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Public library, the gateway to well-informed society

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WA JOINS THE FOLD

Peace Commission meets UWSP in Nay Pyi Taw for political dialogue framework



Peace Commission, chaired by Dr Tin Myo Win, meeting members of United Wa State Party in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

THE Peace Commission, chaired by Dr Tin Myo Win, and the United Wa State Party, led by Deputy Secretary-General U Pao Yu Yi, held a meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The UWSP expressed its satisfaction with the meetings with the State Counsellor and the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing. Secretary of the Peace

Commission Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo (Rtd) said that the ethnic delegation pledged earnest cooperation with the new government in the same way as it had done with the army as well as with the former government.

They vowed to continue to make fraternal efforts with solemn hope to restore peace despite challenges, the former army senior officer added.

At the end of the meeting both sides responded to queries of invitation to a meeting that would review the framework for political dialogue.

“The Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) is more than a ceasefire agreement. It has a place for political dialogue. So a framework is essential as to determining how to organise the conference, how to set

the ratio of representatives and what topics to be discussed,” he said.

The former army senior officer hinted at possible amendment to the initially agreed framework for political dialogue, stressing that the framework allowed for amendment as times change.

The finalisation of the framework for political dialogue will be negotiated with the ethnic armed organisations before the Union

Peace Conference — the 21st Century Panglong commences.

According to U Khin Zaw Oo, encouraging the ethnic groups to participate in the peace process will enable them to feel that they are involved.

U Khin Zaw Oo quoted the Wa delegation as saying that they would strive to join the adoption of the framework.

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During banking hours at BIDV Yangon Branch, Myanmar Plaza, Yangon.

BIDV Yangon Branch to promote economic cooperation between Viet Nam and Myanmar

On July 31, 2016, the Grand Opening of the Bank for Investment and Development of Viet Nam JSC - Yangon Branch (BIDV Yangon) will be held along with the “Four Countries - One Destination” Conference on connecting tourism and expanding cooperation in banking sector in Yangon. Previously, BIDV was granted the official license from the Central Bank of Myanmar on June 30, 2016 and commenced its Branch’s oper-

ation from July 01, 2016. The opening of BIDV Yangon marks a new chapter for BIDV in Myanmar’s banking and finance sector, showing reflecting the Bank’s brand, reputation and preparedness in integrating into ASEAN and international financial markets as well as its determination and endurance to contribute and promote economic cooperation between Viet Nam and Myanmar over the years.

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U Thein Sein meets UWSP, NDAA (Mongla) delegations

U Thein Sein, the Chairman of Union Solidarity and Development Party received a delegation led by U Pao Yu Yi, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Wa State Party (UWSP), and a delegation led by U Sai Lin, Chairman of the Mongla Special Area 4 and the Peace and Unity Committee at the Headquarter of the Union Solidarity and Development Party in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The meeting focused on peace-making approach acceptable to all ethnic groups, national cohesion and border areas development.—*Myanmar News Agency*



U Thein Sein cordially greeting U Sai Lin. PHOTO: MNA



U Thein Sein presenting gift to U Pao Yu Yi. PHOTO: MNA

Residents hopeful Kyaukphyu SEZ will bring regional development

LOCAL residents of Rakhine State's Kyaukphyu Township hope implementation of the earmarked Kyaukphyu Special Economic Zone (SEZ) will develop employment opportunities, education and health sectors, together with the region's economy.

"I expect the SEZ will bring with it employment opportunities. The entire four members of our family applied for jobs when workers were called to work on the project in 2015. Now, we're faced with having to crack rocks for K3,000 a day as casual laborers just to scrape by," said Daw Sein Nu Yin, from Zaing Kyaung village.

Some domestic companies have established themselves in Kyaukphyu for the Shwe Gas Project and Maday Island Deep-sea Port, but urban residents of Kyaukphyu town say these projects are not only absent from developing the region, they actually have a negative impact on the local economy, health and education.

U Soe Tin, a local Kyaukphyu entrepreneur, believes the

completion of the SEZ will bring development to the region in one way or another, highlighting how a vast number of residents have "high hopes" the project will turn around the failing health and education sectors, together with the economy, providing "employment opportunities to tens of thousands of local workers." He also expects it will sway migrated workers to return home. "It will bring back thousands of workers who've migrated internally to Yangon, as well as abroad to neighboring countries of Thailand and Malaysia," he added.

U Myint Thein, chair of the Kyaukphyu SEZ Management Committee, stated during a public consultation with local residents on 8 January earlier this year that implementation of the Kyaukphyu SEZ project will officially break ground during the waning months of the current year and beginning of 2017 on an area of land measuring 4,000 acres, reportedly sparking the interest of the Rakhine public.

However, U Htun Kyi, secretary of the Kyaukphyu Rural



A jetty for oil tankers is seen in Kyaukpyu township, Rakhine state in October 2015. PHOTO: GNLM

Development Association, says there is nothing which currently indicates any kind of project implementation being conducted anytime soon.

The town of Kyaukphyu is Rakhine State's second largest urban centre but a poor local economy, together with failing education and health sectors, has

relegated the town's development below other provincial towns such as Taungup and Thandwe, say local residents.—*Myitma News Agency*

JACOM to provide scholarships to UCSY students

JACOM Co Ltd from Japan signed an agreement with the University of Computer Studies (Yangon) (UCSY) at the meeting room of the UCSY in Shwepyithar on Tuesday to provide scholarships to UCSY students.

The scholarship programme will become effective on 1 December 2016, to provide education opportunities to one first year student and one second year student beginning this academic year. The scholarship is worth K50,000 per month.

"We will provide the scholarship to outstanding students

who have difficulties attending university. When they hold degrees, we will offer them job opportunities, if they are interested. As a result, the relationship between Myanmar and Japan will be better," said Mr. Kazuo, director and chief operating officer of JACOM Co Ltd.

In the meeting, Dr MiMi Thet Win, acting rector of the UCSY and the director and chief operating officer from JACOM. Co Ltd signed the memorandum of understanding.

The scholarship term will last four years from 2016 up until 2019.—*Win Win Maw*

Dos and Don'ts for tourists and local travelers

DOS and Don'ts, a courtesy campaign for the benefit of tourists and local travelers who will visit Mandalay and Sagaing Regions this high season, will be rolled out to better cultural understanding, it has been announced by the Myanmar Tourism Entrepreneurs' Association (MTEA).

The high season for tourism begins at the end of the rainy season and so the Dos and Don'ts cultural sensitivity campaign will issue warnings and advice to tourists and local travelers. The authorities will encourage all tourism-related associations to cooperate, said an authorised person from MTEA.

The campaign will be launched in public places, mostly those visited by tourists and local travelers in cooperation with the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, The Tourist Police Force, motor vehicle transport associations and tourism-related associations. Those who are in the habit of chewing betel nut will be provided with spitting boxes, the MTEA has made it known. —200

Model Township for the disabled to be built

A MODEL township for the disabled will be built by the Myanmar Disabled Initiative to help disabled citizens overcome the difficulties of their daily lives and to create a smooth and easy environment, said U Nay Lin Soe, chairman of the Myanmar Disabled Initiative.

"We will create a smooth and easy environment for the disabled starting from one township in the city of Yangon. For the moment we cannot say in which township we will start. We've submitted this matter to the authorities for permission," he added.

"The model township will have footpaths to facilitate the movement of the disabled, have special toilets for the convenience of the disabled and arrangements for the disabled to move around in public places in wheelchairs," said U Myat Thu Win from Shwe Min Tha Foundation (Myanmar). —200

Monsoon Book Fair enters second day

THE Monsoon Book Fair, organised by the Ministry of Information, entered its second day yesterday in the compound of the Central Printing Factory of the Printing and

Publishing Department on Theinbyu road, Yangon.

The book fair was held in conjunction with a reading session of political literature. In the reading

session, prominent writers read out their papers and responded to queries raised by the audience.

Union Minister Dr Pe Myint and Patron of National League

for Democracy Thura U Tin Oo presented gifts and honoraria to resource persons.

Thousands of avid readers, including monks, writers, teachers

and students crowded the book fair which attracted 170 bookshops.

The event continues today (its last day).—Ye Ye Myint and Ohnma Thant



Dr Khin Aye (Maung Khin Min-Danubyu), Chairman of the afternoon session of the second day of Political paper reading, delivering a speech. PHOTO: ZAW MIN LATT

Myanmar hosts CLMV's "Four Countries, One Destination" conference in Yangon

THE "Four Countries, One Destination" conference kicked off in Yangon yesterday under the theme of "connecting tourism and expanding cooperation in the banking sector" between Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Viet Nam.

The conference was jointly organised at the Melia Hotel by the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, the Central Bank of Myanmar, the Bank for Investment and Development of Viet Nam (BIDV) and the Hoang Anh Gia Lai (HAGL) Corporation.

At the meeting the central banks of Myanmar and Viet Nam discussed ways to promote technical cooperation in monetary policies, financial markets and banking regulations.

The conference was fol-

lowed by a meeting of senior officials of the banks from the four countries. They discussed how to enhance the capacity and efficiency of their banking services. They also submitted the outcomes of the meeting to their respective governments.

In the afternoon senior officials of CLMV tourism industries discussed the connectivity aspects of tourist destinations and the development of tourism. They also worked on the preparation of a joint statement regarding the theme of "Four Countries, One Destination". They will submit a report of their findings to the meeting of tourism ministers.

The meeting also focused on closer cooperation in air, land and sea transportation connectivity between CLMV

countries, itinerary documentaries about tourist destinations and the promotion of tourism links with Japan and South Korea.

The CLMV meeting of tourism ministers took place with an opening address by Union Minister U Ohn Maung. The ministers coordinated the release of a joint statement addressing "Four Countries, One Destination".

Similarly, governors of CLMV Central Banks met to discuss the expansion of cooperation in the banking sector among the four countries.

Myanmar hosted the two-day conference with the aim of promoting cooperation in tourism and the banking sectors with an eye to inviting more foreign investment.—Myanmar News Agency



Tourism ministers and senior officials posing for a group photo at the Four Countries, One Destination Conference. PHOTO: MNA

Flood Bulletin

(issued at 13:00 hr M.S.T on 30-7-2016)

(1) Falling condition below danger level

According to the (12:30) hr M.S.T observation today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Thabeikkyin has exceeded about 1:11/2 feet above its danger level, it may fall below its danger level during the next (3) days.

(2) Flood condition above danger levels

According to the (12:30) hr M.S.T observation today, the water levels have exceeded by about (3) feet at Homalin, about (31/2) feet at Phaungpyin, about (7) feet at Mawlaik, about (5) feet at Kalewa and about (41/2) feet at Minkin of Chindwin River above their respective danger levels. The water levels may foil about (2) feet at Homalin, about (11/2) feet at Phoungpyin, about (1) foot each at Mawlaik, (1/2) foot each at Kalewa and Minkin during the next (2) days and may remain above their respective danger levels. According to the (12:30:1 hr M .S.T observation today, the water level of (41/2) feet at Koni of Chindwin River has exceeded by about (1) foot above its danger level, it may remain above its danger level during the next (3) days.

(3) Rising condition above danger levels .

According to the (12:30) hr M.S.T observation today, the water levels have exceeded by about (11/2) feet each at Mandalay and Sagaing, about (1/2) foot at Myinmu, about (21/2) feet at Nyaung Oo, about (1/2) foot at Hinthada and about (3) inches at Zalun of Ayeyawady River above their respective danger levels. The water levels may continue to rise about (1/2) foot at Mandalay and Sagaing during the next (1) day, about (1) foot each at Myinmu, Pakokku and Nyaung Oo during the next (2) days and about (1) foot at Hinthada and Zalun during the next (3) days and may remain above their respective danger levels.

It is especially advised to the people who settle near the river bank and low lying areas in Mandalay, Sagaing, Myinmu, Pakokku, Nyaung Oo, Hinthada and Zalun Townships, to take precaution measure. —GNLM

Peace Commission meets UWSP in Nay Pyi Taw...

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The Peace Commission is scheduled to meet the Mongla delegation at the National Reconciliation and Peace Centre in Yangon on 2 August.

The Union Peace Confer-

ence — 21st Century Panglong is expected to take place at the end of August, with preparatory measures under way to ensure that the event sees the participation of as many ethnic groups as possible.—Kyaw Thu Htet

Rise in durian price due to low yield

DURIAN price is up this year only because of the low yield caused by weather, according to the Durian market from Thapyay Nyunt village, Kyaukkyi township, Bago region. The durian sellers from



Kyaukkyi sold their durians in the 115 mile camp and durian shops within Pyu township. They are selling durians between Ks 2000 and Ks 4000 for small one, Ks 4000 and Ks 7000 for medium-sized one and Ks 10,000 for big one in Pyu market. But, durian sold in 115 mile are expensive. Despite the price increase, customers still buy because there is no other fruit that is as tasty as durians.

This year, we are faced with low supply of durians due to the erratic weather and the price has increased. The low supply of durians has also affected the motorbike drivers who earn their living chiefly on carrying the durians.—Phyu Myint Oo

Gold price rises by more than Ks 7,000

THE gold buyers are now selling their gold back to the shops they have bought from as the price of gold has climbed up in the local market, according to the gold merchants.



Gold and jewellery waiting for the buyers. PHOTO: TUN TUN MIN

In the gold market, many people are selling back their gold as the price of gold has reached Ks 841,000 per tical, from Ks 834,000 as of 28 July, according to a local jeweller.

During monsoon, most of the customers are selling back their gold wares, said U Maw, General Manager of Aung Thamadi Jewellery shop.

The price of gold in the international market climbed by about US\$ 20 per ounce. "Currently, the price of gold in local market is at its peak. So, the people want to sell back their gold. When customers sell the gold, they can get a profit of around Ks 40,000, partial said Ko Min, the gold teader. The price of local gold was record high in July 12, 2016 with a tical being sold for Ks 850,000.—Tun Tun Min



The Remaining TEN fishermen have arrived Yangon International Airport by Air India AI-227 on Wednesday evening, July 27, 2016 via Kolkata. The 272 Myanmar fishermen, on completion for the period of imprison in Port Blair Jail, had been repatriated from Port Blair to Myanmar by the two separated MAI Chartered Flights in May 31st and in June 3rd 2016. However, because of the seat capacity, there remained the ten fishermen in Port Blair and lodged in Open Distress Camp. The fishermen were brought to Kolkata by MV Swarajdweep Ship on Sunday, July 24, 2016. PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Crime NEWS

Taxi driver killed by raving drunk

A 62-year-old taxi driver died after a raving drunk beat him to death on Thuka road, ward 6, Hlaing township, Yangon region on Thursday.

According to an investigation U Thein Hla Tun, 62, left his home to begin a taxi driving shift. Reacting to strange noises from the street the victim's nephew exited the house and allegedly discovered his uncle being beaten by one Aung Kyaw Phyto alias Ko Phyto, 35. U Thein Hla Tun was declared dead at the scene.

Police interrogated neigh-

bours, one of whom claimed that Aung Kyaw Phyto alias Ko Phyto hit U Thein Hla Tun from behind and then chased him to a nearby noodle shop.

Kyaw Phyto alias Ko Phyto, the suspect, accused the victim of using black magic to trouble his daughter and so attacked him with a bamboo stick.

The suspect was already known to the victim as he apparently assaulted him with a brick on 31 December, 2015. Police have filed charges against Ko Phyto.—The Mirror

11300 yaba tablets confiscated in Mandalay Region

A combined team comprising police members of the Anti-Drug Police Force Unit-17 based in Mandalay searched a passenger bus of "GI Group" on the Muse-Mandalay road at the 16 mile rock production camp, Shwesaryan village-tract in Patheingyi Township of Mandalay on 28 July, and con-

fiscated 7800 yaba tablets from Ma Seik Zaw, 58, and 3500 yaba tablets from Ma Lie Kyi Chwen, 29, — a total of 11300 yaba worth of ks56.5 million. Police have filed charge them under the Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substance Law.—Myanmar Police Force



Ma Seik Zaw and Ma Lie Kyi Chwen. PHOTO: MPF

Police investigating discovered corpse

A 23-year-old man was found dead by his uncle under the Bailey Bridge, Khayay road, Bawgawady ward, Pyinmana town on Wednesday.

Police sent the corpse to the Nay Pyi Taw 1,000 general hospi-

tal for a postmortem. Police have identified the dead man as Htet Oo Ko Ko, 23, from Ywar Kauk ward.

His father said that his son was last seen exiting the family home that morning. Police are investigating.—Myo Zayar (Pyinmana)

Man killed in car accident

A 12-wheel vehicle ran over a motorcycle driver in Lauk Phan village, Nawngkhio town on Wednesday. According to an investigation, a motorcycle being driven by one U Thein Aung crashed into the 12-wheel vehicle being driven by U Myo Thu Win, 29. As the victim fell off the motorcycle, the

12-wheel vehicle ran him over.

U Thein Aung succumbed to his injuries at the scene. The Seta-nar Mon social assistance association sent the corpse to the Nawngkhio general hospital.

The motorcycle driver was deemed guilty of careless driving by police.—Soe Win (Nawngkhio)

LOCAL Business

Advertorial

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Meticulous preparedness

Founded in 1957, BIDV is the longest-established and the largest commercial bank in Viet Nam in term of total assets (USD 42 billion). BIDV has maintained its top position and prestige in Viet Nam market as well as continuously expanded operation to important and potential areas, especially the CLMV countries (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Viet Nam) where many Vietnamese enterprises have been doing their business.

BIDV has prepared for its operation in Myanmar since 2010. Following the Joint Statement of the two Governments released in April 2010 on 12 prioritized economic sectors, BIDV established its Representative Office in Myanmar, actively studied the local market and established relationships with local banks. The Bank has prepared facilities and personnel, aiming to establish a Vietnamese bank in Myanmar at the soonest. Besides, BIDV also established the Representative Office of BIDV Insurance Corporation in Myanmar and cooperated with Myanmar partner to found BIDV Myanmar Finance Company Limited. With the entrust from the Government of Vietnam, BIDV has chaired the Association of Viet Nam Inves-

tors in Myanmar (AVIM), which has actively contributed and supported to the business community, thus promoting the economic cooperation between Viet Nam - Myanmar.

By the end of June 2016, Viet Nam ranked at 10th among top countries investing in Myanmar with total investment of USD 693 million, 30 times higher than that in 2009, and achieved the 8th position if the USD 85 million paid-in capital for BIDV Yangon Branch was included. In the period 2010-2015, the two-way trade turnover saw the annual average growth of 30% with figure in 2015 being USD 435 million, 3-folds higher than 2010. Tourism also saw a strong growth with 15% increasing in number of tourism each year since 2010.

Looking ahead

BIDV was honored to be granted the foreign bank branch license by the Central Bank of Myanmar following a preliminary approval announcement dated 4 March 2016. Within only four months from the approval date, BIDV fully completed all the requirements to be granted the license on 30 June 2016 by the Central Bank of Myanmar and commenced the Branch's operation in July this year, setting a record in preparation time among 13 foreign banks licensed in both 2014 and 2016. This achievement was appreciated by the Government and the



H.E. U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, Governor of the CBM, warmly welcomes Mr. Tran Bac Ha and BIDV Senior Delegation in the CBM's Office in Nay Pyi Taw.

business community of Viet Nam.

The Branch's mission is to provide modern and comprehensive financial-banking services to its customers; especially to support foreign cooperates in investing and conducting business in Myanmar, to contribute to Myanmar's banking system and economic development and become a friendly and socially responsible bank through implementing corporate social responsibility programs.

Its target customers include Vietnamese corporates and those from countries which BIDV has a presence and/or a close relationship such as the CLMV countries, ASEAN, Japan, Korea, and Tai-

wan, etc. Leveraging the advantages of modern and advanced technology and a huge network of branches of the Top Bank in Viet Nam, BIDV Yangon will provide products tailored to serve transactions between Viet Nam and Myanmar. The Branch is aimed to reach total assets target of at least USD 300 million after three years of operation and become one of the Top 5 foreign banks in Myanmar.

BIDV Yangon will at the same time work closely with the AVIM and the BIDV Representative Office in Myanmar to introduce, give consultancy and promote trade and investment, take the leading role in accompanying and supporting Vietnamese cor-

porates in their business activities in Myanmar. It will also coordinate with other members of BIDV in advising, supporting and developing Myanmar's finance and banking system, especially the interbank market, foreign exchange, derivatives, securities, and government bonds, etc. which BIDV has had many experiences in Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia.

With close cooperation and support from its foreign corporate customers as well as international and local banks, BIDV Yangon Branch is ready to achieve sound performance and continue to contribute to the economic cooperation between Viet Nam and Myanmar.

Price of tomatoes in Monywa up four-fold compared to 2015

TOMATOES in the Sagaing Region town of Monywa have appreciated in price four-fold this July from what they fetched this time last year, say industry insiders.

A viss (1.6 kilograms) of tomatoes during the third week of July 2015 fetched just K500, but a year later and the same weight of the fruit is going for a market price of K2,000, according to local tomato brokers.

"The rainy season is not when tomatoes are harvested, it's the time when they're planted. Farmers have been planting their tomatoes all through this July, but the month of planting differs between growers. The expensive tomatoes currently on sale are those planted during the hot season," explained Daw Wai, a tomato grower from the town of Yinmabin.

Tomatoes cultivated within Sagaing Region are destined for export to neighboring countries of India and China, with townships



A woman arrange tomatoes from Inlay lake to send them to market.
PHOTO: GNLM

such as Tabayin, Monywa, and Yinmabin reportedly the main producers of the fruit.

"Consumers have shied away from tomatoes because of their appreciated value. Trade is good, though. The price of the fruit didn't rise this much last year; prices were normal," said U Kyaw Mya, a wholesale and retail tomato

trader from Monywa.

Planting of tomatoes conventionally starts in July, with the fruit ready for harvesting come the onset of October, but local farmers say there is some discrepancy between farmers according to the month in which they plant their tomatoes.
—Myitmakha News Agency

Government entreated to permit exportation of domestically manufactured products made from imported seafood

THE Myanmar Fishery Products Processors and Exporters Association (MFPEA) has announced they will call on the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation to permit the importation of fish and shrimp from overseas to be domestically manufactured into value-added products for export to foreign markets.

The exportation of fish and shrimp overseas is presently conducted through a method of cutting, manufacturing and packing (CMP), while exporters lament the fact the meat and fish sector is not yet in a position whereby it can import raw products from abroad and manufacture them domestically ready to be exported back overseas.

"Our factories will buy up raw fishery products from overseas. We'll then package and manufacture the goods locally before exporting them back abroad. We must request a permit to conduct such kind of export practices.

To be honest with you, I feel as those this issue has paved a new road [for exporters involved in the fishing industry]," said U Myo Nyunt, secretary of the MFPEA. If permission to conduct such a desired method of exportation was granted, it would reportedly open up employment opportunities within the domestic meat and fish sectors.

The augmentation of employment opportunities could then reportedly entice Myanmar migrant workers, currently working precariously within foreign fishing industries, with the promise of proper and fair salaries.

"The quality of the raw products will be good, and they will be purchased from countries that offer cheap prices; shrimp on the Indian market fetch US\$1.5 less than what can be found in the domestic Myanmar market," said Daw Toe Nandar Tin, vice president of the MFPEA.
—Myitmakha News Agency

UN Human Rights Commission slams Australia youth prison abuse

MELBOURNE — Hundreds of people rallied in major cities across Australia on Saturday criticizing the government's response to video showing aboriginal children being teargassed and abused in prison.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull has ordered an inquiry into the treatment of children in the detention centre after the Australian Broadcasting Corporation this week aired footage showing guards teargassing teenage inmates and strapping a half-naked, hooded boy to a chair.

But he has rejected calls for a broader national inquiry.

The United Nations Human Rights High Commission called on Australia on Friday to compensate children abused in prison.

"We are shocked by the video footage that has emerged from Don Dale youth detention centre in the Northern Territory," the UN Human Rights office of High Commission said in a statement.

"We call on the authorities to identify those who committed abuses against the children and to

hold them responsible for such acts... Compensation should also be provided".

The Commission also called on the government to ratify the Optional Protocol to Convention Against Torture, which would allow independent

investigators to inspect detention facilities.

Around 700 people rallied in Melbourne on Saturday and similar protests were held in other major cities around the country. A Reuters photographer estimated about

300 people turned out in Sydney.

Indigenous Australian rapper Adam Briggs told Reuters the issues were national ones and not limited to the Northern Territory.

"The elephant in the room is that it is a racism

problem, but they aren't addressing that," Briggs said.

The Northern Territory's corrections minister was sacked just hours following the broadcast and on Wednesday the territory suspended the use of hoods

and restraints on children.

On Friday the Northern Territory government dropped charges against two of the six children teargassed by police. According to court documents, the children had been charged in June for damaging the prison in an escape attempt.

UN Special Rapporteur on Torture Juan Mendez said that the use of hoods, restraints and gas on children in detention centres could violate the UN treaty barring torture.

The case highlights concern about the disproportionate numbers of aboriginal youth in custody, with indigenous leaders calling for politicians to deal with the wider issue of the treatment of Aborigines in Australia.

Aborigines comprise just three percent of Australia's population but make up 27 per cent of those in prison and represent 94 per cent of the Northern Territory's juvenile inmates.

Australia's roughly 700,000 indigenous citizens track near the bottom of almost every economic and social indicator for the country's 23 million people.—Reuters



Demonstrator Dean Mason shouts as hundreds gather outside Sydney's Town Hall to protest against alleged child abuse in Australia's Northern Territory detention centres, on 30 July 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

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China asks South Sudan to punish those responsible for Chinese peacekeeper deaths

SHANGHAI — China's foreign minister Wang Yi met his counterpart from South Sudan and asked him to quickly identify and punish those responsible for killing two Chinese soldiers in the capital of Juba, according to an article on the foreign ministry's website.

Two Chinese peacekeepers were killed and several others injured by a mortar shell earlier this month during fighting between followers of President Salva Kiir and Riek Machar, the former rebel leader who became vice president under

a deal to end the civil war.

During that time personnel of the United Nations Mission to South Sudan (UNMISS) also came under attack.

The Sudanese minister Deng Alor Kuol expressed grief over the deaths and promised to quickly investigate and punish the culprits, according to the Chinese foreign ministry statement.

Wang told Deng Alor Kuol that peace is a prerequisite for development, and he hoped both sides in South Sudan can put the public interest first, and protect the

safety of lives and property, including Chinese lives and property.

The peacekeepers' bodies were returned to China on Tuesday. To date, China has sent over 30,000 officers and soldiers to 24 UN peacekeeping missions, and 13 have lost their lives, according to state media.

China is the largest consumer of oil produced in the Sudan region, but its energy strategy — including major infrastructure investment — has been bedevilled by civil conflict.

Beijing was originally

a supporter of the northern Sudanese government and sold it weapons, but the country split in half and China had to reestablish relations with a sceptical new government in South Sudan. Now the South Sudan government has destabilised, and China sent a special envoy to Africa earlier this month to help resolve the political crisis.

China National Petroleum Company (CNPC) said it had evacuated the bulk of its workers from South Sudan but its operations were unaffected.—Reuters

At least 31 killed in India's northeast, Bangladesh by heavy rains

GUWAHATI (India) — At least 17 people have been killed by heavy rains and flooding in the northeastern Indian state of Assam, while at least 14 people have died in Bangladesh, with millions of people also displaced, officials said on Saturday.

Persistent heavy rains this week have caused widespread disruption across

South Asia, with at least 68 people killed in Nepal by flash floods and landslides.

Although rainfall had decreased as of Saturday, officials in Assam, a tea-growing and oil-rich state, added water levels across rivers were still overflowing.

"Overflowing rivers are flooding new areas, making things worse," said Keshab

Mahanta, Assam's water resource minister.

India's Interior Minister Rajnath Singh was due to visit Assam on Saturday and make an aerial survey and hold discussions with state officials about relief efforts.

Authorities in Assam have opened more than 800 temporary shelters and food and medicines distribution

centers across the state, a senior official at the state disaster management authority said. Flooding is an annual problem during the monsoon season in South Asia, but the impact has been worsened by crumbling civic infrastructure, clogged drains and uncontrolled urban expansion.—Reuters

North Korean leader's close aide to visit Brazil for Olympics

PYONGYANG/BEIJING — A very close aide to North Korean leader Kim Jong Un left for Brazil on Saturday to attend the opening ceremony of the Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games next week.

The departure of Choe Ryong Hae, a vice chairman of the ruling Workers' Party of Korea, was confirmed by Kyodo News at Pyongyang's international airport.

After stopping over in Beijing, Choe, who is also head of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission, will head to Brazil to attend the ceremony next Friday.

He is expected to stay in the Latin American country for about a week, according to diplomatic sources.

North Korea has already sent about 30 athletes to Rio de Janeiro, who will compete in nine

events including wrestling, judo, weightlifting, table tennis and marathon.

Kim is known as an avid fan of basketball and other sports. He has been eager to strengthen North Korea's athletic prowess since inheriting power following the death of his father, Kim Jong Il, in late 2011.

The dispatch of Choe may be a sign that North Korea's leadership wants to boost national prestige through the Olympics Games, which will run through 21 August.

In 2014, when the Winter Olympics was held in the Russian resort city of Sochi, North Korea's nominal head of state Kim Yong Nam attended its opening ceremony.

North Korea has diplomatic relations with Brazil. —Kyodo News



Choe Ryong Hae (front R), a very close aide to North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, is seen off at Pyongyang's international airport before leaving for Beijing on July 30, 2016, en route to Brazil. Choe, who is head of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission, left the Chinese capital for the Latin American country later in the day to attend the opening ceremony of the Rio de Janeiro Olympic Games the following week. PHOTO: KYODO: NEWS

Japan to set security guidelines for care facilities after rampage

TOKYO— The welfare ministry will draw up guidelines for security measures at care facilities in the wake of a deadly knife rampage at a facility for the disabled earlier this week, ministry official said on Saturday.

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare will draw up the guidelines by fall at the latest and inform all care facilities in the country, according to the officials.

The move comes after a 26-year-old man allegedly killed 19 people and injured 26 others at a care facility for the disabled in Sagami-hara west of Tokyo on Tuesday in one of the worst mass killings in postwar Japan.

Satoshi Uematsu, a former worker at Tsukui Yamayuri En, is suspected of entering the facility building by breaking a window on the ground floor.

Other than installing security cameras, the ministry is considering requiring facility operators to introduce emergency call systems to enable quick access to police and security companies, according to the officials.

The ministry is also considering enlisting local residents to strengthen security measures. —Kyodo News

Philippine president lifts unilateral truce with leftist rebels

MANILA — Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte lifted Saturday night his unilateral declaration of ceasefire with the leftist rebels and ordered the security forces to be "on high alert."

In a statement released at 7:00 pm local time, Duterte said: "Let me now announce that I am hereby ordering the immediate lifting of the unilateral ceasefire that I ordered on 25 July against the communist rebels."

On 25 July, Duterte declared the unilateral ceasefire with the communist rebels, voicing the hope that the rebels will reciprocate to his peace offer.

"To immediately stop violence on the ground, restore peace in the communities and provide

an enabling environment conducive to the resumption of peace negotiations, I am announcing a unilateral ceasefire with the Communist Party of the Philippines, the New People's Army and the National Democratic Front effective immediately," Duterte said during his first State of the Nation Address.

The President withdrew the truce declaration after the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic Front (CPP-NPA-NDF) failed to meet his ultimatum for the rebels to reciprocate the truce until 5:00 p.m. local time Saturday.

He issued the ultimatum after the rebels ambushed a group

of paramilitary in southern province of Davao del Norte two days after he declared the unilateral suspension of offensive military operations during his first State of the Nation Address.

A militiaman was killed and four others were wounded in the attack.

With the lifting of the unilateral truce, Duterte ordered the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police to also withdraw the operational guidelines they issued in pursuance to the ceasefire declaration.

"I am ordering all security forces to be on high alert and continue to discharge their normal functions and mandate to neutral-

ize all threats to national security, protect the citizenry, enforce the laws and maintain peace in the land," he said.

The Philippine military said the NPA has an estimated 4,000 members. The rebels have been fighting the government since 1969 in one of Asia's longest-running insurgencies.

The government has been trying to forge peace with the leftist rebels since 1986 but the on-off talks have faltered many times in the past. Government officials said as of the moment, the formal peace talks in Oslo, Norway on 20-27 August between the government and the rebel group will push through despite the lifting of the ceasefire. —Xinhua

Kuwaiti male quarantined in suspected MERS case at Bangkok hospital: official

BANGKOK — A Kuwaiti national has been quarantined under suspicion of being infected by the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) at a Bangkok hospital, a senior government official said on Saturday.

The unidentified, an 18-year-old Kuwaiti male, who entered

Thailand on Monday, has already been quarantined in a suspected MERS case at Bamradnaradun hospital under care of the Department of Communicable Disease Control, department director general Amnuay Kajeena said.

He said the hospital's medical staff could not as yet determine

that the young Kuwaiti has been infected by the MERS though he has been quarantined under close watch at the hospital since Thursday.

Also quarantined are the young man's father and grandmother who came with him from the Middle East state.

This is a second MERS case which has been detected in Thailand so far this year, Amnuay said.

He assured that the authorities have strictly taken measures to prevent an epidemic of the MERS in public places and suggested that nobody should panic about it. —Xinhua

Mongolia forms new cabinet amid economic difficulty

ULAN BATOR — The formation of Mongolia's 16-member cabinet concluded Saturday with the parliament approving the last four ministers.

The health minister, energy minister, minister of food, agriculture and light industry as well as the minister of construction

and urban development were approved by a majority of lawmakers at a session that continued till early Saturday morning.

Mongolian Prime Minister Jargaltulga Erdenebat said that in the face of difficult social and economic conditions, the government will take concrete

actions to restore investors' confidence, protect foreign investment and create a stable and legal environment for investors.

In parliamentary elections held on 29 June, the Mongolian People's Party won 65 seats at the 76-seat parliament while the previously ruling Democratic

Party of Mongolia (DPP) only won nine seats.

In the past few years, the land-locked country was trapped in economic difficulty amid plummeting commodity prices and a poor foreign investment environment. —Xinhua

Opinion

Write for us

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

Public library, the gateway to well-informed society

Kyaw Thura

IT is encouraging to hear that the government has decided to relocate the National Library from a secluded to convenient place in the centre of downtown in Yangon. The National Library will settle in the historic building that once belonged to Burma Oil Corporation (BOC) during the colonial era. The chosen location is on Merchant Street, Pabedan township, surrounded by financial institutions and recreation centres.

A public library is explic-

itly defined as a centre of information from which individuals, regardless of age, race, gender, religion and social status, can derive benefit a lot. In other words, the library is a place where information and knowledge are readily available to users. There is every reason to believe that public libraries play a vital role in promoting literacy rate by developing reading habits in people of all ages. In addition, distinguished academics and researchers often compare public libraries to

the gateway to a repository of knowledge, which they believe is central to the establishment of social, cultural and religious cohesion across society.

It is, however, claimed that the advent of new technology has led to a dramatic decrease in the number of library users, making the habit of reading obsolete. This does not necessarily mean that libraries are dying. Frankly, there is so much more a library can offer than can a computer with an access to the internet. Just as the con-

venient location is of importance, a public library should be equipped with good study facilities, quiet reading rooms, free internet access and relevant technologies. Another critical point that should not be overlooked is sufficient opening hours.

At a time when our country is striving to promote democracy through public participation, the strength of well-informed citizens will be an invaluable asset to the prevalence of justice, freedom and equality in society.

Budget Performance

Tin Shein

BEFORE talking about budget performance, it will not be out of place to say what a budget is all about. A budget is a common financial tool used to manage a company's finances. To put it simply, a budget is a projection of income and expenditure planned for the next year. Income expected to arise in the next year is estimated and so is the expenditure expected to be incurred. A budget is a plan for how to spend money to achieve an objective or objectives within a certain period of time. Moreover, a budget is a most important tool for the government to use in controlling and managing the projects or activities that are undertaken with public funds for the benefits and welfare of all the people.

Budgets are usually prepared annually. Generally speaking, it is the responsibility of administration departments to draw up budgets for public sector organizations. All offices at different levels of each Government Department, such as Township, District, State/Division and Head Office, are involved in the budget preparation. It must be completed in time to be submitted to the Ministry of Finance, whose job it is to combine the budget estimates from all Government departments into the overall national budget, get it approved by the cabinet and then submit it to Pyi Thu Hlutaw for final approval before publishing it in the newspapers for public information. As for the private business enterprises, budgets usually are developed by

an enterprise's accounting or finance department on an annual basis, too.

There are different types of budgets used by private and Government organizations. They are: static budget, zero-base budget, incremental budget, operational budget, etc. Of them incremental budget is most widely used especially by the Government organizations. The budget estimates are made for the next fiscal year based on the previous year's actual revenues earned and actual expenditures incurred.

Increases and decreases in the new budget over the previous year's budget will be made in terms of the level of business activities or operations planned for the next year.

The Union Budget is drawn up within the limits of the funds expected to be available to the Union Government within the next fiscal year, including borrowings from foreign governments and international financial institutions such as World Bank, IMF, ADB, etc. Once approved by Pyithu Hluttaw, budget provisions are distributed to all the Government departments concerned so that they can start work on the activities that they have to carry out during the budget year.

If I am not much mistaken, most people in the Government think that when the budget has been granted, they can spend the funds within the budget limits, and that is the be-all and end-all. Nothing can be further from the truth. From the point of view of budget performance, that is not really the case. What is important is the outcome from spending the

budget funds provided by the Government. It is here that budget performance comes in. Its function is to make a critical analysis of the budget spending to check what outcomes or benefits have been obtained in terms of budget performance indicators. These indicators include (but not limited to) the following:-

- Are expenditures within the limits of the budget?
- Are there any budget overruns; that is, spending beyond the budget?
- Are there proper authorizations for all expenditures?
- In case of budget overruns, check the reason why, if supplementary grants have been applied for and obtained, and if such overruns are justified in the light of the findings.
- The targets set have been achieved fully and if not, why and to what extent.
- Is there a mechanism in place, such as internal audit or inspection section, to monitor budget performance at different levels of the respective departments.
- Check that the activities or projects carried out using budget funds are completed on scheduled and if not, verify if they are due to poor planning resulting in delays or because the funds have run out.
- Call for explanations for failure to achieve the desired results, checking to see if the failure is due to misuse of funds, wastage, misappropriation, lack of proper supervision resulting in poor performance, etc. on

the part of responsible officials.

It must be driven home to all staff at different levels of the organizations that the budget represents public money collected in terms of income tax, commercial tax, capital gain tax, customs duty, etc. and that whatever is spent must be directed toward to the benefits and welfare of the people. All expenditures incurred out of the state budget must be strictly in accordance with the financial rules and regulations prescribed by the Government.

If budgets are not properly but poorly managed at every level, the results will prove very damaging to our national interests. For example, budget funds are available, but the projects can't be started on schedule, because necessary arrangements can't be made in advance.

Thus work can be started on project only about one-third of the way through the fiscal year. So the project can't be completed as scheduled at the fiscal year and part of the funds that remains unspent (surplus budget) has to be surrendered to the Government.

However, the surplus budget can't be carried over to the next fiscal year. The uncompleted project has to wait for the next year's budget to finish. On the other hand, the funds are spent so with reckless extravagance that budget overruns occur, for which the supplementary budget has neither been requested for nor granted beforehand. It also happens that the moneys left over from the budget provisions at the fiscal year-end are spent for no other purpose than not to surrender the

budget surplus to the Government. In such cases, explanations must be called for from responsible persons and if they are found unsatisfactory, appropriate action should be taken against them as a deterrent to possible occurrences in the future. However, in my experience no effective actions have been taken in such cases by the Departments concerned and are soon lost in the mists of time, so to say and not a word was heard of them.

Now is the time for the new Government to enforce fiscal discipline on all the responsible personnel of the Departments, which includes exercising economy, efficiency and effectiveness in using public funds in order to achieve the budget objectives desired. Appropriate actions need to be taken for failure to meet the above criteria. As we all know, though resources-rich, we have fallen behind some of even the neighboring countries through poor management of our economy. It is no use crying over spilt milk, as the saying goes.

After all is said and done, let us all roll up our sleeves and work as best we can to catch up with other advanced countries in terms of economic development through country-wide national unity, understanding, and tolerance by burying for good all that has happened in the past. In my humble opinion, that may prove to be the only way to get out of poverty for the majority of people in the countryside and to reach the goal of national sustained economic growth, wealth and prosperity we all hope for all these years.

Mandalay on red flood alert as Ayeyawady reaches above danger level



People moving furniture away from the flooded area. PHOTO: MYANMAR FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

LOCAL authorities, volunteers and the Mandalay Fine Service Department have been teaming up to prevent possible flooding as the water level of the Ayeyawady River exceeded its danger level two days ago.

“We are on alert due to the rising waters of the Ayeyawady River. We have stocked sand bags and also kept watch the embankment in order to prevent any overflow,” said U Thet Naing Tun, Secretary of the Mandalay City Development Committee.

The river reached 18 cm above its danger level of 1,260 on Friday.

Local authorities and volunteers in six townships have been put on full alert with 3,000 sand bags each and life boats at possible overflow points on the river.

Down stream water from Myitkyina is expected to reach Mandalay over the next three days. The collapses of the banks are expected to be happen when the flood recedes,” said U Kyaw Myint Than of the Water Resources Utilisation Department.

A motorised boat carrying eight passengers capsized on Friday in the Tokegyi Creek in Madaya Township, Mandalay Region, after hitting a river

crossing bridge. Five passengers were evacuated by members of the fire services department and three are still missing, according to local reports. Meanwhile, the Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced yesterday that Mandalay Region, Yangon Region, Mon State, Nay Pyi Taw, Rakhine State and Rakhine State are expected to see heavy rainfall today, with 100 per cent degree of certainty. The weather bureau also forecast yesterday that a low pressure is expected to form in the mid-east area of the Bay of Bengal within 24 hours.—Aung Thant Khaing

Myanmar Famous Brand Expo& Promo 2016 ends today

THE Myanmar Famous Brands Expo & Promo 2016, organised by the Intellectual Property Entrepreneurs’ Association, is being held for the first time at Tamtaw hall in Yangon (Friday until today).

“The Intellectual Property Entrepreneurs’ Association was officially registered on 26 June 2014. The aims of the association are to provide entrepreneurs with investment

opportunities inside and outside the country, to develop small and medium businesses, to support the development of trade and commerce, for new Myanmar intellectual properties to emerge, to preserve and protect literature, music, movie, and theatrical arts including the ten traditional arts, to encourage the inventions and to promote intellectual property knowledge, etc.” said a member

of the association.

“We do not have laws for intellectual property yet. We have already submitted a bill to the Hluttaw. In this expo we are showcasing famous product brands. For the products to become famous brands they should be up to international norms, standards and criteria.” said a member of the association.—Soe Win (MLA)

KBZ Bank holds 14th Waso robe offering ceremony

KANBAWZA Bank Ltd and employees of its branches donated robes to the Members of the Sangha yesterday in Yangon to mark the Waso or Vassa, the three-month annual Rain Retreat for Buddhist monks.

During the 14th waso robe offering ceremony held at Kalewa Tawra Monastery in Yangon, the congregation led by U Aung Ko Win, the chairman of KBZ Bank Ltd and his wife Daw Nan Than Htwe, the vice chairperson, received the Five Precepts first from the Presiding Sayadaw of the monastery Bhaddanta Jagara Bhivamsa. Members of Sangha recited parittas.

The congregation donated waso robes to the Members of the Sangha and shared the merits thus gained.



KBZ Bank's 14th Waso robe offering ceremony in progress.

PHOTO: THURA LWIN (Eco)

Following the ceremony the chairperson, the vice chairperson and employees of the

bank's branches donated a day-meal to 1,010 Buddhist monks and nuns.—Thura Lwin (Eco)

People's Forum

Dear Editor

I have greatly appreciated Tommy Pauk's article titled “To take retributive action against those who make hate speech “appeared in The GNLM on 25.07.2016. Tommy Pauk has alarmed at the danger of spreading hate speech in any society across the world and stressed the need to eliminate the makers of hate speech by law. I totally agree to Tommy Pauk's opinion and analysis on this issue because we countrymen have been through the trauma of internal armed conflicts, four-decade-long mismanagement, corruption and the suppression of dictators. The nation building processes have not been accomplished since the post independence era because we encountered disunity, misunderstanding among our nationalities and 26-year-long isolated policy of Burma Socialist Program Party regime. No successive regimes could set up the reconciliation and internal peace among our nationalities in the past.

Now, we the countrymen have the opportunity to participate in politics collaborating with democratically elected civilian government for rehabilitating our country's rickety economy, education and administration etc. There should be no more armed conflict and violence in our country as the State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is working hard to constitute a paradise of peace for all national brethren in our country. The implementation work for nationwide ceasefire agreement is going to be carried out shortly. The Panglong Spirit is about to be reborn and the people will rejoice over the unity among us. Simultaneously, the government is combating the bribery and corruption within the public services in order to shine the image of Public service personnel in Myanmar. The cabinet members and the public officials are exercising the good governance and clean government. They are gaining public trust gradually. Furthermore, the government is fulfilling the needs and wants of the countrymen as much as they could do. The government does not act whichever is undemocratic for the country and people. Now, there is no clash or displeasure between the incumbent government and the people of Myanmar indeed. No one can deny that the political stability is escalating with unity and harmony in Myanmar. Every citizen ought to participate in nation building tasks according to their capacity or aptitude.

Obviously, the intention of hate speech makers is rather malevolent. So, every peace-loving citizen denounces any form of violent act or disturbance in our society. From now on, those destructive elements should stop harmful acts to our society and people. They should get remorseful for their plots by now. Otherwise, the act of hate speech will cause impediment to the peace and tranquility of our country. Therefore, punitive action must be taken against the hate speech makers in accordance with the law. I myself and patriotic people of Myanmar do not want regression but we want constant prosperity of our nation. We must pay respect to rule of law and maintain political stability all the time. Let's endeavor to do our best for our country !

Truly
Hein Htet
A Freelance Writer

POEM:

The Dark Buffalo and the White Little Egret

the broad blue
canvas of sky

undulating folds
of hills velvet green

the yellow bed
of paddy fields

a dark-skinned buffalo
of sturdy build

a long-legged little egret
snowy white

alighting lightly
at its curving horn

feeling grateful
for each peaceful company

Htin Lin Zaw

Clinton gets down to campaign business with Rust Belt trip

HARRISBURG, (Pa) — Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton took her newly energized White House bid on the road on Friday for a tour of crucial “Rust Belt” states Pennsylvania and Ohio, but the campaign’s focus was clouded by a newly disclosed cyber attack. Reuters on Friday reported that the computer network used by Clinton’s campaign, which is based in Brooklyn, had been hacked as part of a broad cyber attack on Democratic political organizations, citing people familiar with the matter.

The campaign said a data program maintained by the Democratic National Committee and used by the campaign and other entities was accessed as part of a cyber attack on the DNC. The Clinton campaign said outside experts had found no evidence that its internal systems had been compromised.

On Thursday, Reuters reported that the party’s fundraising committee for candidates for the US House of Representatives had also been breached, the second such incident after last weekend’s leak of DNC emails. Revelations from the DNC emails gave the Democratic convention a rocky start, threatening a bid to reunify the party after a bitter primary campaign. Even so, a Reuters/Ipsos poll released on Friday showed Clinton leading Republican rival Donald Trump by 6 percentage points.

Nearly 41 per cent of likely voters favor Clinton, 35 per cent favor Trump, and 25 per cent picked “other,” according to the new July 25-29 online poll of 1,043 likely voters, which overlapped with the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia.

After a speech Thursday



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton departs her bus with former president Bill Clinton at K’NEX in Hatfield, Pennsylvania, on 29 July 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

night in which she became the first woman to accept a major party’s presidential nomination, Clinton launched a three-day bus tour of Ohio and Pennsylvania, which like other Rust Belt states have been hit by the decline in US manufacturing. Clinton and her vice presidential running mate, US Senator Tim Kaine of Virginia, on Friday attended a rally at Philadelphia’s Temple University, toured a factory in Hatfield and ended the day in Harrisburg. They will continue onto Ohio on Saturday and Sunday. Clinton is likely to face a tough challenge in such states from Trump, a New York businessman who is trying to win white working-class voters with rhetoric blasting free trade and illegal immigration.

Clinton and Kaine are using the Rust Belt tour to highlight manufacturing successes and discuss how they plan to boost wages for the middle class.

In the process they aim to contrast their vision for the country

with the one offered by Trump.

“If you’re looking for a kind of pessimistic, downbeat vision of America, we’re not your folks,” Clinton said in Hatfield. “We do not buy into that dark, divisive, image that was presented at the Republican convention last week.”

Opinion polls show a potentially tight race in Ohio and Pennsylvania, both of which President Barack Obama won in the 2012 election. “The differences are stark,” Kaine said in Harrisburg.

Clinton and Trump are essentially tied in Ohio, where the Republicans held their convention last week, according to an average of polls by RealClearPolitics. Clinton has a lead of 4.4 percentage points in Pennsylvania, the website’s average of recent polls showed.

Ohio and to a lesser extent Pennsylvania are among a handful of competitive states traditionally viewed as decisive in presidential elections, because they do not lean heavily Democratic or Republican.—Reuters

UN extends South Sudan mission, US reports renewed violence

UNITED NATIONS — The United Nations Security Council extended a peacekeeping mission in South Sudan on Friday until 12 August as the United States warned that it had received “disturbing reports” of renewed violence in the south of the country.

The mandate for the UN mission was due to expire on Sunday, so the 15-member council unanimously renewed it for a brief period while they consider imposing an arms embargo on the world’s newest state and sending in more troops.

US Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power told the council before the vote that the recent violence in Juba was “horrifying but sadly not unexpected” because the country’s leaders are unable to work together for their people.

“We have just received very disturbing reports of significant violence in the Equatorias (southern states) in South Sudan and all of us need to be on alert this weekend because events could spiral rapidly out of control yet again,” Power said.

“Let us not be fooled that time is on our side, it is not,” she said.

South Sudan descended into civil war after President Salva Kiir fired Riek Machar as vice president in 2013. The pair agreed a peace deal in August but implementation has been slow. Heavy fighting involving tanks and helicopters erupted in South Sudan’s capital Juba for several days this month between troops loyal to Kiir and those backing Machar. At least 272 people were killed before the leaders ordered a ceasefire.

Reacting to the violence in

Juba, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called on the Security Council to fortify the peacekeeping mission. He also urged an arms embargo and sanctions for leaders and commanders blocking implementation of an August peace deal.

UN peacekeepers have been deployed in the country since it gained independence from Sudan in 2011. There are currently some 13,500 troops and police on the ground. African leaders have called for the UN Security Council to authorise the deployment of a regional protection force to separate South Sudan’s warring parties.

Machar, who was reappointed vice president this year, left Juba after the fighting and said he would only return after international troops are deployed as a buffer force to separate his forces from Kiir’s.—Reuters

NEWS IN BRIEF

Belgium arrests two men suspected of planning attack

BRUSSELS — Belgian police arrested two men suspected of planning an attack in the country after house searches on Friday evening, federal prosecutors said on Saturday.

The two, named as 33-year-old Nourredine H. and his brother Hamza H., will appear before a judge on Saturday to determine whether they should be held in custody beyond an initial 24 hours.

The federal prosecution office said in a statement that police had carried out seven house searches in the region of Mons and a further house search in Liege. No weapons or explosives were found.—Reuters

Turkey kills 35 militants after they try to storm base, officials says

DIYARBAKIR, (Turkey) — Turkey’s army killed 35 Kurdish militants after they attempted to storm a base in the southeastern Hakkari province early on Saturday, military officials said.

The overnight attack came hours after clashes in Hakkari’s Cukurca district between soldiers and militants from the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) that left eight soldiers dead, the officials said.

The militants attempted to take the base in three different groups, but were spotted by aerial reconnaissance. An air operation was launched, killing 23 of them, the officials said.

Four more were then killed in a ground operation, they said. The remaining eight were killed in clashes in Hakkari’s Cukurca district.

Friday’s clashes in Cukurca also left 25 soldiers wounded, the officials said.—Reuters

Fighting continues for control of Khanshin district in South Afghanistan

LASHKAR GAH (Afghanistan) — Fierce fighting has been continuing for the control of Khanshin district in southern Afghanistan’s Helmand province over the past two days and Taliban have suffered huge casualties, spokesman for provincial government, Omar Zawak said on Saturday.

“Taliban militants launched massive offensive on security checkpoints in Khanshin district yesterday evening and security forces retaliated forcing militants to retreat from some areas,” Zawak told Xinhua.

“Since eruption of fighting on Friday evening, 20 Taliban rebels and a policeman have been killed and several others injured,” said the official, adding that the fighting is continuing.—Xinhua

Dutch heighten security at Amsterdam airport, citing threat indications

AMSTERDAM — Dutch police conducted security searches around Amsterdam’s Schiphol airport on Saturday in response to “indications” of a threat, an official said, causing traffic jams during the busy summer holiday season.

The National Coordinator for Counter-terrorism and Security Policy (NCTV) provided no details of the possible threat, but it said extra security measures were implemented, including vehicle searches.

“There was a (threat) indication related to the airport,” said spokesman Edmond Messchaert. “The increased measures are intended to ensure the safety of people working at the airport and travellers.”

The national threat level in the Netherlands was unchanged at “substantial,” or one notch from the highest.—Reuters

Stefanovic: Serbia, Republika Srpska together against terrorism

BANJALUKA — Serbia and Republika Srpska will continue to foster cooperation and confront terrorism through joint efforts, and their counter-terrorist units will hold a joint exercise in August, Serbian Interior Minister Nebojsa Stefanovic said in Banjaluca Friday.

After meeting with his Republika Srpska counterpart Dragan Lukac, Stefanovic noted the goal of the exercise was to demonstrate the security forces’ level of training and readiness to act in complex conditions and tasks.

Serbia’s Special Counter-Terrorist Unit, the Gendarmerie and all other police units required to demonstrate this will be taking part in the exercise, Stefanovic said.

“Our task is to show that we are prepared to prevent terrorist activities and potential execution of terrorist attacks,” a statement from the Serbian Interior Ministry quoted Stefanovic as saying.—Tanjung



Fighters of Libyan forces allied with the UN-backed government walk during reconnaissance patrol in a coastline of Sirte, Libya, on 25 July, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Libyan forces battle Islamic State snipers for streets of Sirte

SIRTE, (Libya) — Libyan forces made a fresh push on Friday to capture ground from Islamic State militants besieged in the centre of their former North African stronghold of Sirte.

Nearly three months into a campaign to recapture the city, brigades mainly composed of fighters from nearby Misrata are waging sporadic street battles in residential areas where militants use snipers, mines and concealed explosives to defend their positions.

The brigades advanced rapidly on Sirte after launching a counter-attack against Islamic State in early May, but their progress has slowed as they close in on the city center.

Losing Sirte would be a major blow for Islamic State, which established total control over the coastal city last year and expanded its presence along about 250 km (150 miles) of sparsely populated land on either side.

The brigades fighting Islamic State are aligned with Libya's UN-backed government, which arrived in the capital, Tripoli, in March.

Western powers hope to unite rival factions that set up competing parliaments and administrations in the east and west of Libya in 2014 as their armed supporters fought for power.

But as the new government tries to impose its authority on a country still in turmoil, it has struggled to provide rapid financial and logistical support to the brigades in Sirte.

Friday's fighting was focused on the "Dollar" neighbourhood, about 1.5 km southwest of the middle of the city.

"We are trying to take the whole of 'Dollar' — we control about 40 percent so far," said fighter Mohamed Faraj Zourab. "It's slow progress because of the land mines, booby traps and snipers."

At least five brigade members were killed and 28 wounded in the fighting, medical officials at a nearby field hospital said.

Nearly all Sirte's residents have left the city, and shots and artillery fire ring out amid emptied buildings now used by both sides for cover.

"We are trying to force them out house by house," said another fighter, Mohamed Sbah. "We advanced by about five houses this morning. We saw the snipers making holes in the wall so they could move from one building to another."

Islamic State still holds several strategic sites in central Sirte, including the university, the main hospital, and the Ouagadougou conference hall, where fighters believe they have stocked large quantities of ammunition and provisions.

More than 300 of the fighters have died and more than 1,500 have been wounded since the campaign began. After heavy fighting, the brigades tend to hold back for several days, partly because of a lack of capacity to treat the wounded.

"Before, most of the injuries were from car bombs; now it's snipers," said field hospital doctor Marwan al-Mabrouk. "They are direct hits to the head or the heart, and only a minority survive." —Reuters

UN council approves police to Burundi, several states abstain

UNITED NATIONS — The United Nations Security Council authorized on Friday the deployment of up to 228 UN police to Burundi to monitor the security and human rights situation in the East African country, though four of the 15 members abstained from the vote.

More than 450 people have been killed since President Pierre Nkurunziza pursued and won a third term last year, a move his opponents say violated the constitution and a peace deal that ended a civil war in 2005.

Government officials and members of the opposition have

been among those killed in tit-for-tat violence by rival sides. About a quarter of a million people have fled the violence.

"Given an increase in violence and tension the Security Council must have eyes and ears on the ground to predict and ensure that the worst does not occur in Burundi," said French UN Ambassador Francois Delattre.

The violence has caused alarm in a region where memories of Rwanda's 1994 genocide remain raw. Like Rwanda, Burundi has an ethnic Hutu majority and a Tutsi minority.

So far the violence has largely

followed political rather than ethnic lines. But the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights said last month he feared increased violence and incitement could turn ethnic in nature.

"This time we are not waiting for the worst to occur before taking action," Malaysia's Deputy Ambassador Siti Hajjar Adnin told the council. However, US Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power said the resolution was not strong enough and that the UN police would simply be observers to Burundi's problems, warning the situation is "all but certain to deteriorate." —Reuters

US allows American-made planes to be flown to Iran

WASHINGTON — The United States said on Friday it would allow foreign airlines to fly US-made aircraft to Iran, providing greater assurance to aviation companies as Iran tries to re-establish trade and business links following the lifting of sanctions.

The US Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control on Friday issued a license allowing US-made planes to have "temporary sojourn" in Iran, meaning airlines such as Lufthansa, Turkish Airlines, or others flying frequently to Iran are expressly allowed to use US-made planes, or planes with US parts, to fly there.

Iran and world powers reached a deal on Tehran's nuclear programme last July that allowed for the lifting of most sanctions on the country, although many US sanctions remain in place. The deal allows for US companies to obtain licenses to sell civil aircraft to Iran, but a proposed deal between Boeing Co (BA.N) and Iran has drawn the ire of members of the US Congress, who are trying to block it.

The license issued on Friday has no impact on the proposed Boeing deal.

Because of a quirk in the law, US-made planes could be flown to other countries under US sanc-

tion, such as Cuba, Sudan, Syria, and North Korea. Iran was an exception to this, said Jonathan Epstein, an attorney at Holland & Knight in Washington.

"Technically there was no legal way to fly to Iran, so US lessors tended to say no, or it caused a lot of angst in the US leasing community that these planes were being flown there," said Epstein, who advises aviation leasing firms on sanctions issues.

Practically speaking, many airlines were already flying US-made planes or those using significant amounts of US parts, Epstein said. But Friday's announcement resolved some of the ambiguity surrounding such trips, he said.

"It was technically not allowed but was akin to speeding," Epstein said. "The foreign airlines were flying ... but the leasing company took different views on whether they allowed this or not."

Treasury outlined several conditions for its allowance, including that the planes stay in Iran no longer than 72 hours at a time. It also only covers fixed-wing aircraft rather than aircraft like helicopters. Companies are also not allowed to store spare parts in Iran, among other conditions. —Reuters

Syrian maternity hospital supported by Save the Children bombed — charity

BEIRUT — A Syrian maternity hospital in a rebel-held area of Idlib province was extensively damaged on Friday after a direct hit, international charity Save the Children, which supports the hospital, said.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which monitors violence in Syria's five-year-old conflict, said air strikes hit the hospital and also a civil defence building.

The number of casualties is

not yet known, a spokesman for Save the Children said.

The hospital in Kafer Takhareem, the only maternity facility for about 70 miles (110 km), works with around 1,300 women and children a month and delivered some 340 babies last month, the spokesman said. In another part of the northern Idlib countryside, air strikes on Friday killed at least five people and seriously injured more than 25, the Observatory said. —Reuters



People inspect the damage as they stand near a Save the Children sponsored maternity hospital after an airstrike in the rebel-controlled town of Kafer Takhareem in Idlib Province, Syria on 29 July, 2016.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Brazil's Lula to stand trial for obstruction of justice

SAO PAULO — Brazil's former President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and the former chief executive of investment bank Grupo BTG Pactual SA will stand trial for obstruction of justice, documents from a federal court in Brasilia showed on Friday.

Lula was previously under investigation in various jurisdictions in a sprawling corruption probe focused on state-run oil company Petroleo Brasileiro SA (Petrobras) but is now officially a defendant.

The case dates to last November, when former Senator Delcideo do Amaral and Andre Esteves, the founder and former CEO of BTG Pactual, were arrested for allegedly trying to stop a jailed former Petrobras executive from collaborating with Brazil's largest-ever corruption investigation.

The executive's son recorded Amaral, who is collaborating now with prosecutors himself for a lightened sentence, saying judges could be influenced into freeing his father and that Esteves was willing to pay for his silence.

The case had previously been secret, and less is known about Lula's alleged involvement in that incident.

Lula's lawyers said in a statement that they had not been notified of the court's decision but intended to prove his innocence.

BTG Pactual declined to comment. Esteves's lawyer Sepúlveda Pertence said, "The judge will review our defence and decide if it's a case for acquittal or even removing him as a defendant. We're convinced our client has not committed any illegal acts and there is no fair reason

for a criminal case."

Lula has repeatedly denied wrongdoing, though prosecutors say the multibillion-dollar graft scheme originated during his 2003-2011 presidency and continued during the presidency of his chosen successor, suspended President Dilma Rousseff.

Brazil's largest engineering companies are accused of overcharging Petrobras for work and passing on kickbacks to executives and politicians. They are also being investigated for graft on venues for the 2014 World Cup and upcoming Olympics, events awarded to Brazil under Lula.

On Thursday, Lula's lawyers petitioned the United Nations Human Rights Committee on the grounds his rights had been violated in a separate corruption investigation under a different



Brazil's former president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva attends a protest against Brazil's interim President Michel Temer and in support of suspended President Dilma Rousseff at Paulista Avenue in Sao Paulo, Brazil, on 10 June, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

judge spear heading the Operation Car Wash corruption investigation from the southern city of Curitiba. The UN Human Rights Office confirmed the petition had

been received and would be examined to see if it meets the criteria for registration. The process could take at least two years.—Reuters

Russia has motive, capability and form for US email hack

MOSCOW — The Kremlin says it had zero involvement in the hacking of Democratic Party emails while US officials say the hack originated in Russia. We may never know who is right, but one thing is for sure — Russia had motive, capability and form.

Seen through Kremlin eyes, Moscow would only be doing what it feels the United States has been doing to it for years anyway — interfering in a geopolitical rival's domestic politics in an attempt to destabilise and shape events.

President Vladimir Putin said in February he had seen specific intelligence suggesting Russia's foreign enemies — code for Washington — were preparing to meddle in Russian parliamentary

elections later this year.

And in 2011, Putin accused the US State Department and Hillary Clinton, its then head, of stirring up street protests against his rule.

"We need to head off any external attempts to interfere in the elections, in our domestic political life," Putin, who is facing re-election in 2018, told officers from Russia's FSB security service in February.

"You know that certain kinds of (political) technologies exist and have already been used in many countries."

That was shorthand for Ukraine, Libya, Egypt and Syria, which Putin thinks Washington irresponsibly destabilised. People who have studied him for years

say he believes the United States is trying to foment the same kind of unrest to oust him.

His credo, set out when talking about Islamic State last year, is to strike first "if a fight is inevitable" and, as Russia has shown in its reaction to what it sees as NATO's aggressive build-up near its borders, to respond in kind.

"Clearly the Kremlin feels it should and can insert itself into domestic politics in other countries in much the same way it believes the United States and Europe insert themselves into Russian politics," Samuel Greene, the director of the Russia Institute at London's King's College, told Reuters.

"In their view it is fair play.

They have seen the West involving itself in politics in Ukraine and other former parts of the Soviet space and feel they should be able to pretty much do the same thing."

He said such disruptive behaviour was driven by a calculation: to stir up trouble in other countries so they have less bandwidth to focus on Russia.

Mark Galeotti, senior research fellow at the Institute of International Relations Prague, said he believed another motive for the hack — if Russia was behind it — would be to portray U.S. democracy as venal and chaotic and so take the sting out of Western accusations that Russian elections are corrupt.—Reuters

US Air Force asks industry for proposals to replace nuclear missiles

WASHINGTON — The US Air Force asked industry on Friday for proposals to replace the Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile and the nuclear cruise missile as the military moves ahead with a costly modernization of its ageing atomic weapons systems.

The Air Force said in a statement it expected to award up to two contracts for a new ICBM weapons system, or ground-based strategic deterrent, sometime next summer or fall. It also expected to award up to two contracts in the same time frame for a new nuclear cruise missile, or long-range standoff weapon.

Modernization of the US nuclear force is expected to cost more than \$350 billion over the next decade as the United States works to replace its ageing systems, including bombs, nuclear bombers, missiles and submarines. Some analysts estimate the cost of modernization at \$1 trillion over 30 years.

The new ICBM system would be a follow-on to the Minuteman missile, whose launch systems and physical infrastructure first became operational in the mid-1960s. The system has been upgraded over the years, but much of the infrastructure is original, the Air Force said.

The most recent versions of the Minuteman III date from the late 1990s and early 2000s and had an intended 20-year life span, the Air Force said. The missile will "face increased operational and sustainment challenges until it can be replaced," it said.—Reuters

Mexico agrees to monitor for its probe of student massacre



Relatives of the 43 missing students from the Teacher's Training College Ayotzinapa Raul Isidro Burgos take part in a march to protest against the government's handling of the investigation in the case of 43 students, to mark the 19-month anniversary of their disappearance, in Mexico City, Mexico, on 26 April 2016.

PHOTO: REUTERS

MEXICO CITY — Mexico agreed on Friday to let the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) again monitor its widely criticized investigation into the disappearance and probable massacre of 43 students in 2014. After almost three months of dialogue, the government and the IACHR agreed that the commission can send two technical advisers who will visit Mexico as needed to review the investigation, the IACHR said in a statement. Starting last year, a group of international experts backed by the IACHR exposed serious flaws in the Mexican attorney general's probe of the students' disappearance in September 2014 in the southern state of Guerrero.

The experts said suspects in the case had been tortured, and they debunked the government's official version that the students had been burned in a dump and their remains had been thrown into a river in Guerrero. The experts' mandate expired earlier this year and was not renewed by the government.—Reuters

Rio security screeners fired one week before Games

RIO DE JANEIRO — Brazil's government on Friday fired a private security firm hired to provide screeners for Olympic venues and replaced them with federal and state police, just one week from the opening of the 2016 Games in Rio de Janeiro.

Justice Minister Alexandre Moraes said that members of the federal government's National Force, along with active and retired police from Rio and other states, will comprise the corps of 3,000 people screening fans and running metal detectors at Olympic venues.

It was just a few weeks ago that the government contracted the relatively unknown security firm Artel to carry out that task. The company was expected to provide 3,400 guards.

But Artel told the government in recent days it had only recruited 500 screeners.

"The company will be fined for its incompetence and irresponsibility," Moraes said. "But the Games



Flags with welcome messages in several languages advertising the 2016 Rio Olympics are pictured on Rio de Janeiro's international airport driveway, Brazil, on 28 June, 2016.

PHOTO: REUTERS

will not suffer any damage."

Moraes has said that the main security concern is crime against visitors. But fears of potential terror attacks grew after Brazil last week arrested several people who allegedly swore allegiance to the Islamic State mili-

tant group and supposedly planned to carry out attacks.

The change in venue screeners will not impact the 85,000 soldiers, police and other government security officers who will be patrolling Rio's streets in an effort to keep the peace during the Games, which

run through 21 August. That is double the number of security agents on the ground in London at the 2012 Olympics.

Brazil has more homicides than any other nation, according to annual United Nations reports on murders, and Rio has recently endured an increase in crime

amid an ongoing recession, rising unemployment and shortfalls in public security budgets.

But the city has consistently pulled off massive events such as Carnival, the 2014 World Cup final and one of the world's biggest New Year's Eve bashes with few security hiccups for visitors.

Instead, most of the violence is focused in Rio's slums, where roughly 20 percent of the population lives and where a recent spike in deaths has been focused as drug gangs battle one another for turf and clash with police.

The problem with the security contractor is similar to one that hit London Olympic organisers in 2012.

Just two weeks before the Games started in London, the G4S security firm said it could not provide the 10,400 guards it was contracted to provide. That forced the British government to put an extra 3,500 troops on standby to fill the gap.—Reuters

Police question two people on French train but not detained

TOULON, (France) — Two people on a high-speed train in southern France were questioned by armed police officers after railway officials raised concerns about suspicious behaviour, but the pair were not detained, a local administrator said on Friday. The train's conductor had earlier announced that police had arrested the individuals on the train, which was travelling from Nice to Paris. The passengers had refused to answer questions from train attendants or show their tickets. They were switching seats and communicating between themselves with hand signals, an attendant in another section of the train told Reuters. France is on the edge after a series of deadly Islamist militant attacks, the latest on Tuesday when two attackers killed a priest with a blade and wounded another in a church in northern France, before he was shot dead by police.—Reuters

Housing shortage may damage South Africa's ruling ANC in local elections

JOHANNESBURG — Sylvia Mashile bitterly recalls the cramped two-room house she and six other relatives called home in a shantytown in South Africa, where the lack of affordable housing may cost the ruling party at next week's local elections.

The housing deficit is an emotive issue in Africa's most industrialised country, where 19 per cent of families live in informal dwellings more than two decades after the end

of apartheid rule despite promises by the ruling African National Congress (ANC) party to fast-track new homes for the poor.

Next to the mansions and skyscrapers in Sandton, Africa's richest suburb in Johannesburg, the poor, like Mashile and her family in nearby Alexandra township, struggle to make ends meet.

Since decades of white minority rule ended in 1994, areas such as Sandton and "Alex", as it is lo-

cally known, have offered stark examples of lingering economic disparities.

"My mother has been to the housing department many times now only to be told that 'there is no house yet'," said Mashile, 33, who lives in Alex where many share water, toilets and illegal power connections.

Mashile says her mother has waited for a government-provided home since 1996, when the family moved to Alex.

Buyisiwe Dube, 40, a cleaner in Sandton, lives in a one-room shack in Alex. In 2007 she had to send her two children back home in Kwa-Zulu-Natal province, more than 500 km (310 miles) away, as the shack had become too small for the three of them.

"I applied for a house in 1997 ... I'm still waiting for it. When it rains, water drips inside and it's also cold in winter."

Frustration over the pace of housing delivery preoccupies many voters, analysts say. "It will not be a one-issue election but a combination of issues with housing being one of the most important," said Somadoda Fikeni, a political analyst at the University of South Africa in Pretoria.

ANC policies have helped more blacks climb into the wealthy bracket but informal, squalid settlements have mushroomed around cities as demand for housing has far outstripped the country's ability to provide it.

President Jacob Zuma has brushed off criticism, saying his government has a plan to address the shortages.—Reuters

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV TOVE MAERSK VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TOVE MAERSK VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 31.7.2016 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 BC MUMBAI VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BC MUMBAI VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 31.7.2016 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 ORIENT OVERSEA
CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 2301185



Locals walk on the streets of Alexandra Township, an informal settlement for thousands of South Africans who lack the means to get a proper home, located near the upper-class suburb of Sandton in Johannesburg, South Africa, on 28 July 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Minnesota judge denies claims of 29 would-be heirs to Prince estate

LOS ANGELES — A Minnesota judge has excluded nearly 30 would-be heirs from the estate of the late pop star Prince, bolstering the inheritance claims of the performer's sister and surviving half-siblings, probate court records released on Friday showed.

The court order, issued on Thursday, came in response to a flood of individuals seeking a piece of an estate some have valued at more than \$500 million, left by Prince when he died unexpectedly in April at the age of 57, apparently without a will.

Claims have poured into the probate court since Prince's younger sister, Tyka Nelson, filed a petition seeking appointment of a special administrator for the estate and naming herself and five half-siblings as the only known heirs.

In his 19-page order, Carv-

er County Judge Kevin Eide appeared to accept those six claims, stating, "The court is not aware of any objection or dispute with the statement that these persons are the siblings or half-siblings" of Prince. Under the ruling, Tyka Nelson and three half-siblings by Prince's father will undergo genetic testing — John, Norrine and Sharon Nelson — along with two more individuals claiming to be Prince's niece and grandniece.

No provision for genetic testing was made for two other half-brothers — Alfred Jackson and Omar Baker — who shared a common mother with the singer.

The judge dismissed claims of heirship from a total of 29 other people purported to have some degree of kinship with Prince, including a professed secret wife who said the CIA had classified their marriage records as top secret.

Among other would-be heirs he denied were five people who came forward claiming Prince was their biological or adoptive father, and several others claiming their dad was also Prince's genetic parent by way of an extramarital affair with his mother.

Also dismissed were a batch of claims by several people who described themselves as descendants of a sister of Prince's great-grandfather.

The musician, born as Prince Rogers Nelson, has long been identified in public records as the only surviving son from the marriage between Mattie Della Shaw and John L. Nelson, both of whom are now dead. And Judge Eide ruled there was no "credible, documented claim" of a surviving Prince spouse.

If Prince also left no will and no surviving offspring of his own, as appears to be the case,



US musician Prince performs on stage at Yas Arena in Yas Island, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates in 2010. PHOTO: REUTERS

his estate under Minnesota law would be apportioned in equal shares to his siblings and the nearest surviving descendants of any siblings now dead. Siblings and half-siblings are treated the

same.

The special administrator of the estate, Bremer Trust, has said it was in the process of determining the fair-market value of Prince's estate.—Reuters



Kanye West and Taylor Swift. PHOTO: PTI

Glad my wife has Snapchat: Kanye West on Swift Taylor controversy

LOS ANGELES — Kanye West is happy that his wife Kim Kardashian released the Snapchat video of him talking to Taylor Swift about the Famous lyrics, saying now everyone knows the truth.

Swift had slammed West for using her name in the lyrics but West had claimed that she had given her permission to use her name, a fact initially denied by Blank Space hitmaker.

The 39-year-old rapper, who made a surprise appearance during Drake's concert at the United Center in Chicago, performed Famous at the gig, reported E! online.

"All I gotta say is, I am so glad my wife has Snapchat, because now y'all can know the truth," West told the crowd.

Kardashian shared 10 snapchat videos, which were filmed in January, showing West talking to Swift while he was in the recording studio to give her a heads-up that she would be name-dropped.

After Famous was released in February, Swift's rep said the pop singer was humiliated and did not approve of all the lyrics. West and Kardashian claimed that Swift was playing the victim.

Kardashian's Snapchat videos went viral, so Swift issued a statement via Instagram.

"Where is the video of Kanye telling me he was going to call me 'that bitch' in his song? It doesn't exist because it never happened. You don't get to control someone's emo-

tional response to being called 'that bitch' in front of the entire world," the 26-year-old singer-songwriter wrote.

Swift said she wanted to like the song and West had promised to play the song for her but he did not do it.

"Being falsely painted as a liar when I was never given the full story or played any part of the song is character assassination. I would very much like to be excluded from this narrative, one that I have never asked to be a part of, since 2009."

Kardashian said she was tired of seeing her husband taking the heat for using Swift's name when she had already approved it. So, she decided to release the videos.—PTI

'Psycho Raman' wins best Asian genre film award

MUMBAI — Anurag Kashyap's serial killing drama "Psycho Raman" won the best Asian genre film award at Bucheon International Fantastic Film Festival, Korea.

Deepak Sampat won the best actor award for Rohit Mittal's "Auto Head" at the festival.

Kashyap, 43, took to Twitter to share the news with his fans.

"Psycho Raman wins

BestAsian genre film@Bi-Fan(Korea) and Rohit Mittal's 'Auto Head' wins best Actor for'Deepak Sampat'," he tweeted.

The film, starring Nawazuddin Siddiqui and Vicky Kaushal, is inspired by real life serial killer Raman Raghav, who operated in Mumbai in mid-1960s and released in Hindi as "Raman Raghav 2.0".—PTI

'Mujhse Shaadi Karogi' one of my favourite films: Priyanka

MUMBAI — Actress Priyanka Chopra says her 2004 movie "Mujhse Shaadi Karogi" is one her most favourite films.

Directed by David Dhawan, the movie, which was released 12 years ago, also starred Salman Khan, Akshay Kumar and Amrisha Puri.

Priyanka, 34, took to Insta-

gram to share the poster of the film and thank the cast as well as fans for making it a hit.

"Still One of my favourite movie... #12yearsofmujhse shaadikarogi Thank you to everyone who has loved it. Salman, Akshay, David sir, Sajid, Amrisha Puri and everyone involved," she wrote.—PTI



PHOTO: PTI

Bezos passes Buffett, becomes third-richest person — Forbes

NEW YORK — Jeff Bezos, the founder and chief executive of Amazon.com Inc, has become the world's third-richest person as of the market close for the first time, *Forbes* magazine said, passing Warren Buffett, the chairman and chief executive of Berkshire Hathaway Inc.

Bezos' fortune was \$65.3 billion as of 4:30 pm EDT (2030 GMT) on Thursday, compared with Buffett's \$64.9 billion.

Microsoft Corp co-founder Bill Gates remained the world's richest person, at \$77.7 billion, while Spain's Amancio Ortega, who founded the Zara clothing chain's owner Inditex SA, was second at \$72.7 billion. Facebook Inc co-founder and chief executive Mark Zuckerberg was fifth, at \$54 billion.

Bezos, 52, owns close to 18 per cent of Amazon. Its stock has risen by roughly 50 per cent since early February, as the world's largest online retailer continued to upend retailing as more people took to the Web

rather than the mall to shop.

Amazon's share price rose further in after-hours trading, after the Seattle-based company reported better-than-expected second-quarter results.

Buffett, 85, owns close to 18 per cent of Berkshire, but his donation this month of \$2.86 billion of Berkshire stock to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and four family charities led to his drop to fourth place. He has donated more than \$24.3 billion to the Gates Foundation and family charities since 2006.

Berkshire is based in Omaha, Nebraska, and has roughly 90 business units including Geico car insurance, the BNSF railroad and Dairy Queen ice cream.

In June, Buffett called Bezos a "classic example" of how a business owner could thrive, by having focused at Amazon on how to "delight" customers, and keep them coming back, rather than simply process their orders.—*Reuters*

Oozing dim sum buns delight diners in Hong Kong

HONG KONG — At Dim Sum Icon in Hong Kong, diners are encouraged to play with their food.

Squeeze the lactating and defecating steamed dim sum bun with coconut cream inside, made to resemble one of the popular Japanese 'Kobitos' characters, and you're in for a "hilarious" experience, customers say.

But far from grossing people out, Ray Kuo, assistant manager at the restaurant, said it's one of the most popular items on the menu.

"Actually we got a lot of good reviews from them," Kuo said. "That is the main one they post on Facebook and Instagram."

Another crowd-pleaser is a pooping 'Gudetama', the lazy yellow egg character from Japan's Sanrio, and a cartoon turd made out of cake.

The restaurant uses Japanese animations, such as the 'Kobitos' by Toshitaka Nabata and 'Gudetama,' but switches the main theme up every few months in addition to alternating menu items.

"We don't want the old traditional Chinese style of dim sum, so we want make it more fashionable, Kuo said, emphasizing the restaurant's appeal to teenagers and a "younger crowd."

Dutch exchange student,



A milk custard bun made to resemble one of the popular Japanese 'Kobitos' characters is squeezed during a display for the photographer at Dim Sum Icon restaurant in Hong Kong, China on 25 July 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Lineke Schrigver, said she knew about the restaurants from social media before even setting foot in the city and happened to walk by it. "I have seen it on Facebook and on Instagram already before I came to Hong Kong, but I didn't know this was like a famous thing or anything," Schrigver said. "I was like I want to go there."

Schrigver said the food was "hilarious" but "really tasty."

Taiwanese tourist, Miss Su, who had just arrived in Hong Kong said her family had first eaten at a traditional dim sum restaurant but were disappointed.

"I think it is a novelty and special so I wanted to have a try," Su said. "And it does taste really good, cute and tasty."

Kuo explained that everything has been cleared with the copyrights holder, with a percentage of the profits going to the animation companies.

Dim Sum Icon opened their first restaurant two years ago and their second at the end of December. They are already in negotiations to open stores in mainland China and Macau.—*Reuters*

MRTV News Channel in Brief

(31-7-2016, Sunday)

6:00 am

- Paritta by Venerable MinGun Sayadaw

7:35 am

- Business News

8:35 am

- Documentary
- People's Talk

9:50 am

- Poem For Children

10:35 am

- Documentary (Women in Myanmar Society)

11:15 am

- Gitadagale Phwintbaohn

12:50 pm

- Myanmar Movie (Part-1)

3:35 pm

- Myanmar Movie (Part-2)

4:15 pm

- Documentary

5:15 pm

- Documentary

5:40 pm

- AFF Women's Championship 2016 (Live Broadcast) (Myanmar Vs Australia)

8:00 pm

- News / International News/ Weather Report

8:35 pm

- Documentary

9:00 pm

- News
- Monthly Weather Report
- TV Drama Series
- Yarmaryana Zattaw Gyi (Part-2)

Note/ Hourly News Bulletins (Local + International)

Terracotta Warrior Lanterns to be centerpiece at Manchester New Year celebrations

MANCHESTER — China's Terracotta Warrior lanterns are to be the centerpiece of new year celebrations in Manchester in January, marking their first appearance in Britain.

The Lanterns of the Terracotta Warriors will illuminate Manchester's Exchange Square as part of the city's 2017 Chinese New Year programme, the biggest celebration of its kind in Britain outside Chinatown in London. The event will be co-held by Heart of Manchester BID along with the Federation of Chinese Associations of Manchester, Manchester City Council and the Confucius Institute.

Commissioned for the Bei-

jing Olympics Games in 2008, the exhibition has appeared in iconic locations across the globe including Sydney Harbour, Zagreb Central Square and Prague's Hradcany Castle. Created by artist Xia Nan, the brightly colored lanterns were inspired by the famous Terracotta Army uncovered in 1974 in the tomb of China's First Emperor and widely regarded as the 8th Wonder of the Ancient World.

Each standing more than two meters tall, the lanterns bring together two key elements of Chinese art and culture, namely the compelling story of the Terracotta Army and the 2000 year old tradition of lantern-making.

A spokeswoman for Heart of Manchester BID said: "The Chinese New Year celebrations in 2017 are set to be the biggest the city has ever seen." "Manchester city center will see in the Year of the Rooster with a four day program (26th — 29th January 2017), celebrating the very best of traditional and contemporary Chinese culture," she added. More than 6,000 traditional red lanterns will adorn the city's streets alongside a 15-metre tall Golden Dragon spectacle, with light shows and fireworks displays, Chinese and Asian food villages, live music and traditional performances and a host of citywide family events.—*Xinhua*

MRTV Entertainment Channel

(31-7-2016, Sunday)

06 : 00 pm

- Weather Report
- Cartoon Programme "Final Fantasy The spirits within" (Part-2)

07 : 00 pm

- International Movie Songs

07 : 10 pm

- Myanmar Video

09 : 00 pm

- MRTV Entertainment Music

09 : 10 pm

- Myanmar Music Icon Ko Nay Win, Creator of Myanmar Own Tune Songs (Episode-2)

09 : 30 pm

- Myanmar Movie

From 31-7-2016 (Sunday) 6:00 pm
To 1-8-2016 (Monday) 6:00 pm

mitv Myanmar International

(31-7-2016 07:00am ~ 1-8-2016 07:00am) MST

Today Fresh

- | | | |
|-------|----|---|
| 07:03 | Am | News |
| 07:25 | Am | Karaweik Palace- A Symbol Of Glorious Myanmar Culture |
| 07:40 | Am | Marketable Goods (Aluminum Glasses & Stainless Steel) |
| 07:52 | Am | Delicacies From Magwe |
| 08:03 | Am | News |
| 08:26 | Am | Clam Farming |
| 08:42 | Am | Mogok: The Colourful Land of Rubies |
| 08:56 | Am | H.E.I.P (5) Elephant can run faster than Human |
| 09:03 | Am | News |
| 09:26 | Am | Travelogue: Ngwe Saung Beach |

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| 09:46 | Am | A Tea Business: Pankwan (Part-2) |
| 10:03 | Am | News |
| 10:25 | Am | "Myanmar's Traditions and Culture" Myanmar Pottery |
| 10:47 | Am | Gardener: King Orange Plantation |

(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm) - Saturday 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 | The Mountain with antique stone sculptures & Mural Painting |
| 07:43 | Pm | Art Students: Sculpture |
| 07:49 | Pm | Today Myanmar: Street Vendors |
| 08:03 | Pm | News |
| 08:26 | Pm | Bogalay Tint Aung: A Man of Versatility (Part- 3) |
| 08:53 | Pm | Myanmar Masterclass: Art Teacher |

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

Japan coach cautions team not to overreact to friendly result

GOIANIA, (Brazil), — Win or lose, Japan Under-23 coach Makoto Teguramori has warned his players not to let the outcome of Saturday's friendly against Brazil affect them ahead of their opening match at the Rio Olympics.

Japan, surprise semifinalists at the London Games four years ago, take on the hosts captained by Barcelona superstar Neymar in Goiania in their final-warm up before taking on Nigeria in their first Group B match in Manaus on 4 August.

"If we get beaten we can't allow it to break our confidence but if we win we can't let ourselves get carried away either. We have to be very careful about this," Teguramori told a press conference on Friday.

"We are not a strong team. We have to hold aspirations of becoming stronger and head into the Olympic tournament with the hope that we can keep winning."

He added, "If we get greedy it will come at a cost. We need to be humble. But ideally we want to head into the tournament with confidence. I want to show we



Members of Japan's Under-23 soccer team practice in the Brazilian city of Goiania on 29 July 2016, a day before their friendly against Brazil. Under-23 coach Makoto Teguramori warned his players not to let the outcome of the friendly affect them ahead of their opening match at the Rio de Janeiro Olympics. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

can win."

Neymar carries Brazil's hopes of winning an elusive Olympic gold medal and Teguramori is under no illusions of the task facing his side.

"Brazil are a magnificent team and will be putting out fantastic players. We will be mixing it with players that have the quality to be with the leading clubs in the world."

Brazil coach Rogerio Micalle has entrusted Neymar with the captain's armband and he hailed the abilities of the 24-year-old forward at the press conference.

"The quality Neymar has shown surpasses my expectations," Micalle said. "His presence is priceless."

Micalle said he intends to put out his best players, including Paris Saint-Germain defender Marquinhos, but hopefully give every member some playing time.

"This is our last game before the Olympics and it is a crucial match. I want to use all my players," said Micalle.

"Japan are a good team and there is a possibility that we could face them in the knockout tournament."

"I have heard Japan's preparations for the Olympics have been intense. Hopefully it will be a good game and we can both go into the main tournament in good shape."

Japan have also been drawn against Sweden and Colombia, while Brazil are in Group A alongside Denmark, Iraq and South Africa.—Kyodo News

Kerber, Halep set for Wimbledon rematch in Montreal

TORONTO — Angelique Kerber cruised past Daria Kasatkina 6-2, 6-2 to reach the last four of the Rogers Cup on Friday, where she will reprise her Wimbledon quarter-final clash with Simona Halep after the Romanian beat ninth seed Svetlana Kuznetsova.

Fifth seed Halep had the tougher quarter-final, recovering from a rough start to beat Kuznetsova 3-6, 6-1, 6-1.

Halep dropped serve three times in the first set but did not face a single break point after that.

"It was very tough," said Halep, who was beaten by Kerber

at Wimbledon on 5 July. "She played very well and she's very strong so I knew it was going to be like this.

"I was a little bit nervous at the beginning of the match and I didn't really feel the ball. But I just tried to be aggressive and play my game ... I was fighting today."

Second seed Kerber had a much easier day, taking only an hour to beat unseeded Russian Kasatkina.

"I think I played really well today and it's really nice to be in the semis for the first time in

Montréal," said the Australian Open champion.

"I was trying to focus on my game because it was the first time I met her and it worked."

The other semi-final will pit 10th seeded American Madison Keys against unseeded Slovakian Kristina Kucova.

Keys won a topsy-turvy quarter-final against 16th seeded Russian Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 7-6(3), 1-6, 6-0 in the early evening match.

Kucova eliminated British 15th seed Johanna Konta 6-4, 6-3 in the night match.—Reuters



Svetlana Kuznetsova of Russia (left) and Simona Halep of Romania shake hands after their match on day five of the Rogers Cup tennis tournament at Uniprix Stadium in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, on 29 July. Photo: Reuters

Monfils beats Raonic in Toronto, Djokovic wins

TORONTO, — Frenchman Gael Monfils maintained his run of brilliant form when he nullified Milos Raonic's big serve to eliminate the local favourite from the Rogers Cup in Toronto on Friday.

Monfils displayed his renowned athleticism in a high-quality quarter-final, relying on his lightning-fast court coverage to manufacture a 6-4, 6-4 victory over the losing Wimbledon finalist.

The 10th seed set up a semi-final against top seed Novak Djokovic, who overcame poor serving and 33 unforced errors to beat Czech Tomas Berdych 7-6(6), 6-4 in an error-riddled match.

Second seed Stan Wawrinka and third seed Kei Nishikori will meet in Saturday's other semi-final.

Five days after ending a drought of more than two years by winning an ATP event in Washington, Monfils took his hot form with him north of the border.

The capacity evening crowd did their best to lift powerful Canadian Raonic, but Mon-

films, whose attitude has often been questioned, did not buckle against the fourth seed.

Earlier, Djokovic staved off three set points in a first set tiebreak before improving his career record against Berdych to 25-2. The Serbian admitted he was lucky to advance after saving seven of eight break points.

"Bit fortunate I must say," he said in an on-court interview. "My serve just wasn't right today. I just completely lost my rhythm, and he was taking over control of my second serve, attacking it."

"On a quick surface like this you need a good serve. Today it wasn't to be but I won in straight sets. I must be pleased with the way I hung in there. That's all."

In the afternoon session, Swiss Wawrinka advanced with a comprehensive 6-1, 6-3 victory over big-serving South African Kevin Anderson. "I started really well from the first game," said Wawrinka, a two-times grand slam champion who is seeking his 15th ATP World Tour title. "It showed me that I was ready, aggressive, moving really well.—Reuters