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P-TO-P CONNECTIVITY

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attends ASEAN-Dialogue Partner meetings in Laos



Foreign Ministers of ASEAN pose for the photo in ASEAN way together with US Secretary of state John Kerry. PHOTO: MNA

UNION Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended meetings between ASEAN and dialogue partners at the National Convention Center in Vientiane, Laos yesterday.

During the ASEAN-China ministerial meeting, cooperation in ASEAN-China trade and investment sector, China's continued support to the establishment of the ASEAN community, implementation of the 2+7 Co-operation Framework for ASEAN-China relations and matters related to ASEAN Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and holding ASEAN-China Commemorative Summit on 7 September in Vientiane were discussed.

Those present held discussions on ASEAN-China youth exchange visits and launching a Visit ASEAN-China Year in 2017.

Likewise, the Union minister was present at ASEAN-Canada, ASEAN-Japan, ASEAN-Australia and ASEAN-US Ministerial Meetings.

During the ASEAN-Canada ministerial meeting, foreign ministers discussed a wide range of matters including cooperation in transboundary crimes and capacity-building programs and the upcoming 40th ASEAN-Canada Dialogue Relations set to be held next year.

The ASEAN-Japan meeting focused on narrowing the

development gap in ASEAN and matters related to health and industry sector and disaster rehabilitation works.

Union Minister Daw Aung San Suu Kyi co-chaired the ASEAN-Australia Ministerial Meeting in which further cooperation between the two sides and regional and international issues were discussed.

In her address at the meeting, the Union minister highlighted the importance of people-to-people connectivity and an exchange program allowing students to gain cultural and social experience on their studies to connect the two regions.

During the ASEAN-US meeting, those present held talks

on further programmes to boost cooperation between ASEAN and the US and regional and international matters.

The Union minister also attended the Ninth Lower Mekong Initiative (LMI) Ministerial Meeting that focused on sustainable infrastructure partnership and the Master Plan of Action to Implement Lower Mekong Initiative 2016-2020, the 9th Mekong-Japan Ministerial Meeting and ASEAN-New Zealand Ministerial Meeting.

In the evening, Union Minister Daw Aung San Suu Kyi attended a gala dinner hosted by Laotian Foreign Affairs Minister Mr. Saleumxay Kommasith.— Myanmar News Agency

South China Sea deadlock broken, Beijing thanks Cambodia

Michael Martina & Manuel Mogato

VIENTIANE — Southeast Asian nations overcame days of deadlock on Monday when the Philippines dropped a request for their joint statement to mention a landmark legal ruling on the South China Sea, officials said, after objections from Cambodia.

Beijing publicly thanked Cambodia for supporting its stance on maritime disputes, a position which threw the regional block's weekend meeting in the Laos capital of Vientiane into disarray.

Competing claims with China in the vita shipping are among the most contentious issues for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, with its 10 members pulled between their desire to assert their sovereignty while finding common ground and fostering political and commercial ties with Beijing.

China claims most of the sea, but ASEAN members the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei all have rival claims. In a ruling by the UN-backed Permanent Court of Arbitration on July 12, the Philippines won an emphatic legal victory over China on the dispute.

The Philippines and Vietnam both wanted the ruling, which denied China's sweeping claims in the strategic seaway that channels more than \$5 trillion in global trade each year, and a call to respect international maritime law to feature in the communique.

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သဒ္ဓါထက်သန် မြန်မာအားမန် ကမ္ဘောဇဘဏ်



Union Minister U Thein Swe.
PHOTO: MNA



Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win.
PHOTO: MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Second regular session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw begins

THE second regular session of the Second Pyidaungsu Hluttaw began in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday with greetings extended by Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than.

In his address, the Speaker called for participation of lawmakers in parliamentary activities including legislation honestly and constructively to satisfy the desires of citizens.

Next, Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win elaborated on the second six-month tax revenue report for FY 2015-16, saying that

the country exceeded the tax revenue collection target in 11 types of tax but failed to reach its target in seven types of tax.

The deputy minister also explained distribution of tax revenues and the ministry's efforts to ensure a taxation system meeting international standards and stop tax evasion.

Then, a member of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Public Accounts Committee read out the committee's findings and remarks on the report.

Afterwards, Union Minis-

ter for Planning and Finance U Kyaw Win clarified the amendment of the 2016-17 Budget and the amendment bill of the Union Budget Law 2016.

Regarding Recommendation 203 on the Protocol to the 1930 Forced Labour Convention 29, Union Minister U Thein Swe reported to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to document the Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention 1930 No. 29 and Recommendation 203 as a member of the International Labour Organization (ILO).—*Myanmar News Agency*

Pyithu Hluttaw

Pyithu Hluttaw representatives instructed to seek Speaker's approval before taking part in meetings, training courses



Union Minister U Pe Zin Tun.
PHOTO: MNA

THE second regular session of the second Pyithu Hluttaw began in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday with Pyithu Speaker U Win Myint requesting that MPs seek his approval before participating in meetings and training programs organised by local and foreign organisations.

The instruction also said that invitation letters should be addressed to U Win Myint. PSOs of the lawmakers have been banned from parliamentary meetings in the instruction.

Regarding the instruction, U Pe Than of Myebon Township expressed his view that the "instruc-

tion interferes with the rights of a parliamentarian," saying that lawmakers must have a right to take part in meetings or training courses that help them benefit their voters.

In his address, U Win Myint said that there are prioritized bills including the amendment of 2016-17 Budget and the amendment bill to 2016 Union Budget Law to be carried out during the second regular session.

During Q & A session, Union Minister U Pe Zin Tun said that works are underway to supply electricity to Minkin at the end of this December as installation of 66KV Butalin-Kani-Minkin power line and Minkin sub-power station are nearing completion.

U Win Myint responded to a question on Manipura projects, saying that irrigation and hydropower generation projects will be made public transparently following a feasibility study report being approved by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation. Next, the Pyithu Hluttaw approved the bills revoking Yangon City Development Law and Mandalay City Development Law sent by the Amyotha Hluttaw.—*Myanmar News Agency*

US Embassy apologizes for tear gas incident

THE US Embassy in Yangon yesterday released a statement apologising for a tear gas incident which inconvenienced passers-by and people in the neighbouring area during its routine security drill about 8 p.m. on Sunday.

The embassy said in its statement that no one was injured and

embassy operations are running as normal after a routine security drill, which inadvertently inconvenienced passers-by and a neighboring business.

The embassy apologised to neighbours and others who were in the area in its statement.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Amyotha Hluttaw

Second regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw begins



Union Minister Dr Aung Thu.
PHOTO: MNA

THE second Amyotha Hluttaw began in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday with a question and answer session and submission of a proposal calling for eradication of drug trafficking and illicit use of narcotic drugs and the establishment of drug rehabilitation centers.

During the Q & A session, Union Minister Dr Aung Thu elaborated on the flood mitigation measures in Yangon



U Sai Wan Hlaing Kham.
PHOTO: MNA

Region's Thongwa and Kayan Townships and ongoing flood recovery programs in Sagaing and Magwe Regions and Rakhine State.

The Union minister said that major repair of sluice gates and construction of irrigation facilities will be carried out depending on allocation funds to minimise farmland flood risk in the two Yangon townships.

The Union minister added that rehabilitation works were being undertaken to ensure monsoon cultivations in flood-hit areas of the regions and state with the provisions of tractors for ploughing farmlands.

Agricultural loans for the 2016-17 FY have been provided to farmers since 16 May, allowing K150, 000 per acre and more than K4bn from the special fund of the President and the Union fund was distributed for rehabilitation of farmlands flooded in 2015 in Sagaing, Magwe, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions and Kayah, Mon and Rakhine States, said the Union minister.

During the first day of the second session of the second Amyotha Hluttaw, U Sai Wan Hlaing Kham of Shan State Constituency 3 put forward a proposal calling the Union government to eradicate drug trafficking and illicit use of narcotic drugs in wards and villages across Shan State (North) and establish drug rehab centers.—*Myanmar News Agency*

BFM, MAA jointly conduct talks on autism in Mandalay

WITH the aim of encouraging people to raise public awareness and understanding of children with autism, KBZ's Brighter Future Myanmar foundation-BFM and the Myanmar Autism Association held the second educative talks forum on autism in Mandalay on Saturday.

Speaking on the occasion, U Tin Tun of Kanbawza Bank Ltd, director for upper Myanmar, said the talks are aimed at providing further assistance to people with autism and pushing for equal rights and more employment opportunities.

Prof Dr Nyan Win Kyaw, Consultant to the Myanmar Autism Association and Dr Myint Lwin explained the condition of autism, which is a neuro-developmental disorder characterised by impaired social interaction, ver-

bal and non-verbal communication, and restricted and repetitive behavior. Daw San San Myint, Vice Chairperson of the Myanmar Autism Association recounted her

experiences as a mother of a child with autism.

A documentary film on autism was shown to the public at the event.—*Thura Lwin (Eco)*



Educative Talks on autism in Mandalay in progress. PHOTO: THURA LWIN (ECO)

South China Sea deadlock broken ...

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Calling for bilateral discussions, Cambodia opposed the wording on the ruling, diplomats said.

Manila agreed to drop the reference to the ruling in the communique, one ASEAN diplomat said on Monday, in an effort to prevent the disagreement leading to the group failing to issue a statement.

The communique referred instead to the need to find peaceful resolutions to disputes in the South China Sea in accordance with international law, including the United Nations' law of the sea, to which the court ruling referred.

"We remain seriously concerned about recent and ongoing developments and took note of the concerns expressed by some ministers on the land reclamations and escalation of activities in the area, which have eroded

trust and confidence, increased tensions and may undermine peace, security and stability in the region," the ASEAN communique said.

It was important to avoid militarisation of the region, and for freedom of navigation to be maintained, ASEAN said.

Beijing says the court ruling has no bearing on its rights in the sea, and described the case as a farce.

Cambodia's position was the right one and would safeguard unity of ASEAN and cooperation with China, China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi told Cambodia's Foreign Minister Prak Sokhon, according to a statement posted on China's Foreign Ministry website early on Monday.

"China greatly approves of Cambodia and other ASEAN countries taking charge of impartiality and safeguarding fairness," Wang said.—Reuters

National Literary Award committee urged to select winners by majority vote

UNION Minister for Information Dr PeMyint called on the National Literary Award Scrutinizing Committee to select the winners by a majority vote while holding a meeting with the committee in Yangon yesterday.

In his address, the Union minister stressed the need for more efforts to do the best for this year's national literary award presentation.

Next, the chairman, vice-chairmen and members of the scrutinizing committee spoke of their selections policies for winners and the Union minister made concluding remarks at the meeting.

In the evening, the Union minister held talks with an organizing committee for paper-reading session on political literature and monsoon book fair.—Yi YiMyint/Ohnmar Thant



Union Information Minister Dr Pe Myint. PHOTO: MNA

National Health Policy under review

The director-general from the Ministry of Health has said that Myanmar's National Health Policy will be reviewed by experts.

"The new government is reviewing the old National Health policy because it is outdated to be suited to the contemporary situations. I think we need three months at least to revise because there are many factors to consider," said Prof. Dr Myint Han, director-general of the Ministry of Health.

MNH policy was adopted in 1993, and needs updating. Both expert opinions and that of general public will be taken into

account.

"People are saying this and that, not knowing what we're going to revise or add or change. Actually, we do not know exactly yet the guidance by the higher authority and the opinion of health experts," explained the director-general.

The new government is revising the old MNH policy under the leadership of the ministry of Health. The old policy lasted two years, and needs more added to the plan. The new one will be finished in the next three months. Then we will submit to Hluttaw said Dr Myint Han.—Zar Zar

Union Foreign Affairs Minister holds separate talks with her counterparts in Laos



Daw Aung San Suu Kyi hold talks with Australian Foreign Affairs Minister Ms Julie Bishop MP. PHOTO: MNA

UNION Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi held separate talks with the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Australia, Russian Federation and Democratic People's Repub-

lic of Korea at National Convention Center in Vientiane yesterday.

The Union minister met with Ms. Julie Bishop MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia,

Mr. Sergey Lavrov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Russian Federation, and Mr. Ri Yong Ho, Minister for Foreign Affairs of DPRK, at separate meetings.—Myanmar News Agency

Ministry of Bago Region renamed

WITH the agreement of Bago Region Hluttaw, the name Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock under the Bago Region Govern-

ment has been changed to Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.

The order of the name

change was signed by President U Htin Kyaw and announced by the President Office yesterday.—MNA

Students take part in human rights workshop

A workshop on a plan to offer the subject of human rights law to law students as a compulsory subject for 2016-2017 Academic Year took place in Yangon yesterday, with addresses by Union Minister Dr Myo Thein Gyi, Prof. Dr Daw Than Nwe, member of Myanmar National Human Rights Commission, and Dr. Sriprapha Petcharamesree, chair of Shape-SEA Programme Management Team/IHRP.

The workshop was aimed at

enhancing the capacity of faculty members as law students are set to learn human rights law upcoming academic year, said Prof. Dr Daw Than Nwe.

The program is designed to encourage law students who will become stakeholders in the field of jurisdiction or legislation to attain extensive knowledge of human rights law since their time in the university, added the MNHRC member.

During the workshop, those

present including foreign professors and experts held discussions on requirements of local human rights teachers, Myanmar human rights standards, the concepts of international human rights and practices and resources for human rights curriculum and materials.

The workshop, jointly organized by the MNHRC and Mahidol University of Thailand, is scheduled to last for three days till 27 July.—Zaw Gyi (Pandita)/Ye Htut

DMH cautions people about possible flooding

THE Department of Meteorology and Hydrology announced yesterday that water levels of the Ayeyawady River were recorded at 1.5ft at Bhamo, Mandalay and Sagaing below their respective danger levels during the next day at Bhamo and next three days at Mandalay and Sagaing.

The water level of Dokhtawady River at Myitnge was recorded at 2ft below its danger level and may reach its danger level during the next three days, added the department at the 12:30pm announcement yesterday.

The Chindwin River at Hkamti reached 5.5ft above its danger

level and it may remain above its danger level over the next three days.

Moreover, the water level of Ngawun River at Ngathaing Chaung reached 1.5 feet above its danger level and may remain at this level over the next five days.

Besides, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Shwegu reached 0.5ft above its danger level and it may continue to rise about 1.5ft during the next two days and may remain above its danger level.

According to yesterdays report, water levels have exceeded by about 3ft at Homalin, 3.5ft at Phaungpyin, 4ft at Mawlaik, 1.5ft

each at Kalewa and Kani, 1ft at Minkin of Chindwin River above their respective danger levels. The water levels may continue to rise about 1ft at Homalin, about 1.5ft each at Phaungpyin, Mawlaik and Kalewa, 1ft at Minkin and about 0.5 ft at Kani during the next two days and may remain above their respective dangers levels. The department advised people settled near the river bank and low lying areas in Bhamo, Mandalay, Sagaing and Myitnge Townships and along Ngawun River to take precautionary measures and along Chindwin River.—Myanmar News Agency

Hyundai Co to assist new road project between Mandalay and Pyin Oo Lwin

HYUNDAI has offered technical assistance in constructing a new highway between Mandalay and Pyin Oo Lwin, according to a spokesperson from Hyundai.

Singaporean and Thai engineers will work on the project that will see travel times between Mandalay and Pyin Oo Lwin halved. "If it is necessary, a cave will be created on the target road as a steep mountain is situated on the project land," said a project manager. A technician group led by Kim Yeong Min, an engineer of Hyundai Co, inspected the project area on Sunday.

The road will be 20 miles long and 50 feet wide. Of them, the two-mile long asphalt road and four-mile long soil pavement have already been built in Patheingyi Township as well as



A construction site of Mandalay — Pyin Oo Lwin Road. PHOTO: ATK

a two-mile long road built from Anesakhan to Toegyigon Village in Pyin Oo Lwin township.

The current road between PyinOoLwin and Mandalay is over 40 miles long, that is part of

Mandalay-Muse Road. The two way road is used by semi-trailer trucks, cargo vehicles, public buses and personal cars with traffic an issue on the road.—Aung Thant Khaing

Trade centers to be established in Rakhine, Shan states

THE Ministry of Commerce will open two trade centers in Rakhine and southern Shan State this year to promote Myanmar's trade sector by sharing latest economic information among local businesspersons.

"This is part of the ministry's programme to establish 11 trade centers in states and regions," said U Zaw Min Than, deputy head of the Department of Consumer Affairs (branch) in northern Shan State.

The trade centers take records relating to sample goods and price, production regions and addresses of merchants to

create more business links with traders from other countries.

The ministry has opened nine of 11 trade centers in Mandalay, Myitkyina, Monywa, Patheingyi, Magwe, Loikaw and Muse. The 9th trade center, named Maung Shweli was opened in Muse on Friday.

Thazinmye Trade Center in Rakhine State and Kanbawza Trade Center in southern Shan State will be launched by the end of this year, with the ministry planning to relax some restrictions for a smooth flow of commodities in country.—Aung Thant Khaing

Crime NEWS

Unlicensed vehicles seized in Kyaukdaga Tsp

10 VEHICLES without licenses on Wednesday were found by local authorities in Myochaung Village-tract in Kyaukdaga Township in Bago Region.

Acting on a tip-off, a combined police force led by Police Lt-Col Hla Oo searched around

Myochaung Village-tract and discovered nine ownerless vehicles in different places.

They collected a Toyota Hilux car on Myochaung-Minhla Road, three Super Custom cars near village market and Myochaung-Seinkantlent Road, a

Mazda B350 car, two Hilux cars and a Surf car and a Hilux double cab car near Phado-Myocahung Road.

Police are still investigating the case in an effort to arrest owners of those vehicles.—Ko Lwin (Swa)

50 killed, 48 others injured by railway accidents over 200 days

FIFTY people were killed while 48 others sustained serious injuries in train related accidents between January and July this year, according to railway police.

According to official figures, a total of 78 collisions between cars and trains happened in 2015,

leaving 13 people dead and 55 others were injured. Nearly 100 people were killed and 90 were injured in 189 railway related accidents last year.

The number of railway accidents including deadly crashes between trains and motorcars

over 200 days has reached 115 across the nation. To reduce railroad accidents, railway police continue efforts to disseminate railroad safety knowledge to commuters and general public through seminars and pamphlets.—Ko Myo (Shwepaukkan)



Police officers seen after raiding a poppy production camp in Pekhon in the Southern Shan State. PHOTO: KYEMON

Poppy production camp closed in Pekhon

THE anti-drug squad in southern Shan State has raided an opium poppy farm in Pekhon township seizing k13m worth chemical substances and raw opium. They discovered chemicals used for heroin production including 160L of hydrochloric acid worth K12m and 48kg of ammonium chloride worth K1m and 24L of opium oil from the camp. No one was found at the site.—Kyemon



The armed robbery suspects being seen. PHOTO: MNA

Three arrested in Hlaingthaya Tsp

POLICE have arrested three men in connection of an armed robbery on Saturday. Police found the men after a tip-off from a member of the public. The men were found on a boat with a swords, slingshots and a lead pipe.

According to investigators the suspects are believed to be involved in an armed robbery along the Pan Hlaing River near Apyinpadon Village.—Myanmar News Agency

2.1 kilo of heroin seized in Kawthaung

MEMBERS of the Anti-Drug Squad Unit 34 of Kawthaung searched a motorbike driven by Myo Win (alias) Nyi Chea near the Yangyiaung football-ground on 23 July and found 1 kilo gram of heroin from him.

The police continued to search his house in Gandawin street, Shwepyitha Ward, Kawthaung town and confiscated 1.1 kilo of heroin from the kitchen room of his house. The police have filed charge



Myo Win (alias) Nyi Chea. PHOTO: MPF

against him under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance Laws.—Myanmar Police Force

LOCAL Business

Citizen investments expected to reach over 38 per cent in real estate sector

CITIZEN investments are expected to reach over 38 per cent in the housing sector in the 2017-18 fiscal year, according to the next Myanmar five-year development plan.

Investment from Myanmar citizens per fiscal year is mentioned in the plan, with over K1.6bn of investments in all sectors in 2017-18. Citizen investments of K629bn are expected to invest in the real estate sector.

Citizen investors have to submit required forms

and a proposal to the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) to seek exemption and relief in investment.

The process of approval for investment has to pass many stages. MIC will ask for the opinion of the regional and state governments concerned as well as ministries concerned regarding the proposal they have received. Only after obtaining their opinion, MIC will decide whether to grant permission for investment at a MIC meeting. —200



Houses are seen in this general view of Yangon City on 6 April 2016. PHOTO: NYI ZAW MOE



Coffee berries. PHOTO: MYITMAKAH NEWS AGENCY

Over 40 tonnes of coffee to be exported to Taipei and South Korea

OVER 40 tonnes of coffee produced from Ywar Ngan Township are to be exported to Taipei and South Korea, according to the Ywar Ngan Coffee Association. The coffee received 87 out of 100 marks for its quality, color, fragrance and taste.

“Currently, 18 tonnes has been exported to Taipei. Samples of coffee have been already introduced to South Korea. South Korean merchants will hold talks with Ywar Ngan coffee association concerning the purchase of coffee in early August,” said U Win Aung Kyaw, the chairman of this association.

The export price to Taipei is US\$3,400 per

tonne. Taipei has been offered to make another order again. The Ywar Ngan coffee has been offered US\$3,600 per tonne as a minimum at the world coffee market.

Currently, the said coffee association is attempting to identify its coffee as a product of Ywar Ngan area because Thailand, Malaysia and China are reported to be establishing factories and purchasing Ywar Ngan coffee.

This year, seven tonnes of coffee have been sold to America. Ywar Ngan coffee association has made contact with Japanese coffee companies to open business links. —200

Cement factories to become JVs

CEMENT plants under the Ministry of Industry which produce 5,000 tonnes per day will be turned into joint ventures (JVs) with public companies, it is learnt from the Ministry.

A total of 56 state owned factories have already been privatized. Ko-

rea and China are mostly engaged in the industry.

“The list of the state owned factories and the labor force have already been uploaded onto the website of the Ministry of Industry. Those who want to establish JVs can come to discuss at the department concerned

if the requirements from the ministry and their proposals are met,” said U Myo Zarni Win, the assistant secretary of the Ministry of Industry.

The industrial enterprises and factories under the Ministry of Industry are being privatized for short term or long-term contracts

and some are made JV with private entrepreneurs.

Applications for short-term rent shall be submitted to the economic committee of the government whereas those for long-term contracts will be sent to the Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC). —Zar Zar

France to provide greater financial assistance

THE French Development Agency (FDA) is to provide more and more financial assistance to Myanmar, with over €200m being poured into Myanmar over two years, according to H.E Mr. Olivier Richard, the French ambassador to Myanmar.

The FDA has been granting loans to assist economic development in rural development projects in Yangon as well as the development of energy and health sectors.

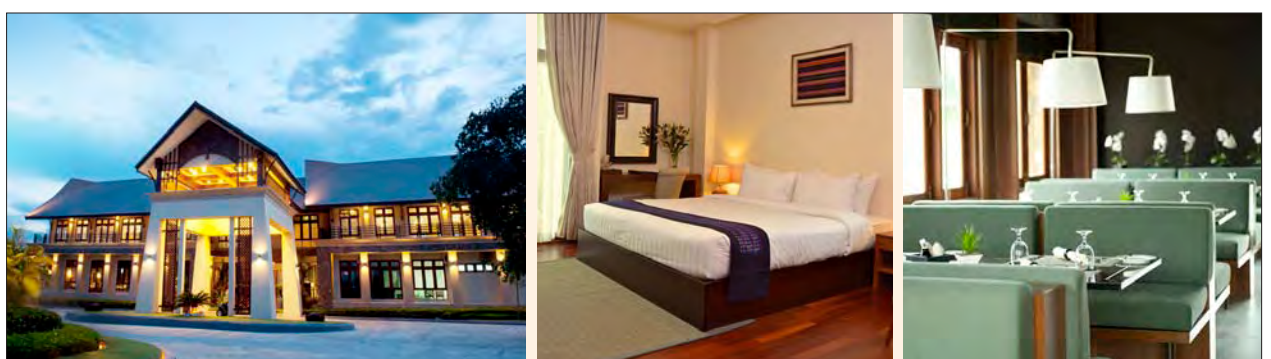
“France has doubled their assistance to promote

the quality of life in Myanmar,” said H.E Mr. Jean Ayrault, the French Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Development.

France is a major European Union member donor to Myanmar. Currently, France also contributes a

major portion of monetary assistance for the project that combats three major infectious and parasitic diseases HIV/AIDS, malaria and TB through Global Fund.

More French companies are interested in investment in Myanmar. —200



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Japan to release 1st nuclear energy white paper in 7 years

TOKYO — The government nuclear commission will compile a White Paper on Nuclear Energy for the first time since the release of the 2010 report was halted in the wake of the Fukushima disaster in March 2011, the Cabinet Office said on Monday.

The Japan Atomic Energy Commission plans to release the 2016 report next March. It will cover the tougher nuclear regulations the country has introduced and changes in the environment surrounding nuclear power in the wake of the meltdowns at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, triggered by the massive earthquake and tsunami on 11 March, 2011.

The last nuclear energy white paper to appear was the 2009 edition. The 2010 report was due to have been released in March 2011, but the commission abandoned plans to publish it following the disaster.

The new white paper, which will adopt a neutral tone, is expected to become an annual report or record on the lessons of the nuclear disaster and issues surrounding peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Following the Fukushima crisis, the government body has faced criticism over its role in promoting nuclear power and for failing to provide clear management. Its operations have since been scaled down and the number of its commissioners has been cut from five to three.

The commission has been separately preparing a paper on basic thinking on nuclear power use, simplifying the framework for nuclear energy policy it had been releasing prior to the accident.

Using the paper as a guideline, the commission will urge ministries and agencies involved to implement specific policies, according to the office.—Kyodo News

Searchers fail to detect emergency signal from missing Indian plane

NEW DELHI — Indian rescuers have failed to pick up any emergency transmitter signals from an air force plane that went missing last week with 29 people on board, an official said on Monday, in the latest setback to a search operation in the Bay of Bengal.

Sixteen ships, a submarine and six aircraft have been deployed to search for

the Russian-made AN-32 that disappeared on a routine re-supply flight to remote islands in the Bay of Bengal on Friday.

Rajan Bargotra, a senior coastguard official, said the absence of signals from an emergency locator transmitter (ELT) made the operation very difficult.

"It is important to know why ELT has not worked as

it could have helped narrow down the location of the plane," Bargotra told reporters in New Delhi.

The ELT device is meant to start transmitting the plane's location the moment it touches water or in the event of a crash.

There were 21 military personnel on board the plane including six crew. The other people on board

were civilians, and some family members of soldiers deployed on the islands.

Scientists at the Indian Space and Research Organisation were using satellites in the search, while the navy scoured an area of about 14,400 square nautical miles. Difficulties have been compounded by stormy monsoon weather in the Bay of Bengal.—Reuters



Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte speaks before the lawmakers during his first State of the Nation Address at the Philippine Congress in Quezon city, Metro Manila, Philippines, on 25 July 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Duterte defends deadly crime crackdown in national address

MANILA — Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte vowed big reforms to tackle chronic economic flaws on Monday and defended his pursuit of a deadly anti-narcotics war, saying drugs were drowning his country and human rights were no excuse to shield criminals.

Just a month into his presidency, Duterte used his inaugural State of the Nation Address to warn the public to steer clear of drug use, the scale of which was "staggering and scary" and promised no relenting in his crackdown.

Nicknamed "the punisher" and "Duterte Harry" for his brutal fight against crime, Duterte hit back at activists incensed by a surge in the killing of suspected drug traffickers, saying human rights should protect dignity, not let criminals destroy the country.

"There will be no let up in this campaign. Double your efforts. Triple them if need be," Duterte said in a

message in support of the police in his speech to a joint legislative session.

"We will not stop until the last drug lord, the last financier and the last push-over have surrendered or put behind bars. Or below the ground if they so wish."

Duterte did not mention the number of suspected drugs dealers killed during his efforts but police have logged 240 deaths related to the trade since he took office, although other estimates are higher.

He said 120,000 people had surrendered to police in the past month, and 70,000 were drug pushers.

"The sheer number and problem will drown us," he said.

Duterte was swept to power in May on a wave of public anti-establishment frustration over crime and poverty, winning 16 million votes and an approval rating of 91 per cent, one of the highest recorded in the Philippines.

His address was widely anticipated and the buildup dominated by promises by his aides of a rousing speech that would stir patriotism.

But, as has become typical of the Duterte's unconventional style, after 30 minutes reading from a teleprompter, he started to ignore it and veered far off script, attracting both applause and laughter.

A speech expected to last approximately 40 minutes went on for one hour and 32 minutes.

The budget for his address, normally a top event on the social calendar of the country's political and showbiz elite, was scaled back dramatically and Duterte told guests to dress down, reflecting his disdain for opulence and lavish spending. He pledged to fix a host of economic problems that have been a blight for Filipinos and foreign investors alike, vowing a major overhaul of notoriously creaky infrastructure,

with new roads, bridges and trains, and a speeding up of business applications.

He promised to introduce new technology to improve the country's snail-paced internet and free public wi-fi, universal healthcare and the pursuit of an end to separatist conflicts, including a unilateral ceasefire with Maoist rebels.

He said the current policies that have spurred one of Asia's fastest rates of economic growth would be continued and strengthened and he ordered the military to help tackle illegal logging and mining.

But he was noticeably brief in his remarks about a festering dispute with China over the South China Sea.

He welcomed a landmark 12 July arbitration ruling that invalidated China's vast claims and said international law should be observed and solutions found for "peaceful resolution and management" of conflicts.—Reuters

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A Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD) interceptor is launched during a successful intercept test, in this undated handout photo provided by the US Department of Defence, Missile Defence Agency. PHOTO: REUTERS

China says South Korea's THAAD anti-missile decision harms foundation of trust

SEOUL — Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi has criticised South Korea's move to deploy an advanced US anti-missile defence system to counter threats from North Korea, saying it harmed the foundation of their mutual trust, news reports said on Monday.

The announcement by South Korea and the United States this month that they would deploy a Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD) unit has already drawn protests from Beijing that it would destabilise regional security.

The decision to deploy THAAD is the latest move to squeeze the increasingly isolated North Korea, but China worries the system's radar will be able to track its military capabilities. Russia also opposes the deployment.

"The recent move by the South Korean side has harmed the foundation of mutual trust between the two countries," Wang was quoted by South Korea's Yonhap news agency and KBS television as telling South Korean Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se.

Wang and Yun met late

on Sunday on the sidelines of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations conference of foreign ministers in Vientiane.

Yun told Wang that the move was aimed at protecting South Korea's security and that it would not damage China's security interests, Yonhap said.

South Korea and the United States have said THAAD would only be used in defence against North Korean ballistic missiles.

North Korea has launched a series of missiles in recent months, the latest last week when

it fired three ballistic missiles that it said was a simulated test of preemptive strikes against South Korean ports and airfields used by the US military.

The missiles flew 500-600 km (300-360 miles) into the sea off its east coast and could have hit anywhere in South Korea if the North intended, the South's military said. North Korea came under the latest round of United Nations Security Council sanctions in March after Pyongyang's fourth nuclear test in January and the launch of a long-range rocket the following month.—*Reuters*

Japan, South Korea agree to move towards implementation of comfort women deal

VIENTIANE — Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida and his South Korean counterpart Yun Byung Se affirmed on Monday their intention to move towards implementing a landmark deal over Korean women forced into wartime brothels for the Japanese military, with an agreed foundation to help the ageing women set to be established this week.

The ministers, who are in the Laotian capital of Vientiane to attend a series of regional meetings, also confirmed bilateral co-operation and close coordination with the United States in dealing with North Korea as they stay on alert for a possible fifth nuclear test or further ballistic missile launches by Pyongyang, a Japanese official said.

In a major turnaround in bilateral ties, the two ministers signed a deal late last December under which Japan pledged 1 billion yen (\$9.5 million) to a new South Korean foundation aimed at aiding the former "comfort women." Sources close to the matter said earlier it is set to be established this week.

After the setup of the fund, the focus will shift to when the Japanese government will disburse the 1 billion yen. Some lawmakers of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party have said the public funds should not be released unless a statue of a girl symbolizing "comfort women" in front of the Japanese Embassy in Seoul is removed. At the time of the deal, the Japanese and South Korean governments did not



Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida (R) and his South Korean counterpart Yun Byung Se meet on 25 July 2016, in Vientiane. In December 2015, Japan and South Korea signed a landmark deal in December 2015 over Korean women forced into wartime brothels for the Japanese military. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

mention the removal of the statue as a condition for Tokyo's contribution, but South Korea said then that it "will strive to solve this issue in an appropriate manner."

The official who briefed on the meeting said the Japanese government "has not yet decided when to disburse the money."

While North Korea ignores

global condemnation and continues its pursuit of nuclear and missile programmes, Kishida reiterated Japan's support to Yun over the planned installation of an advanced US antimissile defence system in South Korea to counter nuclear and missile threats from North Korea, the official said.—*Kyodo News*

Australia plans indefinite detention of convicted extremists

SYDNEY — Australia will indefinitely detain people convicted of terrorism-related charges if it feels they pose an ongoing danger to society upon their release, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said on Monday.

Turnbull compared the measures to those employed against some child-sexual offenders and cited what he called a growing number of attacks such as the recent Bastille Day attack in Nice, France, that killed dozens.

"The measures we are announcing today are designed to deter terrorism, prevent it, ensure that the nation and our people are kept safe," Turnbull told reporters on Monday.

"It will provide a very real incentive for people in prison for terrorist offences not to engage in continued extremist activity." A staunch US ally, Australia has been on heightened alert for attacks by home-grown radicals since 2014, having suffered several "lone wolf" assaults, including a cafe siege in Sydney in which two hostages and the gunman were killed. About 100 people have left Australia for Syria to fight alongside organisations such as Islamic State, Australia's Immigration Minister said last month.—*Reuters*

China built thermal power plant on trial in Viet Nam

HANOI — Unit 1 of Viet Nam's Duyen Hai 3 Thermal Power Plant, which is built by Chinese contractor, has just experienced the first fire furnace, a preparation to run trial before the unit is put into operation. Local *Nhan Dan (People)* newspaper on Monday quoted the plant's investor Viet Nam Electric City as saying that the first fire furnace is of great importance, creating a premise for the unit to start generating electricity by the end of 2016. The plant is located in Viet Nam's southern Tra Vinh Province, with total capacity of 1,245 megawatt. In August 2011, the engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contract for Units 1 and 2 was awarded to a consortium of Chinese companies including Chengda Engineering, Dongfang Electric Corporation, the Southwest Electric Power Design Institute (SWEPDI), a subsidiary of the China Energy Engineering Group and Zhejiang Electric Power Construction.—*Xinhua*

Opinion

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 ce@globalnewlightofmyanmar.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.

Criminals do commit crimes on any occasions and any place

Hein Htet (A freelance writer)

ESPECIALLY during June and July of this year, I have viewed breaking news related to hate crimes, horrendous acts of terrorism and shootings occurred in the USA, France, Turkey Germany and in England on BBC and CNN TV channels. Most of the victims were even children and innocent ordinary people. The world people were shocked to view the breaking news and felt deep sadness over the losses of the innocent people or good people. The law enforcement authorities or personnel and intelligence agencies could not prevent the general public from these atrocious and inhumane acts as the criminals were extremely odd or abnormal and some were lone perpetrators. Few of them linked to the group of terrorists. Their acts not only shocked the world people but also disrupt the trade and international air transport across the world. The devastating impact is that people living in these countries are insecure in their daily life and nothing seems to be safe anywhere even at the religious sites. All these big countries lose guarantee for the security and safety of the locals and foreigners alike. Such situations are threats to the global communities regardless of any different regions. The tragic incidents caused by hate crimes or acts of terrorism may occur there from time to time even if there are no civil wars in particular countries.

The criminals do commit crimes on any occasions and any place. The extremists are out of human minds and they destroy human lives and heritages across the world. This becomes global issue to be solved seriously. We the civilized people across the world should gather root causes, immediate causes and remote causes to the problem. Why are these criminals so daring and cold-blooded to commit homicide easily? The availability of firearms sale in US and in other Europe countries support or drive the extremists and criminals to commit crimes easily. Deliberately those criminals and extremists destroy the ordinary people and disrupt the safety of the targeted communities. For what purpose do they carry out the bloody massacre of defenseless people or beheading innocent people (mostly were international journalists and social workers)?

Nowadays, the sporadic acts of terrorism occur in some Europe countries and the loss of human lives is immense. I bitterly denounce the terrorists and extremists for their cowardly attack on defenseless people. The defenseless and innocent human beings are losing their lives across the world day after day and we hear the man-made disasters frequently. The global people feel unsafe due to the acts of extremism and terrorism. Who is to blame for the disaster on earth? I suppose all the world leaders cannot find the solution to the problems pertaining to hate crimes and terrorism. Nobody wants to die in the event or incident of terrorist attack or hate crimes indeed.

Land lease certificates granted to villagers in Taungoo Township

Under the now finished '100-day plan' a granting ceremony of 60-year land lease certificates to the people in Moegaung and Tharyar-gon villages was held at the Nyaung-bintha monastery in Taungoo Township on 24 July.

At the ceremony, Bago Region Chief Minister U Win Thein delivered an opening speech, and Taungoo District Administrator U Aung

Soe Moe explained about the issue of land lease certificates.

The Regional Chief Minister, the Regional administrator, the Py-ithuhlataw representative and the District Administrator gave the land lease certificates or land grants to the people in Moegaung and Tharyar-gon villages. On behalf of the people a villager spoke words of thanks.—Shwe Win (Pyay)



Land lease certificate being handed to a villager. PHOTO: SHWE WIN(PYAY)



Cyclists being seen at the starting point. PHOTO: MAUNG PYI THU

Over 300 cyclists taking place in Waterfall Hill Bike Challenge (2016)

JOINTLY organized by the Myanmar Cycling Federation the Sports and Physical Education Department, 1st Waterfall Hill Bike Challenge (2016) took place in Manda-

lay yesterday.

The race begun near the Yadanabon Diamond Plaza in Chanayethazan township with the shooting start fired by Mandalay

Chief Minister Dr. Zaw Myint Maung. The finish line was at the side of the lake of Waterfall Hill.

A total of 300 cyclists aged from 18 to 25, 25 to 35, 45 to 60 and

over 60. The cyclists competed in the contest using mountain bikes.

Officials of the Myanmar Cycling Federation presented prizes to the winners.—Maung Pyi Thu

Learning some buzzwords, collocations and Yiddish words in English

Tommy Pauk

ENGLISH, being a living language, the lexical innovation has been made for many areas of life such as technology, social media, politics, business and economy. In other words, new vocabulary or coinages or expressions can be found in everyday English. These words are called buzzwords and we often hear, listen and read them. Such wonderful and novel words are used in different fields and subjects accordingly. Some of the buzzwords are created in the forms of blend words, portmanteau and hyphenated words. The buzzwords are classified into eight parts of speech in English. For example, **OMG (Interjection)** _An abbreviation of OHMY GOD :used to show surprise or excitement about something especially in text messages, e-mails and social networking websites. Another example goes to **m-learning (Noun)** which is composed as a hyphenated word _learning methods and materials that involve the use of mobile phones or handheld computers.

The following is a collection of some buzzwords used in English newspapers or journals around the world.

Toxic (Adj); used to describe a loan or other financial agreement which causes very serious business

problems for a bank or financial organization. **Meh (Interjection)**; used for showing that you do not care what happens or that you are not particularly interested in something. **Freemium (Adjective)**; used to describe a business model in which the basic product is free, but customers pay for extra features. **biomimicry (Noun)**; the study of systems and substances used in nature in order to find solutions to other human and technical problems. **m-commerce (Noun)**; commerce carried out over mobile devices. **Smarketing (Noun)**; Smarketing is the process of integrating sales and marketing process of a business to unify the company goals and provide consistent messaging for your brand. **H2H**: Instead of business to consumer (B2C) and business to business (B2B), brands will start throwing around H2H, which stands for human to human. **Goal Digger (Noun)**; A goal digger is defined as an employee who pursues and successfully achieves company goals creatively, opportunistically, tirelessly, and, most important, legall. **Momtrepreneur (Noun)** : A woman who has children and [a] family [and runs] a business at the same time. **Wantrepreneur (Noun)**; an individual who has the desire to be an entrepreneur. **Yiddish Words (Yiddish is a Jewish language, originally used in central and eastern Europe, based**

which are damaging to the environment. **carbon neutral (adjective)**; adopting measures to prevent polluting the atmosphere with carbon emissions. **Many Yiddish words found in English came from Southern Yiddish dialects.**
1.glitch Or glitsh. Literally "slip," "skate," or "nosedive," which was the origin of the common American usage as "a minor problem or error."
2.goy A non-Jew, a Gentile. As in Hebrew, one Gentile is a goy, many Gentiles are goyim, the non-Jewish world in general is "the goyim." Goyish is the adjective form. Putting mayonnaise on a pastrami sandwich is goyish. Putting mayonnaise on a pastrami sandwich on white bread is even more goyish.
3.kosher Something that's acceptable to Orthodox Jews, especially food. Other Jews may also "eat kosher" on some level but are not required to. Food that Orthodox Jews don't eat – pork, shellfish, etc. – is called traif. An observant Jew might add, "Both pork and shellfish are doubtlessly very tasty. I simply am restricted from eating it." In English, when you hear something that seems suspicious or shady, you might say, "That doesn't sound ko-

sher."
4.maven Pronounced meyvén. An expert, often used sarcastically.
5.nosh Or nash. To nibble; a light snack, but you won't be light if you don't stop noshing. Can also describe plagiarism, though not always in a bad sense; you know, picking up little pieces for yourself.
6.shalom It means "deep peace," and isn't that a more meaningful greeting than "Hi, how are ya?"
7.shlep To drag, traditionally something you don't really need; to carry unwillingly. When people "shlep around," they are dragging themselves, perhaps slouchingly. On vacation, when I'm the one who ends up carrying the heavy suitcase I begged my wife to leave at home, I shlep it.
8.schlock Cheap, shoddy, or inferior, as in, "I don't know why I bought this schlocky souvenir."
9.shmooze Chat, make small talk, converse about nothing in particular. But at Hollywood parties, guests often schmooze with people they want to impress.
10.schmuck Often used as an insulting

word for a self-made fool, but you shouldn't use it in polite company at all, since it refers to male anatomy.
Different sets of Collocations Collocations with say, speak, talk and tell
Say no..., Needless to say..., say a word..., Strictly speaking..., Generally speaking..., talking nonsense..., talk business..., talking a lot of sense..., tell a secret..., tell fortune
Collocations of communications (Verb + Noun)
Impart knowledge, pronounce dead, divulge sources, notify the police, profess ignorance and disseminate information
Collocations with phrasal verbs
file for divorce (make an official request for a divorce), take up office (start work in an official position), come down heavily on (punish very strongly), abide by the decision (accept the decision)
dip into savings/ funds (spend part of some money which was being saved), see off an intruder/ opponent (get rid of / defeat), burst into laughter/ tears (suddenly start to laugh/ cry)
Collocations used in preparing for a research assignment at a university
Working hypothesis (a theory which can be used provisionally but may change), support the hypothesis (not prove the hypothesis), under-

taking a study (carrying out, in-depth critique (examination and judgment of something, done carefully and in great detail, research ethics (a system of standards which controls how research is done, provide a rationale (give reason)
Collocations of talking (Adjective + Noun)
Bad/strong/foul language (swear words, taboo language; foul suggests much stronger disapproval than bad or strong), four-letter words (swear words, taboo words (many of which have four letters in English), opening gambit (a remark made in order to start a conversation), a rash promise (a promise made without thinking), an empty promise (a promise made which the speaker has no intention of keeping), a tough question (a difficult question to answer), juicy gossip (interesting because it is shocking or personal)
Collocations which are useful for talking about time
Over the course of time (as time passes), go down in history (be remembered) golden age / golden era (period of time when a particular art, business, etc. was very successful), preserved for posterity (kept for people in the future), bygone era (a time in the distant past; literary), dim and distant memory (remembered slightly, but not very well), not-so-distant future (not the immediate future but relatively near).

Letters to the Editor

Now or Never

Dear Editor,

In the Bible God sent his only son Jesus to make peace and to save sinners of this sinful world. There are more than 80% in our country who do not believe this Bible. But we believe that God sends us Daw Aung San Suukyi to save Myanmar. We see that peace and national reconciliation is her life mission. She is Jesus-like in that she has a forgiving heart. Jesus forgave those who crucified him and prayed for them. And our beloved-mother is very Jesus-like in forgiving those who tried to wrong her. She is Lincoln-like in embracing 'Malice towards none'. She is also Gandhi-like in practicing 'non-violence'.

We all have one wish-that she succeeds in her selfless and relentless effort towards the achievement of peace and reconciliation in our country. For there is none other than this Nobel peace Laureate who can accomplish this task. We cannot find any other who can unify all the nationalities – the dissatisfied who suffered through decades of misrule. We do not see any other who has the love and trust of the people. Important world leaders admire and back her and are ready to attend to her wishes.

We, therefore, whole-heartedly request the Kachins, Shans and all the nationalities to meet her half-way and agree to her programs of building a democratic federal state. We also request all concerned not to hinder her efforts.

This is the heaven-sent opportunity to achieve this goal. An opportunity once lost never comes back. This is the time – Now or Never.

Yours respectfully,

Pu Ai Ci

TEO (Rtd) kalaymyo



Democratic National Committee (DNC) Chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz speaks at a rally, before the arrival of Democratic US presidential candidate Hillary Clinton and her vice presidential running mate US Senator Tim Kaine, in Miami, Florida, US, on 23 July 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Democrats in disarray on eve of convention to nominate Clinton

PHILADELPHIA — The head of the Democratic Party resigned on Sunday amid a furore over embarrassing leaked emails, hoping to head off a growing rebellion by Bernie Sanders supporters on the eve of the convention to nominate Hillary Clinton for the White House.

Lingering bitterness from the heated primary campaign between Clinton and Sanders erupted after more than 19,000 Democratic National Committee emails, leaked on Friday, confirmed Sanders' frequent charge that the party played favourites in the race.

In a statement, DNC Chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz said the best way for the party to accomplish its goal of putting Clinton in the White House was for her to step aside after the

convention. Sanders had demanded earlier in the day that Wasserman Schultz resign.

The furore was a blow to a party keen on projecting stability in contrast to the volatility of Republican candidate Donald Trump, who was formally nominated at a raucous convention in Cleveland last week.

It also overshadowed preparations in Philadelphia for Clinton's coronation as the nominee to face Trump in the 8 November presidential election. She will be the first woman nominated for president by a major U.S. political party. The four-day Democratic convention will open on Monday. In some good news for Clinton, The New York Times reported that businessman and former New York City Mayor Michael

Bloomberg will endorse her in a prime-time speech on Monday, saying she will be the best choice for moderate voters in 2016.

The cache of emails leaked on Friday by the WikiLeaks website disclosed that DNC officials explored ways to undermine Sanders' insurgent presidential campaign, including raising questions about whether Sanders, who is Jewish, was really an atheist.

Sanders said Wasserman Schultz, a U.S. representative from Florida, had made the right decision for the future of the Democratic Party. "The party leadership must also always remain impartial in the presidential nominating process, something which did not occur in the 2016 race," he said.—Reuters

British PM May to discuss Brexit and borders in Northern Ireland



British Prime Minister Theresa May. PHOTO: REUTERS

BELFAST — Prime Minister Theresa May visits Northern Ireland on Monday to discuss the implications of the United Kingdom's vote to leave the European Union and what Brexit will mean for the province's border with Ireland.

The 23 June vote to leave the EU has raised questions over the future of the open border between

Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic, which will become Britain's only land frontier with the bloc.

Northern Ireland voted to stay in the EU, with 56 per cent voting 'Remain', putting it at odds with the United Kingdom's 52-48 per cent result in favour of leaving.

May, making her first visit to Belfast since she was made prime minister earlier this month, will meet the province's leader, Arlene Foster.

May said the Brexit process needed to work for every part of the United Kingdom, and that she would work with all of Northern Ireland's political parties.

"I have been clear that we will make a success of the UK's departure from the European Union," May said ahead of the

visit in a statement released by her office.

"That means it must work for Northern Ireland too, including in relation to the border with the Republic."

Leaders north and south of the Irish border want to ensure that people and goods can continue to cross freely, as well as maintaining decades of open travel and trade across the Irish Sea that predate the countries' simultaneous accession to the EU in 1973.

May is also due to meet the province's deputy first minister Martin McGuinness, who has demanded a referendum on Northern Ireland splitting from the United Kingdom to remain in the European Union as part of a united Ireland, a call rejected by the British government.—Reuters

NEWS IN BRIEF

Two dead, 14 wounded in shooting at Florida nightclub — US media

FORT MYERS, (Florida) — At least two people were killed and 14 wounded in a shooting at a nightclub in Fort Myers, Florida early on Monday, CNN and local TV reported, citing police.

Local TV stations reported that the Club Blu club had been hosting a teen party at the time.

At least one person had been detained.

Fort Myers police could not be reached immediately for comment.

The shooting comes the month after a massacre at a nightclub in the Florida city of Orlando, in which a lone gunman killed 49 people in the deadliest mass shooting in US history.—Reuters

Al Qaeda chief urges kidnappings of Westerners for prisoner swaps

ISLAMABAD — Al Qaeda chief Ayman al-Zawahiri has appeared in an audio interview calling on fighters to take Western hostages and exchange them for jailed jihadists, the monitoring service SITE Intelligence Group said on Sunday.

In recording posted online, Al-Zawahiri called on the global militant network to kidnap Westerners "until they liberate the last Muslim male prisoner and last Muslim female prisoner in the prisons of the Crusaders, apostates, and enemies of Islam," according to SITE.

Reuters could not verify the authenticity of the recording. Zawahiri is believed to be seeking refuge in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border area that is the Taliban's base.—Reuters

Former New York City Mayor Bloomberg to endorse Hillary Clinton — NYT

NEW YORK — Former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg plans to endorse Hillary Clinton in a prime time address at the Democratic convention, the *New York Times* reported on Sunday.

Citing Bloomberg's adviser Howard Wolfson, the newspaper said that he plans to make the case for Clinton from the "perspective of a business leader and an independent."

Bloomberg, who was previously elected as a Republican and later became an independent, has been sharply critical of Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump.—Reuters

Ties with Turkey will be impacted if US doesn't extradite Gulen: minister

ANKARA — Turkey's ties with Washington will be impacted if the United States does not extradite the cleric it accuses of masterminding a failed military coup, Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu on Monday, adding he would meet with US officials on the topic during a coming visit.

Cavusoglu made the comments in an interview with private broadcaster Haberturk TV.

Turkey says cleric Fethullah Gulen, who has lived in self-imposed exile in the United States since 1999, was responsible for the July 15 coup attempt that aimed to overthrow the government.

Gulen denies the charge. Washington has said Ankara must first provide clear evidence of Gulen's involvement in the attempted coup and lawyers have said any extradition process could take years.—Reuters

Vulin: Nearly 3,000 migrants in Serbia

BELGRADE — There are nearly 3,000 migrants in Serbia at this time, and the number of those entering Serbia from Macedonia and Bulgaria is declining, Minister of Employment, Labour, Veteran and Social Affairs Aleksandar Vulin said on Monday.

Police and Serbian Armed Forces troops are patrolling along the borders, protecting our territory from illegal entries, Vulin told the RTS.

"The number is declining not because the refugee crisis is coming to an end but because we have introduced measures," Vulin said, adding that anyone who entered Serbian territory had the right to request asylum.

They will be accommodated at our centres and go through procedures, while those who do not request asylum will be returned to the countries where they had come from, he said.—Tanjug

Civilian casualties increase as Afghan troops battle Taliban — UN

KABUL — Civilians are being killed and wounded in record numbers in Afghanistan, the United Nations reported on Monday, just days after one of the deadliest attacks ever in Kabul.

Overall at least 1,601 civilians were killed and 3,565 wounded in the war in the first six months of 2016, the United Nations reported, as insurgent groups like the Taliban try to topple the government installed in Kabul after the 2001 US-led military intervention.

Anti-government groups, the largest of which is the Taliban, accounted for at least 60 per cent of non-combatants killed and wounded.

Twin blasts on Saturday were claimed by Islamic State militants and killed at least 80 people and injured more than 230, most of them civilians.

Those numbers are not included in the UN report, but the attack highlighted its finding that suicide bombings and complex attacks are now harming more civilians than are roadside bombs.

Casualties caused by pro-government forces increased 47 per cent over the same period last year, the United Nations said.

Afghan forces were responsible for 22 per cent of casualties overall, and the international troops remaining in the country caused 2 per cent, while 17 per cent could not be attributed to one side or the other.

For the first time, the Afghan air force killed or wounded more civilians in its operations than did air strikes carried out by international forces, the United Nations reported.

UN officials said they had



Afghan security forces inspect the damage caused by a suicide bombers at the site of the attack on the western outskirts of Kabul, Afghanistan, on 30 June 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

heard more commitments by both sides, but few effective actions to improve protection of civilians.

“Every civilian casualty represents a failure of commitment and should be a call to action for parties to the conflict to take meaningful, concrete steps to reduce civilians’ suffering and increase protection,” Tadamichi Yamamoto, the top UN official in Afghanistan, said in the report.

“Platitudes not backed by meaningful action ring hollow over time. History and the collective memory of the Afghan people

will judge leaders of all parties to this conflict by their actual conduct.”

More than 1,500 children were killed and wounded by the war, in the highest toll ever recorded in a six-month period by the United Nations. Most civilians were caught up in ground clashes between the two sides as the Taliban increasingly threatened population centres and government troops went on the offensive following the withdrawal of most international combat troops in 2014.

Ground engagements ac-

counted for 38 per cent of casualties, followed by complex and suicide attacks at 20 per cent, UN investigators found.

Casualties caused by roadside bombs decreased dramatically, by 21 per cent, a drop the United Nations attributed to changes in the nature of the conflict, as well as better bomb-detection by the government. The report was sharply critical of the Taliban, who “continued using indiscriminate tactics, including carrying out devastating complex and suicide attacks in civilian areas”.—Reuters

12 killed in suicide car bombing in Iraq’s Diyala

BAQUBA, (Iraq) — Up to 12 people were killed and 25 others wounded on Monday in a suicide car bomb attack in Iraq’s eastern province of Diyala, a provincial security official told Xinhua.

The attack took place in the morning when a suicide bomber drove his explosive-laden vehicle into a crowded checkpoint at the eastern entrance of the town of Khalis, west of the provincial capital city of Baquba and some 65 km northeast of Baghdad, the official said on condition of anonymity.

“The latest report said 12 people, including three women and two children, were killed and 25 others wounded by the suicide car bomb attack in Diyala,” the official said.

The blast set on fire 13 civilian vehicles nearby and damaged many others, and destroyed part of the checkpoint’s building.

Earlier in the day, the official, citing police reports, put the toll at 10 killed and 12 wounded in the Khalis blast.

No group has so far claimed responsibility for the attack, but the Islamic State (IS) militant group turned out to be behind most of similar suicide attacks in the past, targeting areas where crowds of people gather, including markets, cafes and mosques across Iraq. The attack came a day after another suicide bombing, claimed by the IS, at a crowded checkpoint near Adan Square at the entrance of the Shiite district of Kadhimyah, leaving 21 people dead and 35 others injured.—Xinhua

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Bomb-carrying Syrian dies outside German music festival; 12 wounded

BERLIN/ANSBACH, (Germany) — A 27-year-old Syrian man denied asylum in Germany a year ago died on Sunday when he set off a bomb outside a crowded music festival in Bavaria, an official said, in the fourth violent attack in the country in less than a week.

Police said a dozen people were wounded, including three seriously, in the attack in Ansbach, a town of 40,000 people southwest of Nuremberg that is also home to a US Army base.

The incident will fuel growing public unease about Chancellor Angela Merkel's open-door refugee policy, under which more than a million migrants have entered Germany over the past year, many fleeing war in Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq.

The dead man had been in treatment after twice before trying to kill himself, though Sunday's explosion was more than just "a pure suicide attempt", Bavarian Interior Minister Joachim Herrmann told Reuters.

An Islamist link could not be ruled out, he earlier told reporters.

"It's terrible ... that someone who came into our country to seek shelter has now committed such a heinous act and injured a large number of people who are at home here, some seriously," Herrmann told a hastily convened news conference early on Monday.

"It's a further, horrific attack that will increase the already growing security concerns of our citizens. We must do everything possible to prevent the spread of such violence in our country by people who came here to ask for asylum."

He told Reuters the recent attacks raised serious questions about Germany's asylum law



Police secure the area after an explosion in Ansbach, Germany, on 25 July 2016.
PHOTO: REUTERS

and security across the country and said he planned to introduce measures at a Bavarian government meeting on Tuesday to strengthen the police forces and ensure they have adequate equipment.

Herrmann said the man arrived in Germany two years ago and had been in trouble with local police repeatedly for drug-taking and other offences.

He said investigators had yet to determine the motive of the attacks. "Because the rucksack and this bomb were packed with so many metal parts that could have killed and injured many more people, it cannot simply be considered a pure suicide attempt."

It was the second violent incident in Germany on Sunday and the fourth in the last week, including the killing of nine people by a deranged 18-year-old Iranian-German gunman in Munich on Friday.

Herrmann said the man, whose identity has not yet been released, had been living in Ansbach for a year. Although his application for asylum had been denied, he was not in danger of being deported immediately given the civil war in Syria.

One US intelligence official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said investigators would focus on what the bomber was doing before he left Syria and why he was denied asylum.

US sources said the bombing did not appear to be a well-planned operation and could well turn out to be the act of another deranged individual.

Herrmann said the man had been denied entry to the Ansbach Open music festival shortly before detonating the bomb outside a restaurant called Eugens Weinstube. More than 2,000 people were evacuated from the festival after the explosion, police said. A large area around the blast site

remained blocked off hours later.

Ansbach resident Thomas Debinski said people panicked when they heard the explosion, especially after the events of the past week.

"Suddenly you heard a loud, a really loud bang, it was like an exploding sound, definitely an explosion," he said. "(People were) definitely panicking."

Debinski said it soon became clear that someone had set off a bomb in a rucksack. Earlier on Sunday, a 21-year-old Syrian refugee was arrested after killing a pregnant woman and wounding two people with a machete in the southwestern city of Reutlingen, near Stuttgart.

"After what just happened in Munich, and today in Reutlingen, what you hear about, it is very disturbing, when you know that such a thing can happen so close to you, in such a small town as Ansbach," Debinski said. —Reuters

French minister rejects charges of changing report on Nice attack

PARIS — France's interior minister rejected on Sunday an assertion by a senior Nice security official that his staff tried to change a report into policing on the night of the Bastille Day attack that claimed 84 lives.

France's Socialist government has come under fire for not doing enough to prevent a delivery man from ploughing a refrigerator truck into a crowd of revelers leaving a 14 July fireworks display on the Riviera city's beachfront promenade.

Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said he would file a defamation lawsuit after the head of Nice's extensive video surveillance network said in a newspaper interview that someone from his staff had sought changes to her report.

Led by regional government president Christian Estrosi, conservative politicians from Nice have aggressively questioned whether officers from the national police were present in sufficient numbers on the night of the attack.

The government has repeatedly rejected this accusation.

"For 10 days now, we have nearly every day faced attacks, insinuations and lies from some of those bearing political responsibility in Nice," the normally unflappable Cazeneuve said with visible agitation on France 2 television. Nice, a city of nearly 350,000 people, is France's most heavily policed city with nearly 600 officers municipal police officers and other security agents — more than much larger cities — and an extensive network of surveillance cameras. —Reuters

Shipping piracy worldwide falls to lowest in 2 decades

KUALA LUMPUR — Shipping piracy cases worldwide have dropped to the lowest level since 1995 due to tightened enforcement in previous hotspot areas like Indonesia and Somalia, the International Maritime Bureau said in a report released on Monday.

The piracy watchdog said that in the first six months of 2016, 98 cases were reported compared with 134 for the same period last year. At its peak in 2010 and 2003, IMB said, its Kuala Lumpur-based Piracy Reporting Centre recorded 445 inci-

dents for the whole year.

"This drop in world piracy is encouraging news. Two main factors are recent improvements around Indonesia, and the continued deterrence of Somali pirates off East Africa," IMB Director Pottengal Mukundan said in a statement that accompanied the report.

"But ships need to stay vigilant, maintain security and report all attacks, as the threat of piracy remains, particularly off Somalia and in the Gulf of Guinea," he said.

Piracy in Indonesia more

than halved, from 54 incidents in the January-June period of 2015 to 24 in the same period this year, following close collaboration between IMB and Indonesian authorities to improve security at sea and in ports.

The introduction of designated anchorages has helped to curb low-level theft on ships at anchor.

The Indonesian navy was lauded for its quick response in recovering a hijacked tanker off West Kalimantan in May.

Nine pirates were nabbed and the crew was rescued unharmed.

While piracy has dropped in Indonesia, it is on the rise in Nigeria, where the number of cases more than doubled to 24 in the first half of this year from 11 in the same period of last year.

Nigeria is also the world's piracy kidnapping hotspot. Of the 44 crew captured for ransom in 2016, 24 were taken in Nigeria.

Nigerian attacks are often violent, with vessels being fired upon, IMB said. It said many further assaults go unreported by shipowners.

"In the Gulf of Guinea, rather than oil tankers being hijacked

for their cargo, there is an increasing number of incidents of crew being kidnapped for ransom," Mukundan said. The Gulf of Guinea accounted for seven of the world's 10 kidnapping incidents, with armed gangs boarding vessels 30 to 120 nautical miles from shore. Besides Indonesia and Nigeria, other hotspots during the first half of this year were India with 13 cases, China with five and Malaysia and Peru with four each. The six locations accounted for 75 per cent of the total 98 incidents reported this year. —Kyodo News

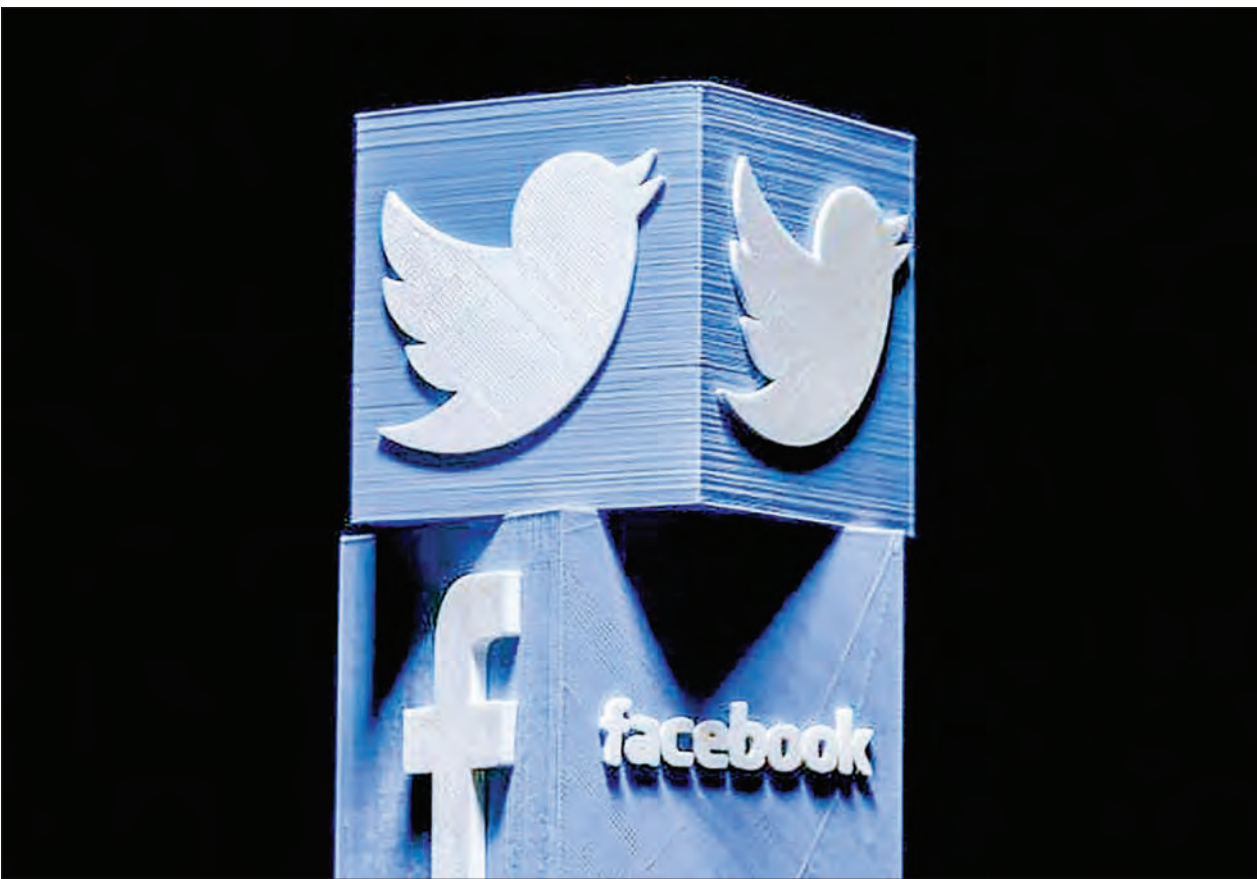
Facebook, Twitter co-operated with Brazil probe of alleged militants

NEW YORK — The judge overseeing the probe that led to the arrest last week of suspected Islamist militants in Brazil said Facebook Inc. and Twitter Inc. co-operated with investigators by providing information about the suspects’ use of both social networks.

In an interview late Sunday with Fantastico, a weekly news programme on the Globo television network, Judge Marcos Josegrei da Silva said cooperation by both companies, after a judicial order tied to the investigation, was instrumental to understand the nature of discussions carried out by the suspects, a 12th of whom was detained late Sunday.

“The companies began to provide data related to the content of the conversations and data about where those conversations were posted,” the judge said, without providing more details.

Spokesmen for Facebook and Twitter declined to comment on specifics of the case. Both spokesmen said that their respec-



3D-printed Facebook and Twitter logos are seen in this picture illustration made in Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina. PHOTO: REUTERS

tive companies have zero tolerance for activities related to terrorism and other crimes and that they cooperate with law enforcement authorities when necessary.

Brazilian investigators said the suspects in the ongoing probe, dubbed “Operation Hashtag,” are sympathetic to the Islamic State militant group and

through messaging services and the Internet had discussed attacking the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, which start 5 August. In the Fantastico

interview, the judge said “there is no anonymity for those sorts of activities on the Internet.”

Separately, Brazil’s federal police said Sunday

night they had arrested the 12th suspect targeted by the investigation. The suspect, detained in the west-central state of Mato Grosso, will be questioned and transported, like the other suspects already in custody, to a federal penitentiary.

The judge’s comment about cooperation by the social media companies comes amid growing debate in Brazil and around the world about privacy issues and law enforcement.

Facebook’s WhatsApp messaging service, for instance, has been shut down temporarily on several occasions by Brazilian judges — most recently just last week — in efforts to get the company to hand over content for investigations.

Compared with content on Facebook, Twitter and other social networks that is openly shared with other users, however, data sent by WhatsApp and similar messaging services is encrypted. The data is scrambled between users and therefore, according to those companies, not something even they can access.—Reuters

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MAX CONTENDER VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MAX CONTENDER VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 26.7.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/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 NINOS VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NINOS VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.7.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to 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 CHINA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SSL TRUST VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SSL TRUST VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 25.7.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W 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 THE SHIPPING CORP. OF
INDIA LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV EVER ABLE VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EVER ABLE VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 24.7.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to 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 EVERGREEN SHIPPING
LINE

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV RATANA THIDA VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV RATANA THIDA VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.7.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER
LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV IRRAWADDY STAR VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV IRRAWADDY STAR VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.7.2016 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 CONTINENTAL SHIPPING
LINE PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

Japanese fantasy world fever grips young Cubans

HAVANA — Cuba may be one of the world's least connected countries but that is not stopping the Japanese subculture of animated movies, manga comics and video games from spreading feverishly among its youth.

More than a thousand "Otakus," or fans of such fantasy worlds, descended on Havana this week for the country's third Otaku festival, defying the sweltering heat to sport the costumes of their favorite characters.

Some performed scenes from animation movies on stage, while others belted out songs in Japanese with Spanish subtitles projected in the background. Still others did role playing dance choreographies. A prize was awarded for best cosplay, or role playing in costume, and for best manga drawing.

"Every day, the Otaku community is growing in this country," said festival participant Juliette Fernandez, who was dressed up as the digital pop princess Hatsune Miku with turquoise pigtails down to her thighs. The 17-year old, who is learning Japanese and dreams of creating comics, said she started getting seriously into the subculture a year ago.

"We started making the costumes, finding the wigs, designing choreographies and even trying to imitate the characters' voices," said Fernandez, whose Otaku group will perform a con-

cert in September.

Some Cubans said the role playing offered them an escape and the science fiction heroes encouraged them to overcome their own difficulties.

"The anime heroes are people we can identify with, who have problems but manage to overcome them," said Yoel Pagola, 24.

Otakus face challenges pursuing their hobby in Cuba. Internet access in the Communist-ruled island is restricted, meaning fans can not easily look up series and mangas on the web.

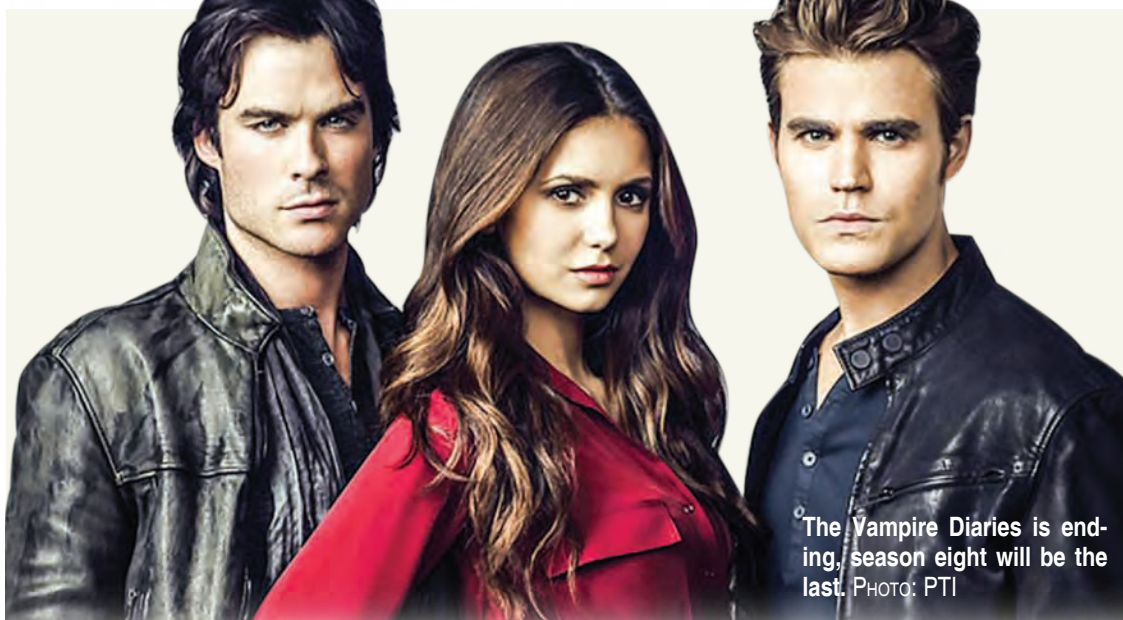
"It's really thanks to 'El Paquete' that we're able to watch anime here," said participant Jose Cruz, 20, referring to packages of media on USB sticks that can be purchased across Cuba each week.

Cruz, dressed up as anime pirate Trafalgar Law, said he took a 12-hour bus from the eastern city of Holguin to attend the festival.

Accessories are not on sale in Cuba so Otakus make their own costumes, saving up for the materials.

"It took me four months to make this costume in my spare time," said Fernando Gonzales, 20, sweating heavily under his full fake suit of armor.

"Between the cardboard, the paint and the glue, it cost a fair bit, so I'm hoping to win the cosplay."—Reuters



The Vampire Diaries is ending, season eight will be the last. PHOTO: PTI

American television series, The Vampire Diaries to end at season 8

LOS ANGELES — The Vampire Diaries has been cancelled and its upcoming eighth season will be the show's last. The CW has announced the news and stars including Ian Somerhalder and Paul Wesley, who play vampire brothers Damon and Stefan Salvatore, have paid tribute to the show, reported E! online.

"The sun, the moon and stars aligned for me one day in March when I got the official call that I had been cast in this very special role as Damon Salvatore," Somerhalder said.

"I'm so very grateful to those who fought for me to have

this opportunity (you know who you are), for those that have worked so hard to make this show happen, and to those that have loyally watched it, making it part of their lives.

"This show has enriched my life greater than anything I've done in my career and it will live in my heart. We are a family and I will miss you. Thank you again to this amazing cast and crew, Kevin, Julie, Warner Bros. The CW and the most loyal fan base the world has ever seen. Wow, what a ride," he said.

Paul added: "Being cast in The Vampire Diaries has

changed the trajectory of my life, to say the very least. I'm beyond fortunate for the experiences I've had and lessons I've learned over the last seven years.

"I want to thank Kevin and Julie, as well as Peter Roth and Warner Bros., Mark Pedowitz and The CW, our incredible cast and crew, and especially the TVD fans all around the world who are the reason this show became such a worldwide success. I am beyond grateful to have been a part of it," he added. The final 16 episodes will begin on Friday, 21 October in the US.—PTI

Beyonce fires back at Matthew Fulk who claims she copied Lemonade

LOS ANGELES — Pop star Beyonce has hit back at claims that she plagiarised a filmmaker's idea for Lemonade, by filing a motion against Matthew Fulk's lawsuit. Fulk's lawsuit claims that Beyonce's film is substantially similar to his 2014 short film Palinoia, but Beyonce says the two films have completely different narratives, reported TMZ.

Beyonce's legal team filed a motion to dismiss, urging the judge to toss out Fulk's lawsuit. "A straightforward comparison of the parties' works provides a textbook example of what does not constitute a legally cognizable claim of infringement," read the motion.

"Palinoia is about a tumultuous relationship that is now over. The protagonist is a white male and his former lover is a white blonde woman. The demise of their relationship is oblique, and is not tied to infidelity," the motion continued.

In June, Fulks had filed the lawsuit, saying that over 39 sec-

onds of the trailer have a collection of images similar to ones in his movie, including characters in front of graffiti-covered walls, red tinted images, dimly lit parking garages and closeup shots of overgrown grass.

Fulks is also said to have alleged that a Senior VP at Columbia Music, Beyonce's record label, saw Palinoia sometime in 2015 and he believes that executive stole his ideas to use for Lemonade, which started shooting at the end of 2015.

Lemonade is the sixth album by American singer Beyonce. It was released on April 23 this year. This visual album also features musicians Jack White, Kendrick Lamar, and bassist Marcus Miller. There are also elements of folk music in the album.—PTI

Gal Gadot's Wonder Woman is inspired by Princess Diana

LOS ANGELES — Actress Gal Gadot says her Wonder Woman has been inspired by Britain's Princess Diana.

Warner Bros unveiled the Wonder Woman trailer at San Diego Comic-Con and Gal Gadot, who stars as Diana, warrior princess of the

comic con. "She leads from her heart, not from her head. And that describes this Diana," Gadot said.

The trailer's official description said: "Before she was Wonder Woman, she was Diana, princess of the Amazons, trained to be an unconquerable warrior."

"Raised on a sheltered island paradise, when an American pilot crashes on their shores and tells of a massive conflict

"Fighting alongside a man in a war to end all wars, Diana will discover her full powers...and her true destiny." Wonder Woman also stars Chris Pine, Robin Wright, Connie Nielsen, David Thewlis, Danny Huston, Elena Anaya and Ewen Bremner.

Zach Snyder is a producer on the Wonder Woman and he joined the stars of his Justice League movie, including Gal Gadot, Ben Affleck, Ezra Miller, Jason Momoa, Henry Cavill, and Ray Fisher, for a panel at Comic-Con. A teaser for Justice League featuring Wonder Woman alongside Batman, The Flash, Aquaman, Cyborg was also shown at Comic-Con in San Diego. Both the films looked

equally impressive and they are currently the top trending topic on social media.—PTI



PHOTO: PTI

A m - azons, re- vealed she took inspiration from the real-life Princess Diana, after watching a documentary on the late British royal, reported by collider.com

r a g - ing in the outside world, Diana leaves her home, convinced she can stop the threat.

Dr Tyn Myint-U 84 Years Old

Dr Tyn Myint-U, born 1 January 1932 in Mandalay, son of U Hla Din and Daw Kyin Phwa, passed away in New Hampshire, USA on 19 July 2016.

He studied at Mandalay, Rangoon, and Michigan Universities before completing his PhD in Aeronautics at New York University.

He was for many years a Professor of Mathematics at Manhattan College and served with the United Nations in Bangkok and New York.

He is survived by his wife Daw Aye Aye Thant, his sister, four children, and four grandchildren.

Bereaved family

Condolences

Our Deepest Sympathies and Heartfelt condolences to our Founder & Chairman of the Yangon Heritage Trust

Dr Thant Myint-U and family
on the demise of their dearly beloved father

Dr. Tyn Myint-U
who passed away peacefully on Tuesday 19 July 2016.

Yangon Heritage Trust (YHT)

MRTV

News Channel
in Brief

(26-7-2016, Tuesday)

- 6:00 am**
 - Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:35 pm**
 - Socio Economic Scenes
- 8:35 am**
 - Documentary (Law)
- 9:35 am**
 - MRTV's Youth Programme
- 10:35 am**
 - MRTV Education
- 11:15 am**
 - Documentary
- 11:35 am**
 - Documentary (Weather)
- 12:50 pm**
 - TV Drama Series
- 1:45 pm**
 - TV Drama Series
- 2:45 pm**
 - Song Varities
- 3:35 pm**
 - Socio Economic Scenes
- 4:15 pm**
 - Documentary
- 4:35 pm**
 - Football Magazine (Ayeyarwady United)
- 5:15 pm**
 - Documentary
- 5:35 pm**
 - Money Talk Myanmar (Part-2)
- 7:15 pm**
 - Documentary
- 8:00 pm**
 - News / International News / Weather Report
- 9:00 pm**
 - News
- 9:35 pm**
 - Yes or No Talk Show "Season (2), Physical Library (or) Digital Library (Part-2)
- 10:00 pm**
 - TV Drama Series

Note/ Hourly News Bulletins (Local + International)

Prince Harry regrets not talking sooner about Diana's death



Prince Harry chats with staff during his visit to the Burrell Street Sexual Health Clinic in London, Britain, on 14 July 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

LONDON — Britain's Prince Harry has spoken about how he regrets not talking sooner about the impact of the death of his mother, Princess Diana.

Diana died in a car crash in Paris in 1997, when Harry was 12 and his brother Prince William was 15.

Harry, now 31 and fifth in line to the throne, said he had not discussed his mother's death until three years ago, the BBC reported.

"I really regret not talking about it," he said. "For the first 28 years of my life, I never talked about it."

He added: "It is OK to suffer, but as long as you talk about it. It is not a weakness. Weakness is having a problem and not recognising it and not solving that problem."

Harry, who is the queen's grandson, was speaking last week at a barbecue he hosted for the mental health charity Heads Together, attended by sports stars such as former England footballer Rio Ferdinand and Olympic athlete Kelly Holmes.

"I think the key message here is that everyone can suffer from mental health issues, whether you're a member of the royal family, whether you're a soldier, whether you're a sports star," said Harry, a former army officer who served in Afghanistan.—Reuters

Nagasaki church among Christian sites Japan eying as World Heritage

TOKYO — A Japanese government panel on Monday selected Christian sites in southwestern Japan including the country's oldest church in Nagasaki as a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site candidate for 2018.

It is the second time the panel has picked the sites in Nagasaki and Kumamoto prefectures, including Nagasaki's Oura Church, which is designated as a national treasure. The area was the focus of persecution of Christians when the religion was banned for most of the Edo Period (1603-1868) and also of its revival thereafter.

The sites on the main island of Kyushu were recommended by Japan in January last year with an eye to being registered as a World Heritage by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation this summer.

But the government retracted the recommendation in February after a UNESCO advisory panel notified Japan that explanations of the sites were insufficient.

The government will submit a letter of recommendation by Feb. 1 next year so that the Kyushu sites will be examined by the UNESCO panel, or the International Council on Monuments and Sites known as ICOMOS, in the summer of 2018.

The Nagasaki and Kumamoto prefectural governments reviewed their presentations of the sites following suggestions made by the ICOMOS that their explanations should focus on Japan's history of banning Christianity.

The government panel also screened three other candidates: the Jomon archaeological sites in Hokkaido, northern Tohoku and other regions, the Sado complex of heritage mines — primarily gold mines — in Niigata Prefecture, and Mozu-Furuichi Kofun, ancient tumulus clusters in Osaka Prefecture.

However, the panel judged they lacked sufficient explanations about global values or measures for preservation.

Among the 12 assets to be recommended in the Kyushu sites are churches dotted among remote islands of Nagasaki and Sakitsu village in Amakusa, Kumamoto Prefecture, where some Christians lived in hiding to escape persecution.

Originally, 14 locations in the two prefectures ranging across a wider time span formed the sites for the recommendation but two places, including the ruins of a castle ruled by a Christian lord, were excluded after the suggestions by the ICOMOS.—Kyodo News

MRTV

Entertainment Channel

(26-7-2016, Tuesday)

- 06 : 00 pm**
 - Weather Report
 - Pyi Thu Ni Ti
- 06 : 20 pm**
 - Cartoon Programme "Bleach: Fade to Black Final" (Part-1)
- 07 : 10 pm**
 - International Drama Series
- 08 : 30 pm**
 - MRTV Entertainment Music
- 08 : 40 pm**
 - Travelogue to the coastal region (Myeik - Kaw-thoung) (Part-2)
- 09 : 00 pm**
 - International Movie Songs
- 09 : 10 pm**
 - Myanmar Traditional Instruments (MYANMA DRUM)
- 09 : 30 pm**
 - Music Programme
- 09 : 40 pm**
 - Amazing: May Phoo Han
- 10 : 00 pm**
 - Myanmar Video

From 26-7-2016 (Tuesday) 6:00 pm
To 27-7-2016 (Wednesday) 6:00 pm

mitv

Myanmar International

(26-7-2016 07:00am ~ 27-7-2016 07:00am) MST

- Today Fresh**
- | | | |
|-------|----|---|
| 07:03 | Am | News |
| 07:26 | Am | Insight Myanmar "ILO-SIYB Project" (Episode-III) |
| 07:43 | Am | We'll Leave After 12 Passengers Are On Board..... |
| 08:03 | Am | News |
| 08:26 | Am | Hanlin, A Treasure Trove Of The Ancient Pyu City |
| 08:51 | Am | Dengue Fever |
| 09:03 | Am | News |
| 09:26 | Am | Culture Show: Abdication of King Thibaw |
| 09:43 | Am | Licuala Palm Leaf |

- | | | |
|-------|----|--|
| 09:52 | Am | Today Myanmar: Small & Medium Enterprises (SME) |
| 10:03 | Am | News |
| 10:26 | Am | Herbal Medicine By Thurein (Ta Bin Dine Mya Nan) (Vitis) |

(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-3) |
| 07:51 | Pm | Inspiration |
| 08:03 | Pm | News |
| 08:26 | Pm | A Day Life Of Kayan Padaung Tribe |
| 08:55 | Pm | Myanmar Street Foods |

(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)

Hamilton wins in Hungary to take overall lead

BUDAPEST — Triple Formula One world champion Lewis Hamilton won the Hungarian Grand Prix on Sunday to seize the championship lead from team mate Nico Rosberg for the first time this season.

The Briton took the chequered flag less than two seconds ahead of the German, who had lined up on pole position at the Hungaroring but lost out to Hamilton at the start in the key moment of the race.

Hamilton, who has now won in Hungary a record five times, leads Rosberg by six points after 11 of the season's 21 races. The Briton has won five of the last six races, including the last three.

"The start was everything," said Hamilton. "This is a great result for the team. What a day."

Sunday's win was the 48th of his career and fifth of the season.

Until Sunday he had shared the record for Hungary GP wins with seven times champion Michael Schumacher.

"I grew up watching Michael so to have a similar number, and now one more than he had here, is incredible," said Hamilton.

Australian Daniel Ricciardo finished third for Red Bull after pushing the Mercedes pair hard enough at one point for the champions to tell Hamilton to pick up the pace.

Ferrari's four times world



Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton celebrates after winning the race on 24 July 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton during the race, Hungary Formula One, F1, Hungarian Grand Prix 2016 at Hungaroring, Hungary on 24 July 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

champion Sebastian Vettel, also a previous winner in Hungary, finished fourth after sounding off over the team radio about slower cars holding him up as he lapped them.

Red Bull's Max Verstappen held off Ferrari's feisty Kimi Raikkonen for fifth. The Finn had started 14th but a long first stint saw him challenging the Dutchman.

The battle between the pair

provided a moment of excitement in an otherwise uneventful race, with Raikkonen clipping the back of Verstappen's car and damaging his front wing in an attempt to pass the 18-year-old.

Fernando Alonso was the sole surviving McLaren in seventh.

McLaren's hopes of a strong result on the back of their best qualifying performance since renewing their engine partnership

with Honda were dashed early on, with Jenson Button falling down the order with hydraulics problems.

The 2009 world champion also collected a drive-through penalty for a breach of radio rules before finally retiring late in the race.

Rosberg, who has also won five races this year, will have the chance to seize back the lead in his home German Grand Prix.

The race at Hockenheim, absent from the calendar last year, takes place in just a week's time.

"It was all down to the start in the end," said Rosberg of Sunday's race. "From then on I was trying to put all the pressure on Lewis but it's not possible to pass at this track."

"To have the next race coming up very quickly sounds good, at my home race...it's going to be awesome." —Reuters

Rejuvenated Djokovic happy to be back on hard courts

TORONTO — World number one Novak Djokovic is looking forward to playing on his favoured hardcourt surface at the Rogers Cup in Toronto, but the Serb urged caution as he returns to action for the first time since his shock Wimbledon exit.

The 29-year-old, who was aiming to become the first man since Rod Laver in 1969 to win all four grand slams in a year, suffered a third-round loss to American Sam Querrey at Wimbledon.

However, Djokovic, who has won three of the five Masters tournaments this season, is keeping his expectations in check for the Rogers Cup, which he has won three times.

"I don't expect anything. I just try to get myself ready for performing as best as I can," Djokovic told the ATP website (www.atpworldtour.com).

"I had a bit more time because of the early loss at Wimbledon to spend some quality time with family, regroup a little bit



Novak Djokovic of Serbia participates during the Rogers Cup Sportsnet Ball Hockey Challenge during qualifying of the Rogers Cup tennis tournament at the Aviva Centre in Toronto Ontario, on 24 July. PHOTO: REUTERS

and start training on hard court, which I enjoy the most. So I look forward to it.

"I have a wonderful history in the Rogers Cup in Toronto and Montreal. That's what goes through my mind right now. Just enjoy, play well, play singles and doubles and get as many hours in as possible."

The 12-times grand slam champion, who has a first-round bye, could meet Wimbledon finalist and home favorite Milos Raonic in the semi-finals.

"He's definitely one of the

players that we're going to see a lot of in future. He works very hard. He's got John McEnroe in his team so he's really striving to get better on and off the court," Djokovic said.

Djokovic brushed aside the Wimbledon loss, which ended his grand slam winning streak at 30.

"Everything happens for a reason so obviously I didn't enjoy losing the first week of a grand slam," he said.

"On the other hand, the next day it was already behind me." —Reuters

Russia escapes IOC blanket ban for Rio Olympics

LAUSANNE (Switzerland) — The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has rejected clarion calls for Russia to be banned from next month's Rio Olympics over the nation's doping record, offering athletes a lifeline by ruling that decisions on individual competitors will be left to the international sports federations.

The IOC's decision on Sunday, less than two weeks before the Rio Games opens on 5 August, follows the World Anti-Doping Agency's (WADA) call for a blanket ban in response to the independent McLaren report that found evidence of state-sponsored doping by Russian athletes at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi. "I think in this way, we have balanced on the one hand, the desire and need for collective responsibility versus the right to individual justice of every individual athlete," IOC President Thomas Bach said on a conference call.

"In this way we are protecting the clean athletes because of the high criteria we set. This may not please everybody, but this result is one which is respecting the

rules of justice and all the clean athletes all over the world."

WADA and 14 national anti-doping organisations had urged the IOC to impose a blanket ban in the wake of the damning McLaren report, but former Olympic fencing champion Bach said that Russian sportsmen and women "will have to clear the highest hurdle to take part in the Olympics". The United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) said the IOC had failed to show leadership with its decision.

"Many, including clean athletes and whistleblowers, have demonstrated courage and strength in confronting a culture of state-supported doping and corruption within Russia," USADA chief Travis Tygart said.

"Disappointingly, however, in response to the most important moment for clean athletes and the integrity of the Olympic Games, the IOC has refused to take decisive leadership. The decision regarding Russian participation and the confusing mess left in its wake is a significant blow to the rights of clean athletes." —Reuters