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Tuesday, 22 March, 2016

President U Thein Sein offers gifts to top monks

PAGE 3

Bus lines warned against overcharging in Thingyan holidays

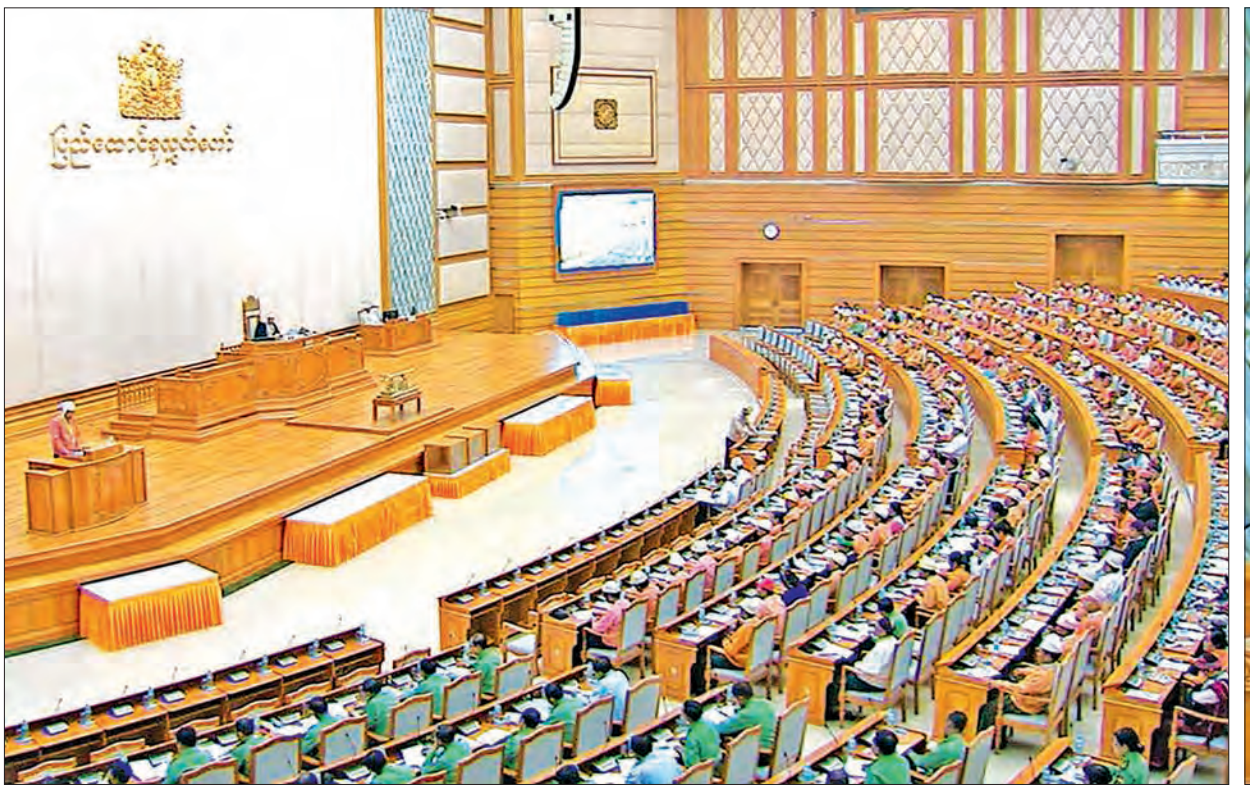
PAGE 3

Ministry rejects Facebook accusation of sale of historic property

PAGE 3

QUALITY OVER QUANTITY

Parliament approves reorganisation of ministries



President-elect U Htin Kyaw clarifies his proposal for reorganization of ministries as well as number of union ministers at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

THE tenth day of the second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's first regular session was held in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday, with parliamentarians approving the proposal for 18 Union ministers and 21 ministries submitted by President-elect U Htin Kyaw.

The outgoing government has 36 ministries and several more ministers.

Before seeking parliamentary approval, the president-elect explained his proposed ministries and assured civil servants working for soon-to-be-abolished ministries that the government will ensure their job security through an appropriate transfer policy.

He guaranteed that civil servants will not be unemployed as long as they comply with rules and regulations.

The president-elect justified the discontinuation of several ministries by saying expenditures and delays in project implementation could be eliminated by reducing the number of ministries and ministers.

"By reducing expenses and ministers' salaries, the country will be able to save about K5 billion over the next five years," said President-elect Htin Kyaw, adding that staying on a thrifty budget is imperative for lifting Myanmar out of the list of Least Developed Countries.

"In this way, the country will save about K5 billion for the needy sectors of education, health and rural development," he said.

He highlighted the importance of ensuring quality rather than quantity in government, a corruption-free society, prudent use of public revenues and an efficient and effective government.

The number of the Union ministries and their names and the number of the Union ministers were approved by a majority of parliamentarians, including the renaming of the Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs as the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture.

President-elect U Htin Kyaw will submit his nominations for ministerial positions to the parliament at todays' session.—*Myanmar News Agency*

INSIDE

Yangon radar station slated for completion this July

PAGE 3

Swiss and German Tourists visit Myan Aung Township

PAGE 4

Tatmadaw to sue Facebook users for defamation

LEGAL action will be taken against those who post messages on Facebook referring to a dispute between two men last week to defame the Tatmadaw, announced the military-run Myawady Daily.

The military-run daily said it found posts and photos on the Facebook account of Bo Bo Myo Thant that describe an altercation between the owner of the account and another man named U Naing Yar Kyaw that are defamatory toward the Myanmar Defence Services.

The two men got into a dispute over a parking space at Yangon's Yuzana Plaza. U Naing Yar Kyaw beat the much younger Bo Bo Myo Thant while referring to himself as a 'lieutenant colonel'. Bo Bo Myo Thant's Facebook posts describe his attacker as an officer in the Tatmadaw, though U Naing Yar Kyaw is, in fact, a member of a Mon-affiliated non-government militia.

Legally, however, non-state militias are not meant to use officer rankings, the Myawady Daily report said.

Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office will bring legal action against those whose post on social media defame the Tatmadaw, the report said.—*GNLM*

Discarded water bottles are used in plantation in Taungtha. PHOTO: LIN LAE KYAIE (TAUNGTHA)

Farmers grow crops in discarded water bottles to save water

FARMERS in water-scarce villages in Taungtha Township are now growing crops in discarded drinking water bottle instead of on plot of lands, allowing them to grow their own food and sell some surplus stock.

The farmers learned the Italian farming method from the Livelihoods and Food Security (LIFT) Fund. They punch out the bottom of one bottle which is hinged to the top of another. Compost is put inside the bottle, and water is dripped into the bottle. Two plants can be grown in a bottle, and there are a total of nine bottles in a row. The rows are eight inches apart. Only drops of water are supplied by the overhead water tank. Smoked paddy husk is used as compost and only needs to be changed only once a year.

The method is used to preserve scarce water. —*Lin Lae Kyaie (Taungtha)*

TB and MDR-TB awareness campaign to launch on 24 March

THE Ministry of Health will conduct activities to raise the awareness of tuberculosis and multidrug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) with the aim of reducing outbreaks of the diseases. The activities will be funded by the Three Millennium Development Goal Fund (3MDG).

The activities include public education programmes, which will inform people that TB is a disease that can be totally cured. The programmes will also aim to encourage people to cooperate in the eradication of TB. Health professionals will inform people that TB treatment can be received at township health departments free of charge. A documentary on TB starring Sai Sai will also be shown on 24 March, World Tuberculosis Day.

TB is a highly infectious disease that can be deadly if not treated in time. The Ministry of Health is striving to eliminate TB by 2050 and to reduce the rate of TB outbreaks and the deaths to 50 per cent of their current levels, said Dr Si Thu Aung, project manager of the national TB eradication project under the Ministry of Health.

Myanmar is listed among the 30 countries where outbreaks of TB are rising. The rate of TB outbreaks in Myanmar is three times the global average. About 370 of every 100,000 people in Myanmar suffer from TB, according to official statistics.—*200*

KBZ Group makes 6th staff pilgrimage to Bodh Gaya

Staff from KBZ are seen at Yangon International Airport before depart for Bodh Gaya. PHOTO: KBZ

KBZ Group made its sixth annual pilgrimage to Bodh Gaya in India's Bihar State from 11 to 13 March.

More than 120 employees of KBZ Group companies also donated cash to monasteries in Bihar State.

KBZ chairman U Aung Ko Win and his wife donated US$43,000 to Nalanda University and US$1,500 to a Chinese-Myanmar monastery, while the pilgrims donated K4 million, $800 and 20,500 rupees altogether.

During the trip, they paid homage to the Maha Bodhi Temple, the Bodhi Tree, underneath which Siddhartha Otama attained enlightenment to become the Buddha more than 2,500 years ago.

KBZ Group has been sending staff on this special pilgrimage to India since 2010 at cost of about K150 million per trip. To date, 931 employees of various companies within KBZ Group have already made the trip. —*GNLM*

News agency chastised for 'inaccurate' report on military MPs

THE information team of the Myanmar Defence Services released a statement yesterday calling on a The Ladies News Journal to take responsibility for posting an inaccurate story on Facebook on 20 March.

In the statement, the information team denied the journal's claim that military-appointed MPs sent a letter of complaint to the Supreme Court of the Union saying the Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission formed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw does not meet the requirements to exist as a Union-level institution.

Defence Services personnel sent no such letter to the Supreme Court of the Union, said the statement.

The Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission is populated primarily by members of the Union Solidarity and Development Party, and it is chaired by the party's former chairman U Shwe Mann. U Shwe Mann, also the former Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, was stripped of the party's leadership post shortly before the 2015 election last year.

He was installed as the chairman of the commission by the NLD-dominated parliament after he lost his parliamentary seat in the election. His appointment has been seen as a move toward reconciliation with certain elements within the military establishment. —*GNLM*

World Meteorological Day 2016 observed in capital

Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung delivers address at WORLD Meteorological Day ceremony. PHOTO: SUPPLY

WORLD Meteorological Day, which falls on 23 March annually, was observed in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday at a ceremony that was attended by Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung.

In his address, the Union minister stressed the need to build disaster-resilient communities as the world is facing extreme weather events.

A message sent by the Secretary General of the World Meteorological Organisation on the occasion of World Meteorological Day 2016 was read out, followed by a paper-reading session. —*Kay Khaing*

Kawhmu gets water supply facilities

A WATER supply project in Kawhmu, located just over 20 miles south of Yangon, was commissioned into service today.

The project includes four concrete tanks and was funded by the Yangon Region government. The largest tanks, which each has a storage capacity of 75,000 gallons, was built at the cost of K49.973 million (US$41,000), while the three other facilities, each of which has a storage of capacity of 12,000 gallons of water, cost K17.958 million ($14,000) in total.

Construction of the project started on 5 December last year and was completed last month. —*Soe Win*

President U Thein Sein offers gifts to top monks

PRESIDENT U Thein Sein attended a ceremony to offer meals to State Sangha Maha Nayaka Sayadaws, Tipitakadhara Tipitakakovida Sayadaws and religious title recipient Sayadaws at the Sasana Maha Beikman Hall in Uppatasanti Pagoda in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

Also present were members of the Sangha led by Chairman Sayadaw of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Presiding Sayadaw of Bhamo Monastery in Mandalay Abhidhaja Maha Ratthaguru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Dr Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa, Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and his wife, Vice President U Nyan Tun and his wife, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and his wife, Chairman of the State Constitutional Tribunal U Mya Thein, Union Election Commission Chairman U Tin Aye, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice Senior General Soe Win and his wife, Union ministers, deputy ministers and other officials.

During the ceremony, the president and his party received 'Nine Precepts' delivered by the Chairman Sayadaw, and offered provisions to the members of the Sangha. —*Myanmar News Agency*

President presents offertories to Bhamo Sayadaw Dr Bhaddanta Kumarabhivamsa. PHOTO: MNA

Yangon Rador Station is expected to complete in coming July.
PHOTO: KO MOE

Yangon radar station slated for completion this July

A METEOROLOGICAL radar station is being installed in the compound of the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology in Yangon. The station is slated for completion this July, according to an official from the department.

The radar station in Mayangon Township is expected to be fully established in the middle of this year, said department director U Kyaw Lwin Oo, adding that more accurate and detailed weather information will be accessible upon completion of the station.

The construction of the 18-storey radar station began in September 2014.

The construction of another radar station in Chanmyathazi Township, Mandalay, is also slated for completion in 2017.

Moreover, a radar station in Kyaukpru Township, Rakhine State, was completed in August 2015. The establishment of the three radar stations in Myanmar, which are worth an estimated amount of US$38.4 million, is being financed by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

In addition to radar stations, automatic weather survey machines worth an estimated amount of $2.3 million are set to be installed at 30 weather stations, said the department. —*Ko Moe*

Ministry rejects Facebook accusation of sale of historic property

THE Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development released a public announcement yesterday denying a Facebook post that accuses the ministry of buying and selling the 120-acre Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science Institute compound in Insein Township, Yangon.

In its statement, the ministry stated that the property has not yet been handed over to anyone.

According to the statement, the ministry called on the Ministry of Culture on 9 March to designate the institute, which became the main office of the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department in 1983, as a historic monument.—*GNLM*

Bus lines warned against overcharging in Thingyan holidays

MANDALAY Region All-Bus Line Control Committee (Highway) has called on bus lines in the region to set regular bus fares for Thingyan water festival period.

According to the committee, public complaints are invited as a fine of K50, 000 is set for violation of the rule. Actions will be taken against any bus lines if they charge more bus fares during the period from 9 to 17 April, said U Aung Kyaw Lin, chairman of the committee.

All bus lines operating between Mandalay and Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw, Pyay, Taunggyi and Bagan-NyaungU were informed of the committee's instruction, said the committee.—*Aung Thant Khaing*

Highway buses are seen at Kywesekan Terminal in Mandalay.
PHOTO: AUNG THANT KHAING

Swiss and German Tourists visit Myan Aung Township

EIGHTEEN tourists from Switzerland and Germany guided by Ma Yamin May War arrived at the Ayeyawady Jetty in Myan Aung Township, Ayeyawady Region, on 19 March through waterways. The tourists are touring on the RV Thurgau Exotic II River vessel along the Ayeyawady River.

Upon arrival at Myan Aung, the tousrists visited the Nay Chi Bazaar and downtown Myan Aung and took documentary photos of the ancient buildings in the town.—*Win Bo (IPRD)*

Swiss and German Tourists seen upon arrival at Myan Aung. PHOTO: WIN BO (IPRD)

Traditional Shan products still popular at pagoda festivals

TRADITIONAL products from Meikai in southern Shan State, including glazed wares, agriculture equipment and household and kitchen utensils, are still popular at religious festivals in the region. Merchants annually sell Shan national clothing, including bags and bamboo hats, as well as other glazed products at the western part of the Bawgyo Pagoda Festival in Hsipaw Township, Shan State.

"We have sold different kinds of traditional products and have earned a lot of money from them during the festival," said a merchant, who plans to sell goods at the upcoming Shwesayan Pagoda Festival.—*Ko Latt*

Crime NEWS

Yaba tablets confiscated in Kalaw, Mandalay

MEMBERS of the Anti-Drug Squad of Taunggyi searched a Subaru B4 Mart II driven by Khine Zaw Latt, accompanied by Aung Chan Hein, and confiscated 29,400 yaba tablets from the car between Wetphu Village and Magwe Village in Kalaw Town on 17 March.

On the same day, local authorities searched Room 517 in the Ruby Hotel in Aungmyeththarsan Township, Mandalay, and seized 434 yaba tablets from Lin Lin Htaik, who stayed at the hotel. Charges have been filed against all suspects under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—*Myanmar Police Force*

Khine Zaw Latt and Aung Chan Hein. PHOTO: MPF

Group arrested for playing cards

A GROUP of five women are facing charges for illegally playing cards in Mandalay Region, according to a police report.

Acting on a tip-off on 19 March, local police searched a house in Mahamyaing Ward-2 in Maha Aungmye Township found the homeowner, Khaing Zin Oo (aka Ma Khaing), and the four others in possession of gambling-related documents and K54,100. Khaing Zin Oo, 27, Tin Mar Win, 38, Daw Hmon, 52, Ei Ei Phyo, 23, and Myint Myint Than, 50, were placed under arrest by the police. Police also arrested a group of men for playing cards in Magyeegon Village in Pyawbwe Township in Mandalay Region that same day.

After discovering evidence, including K36,000, at the house of Zaw Myint, he and five others were charged under the Gambling Law.—*Police Information*

Woman killed by fallen tree

A 31-YEAR-OLD woman was killed on the spot after a tree fell onto her body on Saturday, police reported yesterday.

According to the police investigation, Ma Khin Than Win, who lived in Pintaung Village, Hsaw Township, Magwe Region, asked her neighbour Aung Thu Lwin to cut down a large tree on her farmland. The tree was 30-feet tall and 3 feet in diameter.

The tree fell onto Ma Khin Than Win while Aung Thu Lwin was cutting it down using a chainsaw.

She sustained serious injuries and died on the spot.

Aung Thu Lwin is being charged by the local police for cutting down the tree carelessly.—*Police Information*

Women charged for gambling

THE two women were arrested in possession of cash and documents related to illegal two-digit lottery by police on Friday.

Acting on a tip-off, police members of Yedashe Myoma Police Station together with witnesses searched a house owned by the 50-year-old Ma San in Zinmantha Village in Yedashe Township in Bago Region. They discovered nearly K15,000 and documents.

Police filed lawsuits against the suspects under Section 15 (a) and 16 (a) of the law.—*Police Information*

Drunken man injured by fire

A MAN named Myint Hlaing of Kyaukpyitgon Village, Magwe Township, sustained minor injuries while lighting a cigarette near a bottle of alcohol at a house owned by his sister-in-law on Saturday evening. He was reportedly intoxicated during the incident.

Police from the Mikyaung Myoma Police Station charged the 45-year-old man under Section 285/338 of the Penal Code.—*Police Information*

50 kilos of opium seized in Mong Pan

A COMBINED team including members of the anti-drug squad of Loilem searched a Toyota Vico driven by Nay Zar Tun, who was accompanied by Thaung Win, and a Toyota Surf driven by Khun Aye Hlaing, who was accompanied by Linn Zar, and confiscated 49.8 kilos of brown opium powder and 800 grams of solid opium oil from the VICO car at the Tarsan check point on the Mong Pan-Mong Tong road.

On the same day, another anti-drug squad discovered 1,950 yaba pills from a Honda CRV driven by Lone Aw, who was accompanied by Ma Par Laik, in front of the University of Computer Science on the Lashio-Mandalay road.

Similarly, local authorities seized 3 kilos of raw opium from Law Phyoe, who was riding a motorbike at the Meyan check point in Tachilek Township.

Police have filed charges against all the suspects under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Nay Zar Tun, Thaung Win, Khun Aye Hlaing and Linn Zar pose with the opium seized from their cars. PHOTO: MNA

LOCAL Business

Kirin Ichiban beer coming to Myanmar this month

JAPANESE beverage manufacturer Kirin Holdings will distribute its products in the Myanmar market beginning this month, according to a company spokesperson.

Kirin Holdings will produce its beer at a factory owned by Myanmar Brewery.

Initially, the Kirin will distribute Kirin Ichiban beer mainly to Japanese restaurants and other restaurants. Then, it will distribute to retail outlets, supermarkets and minimarkets, with plans to sell beer at a price of US$2.60 per bottle. A bottle of Myanmar Beer costs around $1.20.

Kirin Ichiban is the best-selling beer in Japan. In 2015, Kirin sold 5.42 million packages of beer.

Kirin Holdings has decided to distribute its products in Myanmar as other international beer companies eye the Myanmar market and its rising middle-age population.

Myanmar Brewery holds about 80 per cent of the local beer market.—*PPN/Union Daily*

A cargo vessel is seen in the Yangon River.
PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Kaung Myanmar Aung Shipping Co Ltd wins wharf project in SeikkanTsp

MYANMA Port Authority announced yesterday that Kaung Myanmar Aung Shipping Co Ltd won the tender to build a modern wharf and supporting facilities in Seikkan Township.

The project which would be implemented with the Build, Operate and Transfer-BOT system is located between the Botahtaung Pagoda and Bo Aung Kyaw jetty.

On completion, the wharf can handle two 15,000-ton vessels, providing wharf services to improve the State's export and import handling, according to the announcement.

The announcement stated that the construction with permission of the Myanmar Investment Commission would use bore piles in order not to affect the Botahtaung Pagoda.

Besides, the other facilities would be constructed with the permission of the Yangon City Development Committee, said the statement.—*GNLM*

European investment in Myanmar rises

INVESTMENT from European countries in Myanmar has increased since last fiscal year, according to the Myanmar Investment Commission.

Investment from European countries reached nearly US$6 billion between April and February this fiscal year, followed by the UK ($4.073 billion), the Netherlands ($989 million), France ($541 million), Luxembourg ($45 million), Switzerland ($14 million) and Norway ($11 million).

Up to the end of February in the 2015-16 fiscal year, China topped the lists of foreign countries with investments in Myanmar. It stands first with over US$15 billion of investments in 126 projects, which have been developed from 1985 to 2015, followed by Singapore, with over $12 billion in 199 projects.

Foreign direct investment from 43 countries has come into Myanmar, most of it into the country's oil and gas sector. The sector has attracted $19 billion into 151 projects, followed by the energy sector with $19 billion investment.

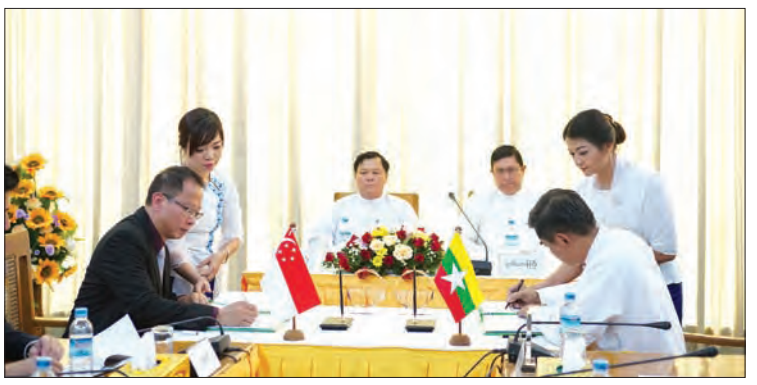
According to the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration under the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, Myanmar has received a total of over $23.84 billion in foreign direct investment between the 2011-2012 fiscal year and the 2015-2016 fiscal year.—*NG/Union Daily*

VPower signs two power agreements

THE VPower Group signed two power agreements with the state-owned Myanma Electric Power Enterprise on 11 March in Nay Pyi Taw.

The company won the two power generation projects in October 2015. One is the extension of a gas plant in the Kyaukpru Special Economic Zone, and the other is in Myingyan, near Mandalay.

The Kyaukpru Phase-2 power plant will double the plant's power generation capacity to 90 MW by the summer of 2016. The additional power will also feed directly the existing 230kV transmission network, like the Phase-1 power plant.



The signing ceremony between VPower and Myanma Electric Power Enterprise. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

The original turnkey facility was installed in just 120 days, providing enough power to serve more than six million people.—*GNLM*

Mandalay industrial zones to get wastewater treatment plant

Aung Thant Khaing

THERE will be no environmental effect by the industrial wastewater released from the Mandalay industrial zones following the completion of a wastewater treatment plant, according to an official from Mandalay City Development Committee.

Industrial wastewater must be treated at the plant before it is released into the Dokhtawady River, said U Thet Naing Tun, MCDC's joint secretary.

His comment appeared after pictures of wastewater being released into the Dokhtawady River appeared on Facebook.

Pipelines carrying wastewater toward the river were helpful in eliminating bad odours caused by the presence of wastewater in the zones over the last two years, said the city official, adding that treated industrial effluent can be discharged into the river once the plant, which is under construction, becomes operational.

The plant is designated to treat wastewater from factories and plants as they are unable to create their own plans to carry out the wastewater treatment process, said U Tun Kyi, a Mandalay City Development Committee member.

Construction on the wastewater treatment facility began in Amrapura Township on 16 March following an agreement in 2013 between MCDC and Hydrotek Supreme Mandalay Co Ltd.

The plant is slated for completion within the next two years, and it is set to undergo a Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) process.

Cambodian PM says new cabinet will work harder to maintain growth, poverty reduction

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen speaks during the launching ceremony of a public financial management reform program, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 21 March. PHOTO: XINHUA

PHNOM PENH — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen yesterday said that even though his new cabinet members are the "same faces," they will work harder to maintain high economic growth and poverty reduction.

"They are old faces, but they have innovative ideas," he said during the launching ceremony of a public financial management reform programme here.

He said that with his strong cabinet members, Cambodia has achieved the average economic growth of 8.8 per cent per annum in the last decade.

Hun Sen last Wednesday submitted the proposed cabinet changes to the National Assembly. Under which, eight ministers will be either removed or reshuffled.

The reshuffle will see Foreign Minister Hor Namhong relinquish the post, which will pass to current Minister of Posts and Telecommunications Prak Sokhonn. Hor Namhong will remain a deputy prime minister.

Transport Minister Tram Iv Tek will become the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, while Commerce Minister Sun Chanthol will be appointed as Transport Minister.

Commerce Secretary of State Pan Sorasak will be promoted as the Commerce Minister.

Water Resources and Meteorology Secretary of State Veng Sakhon will become the Minister of Agriculture, replacing Ouk Rabun who will be appointed as the Minister of Rural Development.

Current Minister of Rural Development Chea Sophara will be assumed as the Minister of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, replacing outgoing Minister Im Chhun Lim. Minister of Cults and Religion Min Khin will be removed and substituted by former Culture Minister Him Chhem.

The fifth term government was established in September 2013. Its cabinet comprised one prime minister, nine deputy prime ministers, 15 senior ministers, 13 ministers attached to the prime minister, 27 ministers, and over a hundred of Secretary of States.—*Xinhua*

North Korea fires short-range projectiles into sea amid tension over nuclear ambitions

SEOUL — North Korea fired five short-range projectiles into the sea off its east coast yesterday, South Korea's military said, amid heightened tension over the isolated country's nuclear and rocket programmes.

The unidentified projectiles were launched from south of the city of Hamhung and flew about 200 km (120 miles), landing in waters east of North Korea, South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement.

On Friday, North Korea fired two mid-range ballistic missiles into the sea in defiance of tough new UN and US sanctions slapped on the country following nuclear and rocket tests earlier this year.

"North Korea should refrain from all provocative actions, including missile launches, which are in clear violation of UN resolutions," Sung Kim, the US special envoy for North Korea, told reporters in Seoul when asked about Monday's firing.

In recent weeks, North Korea has stepped up its bellicose rhetoric, threatening pre-emptive nuclear strikes against Washington and Seoul and firing short-range missiles and artillery into the sea.

The North protests annual ongoing joint US-South Korea military drills.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said last week that the country would soon test a nuclear warhead and ballistic missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads in what would be a direct violation of UN resolutions that have the backing of Pyongyang's chief ally, China. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said China was "deeply concerned" about the situation on the Korean peninsula. "We hope North Korea does not do anything to contravene UN Security Council resolutions. We also hope all sides can remain calm and exercise restraint and avoid doing anything to exacerbate confrontation or tensions," she told a daily news briefing.—*Reuters*

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Possible debris from Malaysia Airlines MH370 arrives in Australia

SYDNEY — Debris found earlier this month off the southeast African coast which some believe could be from a missing Malaysia Airlines flight has arrived in Australia for testing, officials said yesterday, two years after the plane disappeared.

A white, metre-long chunk of metal was found off the coast of Mozambique this month by a US adventurer who has been carrying out an independent search for flight MH370.

"These are items of interest but, because of the rigorous analysis to be performed, it is not possible to speculate on how long it might take to reach any conclusions," Australian Infrastructure Minister Darren Chester said in a statement.

Two pieces of debris will be examined by investigators from Australia and Malaysia, as well as specialists from Boeing, Geoscience Australia and the Australian National University in Canberra, Chester said.

Malaysian Transport Minister Liow Tiong Lai has said there is a "high possibility" the metal chunk belongs to a 777 jet, the same type of aircraft as MH370.

The plane disappeared on 8 March, 2014, with 239 passengers and crew on board shortly after taking off from Kuala Lumpur bound for Beijing.

It is believed to have crashed in the Indian Ocean and an initial search of a 60,000 sq km (23,000 sq miles) area of sea floor has been extended to another 60,000.

A piece of debris found by a South African family off the Mozambique coast in December 2015, which authorities will examine to see if it is from missing Malaysia Airlines flight MH370, is pictured in this handout photo released to Reuters on 11 March. PHOTO: REUTERS

A piece of the plane's wing washed up on the French Indian Ocean island of Reunion, on the other side of Madagascar, in July 2015. So far only that piece, known as a flaperon, has been confirmed to belong to the missing plane.—*Reuters*

Viet Nam parliament to put new leadership to work early

HANOI — Viet Nam's outgoing parliament convened for a final session yesterday that will see a new leadership and cabinet take office three months early, ditching the normal route of the public electing a new legislature first.

The National Assembly said the move was to expedite a drawn-out transition and put a new government to work sooner rather than wait for a parliamentary election in May and house endorsement in July.

That means Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung will be relieved of his duties earlier than expected, hastening his controversial exit following a Communist Party congress in January at which he was overlooked for the top post of party chief. Dung has served the maximum two terms as premier and has no future political role. Despite his popularity as an economic liberal who stood up to China's maritime assertiveness, experts say party stalwarts feared Dung could become a strongman in a country traditionally ruled by consensus.

The assembly's general secretary, Nguyen Hanh Phuc, said the change in plan was about boosting efficiency. "We need new spirit, new motivation, new impetus, implemented from the beginning," he told reporters on Friday when explaining why a new government would be approved by outgoing legislators. The process is a formality, with nominations for prime minister, president and parliament speaker already approved by the party, which controls the rubber-stamp legislature.

The nominations are Dung's deputy, Nguyen Xuan Phuc, as premier, Minister of Public Security Tran Dai Quang as president and National Assembly vice-chairwoman Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan as legislative head. Party chief Nguyen Phu Trong was re-elected for a second term at the January congress. Lawmakers are set to endorse the three main posts separately between 31 March and 7 April. New ministerial positions are due to be approved on 9 April.—*Reuters*

China to look at free trade, rail deal with Nepal

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (R) talks to Nepal Prime Minister Khadga Prasad Sharma Oli during a signing ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, China, on 21 March. PHOTO: REUTERS

BEIJING — China agreed yesterday to consider building a railway into Nepal and to start a feasibility study for a free trade agreement with the impoverished, landlocked country, which has been trying to lessen its dependence on its big neighbour to the south, India.

The Himalayan nation, that serves as a natural buffer between China and India, adopted its first post-monarchy constitution in September hoping this would usher in peace and stability after years of conflict.

But protesters blocked trucks coming in from India, leading to acute shortages of fuel and medicine. Nepal blamed New Delhi for siding with the protesters, a charge India denied.

The border blockade ended last month but supply of oil and cooking gas is far from normal.

Meeting in Beijing's Great Hall of the People, Nepali Prime Minister K.P. Oli told Chinese Premier Li Keqiang he had "come to China with a special mission" when it came to strengthening relations. He did not elaborate in front of reporters.

Hou Yanqi, deputy head of the Chinese Foreign Ministry's Asia Division, said Oli raised the possibility of two rail lines, one connecting three of Nepal's most important cities and two other crossing the border from China into Nepal.

Hou said the government would encourage Chinese firms to look at the internal rail plan, and that China was already planning to extend the railway from the Tibetan city of Shigatse to Gyirong on the Nepal border.

"Of course, a further extension from Gyirong is an even longer-term plan. It's up to geographic and technical conditions, financing ability. We believe that far in the future the two will countries be connected by rail," she said.

The two countries signed a total of 10 agreements, including on the feasibility plan for a free trade agreement, as well a concessional loan for a new airport in Nepal's Pokhara and a feasibility study for oil and gas survey projects. No details were given.

Kathmandu says it wants to import 33 per cent of the annual demand of 1.8 million tonnes of petroleum products from Beijing but trade officials say absence of connectivity — logistics, cost and transportation through difficult Himalayan terrain — poses a challenge to any fuel trade between the two countries. —*Reuters*

Indonesia says it feels peace efforts on South China Sea 'sabotaged'

Indonesia's Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi listens to a question during an interview at the foreign ministry office in Jakarta, Indonesia on 1 March. PHOTO: REUTERS

JAKARTA — Indonesia "feels sabotaged" in its efforts to maintain peace in the disputed South China Sea and may bring its latest maritime altercation with China to an international court, a minister said on Monday.

Indonesia is not embroiled in rival claims with China over the South China Sea and has instead seen itself as an "honest broker" in disputes between China and the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei.

But an incident on the weekend involving an Indonesian patrol boat, and a Chinese coastguard vessel and fishing boat in what Indonesia said was its waters has angered it and led to its questioning of its work to promote peace.

"We feel interrupted and sabotaged in our efforts," fisheries minister Susi Pudjiastuti told reporters in Jakarta after meeting Chinese embassy officials to discuss the incident in the Natuna Sea, an area between Peninsular Malaysia and the Malaysian province of Sarawak on Borneo island.

"We may take it to the international tribunal of the law of the sea," Pudjiastuti said.

Pudjiastuti said the Indonesia patrol boat had fired warning shots in the air when it approached the Chinese trawler.

Indonesia's Deputy navy chief, Arie Henrycus Sembiring, told the news conference the navy would send bigger vessels to back up its patrol boats in the region.

Indonesia says one of its patrol boats on Saturday attempted to detain a Chinese boat fishing illegally in its waters. Eight Chinese crew members were detained but the Chinese coastguard prevented Indonesia from confiscating the fishing boat.

On Monday, China's foreign ministry repeated that the fishing boat was operating in "traditional Chinese fishing grounds", again demanded the fishermen be released and added the Chinese coastguard vessel did not enter Indonesian waters.

China and Indonesia do not contest the sovereignty of the Natuna islands and the seas around them: both agree they are part of Indonesia.

Chinese foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying reiterated that on Monday.

"The sovereignty of the Natunas belongs to Indonesia. China has no objections to this," Hua told a regular briefing.

Any maritime disputes should be resolved by talks and China also opposes illegal fishing, Hua said.

Earlier on Monday, Indonesia protested to China against what it described as an infringement of its waters by the Chinese coastguard vessel.

"We conveyed our strong protest (over) ... the breach by the Chinese coastguard of Indonesia's sovereign rights," Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi told reporters after she met Chinese embassy representatives in Jakarta.

Pudjiastuti said the eight detained Chinese fishermen would be processed in accordance with Indonesian law.—*Reuters*

Modi compares India's Dalit icon Ambedkar with Martin Luther King

NEW DELHI — Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi yesterday drew a comparison between the architect of the Indian Constitution B.R. Ambedkar and iconic civil rights leaders Martin Luther King and Nelson Mandela.

Modi said at a memorial lecture in honour of Ambedkar in the Indian capital that it is not right to see Ambedkar just as an icon of the Dalits (the country's downtrodden class often considered as untouchables), saying he spoke for all who were oppressed.

"Sometimes we do great injustice to Baba Saheb. To call him the messiah only of the Dalits is a great injustice to him. Let us not limit him to that. He was the one who raised his voice against any injustice," Modi said. "We should see him as Vishwa Manav and not limit him to our borders. The way the world sees Martin Luther King, Baba Saheb should be seen like that. He was the voice of the downtrodden. Baba Saheb was the guardian of human values."

Talking about Ambedkar's contribution to the corporate world, the prime minister said "Baba Saheb was a great proponent of industrialisation. He cared for the oppressed, marginalized Dalits who did not have land. That is why he endorsed, empowered industrialisation."

Ambedkar was an Indian jurist, economist, politician and social reformer who inspired the Dalit Buddhist movement and campaigned against social discrimination against Dalits, while also supporting the rights of women and labour.—*Xinhua*

Cambodia, Japan exchange views on Korean Peninsula issue

PHNOM PENH — Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Namhong and visiting Japanese Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Masakazu Hamachi yesterday exchanged views on the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue, a spokesman said.

Hor Namhong said Cambodia was concerned over the recent nuclear and missile tests conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), according to Chum Sounry, a spokesman for the Cambodian ministry of foreign affairs.

"Cambodia has urged the DPRK to avoid any action that could escalate tensions or damage mutual trust in the Korean Peninsula," the spokesman quoted Namhong as saying to Hamachi.

Namhong, who is also a deputy prime minister, said Cambodia wished to see the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue to be solved through peaceful negotiations without any use of force or threat.

He also called upon the DPRK to comply with all relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and its international obligation and commitment to the denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula.—*Xinhua*

OPINION

Good governance versus development

Khin Maung Aye

THE term good governance became popular in the early 1990s when it was employed with reference to economic and social development. The World Bank introduced the concept in 1992 as part of its lending requirements to be fulfilled by borrowing nations. It is worth noting here in this juncture that the World Bank, in its report on Sub-Saharan Africa, suggested that the programmes of fiscal adjustment and investment in that region were being rendered ineffective by a crisis of governance. This being so, if Myanmar has to receive loans, it is of vital importance to fulfil the World Bank's lending requirements, which include good governance.

Seeking governance for development requires anti-corruption measures, promoting accountability and making transactions more transparent. In addition, the rule of law, freedom of the press and effective bureaucratic machinery contribute towards development. Good governance is referred to changes in the public sector. Beside the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) also require the borrowing nations to fulfil the lending requirements; they require good governance of the developing countries that want to receive their financial assistance.

Good governance represents a retreat from a development policy constructed almost on the basis of market economy. The World Bank and IMF have shifted from aiding the projects that might stimulate the growth to a policy of financing structural readjustment programmes. The idea is that growth can be best served by a stable macro-economic environment and the spread of free market.

In a nutshell, it would not be improper to say that despite the notion of good governance's focusing on the interaction between the state and society, its origin lies in economic concerns. In the opinion of aid donors, the development depends upon the issues and ways of governance. The Global New Light of Myanmar would, therefore, like to urge all stakeholders to be aware of the purpose of governance—to promote development.

Write for us

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

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

Spirit soars in Yangon's first Ultimate tournament

Jacob Goldberg

Photo: Naoc Laila

Photo: Naoc Laila

Photo: Carolyn Charbonneau

The world is ready for an Ultimate Frisbee revolution, and Yangon is finally poised to participate.

The game that has been described as "World of Warcraft for extroverts" is now played by professional athletes around the world and may even be on the track toward inclusion in the Summer Olympic Games. But that is just one aspect of the Ultimate revolution. Far more significant are the millions of young people around the world flocking to a sport that values conflict resolution and gender equality as much as it does athletic skill and competition—a combination often referred to as the 'spirit' of the game.

On 30 January, Yangon made its first foray into the world of organised Ultimate with an open tournament organised by the Yangon International School (YIS) Athletics Department. About 85 Yangon residents on seven teams, including one team entirely composed of high school students, participated in the tournament, which was held on the Thuwunna National Stadium practice fields.

"I wanted to plan [the tournament] because, as the PE teacher at YIS, I have incorporated Ultimate into a lot of my high school curriculum, [which has] inspired a good group of students who really find enjoyment in the sport. I organised it to give my students a chance to compete and hopefully encourage other schools to as well," said Jared Joiner, the athletic director at YIS.

"Not to mention I wanted to play in it!" he added.

The inclusion of high school students in the city's debut Ultimate event honoured the sport's origins. The first-known game of Ultimate was played in 1968 at a high school in Maplewood, New Jersey, between the student council and the newspaper staff.

In a series of articles titled "Is Ultimate Frisbee Ready for the Olympics?" published by The New York Times last August, four Ultimate enthusiasts debated the direction Ultimate ought to take as its popularity rises. Tiina Booth, a university-level coach in the United States who also runs an Ultimate summer training camp for high schoolers, wrote that the front lines in the battle for Ultimate's legitimacy are populated by high school students.

"Every summer, at the training camp I run, teenagers tell me about their efforts to establish teams at their high schools. One camper is in his second year of lobbying his administration; though almost 100 of his classmates were interested in playing, the school refused to even sanction it as a club sport. He was told it would divert students from the more successful sports teams already established at the school," Booth writes.

Luckily for Yangon's Ultimate community, not only did YIS lend its name to the event, it also paid for half the cost of the venue. The other half was raised through players' fees.

The event was not without its own challenges. Joiner said: "The most difficult part was organising the pitch, the location had to change two weeks before [the date of the event]. We [also] had a short period of time to get all the games in, so I think the schedule was pretty intense."

However, by the end of the day, 15 games were played without conflict or controversy.

In the final match, the Eagles—a team comprised of staff and a student from YIS—were bested by Pork n' Flick, which was made up of staff from another Yangon school.

Pork n' Flick captain Ian Horsewood commented on his team's victory, saying: "It feels good."

Like most Ultimate events in the world, winning was not the ultimate goal in Yangon's first tournament. Instead, weeks of training and planning for the competition culminated in mutual respect, camaraderie and a desire for more flying disc events in the city.

"I see ultimate being adopted by the international schools, most of which now have clubs or leagues. I hope there will be more events with students in the future," said Joiner.

Hotter, drier, wetter: How to face the future?

Arun B Shrestha

Climate change is not just a future scenario for scientific discourse. It is already happening and will continue to happen as more heat-trapping greenhouse gases (GHG) and short-lived climate pollutants (SLCP) accumulate in the atmosphere. There is strong evidence that the Earth is already 1°C hotter than at the start of the 20th Century.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development identifies climate change as one of the greatest challenges of our time, and its impacts will undermine the ability of all countries to achieve sustainable development. Sustainable Development Goal 13 is to "take urgent action to combat climate change and its impact". The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the primary intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change, unanimously recognized the need for bold action at the Conference of Parties (COP) 21 in Paris last year, at which governments agreed to "hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C". While these commitments are good news, they are highly ambitious and the plans developed so far cannot avoid a rise of 3°C.

According to the World Meteorological Organization, in terms of global averages, each of the past several decades has been significantly warmer than the previous one. The period 2011–2015 was the hottest on record, and 2015 – because of a powerful El Niño – was the hottest since modern observations began in the late 1800s. Along with rising temperatures, climate change is disrupting the seasons and increasing the frequency and intensity of extreme events, such as droughts and heavy rainfall. These changes provide a foretaste of a hotter, drier, wetter future.

And when it comes to mountains, the indications are that changes will manifest in much stronger ways. The Mountain Research Initiative warns that warming will be much stronger in high elevation areas, such as the Hindu Kush Himalayas, where the impact will be compounded by biophysical fragility and socioeconomic vulnerability. ICIMOD, along with its with partners, has been conducting scientific research on climate change to support policy and action to reduce impacts and vulnerabilities.

According to The Himalayan Climate and Water Atlas, published by ICIMOD, GRID-Arendal and the Center for International Climate and Environmental Research–Oslo (CICERO) in 2015, the mountainous Hindu Kush Himalayas are warming significantly faster than the global average. Already by 2050, temperatures across the region are projected to increase by about 1–2°C on average, with winters seeing greater warming than summers in most places, and temperature extremes also becoming more frequent. Mountainous and high altitude areas will be particularly affected, with warming reaching 4–5°C in some places.

The Atlas also warns that precipitation will change, with summer precipitation increasing in most parts of the region. The number of rainfall events is expected to decrease, but with more water falling during each event, causing both floods and droughts. Intense rainfall is projected to increase in areas where rainfall intensity is already high and less rainfall is projected in arid and semi-arid areas, exposing already vulnerable populations.

However, the Atlas adds that, overall, runoff within the five river basins included in the report (Brahmaputra, Ganges, Indus, Mekong, and Salween) is not expected to decrease until at least 2050, and an increase is even projected for some basins. Increasing precipitation is the main driver of this change, initially combined with increased glacial melt. Mountain people relying directly on meltwater will be particularly affected as the melting of glaciers will reduce the reliability of local water resources, including springs, and increase the occurrence of hazards, including glacial lake outburst floods.

However, climate models are not able to sufficiently capture the sharp horizontal and vertical variations of biophysical processes in the region. Nevertheless, current understanding of climate change can be used by countries in the region to minimize impacts. Perhaps the greatest challenge is to prepare for extreme climate events. A combination of structural measures (such as flood prevention structures) and non-structural measures work best. Non-structural measures, such as the Regional Flood Information System (RFIS) and Koshi Basin Flood Outlook, which provide large-scale flood information well in advance, have proven to be highly effective. Recent developments in ground and space-based observations and telecommunications have significantly improved the accuracy and lead time of information, saving lives and property. At the catchment scale, community-based flood early warning systems, like one successfully implemented in Assam, India by ICIMOD and its partners, have increased the resilience of people.

In addition to floods, droughts also need to be addressed through integrated drought management. Farmers' access to science-backed knowledge and best practices for coping with drought needs to be improved. With the migration of men increasing, we need more gender-sensitive farming approaches, while also strengthening education and building effective networks for knowledge sharing. Climate Smart Villages model flexible farming and integrate farming with weather information. Residual risk mitigation measures such as crop and livestock insurance also have great potential to reduce risk in the Hindu Kush Himalayas.

While mitigation is necessary to control climate change, adaptation is essential to face the hotter, drier, wetter future. There are many good practices in place, and more need to be identified through research and piloting. We have to know what to expect so that we are able adapt in the best possible way at an acceptable cost – and so that we can exploit some of the opportunities that climate change may bring.

World's media groups gather to discuss digital challenges

DOHA — Top officials of international media outlets gathered Sunday in Doha to discuss challenges facing the press in the digital era.

"We will place even more emphasis on ensuring the accuracy and fairness of our news stories, as well as strengthen our coverage of breaking news," Kyodo News President Masaki Fukuyama said in a speech at the World Media Summit, underscoring, "All these are the lifeblood of a news agency."

At the opening of the two-day meeting, representatives from China's official Xinhua News Agency and the Associated Press of the United States also delivered speeches on changes in the media environment, including the differentiation of content for digital devices from print.

As smartphones and social media have changed the way people consume and transmit information, more advertising clients are turning away from traditional media like newspapers.

Media organisations need to provide content that utilizes the capabilities, such as graphics and video, of new technology, Fukuyama said, adding that Kyodo will continue seeking to enhance its content toward the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

The conference drew more than 350 people from news agencies, newspapers and television outlets.

The summit, jointly launched by Kyodo, Reuters and AP, among other media groups, was first held in 2009 in Beijing before Moscow hosted its second in 2012.—*Kyodo News*

Obama to meet Castro face-to-face on historic Cuba trip

HAVANA — US President Barack Obama turns from sightseeing to state business on his historic Cuba trip yesterday, pressing President Raul Castro for economic and democratic reforms while hearing complaints about continued US economic sanctions.

Obama and Castro will have their fourth meeting, likely their most substantial, at the Palace of the Revolution, where Castro and his predecessor, older brother Fidel Castro, have led Cuba's resistance to US pressure going back decades.

A US presidential visit to the inner sanctum of Cuban power would have been unthinkable before Obama and Raul Castro's rapprochement 15 months ago, when they agreed to end a Cold War-era dispute that lasted five decades and continued even after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

The two leaders have deep differences to discuss as they attempt to rebuild the bilateral relationship. Obama is under pressure from critics at home to push Castro's Communist government to allow dissent from political opponents and further open its Soviet-style command economy.

His aides have said Obama will encourage more economic reforms and greater access to the Internet for Cubans. His administration hopes such changes might come at a Communist Party congress next month but doubts any political opening will be forthcoming.

Still, Obama has promised to talk about freedom of speech and assembly in Cuba. "I will raise these issues directly with President Castro," he told the Cuban dissident group the Ladies in White in a March 10 letter.

Castro has said Cuba will not waver from its 57-year-old revolution and government officials say the United States needs to end its economic embargo and return the Guantanamo Bay naval base to Cuba before the two nations can enjoy normal relations.

US President Barack Obama waves while standing in front of Cuba's foreign minister Bruno Rodriguez (R) after he arrived at Havana's international airport for a three-day trip, in Havana 20 March, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Cuban police backed by hundreds of shouting pro-government demonstrators broke up a Ladies in White march on Sunday, detaining dozens of people just hours before Obama landed.

Obama has urged Congress to rescind the 54-year-old embargo but has been rejected by the Republican leadership. He now has both Democratic and Republican elected officials with him on his Cuba trip and hopes Congress may act after the 8 November presidential election.

One Cuban yelled "Down with the embargo!" during Obama's tour of Old Havana, and the president responded by raising his right hand. Thwarted by Congress on the embargo, Obama has instead used his executive authority to loosen restrictions on trade and travel with the Caribbean island. Cuba has praised those measures but Castro will likely use the meeting on Monday to press Obama to go further.

"We think the US government can take more steps to send clear and direct signals in this direction," Foreign Trade Minister Rodrigo Malmierca told reporters on Sunday. Obama and Castro met for half an hour during a regional summit in Panama last April and they also had brief encounters at Nelson Mandela's funeral in 2013 and at the UN General Assembly last September.

Travelling with his family, Obama was greeted by cheering crowds on the road from the airport and while on a walking tour of Old Havana on Sunday.

Besides meeting Castro, he also plans to visit a state-owned micro brewery and attend a state dinner on Monday.

On Tuesday, he will deliver a speech on live Cuban television and attend an exhibition game between Major League Baseball's Tampa Bay Rays and Cuba's national team.—*Reuters*

NEWS IN BRIEF

Five die as boat capsizes in central India

NEW DELHI — At least five persons have died after their boat capsized in a lake in the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh, a senior police official said yesterday.

"The incident happened late Sunday night when some 10 men, all in their early 20s, were partying on a boat in Lower Lake in state capital Bhopal. While five managed to swim to safety, five others died after they got drowned," he said on condition of anonymity.

Their bodies have been fished out of water by rescuers, the official said. Local TV channels reported that the youths got drunk and started dancing on the boat, leading to disbalance of it.

A probe has been ordered into the incident, he added.—*Xinhua*

US dismisses Russia call for urgent talks on Syria ceasefire

GENEVA — The United States yesterday rejected Russia's call for an urgent meeting over violations of Syria's three-week cessation of hostilities, saying that its concerns were already being handled in a constructive manner. Russia's general staff of the armed forces proposed yesterday to hold an urgent meeting with US representatives to agree on the mechanism of controlling the ceasefire in Syria, saying it would act unilaterally starting from 22 March if it gets no response.

"We have seen the media reports on alleged Russian concerns over ceasefire violations. Whoever is making such statements must be misinformed, because these issues have been discussed at length already, and continue to be discussed, in a constructive manner," a US official told Reuters in Geneva.—*Reuters*

Australian woman tests positive for Zika after returning from Tonga

SYDNEY — The Australian health authorities are warning residents in the north Queensland state town of Bowen to kill mosquitoes around their homes after a local tested positive for the Zika virus.

A woman tested positive to the virus on Friday after returning from Tonga earlier in March. A total of 13 people in Queensland state have been diagnosed with the virus. While the risk of transmission was low it was important every Bowen household eliminates the mosquitoes, Townsville Public Health Unit director Dr Steven Donohue told AAP Monday. "I urge residents to get rid of these mosquitoes themselves, including spraying inside and around their homes," Donohue said. "That way we can avoid a local outbreak."

The infected woman was home for a few days before heading to hospital to recover. The Australian authorities remain on high alert following a string of confirmed cases of Zika virus to have entered the nation via travellers returning from the Pacific islands. The Queensland health authorities have undertaken significant mosquito control programms after the Zika transmitting mosquitoes were found in the vicinity of patients confirmed to have contracted the virus.—*Xinhua*

At least 13 dead as Spanish bus carrying exchange students crashes

FREGINALS (Spain) — At least 13 people were killed when a bus carrying a large group of foreign university students crashed early on Sunday midway between the Spanish cities of Valencia and Barcelona, authorities in the northeastern region of Catalonia said.

Eight of the 43 passengers had also been seriously injured.

The students were from at least 19 countries and many were part of the Erasmus exchange programme between European universities, emergency services in Catalonia said. Regional leader, Carles Puigdemont, told a local radio station that all the victims were women. The bus crashed and overturned at about 0600 CET (0500 GMT)on a road that runs along Spain's eastern coast. After swerving onto the other side of the road, it had hit an oncoming car, injuring the two passengers. The bus, which was carrying 61 passengers, according to estimates from the authorities, was driving away from Valencia on the last weekend of the Fallas festival, known for its big firework displays.—*Reuters*

Three killed, over 50 injured in football violence in Morocco

RABAT — Three football fans were killed and more than 50 others were injured in clashes erupting between fans of the same team in Morocco, police said on Sunday. Videos that have gone viral on social media showed horrific violent scenes between fans of Raja Casablanca at the end of the match between their team and Chabab Rif al Hoceima Saturday night in the stands of Mohammed V stadium in Casablanca. Two fans died on the spot, whereas a 14-year-old died of injuries on Sunday, police said in statement.—*Xinhua*

Russia tries to decipher crash plane pilots' final conversations

MOSCOW — Russian investigators yesterday were trying to restore the damaged cockpit voice recorder of a passenger jet which crashed at the weekend killing all 62 people onboard, in an effort to understand why it had tried to land in strong winds.

The Boeing 737-800, operated by Dubai-based budget carrier Flydubai, crashed in the early hours of Saturday at Rostov-on-Don airport in southern Russia in strong, gusting winds on its second attempt to land.

The stricken plane's flight data recorder survived largely intact, but the cockpit voice recorder — which should shed crucial light on the pilots' final conversations before the crash — was badly damaged and needs to be restored.

That process could take weeks, officials have said. There is so far no suggestion of terrorism.

Russian media say the two main theories under consideration by investigators, who have opened a criminal investigation into the tragedy, are possible pilot error or a technical failure. Flydubai's CEO Ghaith al-Ghaith said on Saturday it was too early to determine why the plane, which was just over five years old, crashed.

One of the big unanswered questions is why the plane attempted to land in what were reported to be fiercely strong winds and did not divert to a nearby airport. An Aeroflot plane had earlier made several aborted landing attempts and been diverted.

Investigators are likely to focus, among other issues, on how the decision to land was reached, why the plane circled above the airport in a holding pattern for over two hours, and on the precise thinking of the pilots and the airport's landing tower.—*Reuters*

Turkey says Istanbul suicide bomber was member of Islamic State

ISTANBUL — A Turkish member of the Islamic State militant group was responsible for Saturday's suicide bombing in Istanbul that killed three Israelis and an Iranian, Turkey's interior minister said.

The attack in Istiklal Street, Istanbul's most popular shopping distict, is the fourth such bombing in Turkey this year and the second one by Islamist militants. In January a suicide bomber blew himself up in Istanbul's historic heart, killing 12 German tourists.

NATO-member Turkey is on heightened alert after the bombings, which have killed more than 80 people. A soccer match between Istanbul rivals Fenerbahce and Galatasaray was cancelled on Sunday and the stadium evacuated on what appeared to be a security threat.

Interior Minister Efkan Ala identified Saturday's bomber as a man from a southern Turkish province, adding that five people had been detained so far in connection with the blast.

Police officers search a car during a security control check in central Ankara, Turkey, on 20 March. PHOTO: REUTERS

"We have determined that Mehmet Ozturk, born in 1992 in Gaziantep, has carried out the heinous attack on Saturday in Istanbul. It has been established that he is a member of Daesh," Ala told a news conference broadcast live on television, using an Arabic acronym for Islamic State.

Israel has confirmed that three of its citizens died in the blast. Two of them held dual citizenship with the United States. An Iranian was also killed, Turkish officials have said.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said Israel is trying to determine whether its citizens were deliberately targeted. Eleven of the 36 wounded were Israelis.

In his first public appearance since the bombing, President Tayyip Erdogan said Turkey would not give in to militants.

"We will never surrender to the agenda of terror. We will defeat the terrorist organisations and the powers behind them by looking after the unity of our nation," he said.—*Reuters*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MANDONA VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MANDONA VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.3.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.P.T-3 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's 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 RK SHIPPING & TRADING CO LTD.

Phone No: 2301928

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MV BANGKACHAI VOY NO (143)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKACHAI VOY NO (143) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.3.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.P.T-1 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 Claim's 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.

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BAO HE LING VOY NO (021603)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BAO HE LING VOY NO (021603) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.3.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L 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 Claim's 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 TRANSFAR SHIPPING CORPORATION LTD.

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV THAI BINH 039 VOY NO (02/2016)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV THAI BINH 039 VOY NO (02/2016) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.3.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-5 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claim's 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 G-LINK EXPRESS PTE LTD.

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MCC HA LONG VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCC HA LONG VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.3.2016 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 Claim's 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 MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BC MUMBAI VOY NO (010W)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BC MUMBAI VOY NO (010W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.3.2016 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 Claim's 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.

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ORIENT OVERSEA CONTAINER LINES

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SWIFT to advise banks on security as Bangladesh hack details emerge

BRUSSELS — The SWIFT messaging system plans to ask banks to make sure they are following recommended security practices following an unprecedented cyber attack on Bangladesh's central bank that yielded $81 million (56 million pounds), a spokeswoman for the group told Reuters on Sunday.

Brussels-based SWIFT, a cooperative owned by some 3,000 global financial institutions, will issue a written advisory on Monday asking banks to review internal security, the spokeswoman said.

SWIFT staff will also begin calling banks to highlight the importance of reviewing security measures after the attack in Bangladesh, she added.

"Our priority at this time is to encourage customers to review and, where necessary, to reinforce their local operating environments," the spokeswoman added.

Commuters pass by the front of the Bangladesh central bank building in Dhaka on 8 March.
PHOTO: REUTERS

Unknown hackers breached the computer systems of Bangladesh Bank and in early February attempted to steal $951 million from its account at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, which it uses for international settlements. Some attempted transfers were blocked, but $81 million was transferred to accounts in the Philippines in one of the largest cyber heists in history.

SWIFT has so far said little about the attack, except that it was related to "an internal operational issue" at Bangladesh Bank and that there was no compromise in its core messaging system.

SWIFT prepared a summary of previously issued recommendations for implementing security measures to thwart hackers, which advises members to pay close attention to best practices, the spokeswoman added.

While SWIFT can advise members to follow certain minimum security standards, there is no organization with regulatory oversight of how central banks and other financial institutions secure their networks, said independent security consultant Shane Shook.

That means that security is not uniform among central banks, making some more vulnerable to cyber attacks, said Shook, who has helped investigate some of the biggest financial breaches.

A confidential interim report on the investigation, which forensics experts submitted to the bank on Wednesday, said that attackers took control of the bank's network, stole credentials for sending SWIFT messages and used "sophisticated" malicious software to attack the computers it uses to process and authorize transactions.

Investigators said in the report, which was reviewed by Reuters, that they expect to continue their investigation for another two weeks and believe the attackers have targeted other financial institutions.

The report was prepared by FireEye Inc and World Informatix, which were hired by Bangladesh's central bank to investigate the massive theft.

The investigators did not identify other victims or name the hackers, but said that forensic evidence suggests they were also behind other recent cyber attacks on financial institutions.—*Reuters*

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(4 / 2016)

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

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB-091(15-16)	Skid Mounted Crude Transfer Pump (300GPM x 500PSI) with Engine (1) Set	US$
(2)	IFB-092(15-16)	Skid Mounted Crude Transfer Pump (200GPM x 150FT HD) with Engine (1) Set	US$
(3)	IFB-093(15-16)	Spares for NKK Compressor KJB2 with Waukesha L7042 Gas Engine (24) Items	US$
(4)	IFB-094(15-16)	Spares for NKK Compressor KB2 with Waukesha H2475 Gas Engine (21) Items	US$
(5)	IFB-095(15-16)	CNG Filling Dispenser (2) Units	US$
(6)	IFB-096(15-16)	Spares for P9390GL Waukesha Engine / Cooper MH64 Compressor and Ariel JGk4 Compressor (26) Items	US$
(7)	IFB-097(15-16)	Spares for Ajax DPC600 Compressor (20) Items	US$
(8)	IFB-098(15-16)	Spares for Waukesha 12VAT 27GL Engine (42) Items	US$
(9)	IFB-099(15-16)	Spares for Waukesha L 7042 GSI Engine and Ariel JGK4 Compressor (9) Items	US$
(10)	IFB-100(15-16)	Spares for Waukesha F2895 Engine and Ariel JGE2 Compressor (53) Items	US$
(11)	IFB-101(15-16)	Spares for FLC504 Derrick Shaker Unit (7) Items	US$
(12)	IFB-102(15-16)	Coalescing Gas Filters (Horizontal Type) (2) Nos	US$
(13)	IFB-103(15-16)	Maintenance and Inspection Requirements for Ywama Gas Distribution Station (1) Lot	US$
(14)	IFB-104(15-16)	Maintenance and Inspection Requirements for PLC (Daw Nyein) (1) Lot	US$
(15)	DMP/L-018(15-16)	HP Ao Copier / Plotter and Digital Multi Function Colour Copier (A3) for Geological Use (2) Items	KS
(16)	DMP/L-019(15-16)	M.S Plate, M.S Rod & Angle Iron for Craft Boats (6) Nos Repairing Job	KS
(17)	DMP/L-020(15-16)	M.S Plate, M.S Pipe, M.S Rod & Angle Iron for River Craft MTB-5 Repairing Job	KS
(18)	DMP/L-021(15-16)	Air Compressor (4" x 4" Reciprocating with 12-13HP Diesel Engine) (4) Sets	KS
(19)	DMP/L-022(15-16)	Water Transfer Pump with Motor and Water Transfer Pump with Engine (2) Items	KS

Tender Closing Date & Time - 28-4-2016, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 21st March, 2016 at the Finance Department , Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

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

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Aung Naing Moe, Advocate Ong Minn U, Advocate
May Phyo Kin, H.G.P
For. AFTG One(PVT)LTD.
Myanmar Global Law Firm Ph:0973220023
Date: 22 March 2016

DIVORCE

This is to announce for public notice that I, AYE NANDAR AUNG (12/Pa Ba Ta (Naing)032756) and NAY WIN TUN (10/Ma La Ma (Naing) 160740) have divorced each other before jameetul-O-lama Organization on (19-3-2016) in accordance with Islamic Rite and mother was granted right of guardianship of two children- daughter CHIT SANOW TUN and ZAARA TUN.

Aye Nandar Aung (12/Pa Ba Ta (Naing)032756) &
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Turkish officials arrive in Greece under migrant accord

LESBOS, (Greece) — Turkish officials arrived on the Greek island of Lesbos on Monday to help implement a deal with the European Union to tackle a migrant crisis that has tested European cohesion to its limits. The day after the formal start of an agreement intended to close off the main route through which a million refugees and migrants arrived in Europe last year, authorities said 1,662 people had arrived on Greek islands by 7am (0500 GMT), twice the official count of the day before. Just after 4:30am, one coastguard vessel rescued 54 refugees and migrants from the open sea and brought them to the port, some of the 698 arrivals counted in Lesbos. They staggered down the ramp, women and children first, one elderly man bundled up in blankets. "Where are we going?" asked one Syrian woman who was travelling with her husband and daughter. The arrivals were directed to a coastguard bus that would drive them to the Moria "hot spot", a centre where new arrivals are being registered and their asylum applications processed.—*Reuters*

Belgium says captured Paris suspect may have planned more attacks

BRUSSELS — The prime surviving suspect in the Paris attacks may have been plotting more operations with the help of a weapons cache and a network of associates, Belgium's foreign minister said on Sunday.

Didier Reynders, speaking two days after the capture of Salah Abdeslam, said the suspect's first statement to a magistrate in Brussels suggested further attacks were planned.

"He was ready to restart something from Brussels," Reynders told a think-tank event. "That is maybe the reality, because we have found a lot of heavy weapons and we have seen a new network around him."

Reynders said Belgium and France had so far found around 30 people involved in the gun and bomb attacks that killed 130 people on 13 November in bars, a sports stadium and a concert hall in the French capital.

Capturing Abdeslam alive marks a breakthrough for authorities investigating the deadliest militant strikes in Europe since 2004. Islamic State has claimed responsibility, and the United States warned on Sunday that it would try to repeat such atrocities.

The 26-year-old French national told a Belgian magistrate on Saturday he had planned to take part in the stadium attack. The admission was disclosed to reporters by the lead French investigator, Francois Molins.

At a Paris news conference on Saturday, Molins read from Abdeslam's statement, saying: "He wanted to blow himself up at the Stade de France and, I quote, backed out."

Abdeslam's lawyer Sven Mary said on Sunday he would sue Molins for making the comment public, calling it a violation of judicial confidentiality.

"I cannot let this pass," Mary told Belgian state broadcaster RTBF. Mary's office was not available for comment, but RTBF said he would start legal proceedings on Monday.—*Reuters*

An ambulance believed to be carrying Salah Abdeslam, the most-wanted fugitive from November's Paris attacks arrested yesterday, leaves the federal judicial police headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, on 14 March. PHOTO: REUTERS

Congratulations!

The Chairman and central executive committee members and the executive committee members of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) have congratulated **U Aung Ko Win**, patron of UMFCCI and chairman of **Kanbawza Bank Limited**, on his standing first for four consecutive years out of 1,000 entrepreneurs who pay the highest amount of income tax throughout the country for the 2014-2015 tax assessment year according to the announcement dated 18 March, 2016 released by the Internal Revenue Department, Ministry of Finance, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and wished him defending this position for many, many years to come through exertion of increased effort to contribute toward nation-building activities.

Chairman and central executive committee / executive committee members, UMFCCI

Gawker could still win Hulk Hogan case despite $115 million verdict: legal experts

NEW YORK — The $115 million a Florida jury awarded to Hulk Hogan on Friday may seem like a big blow to the website Gawker, but the media company could ultimately prevail in its court battle with the flamboyant wrestler, legal experts say.

Hogan had sued the website for posting a video clip in 2012 featuring him having sex with the wife of his then-best friend, the radio shock jock Bubba the Love Sponge Clem.

Both sides cast the case as a crucial test of the balance between the right to privacy and freedom of the press in the digital age, when a celebrity sex tape can reach millions of viewers with one click of a button.

"The jury's decision is somewhat of a black box," said Mary-Rose Papandrea, a University of North Carolina law professor who previously represented the National Enquirer, a tabloid known for its aggressive reporting on celebrity scandals. "It will be much more interesting and much more important as a legal issue to see what the appellate court says."

Hogan had argued that Gawker ignored basic journalistic ethics by failing to contact him before publishing and violated his privacy by including several seconds of explicit sexual activity as part of the video excerpt it posted.

"What's disturbing about Gawker isn't what they do in a vacuum," said Kenneth Turkel, one of Hogan's lawyers, during his closing argument. "It's how proud they are of it."

Terry Bollea, aka Hulk Hogan, sits in court during his trial against Gawker Media, in St Petersburg, Florida on 17 March. PHOTO: REUTERS

Gawker countered that Hogan's own penchant for publicly describing his sex life in detail had made the sex tape fair game.

"He has consistently chosen to put his own private life out there, over and over," Michael Sullivan, Gawker's lawyer, told jurors on Friday.

Hogan, whose real name is Terry Bollea, testified at trial that he made those comments while in character, not as part of his real-life persona. Gawker's attorneys argued that Hogan was drawing a meaningless distinction.

David Marburger, a Cleveland attorney who represents media clients, compared Hogan to Donald Trump, another larger-than-life figure who has bragged about his male prowess as part of his public image.

In Marburger's view, a private video of Trump would be newsworthy because of references the Republican presidential hopeful made about his genitals during a presidential debate. "Regardless of how you judge what's newsworthy, he's asked for it," Marburger said of Hogan. "He's assumed this risk."

Gawker has at least some reason to feel more optimistic about its chances on appeal. In 2014, the Florida Second District Court threw out an injunction requiring it to take down the Hogan video that the trial judge had granted.

Clay Calvert, a professor of law and mass communications at the University of Florida and an expert on the First Amendment of the US Constitution, said the size of the verdict was not surprising. He pointed out that broadcaster Erin Andrews recently won a $55 million judgment against a hotel after she was secretly filmed nude through a peephole.

The jury could still add punitive damages next week after both sides have a chance to present more evidence.

But Calvert said a verdict that large was almost certain to be pared back on appeal, if not reversed.

"Juries generally do not like the media," he said after the verdict. "The appellate court is a little more neutral." The site appeared prepared for a loss at trial. Even before the verdict, Gawker said the judge had kept the jury from hearing crucial prior statements by Clem, the wrestler's former friend, and suggested it was already thinking about its appeal.

"Given key evidence and the most important witness were both improperly withheld from this jury, we all knew the appeals court will need to resolve the case," the site's founder, Nick Denton, said after the verdict. A Gawker representative declined to comment on Saturday.—*Reuters*

Neil Bhoopalam to offer life hacks as host of TV show

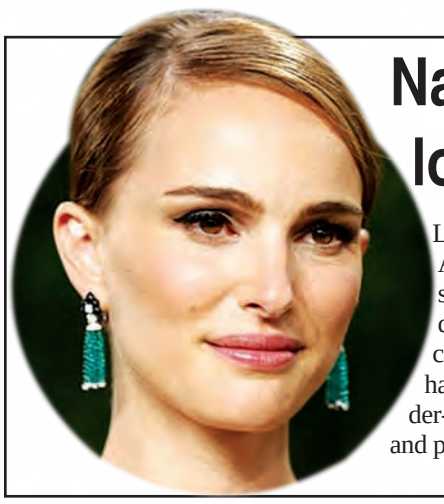
MUMBAI — Actor Neil Bhoopalam is turning host for a new TV show "How To Win At Everything", which offers hacks to give viewers smart advantages in various aspects of life.

The 33-year-old "NH 10" actor said he jumped at the chance of anchoring the show as he felt the concept was quirky as well as useful for people in their dealings of daily life.

"It is not a game show. The series explores human physiology, psychology, physics, technology and mathematics to show how people can win in any scenario. I will analyse every action and will demonstrate ways to approach real world situations offering shortcuts for life," Neil told PTI.

"The show attempts to make science more palatable and fun by combining interactive, relatable content that is not only entertaining but informative too," said the actor, who has also starred in films like "No One Killed Jessica", "Shaitan" and "David".

Some episodes of the show will feature world record holders who will demonstrate their skills and expertise in things like parallel parking and speed eating.—*PTI*



Natalie Portman feels woman have long way to go in Hollywood

LOS ANGELES — ACTRESS Natalie Portman says the discussion on gender disparity may have become widespread, but women have a long way to go to gender-neutral equal opportunity and pay.

The 34-year-old actress said the lack of female directors is her major concern, reported People magazine. "For myself I feel excited about the opportunities I have, but I am concerned that there's not more female directors… We still have a lot more work to do.

"I think that the conversation has definitely become more widespread which is very important, but the problem is just as severe, actually probably more severe because it's been so long that it hasn't changed. There's a long ways to go," Portman said.—*PTI*

Playing Batman was daunting for Ben Affleck

LOS ANGELES — Hollywood superstar Ben Affleck, who plays a world weary, disillusioned Batman in Zack Snyder's "Batman V Superman: Dawn of Justice", says playing the popular superhero was a daunting task.

Affleck's casting was initially met with resistance from the Caped Crusader fans. The actor, however, revealed that he himself was a huge fan of the superhero.

"It's certainly daunting because of the people who have played this character before and the great filmmakers," he said.

"Most recently Christian (Bale) and Chris (Nolan) who made brilliant movies.

There is that element of healthy respect you have for the project and for the characters and their history."

The "Argo" star, however, tapped into his childhood and adult geekness to prepare for the role.

"I think I tapped into equal measure of my adult geekness and kid excitement. Every day there was something to kind of geek out about. It was exciting every day."

Affleck believes the audience gets drawn to the character because despite his powers, he is a vulnerable personality.

"Batman is a guy who on the one hand is powerful and exciting and can do things we all wish we could do but is also still a human being and struggling with his own vulnerabilities," he said.—*PTI*

Ben Affleck's casting was initially met with resistance from the Caped Crusader fans. PHOTO: PTI

Shakira, Juanes shortlisted for Latin Hall of Fame

LOS ANGELES — Pop sensation Shakira and Juanes' names have popped up on the shortlist for induction into the Latin Songwriters Hall of Fame.

The two stars have joined the likes of Marco Antonio Solis, Ruben Blades, and Draco Rosa on the list of nominees in the performers category, while composers Kike Santander, Carlos Lara, Chico Navarro, and Alejandro Jean are also up for consideration, reported Billboard.

The final list of six artists and composers chosen to be inducted will be announced at the 2016 Latin Billboard Music Conference in Miami Beach, Florida next month.

The selected six winners will then be inducted into the esteemed hall during the fourth annual La Musa Awards at the Filmore Miami Beach Jackie Gleason Theater on 13 October.—*PTI*

Rookie Iditarod musher battles to last-place finish in Alaska race

SEATTLE — A 32-year-old former Bible camp cook who lost her home in a wildfire last summer toughed out a last-place finish in Alaska's punishing Iditarod sled-dog race after surviving sled breakdowns and wayward dogs.

Rookie contestant Mary Helwig and her team of 11 dogs crossed under the famed burled arch in Nome at 11:51pm on Saturday before a cheering crowd, organizers wrote on the race's website on Sunday. The finish earned her the so-called Red Lantern in recognition of her perseverance.

She finished about five days behind first-place finisher Dallas Seavey, who won his third straight title on Tuesday in the nearly 1,000-mile (1,600-km) marathon across the state's frozen wilderness.

Now in its 44th year, the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race commemorates a 1925 rescue mission that delivered diphtheria serum by sled-dog relay to the western coastal community of Nome on the Bering Sea.

Mushers in this year's race, which began on March 6 in a town north of Anchorage, had to battle more than just the elements.

Third-place finisher Aliy Zirkle said on Thursday she was "terrified" during what she described as a prolonged attack by a man on a snowmobile that killed a dog and injured at least three others in the middle of the race.

Helwig managed to mush on past 14 teams that dropped out of the race. She ended up in 71st place with a time of 13 days, eight hours and 51 minutes.

A team heads out at the ceremonial start of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race to begin their near 1,000-mile (1,600-km) journey through Alaska's frigid wilderness in downtown Anchorage, Alaska, on 5 March.
PHOTO: REUTERS

By the time she reached the race checkpoint at Nikolai, about 250 miles (400 km) into the race, Helwig had already grappled with two of her dogs getting loose, losing the trail, and back-to-back sled breakdowns, race officials said. She had to finish the race on the sled of a musher who had dropped out.

She finished behind Cindy Gallea, 64, of Minnesota.

Helwig plans to return to the village of Unalakleet where she worked as a youth leader in a church and as Bible camp cook, according to a biography on the race's website. She is training to be a veterinary technician.

Helwig, who grew up in Southern California, lost her home and possessions in a wildfire in Willow, Alaska, last June that threatened her dogs.

"If I can get myself through this disaster," Helwig told the Alaska Dispatch News afterward, "I'll feel that much more prepared to handle the difficulties of the trail."—*Reuters*

MRTV News Channel in Brief

(22-3-2016, Tuesday)

6:00 am
- Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

7:35 am
- Socio Economic Scenes

8:35 am
- Documentary

9:35 am
- MRTV 's Youth Programme

10:35 am
- Science and Technology Programme

11:15 am
- Documentary

11:35 am
- Documentary

12:50 pm
- TV Drama Series

2:15 pm
- Sing & Enjoy

3:35 pm
- Socio Economic Scenes

4:35 pm
- Football Magazine (Ayeyawady United FC)

5:35 pm
- Money Talk Myanmar

6:35 pm
- People's Talks

7:35 pm
- TV Drama Series

8:00 pm
- News / International News/ Weather Report

9:00 pm
- News
- TV Drama Series
- Year or No Talk Show (Season-1, Epsode-5, Final Part-2)
- Documentary

Note/ Hourly News Bulletins (Local + International)

New plan to boost tourism will highlight Japan's cultural assets

TOKYO — With Japan determined to increase the number of foreign tourists to the country by 2020 when it hosts the Olympic Games, the government plans to maximize the use of cultural assets at 200 spots nationwide to spark visitors' interest in Japanese history and culture, a draft of the government's new plan showed Sunday.

Under the draft, the government aims to introduce cultural properties and historical assets to tourists in as many languages as possible, repair shrines and other historical buildings, and promote local performing arts. Where exactly the government will extend its support, however, has yet to be decided, government sources said.

The new draft plan comes at a time when Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government — which sees tourism growth as a key strategy for Japan's economic prosperity — is hoping to counter criticism that some regions are not enjoying the benefits of growing tourism.

In 2015, a record 19.74 million foreigners visited Japan, but tourists are more inclined to head to the so-called "golden route" sites encompassing popular destinations such as Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka, Japanese authorities said.

The government is now considering increasing its target of tourists from abroad to 30 million to 40 million by 2020, the sources said. After considering factors such as the availability of hotels in Tokyo, the government will decide on a target for the number of tourists it wants to attract and incorporate this in a strategy to be compiled this month at the earliest, the sources said. In hopes of luring more visitors to local areas, the government plans to make it even easier for tourists to travel to less popular regions by train and other means of public transportation.

One of the ideas is to designate around 100 shinkansen bullet train stations as key points for the dissemination of tourist information, but details are still being discussed. The government will also improve wireless communication in bullet train tunnels and connectivity of highway buses and rail services.—*Kyodo News*

mitv Myanmar International

(22-3-2016 07:00am ~ 23-3-2016 7:00am) MST

Today Fresh

07:03	Am	News
07:25	Am	Insight Myanmar "Role of MNHRC" (Episode-II)
07:43	Am	The Caves
08:03	Am	News
08:25	Am	Myanmar HR Conference 2015 (Part- III)
08:35	Am	Atuladhipati Mahamunisacca Koe Htat Kyee Pagoda
08:54	Am	Traditional Snacks
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	Culture Show: Abdication of King Thibaw
09:42	Am	Today Myanmar "Community based Tourism Development"
09:50	Am	Talented Musicians
10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	Styles of Mro and Thet
10:32	Am	The Man and The Elephant (Part-1)
10:47	Am	The Man and The Elephant (Part-2)

(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm) - Monday 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 Day Out With Sarah (EP-6)
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	Discovering Tribes "Bwe"
08:52	Pm	Chef Life: Cho Wut Yee

(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm)-Today Repeat(09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am)-Monday 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)

MRTV Entertainment Channel

(22-3-2016, Tuesday)

6:00 pm
- Weather Report
- Music Programme

6:30 pm
- Pyi Thu Ni Ti

6:50 pm
- Music Programme

7:00 pm
- Korea TV Drama Series

7:50 pm
- Korea TV Drama Series

8:30 pm
- Cartoon Programme "BEN 10 ALIEN FORCE (Part- XVI)"

9:00 pm
- Music Programme

9:10 pm
- Travelogue "Wonderful Indonesia"

9:40 pm
- International Movie Songs

9:50 pm
- Music Programme

10:10 pm
- Myanmar Video

From 22-3-2016 (Tuesday) 6:00 Pm
To 23-3-2016(Wednesday) 6:00 Pm
This schedule will be repeated four times in 24 hours.

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

14th Waxing of Tabaung 1377 ME

Tuesday, 22 March, 2016

Azarenka stuns erratic Williams in Indian Wells final

INDIAN WELLS — Former world number one Victoria Azarenka took advantage of an error-prone display by Serena Williams to win her second BNP Paribas Open title with a 6-4, 6-4 victory in Sunday's final at Indian Wells in California.

The 26-year-old Belarusian broke the top-seeded American once in the opening set and twice in the second before wrapping up the win in just under 90 minutes in front of a stunned crowd at the sun-baked Indian Wells Tennis Garden.

World number one Williams, seeking a third title at Indian Wells after winning her second a distant 15 years ago, was badly let down by her forehand, though she did mount a late fightback and broke Azarenka in the eighth game of the second set for 3-5.

The American came close to levelling with Azarenka, serving for the match, wobbling at 15-40 but the Belarusian fired an ace, got to deuce when Williams hit a backhand long and clinched victory when her opponent hit a forehand service return long.

A visibly emotional Azarenka, the 13th seed who claimed her first Indian Wells crown in 2012, was able to celebrate her fourth victory over Williams in a WTA final, and a 19th career title.—*Reuters*

Marcus Rashford celebrates after scoring the first goal for Manchester United against Manchester City on 20 March. PHOTO: REUTERS

Young guns Kane and Rashford light up Premier League

TOTTENHAM Hotspur's Harry Kane scored twice in a 3-0 win over Bournemouth to thrust them back on to the heels of leaders Leicester City and become the leading Premier League marksman after another eventful Sunday in the top flight.

While Manchester United teenager Marcus Rashford continued his staggering rise, scoring a delightful goal to secure a 1-0 win at Manchester City in his debut derby, Kane was busy enhancing his claim to being England's top striker. Kane's clinical double within the first 16 minutes at White Hart Lane, including a strike after 43 seconds, took the 22-year-old's tally to 21 league goals for the season and put Spurs back within five points of Leicester.

But Manchester City's challenge appeared to have evaporated after Rashford's goal at the Etihad left them in fourth place, 15 points adrift of the leaders and one point clear of their sixth-placed neighbours and West Ham United, who are fifth.

Spurs had no worries once Kane turned in Kyle Walker's cross inside a minute before the now-familiar link-up between provider Dele Alli and finisher Kane effectively sealed victory. Christian Eriksen made it three after 52 minutes.

"Harry Kane is one of the best strikers in the world," Spurs boss Mauricio Pochettino told reporters. "The gap that Leicester have over us and Arsenal and Manchester City, we need to reduce. They have a good advantage but we need to believe."

Rashford, not for the first time, provided the fairytale of the day, following up his debut goals in the Europa League and Premier League by decorating his first Manchester derby with a goal of rare panache after 16 minutes. Too fast and too skilful for hapless City defender Martin Demichelis, who ended up tumbling on his backside as Rashford zoomed past, the youngster then finished with side-footed precision past Joe Hart.

At 18 years and 141 days, the Mancunian became the youngest scorer in a Manchester derby in the Premier League era and he should have been awarded a penalty when Michelis got away with bringing him down in the box just before halftime.

City piled on the pressure after the break as their Argentina striker Sergio Aguero squandered a hat-trick of chances but Louis van Gaal's men held firm to make critical ground in the ever-closer race for a Champions League place.

"He is a real striker... I like him very much," said United manager Louis van Gaal, praising Rashford's latest tour de force in an important victory that he felt had provided a "big boost" for his side's run-in.

At the other end of the table, in a match billed as one of the most important of the 156 Tyne-Wear derbies, Newcastle United and Sunderland fought out a 1-1 draw which does neither side any favours in the relegation dogfight. Newcastle's Aleksandar Mitrovic soared to nod home a 83rd minute equaliser in front of the relieved St James' Park faithful just when they feared Sunderland were headed for a remarkable seventh straight derby win after Jermain Defoe's left-foot volley put the visitors ahead just before the break.—*Reuters*

Djokovic crushes Raonic, wins fifth Indian Wells title

INDIAN WELLS — World number one Novak Djokovic produced sublime form to clinch an unprecedented fifth men's title at Indian Wells with a 6-2, 6-0 demolition of big-serving Canadian Milos Raonic in the men's final on Sunday.

The 28-year-old Serb broke his out-of-sorts opponent twice in the first set and three times in the second to wrap up victory in one hour 17 minutes on a blazing hot afternoon at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden in California.

Australian Open champion Djokovic improved his stellar record for the year to 22-1 as he tied Rafa Nadal with a record-equalling 27th ATP Masters 1000 crown.

Djokovic, who beat long-time rival Nadal 7-6(5), 6-2 in the semi-finals, also maintained his perfect record against Raonic as he won their sixth career meeting.

"Best match of the tournament for me today and probably the worst for Milos," Djokovic, an 11-time grand slam singles champion, told ESPN after the trophy presentation. "He was not feeling his best and I wish him a speedy recovery.

"He just told me that he might have injured the same part of the leg as he did at the Australian Open, which took him off the tour for a month."

The Canadian was sidelined in February because of a groin injury that helped end his run in the semi-finals of the Australian Open, where he lost to Andy Murray in five sets.

"It's sad to have the finals like this in one way but I played a great tournament. I've got to be happy with what I've done from my side today," said Djokovic, who improved his career record at Indian Wells to 46-6.

"Every time he would miss the first serve, I was on top of the second serve. I was not allowing him to control the pace from the baseline, I moved him around the court. Tactically, I did everything right."

As courtside temperatures reached 94 degrees Fahrenheit (34 degrees Celsius), Djokovic broke an erratic Raonic in the first and third games of the match as he breezed through the opening set in 43 minutes.

After leaving the court for medical treatment, Raonic returned for the second set and was broken again in the first game when he netted a backhand, and also in the third after he blasted a backhand long.—*Reuters*

Novak Djokovic (SRB) holds his trophy after defeating Milos Raonic on 20 March. PHOTO: REUTERS

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