homes. The conflict grew out of protests against President Bashar al-Assad in 2011 which were put down with force.

The UK-based Observatory for Human Rights said the heavily populated parts of the area where at least 250,000 civilians lived were probably hit by ground to ground missiles on Saturday, followed by air raids.

A United Nations commission of inquiry into the Syrian war has previously accused the government of indiscriminate shelling and aerial bombardment, including the use of barrel bombs regularly dropped on crowded areas.

The Syrian army denies it targets civilian areas and said it strikes at hideouts of armed insurgents who seek to topple Assad.—Reuters

NATO contractors killed by Kabul car bomb identified as U.S. citizens

KABUL, 23 Aug — Three U.S. contractors were among 12 killed by a Kabul bomb that targeted their NATO convoy, the U.S.-led coalition said, making the attack one of the most lethal for U.S. citizens in Afghanistan in recent years.

The suicide attack outside a hospital on a residential street at rush hour killed mainly Afghan civilians and injured scores more, heightening the anger felt in Kabul after a barrage of deadly blasts this month killed dozens.

The attacker drove his car towards an armored pick-up truck belonging to contractor DynCorp International which was

torn open and left twisted and blackened by the blast. Dozens of vehicles were destroyed, including a school van.

One U.S. contractor died when the bomb exploded, and two died from their wounds, the NATO coalition known as Resolute Support said late on Saturday. It did not name them.

The U.S. embassy in Kabul condemned the bombing.

"The United States remains committed to assisting our Afghan partners in their efforts to ensure a peaceful future," it said in a statement.

Contractors such as DynCorp, which has a long involvement in the war and provided bodyguards for the last president, have frequently been targeted. Four U.S. DynCorp employees were killed in a similar Kabul suicide attack in 2013.

Bombings have increased in Kabul since the government and the Taliban in July confirmed that Taliban leader Mullah



Afghan security personnel (L) keeps watch next to a damaged car belonging to foreigners, after a bomb blast in Kabul, Afghanistan August 22, 2015.—REUTERS

Omar died two years ago, putting paid to hopes that the insurgents would quickly return to the negotiating table.

The U.N. mission in Afghanistan called for an "immediate halt to all such disproportionate attacks" in civilian-populated areas.

Fighting killed 5,000 civilians in the first half of this year, more than at any point since war started in 2001.

The violence has strained Afghanistan's ties with Pakistan, with Afghan President Ashraf Ghani accusing the neighboring country of not doing enough to stop militants planning attacks from training camps that he says lie across the border.

Pakistan called the latest attack on civilians "cowardice" and promised to fight against "a common enemy".

But, referring to his belief that Islamabad only cracks down on fighters who launch attacks on its soil, Ghani issued a

statement calling on Pakistan to "use the same definition of terrorism" at home and in Afghanistan.

Afghanistan's chief executive officer, Abdullah Abdullah, who shares power with Ghani and has been critical of Pakistan's record on fighting the Taliban, called the attack a war crime.

"We will do everything to protect our people and our country and go after terrorists and our enemies anywhere they are," he said.

The Taliban, fighting to re-establish hard-line Islamist rule 14 years after they were ousted, denied they were behind the attack. No group has claimed responsibility.

Security sources said the contractors worked for DynCorp International. The U.S. company, which provides training, security and aviation maintenance to the NATO mission and the Afghan military, confirmed it was the target.—Reuters

Al Qaeda deploy in Yemen's Aden, British hostage freed

ADEN, 23 Aug — Al Qaeda militants took control of a western district of Yemen's main port city of Aden on Saturday night, residents said, in another sign that the group is drawing strength from five months of civil war. The entrance of Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula into Aden, once one of the world's busiest ports and the most secular and secure parts of an otherwise restive country, would be one of its biggest gains yet.

"Dozens of Al Qaeda militants were patrolling the streets with their weapons in total freedom in a number of areas in Tawahi. At the same time, others raised the Al Qaeda black flag above government buildings, including the administrative building of the port," a resident told Reuters.

United Arab Emirates forces based in Aden meanwhile freed a British hostage who had been held by the group, the UAE state news agency WAM said on Sunday.

The hostage, earlier identified by a Yemeni police source as an oil worker abducted in February last year, was taken to the Emirati capital Abu Dhabi on a military plane on Saturday night, the agency said.

Britain's Foreign Office confirmed in a statement that the hostage was "extracted by UAE forces in a military intelligence operation" and was "safe and well."

Forces loyal to Yemen's exiled government in Saudi Arabia retook the city from Iran-allied Houthi militia last month, with heavy backing from the kingdom and other Gulf Arab countries with air strikes, training and deployment of special forces.

Gulf countries are seeking to fend off what they see as Iranian influence on their neighbor, while the Houthis say they are fighting a corrupt government in league with the al Qaeda militants.

Militiamen loyal to the exiled Yemeni government have ruled Aden's streets for five weeks as services lapsed, ruins from earlier battles went unrepaired and policemen and army units were largely absent.

But militants from al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, the global group's deadliest branch, have woven themselves among southern fighters battling the Shi'ite Muslim Houthis since the war began in March 26, gaining itself legitimacy and territory.

Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 24 August, 2015

The end justifies the means

By Kyaw Thura

With a view to increasing public understanding of politics, it should be made clear at the outset that “government of the people, by the people and for the people” has long been accepted as the underlying assumption of what a democracy is. Common sense tells us that genuine concern for the wel-

fare of the people is at the core of democratic norms.

Just as voters elect representatives to make decisions on their behalf in parliament, they should preserve the right to oust elected representatives through a petition by securing sufficient signatures.

On the one hand, the right to recall members of parliament is not without flaws. Political analysts point out that using majority power will undermine minority rights. Their anxiety is justified on the grounds that many people find it challenging to understand the complexities of constitutional rights.

But on the other, the people of today’s Myanmar are much better informed of changes and developments in the global political arena than three decades ago, given the broad availability of

professional literature on voter education and campaign information. It is therefore safe to assume that the people will be able to make informed decisions by weighing up the pros and cons of the issue concerned. Sometimes, we are to undergo a seemingly unfair situation as long as positive outcomes for our actions are guaranteed.

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.

Getting down to the real nitty-gritty or crux related to the drug trafficking issue

Tommy Pauk

The out-break of opium wars in China in the 19th century has given an unforgettable lesson to the global people. In this 21st century, the neo-opium war makes the entire world people suffer the horrendous effects. The neo-opium war is transformed into drug trafficking in the form of secret trade which enables the culprits or perpetrators to earn a great deal of money and a large profit. Drug abuse among youngsters is a great threat to the energy of human posterity and communities around the world. Drug trafficking is an illegal trade which is highly lucrative for the traffickers and producers or processor of narcotic drugs or poppy growers. Initially, poppy growers sell the poppy as raw material to the illicit drug producers. Then the drugs are chemically produced in secret place. Psychotropic substances or drugs are also produced. Evidently, opium poppy fields can still be seen on the enormous lands or plots on earth. The largest opium poppy cultivation areas can be found in Afghanistan, golden triangle (borders of Myanmar-Thailand-Laos). This situation is one of the important parts of issue. All the illegal poppy fields must be destroyed and growers must be given harsh punishment as well. Every nation has enacted the law for the elimination of Drug Trafficking. The scourge of drug abuse and its related menaces to humans are much more severe than the power of nuclear weapons in the world. Illegal drugs are available at the secret market for those who want to buy them for taking pleasure. According to the law, buying, selling and possessing illegal drugs are criminal offences.

Even if the drug traffickers or dealers or distributors are caught, they can keep a secret of illegal drug distribution network. The drug addicts hardly ever disclose the illegal market place or dealers or distributors. Godfathers or the opium war lords are so powerful that they can influence or dominate on some corrupt public higher rank authorities. Therefore, it is difficult to track the drug ring and its mastermind. Under these circumstances, it is hard to eliminate the drug trafficking and prevent from consequential disasters in human society.

In fact, Junkies or drug addicts destroy the society or their lives under the influence of narcotic drug abuse. Nevertheless, they are merely the victims of the drug traffickers and illicit drugs. First, they buy or take illicit drugs to use for their pleasure sake or sensation or enjoyment. The successive use of narcotic drugs turns the users to become drug addicts. We, ordinary people are aware of the behaviors of drug addicts—the obsessive dependency on narcotic drugs. We do not particularly know the main sources, market and tracks of drug trafficking yet. As the international law enforcements and Interpol cannot crack down the notorious opium rings or gangs or transnational crime groups across the world, the following questions are raised by the global people.

Who are the godfathers of this illegal trade? Who are the latest opium warlords? Where are the huge areas of poppy cultivation and illegal markets in the world? How do the smugglers handle or operate this illegal drug transaction or trade in the world? Why is drug trafficking still persistently thriving in the world?

Occasional arrests on some world notorious opium ring lead-

ers do not inhibit drug trafficking and constant illicit drug dealing goes on in the world. Normally, the crack heads know where the crack house is. The crack heads or junkies buy narcotic drugs such as heroin, cocaine, morphine, marijuana and cannabis and use them in the crack houses. The psychotropic substances are also sold illegally to the drug addicts or crack heads. How come this illegal market is alive or existent in metropolis or in cities? We ought to seriously find the secret track of the drug trafficking transaction or trade. Despite the presence of tight security and law enforcements, this illegal business penetrates deep into big cities and towns. Such situation is awfully astonishing and incredible. We need to undercover or investigate those who are involved in this illegal business effectively. We must support and help those who take responsibilities for cracking down or annihilating the drug trafficking actively.

Nowadays, all international airports, seaports, border lines are equipped with heightened security guards. They examine the incoming and outgoing travelers for security reason and searching the persons in possession of narcotics. Even then the drug traffickers are using different techniques to smuggle the drugs out and smuggle the drugs into the country. Even if the drug traffickers are apprehended, their mastermind or the ring leaders are at large. The purging or elimination of drug trafficking is the global concern indeed. The solution for drug trafficking issue has been probed for some decades and the strict or punitive laws have been enacted in almost every nation in the world. However, the drug traffickers disdainfully challenge against the

drug laws and even their illegal business is still thriving secretly and lucratively. They even use weapons to protect or attack in case they are spotted by law enforcements. The challenge and threat of opium warlords must be combated with the Interpol and international law enforcements vigorously. This sort of illegal business is appallingly dangerous to entire human race because the consumers buy and use lethal drugs which do harm to their health gradually and the users get addicted to the effects. As a result, they become drug addicts and lose or deteriorate their sound minds influenced by drug addiction. The majority of drug addicts or junkies are in youthful life, but they cannot contribute to their society concerned due to lack of normal human energy caused by drug addiction. Thus, a certain society with a great number of drug addicts can have no human capital to establish its socio-economic development and defense services. The worst-case scenario would be for that society to be ruined as the majority of youths are being drug addicts. The governments concerned must tackle the problem with concerted efforts.

Unless we get down to the real nitty-gritty or the crux of the drug trafficking issue seriously, we would encounter menace in our society. The drug traffickers are common enemies of all societies in the world. The world communities must eliminate the sources of drug trafficking network, god fathers, and ring-leaders. The removal of the corrupt public officials or some corrupt personnel of law-enforcement is essential so that elimination of drug trafficking task can be smooth and successful. All those involved in this criminal circle must be penalized with the most punitive penalty— death

sentence without any appeal regardless of nationalities, gender and social position. They are found guilty of two counts; homicide and crime against humanity. Narcotic drug abuse triggered the utter devastation of human capabilities and then the society concerned collapses. If the world leaders cooperate to combat the drug trafficking as a global task by using effective strategy and tactics, the culprits will not be able to escape any longer. We might face the difficulties in investigating and detecting the drug gang leaders or mastermind because they bribe the corrupt higher rank authorities to protect them from arrest in some societies. The trouble is that modern humans perceive money as God and some make money dishonestly. In this way, some poor people or persons get involved in illegal drug trafficking and they are considered as accomplices. They are well-paid to completely carry out drug trafficking secretly. The criminal mastermind behind the drug trafficking become millionaire. They live in safe haven with modern luxuries. They possess a great deal of money known as narco-dollars or narco-buck and sophisticated weapons. It is also known as black money. They usually execute some gangsters who betray them in this illegal trade. Also the narks are cruelly killed by the ring leaders. It is difficult for an undercover operation to find the information about the main source or distributor of illicit drugs to the various dealers and their routine across the world. Another challenge is that the gang leaders usually organize the ignorant or poor people to join their illegal organization or gangs with incentives and handsome payment. (See page 9)

NATIONAL

**Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission**
Nay Pyi Taw
Notification No. (48/2015)

 8th Waxing Day of Wagaung, 1377 ME
(23 August, 2015)

**Five Defence Services Personnel
representatives substituted**

According to a request made in accordance with Section 33 of the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law to substitute five Defence Services Personnel Representatives who are parliamentarians, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted the following five Pyithu Hluttaw representatives under the Notification No. 1/2011 of the commission dated 20-1-2011 and the Notification No. 2/2013 of the commission dated 8-1-2013.

The Defence Services Personnel Representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw to be substituted were nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the first multi-party general election held on 7 November 2010.

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| (1) BC 16402 | BC 27439 |
| Brig-Gen Htay Naing | Lt-Col Thant Zin |
| (2) BC 16450 | BC 28388 |
| Brig-Gen Myint Ko Ko | Lt-Col Aung Kyaw Moe |
| (3) BC 21338 | BC 27929 |
| Lt-Col Zaw Zaw Myint | Lt-Col Zaw Myint Oo |
| (4) BC 27561 | BC 27105 |
| Lt-Col Kyaw Naing Tun | Lt-Col Thein Tun Tin |
| (5) BC 30719 | Navy 3630 |
| Captain Ko Ko Naing | Cdr Kyaw Tun |

By order,

(Tin Tun)

Secretary

Union Election Commission

Main canal of Taungtha diversion weir under maintenance

TAUNGTHA, 23 Aug—Irrigation Department dredged the main canal of Taungtha diversion weir in Taungtha, Mandalay Region, on 22 August.

Skilled workers from the department dredged the 4.5-mile-long main canal while improving the embankment along the canal.

Myingyan District's deputy commissioner U Myint Thin Aung, Assistant Director U Maung Lwin of District Irrigation Department, Township Administrator U Aung Kyaw Nyunt and officials inspected progress of maintaining the main canal.—*Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)*



Myingyan District's deputy commissioner U Myint Thin Aung and officials view dredging process at main canal of Taungtha diversion weir.

**Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Election Commission**
Nay Pyi Taw
Notification No. (49/2015)

 8th Waxing Day of Wagaung, 1377 ME
(23 August, 2015)

**Three Defence Services
Personnel representatives
substituted**

According to a request made in accordance with Section 33 of the Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law to substitute three Defence Services Personnel Representatives who are parliamentarians, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted the following three Amyotha Hluttaw representatives under the Notification No. 23/2012 of the commission dated 22-4-2012 and the Notification No. 17/2013 of the commission dated 24-6-2013.

The Defence Services Personnel Representatives of Amyotha Hluttaw to be substituted were nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the first multi-party general election held on 7 November 2010.

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| (1) BC 13765 | BC 20586 |
| Brig-Gen Kyaw Oo Lwin | Col Myint Swe |
| (2) BC 19717 | BC 18035 |
| Brig-Gen Aung Kyaw | Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Soe |
| (3) BC 33130 | BC 39694 |
| Major Soe Moe | Major Htet Ko Ko Aung |

By order,

(Tin Tun)

Secretary

Union Election Commission

Getting down to the ...

(from page 8)

The world most notorious drug trafficking gangs base their secret organizations in Italy and in Mexico. The ring leaders manipulate their members into doing the business successfully and secretly. They operate illegal drug cartels and compete with similar illegal organizations. They use to infiltrate into other drug trafficking gangs to get the information secretly. Sometimes, the power struggle occurs among the different gangs.

Among them, the Mafia gang is the most powerful and the leaders or bosses are cruel, wicked and smart. The Mafia gang has been in existence for several years, but no government can crush it completely. Even though some lower rank ring leaders and Mafiosi are arrested and imprisoned, the illegal business is still booming worldwide. Rarely, the gang leaders are caught in the world and they always escape from justice and law. The Mafia's bases are in Sicily islands, Italy, America and Mexico. Since the drug trafficking business is lucrative, the gang can buy sophisticated weapons, land vehicles, expensive houses motor vessels and even

some aircraft. By observing these difficult and important circumstances carefully, we must get down to real nitty-gritty or crux related to drug trafficking issue across the world. The ordinary people, all governments, law enforcements, Interpol, the United Nations have to find the practical and effective solutions to eliminate the drug trafficking. The international extradition treaty of drug traffickers is signed by many countries. As a result, the drug traffickers cannot run from one country to another and they can be brought to justice.

Actually drug users and drug addicts are not guilty, but they are just victims of the greedy, selfish and inhumane opium warlords in the world. The real culprits such as godfathers, drug traffickers, dealers and illicit drugs manufacturers are absolutely guilty for this dreadful illegal business. The corrupt public officials, corrupt personnel from law enforcement, corrupt governments and accomplices involved in this case in some societies are also guilty indeed. Equally, they must be punished in accord with the law for corruption and irresponsibility. The le-

Union FM arrives back home after FEALAC's 7th Foreign Ministers' Meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Aug — Union Foreign Affairs Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin arrived back here after attending the FEALAC's 7th Foreign Ministers' Meeting which took place in San José, Costa Rica from 19 to 21 August.

At the Retreat and Plenary Session on 21 August, U Wunna Maung Lwin elaborated the commitment of Myanmar to continue working closely with other FEALAC members in tapping bi-regional cooperation particularly in the areas of trade and investment, tourism, agriculture, environmental conservation, disaster preparedness, rural and sustainable development and people to people exchanges amongst FEALAC member states as well as further direction of FEALAC. The FEALAC VII FMM adopted the declaration of San José. Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) was established in 1999 with 27 member countries which has increased

to 36 members. This forum has become a platform for fostering exchanges and interactions with a view to promote mutual knowledge, political dialogue and cooperation as well as to strengthen political, economic and cultural ties between two regions.

While in Costa Rica, the Union Minister met with his counterparts from Costa Rica and Colombia on 20 August. He also met U.S congressman Mr Ed Royce, Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, at the latter's office in Brea City to discuss lifting of US's sanctions imposed on Myanmar on 19 August. The Union Minister also inspected the Consulate-General Office of Myanmar in Los Angeles which was opened on 2 May this year, where he was briefed by the responsible officials on matters related to consular and visa services and also assistances provided by the office to Myanmar nationals in Los Angeles.—*MNA*

gal actions taken against the drug traffickers are arresting, punishing (executing the offenders by firing squad), confiscating the drugs and destroying the confiscated drugs as well. However, the entirety of drug trafficking operation has not yet been crushed or annihilated completely. We need to heighten an awareness of eliminating drug trafficking and cooperate with the incorruptible, dutiful and ideal authorities concerned. If bribery and corruption or irresponsibility prevails in the administration and law enforcement, the main ring leaders of drug trafficking and their lackeys will disdain the prescribed laws. Therefore, the corruption and irresponsibility are the great hindrance to annihilation of the drug trafficking.

The potentials for progress and development of the youths who have become drug addicts can be damaged. Youths are the ones who are the workforce or man power of any society. Due to narcotic drug influence, the physical and moral conditions deteri-

orate gradually. Afterwards, the youths cannot serve for their society and the society concerned would lose human capital totally. This dreadful impact of drug addiction is an important part of issue indeed.

Every society on earth must purge or annihilate the illicit drug trafficking as a national concern. Otherwise, the impact of drug trafficking will lead to the annihilation of the human race. To be able to annihilate the drug trafficking, the specific tactics and effective strategy must be laid down. All governments, International communities, international intelligence agents, Interpol, international law enforcements are to work together in wiping out the menace of illegal drug trafficking. The most important fact is that all those involved in taking responsibilities for tackling this issue must be incorruptible, dutiful, ideal, honest and gallant. This is the nitty-gritty or crux to the issue. Let's save our posterity from the menace of drug abuse!!!!

Tommy Pauk is the pseudonym of U Thein Swe, who is B.A (English) and (Registered Law) R.L.I. degrees holder. He had experience in teaching English at Yangon University English Department and Workers' college in Yangon, and now is working as freelance writer and English Teacher cum Translator/Interpreter for foreign firms.

Beijing kids get fatter: survey

For seniors, any exercise may be better than none

BEIJING, 23 Aug — The waistlines of Beijing's children and teens are expanding at alarming high rates, a new survey indicated.

Obesity among students at the capital's primary and middle schools hit 15.6 percent in 2014, up 2.6 percent from 2013, according to data released by Beijing's public health watchdog on Thursday. Among those chubby kids, over 60 percent suffered from increased blood glucose, one third had raised blood pressure, and 16 percent were diagnosed with fatty liver, the survey showed.

Bad eating habits and inadequate physical activities were blamed for the super-sizing of children and adolescents in Beijing, the public health watchdog said. According to another survey tracking the health of 36,962 college and high school students in Beijing, about 40 percent of them did not get enough exercise, 42.1 percent spent more than two hours in front of the computer, and 37.4 percent regularly skipped breakfast. Public health authorities believed that the results may shed some light on prime culprits in the obesity epidemic.

Authorities also said they are rolling out programs to promote healthier eating and allocate more time for physical activities in schools to prevent kids from becoming overweight. —Xinhua

SAINT-ETIENNE, (France), 23 Aug — Even 15 minutes a day of brisk walking, cycling or swimming could help older adults live longer, according to a review of past research that found any physical activity is better than none.

For people over age 60, meeting current U.S. guidelines for moderate-to-vigorous exercise was linked to a 28 percent lower risk of dying over about 10 years, compared to being completely sedentary. But even lower levels of exercise were tied to a 22 percent reduction in mortality risk.

"When our older patients cannot do 150 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity a week because of chronic diseases, we (the 2008 guidelines) recommend them to be as physically active as their abilities and conditions allow," said lead author Dr. David Hupin of the department of clinical and exercise physiology, University Hospital of Saint-Etienne, France, by email.

But, Hupin's team writes in the British Journal of Sports Medicine, the 150-minutes per week of moderate-to-vigorous exercise suggested in the 2008 Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans could be too much for some older adults, discouraging them from exercising. The authors point out that more than 60 percent of older adults don't meet that requirement.

For the new study, Hupin's team looked at whether less exercise could still be beneficial.



A man exercises in downtown Los Angeles, California, March 9, 2015.—REUTERS

They analyzed data from past studies covering a total of 122,417 men and women between the ages of 60 and 101 in the U.S., Taiwan and Australia.

The studies evaluated participants' physical activity levels and their risk of dying from any cause over about 10 years. They also factored in participants' self-reported health status, physical or mental illnesses, weight, cholesterol and other details.

Hupin's team standardized participants' exercise amount and intensity into units known as Metabolic Equivalent of Task, or METs, representing the amount of energy expended per minute in a specific activity. Resting expends 1 MET, moderate activity like walking uses 3 to 5.9 METs and vigorous exercise like running uses more than 6 METs.

A weekly exercise "dose"

was low if it totaled 1 to 499 METs, moderate at 500 to 999 METs and high if it was more than 1,000 METs.

The mortality rate was 22 percent lower among people in the low METs category than among those who did no exercise at all beyond the activities of daily living.

For people in the moderate METs category - which is equivalent to the recommended 150 minutes per week of moderate-to-vigorous exercise - there were 28 percent fewer deaths compared to those with no exercise. People who expended at least 1,000 METs per week had a 35 percent lower mortality rate.

The link between exercise and mortality risk was especially strong for cardiovascular disease and less so for cancer, the researchers note.

Older women showed an even greater benefit from exercise than men, with their mortality risk decreasing by 32 percent compared to men's 14 percent in the low-METs category. One reason could be that women underestimated their exercise level and men overestimated theirs, the authors write.

The researchers recommend 15 minutes per day of exercise based on these results, but Hupin said adults who couldn't even meet that goal would benefit by merely moving around more on a consistent basis.

"Scientific evidence is now emerging to show that there may be health benefits from light physical activity and from replacing sedentary activities with light intensity activities, when the dose of (moderate-to-vigorous physical activity) is held constant," Hupin said. "They must become less sedentary: cooking or working at a standing desk, rather than sitting."

"Age is not an excuse to do no exercise," he said.

Thomas Buford, who directs the Health Promotion Center at the University of Florida in Gainesville, said that while the study offered great examples of exercise, such as walking briskly, bicycling and swimming or gymnastics, he agreed that even increasing exercise in small bouts would help. "For each individual, they would have to be tailored depending on their physical abilities," Buford said by email.

Reuters

Toyota rides on Rs 529 cr profit, no plan to buy out Kirloskars

MUMBAI, 23 Aug — Japanese auto major Toyota, which clocked a net profit Rs 529-crore in FY15 after being in the red for the previous two years, is not looking at buying out its partner Kirloskar Group that owns 11 per cent in the joint venture.

"We have a long-term relationship with Kirloskar and we

are happy with the present arrangement. Neither we are planning to increase our stake to 100 per cent nor they are looking at exiting the partnership," Toyota Kirloskar Motor managing director Naomi Ishii, who turned around the company after taking over in January 2014, told PTI here in an interaction. Toyota entered the country in

October 1997 as a joint venture with the Kirloskar Group that owns 11 per cent. It began production from the 432-acre Bidai, Bangalore plants from December 1999.

Company vice-chairman & whole-time director Shekar Viswanathan was also quick to add that the Kirloskars have no plan to exit or increase the stake in the

joint venture, as both the partners are happy with the way the joint venture is functioning.

When asked what is failing the company as its market share (around 5.7 per cent now) is not going up despite having world-class products, Ishii said the company is not chasing market share or sales numbers here but focusing on en-

suring that it retains its 1 million customers. "We are not chasing any numbers here, though growing profitably is a call for me. But my priority is to ensure that Toyota retains 100 per cent of its customers," Ishii said, adding, however, India is one of the eight focus markets for the world's second largest automaker. —PTI

Gold industry analysts expect price boost from currency war fears



Customers look at gold jewellery displayed at a shop in Amman, Jordan July 27, 2015. —REUTERS

PANAJI, (India), 23 Aug — Gold prices XAU= could rise above \$1,200 an ounce in the next few months as fears of a currency war following the devaluation of the yuan make equity markets choppy, boosting physical gold and ETF buying, leading industry analysts said at a conference.

The metal has already rebounded about 8 percent from July's 5-1/2 year low, boosted by minutes of the Fed's last policy meeting that dented expectations for an imminent rise in U.S. rates. Spot prices hit a peak of \$1,168.40 on Friday.

"After the devaluation of the Chinese currency, people are worried," said Rajan Venkatesh, head

of India bullion at ScotiaMocatta, part of Canada's Bank of Nova Scotia (BNS.TO). "They are afraid of a currency war. They are going back to gold."

Prices could rise to \$1,230 to \$1,240 within a month, he said on the sidelines of the International Gold Convention in the city of Panaji in western Goa state.

Michael Mesaric, chief executive of the world's biggest gold refiner, Valcambi, said deposits in gold-backed exchange-traded funds are hovering near their lowest levels since 2008 but current prices will attract new buying.

He expects gold prices to rise to \$1,350 by mid 2016. The recent bounce notwithstanding, gold has

been under heavy pressure this year from expectations the Fed would raise rates for the first time in nearly a decade, lifting the opportunity cost of holding non-yielding bullion while boosting the dollar.

But analysts like Jeffrey Rhodes, founder of Dubai-based precious metals consultancy RPMC, said: "All the bad news for gold is in the press".

"There is room in the world for strong dollar and strong gold," said Rhodes, expecting higher demand in countries such as India, China and Greece, where currencies are depreciating. "And strong gold is an alternative to emerging market currency." —Reuters

Delivery Hero will only decide on IPO next year

BERLIN, 23 Aug — One of Europe's biggest start-ups, Germany's Delivery Hero, the online food takeaway service, has ruled out a stock market listing for this year but could be ready by next year, its chief executive said in an interview.

"At the moment, there are other things which we want to concentrate on. We will have created the preconditions for a listing by the end of the year so that we can decide quickly

at any time in the course of next year," Niklas Ostberg said.

Ostberg said it had also not been decided on which exchange - most likely Frankfurt or New York - the company would list.

The company, which has built up a delivery network for more than 200,000 restaurants in 34 countries, raised new funding in June from two undisclosed U.S. public company investors that

valued the company at 2.8 billion euros (\$3.2 billion).

German ecommerce investor Rocket Internet, which first bought into Delivery Hero in February and holds a 38.5 percent stake through its Global Online Takeaway Group, is reportedly more keen to push ahead more quickly with a listing.

But Ostberg, who founded the company in 2011, wants to assert his independence.

"Rocket is very experienced in evaluating data. In this area, we are working closely together with them. Concerning the development of the company and its culture, we are completely going our own way," he said.

"We have many investors and one of them is Rocket. We can learn something from them due to their know-how but we will continue to lead our own company autonomously."

Ostberg said Delivery Hero was focused on sustaining its rapid growth, which it has previously said was around 70 percent on a compound annual basis, rather than on profitability.

Rocket Internet, which some investors see as a launchpad for future stock market listings of everything from online fashion to personal finance firms, listed in Frankfurt last October, but has seen its shares fall al-

most 50 percent this year.

Another Rocket-backed company, home furnishings retailer Westwing, has pulled back on plans to list this year, Reuters reported earlier this month, citing sources familiar with the plans.

Rocket-backed meal preparation company Hello Fresh and classified advertising service Scout24 have signaled they are likely to pursue stock market listings in the autumn.

Reuters

Syrian orphans attend training on electronic projects



Syrian orphans attend a training course on designing simple electronic projects at a summer camp in Damascus, capital of Syria, on Aug. 22, 2015. The course was held by the Syrian government in cooperation with local charities to help develop the skills of children who lost their parents during the conflict in Syria.—XINHUA

Now, germ-killing charger that cleans your cellphone

WASHINGTON, 23 Aug — A first-of-its-kind cellphone charger that uses ultraviolet light to kill germs and sanitise your device has been developed in the US.

The universal charger is the safest and most complete way to kill all the bacteria growing on the cellphone, its manufacturer Utah-based PhoneSoap claims.

Two UV-C lamps in PhoneSoap charger produce a very specific wavelength of light which encompass the phone and pass through the cell walls of bacteria and virus to impair their DNA.

Once the DNA is compromised, the cells die and can no longer cause infections or disease.

Users will get their notifications and alarms when their phones are inside the charger as it has unique acoustic outlets.

The device, which costs USD 59.95, is compatible with most phones. It takes four minutes to completely sanitise the phone, and a blue indicator on the front will let the user know when the sanitising is complete.

Previous studies have found that a cellphone carries more germs than a toilet seat. A recent study at the University of Surrey found that most of the bacteria on cellphones are harmless but some disease carrying bacteria such as Staphylococcus aureus can also occasionally be found.

PTI

Swatch CEO signals plans to add to smartwatch range: Swiss paper

ZURICH, 23 Aug — Swatch plans to add to its new smartwatch range, the Swiss watchmaker's chief executive told a newspaper in an interview published on Saturday.

The Biel, Switzerland-based company is competing with Apple and other watchmakers in the

budding smartwatch market.

"Our product is called Touch Zero One and that gives enough room for Zero Five, Zero Nine," Nick Hayek was quoted as saying by Switzerland's Tages-Anzeiger newspaper. "The Touch Zero One is not the end of the pro-

gression."

Hayek told the paper Swatch would launch Touch Zero Two at next year's Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro.

The Swiss company's strategy appears primarily to revolve around including individual tech features in different models rather than going head to head with Apple to create all-in-one smartwatches combining many functions.

On top of its Touch Zero One, which can track the distance the wearer travels and help beach volleyball players measure the power of their hits, Swatch is planning to launch watches with an embedded "near field communication" chip this year.—Reuters



The new 'Swatch Touch Zero One' is seen on a screen during the Swiss watchmaker's annual news conference in Corgemont March 12, 2015.—REUTERS

Japan's Sharp in LCD tie-up talks with Taiwan's Hon Hai: sources

Tokyo, 23 Aug — Japan's Sharp Corp is in talks with Taiwan's Hon Hai Precision Industry Co for a tie-up in its struggling flat-panel display business, according to two sources familiar with the discussion.

Under the proposed plan, Sharp would spin of the display business into a separate unit ahead of investment from Hon Hai and possible cash injections from other entities, including the state-directed Innovation Network Corporation of Japan, the sources said.

The talks come after Sharp's chief executive, Kozo Takahashi, last month said he was open to major restructuring of Sharp's liquid crystal display (LCD) and consumer



A man sitting on a sofa looks at a Sharp Corp's Aquos TV at an electronics retailer in Tokyo, Japan, June 23, 2015. REUTERS

electronics businesses as investors and analysts clamored for an overhaul.

Earlier tie-up talks between Hon Hai and Sharp fell through in 2012 after the Japanese company balked at demands that it said would have given the

Taiwanese firm too much control.

The two corporations, nonetheless, remained in contact and jointly operate a plant in Osaka Western Japan that makes large LCD panels.

Reuters

Refugees tear through police lines at Macedonian border



Migrants make their way through a police line to cross Greece's border into Macedonia near Gevgelija, Macedonia, August 22, 2015.—REUTERS

GEVGELIJA, (Macedonia), 23 Aug — Thousands of migrants stormed across Macedonia's border on Saturday, overwhelming security forces who threw stun grenades and lashed out with batons before apparently abandoning a bid to stem their flow through the Balkans to western Europe. Some had spent days in the open with little or no food or water after Macedonia on Thursday

declared a state of emergency and sealed its borders to migrants, many of them refugees from war in Syria and other conflicts in the Middle East.

But by nightfall on Saturday, thousands had crossed the frontier, milling around the border town of Gevgelija where busses had converged from all over the country and trains left in quick succession to take them north to the next leg of their journey through Serbia.

There was no official word from the government, but the level of organisation suggested authorities had opted to move the migrants on as quickly as possible, having tried and failed to keep them out with razor wire, teargas and stun grenades.

"The government is organising additional trains. I don't know who is organising the busses," said Alexandra Krause, a senior protection officer with the United Nations refugee agency, UNHCR.

No-man's land, where men, women and children had slept in squalor under open skies appeared largely empty, though more people are certain make their way from Greece.

"In this Europe, animals are sleeping in beds and we sleep in the rain," said 23-year-old Syrian woman Fatima Hamido on entering Macedonia. "I was freezing for four days in the rain, with nothing to eat." Thirty-two-year-old Saeed from Syria said of the blocked border: "We know this was not Macedonia and the Macedonian police. This was the European Union. Please tell Brussels we are coming, no matter what."

Migrants had been pouring across the border into Macedonia at a rate of some 2,000 per day, en route to Serbia then Hungary and Europe's borderless Schengen zone. Some 50,000 arrived on Greek shores in July alone by boat from Turkey.—Reuters

Storm Kilo to strengthen in Pacific, Danny to weaken in Atlantic

KAILUA-KONA, (Hawaii), 23 Aug — Weather system Kilo weakened into a depression by early Saturday but is expected to become a hurricane as it travels across the central Pacific towards the Hawaiian islands over the next several days, the National Weather Service said.

Kilo, with sustained winds of up to 30 miles per hour (48 kilometers per hour), was centered roughly 520 miles (835 km) south of Honolulu by Saturday at 5 a.m. (1500 GMT), moving west-northwest at about 17 mph (28 kph), the NWS said.

Kilo is expected to strengthen and slow over the weekend, as it begins to turn northwest. Because it is tracking over warm water, south of the islands, it will likely avoid a wind shear that weakened two hurricanes earlier this month. Forecasters say Kilo will not make a direct hit on any of the islands but Kauai appears to be the most vulnerable.

Flash-flood warnings are in effect for Maui and Hawaii's Big Island through Monday.

day. Danny, the first hurricane of the 2015 Atlantic season, was downgraded to a tropical storm after weakening overnight and through the day, registering winds of up to 85 mph (136 kph) by Saturday, down from 115 mph (185 kph) the evening before.

The hurricane is about 520 miles east (840 km) of the Leeward Islands and moving west at 14 mph (22 kph), the National Hurricane Center said in an advisory on Saturday evening.

The center of Danny is expected to be near the Leeward Islands by Sunday night or Monday morning. Danny is expected to produce 2 (5 cm) inches to 4 inches (10 cm) of rain over the Leeward Islands through Monday.

The French government has issued a tropical storm watch for Caribbean islands including Guadeloupe, St. Barthelemy and St. Martin. Hurricanes can bring destructive high winds, torrential rain and big waves, the National Weather Service said.—Reuters

Seven killed as jet crashes into cars at UK airshow



Emergency services and crash investigation officers work at the site where a Hawker Hunter fighter jet crashed onto the A27 road at Shoreham near Brighton, Britain August 23, 2015. REUTERS

LONDON, 23 Aug — A jet aircraft ploughed into several cars on a busy road near an airshow in southern England on Saturday, killing at least seven people, police said.

The vintage Hawker Hunter fighter jet crashed onto the A27 road, close to an airport in Shoreham where the airshow was taking place, near the south coast city of Brighton. All those who died were on the road at the time of the crash, police said, adding that it

was possible more bodies might be found overnight and on Sunday.

The pilot is in a serious condition in hospital. The ambulance service said 14 people were treated at the scene, with four taken to hospital.

Video footage posted online showed the plane in the process of executing an acrobatic loop before it hit the ground, causing an explosion which appeared to engulf some cars. —Reuters

Biden meets liberal leader Warren while mulling White House run

EDGARTOWN, (Mass), 23 Aug — U.S. Vice President Joe Biden met on Saturday with Senator Elizabeth Warren, a popular progressive leader with a big support base among Democrats, as he mulls whether to run for president, according to a source familiar with the matter.

Biden has been huddling with senior advisers to evaluate options for taking on former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, the Democratic front-runner who has struggled to overcome fallout from her use of a private email server while working as the nation's top diplomat.

His meeting with Warren is further evidence of how seriously the vice president is considering a run for the party's nomination. Warren has a lot of support from liberal-leaning groups that would be critical to winning in early voting states.

She has said she does not plan to run for president herself, but she has not endorsed Clinton or any other Democratic candidate.

The vice president's office declined to comment other than to say Biden had left his home in Delaware to come to Washington.

"The vice president traveled last minute to Washington, DC, for a private meeting and will be returning to Delaware," a White House official said.

Biden's entry into the race would upend the primary process. He has a long history of supporting policies to boost the middle class, an issue that is important to Warren and that Clinton has made one of the signature issues of her campaign.

But his late entry into the race and Clinton's formidable lead in infrastructure and fundraising would put him at a disadvantage.



U.S. Vice President Joe Biden smiles as he delivers remarks at the U.S.-Ukraine Business Forum in Washington July 13, 2015. REUTERS

"He has a resume second to none. He's been an extraordinary partner to this president. And economic viability of the middle class has been his focus and concern throughout his career," said David Axelrod, Obama's chief strategist in his 2008 and 2012 campaigns.

"That said, he's well behind the front-runner in polling, money and organization ... Unless the picture changes dramatically, it would be a heavy lift."

Though the vice president does not have a formal campaign structure, an outside political "Super Pac" called Draft Biden is laying the groundwork if he decides to jump into the race.

"All of a sudden the vice president's exceptionally serious," said Draft Biden adviser Steve Schale, a top strategist in Florida for Obama's campaigns in 2008 and 2012.

"Our job is to make sure that if he makes the decision to run ... there's a little bit of infrastructure in place for him to hit the ground."—Reuters

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Ministry of Energy Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise Invitation Tenders for Consultancy and Advisory Services for Five Joint Venture Projects

1. Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise (MPE), a State-owned Enterprise of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar under the Ministry of Energy announces Invitation Tenders for consultancy and advisory services from local or foreign consultant firms for the following five Joint Venture Projects:

Sr No.	Tender No.	Description
1	1(TP)/Consultant for CPMDD JV/HQ/MPE/ 2015-2016	Coastal Tankers, River Crafts and Barges under Crude and Petrochemical Movement and Distribution Department(CPMDD)
2	2(TP)/Consultant for KZ JV/ HQ/ MPE/ 2015-2016	No.3 Fertilizer Factory (Kyawzwa)
3	3(TP)/Consultant for Laboratory/HQ/MPE/ 2015-2016	Laboratory Services for analyzing the specification and qualification of the Petroleum Products
4	4(TP)/Consultant for LPG Supply Chain/HQ/MPE/ 2015-2016	New Construction of LPG Terminal and Jetty in NO(1) Refinery (Thanlyin)
5	5(TP)/Consultant for MLT/ HQ/ MPE/ 2015-2016	LPG Importation, Storage, Distribution and Marketing by using the existing facilities of Myanmar Liquefied Terminal (MLT) in NO(1) Refinery (Thanlyin)

2. Each tender document can be purchased by 50,000 Kyats (Fifty thousand Kyats) at the Finance Department, MPE during office hours commencing from 25th Aug, 2015.
3. Applicants shall submit the proposals in accordance with the specifications set forth in the Tender Documents to the following address not later than 24th Sept, 2015 at 12:00 noon.
4. Submission of proposals from an applicant shall not be allowed for more than two out of five joint venture projects. If the proposals submitted are more than two projects from an applicant, all proposals shall not be considered.
5. For more information, please contact the following address:
Managing Director
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise
Building No. 44, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
dplmpe@energy.gov.mm, mpeict@gmail.com
Fax: +95 67 411124, +95 67 411126
6. Late inquiry or inquiries via telephone will not be answered.

“Blue train” ends last run in Japan after nearly 60 yrs of service

TOKYO, 23 Aug — An era came to an end Sunday when Japan's last “blue train” long-distance sleeper train in service completed its final run nearly 60 years after the train's debut in 1958.

The “Hokutosei” express left Sapporo Station in Hokkaido, northernmost Japan, at 4:12 p.m. Saturday, arriving at Ueno Station in Tokyo at 9:25 a.m. Sunday, just on schedule, to the cheers of some 2,500 train enthusiasts and onlookers.

Takahiro Gofuku, a 43-year-old Tokyo resident

who, accompanied by his five-year-old daughter, was among the lucky passengers on the very last run, said, “I took the Hokutosei around 30 times. I'm really going to miss it.”

Tsutomu Koike, a 36-year-old from Saitama, said he had ridden blue trains many times since his childhood. “An era has definitely ended.”

The coveted tickets for the last run were snatched up immediately after going on sale in late July.

The Hokutosei express,

which has individual cabins and a luxurious dining car, ended regular operations in March and has been operating an occasional service between Ueno and Sapporo.

Blue trains used to provide popular overnight long-distance services in Japan, connecting urban areas and the countryside, but the number of passengers declined as shinkansen bullet trains became faster and with the growth of domestic air routes and highway express bus services.

Kyodo News

WEATHER REPORT

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.
FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 24th August, 2015: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Mandalay and Magway Regions, fairly widespread in Lower Sagaing Region and Shan State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy falls in Upper Sagaing and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).
STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) m.p.h.
OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Strong monsoon.
FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24th August, 2015: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).
FORECAST FOR YANGON AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24th August, 2015: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).
FORECAST FOR MANDALAY AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 24th August, 2015: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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Singer Jessica Simpson

I am a relatable person: Jessica Simpson

LOS ANGELES, 23 Aug — Singer Jessica Simpson says the secret to her success is that she is a “relatable person”. The 35-year-old entrepreneur credited her family and friends for the success of her beauty and clothing business, reported Women’s Wear Daily. “I’m always a Southern girl at heart. My friends and family are my everything. They influence all that I do. I feel like I’m a relatable person. I’m completely open and honest with everyone.

Whether that’s too much openness or honesty, it makes me non-judgemental. “I’m one of those girls you would hopefully want to hang out with. When you have a lot of judgemental in the world of design, it keeps you from being as creative as you can be ... I’m a risk-taker,” Simpson said.

PTI



J K Rowling likes fan theory about Dumbledore as death

LONDON, 23 Aug — Fans have long argued that the Three Brothers from ‘Deathly Hallows’ is an allegory to actual ‘Harry Potter’ characters with Dumbledore representing Death and now JK Rowling has given her approval to it.

Rowling, who often takes to Twitter to interact with fans and to throw more light on the Potter-world, said her favourite fan theory is that the three

brothers’ story ran parallel to the real story of Potter.

“Dumbledore as death. It’s a beautiful theory and it fits,” Rowling tweeted when someone asked about her favourite fan theory.

In the story, three wizard brothers once conquer death for a short time through their magic. An angry death appears in front of them and pretends to give them three gifts of their choosing: The Elder Wand, The Resurrection

Stone and the Invisibility Cloak.

Two of the three brothers foolishly choose their gifts and die an early death. The third brother, the wisest among them, hides under the Invisibility Cloak and evades death for a long time before finally meeting as an old friend many years later. Fans believe that Voldemort, the fearsome villain in the book, represents the first brother as he wants to conquer death

at all costs, second brother would be Snape, who is full of guilt for his role in getting the love of his life, Lily Potter, killed while the third brother is represented by Potter who is always ready to face death and eventually leads a long life.

Now, fans have come up with another theory that believes that just as Voldemort, Snape, and Harry stand for the three brothers, Dumbledore stands for Death.—PTI

‘Straight Outta Compton’ sequel in works



Dogg Pound’s Daz Dillinger said that they’re working on a movie tentatively called “Dogg Pound 4 Life” that would pick up where the N.W.A biopic left off.—PTI

LOS ANGELES, 23 Aug — “Straight Outta Compton” is reportedly getting a sequel.

Dogg Pound’s Daz Dillinger said that they’re working on a movie tentatively called “Dogg Pound 4 Life” that would pick up where the N.W.A biopic left off, reported TMZ.

The upcoming film is expected to focus on Snoop Dogg, the late Tupac Shakur, Nate Dogg, Kurupt, Daz, Warren G, and other West Coast rappers who reached stardom in the wake of N.W.A.’s fame. Death Row Records’ founder Suge Knight will also be included in the story. Although it’s a “Straight Outta Compton” follow-up story, it won’t likely star the same actors.

Dr Dre and Ice Cube won’t be producing either but Cube has reportedly given his approval and Dre’s son, Curtis Young, is eyed for a role.

Directed by F Gary Gray, “Straight Outta Compton” stars O’Shea Jackson, Jr as his own father Ice Cube, Corey Hawkins as Dr Dre, and Jason Mitchell as Eazy-E.

It earned over USD 60 million on the debut weekend and has so far garnered more than USD 80 million against a budget of USD 29 million.—PTI

Novelist Ishiguro’s notes and works head to Texas library

AUSTIN, (Texas), 23 Aug — The sweeping archives of award-winning novelist Kazuo Ishiguro will be heading to a University of Texas research library, including a discarded opening chapter for his best-known book, “The Remains of the Day,” the university said.

The novelist, who was born in Nagasaki, Japan, in 1954 and has lived in Britain since he was a child, has kept extensive notes of his novels and multiple drafts of his works that include “Never Let Me Go” and “The Buried Giant.”

The collection will be going to the Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas, a research library that is a major collector of manuscripts and original source material. The university paid just over \$1 million to acquire the material, a library spokeswoman said.

“For many years, I’ve been in the habit of keep-

ing a large cardboard box under my desk into which I throw, more or less indiscriminately, all papers produced during my writing that I don’t want to file neatly and take into the next stage of composition,” Ishiguro said in a statement released by the university.

These include early drafts of chapters, rejected pages, scraps of paper with scribbled thoughts and repeated attempts at the same paragraph, he added.

Also in the collection will be unpublished works and notes for stories, screenplays and songs, including a track called “Shingles” written by a young Ishiguro who had tried to land a contract with a major record label.

In preparing to ship his archives to Austin, Ishiguro found a manuscript for a pulp Western, his first serious attempt at fiction that he thought had been lost.

There is also a short novel that soon followed, called “To Remember a



Author Kazuo Ishiguro

Summer By.” At least one publisher rejected it.

Ishiguro began to gain notice in the 1980s for his works such as “A Pale View of the Hills” and

global fame for “The Remains of the Day,” a story of a fastidious and repressed butler in postwar Britain.

Reuters

GENERAL

Spaniard Lopez beats Wang for walk gold



Miguel Angel Lopez of Spain celebrates winning the men's 20 km race walk final at the 15th IAAF World Championships at the National Stadium in Beijing, China August 23, 2015. REUTERS

BEIJING, 23 Aug — Spain's Miguel Angel Lopez hauled in Wang Zhen to win the men's 20 kilometre race walk on Sunday and deny China their first gold medal of their home world athletics championships.

The 27-year-old European champion hung tough as a group of five Chinese

walkers, led by Wang, tried to stretch the pace from the start but the group splintered under the strain and Lopez had enough stamina to hit the front in the closing stages.

He passed Wang at the 18-km mark and pumped his fist in delight as he crossed the line in a personal best time of one hour 19

minutes 14 seconds, 15 seconds ahead of the Chinese, to become the first Spanish winner since Valenti Masana in 1993.

"This is the best moment of my life," Lopez told reporters. "The course was complicated plus the heat. It was a tactical race but I kept my calm. My last 200 (metres) was an incredible sensation."

"I hoped the people of Spain watched me at three in the morning. They should see this unique moment of my life."

Wang, 23, bronze medallist at the London Olympics three years ago, refused to be disappointed at his near miss.

He and a quartet of team mates had controlled the early fast pace but he opted to make a solo break at the 13-km mark, opening up a sizeable lead that looked to be enough for gold.

But a steely Lopez closed the gap at the 17km mark before overtaking an exhausted and grimacing

Wang shortly after, powering home to the Bird's Nest with the Chinese athlete unable to match the pace.

"It became tough toward the end as the race started to get rushed," Wang said.

"I was not nervous but I felt some pressure as this competition takes place in China."

Canada's Ben Thorne took bronze, 43 seconds behind Lopez, while Ukraine's Igor Glavan was fourth in a season's best time of 1.20:29.

Cai Zelin, who had been part of the early Chinese front running group, was fifth despite stopping at the three quarter mark clutching his stomach and looking close to vomiting.

Olympic champion Ding Chen, another of the Chinese pace-setters, had to settle for ninth.

World record holder Yusuke Suzuki of Japan quit just after halfway through in ever-increasing heat in the Chinese capital.

Reuters

Labrinth gets engaged?



LONDON, 23 Aug — British singer Labrinth has reportedly got engaged to his girlfriend Muz.

The 26-year-old "Beneath Your Beautiful" hitmaker proposed to his partner Muz whilst on stage at V Festival at Hylands Park in Chelmsford, reported the Daily Mirror.

"He talked about loyalty before proposing and how his girlfriend had been with him since the start of his career and stood by him," a source said.

Apparently, when she said 'yes', the crowd cheered and applauded.

Fans have also offered their congratulations to the couple on social media.

One wrote, "Congratulations to @Labrinthda1st and @its_Muzzy on getting engaged! x (sic)"

While another said, "Congratulations @Labrinth on your engagement!! #VFestival #TweetTheFest (sic)"

"Nah @Labrinthda1st proposing to his girl on stage was to much #VFestival2015 (sic)," a fan posted.—PTI

Champions Chelsea swoop for Brazilian teenager Kenedy

LONDON, 23 Aug — Premier League champions Chelsea continued to strengthen their squad by signing 19-year-old Brazilian winger Kenedy from Fluminense on Saturday.

The under-20 international played in the London club's pre-season tour match against Barcelona in the United States having been granted per-

mission by his Brazilian team.

"I am very happy to complete my transfer," Kenedy told the club's official website. "It is an exciting time for me to join ... and I hope I can become an important player for the club."

"I very much enjoyed my time with the squad during pre-season," added the teenager who can play on either flank or down the

centre.

Kenedy's acquisition could signal the departure of Nigeria winger Victor Moses or Colombia wide man Juan Cuadrado.

Chelsea also bought Spain forward Pedro from Barcelona earlier this week and signed goalkeeper Asmir Begovic and striker Radamel Falcao in the close-season.

Jose Mourinho's team,

who have taken one point from their opening two league fixtures, visit West Bromwich Albion on Sunday.—Reuters

Brazil's Kenedy celebrates after scoring a goal against Venezuela during their Group B soccer match for the South American under-20 championship in Maldonado, January 19, 2015.—REUTERS



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|-------------------|---------------------|
| 6:20 am | 8:45 am |
| * Myanmar Series | * Myanmar Video |
| 6:45 am | 9:50 am |
| * Fashion Show | * Musical Programme |
| 7:05 am | 10:10 am |
| * TV Drama Series | * My Dream |
| 7:55 am | 10:35 am |
| * TV Drama Series | * Myanmar Video |
| | 12:00 am |
| | * Close Down |

Substitute Chit Naing nails winner for Myanmar

VIENTIANE, 23 Aug — Ten minutes after coming on, substitute striker Kaung Chit Naing netted the winner against Singapore in a tough AFF Under-19 Championship Group B match played out in blistering conditions here at the National Sports Complex this afternoon.

Chit Naing, who came on for Zar Nay Ya Thu in the 66th minute, was lurking on the right of the box when found himself right in the path of a cross. He rushed in and headed in the first goal which would later turn out to be the winner.

As this is the opening match for Group B, Myanmar leads the standings, but that could all change after the second match between

Malaysia and Timor Leste later tonight.

The 4pm kick-off is clearly not a favourite with the teams. So it was hardly surprising when the players needed some time to adjust to the blistering conditions. After the first ten minutes or so, the action began to heat up.

Myanmar started plotting their way through the defence and before long managed to make it through only for their forwards to miss their shots. Aung Kaung Mann and Zar Nay Ya Thu had a few looks but were unable to convert their chances.

At the end of a tough 45 minutes, the score was level as both teams gleefully headed to the dressing rooms for a much deserved break.



After a quick recharge and some words of wisdom from

their coaches, the teams came on ready for the rest of the battle. Myanmar had the Lion's share of the chances but missed. In the 53rd minute, Zar Nay Ya Thu's solid header was gallantly tipped over by Benedict Loh but in the process fell heavily. Fortunately, he was alright and recovered to punch out the ensuing corner kick.

Ya Thu missed another shot in the 56th minute and

was soon replaced by Chit Naing.

Singapore could have levelled the score three minutes from the end but Karthik Manimaren's crisp shot was caught by Soe Arkar.

Singapore will face archrivals Malaysia next on Aug 25 while Myanmar has a two-day break before meeting Timor Leste on Aug 27.

aseanfootball.org

Myanmar national squad formed with 23 players

YANGON, 23 Aug—Myanmar Football Federation Sunday released the finalists of Myanmar national team that will take part in the 2018 World Cup qualifiers.

The team includes goalkeepers Kyaw Zin Phyoo, Myo Min Latt and Yan Aung Lin, defenders David Dune, Kyaw Zin Lwin, Sithu

Aung, Nanda Kyaw, Aung Zaw, Zaw Min Tun, Zaw Lin and Phyo Ko Ko Thein; midfielders Aung Thu, Ye Ko Oo, Kyaw Min Oo, Hline Bo Bo, Kyi Lin, Thiha Zaw, Yan Aung Kyaw and Maung Maung Lwin, forwards Nay Lin Tun, Kyaw Ko Ko, Than Paing and Sam Lam Mang.—MFF

Pedro scores as Chelsea kickstart stuttering campaign



West Bromwich Albion v Chelsea — Barclays Premier League — The Hawthorns — 23/8/15 Chelsea's Pedro.—REUTERS

LONDON, 23 Aug — Pedro scored a debut goal as champions Chelsea got their stuttering Premier League campaign off the ground with an entertaining 3-2 victory against West Bromwich Albion at the Hawthorns on Sunday.

Chelsea — who had taken one point from their opening two matches — were indebted to Thibaut Courtois who saved James Morrison's early penalty before Pedro, signed this week from Barcelona, poked home in the 20th minute.

Diego Costa converted Pedro's shot in the 30th minute, Morrison atoned for his earlier penalty miss to pull a goal back five minutes later before Cesar Azpilicueta restored Chelsea's two-goal cushion in the 42nd minute.

John Terry, who was substituted for the first time ever under Jose Mourinho during last week's loss to Manchester City, was dismissed for bringing down Salomon Rondon and though Morrison added his second, Chelsea held on to register their first victory of the season.

Later on Sunday Manchester City take their 100 percent record to Goodison Park to face Everton while Southampton visit promoted Watford.—Reuters

Real not targeting another striker, Benitez says

MADRID, 23 Aug — Real Madrid are not planning to bring in another striker before the transfer window closes at the end of the month and have full confidence in France forward Karim Benzema, coach Rafa Benitez said on Saturday.

Real begin their latest La Liga campaign on Sunday at promoted Sporting Gijon, although Benzema is still recovering from injury and will miss the clash at the Molinon.

Benitez, who took over from the sacked Carlo Ancelotti at the end of last season, has set the Frenchman a target of 25 goals for the season, something he has not achieved since 2011-12 when he netted 31.

The 27-year-old, who joined from Olympique Lyon in 2009, only managed 14 last term partly due to injury and has regularly been targeted with whistles by some disgruntled Real fans.

Real have plenty of cover for Benzema, including Portugal forward and top scorer Cristiano Ronaldo, Jese and B team teenager Borja Mayoral, Benitez said at a news conference.

"I have said many times that I am convinced Benzema is a great forward," added the former Valencia, Liverpool, Chelsea, Inter Milan and Napo-

li coach.

"That's why I set him a target of 25 goals to motivate him and so he can express himself.

"So we have a lot of attacking options and that's why right now we are not looking for a striker."

Ancelotti was discarded after Real failed to win the Champions League, La Liga or the King's Cup last term, with Benitez returning to the club where he was both a player and coach in the youth academy.

Real have brought in a number of new players in the close season, including Croatia midfielder Mateo Kovacic, Brazil fullback Danilo and goalkeeper Kiko Casilla.

Spain keeper David De Gea is widely expected to join from Manchester United but Benitez declined to confirm whether a deal would happen.

"I think I have a great team and a great squad and as Real Madrid coach I am completely satisfied," he said when asked if the world's richest club by income planned any more business in the transfer market.

"We have to work with the players we have here to improve them a little more if possible and I am not planning anything beyond that."

Reuters