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GIVING THE GREEN LIGHT

YCDC moves forward with K20 bn traffic light overhaul



Yangon's traffic lights will be upgraded to ease congestion in the country's commercial capital.—PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Aye Min Soe

THE Yangon City Development Committee announced on Thursday that the deadline for tenders to be submitted for the city-wide traffic light upgrading project is 13 November.

The project is part of an effort to introduce the Yangon Comprehensive Traffic Control System, which is slated for completion within the 2015-2016 fiscal year. YCDC is injecting K20 billion (US\$15.6 million) of the state's

reserve budget into the project, according to YCDC Secretary U Kyaw Soe.

YCDC unveiled its plan to replace 154 traffic lights in Yangon with newer ones in an effort to ease traffic congestion in Myanmar's largest commercial city. The call for tenders was issued in July.

A maximum of 50 companies will be allowed to bid for the tender and 28 companies have already done so, according to the YCDC announcement.

Tender applications cost

K250,000, and each company that bids for the project must put down a US\$500,000 deposit.

The new traffic lights will feature CCTV cameras and will be linked to each other via a control tower that will be constructed as part of the project, a spokesperson from YCDC's information department told *The Global New Light of Myanmar* on 2 September.

The three-storey control tower will be built on a 100-square foot area in People's Park. Construction is expected to begin in November,

and the tower is scheduled to be completed within three months.

The upgrade is meant ensure a smoother flow of traffic and prevent unnecessary congestion, the spokesperson said.

YCDC has almost finished laying the underground cables for the project, Secretary U Kyaw Soe said. The new traffic lights will each be equipped with at least one hour of backup power to prevent failures during electricity cuts.

The YCDC spokesperson did not disclose the number of compa-

nies that will be selected to implement the project in Yangon's four municipal districts.

The spokesperson said Yangon has 188 traffic lights in its municipal area, of which 11 have already been upgraded with assistance from the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

The new traffic lights, which use Japanese technology, collect traffic data and send it to a central control system. They do not require the assistance of traffic police.—GNLM

Swollen rivers pose renewed flood risk in Ayeyawady, Sagaing

THE Department of Meteorology and Hydrology has alerted people living near rivers to leave their homes as water levels have risen beyond their designated danger points.

The Ngawun River in Ay-

eyawady Region has risen one foot above its danger point and is expected to rise more over the next three days, said the department on Thursday.

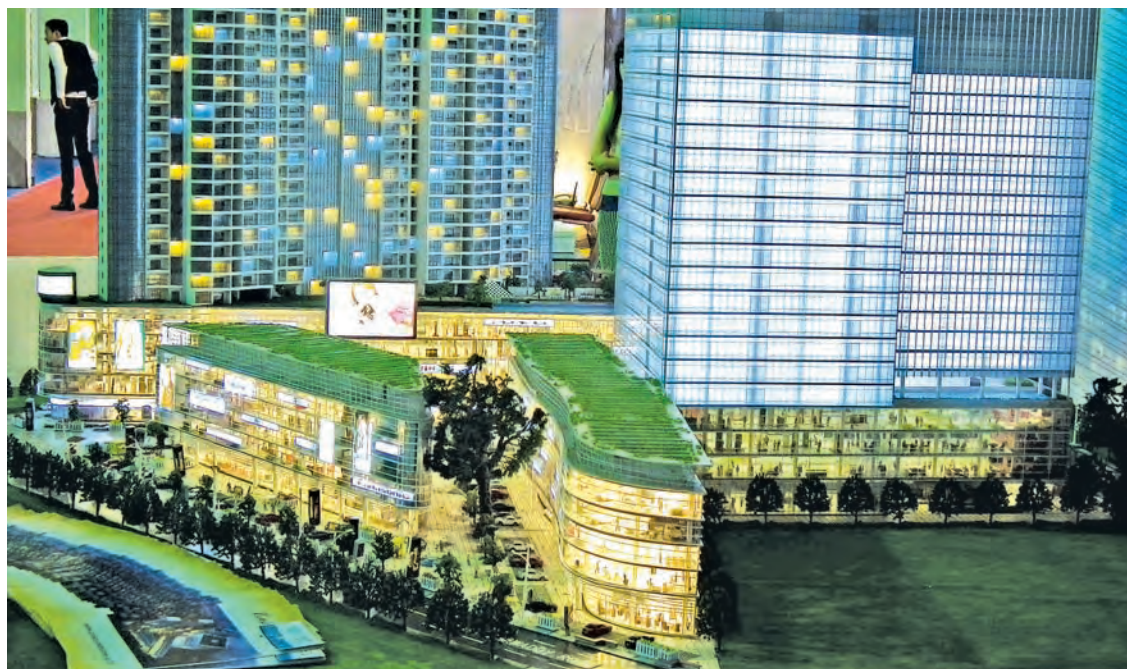
The department announced that the Chindwin River has risen

five or six feet above its designated danger point in Phaungpyin, Mawlaik, Mingin and Kalewa and two feet in Monywa, urging those living near the river and in low-lying areas to evacuate the area. The Ayeyawady River has also exceed-

ed its danger point in Pakokku and Nyaung-U. The weather bureau warned people living in Ngathang Chaung in the Ayeyawady Delta to be wary of rising water levels.

Recent flooding in Myanmar killed 122 people nationwide and

has displaced more than 1.6 million people. Most flood-related deaths were reported in Rakhine State, where at least 56 died, followed by Sagaing Region with 24 deaths, Mandalay Region with 12 and Shan State with nine.—GNLM



Scale models of high-rise housings shown at Housing & Living 2015.—KYEMON

3rd Housing & Living 2015 attracts city dwellers

YANGON — The 3rd Housing & Living 2015 kicked off at Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road on 10 September with the aim of introducing modern designs of housings to the city dwellers.

A total of 60 companies showcase scale models of hous-

ings, cornice and household decorations, electronic and electrical equipment, construction materials, personal goods, automobiles and partys, small-scale machines, modern furniture and others.

The exhibition runs from 10 to 13 September with free admission.

Successful entrepreneurs will share experiences on running real estate with visitors.

The opening ceremony of the show was attended by Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe, Region Minister for Planning and Economy U Than Myint and officials.—Kyemon

Relief aid distributed to flood victims in Tiddim

REEDKHORDA — Various township departments and youths in Reedkhorda, Chin State, opened a donation centre to help local flood victims in the first week of September.

Town administrator U Paung Deik Tong presented 60 bags of rice and K500,000 donated by departmental personnel, social organisations and members of the public to flood victims in No. 1

Relief Camp in Tiddim Township.

At present, 486 people from 78 households from flood-affected villages are taking shelter at relief camps in Tiddim Township.

Nay Su (Chin mountain range)

Ayeyawady water level approaches danger point

HINTHADA — The water levels of the Ayeyawady River reached 1,329 centimeters in Hinthada Township as of 9 September. This is just 13 centimetres below the township's danger point of 1,329 cm, according to the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.

U Aung San, the district department's head, instructed local farmers not to rush the cultivation of their crops. He said farmers should pay attention to news about the weather as they begin cultivation.

“Although the Ayeyawady River in Hinthada rose more than 1.2 metres above the danger point in the first week of August, the efforts of local authorities and residents managed to overcome the dangers posed by flooding,” said a local resident. “At present, officials from the township's irrigation department are carrying out maintenance on the embankment. Local people have no need to worry about flash flooding,” U Aung San added.—Kyaw Kyaw (Hinthada)



Water level of Ayeyawady River gradually rising at Hinthada Township.—KYAW KYAW (HINTHADA)

Mandalay grows greener

MANDALAY — Chanmyathazi Township held its thirteenth monsoon tree-planting ceremony along 57th Street between Theikpan and Manawhari streets on 9 September.

The ceremony was organised by the township's development affairs committee as part of the Mandalay City Development Committee's urban greening project.

City officials and local residents planted more than 600 saplings of various species

along the road.

Mayor U Aung Maung who is also Mandalay Region Minister for Development Affairs together with secretary and members of the MCDC oversaw the ceremony with participation of departmental personnel and local residents.

During the rainy season, township development committees in Mandalay city municipal area hold tree-planting ceremonies in order to expand the city's gardens.—Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Nominations open for ASEAN People's Awards

NAY PYI TAW — The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that nominations for the ASEAN People's Awards will be accepted until September 30.

The ministry advised applicants to address their submissions to the ASEAN Affairs Department.

The ASEAN People's Awards are given to citizens or

organisations from member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in recognition of their outstanding contributions to ASEAN community-building, according to the association's website.

Applicants must submit descriptions of their verifiable achievements to help create a united, prosperous and caring ASEAN Community, the minis-

try said.

One award recipient will be selected from each of the ten ASEAN member states. The award comes with a grant of US\$10,000.

Awards will be presented to the winners at a ceremony that will take place on the sidelines of the 27th ASEAN Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in November.—MNA

Agriculture department cultivates quality rice seeds



Farming workers transplant paddy saplings at the fields.—KO PAUK (OKKAR MYAY)

NAY PYI TAW — The Department of Agriculture began cultivating rice paddies on a 3,000-acre field in Dekkhinathiri Township on 9 September. The paddies will produce Palethwe hybrid rice seeds.

The department's deputy director general U Naing Kyi Win supervised the transplanting of saplings to the paddy field.

According to the Department of Agriculture, a one-acre Palethwe paddy field can produce

seeds for 100 additional acres of farmland. The seeds produced in Dekkhinathiri will be distributed over more than 100,000 acres of farmland in the summer cultivation season.

The department has also cultivated rice seed paddies on 452 acres at the Shwedaung research farm in Wundwin Township, 222 acres in Ottwin Township, 20 acres in Magway Region and more than 1,000 acres in other regions and states.—Ko Pauk (Okkar Myay)

President U Thein Sein meets Club de Madrid delegation

NAY PYI TAW — President U Thein Sein received a delegation of the Club de Madrid comprising former prime minister of Bhutan Jigme Yoser Thinley and the former chancellor of Austria Mr Alfred Gusenbauer at the Presidential Palace on Thursday.

The Club de Madrid is an independent non-profit organisation that works to promote democracy worldwide and is considered the world's largest forum of former heads of state and government.

Discussions focused on Myanmar's political and economic reform process, the country's ongoing peace process and development goals, as well as the preparations underway for free and fair elections.

Also present at the meeting were union ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Soe Thane and U Ye Htut.—MNA



President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo with former prime minister of Bhutan Jigme Yoser Thinley and the former chancellor of Austria Mr Alfred Gusenbauer and party.—MNA

U Nyan Tun calls for smooth flow of commodities across ASEAN

NAYPYITAW—As the deadline for the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community approaches, the Greater Mekong Subregion Economic Cooperation Programme will be critical to individual member states in strengthening the region's economy, Vice President U Nyan Tun told the 20th Greater Mekong Subregion Ministerial Conference on Thursday.

With growing economic integration among members of the Mekong subregion, the economic cooperation programme is half-way through its third decade.

U Nyan Tun urged countries in the Mekong subregion to strive for a smooth flow of commodities and improvement of tariff systems, stressing the need to increase connectivity through sus-

tainable development of physical infrastructure and the transformation of transport corridors into transnational economic corridors.

The vice president affirmed the government's commitment to undertaking projects for perennial national development across the country, adding that the development of small and medium enterprises will play a vital role in regional development.

The conference was co-chaired by Union National Planning and Economic Development Minister Dr Kan Zaw and Asian Development Bank Vice President Mr Stephen Groff.

The Asian Development Bank hosted the first GMS Cooperation Programme in Manila in October 1992.

On 9 September, Vice Pres-

ident U Nyan Tun visited the Thilawa special economic zone in a southern district of Yangon and was given a progress report of the project – including the arrangements for the early launch of the first-phase, share sales, job opportunities for local communities and environmental and social impact assessments. The vice president said that the SEZ will drive foreign investment and job growth.

He also visited Koyorad Myanmar Factory, a Japanese factory which is soon to be operated, and encouraged Myanmar employees to work productively.

Forty local and foreign companies have been permitted to invest in the SEZ, with Japan topping the list, followed by Thailand. Companies from Japan, Chi-



Vice President U Nyan Tun.—MNA

na, Malaysia, France, the United States, Singapore, Thailand, China (Taipei), Sweden, Myanmar, Hong Kong and Australia also have a presence in the SEZ.

Four companies, namely Foster, Lu Thai Myanmar, Indorama and Cute, are expected to launch their operations at the end of the year.—MNA

Media slots for three political parties announced

NAY PYI TAW — MRTV news channel and Myanmar Radio will broadcast campaign speeches by representatives from Wa National Unity Party, Taaung (Palaung) National Party and All Mon Region Democracy Party on 11 September and 11 October.—GNLM

Televised campaign speeches continue



Emblem of Kayan National Party (KNP).—MNA

NAY PYI TAW — Campaign speeches from three political parties were broadcast on Thursday.

The speeches were made by General Secretary U Nan Yi of Kayan National Party (KNP), Chairman U Aye Kyaing of Rakhine State National Unity Party and Chairman of Kayin People's Party Saw Tun Aung Myint and General Secretary U Saw Sae Wah.

U Nan Yi of KNP said his



Emblem of Rakhine State National Unity Party.—MNA

party advocates self-determination, a genuine union and democracy, federalism, equality, peace, regional development and the conservation of Kayan culture and traditions.

U Aye Kyaing of the Rakhine National Force Party said that his party's aim is to establish a federal democracy and an inclusive market economy. Other policies include constitutional reform, peace, equal-



Emblem of Kayin People's Party.—MNA

ity and strict immigration controls.

Saw Tun Aung Myint and U Saw Sae Wah said that stability is essential for economic development and that the Kayin People's Party favours a process of gradual democratisation and developing a comprehensive market economy. The party promotes inclusive education, health care and national unity. It is competing for 119 seats in the elections.—GNLM

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives Club de Madrid delegation



Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann receives delegates of Club de Madrid.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW — Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann received a delegation of the Club de Madrid comprising former prime minister of Bhutan Jigme Yoser Thinley and the former

chancellor of Austria Mr Alfred Gusenbauer at Zabuthiri meeting hall on Thursday. Also present at the meeting were chairmen of Pyithu Hluttaw committees and members of commission.—MNA

Indian PM hits back at Sonia Gandhi over parliament disruptions



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi—XINHUA

NEW DELHI — Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday hit back at the country's main opposition Congress party chief Sonia Gandhi, barely two days after she accused him of making hollow promises.

"They (Congress) did not let the parliament work... the hawala-baaz (money launderers) are in fact troubled by law passed

against black money," Modi said, while addressing ruling Bharatiya Janata Party workers in the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh's capital Bhopal.

Taking a jibe at Gandhi, the prime minister said "To those who have been rejected by people, I appeal to them for the pride of democracy, to fend economic dangers off and work with us. We

had hoped they would help parliament enforce reforms. But they refuse to do so."

The Congress president earlier this week accused the prime minister of "hawaa baazi (making hollow promises)" while addressing top leaders of her party and slammed the Indian government for failing to tackle the economy.

The Congress party, which was decimated in the general elections held last year, has so far not allowed the parliament to function properly that led to a backlog of several key legislative bills aimed at reviving the country's economy.—Xinhua

"To those who have been rejected by people, I appeal to them for the pride of democracy, to fend economic dangers off and work with us."

— Narendra Modi

Thai police seek warrant for alleged Bangkok blast mastermind

BANGKOK — Thai police have been working on compiling evidence with the hope of obtaining an arrest warrant for another man suspected of involvement in August's deadly Bangkok bomb attack, a police spokesman said Thursday.

Prawut Thavornsiri said officers were looking for a man named by local media as "Ishan," who some outlets have claimed to be the mastermind behind the attack.

Prawut said immigration records showed Ishan, also named by Thai media as Abdul Sattar Abdul Rahman, has escaped Thailand, but said it was still not known when and to where.

Local media reports have claimed that Ishan fled Thailand for Bangladesh on Aug. 16, the day before the explosion.

The attack on Bangkok's Erawan shrine on Aug. 17 killed 20 people and injured more than 100 others. A second explosion the following day at a Bangkok pier caused no injuries, but was connected to the first blast by investigators.

When asked if Bangkok will get any information from Bangladesh regarding the issue, the spokesman said Thai police have contacted Bangladeshi authorities through INTERPOL but no information had been fed back yet, and the issue could take time to be addressed.

Prawut, however, said police could not, at this stage, positively identify Ishan as the mastermind, but could decisively say he was involved with the deadly explosion as he was seen residing and walking with the main suspect, 25-year old Chinese man Mieraili Yusufu. He said the suspects had been together at two apartments in northern Bangkok where police found several bomb-making items connected to the incident.

When asked if Mieraili is a member of a separatist group in China, Prawut said he has no information on hand that could confirm the matter.

Answering questions about the relationship between Mieraili and two prime suspects whose pictures were captured on CCTV

at the bomb sites, the spokesman said Mieraili told investigators he had known neither man before.

One of the men, seen on CCTV in a yellow t-shirt, is believed to be the man behind the bomb at the Erawan shrine, while a man seen on video footage in a blue shirt is suspected of being involved with the explosion the following day.

Asked if police will file a murder charge against Mieraili, as he had reportedly admitted handing over the explosive device to the suspected shrine bomber, Prawut said while bidding to press the charge, which is punishable by death, police need to proceed carefully.

The police spokesman added that police also found several people in the apartments connected with the suspects. However, investigators are checking whether they were related to the explosion or were illegal immigrants who were not involved.

On Wednesday, Prawut told media that some members of the criminal syndicate suspected of being involved earned money from human trafficking.

Meanwhile, Thai national police chief Somyot Pumpuang told media Thursday that, based on the bombing suspect's interrogation, some members of the gang had travelled in and out of Thailand 4-5 times before the attack through the eastern border province of Sa Kaeo.

The police chief said Mieraili told him he paid money to travel from Vietnam. To enter Thailand he also had to pay \$600 to the Thai Immigration officials at the border checkpoint.

Somyot said he has limited time left in his current post, but he has exposed evil things in the Immigration Bureau in the hope that the prime minister, deputy prime minister and the incoming police chief will clean up the mess. Early this month the police chief ordered a transfer of six high-ranking immigration officials away from their posts in Sa Kaeo in the wake of the deadly blast.—Kyodo News

Anti-drug exhibition held in Brunei

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN — An anti-drug exhibition themed "What you don't know can kill you", was held on Tuesday at Brunei's big downtown shopping mall in conjunction with the school team holiday aimed at giving public education and awareness to prevent drug abuse and trafficking in the country.

Osmawi Hj Osman, assistant director of preventive drug education division of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), told Xinhua that the exhibition is as part of the international "Say No to Drugs, Say Yes to Life" drug prevention program to educate young people on the truth about drugs.

A lot of posters, photos, drug samples and publications are on display that cover the facts about marijuana, ecstasy, cocaine, crack, heroin, crystal Meth, LSD, prescription stimulants and painkillers, and allow people to un-

derstand the risks so as to make their decision to live a drug-free life.

The assistant director said drug abuse situation in the country is not serious now, but the government will take preventive measures to educate the young people to stay away from drugs.

"We are taking the opportunity during the school team holiday and hoping students and their families to visit the exhibition at the mall," he said.

According to an early reports by the Brunei Times, the NCB has apprehended 610 drug abusers and traffickers (517 men and 93 women) in 2014. The number is a 10 percent decline in the number of arrests made by NCB compared with the 2013 statistics, which is a total of 679 drug offenders.—Xinhua

Vietnamese deputy PM to visit China, attend China-ASEAN Expo

HANOI — Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister and Politburo member Nguyen Xuan Phuc will pay an official visit to China and attend the 12th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) and the 12th China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit (CABIS) from Sept. 16 to 20.

The visit will be conducted

at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the government of China, said spokesman of Vietnam's Ministry of Foreign Affairs Le Hai Binh at a regular press briefing held here on Thursday. During the visit, Phuc will hold talks with vice premier and member of the

Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee Zhang Gaoli in Beijing, pay courtesy calls on other Chinese leaders and attend the opening ceremony of CAEXPO and CABIS in China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Binh said.

The CAEXPO and CABIS

between China and 10-member ASEAN are hosted every year in Guangxi's Nanning city and being listed among top 10 expos in China, Binh said.

This year's expo will feature more than 4,000 booths, among which are more than 200 booths from 100 Vietnamese companies.—Xinhua

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Australian PM fends off climate critics at Pacific summit

SYDNEY — Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott on Thursday defended his country's climate change policy during a regional summit in Papua New Guinea, amid calls from Pacific island leaders to end new coal mine construction worldwide.

Impoverished, low-lying Pacific Islands such as Vanuatu, Kiribati and Tuvalu are among the most vulnerable countries in the world to climate change and rising waters and have long pushed for greater global action to combat them.

Abbott last month announced cuts to Australia's greenhouse gas emissions that were widely criticised by environmental groups for lagging behind other advanced economies. Australia pledged to cut emissions by 26-28 percent of 2005 levels by 2030, a commitment that did little to stem criticism of Abbott's strong support for coal and for scrapping an ambitious carbon tax and emissions trading plan last year.

"Unlike some other countries, which make these pledges and don't deliver, Australia does deliver when we make a pledge," Abbott told reporters.

"So, I think I've got a very good story to tell on climate



Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott.—REUTERS

change to the Pacific Islands Forum and I think Pacific leaders should be reassured by the seriousness with which Australia is approaching this issue."

Australia is the world's largest exporter of coal, a commodity Abbott has defended as being "good for humanity".

The Pacific islands are looking to use this week's forum to pressure Australia to do more to halt climate change. On Monday, Tuvalu Prime Minister Enele Sopoaga joined other members of the forum's Alliance of Small Island States, which met privately ahead of the summit, in calling for an ambitious global ban on new coal mines.

"We're simply seeking the rights of small island states to survive," Sopoaga said. "We feel our security is compromised; survival of the people of the Pacific is compromised."

Developed nations are on track to cut their greenhouse emissions by almost 30 percent by 2030, Reuters calculations show, falling far short of a halving suggested by a UN panel of scientists as a fair share to limit climate change.—Reuters

"Unlike some other countries, which make these pledges and don't deliver, Australia does deliver when we make a pledge."

—Tony Abbott

Obama, Xi to meet on Sept 25 at White House: US officials

WASHINGTON — US President Barack Obama is set to meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping on Sept. 25 as a state guest at the White House, US government officials said Wednesday.

Xi is expected to visit Washington from Sept. 24 to 26 and take part in a welcome ceremony, a summit with Obama and a state banquet, all on the second day of his stay in the US capital, the officials said.

Xi is likely to meet with leading lawmakers in Washington but will not deliver a speech at the legislature,

the officials said. The Chinese government had reportedly asked Congress to let the president deliver a speech at a joint session.

After Washington, the Chinese leader is expected to travel to New York to attend events such as the UN General Assembly and a summit related to the UN Millennium Development Goals.

US reports said Xi will be in Seattle on Sept. 23 to attend an exchange event with leaders of information technology firms, to which Apple Inc. Chief Executive Officer Tim Cook and others have been invited.—Kyodo News

N Korea's top official voices hope of improving ties with Japan

PYONGYANG — North Korea's ceremonial head of state Kim Yong Nam on Thursday voiced hope of improving relations with Japan, as the two countries face difficulties in making a diplomatic breakthrough in their official negotiations resumed more than a year ago.

Citing the policy of the state's late founder, Kim Il Sung, he said North Korea and Japan, which are geographically nearby, should be close in other respects as well.

"With this view still in mind, we are dealing with Japanese issues," the 87-year-old president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly said in a meeting with Kyodo News in Pyongyang.

Kim made the remarks at a time Japan's negotiations with North Korea, which restarted in March 2014 in an attempt to settle major outstanding issues, have hit a snag.

The Japanese government has said one of the major obstacles is a lack of fresh information on the whereabouts of its nationals abducted by North Korean agents decades ago.

Japan and North Korea, which have no diplomatic relations, announced in May 2014 that they had reached an agreement in Stockholm on the guiding principles of negotiations toward the settlement of their outstanding issues.

Among other points, North Korea promised to conduct a comprehensive survey of all Japanese people in the country, including those believed to have been abducted in the 1970s and 1980s, in exchange for the lifting of some of Tokyo's unilateral sanctions on Pyongyang.

In July that year, Japan duly lifted some sanctions against North Korea.

But Japan has said that



North Korea's ceremonial head of state Kim Yong Nam.—KYODO NEWS

Pyongyang has so far not given it any convincing information on the abduction issue.

Speaking in a meeting room at the Mansudae Assembly Hall, the home of North Korea's legislature, the head of parliament also said that his country is "putting all of its efforts in building a powerful socialist nation on the basis of self-defense nuclear deterrence."—Kyodo News

Japan evacuates 100,000 in floods unleashed by rare torrential rains

JOSO, (Japan) — Japan evacuated about 100,000 people from their homes on Thursday, after rare torrential rains unleashed floods that left at least two people missing and stranded many more when rivers surged over their banks.

A further 800,000 people across eastern Japan have been advised to evacuate after officials issued pre-dawn warnings of unusually harsh rainfall to 5 million people.

Television broadcast pictures of helicopters plucking individuals from rooftops, while one elderly couple sat on a roof clutching a pair of dogs.

Some areas received double

the usual September rainfall within 48 hours after tropical storm Etau swept across the central part of Japan's main island of Honshu.

A 63-year old woman was missing after a landslide hit her home, while a man in his 70s in the town of Joso, about 56 km (35 miles) north of Tokyo, was feared trapped in his home when floods swept it away, NHK national television said.

Japan has put heavy emphasis on disaster prevention since the 2011 earthquake and tsunami disaster that left nearly 20,000 dead. It is eager to avoid the criticism faced by previous governments for what was seen as a sluggish

response.

"The government will work as one to prioritize the safety of the people and do our best to prevent any further disaster," Prime Minister Shinzo Abe told reporters, and warned of unprecedented rains.

Television footage showed people in Joso waving towels while waiting for help on the upper floors of homes engulfed in floods as the Kinugawa river swept through.

Part of a hotel in the town of Nikko, famed for its shrines and temples, had collapsed, the Kyodo news agency said, but there were no reports of injuries.—Reuters



People are rescued from vehicles by firefighters at an area flooded by the Kinugawa river, caused by typhoon Etau, in Joso, Ibaraki prefecture, Japan.—KYODO NEWS

Thousands more migrants stream into Austria from Hungary

VIENNA — About 3,700 people poured across the Hungarian border into Austria on Thursday, a police spokesman said, a big increase in the flow of migrants that will put extra pressure on Austrian authorities trying to arrange onward transport to Germany.

Tens of thousands of people, many of them fleeing the war in Syria, have streamed across the border since Austria and Germany threw open their borders at the weekend. Almost all have headed for Germany, with only hundreds

seeking asylum in Austria.

The spokesman said the new wave of migrants crossing the border started around midnight and he expected more to come.

"It is certainly not the end of today's wave, because more people will certainly come," the spokesman said.

All accommodation in the area of Nickelsdorf, a border town with a reception centre for migrants, was being used and he said he could not predict how many more people would arrive during the day.—Reuters



Migrants wait for trains at Keleti station in Budapest, Hungary.—REUTERS

Advanced Russian APCs among arms deliveries to Syria

MOSCOW — Russia is supplying the Syrian army with hardware including small arms, grenade launchers, advanced BTR-82A armoured personnel carriers and Kamaz military trucks, Russia's Kommersant newspaper reported on Thursday.

Russia says its military assistance to Damascus is aimed at helping it fight terrorism in Syria,

but the West suspects Moscow is building up its military presence on the ground in Syria to prop up its long-time ally, Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

Russia's state-owned arms exporter Rosoboronexport was not immediately available for comment.

Kommersant said its report was based on information from

unnamed sources in the defence export sector.

It also quoted the sources as saying Syria had previously paid Moscow advances towards the purchase of Russia's sophisticated S-300 air defence systems. It said Moscow later decided not to deliver the missile systems for now and has been delivering the other arms instead.—Reuters

Fate of Northern Ireland's power sharing government hangs in the balance



Sinn Féin's Martin McGuinness (C) speaks to the media in Parliament buildings in Belfast Northern Ireland.—REUTERS

DUBLIN — The fate of Northern Ireland's power-sharing government was hanging in the balance on Thursday as the province's second largest Irish nationalist party mulled whether to back a call to adjourn parliament during crisis talks.

The 1998 power-sharing deal ended three decades of tit-for-tat killings between Catholic Irish nationalists who want the province to unite with Ireland and their Protestant rivals that killed 3,600, but the forced coalition has struggled amid intensifying sectarian bickering in recent years.

Police suspect members of the IRA, a paramilitary group that is supposed to have disbanded under a 1998 peace deal, were involved in the Aug. 12 shooting of Kevin McGuigan, destabilising the grand coalition and prompting crisis talks.

After a senior member of Sinn Féin, which used to be regarded as the IRA's political wing, was arrested on Wednesday in relation to the murder, the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) threatened to bring down the government it leads with its former nationalist foes if parliament is not adjourned.

Having unsuccessfully sought the permission of a parliamentary committee to suspend parliament last week, the DUP will put its ultimatum to the committee again later on Thursday and require the Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP) to support or abstain to succeed.

"The whole thing may come crashing down anyway because nobody's guaranteeing that an adjournment will solve anything or create enough space for a resolution because a lot of people feel this is going to take note that a couple of week to sort out," SDLP leader Alasdair McDonnell told Irish national broadcaster RTE.

An SDLP delegation was in Dublin on Thursday to meet Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny, who along with British Prime Minister David Cameron, called the crisis talks last week, and McDonnell said they would take Kenny's views into consideration before coming to a decision.

Sinn Féin's president, Gerry Adams, said there should be no adjournment.

"The current contrived crisis is a result of inter unionist rivalry and the cynical exploitation of the murder of Kevin McGuigan," Adams said in a statement.—Reuters

Trump slights rival Fiorina's looks: 'Look at that face'

WASHINGTON — Donald Trump belittled the physical appearance of fellow Republican US presidential candidate Carly Fiorina in remarks published on Wednesday, saying: "Look at that face. Would anyone vote for that?"

The comments by the billionaire real estate developer published in an article on the website of Rolling Stone magazine were aimed at the only woman in the large field of Republicans vying for their party's 2016 presidential nomination.

The magazine reported that Trump, leading in the polls among the Republican contenders, made the remarks while watching Fiorina, the former Hewlett-Packard Co chief executive, on television.

"Can you imagine that, the face of our next president?" Trump is quoted as saying. "I

mean, she's a woman, and I'm not s'posed to say bad things, but really, folks, come on. Are we serious?"

Fiorina, in an interview on Fox News Channel, said she viewed Trump's remarks as "very serious."

"Maybe, just maybe, I'm getting under his skin a little bit because I am climbing in the polls," she said.

Trump's remarks were his latest barbs aimed at a woman during the campaign. Last month, Trump criticized Fox News Channel anchor Megyn Kelly during and after a Republican debate.

During the debate, Kelly had asked Trump about comments referring to women as "fat pigs" and slobs. Asked about Kelly in a CNN interview last month, Trump said: "You could see there was blood coming out of her eyes. Blood coming out of her wherever."—Reuters

Motorway connecting Denmark to Germany reopen

COPENHAGEN — A motorway connecting the Danish peninsula Jutland to Germany reopened on Thursday, Danish authorities said, a day after it was closed when some 300 refugees, including children, began walking on it.

Some limits on train traffic remained, however.

Danish police said on Wednesday that 3,000 "foreigners" had arrived in Denmark between Sunday and Wednesday.

"The situation changes from hour to hour, but some are seeking asylum in Denmark, some are returning to Germany, and others are in custody or travelling on through Denmark," the national police said in a statement.

Danish police on Wednesday closed a motorway and rail

links in a bid to stem the flow of refugees heading north to Sweden.

They have ordered trains to go no further than the train ferry stop in Germany, however, forcing train passengers to walk on board the ferries that then cross to Rodby in Denmark, operator Scandlines told Reuters.

"We encourage our customers to bring their passports to get the traffic to flow more easily," a spokeswoman from Scandlines said. It was not immediately clear whether passport checks - unnecessary in the Schengen region to which both Denmark and Germany belong — were being made.

On Wednesday two trains carrying about 240 people were stopped by Danish police in Rodby. Refugees on board were refusing to leave the train, police said.—Reuters

Islamic State attacks Syrian air base in east, dozens reported killed



Displaced Syrian families gather to collect relief aid from humanitarian organisations at the battered district of Hamadaniyeh, Aleppo, northern Syria.—XINHUA

BEIRUT — Dozens of Syrian government troops and Islamic State fighters have been killed in fighting around a government-held air base in eastern Syria in a region that is a stronghold for the jihadists, a monitoring group said on Thursday.

Islamic State used at least two car bombs in its latest assault on the air base near the city of Deir al-Zor, where government troops are holed up, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

It said at least 18 soldiers and 23 Islamic State fighters had been killed. The base is one of President Bashar al-Assad's last footholds in eastern Syria. There was no mention of the attack on state media.

After more than four years of war, Assad's sway is now mostly confined to the cities of western Syria, with the rest held by Islamic State, other insurgent groups, or a Kurdish militia, which controls much of the north.

On Wednesday, Syrian state

TV said government troops had quit the Abu al-Duhur air base in the northwestern Idlib province after a two-year siege by insurgents including the al Qaeda-linked Nusra Front.

Deir al-Zor province borders territories in Iraq that are also controlled by Islamic State, and its oilfields are a major source of revenue for the group. A US-led coalition has been attacking Islamic State from the air in Deir al-Zor and the neighbouring Raqqa province.—Reuters

Israeli president hints at rift with PM Netanyahu

JERUSALEM — Israel's President Reuven Rivlin said on Thursday he has not met with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in two months, citing "differences of opinion" over foreign policy.

Regular working meetings between presidents and prime ministers are customary in

international issues — not about the Iranian issue — but about Israel's ties with the international community," he said. "Until things are removed from the agenda, we probably don't need to meet because each of us is busy with the same issues," he added.

Netanyahu has been a relentless and vocal opponent of the

We probably don't need to meet because each of us is busy with the same issues.

— Israel's President Reuven Rivlin

Israel. But earlier this year, relations between the two leaders have strained in the wake of Rivlin's criticism of the Netanyahu's rift with the US administration over the nuclear deal with Iran.

Since Rivlin assumed the presidency in July 2014, he used to "meet with the prime minister for a one-on-one meeting once a month," but that hasn't been the case recently, he told Israel's Army Radio.

"I think we exhausted our differences regarding various

world powers' agreement with Iran, putting him on a collision course with the US President Barack Obama.

In March, he spoke in front of the congress, trying to convince its members not to support the deal, in a move that angered the administration.

Last week, after Obama secured enough Democratic senators' votes to block a Republican initiative to foil the deal, Netanyahu charged that the majority of the US public objects to the agreement.—Xinhua

Saudi-led coalition raids target Yemen bases, Houthi leaders' houses

SANAA — War planes from a Saudi-led military alliance bombed targets throughout Yemen's capital Sanaa on Thursday, in what witnesses described as the fiercest series of attacks on the city in over five months of war.

The raids hit houses of political leaders in the Iran-allied Houthi movement and military bases, as explosions and wailing ambulance sirens forced a sleepless night on the city's nearly 2 million shell-shocked residents.

"The sick people fled the hospital in terror," an official at a private hospital said. "They were afraid the building would collapse from the non-stop bombing of the army bases nearby."

There were no immediate reports of casualties, a day after medics said the bombing killed six civilians in the city.

Saudi Arabia and other Arab states intervened in Yemen's civil war on March 26 to halt the nationwide spread of the Houthis, who seized Sanaa last year and forced the government into exile in Riyadh after the group advanced on its southern stronghold of Aden. The Houthis, who hail from the Zaydi Shi'ite Muslim sect, view

their rise as a revolution. But they are fiercely opposed by the Sunni Muslim Gulf Arab states who believe the group is bent on spreading Iran's influence.

Since a Houthi missile attack killed at least 60 Gulf Arab troops east of Sanaa last Friday, the coalition has stepped up its air strikes on the capital and beefed up its deployment of troops, which Yemeni officials say number a few thousand, ahead of an eventual push towards Sanaa. Fear is spreading that a decisive battle there may reek widespread destruction, as it has in the war-torn southern city of Taiz, where medics said 18 people were killed in an explosion on a residential area on Thursday variously blamed on Houthi artillery shelling and Saudi-led air strikes. Mohammed Saleh, a Sanaa resident, said he wouldn't risk being pinned down as the bombing ramps up and soldiers advance.

"I've decided my family and I have to get out of Sanaa. There's nowhere left that's safe here, and neighbourhoods are getting bombed every single day."—Reuters



A general view shows ruins of houses that witnesses said were destroyed by Israeli shelling during a 50-day war in the 2014 summer, during a sandstorm in Gaza September 9, 2015. The heavy sandstorm swept across parts of the Middle East on Tuesday, killing two people and hospitalising hundreds in Lebanon and disrupting fighting and air strikes in neighbouring Syria. Clouds of dust also engulfed Israel, Jordan and Cyprus where aircraft were diverted to Paphos from Larnaca airport as visibility fell to 500 metres.—REUTERS

Grenade attacks kill two in Central African Republic capital

BANGUI — Grenade attacks in Central African Republic's Bangui killed at least two people late on Wednesday in a rare incident of violence in the capital, the United Nations and residents said.

Men on motorbikes threw grenades into crowds gathered in three different places in southern Bangui during the evening, residents said. "MINUSCA strongly condemns these odious and cowardly acts that killed two people and injured numerous others," the UN mission

said in a statement late on Wednesday.

An aid official with medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres said at least 20 people were wounded. A relative of one of the victims said one wounded person had since died, bringing the death toll to three.

Thousands of Central Africans have died and hundreds of thousands remain displaced after two years of violence that erupted after mainly Muslim Seleka rebels

seized power in the majority Christian country in 2013.

The capital Bangui, secured by French and UN soldiers, had not seen attacks for months.

Voters are due to go to the polls on Oct. 18 to choose a new president and parliament to replace an interim government led by Catherine Samba-Panza.

But preparations are running behind and the head of the interim parliament said the polls are likely to be postponed again.—Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Friday, 11 September, 2015

More than meets the eyeBy *Kyaw Thura*

MOST of us are inclined to simply follow the crowd and not rock the boat, which is unfortunate if unscrupulous people come to power and exercise nepotism. Our failure to speak out remains a major problem.

Fortunately, the solution is simple. If we no longer wish to tolerate things we assume to be unchangeable, the only thing we have to change is our mindset to this supposed impermeability.

As we speak, political candidates are broadcasting campaign speeches to inform us of what they'll do if they come to power. It is imperative for us to keep a watchful eye on them, but it is important to also decode the messages behind their words. The following stories prove why there is often more to something than meets the eye.

One day a man was informed by his staff that monks were playing chinlone in the complex grounds of the monastery building he donated. Upon hearing the news, the donor went straight to the monastery and saw a few monks playing chinlone. But when he went inside the monastery, he saw hundreds of monks engrossed in their studies. The donor went home and scolded his staff for being unable to see the studious monks.

Another incident involved a crowd of laymen visiting a monastery at noon. They were disappointed to see that the majority of monks were napping and only a few studying. The visitors paid homage

to the studying monks, assuming they were the hard-working ones. They were taken aback when a prominent senior monk told the men that they should have paid their respects to the sleeping monks. Why? The monks were studying because they'd just failed a test. The sleeping monks had passed and were permitted to rest.

Indeed, making snap judgments on first impressions can prevent us from seeing the real truth.

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.

Myanmar Film Industry is still lagging behind

U Win Sein

WHEN I was a kid of 8, my Grand-father once took me to see an American cowboy movie, I was so enchanted by the fighting scenes which I've never been experienced anything like this before. So much so, it has cast a spell on me that has stuck in my mind that even up to my old age now, I can never resist the temptation to enjoy the excitement of American cowboy film that has given me. In the US, the blockbuster money earner films during that period of 1930s were dominated by movies of great stars like John Wagne, Gary Cooper, Spancer Tracy, James Stewart and Joan Crawford.

From time to time, I have slipped away from home without my parents' knowledge to watch American movies and Myanmar movies at nearby cinema halls. Later on, whenever I have had chance to watch our Myanmar movies, though they were starred by our great Shwe Ba and Khin Maung Zin, but the joy and excitement from these Myanmar movies were not up to the mark as those of the Hollywood produced films. But if given a chance in financial support and technical assistance, it can achieve its goal.

The world first commercial motion picture exhibition was given in New York City using Thomas Edison's kinoscope to capture the motions in a continuous period of time, making a non-stop movement on the film which can be viewed as a complete recorded story from start to end in action. When added the newly developed sound and technicolour features to the films during the 1930s to 1940s, it transformed the Hollywood studio from silent film era to sound and technicolour film era, producing blockbuster future movies like "Gone With the Wind" in 1939, "Star Wars" in 1973 and "Titanic" in 1997, thus making American film industry in having grossed more money than that of any other countries and making it the second largest producer of films in the whole world after the

Indian film industry.

In a way, the history of Myanmar film industry could occupy the same situation as compatible to the unique achievement as that of the early days of American film industry. Myanmar has started to make movies around 1920s and 1930s, while neighboring countries like Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, and except India (she had a good start in early film industry) were still far behind in their infant state of film industry. The cinema of Myanmar has had a long history far back to 1910. One U Ohn Maung, known as the Father of Myanmar Cinema had produced and directed the first debut film of recording the funeral of U Tun Shein, who had started campaigning for Burma Independence in London. This movie was screened at the Royal Cinema, near Scott Market (now Bogyoke Market). U Ohn Maung later on had formed his own company, called as Burma Film Company, engaging U Nyi Pu as the first Myanmar actor to

It was lucky that this film has escaped censorship from the British government and it was shown in many cinema halls." Ludu Aung Than [The People Win Through] featured anti-communist propaganda. Its script was written by U Nu, the Prime Minister during 1950. The most famous and dramatized movies, produced and directed by the author U Thukha was 'Bawa Thantaya' [The Life Cycle], the movie was said to have contained many creative developments. In this period, censorship of films was never heard of. Myanmar was still producing roughly 75 movies a year and the up-and-coming India Bollywood was trailing behind Burma.

The Myanmar Movie industry has declined after 1962, still further decline was noticed in 1965, after the Government following the wrong path towards socialism and there after the military coup in 1988, the industry activity was totally stopped virtually for as long as 2-years. The quality of

nity at this time was totally in a disorganized condition, each one is on his own to look after his interest. The Government has left the creative development of film industry in the hands of a few directors, whereas some other talented directors, actors and actresses went the other way where easy money is for everyone to grasp from the now popular fast production video movies, the cost for a video movie is low, often heard that one video movie can be finished in a week, so naturally the directors do not bother about the creativity and the cultural value that can be drawn from the scripts. The aim is that the faster it has finished the movies the better it has reaped on the return of the capital from the initial investment, making a bad impression that no bankers or private producers are daring enough to funding money on this not predictable business venture.

When viewing most of the video movies produced, we often come across many scenes when the onlookers are appearing in the scenes mingling very closely with actors and actresses having no business at all to be appearing there making viewers to have misunderstanding the true action depicting there on location. This awkward scene was created by producer who can't afford to pay the stand-ins to mix up in the scene to make it looking real. Another unrealistic scene is about the sol-

diers fighting in the front line to make assault on the enemy, herein the soldier actors wearing not torn and dirty army outfits, but the kind of army uniforms as if just coming out from the laundry, nicely ironed neat and tidy looking fit enough to go for a wedding ceremony. This sort of overlooked mistakes from the directors is sure to have consequent bad effects on our films in the International Film Festival. Take a look on our annual Shwe Sin Award it is a sort of award followed after the American Academy Award. Our Academy Award has only a handful of films from 10 to 15 nominated for competition and the quality of the films and actors that were awarded with various prices hardly comparable to those awards conferred at the International Film Festival.

In order to salvage the Myanmar dying movie industry from extinction, an appropriate film studio should be established with the Government funding and sufficient loans should be given from big banks to promising movie producers and to attract talented actors and actresses who are dedicated wholeheartedly for improvement of our movie industry so as to uplift the declining Myanmar Film Industry back to its previous glory of a full-fledged Movie Making Giant.

U Win Sein
Assistant Registrar
The Ministry of Trade.

"Our Academy Award has only a handful of films from 10 to 15 nominated for competition and the quality of the films and actors that were awarded with various prices hardly comparable to those awards conferred at the International Film Festival"

shoot the first silent film, 'Myetta Ne Thuya' (Love and Liquor), which highly acclaimed as a successful picture, despite of the poor quality of using a fixed position camera and inadequate cinema accessories. The film story was about gambling and alcohol resulting in destroying a man's life. It was shown in downtown cinema halls in 13th Oct 1920 that date was commemorated as Myanmar Movie Day.

The Myanmar first sound film was produced in 1932, with the title 'Ngwe Pay Lo Ma Ya' [Money Can't Buy It] was directed by Tote Kyi, the political film 'Boycott' was directed by student leader Ko Nu in 1937 with student leaders Aung San and Htun Ohn as actors.

movies produced went down on the average of 15 to 20 movies turn out each year only. The vast Myanmar movie audience has been supplemented itself by watching about 1000 low creativity video movies produced during this time.

In this juncture, that followed by the political instability, control of film industry in Myanmar was further increasingly tightened up. Issuing strict rules on censorship, most of the movies produced were low cost comedies, light dramas and video movies, with the sole purpose of promoting socialism have displaced the movies market in Myanmar completely, cinema halls have had a steep decline from 200 to 70 only.

The movie industry commu-

The time has come to keep a watchful eye!

On what? Rumours or elections?



Hla Htut Oo

MYANMAR GAZETTE			
NAY PYI TAW—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has transferred the following heads of service organizations to heads of service organizations shown against from the date they assume charge of their duties.			
Name		Appointment	
(a) Dr Aye Kyaw		Rector	
Rector		Yadanabon University	
Magway University		Ministry of Education	
Ministry of Education			
(b) Dr Khin Maung Oo		Rector	
Rector		Magway University	
Yadanabon University		Ministry of Education	
Ministry of Education			
The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the following heads of service organizations on expiry of the one-year probationary period.			
Name		Appointment	
(a) Dr Myo Kywe		Rector	
		Yezin University of	
		Agriculture	
		Ministry of Agriculture and	
		Irrigation	
(b) Dr Hla Tint		Rector	
		Yangon University of	
		Distance Education	
		Higher Education Department	
		Ministry of Education	
(c) Dr Tin Maung Tun		Rector	
		Sittway University	
		Higher Education	
		Department	
		Ministry of Education	
(d) Dr Thet Tun Aung		Rector	
		Pyay University	
		Higher Education	
		Department	
		Ministry of Education	
(e) Dr Kyi Soe		Rector	
		Bago University	
		Higher Education Department	
		Ministry of Education	
(f) Dr Thura Oo		Rector	
		Sagaing University	
		Higher Education Department	
		Ministry of Education	
(g) Dr Tin Win		Rector	
		Meiktila University of	
		Economics	
		Higher Education Department	
		Ministry of Education	
(h) Dr Tin Maung Hla		Rector	
		Mandalay University of	
		Distance Education	
		Higher Education Department	
		Ministry of Education	
(i) Dr U Cho		Rector	
		Pakokku University	
		Higher Education Department	
		Ministry of Education	
(j) Dr Win Naing		Rector	
		Monywa University	
		Higher Education Department	
		Ministry of Education	
(k) Dr Maung Maung		Rector	
		Lashio University	
		Higher Education Department	
		Ministry of Education	
(l) Dr Daw Tin Mar Kyi		Rector	
		Panglong University	
		Higher Education Department	
		Ministry of Education	
The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed the following heads of service organizations shown against each on probation of the date they assume charge of their duties.			
Name		Appointment	
(a) Dr Thein Win		Director-General	
Deputy Director-General		Higher Education	
Higher Education		Department	
Department		Ministry of Education	
(b) U Aung Aung		Director-General	
Deputy Director-General		Planning and	
Administration and IT		Currency Department	
Department		Central Bank of Myanmar	
Central Bank of Myanmar			
(c) Daw Than Than Swe		Director-General	
Deputy Director-General		Financial Stability	
Payment and Settlement		Department	
System Department		Central Bank of Myanmar	
Central Bank of Myanmar			

Union FM receives Country Manager of UNODC

NAY PYI TAW—Mr. Troles Vester, Country Manager of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Yangon called on Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin at the ministry on 10 September.

They discussed ongoing cooperation between Myanmar and UNODC.—MNA

Agreement signed for second Myanmar-Thailand bridge

NAY PYI TAW – An agreement on the construction of the second Myanmar-Thailand Friendship Bridge was signed between Union Construction Minister U Kyaw Lwin and Thailand’s Transport Minister Mr Arkom Termpitayapaisith on Thursday.

The 270-metre bridge will be situated on the pathway of the east and west economic corridor and its benefits will extend beyond Myanmar and Thailand to also include Vietnam and Laos, spokespersons said.—MNA

Trafficked workers return home from Indonesia

NAY PYI TAW – A total of 42 trafficked Myanmar workers were returned home from Indonesia’s Ambon Island on Wednesday.

Officials from the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Division made arrangement to accommodate the men at the Social Welfare Training School and a monastery in Yangon’s in Kyimyindine Township.

Among the migrants, 32 are from Taninthayi Region, three from Mon State, two each from Bago and Yangon regions as well as Rakhine State and

one from Sagaing Region.

Authorities are carrying out an investigation into the circumstances surrounding them being trafficked and will return the men to their respective homes once the questioning is complete.

The International Organisation for Migration (IOM) has said it will give each of the trafficked workers new clothes and K200,000.

Last week, more than a hundred other trafficked workers were returned to Myanmar from Indonesia.—MNA

Israel, Myanmar to boost bilateral ties

NAY PYI TAW—Israel and Myanmar have committed to boosting bilateral ties during a visit by Myanmar’s military chief to the Middle East.

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Israeli President Reuven Rivlin discussed bilateral cooperation during their meeting in Jerusalem on Wednesday.

The Israeli president expressed gratitude for the help Myanmar extended to Israel when the country faced challenges during its early years and proposed cooperation between the countries’ cultural sectors.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing said his brief visit to Israel was highly productive as he met Israel’s defence minister and toured Israeli industrial facilities.

After his meeting with the president, the Myanmar delegation toured Jerusalem’s Old City in a motorcade.—Myawady



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing holds talks with Israeli President Reuven Rivlin.—MYAWADY

Grade 10 student in int’l letter-writing competition

NAY PYI TAW – Grade 10 student Ma Yu Myat Aung from Bogalay in Ayeyawady Region will compete in an international competition to mark World Post Day on 9 October.

On January 1 she won first prize in a letter-writing compe-

titition for people 15 and under in Myanmar, which was organised by United Nations Education, Science and Culture Organization (UNESCO) and the Universal Postal Union (UPU). As a result, her handwriting script has been selected to be submitted to

UPU’s headquarters in Switzerland to compete in the international contest. The second prize in the national competition went to Mg Wai Yan Myi from Shwebo Township and third prize to Ma Wityee Phu from Loikaw Township.—MNA



Vehicles drive on the Guomao Bridge through Beijing's central business district.—REUTERS

China deflation risks grow, foreign central banks on alert

WELLINGTON/BEIJING — The risk China's economy enters deflation is growing, data suggested on Wednesday, as signs emerge that some foreign central banks are increasingly worried about the impact falling Chinese prices and a weaker yuan could have on their economies.

New Zealand's central bank governor Graeme Wheeler said that China's surprise devaluation of the yuan, or renminbi, last month had left them concerned about the risk they may let it slide further.

"We've seen authorities basically say they want to stabilise the renminbi, but if there were to be a very substantial depreciation in the renminbi it would certainly export deflation around the rest of the world, so everybody is looking closely at China," he

said at a press briefing following an interest rate cut in New Zealand.

The deflation threat was underlined by data showing that Chinese manufacturers cut prices at their fastest rate in six years,

"The risk for China is still deflation, not inflation." — Kevin Lai, Chief economist

with the producer price index (PPI) down 5.9 percent in August from a year earlier, though consumer prices are rising for now.

A growing worry for overseas central banks like the Reserve Bank of New Zealand (RBNZ) is that falling Chinese

factory gate prices coupled with a weaker yuan mean the price of exports from China will fall sharply, feeding downward price pressures into their economies.

Wheeler's comments came despite attempts by Chinese policymakers to reassure global markets that the yuan will remain stable and China's economic growth, whilst slowing, is still set to be around 7 percent this year. "The RBNZ...verbalised it but this is probably an underlying concern shared by policymakers around the region," said Sim Moh Siong, foreign exchange strategist at Bank of Singapore.

Wheeler said his central bank's view is that the Chinese economy is actually growing somewhere between "5-6.5 percent at this point", a rare public comment by a central bank gov-

ernor suggesting that China's growth is below where the country's policymakers say it is. The slide in Chinese factory prices is not yet feeding into the consumer price index (CPI), which posted a rise of 2 percent in August from a year earlier, though the National Bureau of Statistics flagged that last month's gains were mainly due to soaring food prices, not an improvement in economic activity. "The risk for China is still deflation, not inflation," said Kevin Lai, chief economist for Asia, excluding Japan, at Daiwa.

"PPI deflation will eventually filter down to affect CPI, and aggregate demand will continue to be weak," he added, noting that he's just cut his inflation forecast to -0.5 percent from 0.5 percent. —Reuters

Dell to invest \$125 billion in China over five years

TAIPEI — Computer maker Dell Inc will invest \$125 billion (81.32 billion pounds) in China over the next five years, its chief executive said on Thursday, as the company continues to expand in the world's second-largest economy.

The world's third-largest maker of personal computers said the investment would contribute about \$175 billion to imports and exports, sustaining more than one million jobs in China. "The Internet is the new engine for China's future economic growth and has unlimited potential," Chief Executive Michael Dell wrote in a statement.

"Dell will embrace the principle of 'In China, for China' and closely integrate Dell China strategies with national policies," Dell said, adding that the company would continue to expand its research and development team in China.

Dell announced in 2010 it planned to spend \$250 billion on procurement and other investments over the next 10 years in China, its second largest market outside the United States.

It was unclear if the \$125 billion was part of that investment. Dell's China office did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Dell has been in China for about two decades and, before it went private in 2013, saw annual sales in the country of roughly \$5 billion. In January, it announced partnerships with state-owned China Electronics Corporation and the municipal government of Guiyang. —Reuters

Apple phone, tablet and TV fail to impress investors

SAN FRANCISCO — Apple Inc unveiled a new TV set top box that responds to voice commands and fresh iPhones that sense the pressure of a finger tap, changes which underwhelmed many social media commenters and investors.

The new 6S and 6S Plus versions of the iPhone, Apple's biggest money maker, are the same size as the previous versions but come with a better camera, faster chips, new colors and the force-sensitive "3D Touch".

Speaking before thousands of analysts, journalists and frequently cheering Apple employees, Chief Executive Tim Cook also brought on stage an executive from onetime archrival Microsoft Corp to illustrate the business-friendly credentials of a big new iPad, the Pro.

Apple shares fell 1.9 percent to \$110.15 by the close, replicat-

ing the recent history of such roll-outs but also reflecting the lack of any transformative products that could jumpstart the company's sales ahead of the crucial holiday season.

Apple shares have lost an average of 0.4 percent on the day of iPhone announcements over the past three years, according to BTIG Research data.

"People love to hate Apple announcements because the expectations are so high and they can never clear that bar," said Kevin Landis, portfolio manager of the \$111 million Firsthand Technology Opportunities fund, which has Apple as its second-largest position.

Twitter users seemed most impressed by the revamped Apple TV. The product, which the company long called a 'hobby' gets its own app store and will work with Siri, Apple's digital assistant.

Fewer celebrated the iPad, which some saw as too big and similar to Microsoft's Surface tablet, and new iPhones, which are outwardly identical to the enlarged smartphones which made their debut about a year ago.

"3D Touch not good enough reason to upgrade so far," Ikechukwu Nwanze wrote of the new phones, which start at \$199 with a two-year contract.

Apple TV demonstrations showed tricks to make viewing easier: digital assistant Siri, which is behind the voice control, can rewind a video for 15 seconds and turn on subtitles, when a viewer asks something like "What did she say?"

"We've been working really hard, and really long," on TV, Cook said, emphasizing the word 'long' in a nod to the time it has taken the company to produce an ambitious TV product. —Reuters



Phil Schiller, Senior Vice President of Worldwide Marketing at Apple Inc, speaks about the live photo capability for new iPhone 6s and iPhone 6s Plus during an Apple media event.—REUTERS

Smoking worsens diabetes complications, but quitting may help

BOSTON — People with type 2 diabetes who smoke have significantly higher risks of heart disease, stroke, and death than diabetic non-smokers, a new study shows.

They also had higher risks of clogged arteries, heart failure, and reduced blood flow to the limbs.

The risks were lower for diabetics who quit smoking, but still moderately higher than risks among never smokers, the researchers write in the journal *Circulation*.

Lead author An Pan told Reuters Health by email that smoking is still common among

people with diabetes, despite efforts to discourage it.

“We wanted to know whether smoking was related to total mortality and cardiovascular events among diabetic patients, and whether smoking cessation would reduce the risks,” said Pan, who is a professor at Huazhong University of Science and Technology in China.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, smoking can worsen the health risks that go along with diabetes, such as heart and kidney disease, nerve damage, and blindness.

Pan’s team pooled the data from 89 earlier studies of smok-

ing among adults with type 2 diabetes and found that diabetic smokers were around 1.5 times more likely to experience clogged arteries, stroke, overall heart disease, and heart failure.

In addition, smokers were more than twice as likely to suffer from peripheral artery disease, or reduced blood flow to the limbs, than patients who did not smoke. Former smokers had 1.2 times the risk of clogged arteries and 1.1 times the risk of overall heart disease, compared to never-smokers.

Using the risk estimates from their review and global rates of deaths from diabetes, the re-

searchers estimated that smoking accounted for 14.6 percent of deaths in diabetic men and 3.3 percent of deaths in diabetic women worldwide.

Dr. Wael Al-Delaimy, division chief of global health at the University of California, San Diego, said part of the problem may be the care diabetes patients receive.

“The physician caring for the diabetes patient might be focusing on cardiovascular risk factors or diabetes complications and diet and weight control while neglecting smoking as another important risk factor,” Al-Delaimy told Reuters by email.—Reuters

Viral protein discovery offers hope for first dengue treatment

WASHINGTON — Scientists have identified a viral protein’s role in driving blood vessel leak in severe dengue infection, opening up a potential avenue for developing the first treatment for the world’s most common mosquito-borne disease.

The culprit, called nonstructural protein 1 (NS1), one of the 10 viral proteins secreted by cells infected with the dengue virus, is responsible for the fluid loss and resulting shock that are the hallmark of severe — and potentially fatal — infections, according to a pair of studies published Wednesday in the US journal *Science Translational Medicine*.

In one study conducted on human lung endothelial cells and in mice, researchers from the University of California (UC) Berkeley showed that NS1 directly activated a surface receptor known as toll-like receptor 4 (TLR4), triggering the cells to release proinflammatory molecules.

Then, NS1-induced inflammation damaged layers of human endothelial cells, which line the inner walls of blood vessels, causing the cells’ tight barrier to become leaky. Treating dengue-infected mice with a compound that blocks TLR4, however, markedly reduced vascular leak. “Our findings show that NS1 could be a prime target for drugs, and that it should be considered in vaccine development,” said Eva Harris, a UC Berkeley professor and senior author of the study. In a separate study, researchers from the University of Queensland (UQ) showed that NS1 from all four types of the dengue virus damaged human endothelial cells and that vaccination with the protein can protect mice against severe dengue.

The results suggested that NS1 behaves as a viral toxin in much the same way as certain bacterial toxins activate TLR4 and trigger body-wide inflammation in sepsis, said Paul Young, UQ’s School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences Head Professor and senior author of the study.

The parallels between septic shock and dengue shock syndrome lend support to repurposing sepsis drug candidates, which are expected to advance to clinical trials in dengue patients within the next two years, Young added. Dengue, estimated to infect up to 400 million people globally each year, typically causes a debilitating fever but can progress to potentially fatal dengue hemorrhagic fever and dengue shock syndrome. Up to 500,000 cases of dengue hemorrhagic fever are diagnosed each year, with as many as 25,000 deaths.—Xinhua

New Zealand study identifies ant pest as new threat to world’s honey bees

WELLINGTON — One of the world’s most invasive ant species could be accelerating the global decline of honey bees — and carrying a previously unknown virus that could lead to its own demise, according to a New Zealand research out Wednesday.

The Victoria University study spent three years analyzing genomic data of the Argentine ant in New Zealand, Australia and Argentina.

The results revealed almost all of New Zealand’s Argentine ant populations carried the “deformed wing virus,” a pathogen associated with colony collapse of honey bees, Professor Phil Lester said in a statement.

“This discovery tells us that Argentine ants are much more of a problem than we previously thought. They host the same deformed wing virus strain found in bees and wasps in New Zealand, and this virus has contributed to declines in honey bee populations around the world,” said Lester.

“Argentine ants are known to raid beehives and also forage in the same environment as honey bees. Such close contact is bad for bees, as their association promotes pathogen exchange.”

But the researchers also discovered an entirely new virus in the invasive pest species that could assist the ants’ own population decline.

“This virus hasn’t been seen before, but it’s related to other viruses that can devastate populations of other insect species. If managed correctly it could be used as a biopesticide both in New Zealand and overseas,” Lester said.—Xinhua

New York City to require chain restaurants to label high-sodium food



A meal of a “Monster”-sized A.1. Peppercorn burger, Bottomless Steak Fries, and Monster Salted Caramel Milkshake at a Red Robin restaurant. —REUTERS

NEW YORK — New York City health officials unanimously voted on Wednesday to require chain restaurants to add a warning label to menu items that contain more than the daily recommended amount of sodium, making it the first city in the United States to do so.

The rule requires restaurants to add a salt-shaker symbol next to food items that contain more than 2,300 milligrams of sodium, the maximum daily amount recommended by US health officials. The rule will go into effect on Dec. 1.

Americans consume 3,400 mg of sodium on average every day, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The rule aims to improve the overall health of New Yorkers and contribute to Mayor Bill de Blasio’s plan to reduce premature mortality by 25 percent by 2040, the city’s Department of Health and Mental Hygiene said.

The rule will apply to all restaurants that are part of chains with more than 15 locations across the country, which includes companies such as McDonald’s Corp and Yum Brands Inc, which owns the Pizza Hut, Taco Bell and KFC chains. But critics, including the restaurant industry, argue the rule hurts business by imposing unnecessary regulations.

New York City officials have a mixed record on attempts to take on health concerns by regulating food. De Blasio’s predecessor, Michael Bloomberg, in 2012 famously tried to ban sugary drinks larger than 16 ounces (473 ml), but the law was rejected by a state appeals court that ruled he had overstepped his bounds.

A 2008 New York City law required chain restaurants to post calorie counts on menus. The US Food and Drug Administration later implemented a similar rule,

which will go into effect in December 2016 and require chain restaurants to publicly post calorie information.

“This is just the latest in a long litany of superfluous hoops that restaurants here in New York must jump through,” Melissa Fleischut, president of the New York State Restaurant Association, said in a statement. “Every one of these cumbersome new laws makes it tougher and tougher for restaurants to find success.”

Lori Roman, president of the Salt Institute trade association, also criticized the rule. She said population-wide sodium reduction is unnecessary. Alix Salyers, a spokeswoman for Burger King, said the fast-food restaurant chain would review New York City’s sodium requirements once they are finalized. Other impacted restaurants did not immediately respond to requests for comment.—Reuters

Chinese premier urges int'l cooperation in production capacity



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang exchanges views with Klaus Schwab, founder and executive chairman of the World Economic Forum (WEF).—XINHUA

DALIAN — Chinese Premier Li Keqiang called for stronger international cooperation in production capacity in order to solve structural problems in global growth on Thursday.

Citing a negative spillover effect of quantitative easing, Li said a better way to stimulate world economic growth is to strengthen the real economy, including pushing forward structural reforms at home and promote international cooperation.

The Chinese premier made the remarks in an address to the annual meeting of the New Champions, also known as the Summer Davos Forum held in China's northeast port city of Dalian.

China's proposal of building the "One Belt and One Road" and expanding international cooperation in production capacity, said Li, would further open up China's economy, let each country play out its comparative strengths and help shape a more balanced and inclusive global industrial chain.

International cooperation in production capacity would ena-

ble countries at different development stages to connect their demand and supply and inject new momentum into stabilizing world economic growth, said Li.

Developing countries have strong demand for equipment and infrastructure, while many middle-income and developed countries need renovation, said Li.

China's high-quality equipment and relatively low price, as well as its strong construction capacity, possess great potential for international cooperation, he said.

Such cooperation, which has already attracted the participation of many developed and developing countries, will help solve problems in capacity growth, upgrade economic structure, further integrate the global industrial chain and open up new markets.

China is ready to buy advanced technology and equipment from developed countries and combine them with its mid-range equipment to satisfy the needs of developing nations, serving as a bridge in international cooperation in production

capacity, said Li.

The Chinese premier urged entrepreneurs to seize the business opportunity and called for stronger support from governments, international organizations as well as financial institutions, suggesting international capacity cooperation be put into bilateral or multilateral cooperation framework.

"The Chinese economy will integrate deeper into the rest of the world," said the premier. "We are ready to work with other countries to promote a free, open and non-discriminatory multilateral trade system."

The Chinese premier also pledged to offer financial facilities to support Chinese and foreign enterprises joining international cooperation in production capacity.

Responding to a question from World Economic Forum Founder and Executive Chairman Klaus Schwab, Li suggested the initiative would boost global growth by unlocking tremendous demand, as a majority of the world population is still located in the primary and middle stages of industrialization.

Citing his experience in Latin America, Li said Chinese companies and those in developed nations may work together to produce high-quality, inexpensive equipment and develop huge markets in third-party countries.

This year's Summer Davos Forum, which will last until Friday, focuses on innovation and entrepreneurship. More than 1,700 business leaders and experts from more than 90 countries will share their thoughts on economic outlook as well as new trends in technology, finance and energy.—Xinhua

India, Pakistan hold border guards-level talks in national capital

NEW DELHI — India and Pakistan began three-day border guards-level talks in the national capital on Thursday.

The Director Generals of India's Border Security Force and Pakistani Rangers' meeting is aimed at ironing out bilateral issues, including repeated ceasefire violations along the international border and infiltration attempts by terrorists from Pakistan, sources said.

"The talks will also endeavor

or to focus on positive issues like different levels of communication, more simultaneous coordinated patrolling and other confidence-building measures," a statement by the Border Security Force said.

This is the first security-level meeting between India and Pakistan, a fortnight after the national security advisor-level peace talks between the two countries collapsed following a dispute over the agenda for those talks.—Xinhua



Pakistan Rangers' Director General, Maj. Gen. Umar Farooq Burki (L) shaking hands with Indian Border Security Force (BSF) Inspector General (IG) Anil Paliwal at Pakistan's side of Wagah border.—XINHUA

World nuclear capacity set to grow by 45 pc by 2035

LONDON — Global nuclear power generation capacity could increase by more than 45 percent in the next 20 years but the pace of growth will still fall short of what is needed to curb climate change, an industry organisation report showed on Thursday.

The World Nuclear Association Nuclear Fuel report forecasts global nuclear capacity will grow to 552 gigawatts equivalent (GWe) by 2035 from 379 GWe currently, as many countries build new plants as a lower-carbon option and for energy security.

The International Energy Agency has estimated that nuclear capacity needs to reach 660 GWe in 2030 and more than 900 GWe by 2050 to help keep a rise in global temperatures within 2 degrees Celsius this century, a threshold scientists say should avoid the worst effects of climate change.

However, this would require \$81 billion a year investment in new nuclear plants from 2014 to 2040.

"Nuclear electricity output is set to increase at a faster rate over the next five years than we have seen for more than two decades," said Agneta Rising, director general of the World Nuclear Association.

"More must be done so that nuclear energy can make the contribution being asked of it, to deliver a clean, affordable and reliable electricity supply in harmony with other low-carbon options," she added.

To meet the pace of capacity growth, the world will likely need 103,000 tonnes of elemental uranium (tU) by 2035, up from 62,000 tU now, the report said.

Uranium production has stalled because depressed uranium prices have curtailed exploration activities and the opening of new mines.

The market should still be adequately supplied to 2025 if all planned mines and those under development start up as forecast but will need additional supplies and projects soon after 2025.—Reuters

Heat wave poses burden for firefighters tackling California wildfires

LOS ANGELES — A heat wave baking much of California posed difficulties for crews battling several major wildfires across the state on Wednesday, the largest threatening dozens of homes near Kings Canyon National Park as residents braced for possible evacuations.

Temperatures in excess of 100 Fahrenheit (38 Celsius) settled over large parts of the state on Tuesday and were expected to persist until Thursday, National Weather Service meteorologist Carol Smith said.

The port city of Long Beach, just south of Los Angeles, posted a record-high temperature for the date on Wednesday of 103F (39C), Smith said.

Areas of Los Angeles'

sprawling San Fernando Valley also sweltered in temperatures above 100 F (38 C), she said.

While the extreme heat was uncomfortable for many California residents, it presented more acute risks for firefighters wearing heavy gear and struggling to suppress at least five large wildfires or clusters of fires statewide.

The so-called Rough Fire, which ranks as the largest blaze in California and has charred more than 103,000 acres (41,500 hectares) of drought-parched timber, chaparral and tall grass since it was ignited by lightning on July 31 east of Fresno in Kings Canyon National Park.

Temperatures in parts of the fire zone topped 100F on Wednesday, said Jake Rodriguez, a

spokesman for the team managing the blaze.

Some 1,900 firefighters, laboring in steep, rocky terrain, were assigned to the fire and as of Wednesday had managed to carve containment lines around 31 percent of its perimeter, Rodriguez said.

"Heat is an extremely difficult factor to work around, there's really no way around it," he said. "They just have to make sure that they stay hydrated."

The blaze has cast smoke over numerous hiking and camping areas, prompting cancellations of activities. All campgrounds in Kings Canyon National Park were closed for the Labor Day weekend and remained closed on Wednesday.—Reuters

“SINGAPORE KITCKEN” one of the famous restaurant in Yangon is looking for investors or business partnership, for details discussion call H/P-09-258221576

INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER (7/2015) (TENDER NO. MPPE/JET A1/T/2(2015-2016))

- Open Tender is invited for the Myanmar Petroleum Products Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of JET A1 (282,000 bbl ± 10%)
- Tender Closing Date & Time - 24-9-2015, 12:00 Hr
- Tender Opening Date & Time - 24-9-2015 13:00 Hr
- Delivery Time - 1st November 2015 to 2nd January 2016
- Tender documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, the Myanmar Petroleum Products Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing 10-9-2015 on payment of Myanmar Kyat One Hundred Thousand (Kyat 100,000.) per set.
- Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from the Myanmar Petroleum Products Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director

Myanmar Petroleum Products Enterprise

Ministry of Energy, No(6) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw

Contact Phone No.

067-411487/ 411486/411280



WEATHER REPORT

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

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 11th September, 2015: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Magway Region and Kayah State, scattered in Lower Sagaing and Mandalay Regions, Shan State, fairly widespread in Bago Region, Kachin and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Lower Sagaing, Yangon, Ayeyarwady and Taninthayi Regions and Mon State. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon - Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (30 - 35) m.p.h. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of increase of rain in Yangon, Ayeyarwady and Taninthayi Regions and Mon State.

FORECAST FOR NAYPYITAW AND NEIGHBOURING AREA FOR 11th September, 2015: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV E.R. TURKU VOY NO (080W)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV E.R. TURKU VOY NO (080W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.9.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S HANJIN SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (132W)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (132W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 11.9.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S ORINET OVERSEAS

CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 2301185

Pakistan renews interest in joining multilateral nuclear export regime

ISLAMABAD — Pakistan on Wednesday expressed its commitment to nuclear nonproliferation and reiterated interest in joining the Nuclear Supplier Group and other nuclear export control regimes.

The National Command Authority, the highest decision-making body for the South Asian country's nuclear issues, acknowledged these points in a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and attended by its members including advisors for foreign affairs, defense minister and military officials such as Chief of Army Staff Gen. Raheel

Sharif.

"The meeting renewed Pakistan's interest in joining the multilateral export control regimes on (a) non-discriminatory basis, including the membership of NSG," the Defense Ministry said in a press release.

NSG is an international body providing nonbinding guidelines for countries exporting nuclear materials and technology, currently numbering 48 member countries including the United States and Russia.

Pakistan and its neighbor India have not joined the group. They are also

not parties to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

"Pakistan shares the goal of nonproliferation and is committed to play its due role as a nuclear partner in the global non-proliferation regime," the ministry said.

Pakistan has been seeking the lifting of curbs imposed by western countries on the supply of civil nuclear technology.

The press release also said that the meeting decided to maintain "full spectrum deterrence capability" of the country's nuclear arsenal and "credible minimum deterrence" in view of the "growing con-

ventional asymmetry."

Pakistan has always maintained that it has to depend on its nuclear capability since it is not in a position to match India in conventional arms build-up.

A report released last month by the Stimson Center and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, both US think tanks, said that Pakistan could have a nuclear arsenal not only twice the size of India's but also enough to make it the world's third-largest stockpile behind the United States and Russia.—*Kyodo News*

China uncovers more accounting problems with Three Gorges Dam

BEIJING — Chinese government auditors have found more accounting problems with projects linked to the \$59-billion Three Gorges dam, the world's biggest hydropower scheme, following a critical report last year that revealed nepotism and other corrupt practices.

The state audit office has conducted 21 inspections since construction began in 1992, uncovering issues such as embezzlement, but continues to find problems, it said in a statement on its website on Thursday.

The National Audit Office found accounting problems amounting to almost 2 billion yuan in the final accounts for a 7.1-billion-yuan (\$1.11 billion) underground hydroelectric plant, it said.

These included 1.54 billion yuan from improv-

er bidding and 337 million yuan in duplicate calculations, it said, adding that too much money had been spent on some equipment, while management oversight was lax.

The Three Gorges Corporation, which runs the dam, is now "proactively organising rectifications" having received the report, the auditor said, adding that it would watch developments.

"China Three Gorges Corporation attaches a great degree of importance to the problems pointed out by the audit," the company said in a statement on its website.

"At present all the problems pointed out by the audit have already been finished or rectified." The dam has long been controversial.

Between 1992 and 2009, all citizens had to pay a levy built into pow-

er prices across China to channel money towards its construction, a project overshadowed by compulsory relocations of residents and environmental concerns.

Last year the ruling Communist Party's anti-graft watchdog slammed the Three Gorges Corporation for shady property deals and dodgy bidding procedures. In 2011, then-premier Wen Jiabao presided over a government meeting that said that despite the benefits from the dam, it had spawned a myriad of urgent problems, from the relocation of more than a million residents to risks of geological disasters.

In 2000, six years before the project was completed, authorities busted a ring of officials who had siphoned off hundreds of millions of yuan in resettlement funds.—*Reuters*

Baltimore judge to weigh whether police trials should be moved

BALTIMORE —

A Baltimore judge on Thursday will hear arguments on a change of venue for six police officers facing trial in the death of Freddie Gray Jr., a black man who died from an injury in police custody.

Defense lawyers for the officers will argue before Circuit Court Judge Barry Williams that intense publicity makes it impossible to hold a fair trial in the city. Gray's death in April triggered protests and fueled a US debate on police treatment of minorities.

The hearing comes a day after the city's financial control board approved a \$6.4 million civil settlement to the Gray family.—*Reuters*

Polish director says own loss inspired '11 Minut' in Venice



Actresses Anna Maria Buczek, Agata Buzek, director Jerzy Skolimowski, actors Paulina Chapko and Wojciech Mecwaldowski (from L to R) attend a premiere for '11 Minutes' during the 72nd Venice Film Festival in Venice. —XINHUA

VENICE — Jerzy Skolimowski's thriller "11 Minut" (11 Minutes), screened at the Venice Film Festival on Wednesday, may be the most personal film of his career, the veteran director said.

Skolimowski, 77, who wrote the dialogue for Roman Polanski's "Knife in the Water" (1962), said his latest was inspired by personal tragedy, including his son's

death in India.

"I lost members of my family and I was really in a very bad shape, physically and mentally," he told Reuters in an interview at the festival. His film is among 21 competing for the Golden Lion top prize, which will be awarded on Saturday.

"In order to overcome this, I decided that I would force myself to work and I

really forced myself to sit down in front of the typewriter and I said I'm not getting up until I have four pages a day," he said.

The film's action takes place within the 11 minutes of the title, when a procession of lives collide in a square in Warsaw. Among them is a young starlet who is having an interview with a foreign filmmaker alone in his luxury hotel room, while her jealous husband paces the corridor outside.

Other characters include a drug courier, a pedophile teacher on probation now working as a hot-dog vendor, a young woman who has split with her lover and a water-colorist — possibly a stand-in for Skolimowski, an accomplished painter — who is a passenger on a bus heading to the square.

"It's a human story, it could happen any place in the world," Skolimowski said. Much of the action takes place with hints that police surveillance cameras are watching. A plane flies thunderously overhead, at low altitude, suggesting a link between the action in the film and the events of Sept 11, 2001, in New York City.

Skolimowski said the connection with the terror attack on the Twin Towers was not intentional, but the tragedy has long been simmering in his subconscious.

"That's such a huge thing that my little modest film is not competing with any of those aspects," he said. —Reuters



Copies of the new essay "Shokugyo toshiteno Shosetsuka" (Novelist as a Profession) by novelist Haruki Murakami. KYODO NEWS

Haruki Murakami's new essay hits bookstores in unconventional way

TOKYO — A new essay by novelist Haruki Murakami hit bookstores across Japan on Thursday straight from the publisher under an arrangement aimed at helping the stores fight the onslaught from Amazon.com Inc and other online bookstores.

Kinokuniya Co, a Tokyo-based bookstore operator, directly bought 90 percent of the essay's initial 100,000 copies from its publisher to sell at its outlets and distribute to other bookstores.

Books are normally distributed to bookstores from publishers via distributors. But in this case, Kinokuniya bought 90,000 copies of the essay "Shokugyo toshiteno Shosetsuka" (Novelist as a Profession) from Tokyo-based Switch Publishing Co.

With the unconventional distribution method, Kinokuniya hopes to reenergize bookstores, which are suffering from a decline in readership due to the proliferation of online shopping and ebooks.

Bookstore operators have largely welcomed the initiative.

"Bookstores on the street have had difficulty obtaining books by famous writers, and that had frustrated us," said Masaya Horamoto, president of Futaba Co, which operates bookstores mostly in Kyoto. "This time, though, we can tell our customers with confidence that Haruki Murakami's new book is coming our way."

But some bookstore operators seem less sanguine about the initiative because under the arrangement, unsold copies cannot be returned to the publisher.

Unsold copies can normally be returned to publishers via distributors. But that arrangement has become a source of consternation for many in the industry because about 40 percent of books distributed to bookstores are returned.

An Kinokuniya official said the company is serious about selling every copy, adding that its initiative will help stabilize publishers' revenue. In the new essay, Murakami looks back on his life as a novelist. —Kyodo News

Bruno Mars to headline Super Bowl halftime show for second time

LOS ANGELES — Grammy-winning singer Bruno Mars has been invited back to headline next year's Super Bowl halftime show after scoring the second-biggest audience in the show's history two years ago, US media reported on Wednesday.

In addition to performing at the National Football League's Super Bowl 50, Mars has been asked to "curate" the show, according to Billboard magazine, citing unnamed sources.

That means the 29-year-old performer, songwriter and producer will get to handpick the "impressive guests" who appear with him on stage, it said.

The NFL championship game will be held in Santa Clara, California, in February. Representatives for Mars did not immediately respond to requests for comment and NFL representatives declined to comment.

Mars, whose song "Uptown Funk!" with producer Mark Ronson has been one of the hits of this summer, brought rockers Red Hot Chili Peppers to join



Mark Ronson (R) and Bruno Mars (holding trophy) accept the award for best male video for "Uptown Funk" at the 2015 MTV Video Music Awards. —REUTERS

him on stage for the halftime show in 2014, drawing 115.3 million viewers.

Singer Katy Perry edged Mars out of the top viewership by drawing 118.5 million viewers this year, the most-watched Super Bowl halftime performance in histo-

ry. The Super Bowl is the most expensive TV program for advertisers, who paid up to \$4.5 million for a 30-second commercial this year. Past performers at the halftime show include Beyonce, Madonna and The Black Eyed Peas. —Reuters

Toronto film festival kicks off with Gyllenhaal banker drama

TORONTO — A Jake Gyllenhaal drama about a grieving banker was set to kick off the Toronto International Film Festival on Thursday, which this year will include topical movies on transgender youth and gay rights among the usual Oscar hopefuls.

Now in its 40th year, the 10-day festival has become a key launching pad for Hollywood's award season, with films like "12 Years a Slave", "The King's Speech" and "Slumdog Millionaire" all gaining

critical momentum at the event before going on to win the Academy Award for best picture.

The festival starts on Thursday evening with the world premiere of "Demolition", starring Gyllenhaal and Naomi Watts. Directed by Canadian Jean-Marc Vallée, it tells the story of a successful investment banker whose life unravels following the death of his wife. An unlikely connection with a vending machine com-

pany employee played by Watts helps him rebuild. Vallée previously won praise for "Dallas Buyers Club" and "Wild".

The festival, which runs from Sept 10 to 20, will go on to screen nearly 300 feature films from more than 70 countries.

Notable themes in this year's lineup include the political and legal battles fought for gay rights, the subject of two movies in the festival's high-profile gala program. —Reuters

Federer, Wawrinka storm to Swiss showdown in NYC



Roger Federer of Switzerland returns a shot to Richard Gasquet of France during their quarterfinals match at the US Open Championships tennis tournament in New York, September 9, 2015. —REUTERS

ROGER FEDERER and Stan Wawrinka shrugged off the threat of rain to storm into the US Open semi-finals on Wednesday, while Simona Halep stood up for the younger generation to complete a women's final four that will feature three thirtysomethings.

Moved from the Arthur Ashe Stadium court to Louis Armstrong to bring Federer's match forward, Wawrinka appeared untroubled by the change of venue, needing just an hour and 47 minutes to repel big-hitting South African Kevin Anderson 6-4, 6-4, 6-0.

Second seed Federer turned in an equally economical effort, brushing aside Frenchman Richard Gasquet 6-3, 6-3, 6-1 in a tidy 87 minutes to set up an all-Swiss semi-final on Friday.

The other side of the draw features a battle of the big men,

with top seed Novak Djokovic taking on defending champion Marin Cilic.

"Emotionally it's not so hard for me," said Federer, who holds a commanding 16-3 advantage over his Davis Cup team mate and reigning French Open champion.

"But subconsciously, you know he knows what your preferences are, where you like to go and where you're probably going to go," he added.

"That's the weird part. I feel we meet each other somewhere in our minds before the point is being played out."

Federer and Gasquet are both armed with elegant one-handed backhands but apart from that aesthetically pleasing stroke, there were very few similarities in their lopsided contest.

The 17-time grand slam winner could hardly miss and

Gasquet all too often played the role of innocent bystander as the Swiss maestro uncorked 50 winners to a mere eight from the 12th seeded Frenchman.

'I'M READY'

Anderson, meanwhile, lacked the energy he displayed in a fourth round upset of third seed Andy Murray, allowing Wawrinka to dictate play for large stretches of the match.

The South African, who leans heavily on his serve, could manage just nine aces and one break point the entire match, which he was unable to convert.

"I've improved a lot over the past three years and feel much closer to his level now," Wawrinka said of his compatriot.

"He is playing really well here so I will need to be at my best. He's had some amazing matches and I know it will be a big challenge but I think I'm ready."

Halep moved closer to a first grand slam singles title after edging Victoria Azarenka 6-3, 4-6, 6-4 to set up a meeting with Flavia Pennetta, who toppled Czech fifth seed Petra Kvitova 4-6, 6-4, 6-2 to join compatriot Roberta Vinci in the last four. Defying the odds, rankings and age, 33-year-old Pennetta and 32-year-old Vinci etched their names in history by becoming the first two Italian women to reach the semi-finals of the same grand slam in the Open Era.

With 33-year-old Serena Williams also in the last four, 23-year-old Halep will be conceding almost a decade of experience to her remaining challengers.—Reuters

Home of bankrupt ex-teen heartthrob David Cassidy auctioned

MIAMI — Former TV star and teen idol David Cassidy auctioned off his Florida home on Wednesday after a bankruptcy filing, the breakup of his third marriage and several arrests for drunken driving.

Cassidy, 65, whose hits "Cherish" and "I Think I Love You" had teenage girls swooning in the 1970s, bought the 7,000 square-foot (650 square-meter), five-bedroom waterfront house in Fort Lauderdale for about \$1.1 million in 2001. The highest price offered by four registered bidders was \$1.8 million.

The price will go before a bankruptcy judge for approval next week. The once baby-faced star of "The Partridge Family" TV series spent five years refurbishing everything from the stained pine floors to the pool and patio and installing heavy wood doors recovered from a razed Mexican church.

Much of the furniture was included in the auction price, according to Fisher Auction Co. Cassidy filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection earlier this year, listing assets and debts of up to \$10 million. The bankruptcy filing followed three arrests for drunken driving since 2010 and a court-ordered stay in rehab.

In 2014, Cassidy's third wife, Sue, filed for divorce after 23 years of marriage. Bidders for Cassidy's home were asked to show proof of financing or assets in excess of \$3 million in order to take part in Wednesday's auction. Cassidy appeared in several stage shows after his career as a solo singer declined, and played an aging former teen heartthrob in the short-lived 2009 TV comedy "Ruby & the Rockits." He was also a member of the "Celebrity Apprentice" reality TV show in 2011.—Reuters



A painting former TV star and teen idol David Cassidy commissioned showing him serenading his young family while on horseback hangs in a living room of the 7,000 square-foot, five-bedroom waterfront house that is up for auction.—REUTERS

McDonald's in US, Canada to use only cage-free eggs by 2025

OAK BROOK, (Illinois) — McDonald's Corp's 16,000 US and Canadian restaurants will serve only eggs laid by cage-free chickens within 10 years, the company said on Wednesday.

McDonald's USA has been buying more than 13 million cage-free eggs annually since 2011. The long-awaited switch is happening as North American egg suppliers are slowly starting to rebuild flocks after the worst bird flu outbreak in US history.

The move comes as McDonald's, the world's biggest restaurant chain, is preparing to serve breakfast all day at US outlets in October.

McDonald's USA, which is fighting sagging sales, made waves in March by announcing a two-year plan to phase out meat from chickens raised with antibiotics used to fight human infections.

McDonald's buys about 2 billion eggs annually for its US restaurants and 120 million for

Canada to serve breakfast items such as Egg McMuffin and Egg White Delight.

Fast-food rival Burger King already has committed to using only cage-free eggs by 2017. Other large companies such as Starbucks Corp, General Mills Inc, Nestle, Sodexo Inc and Aramark also are in the process of switching.

Groups such as the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), Mercy for Animals and World Animal Protection have successfully lobbied many companies to adopt animal welfare practices.

Such groups also have won commitments from nearly 100 major companies to phase out so-called gestation crates, which are small cages for breeding sows.

Celebrities such as film star Ryan Gosling have teamed up with HSUS to pressure Costco Wholesale Corp to eliminate cage-confined chickens from the company's egg supply chain.

HSUS said Costco has committed to going cage free, but has not set a timeline for its full transition. HSUS said Costco rival Wal-Mart Stores Inc also has not set a timeline.

US companies, led by burrito seller Chipotle Mexican Grill Inc and other popular brands, increasingly are sourcing their ingredients from suppliers who vow to use humane and environmentally sustainable agricultural practices.

California voters in 2008 passed a law mandating that all eggs sold in the state come from chickens given more spacious living quarters.

That law went into effect on Jan. 1 and other states and countries since have followed California's lead. So far this year, the price of a dozen eggs has averaged 67 cents more in California than in the Midwest, said Brian Moscogiuri, market reporter for shell eggs and egg products at Urner Barry.—Reuters

mitv Myanmar International

(11-9-2015 07:00 am~12-9-2015 07:00 am) MST

Today Fresh

07:03	Am	News
07:26	Am	A Day Life Of Kayan Padaung Tribe
07:56	Am	Myanmar Street Food
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	Myanmar Masterclass: Artist Pann Kyi
08:37	Am	A Tea Business: Pankwan (Part-1)
08:47	Am	Modifying Natural Thanakha Bark into Ready-Made Skin Care Product
08:53	Am	Temple Stalls
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	Travelogue "Ngwe Hsaung" Beach
09:46	Am	Dhamma School
10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	Singapore-Myanmar Bilateral Ties
10:51	Am	Culture Shows: Composer Ma Mya Lay

(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm) - **Thursday Repeat** (07:00 Am~11:00 Am)
(03:00 Pm ~ 07:00 Pm) - **Today Repeat** (07:00 Am~11:00 Am)

Prime Time

07:03	Pm	News
07:26	Pm	A Famous Pagoda in the Sea
07:51	Pm	Yangon Markets: Mingalar Wholesale Market
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	Sons of the lake
08:49	Pm	Kayin Child Boxer
(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)		
(11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am) - Thursday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)		
(03:00 Am ~ 07:00 Am) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)		

(For Detailed Schedule - www.myanmaritv.com/schedule)

Myanmar Rumbling Mega Fight set for 27 Sept



Myanmar Rumbling Mega Fight will take place on 27 September.
TUN AUNG KYAW

Ko Moe

YANGON — Preparations are underway for the Myanmar Rumbling Mega Fight at Theinbyu Gymnasium on 27 September, said Myanmar Traditional Boxing Federation during a press conference on 9 September.

The five-round challenges include Too Too versus Saw Gaw Muto, Thway Thit Aung versus Soe Lin Oo, Phyan Thway versus Shan Ko, Ye Thway Ni versus Kyaw Win Aung, and Saw Maik Yaing versus Saw Hla Kyi Htoo.

“Lesser known boxers will give everything they’ve got to defeat more established opponents and make a name for themselves. It’s a great opportunity for the next generation of boxers to showcase their skills,” said U Thein Aung, President of Myanmar Traditional Boxing Federation.

The four round challenges include Thein Soe versus Maik Maik, Kyar B Hein versus Myo Marn Thit and Saw Thurein versus Tun Lwin Moe. Thar Chaw Hla will meet with Tun Min Aung in the three-round challenge.

Fixtures of three-round women’s matches are Naw Che Phaw versus Mu Mu Htwe, and Cherry versus Naw Su Su Myat.

The event is being sponsored by Victory Myanmar Group Co., Ltd., T&T Group and Naing Moe Entertainment.—GNLM

Japan Cup Karatedo Championship invites Myanmar contestants

YANGON — The 6th Japan Cup Karatedo Championship will take place at Aung San Stadium on 1 and 2 October. The events have been jointly organised by the Myanmar Karatedo Federation and the Embassy of Japan.

Around 20 clubs from around Myanmar will participate in the competition’s 17 events.

The MKF will select contestants to receive additional training for international tournaments, including one to be held in Brunei in April 2016.

On 2 October, the MKF will award trophies and medals to the contests’ winners.—GNLM

De Gea poised for timely return against Liverpool

LONDON — With impeccable timing, David De Gea could return to the Manchester United team for Saturday’s Premier League clash against arch-rivals Liverpool having been the scourge of the Merseysiders at Old Trafford last season.

The Spaniard was left on the sidelines as a lengthy transfer wrangle with Real Madrid ran its course before being abandoned at the last minute.

De Gea is now set to remain at Old Trafford for at least the next four months and the ball is in manager Louis van Gaal’s court as to whether De Gea features in traditionally their most fiercely-contested fixture of the season.

He was the man-of-the-match when the sides met last year, making a string of superb saves as United won 3-0, the first part of a league double over Liverpool. With the season still in its infancy, the teams have enjoyed similarly inconsistent starts, with both on seven points from four games and looking to rebound after disappointing defeats before the international break.

Liverpool come into the match (1630 GMT) seeking to heal the wounds of a 3-0 home defeat by West Ham United and will be without Brazilian playmaker Philippe Coutinho, who

was sent off in that dismal Anfield reverse.

United lost 2-1 at Swansea City but have since spent 36 million pounds (\$55.3 million) on young French forward Anthony Martial in a bid to add attacking impetus to a side that has looked defensively solid but lacking in attacking threat.

Manchester City will take their 100 percent record to Crystal Palace (1400) while champions Chelsea travel to Everton (1145) having lost two games and amassed only four points from their first four matches.

Chelsea’s defence, which was watertight last season, has been frequently exposed and in Saturday’s early kickoff they will come face to face with John Stones, Everton’s centre back who Jose Mourinho tried in vain to sign.

Manchester City have looked imperious in their four straight wins, scoring 10 goals and conceding none, but they face an in-form Palace who have won three of their first four.

Arsenal, whose fans have vented their frustrations since the close of the transfer window after boss Arsene Wenger made no outfield signings, host Stoke City (1400) who have claimed just two points from their first four games.—Reuters



Spain’s goalkeeper David De Gea.—REUTERS

Messi rejects criticisms over Argentina

ARGENTINIAN soccer star Lionel Messi rejected on Wednesday criticisms surrounding Argentina’s defeats at the finals of the World Cup 2014 and this year’s Copa America in Chile.

The Barcelona forward also dispelled all doubts surrounding his future with his national team by saying that if Argentina’s coach wants him, he will “never” say no.

“Unfortunately we could not win anything but I believe what we did has a lot of merit. It’s not easy to arrive at a World Cup final and a Copa America final. I think that we received a lot of criticisms, and many of them in a horrible way, because what we did is worthy of merit,” said the 28-year-old Messi.

While speaking to local television channel TyC Sports after drawing with Mexico 2-2 in Dallas on Tuesday, Messi, who scored one of the goals, highlighted the importance of the upcoming competitions.

“First are the World Cup 2018 Russia Qualifiers. We need to start well because afterwards



Argentinian soccer star Lionel Messi.—XINHUA

things could get more difficult. You need to think of the short term,” said Messi.

The defeat in the Copa America final to hosts Chile in a penalty shootout was a “hard blow”, said the Olympic 2008 Beijing medalist.

“We were convinced that it was our moment and that we were going to be champions due to the way we arrived at the final. We had a lot of faith in ourselves. It was a hard blow

for everyone,” added Messi.

Messi concluded by guaranteeing his continued appearance in the team, coached by Gerardo Martino, despite rumors that circulated after the Copa America defeat about taking a “break” from the team.

“As long as the coach wants me, I will always be there even through the bad times. We have come very close but new challenges are coming,” said Messi.—Xinhua

Yoshida wins 13th world title, Tosaka 3-peats

LAS VEGAS — Japan’s Saori Yoshida defeated Sweden’s Sofia Mattsson 2-1 in the women’s 53-kilogram final to capture her 13th consecutive title at the world wrestling championships on Wednesday night.

Yoshida’s compatriot Eri Tosaka also came up with a gold medal-winning performance, taking her third straight world title at 48 kilograms.

Victory was Yoshida’s 16th at a world championships or Olympics. Participation in the national championships in December will secure her a ticket to

her fourth Olympics next year in Rio de Janeiro.

“I thought I was going to lose midway through the final. I am glad I was somehow able to grind out the win,” said Yoshida.

“I am in a position where people are trying to catch me and know people are doing their homework on me properly. I need to polish up my tackles and try hard to win my fourth straight title in Rio.”

Tosaka also effectively booked her spot in Rio, coming from behind at the death to beat London Olympic silver medalist

Mariya Stadnyk of Azerbaijan 3-2.

“I am relieved that I was able to book my Olympic ticket. I was thinking there is absolutely no way I can go and lose,” said Tosaka.

“Even if I conceded points I was determined to get them back. I will do whatever I can to win at the gold at the Olympics.”

Sara Dosho beat Nasanburmaa Ochirbat of Mongolia 6-5 to win a bronze medal in the women’s 69-kg division, effectively securing Olympic qualification.—Kyodo News