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SOLVING THE RAKHINE ISSUE

STATE COUNSELLOR, KOFI ANNAN, CONVENE ADVISORY COMMISSION

STATE Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi held a meeting with the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State led by commission chairman Mr. Kofi Annan, the founder and chairman of the Kofi Annan Foundation, at the National Reconciliation and Peace Center in Yangon yesterday.

In her address, the State Counsellor said that the issue of Rakhine State is the most important matter for all, stressing the need to seek a solution to the issue for ensuring stability and development of the country. The State Counsellor expressed confidence that the commission chairman and members will help find solutions to the issue.

The issue of Rakhine State is the most important matter for all.

Mr. Kofi Annan said that he was pleased to be part of the country's transition period, expressing his belief that the commission can offer suggestions that will help Myanmar achieve peace and prosperity in the future.

Also present at the meeting were Union Minister U Kyaw Tint Swe, members of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State and other officials.

The State Counsellor Office released a statement on 24 August that the government, committed to finding lasting solutions to the complex and delicate issues in Rakhine State, would establish an Advisory Commission on Rakhine State.

The nine-member Advisory Commission is chaired by Mr Kofi Annan, the former Secretary-General of the United Nations, the chairman and founder of the Kofi Annan Foundation and a Nobel laureate. In addition to Mr. Annan, the commission comprises three international and six national persons of eminence who are highly experienced, respected and neutral individuals, added the statement.—*Myanmar News Agency*

State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi making a speech with Mr. Kofi Annan sitting on her right. PHOTO: MNA

Eid Day on 13 September

THE Union Government issued a notification on Thursday that as Eid Day (Bakri Eid) falls on 13 September (Tuesday), the day is declared as a public holiday in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, according to Section 25 of the Negotiable Instruments Act.—*GNLM*

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STRENGTH OF MYANMAR
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Pyithu Hluttaw

Pyithu Hluttaw hears answers to parliamentary questions by relevant ministries

PYITHU Hluttaw held its 26th day session yesterday, with Union ministers answering questions on transport and agricultural matters.

During a question-and-answer session, Union Minister for Transport and Communications U Thant Sin Maung agreed to transfer the management of the Punnya railway tunnel to the Ministry of Construction. But, the Union minister pointed out that the existing tunnel for rail traffic is unsuitable for serving as a road tunnel because traffic goes only in one direction.

Cranes cannot be brought in to clear possible traffic accidents in the tunnel and construction of new roads to the tunnel and bridges on the roads will be needed, added the Union minister.

Next, he responded to a question on measures for sustainability of Ngamoeyeik creek, saying that Sakura Trade Center Co., which was granted permission to implement a housing project on an area of 8.99 acres by the Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development, has been sued for not seeking remarks and technical assistance from the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems while building retaining walls.

Erosion control measures will take place at 25 locations on the creek as of next fiscal year and the ministry will develop long-term plans to ensure sustainability of the Ngamoeyeik creek, added the Union minister.

The minister then replied to a question about necessary measures against frequent flooding of roads and railroads in Kyauktaw Township of Rakhine State, promising that necessary measures will be taken starting the next fiscal year for roads and railroads which are submerged not only in Kyauktaw but also in other townships.

Union Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation answered questions about agricultural lending in Mon State and Bago Region.

Regarding delays in disbursement of agricultural loans to farmers in Thanbuyzayat Township of Mon State, the Union minister said that plans are underway to allow Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank to function under the Ministry of Planning and Finance as the bank has insufficient staff, causing delays in loan disbursements.

On the subject of agricultural loans for farmers in Bago Region, the Union minister said that loans are being provided to farmers who are clear of debt and have Form-7 certificates, a farmland work permit.

Dr Aung Thu.

U Thant Zin Maung.

U Nyan Hein.

Dr U Saw Naing.

U Oo Tun Win.

Daw Yin Min Hlaing.

Next, the Union minister responded to a call for the return of land currently held by the ministry in Thasi Township to a village, saying that there will be a sound situation for existing settlers following adoption of policies covering the whole country in the future but it is impossible to give up the land at the moment.— *Myanmar News Agency*

Myanmar Handicraft Association attends ASEAN-USPTO Workshop in Bangkok, Thailand

A Myanmar delegation left for Thailand yesterday to attend the ASEAN USPTO Workshop on Using Intellectual Property to Protect and Promote Traditional Arts and Crafts scheduled to be held from 6 to 8 September in Bangkok. The two-member delegation comprises U Tha Du, the chairman of he Myanmar Handicraft Association, and Vice Chairman U Maung Maung Aung, were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Daw Sandar Tun, secretary-2 of the association.— *MTA*

Delegates to ASEAN-USPTO workshop being seen off at the airport. PHOTO: MTA

Civil Service Training course opend in Kayin State

The opening ceremony of Civil Service Training course in progress. PHOTO: SAW MYO MIN THEIN (KAYIN STATE IPRD)

THE Ministry of Information and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, a German foundation, jointly organised a Civil Service Training Course for departmental officials in Kayin State in Hpa-an yesterday.

U Teza Htut, the minister for Bamar ethnic affairs, addressed the opening ceremony. Next, Daw Khin Saw Linn, the head of the Kayin State Information and Public Relations Department, and U Tin Maung Maung Than, an associate fellow of ISEAS-YUSOF, Ishak Institute, elaborated on the training course.

A total of 24 officers are attending the training course set to last for five days till 9 September. — *Saw Myo Min Thein (Kayin State IPRD)*

Vice President receives Chinese ambassador to Myanmar

VICE President U Myint Swe received the Chinese ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Hong Liang and party at the Diplomatic hall of the Presidential Palace yesterday.

At the meeting, they discussed matters related to promotion of bilateral friendship, economic co-operation and participation in the 13th China-ASEAN Expo in Nanning, China.

Present at the call were deputy union minister for the State Counsellor's Office U Khin Maung Tin, deputy union minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win and other officials.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Vice President U Myint Swe shakes hands with Mr. Hong Liang, Chinese ambassador to Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

Vice President U Henry Van Thio goes on inspection tour of Bagan cultural region

Vice President U Henry Van Thio observes the quake-hit pagodas in Bagan. PHOTO: MNA

VICE President U Henry Van Thio, the chairman of the national natural disaster management committee, went on an inspection tour of Bagan to assess the level of damages of the quake-hit pagodas and religious edifices yesterday.

On his arrival at Bagan Archaeological Museum, the Vice President heard reports on ongoing works for the restoration of damaged pagodas and temples presented by officials, including a representative of UNESCO.

Mandalay Region Chief Minister Dr Zaw Myint Maung, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Ohn Maung and Union Minister for Religious and Cultural Affairs Thura U Aung Ko presented supplementary reports.

In his address, the Vice President called for advanced technology to be applied in cultural heritage restoration, stressing the need to record restoration works.

The Vice President then presented K100 million donated by the national natural disaster management central committee to Union Minister Thura U Aung Ko, and accepted K100 million by CB Bank and US$50,000 by Thiripyitsaya Hotel.

Union Ministers Thura U Aung Ko, Dr Win Myat Aye and U Ohn Maung, Chief Minister Dr Zaw Myint Maung and Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Aung Soe received cash donations presented by wellwishers.

On his inspection tour of Bagan, the Vice President inspected restoration works at several pagodas and temples.

An earthquake on 24 August damaged 449 religious edifices in the cultural heritage site. Cash donations of K1.9billion and $1,700 have been received.

The Department of Archaeology said that 40 religious edifices were covered with tarpaulins and works are underway to record and repair the damaged pagodas.—*Myanmar News Agency*

MoHT trials transportation of foreigners via red number-plated vehicles in southern Shan State

THE Ministry of Hotels and Tourism has informed Myitmakha News Agency that with effect from October 1, they will begin a trial of allowing foreign passengers in southern Shan State to ride rental vehicles with red number plates.

Foreigners are presently allowed to ride blue number-plated vehicles within the parameters of municipal jurisdictions in other states and regions around Myanmar. But the absence of permission to cross municipal boundaries with such vehicles has prompted a trial of those vehicles with red number plates.

"It will be brought in slowly. For now, though, were still only at the discussion phase. One doesn't need any permission if they're just traveling around within the jurisdiction parameters of the Yangon City Development Committee for example. But if one wishes to travel from Yangon to Naypyidaw via rental vehicle, an application must be submitted to the ministry for permission to transport foreign nationals," said U Tint Thwin, director general of the Directorate of Hotels and Tourism.

Drivers and vehicle owners will reportedly have to follow protocol of transporting foreigners with red number-plated vehicles after the number of vehicles with blue number plates are currently insufficient to capacitate transportation of the numbers of foreign tourists visiting Myanmar.

Talks are currently being held with state and regional governments concerned over the implementation of transporting foreigners with blue and red number-plated rental vehicles.

"In terms of developing the domestic tourist industry, if we only allow foreigners to travel via blue number-plated rental vehicles, we'll find there won't be enough such number plated vehicles at times when we see large influxes of foreign tourists to the country. It will require other vehicles to be used which won't be in-line with regulations. We're submitting a proposal to the MoHT now in a bid to mitigate such from happening, said U Kyaw Min Htet, joint general-secretary of the Union of Myanmar Travel Association.—*Myitmakha News agency*

Union Minister for Construction U Win Khaing and wife Daw Hla Hla Mu are being welcomed by Malaysian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Mohd Haniff Bin Abd Rahman at a reception to celebrate the 59th Anniversary Malaysian National Day in Yangon on Monday. PHOTO: MYANMAR NEWS AGENCY

Mango cold-storage facility to be built in Nay Pyi Taw

A public cold-storage facility that will be able to capacitate the storage of 10,000 tonnes of mangos will be definitively constructed in Nay Pyi Taw during 2017, U Thein Naing, owner of Food Garden, has informed Myitmakha News Agency.

The cold storage facility will reportedly be completed by April 2017, and will serve as a location to store mangos for international export.

"The cold storage facility will be built after reviewing the state of mangos being produced by local farmers. The facility is intended to be up-and-running in time for the forthcoming mango season. For now, a survey on potential investors in the project will be carried out," said U Thein Naing.

Field studies are currently being carried out, while Swiss agricultural experts will reportedly assist mango farmers on gratis with required technology, fertilizers and machinery.

"It would be great if this project comes to fruition. It could be beneficial; farmers would see healthy profits. At the moment, mango farmers are losing about 50 per cent of their crops. Farmers would benefit greatly is measures could be taken to prevent such losses," said Daw Than Than Swe, chair of the Mandalay Mango Association.

Mangos will be brought from farmers at market prices during the mango season. Once the mango season draws to a close, dried fruits and ready-made vegetables will then be exported to international markets.

The majority of mangos are brought from mango farmers in Nay Pyi Taw, Taungoo, Mandalay and Meiktila, with educational initiatives to also be carried out with mango growers in these regions.—*Myitmakha News Agency*

Only 3% of rubber in global market produced in Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos

THAILAND remains the world's largest rubber producer, accounting for 36 per cent of the total production last year, followed by Indonesia with 26 per cent and Viet Nam with 8 per cent, according to the International Rubber Study Group.

Thailand has been the world's largest producer of natural rubber since 1993.

China is the fourth major rubber producer with 7 per cent, while Malaysia, India and Africa are the fifth-largest producers with 5 per cent each.

Only 3 per cent of rubber in the international market is produced from Myanmar, Cambodia and Laos.

The world produced a total of 12,274 tonnes of natural rubber last year, according to the IRSG, the sole international body representing the global rubber industry.

China continues to be the largest consumer of natural rubber, accounting for 39 per cent of the world consumption, followed by other Asian countries with 20 per cent, European countries with 10 per cent, the U.S and India with 8 per cent and Japan with 6 per cent.

Seventy per cent of the global production of rubber comes from South East Asian countries, the report said. — *Htut Htut*

Workers of a rubber plantation pouring rubber saps into the buckets. PHOTO: MITV

Crime NEWS

Four charged with drug trafficking in Bago Region, Shan State

Ma Zar Zar Phyo Wai, Aye Aye Myo and Aung Aung. PHOTO: KYEMON

FOUR people were charged with trafficking in yaba pills on Saturday in Bago Region and Shan State, police said yesterday.

Ma Zar Zar Phyo Wai, of Myothit Ward-A, Thazin Street, Bago Township, was arrested by an anti-drug squad following a raid at her residence on 3 September. Police discovered over 6,000 yaba pills, K50,000 and a handset in her home.

A couple, Aung Aung and Aye Aye Myo residing at Aungmyetha Street-3 in Bago, were also placed under arrest after they were found in a possession of a cache of more than 50,000 yaba tablets on the same day. Police also collected K500,000, a motor vehicle and two handsets from them.

Ma Thanda Soe was also arrested by police from Loilem in Shan State after authorities found nearly 4,000 stimulant tablets in her possession while she was travelling to Nansam-Taunggyi by Shwemyitmo Express.

All suspects will face charges under the existing Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.— *Kyemon*

Teenagers arrested for stealing handsets

FOUR teenagers were arrested in connection with a theft of over K4.5 million worth electronic devices from a mobile shop in Athoke, a town in Yekyi Township in Ayeyawady Region on Saturday, according to police.

The four young men — Kyaw Wai Lin (aka Skull), 16, Naing Win Tun (aka A Nge Gaung), 15, Wai Yan Lin (aka Ye Htet), 15 and Zarni Min Soe (aka Mee Chit San), 15, — were charged after they were found in possession of stolen materials including 30 handsets, 172 top-up cards and related accessories from the Aungyadana Mobile Sale Centre owned by U Myo Sithu in Athoke Township. — *Ko Ye*

Man dies in single-car crash

A 41-year-old man was killed after single-vehicle crash on the Yangon and Mandalay Road near Pyawbwe on Saturday, according to police.

A car being driven by U Tint Zaw Oo, 41, en route from Nay Pyi Taw to Mandalay, crashed into a bridge on the left side of the road between mile posts No. 264/7 and 265/0 in Pyawbwe Township in Mandalay Region after the driver apparently lost control of the car.

U Kan Myint died at the scene. The driver sustained serious injuries.

Action is being taken against the driver, who is receiving medical treatment at Nyaungdon Station. — *Ko Ye*

The damaged car seen after crashing into a bridge. Photo: Ko Ye

Illegally harvested teak logs seized in Katha

OVER 30 tonnes of illegally harvested teak logs were found by local authorities on Saturday in the forest near Ingyi Village in Katha, a town in Sagaing Region.

Police and officials from the Forestry Department discovered a total of 160 unclaimed teak logs near Thein Lake, located in the south of Malngo Village, as they carried out inspection duties along Shweli River to protect natural forests from illegal logging.

Police are still investigating the case in an effort to arrest the owner of the illegally harvested teakwood. — *Ngwe Oh (Katha)*

Three men wanted for armed robbery in Shwepyitha

POLICE are searching for three men responsible for an armed robbery on Saturday evening in Shwepyitha Township on the outskirts of Yangon.

According to the investigators, Kyaw Kyaw Latt and his girlfriend were robbed by three unidentified men armed with knives. They took two mobile handsets and a watch worth over K400,000 from the couple.

Police filed a lawsuit against those suspects under Section 382/114 of the Penal Code. — *Ko Ko Naing (Shwepyitha)*

LOCAL Business

Value of border trade between China and Myanmar reached over US$2billion in five months

THE value of border trade between China and Myanmar during five months in this fiscal year reached over US$2 billion, according to the Ministry of Commerce.

China-Myanmar border trade in five months fetched US$2.296billion. The most exported commodity to China was rice and other agricultural products. Jade raw materials are also heavily exported.

The value of trade at the Muse border camp is higher than the combined total of trade value in three other border camps of China and Myanmar: Lweje, Kanpike Tee and Chin Shwe Haw.

But the volume of trade via the Muse border camp this fiscal year has not reached its expected target, earning US$1. 95billion. The decrease in trade value is attributed to the traffic congestion on Mandalay-Lashio-Muse Road and confiscation of products by Chinese authorities.—*Ko Htet*

Peanut oil price drops in Minbu due to high yield

WITH the high yield of peanuts in Minbu, the price of peanut oil price has dropped to Ks4,500 per viss, whereas the peanut price has slumped to Ks4,700 per basket, it is learnt.

The yield of peanuts was high this year due to torrential rains. But the price of peanut oil dropped from Ks6,000 to Ks4,500 per viss. The wholesale price of peanut oil is Ks4,300 per viss.

The price of edible oil declines at harvest time of oil crops. Similarly, the rice price also falls when a new rice variety enters a market. The price of sesame oil is Ks3,900 to Ks4,000 per viss whereas the palm oil price, Ks1,500. The mixed oil containing palm oil fetches a maximum of Ks2,500, said a businessman who is engaged in oil crop mills in Minbu.

The peanut price is Ks4,700 per basket, whereas the pigeon peas fetch Ks50,000 per basket. Black sesame seeds are Ks63,000 per basket, while the price of white and red sesame seeds are around Ks30,000 per basket. —*Ko Htet*

State-owned fish hatcheries expected to produce over 490 million fingerlings this year

STATE-owned hatcheries are expected to produce 494.96 million fingerlings during this fiscal year, said an official from the Fisheries department.

Those fingerlings from the hatcheries will be distributed to breeders who are engaged in fish farming on a manageable scale as well as to major fish farming businessmen.

There are a total of 25 hatcheries owned by the government.

Efforts are being made to increase the production of young fish. The department has planned to distribute the fish at an affordable price.

The preventive measures are also taken to make the fish farming businesses not suffer unduly as a result of natural disasters.

Fish farming businesses are mostly found in Yangon, Bago and Ayeyawady regions.—*200*

Sedona Hotel Yangon completes wedding, bridal fair over the weekend

Opening ceremony of Most Exclusive Wedding & Bridal Fair of Sedona Hotel, Yangon. PHOTO: SUPPLIED BY SEDONA

THE Sedona Hotel Yangon organized a "Most Exclusive Wedding & Bridal Fair" in Yangon on Saturday. The fair lasted for two days. "The two-day event was aimed at providing our customers with one-stop service that includes wedding dress selection and event planning, said Ms. Mikon, the director of marketing and communications for Sedona Hotel.

The Grand Ballroom of the Sedona Hotel can accommodate a wedding reception for 1,000 guests, added the director. —*GNLM*

Over 1 lakh of sesame seeds exported yearly to the foreign countires

LOCALLY produced sesame seeds of over 1 lakh are yearly exported to China, Japan and South Korea, it is learnt from Myanmar Pulses,Beans & Sesame Seeds Merchants Association.

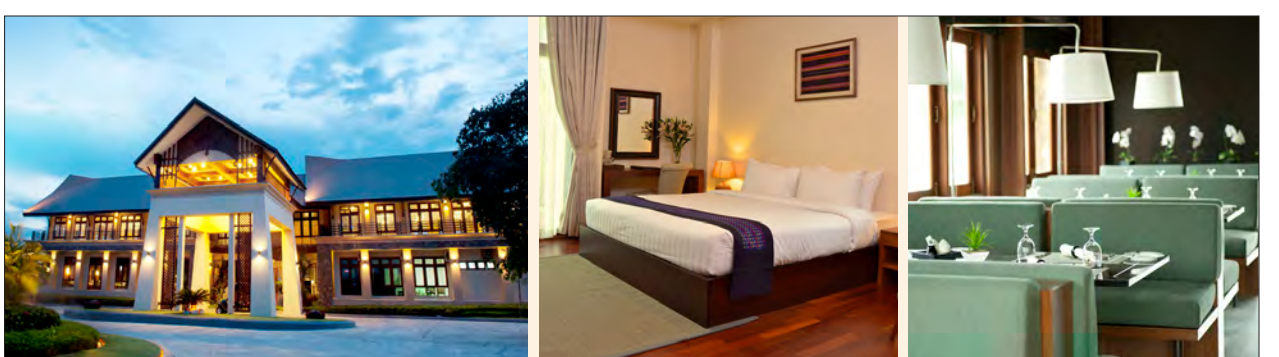
China is the main buyer of sesame seeds. The sesames are imported to China through Shweli and Chin Shwe Haw border channels.

The rain-fed sesame seeds are also exported mostly to Japan for use in Japanese cuisine and to produce sesame oil. Sesame powder is exported to South Korea, a by-product derived after the sesame seeds are roasted, it is learnt.

The sesame seeds are tested in Thailand before shipping to foreign countries to ensure the product is free of residue from pesticides. As a result, the transportation costs of sesame seeds are high. Additionally, the cost of the testing is Ks500,000 per variety. The testing costs Ks4million per batch of sesame export, it is learnt. Chemical fertilizer companies should conduct awareness campaigns for the farmers, said an official from the association.

During this year, sesame growers have dealt with low yield and low prices due to torrential rains. The sesame yields this year were only six baskets per acre, compared to eight baskets per acre in previous years.

Sesame seeds fetched up to Ks210,000 for three baskets (45 visses) in previous year.s The sesames are currently offered a maximum of Ks150,000 per three baskets. The cultivation of sesame costs about Ks300,000 per acre, including the harvesting and processing costs. The price of sesame might increase if the demand rises, said a businessman. —*200*



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G20 summit warned of risks to economy as North Korea test-fires missiles

HANGZHOU, (China) — North Korea fired three ballistic missiles off its east coast on Monday in a defiant reminder of the risks to global security, as world leaders including US President Barack Obama gathered at a G20 summit in China for the second day.

North Korea has tested missiles at sensitive times in the past to draw attention to its military might. But Monday's launch risks embarrassing its main ally Beijing, which has gone to extraordinary lengths to ensure a smooth summit meeting in the eastern Chinese city of Hangzhou.

The missile test was also an unwanted distraction for the United States, which has been trying on the sidelines of the summit to finalise a deal with Russia for a ceasefire in Syria.

US Secretary of State John Kerry and his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov met in Hangzhou, but failed to clinch a breakthrough. Obama later talked with Russian President Vladimir Putin, but there was no immediate word on the outcome.

The South Korean military said Pyongyang launched the missiles at around 0300 GMT. The South's Yonhap news agency said the medium-range missiles flew for about 600 miles (1,000 km) and landed inside Japan's air defence identification zone.

The test prompted a quick meeting between South Korean President Park Geun-hye and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in Hangzhou, and they agreed to cooperate on monitoring the situation, a Japanese statement said.

Earlier on Monday, the leaders of South Korea and China met on the sidelines of the G20 summit and Chinese President Xi Jinping reaffirmed Beijing's commitment to the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula, state news agency Xinhua reported.

Leaders pose for a family picture during the G20 Summit in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, China, on 4 September 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Park said a fourth nuclear test by North Korea this year followed by a series of missile tests had "gravely damaged peace on the Korean peninsula and the region and posed a challenge to the development of South Korea-China ties", Yonhap said.

Xi said China opposed the US deployment of the THAAD anti-missile system in South Korea to counter missile and nuclear threats from North Korea.

Two years ago, the North fired two Rodong medium-range missiles just as Park and Abe were sitting down with Obama at the Hague to discuss a response to the North's arms programme.

In 2003, North Korea tested an anti-ship missile during an Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit held in Bangkok. The G20 summit, bringing together leaders of the world's major economies, had largely focused in its main sessions on spurring the global economy, countering protectionism and removing trade barriers. A communique is to be issued before the meeting wraps up later on Monday.

At the morning session, Japan's Abe warned that the downside risks to the global economy were increasing, and the group need to respond with a sense of urgency, a Japanese spokesman said.

While inaugurating the summit on Sunday, Xi said the global economy was being threatened by rising protectionism and risks from highly leveraged financial markets. With the summit taking place after Britain's vote in June to exit the European Union and before the US presidential election in November, observers expect G20 leaders to mount a defence of free trade and globalisation and warn against isolationism. —*Reuters*

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Rahul Gandhi to embark on month-long marathon walk in India

NEW DELHI — India's Nehru-Gandhi scion Rahul Gandhi said he will embark on a marathon walk from the northern state of Uttar Pradesh to Delhi next week for rights of the poor.

Gandhi, the second-in-command of India's main opposition Congress party, took to social media to announce his 2,500-km marathon walk from Deoria in Uttar Pradesh to Delhi.

"My Yatra from Deoria to Delhi starting 6 September — is a campaign to secure the rights of the poor, farmers and labourers in government resources," he tweeted on Saturday.

During his journey, Gandhi has indicated that he will conduct door-to-door campaign and one-to-one interactions with farmers and also hold several roadshows, covering over 200 assembly constituencies.

Uttar Pradesh, the politically crucial state, goes to polls early next year, and Gandhi's yatra is aimed at giving the Congress party some foothold there. Both Congress and India's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party are trying to get some footing in the state, currently ruled by regional Samajwadi Party with Bahujan Samaj Party being the main opposition.—*Xinhua*

Thai police arrest first suspect in connection with tourist-town bombs

BANGKOK — Thai police said on Monday they had arrested a suspect linked to Muslim separatists in connection with a wave of bombings in tourist towns last month that killed four people and wounded dozens, including foreigners.

The bombs and arson attacks in various towns south of Bangkok including Hua Hin, Surat Thani and on Phuket island, raised fears that a Muslim separatist insurgency, for years largely confined to three deep-south, Muslim-majority provinces, was spreading.

Police have issued several warrants in connection with the blasts but the suspect detained on Saturday, identified as Abdul Kadae, was the first person to be arrested.

Officials check the scene after bomb blasts in the southern province of Surat Thani, Thailand in this still image from video on 12 August, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

"The suspect is currently in military custody where he is being interrogated," police deputy spokesman Krisana Pattanacharoen told Reuters.

Police said Kadae was from Pattani, one of the three troubled, Muslim-majority provinces in the far south of predominantly Buddhist Thailand, and he had connections to separatists.

They did not elaborate but said he was suspected of arson in Trang province as part of the 11-12 August wave of attacks.

Kadae can be held in military custody for up to seven days before he is allowed access to a lawyer.—*Reuters*

Singapore confirms 27 more locally transmitted Zika cases

SINGAPORE — Singapore authorities on Sunday confirmed 27 more cases of locally transmitted Zika virus infection, bringing the total to 242.

Twenty-five new cases were linked to the initial outbreak area, one was linked to a potential new cluster and the remaining new case had no known links to any existing cluster, the Ministry of Health and National Environment Agency said in a joint statement.

"There is a potential new cluster involving one previously reported case and a new case today...," the statement said.

Zika infections in pregnant women have been shown to cause microcephaly — a severe birth defect in which the head and brain are undersized — as well as other brain abnormalities. The connection between Zika and microcephaly first came to light last fall in Brazil, which has since confirmed more than 1,800 cases of microcephaly.

In adults, Zika infections have also been linked to a rare neurological syndrome known as Guillain-Barre, as well as other neurological disorders.

The virus was first identified in Uganda in 1947 and was unknown in the Americas until 2014.—*Reuters*

A resident shields his nose as pest control officer carries out fogging in the Aljunied Crescent cluster in Singapore, on 3 September. PHOTO: REUTERS

Indonesia environment team threatened with death investigating haze

JAKARTA — Dozens of Indonesian men, suspected of being hired by an oil palm plantation company, threatened to kill environmental investigators checking on fires on Sumatra island, the environment ministry said.

The incident illustrates the difficulties Indonesia faces tackling the illegal burning of vegetation to clear land for palm oil and pulp and paper plantations that causes clouds of smoke every dry season, which at times blanket the region, raising fears for public health and air travel.

The ministry said a group of up to 100 men detained seven investigators for about 12 hours on the weekend and threatened to burn them alive and dump their bodies in a river at an oil palm plantation in Rokan Hulu, Riau province.

The team was following up on satellite images showing "hot spots", or suspected fires, in a concession of PT Andika Permata Sawit Lestari (APSL) oil palm plantation company.

There were "strong indications" the mob was deployed by the company, the ministry said in a statement.

"With this incident, the investigation of PT APSL will become our top priority," Environment Minister Siti Nurbaya said in the statement, referring to both suspected forest encroachment by the company and the detention of the team.

"The environment ministry will investigate this and take strict action in accordance with the law," she said.

A company official, contacted by Reuters on Monday, declined to comment.

The team was released only after lengthy negotiations involving police and after they agreed to delete photographic evidence and to leave behind two vehicles and equipment. The equipment and vehicles were recovered the next day. The investigators, however, managed to retrieve video footage shot by a drone showing thousands of hectares of forest had been burned illegally in and around the APSL concession.

"As far as the eye can see, an area that was once peatland has been converted into oil palm plantation," Nurbaya said.

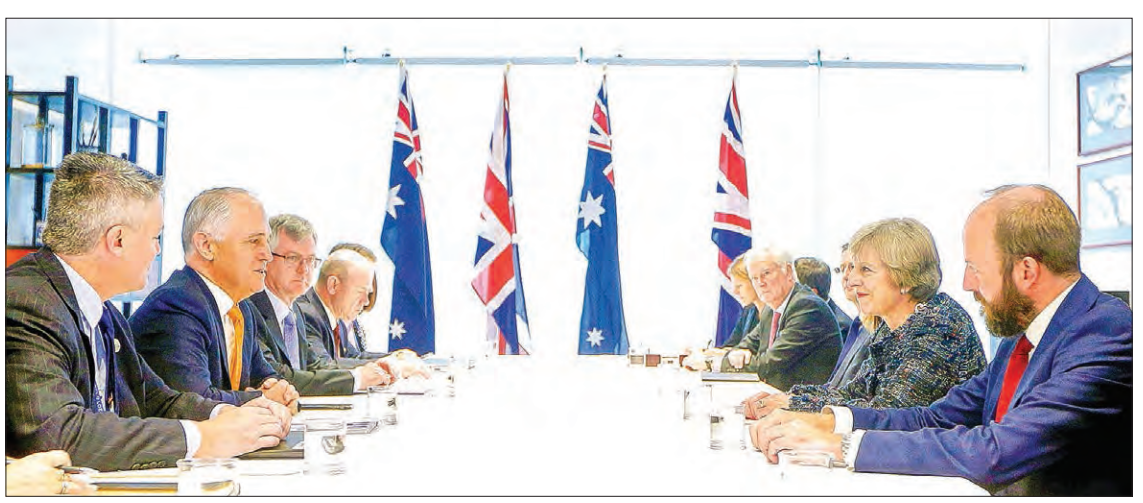
Plantation companies drain swampy peatland before planting their crops and the dried-out peat is particularly flammable and often catches fire when companies set fires to clear vegetation.

More than 450 individuals have been arrested in connection with land and forest fires this year.

Under Indonesian law, companies found guilty of clearing land by burning can be fined up to 10 billion rupiah ($735,000), and the management faces up to 10 years in jail. Companies that fail to control fires started elsewhere but which spread into their concession land also face punishment.

Smoke from fires in Riau often drifts over nearby Singapore and Malaysia. Air pollution in Singapore rose to "unhealthy" levels late last month after a spike in fires in the area. — *Reuters*

Australia says wants 'very strong' Britain free trade deal



British Prime Minister Theresa May meets Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull during a bilateral meeting at the sidelines of G20 Summit in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, China, on 5 September. PHOTO: REUTERS

HANGZHOU — Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said on Monday he wants to negotiate a "very strong" free trade agreement with Britain after it leaves the European Union.

Britain's June decision to leave the 28-country EU sent financial markets into shock in anticipation of a recession as Britain enters a years-long process of tearing itself away from its biggest trading partner and forging a new global economic role.

Britain's economy will suffer as a result of the decision despite signs in recent data that the impact has not been as severe as some predicted, Prime Minister Theresa May said on Sunday on her way to the G20 summit in the eastern Chinese city of Hangzhou.

Turnbull told reporters that May told the Australians she "remains very grateful for the assistance we are providing, both legislative and in terms of other resources". "And of course, from our point of view, getting in to deal with the British early and making sure we can negotiate a very strong, very open free trade agreement once they are actually out of the European Union."—*Reuters*

Opinion

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Common identity versus cultural provenance

Khin Maung Aye

CONTEMPORARY debates concerning citizenship and rights have raised questions about the notion that citizens can enjoy rights regardless of the situations under which they are living. An important terrain of contention has opened up since 1980s in citizenship theory, with multi-culturalism, plurality, diversity and difference becoming important terms of reference for re-theorizing citizenship. This contest is, in practical effect, related to the unmasking of those differences previously regarded as impertinent to citizenship.

In this regard, it would not be inappropriate to recall that there is an increasing effort to redefine citizenship by placing an emphasis upon cultural differences among individuals and by striking a proper balance between the numerous religious, ethnic and linguistic identities while building a common political identity of the citizens of a nation. It is worth noting here that the notions of multiculturalism and minority rights have been involved in contemporary periods as democratic values, whereby cultural communities can claim inherent rights and negotiate fair terms of inclusion in the national political space. This influential strand within the citizenship theory has sought to invest in multiculturalism as the core element of democratic citizenship that cherishes cultural diversity and envisages a society in which diversified communities forge a common identity while retaining their cultural provenance.

It is worth quoting Kymlicka, who has identified three forms of group-differentiated rights: self-government rights; poly-ethnic rights and special representation rights. Self-government rights recognise some kind of political autonomy or territorial jurisdiction of national minorities. Such rights are manifested in federal structures where the boundaries of federal sub-units are given the same autonomy. Poly-ethnic rights are concerned with specific rights of immigrant communities. Under this assumption, they should abandon all aspects of their ethnic heritage and be assimilated into the existing cultural norms and practices. Such rights may take, in the beginning, the form of demanding the right to express their peculiarities and differences without fear of prejudice or discrimination in the mainstream society. However, the ethnic groups may come to expand these rights, demanding positive action in the form of protection, preservation and nurturing from the state to root out discrimination and preserve their existence as distinct entities. Special representations rights have evoked interest among national and ethnic groups as well as non-ethnic categories – women, the poor and the disabled. This fundamentally translates into democratising the structures of the state by making it more representative, e.g., making the legislative bodies more representative by including members of ethnic and racial minorities and women, the poor, the disabled etc.

An effective teacher

Dr. Myo Win
Yangon University of Education

WHAT is an effective teacher? A century ago, this question was answered very simply. A good teacher was a good person - a role model who met the community ideal for a good citizen, good parent, and good employee. At that time, teachers were judged primarily on their goodness as people and only secondarily on their behavior in the classroom. They were expected to be honest, hardworking, generous, friendly, and considerate, and to demonstrate these qualities in their classrooms by being organized, disciplined, insightful, and committed. Thus, to be effective, all an effective teacher needed was King Solmon's wisdom, Albert Einstein's knowledge, and Florence Nightingale's dedication. However, this definition of an ideal teacher lacked clear, objective standards of performance that could be used to train future teachers.

Then, an effective teacher was defined again in terms of psychological characteristics which include a teacher's personality, attitude, experience, aptitude, and past achievement. Again, they have not been useful criteria for defining a good teacher as they have a certain intuitive appeal. History proved that defining good teachers by community ideals was unrealistic. It was also seen how teachers' psychological characteristics proved to be poorly related to what teachers actually do in the classroom. In the last three decades, a revolution occurred in search of effective teaching. During the 1970s and 1980s, researchers developed new methods for studying the classroom interaction patterns of teachers and students.

According to the findings of the research, there are ten teacher behaviours that have shown promising relationships to desirable students performance. The first five behaviours which are called key behaviours are: lesson clarity, instructional variety, teacher task orientation, engagement in the learning process and student success rate.

Lesson clarity

Lesson clarity refers to how clear a teacher can teach. More effective teachers can make their points clear to learners who have different levels of understanding. They can explain concepts in ways that help students follow along in a logical step-by- step order. Moreover, they have an oral delivery that is direct, audible to all students, and free of distracting mannerisms. Not all teachers are able to communicate clearly and directly to their students without wandering, speaking above students' level of comprehension, or using speech patterns that impair their presentation clarity. If teachers teach with a high degree of clarity, they can spend less time for the lesson. Research shows that both the cognitive clarity and oral clarity of presentations vary substantially among teachers. This in turn produces differences in student performance on cognitive tests of achievement.

Instructional variety

Instructional variety means teachers' variability or flexibility of delivery while teaching a lesson. One of the most effective ways of creating variety during instruction is to ask questions. Therefore, effective teachers need to know how to ask questions effectively and how to discriminate among different question formats - fact questions, process questions, convergent questions and divergent questions. Another aspect of variety is clear: the use of learning materials, equipment, displays and space in the classroom. An effective teacher begins lesson with an activity in a modality that is different from last lesson or activity. He varies modes of presentation.

Teacher task orientation

It is a key behavior that refers to how much classroom time the teacher devotes to the task of teaching an academic subject. The more time allocated to the task of teaching a specific topic, the greater the opportunity students have to learn. Allocating time for planning a lesson, presenting it and assessing learners' performance needs to be balanced. Students perform highly if teachers spend the maximum amount of time available. Students may have higher rates of achievement if teacher-student interactions focus more on subject matter content that allows students the maximum opportunity to learn.

Engagement in the learning process

Student engagement in the learning process is a key behavior that refers to the amount of time students devote to learning in the classroom. To promote student engagement in the classroom, the teacher sets rules that let students attend to their personal needs and work routines without obtaining teacher's permission each time. He moves around the room to monitor students' seatwork and to communicate his awareness of student progress. He also ensures that independent assignments are interesting, worthwhile, and easy enough to be completed by each student without his direction. He makes abundant use of resources and activities that are slightly above a student's current level of understanding.

Student success rate

Student success rate refers to the rate at which students understand and correctly complete exercises and assignments. Their success rate and their learning are directly related. Their success rates are varied. Some students understand the subject matter and make only occasional careless errors. Some students have partial understanding but make some substantive errors. Some students have little or no understanding of the subject matter. It was found that student engagement was closely related to student success rate. The average student in a typical classroom spends about half of the time working on tasks that provide the opportunity for high success. But researchers have found that students who spend more than the average time in high-success activities have higher achievement, better retention, and more positive attitudes towards school. These findings suggest that students should spend about 60% to 70% of their time on tasks that allow almost complete understanding of the material being taught with only occasional errors.

All five key behaviours - lesson clarity, instructional variety, teacher task orientation, student engagement and success rate – are essential for effective teaching. In addition to these five key behaviours, there are some helping behaviours related to effective teaching. They are using student ideas and contributions, structuring, questioning, probing and teacher affect.

Using student ideas and contributions

Using student ideas and contributions is a behavior that includes acknowledging, modifying, applying, comparing and summarizing student responses to promote the goals of a lesson and to encourage student participation. If the teacher acknowledges a student's correct response and repeats it to the class, he can increase lesson clarity. If he uses a student's idea by rephrasing it in his own words, then he can also create instructional variety. In the same way, if the teacher applies a student's idea to teach an inference, such behaviour can increase students' success rate.

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Miss Myanmar International Myanmar's 2016 winner Ingyin Htoo

MISS Myanmar International Myanmar 2016 Grand Final was being held on 5th September at Melia Hotel. This concept is being held annually under the leadership of the association of Myanmar tourism enterprises. Ma Ingyin Htoo won the Winner price and she has to go as the representative of Myanmar at Miss Grand International concept which will be held in October in Japan, it is learnt.

Miss Myanmar International is a national competition to select Myanmar's representative to the Miss International pageant. This pageant is unrelated to the Miss Myanmar, Miss World, Miss World Myanmar or Miss Golden Land Myanmar national contests.

Begun in 2012, Miss Myanmar International becomes a pioneer and an independent national pageant in Yangon, Myanmar. Starting from that year, Myanmar has participated for the first time since 1961 in an international beauty pageant as Nang Khin Zay Yar represented at the Miss International 2012.

At the Grand Final of Miss Myanmar International Myanmar 2016, contestant number 15 Ingyin Htoo won the winner prize, contestant number 1 Tin Sandar Myo won 1st Runner Up and contestant number 4 Nay Kyar Khin won 2nd Runner Up. In addition, Miss Green was won by Nay Kyar Khin, Miss Popular was by Ingyin Htoo and Miss Talent prize was won by No Htet Htet Naing.

The pageants who won the prizes in Grand Final 2016 of Miss Myanmar International were selected from among twenty top beautiful ladies. Those twenty were already selected at the beauty concept which was held on 3rd August, it is learnt.

This kind of concept has been held since 2012 up to now and the aims are mainly to participate Myanmar ladies in Myanmar tourism promoting sector and to overcome the interesting places around Myanmar. In 2012, Miss Grand Myanmar winner was Nan Khin Zayar while 2013 winner was Gone Yay Aye Kyaw, 2014 winner was May Barani Thaw, 2015 winner was Amara Nyein and in 2016 winner was Ingyin Htoo. 2016 winner has to go as the representative of Myanmar to the Beauty Pageant competition which will be held in Japan on October, it is noted.

In Miss Grand Myanmar 2016, the association of Myanmar Tourism enterprises awarded a prize of Ks 100 lakh to the winner Ingyin Htoo , Ks 60 lakh to 1st Runner Up and Ks 40 lakh to 2nd Runner Up.

—*Myanma Alinn*

Winner Ingyin Htoo, being bestowed honour kisses by the 1st Runner Up and 2nd Runner Up. PHOTO: MIN HTET

An effective teacher

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Structuring

Teacher comments made for the purpose of organizing what is to come, or summarizing what has gone before, are called structuring. If structuring is used before teaching, it serves as instructional scaffolding that helps learners in bridging the gap between what they are capable of doing on their own and what they are capable of doing with the help of teacher. If structuring is used at the end of teaching, it reinforces learned content and places it in proper relation to other content that has been taught. Both forms of structuring are related to student achievement.

The art of questioning

Questioning is another important helping behavior. Two types of question that teachers often uses are content questions and process questions. Teachers use content questions to have the student deal directly with the content that has been taught. In asking content questions, the effective teacher often uses questions that encourage higher-order thinking, such as problem solving, decision making, and valuing. Not all questions can be content questions. There are different purposes for which questions can be asked. They can encourage different mental processes. They can be used to solve problems, to arouse curiosity, to encourage creativity, etc.

Probing

Probing refers to teacher statements that encourage students to elaborate on an answer, either their own or another student's. Probing may take the form of a general question or can include other expressions that elicit clarification of an answer, solicit additional information about a response, or redirect a student's response in a more fruitful direction. Probing is often used to shift a discussion to some higher thought level. Generally, student achievement is highest when the eliciting, soliciting and redirecting occur in cycles. The teacher may begin a lesson with a simple fact question; then, by eliciting clarification of student responses, soliciting new information, or redirecting an answer, the teacher can move to a higher level of questioning.

Teacher affect

Teacher's affective nature is the foundation on which he can build a warm and nurturing relationship with learners. A teacher who is excited about the subject being taught and shows it by facial expression, voice inflection, gesture, and movement, communicating respect and caring for the learner, may hold the attention of students and motivate them to higher levels of achievement. Students take their cues from these affective signs and lower or heighten their engagement with the lesson accordingly. Enthusiasm is an important aspect of a teacher's affect. Enthusiasm is the teacher's vigor, power, involvement, excitement, and interest during a classroom presentation and willingness to share this emotion with learners.

These five key behaviours and five helping behaviours are the skeleton of an effective teacher. They are essential for effective teaching. There can be no simple answer to the question –" what is an effective teacher?". But these ten factors can help a teacher to make his teaching successful.

Reference:

Gary D. Borich (2007) Effective Teaching Methods: Research-Based Practice

Pearson Education, Inc., New Jersey

A New Law to Bring Major Reforms to Myanmar Corporate Sector

The DICAN

MYANMAR is undergoing significant economic liberalization and reforms designed to promote economic growth and investment. Now is also the time to undertake the legal reforms required to support economic liberalization – reforms in regulation of companies that have occurred in many neighboring countries in our region undergoing significant economic growth. These reforms in company law include simpler company formation, reducing compliance burden on SMEs, improving corporate governance, and more flexible share capital management for companies. They aim to make it easier to start and conduct business, support entrepreneurship and the development of a strong and vibrant private sector.

The Myanmar Companies Act 1914 has been governing company activities in Myanmar for over a hundred years. The current law contains many fundamental principles of company law that are found in other countries in the region such as Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong. However, it also contains many outdated and burdensome requirements designed for the 19th century business environment. These requirements include requiring companies to seek the approval of the President to change the company name and the approval of the Courts to change the business activity of a company

Other countries with similar laws to the Myanmar Companies Act have been actively reforming their company laws to better fit with modern business realities. Major overhaul of company laws have gained momentum in the last few years. Singapore introduced a new Companies Act in 2015, Hong Kong introduced a new Companies Ordinance in 2014 and Malaysia has most recently passed its new Companies Act this year. The main changes in these laws are all drawn from experiences and reforms in jurisdictions that share a similar company law framework — such as the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand — and are based on "tried and tested" concepts.

Similarly, Myanmar will now introduce some of these major reforms as it seeks to encourage investment by companies in many sectors of the economy. A draft Myanmar Companies Law has now been prepared which draws on all of the international experiences and reforms in companies laws from Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong. The major reforms in the draft Myanmar Companies Law include the following:

1. Easier incorporation for private companies which will be allowed to have a single director and single shareholder.
2. Removing requirement for annual general meetings and annual financial statements for small private companies.
3. Allowing written resolutions of shareholders and directors so that companies will no longer be required to hold physical meetings.
4. Removing the requirement for companies to have memoranda and articles of association and allowing a company to adopt a "constitution" with tailored rules for itself and its members.
5. Allowing companies to manage their share capital more flexibly by increasing or reducing share capital with fewer requirements.
6. Setting out legal duties of company directors to ensure that management of companies is line with international corporate governance standards.

These major changes will modernize the management of companies and bring many improvements to the corporate sector. Companies will be able to operate in accordance with clear requirements in the law and enjoy greater freedom to conduct their internal affairs based on the company's situation. It will improve the transparency of companies, increase the accountability of directors and better protect investors in companies. All of these changes are long overdue for companies in Myanmar which have faced years of unclear and burdensome regulation, resulting in poor compliance with the law.

Myanmar has a lot of catching up to do in business regulation. The country currently ranks 167th under the World Bank Doing Business rankings which measures how easy it is to set up a company, and regulations for doing business such as protecting minority shareholders and enforcing contracts. Its neighbours which share the same company law heritage rank much higher - Malaysia ranks 16th, Hong Kong ranks 5th and Singapore ranks 1st. These results hold important lessons for Myanmar. Research studies have shown that greater ease of doing business (high rankings) is related to increased company formation and strong economic growth.

The proposed new Myanmar Companies Law aims to address these issues by supporting company registrations, lowering regulations for small companies, allowing greater flexibility in company affairs, and improving regulation. It will start a new era of company management and regulation in Myanmar and build a modern business environment for the 21st century.

UK PM May charts collision course with Brexiteers over immigration

Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May listens to the speech of China's President Xi Jinping during the opening ceremony of the G20 Summit in Hangzhou, China, on 4 September, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

HANGZHOU (China) — British Prime Minister Theresa May cast doubt on Sunday on the effectiveness of 'points-based' immigration systems that screen applicants on the basis of factors like education and skills, setting up a potential conflict with some of her own ministers.

Foreign minister Boris Johnson and trade minister Liam Fox were part of the 'Brexit' camp that argued that voting to leave the European Union would free Britain from the duty to admit all EU nationals who want to live and work here, enabling it to cut immigration by introducing an Australian-style points system.

May, who favoured staying in the EU but has promised to deliver on the 23 June referendum vote by steering Britain out of the bloc and tightening border controls, said such systems were difficult to manage.

"One of the issues is whether or not points-based systems do work," she told reporters on her way to a G20 summit in China, citing her experience as Britain's longest-serving interior minister in over 50 years.

"There is no single silver bullet that is the answer in terms of dealing with immigration."

The comments offer the first glimpse into May's stance on the hardest conundrum thrown up by the referendum: how to tighten border controls with the EU without losing access to its single market.

Its 27 partners are so far adamant that it cannot enjoy full trade benefits unless it continues to let in EU nationals as before.

The prime minister risks upsetting key members of the team she assembled in July to deliver an EU exit that protects Britain's global standing and carves out a new role for the country at the vanguard of global free trade.

Speaking in June before he was appointed as foreign minister, Johnson — figurehead of the Leave campaign and May's one-time rival for the prime minister's job — said a points-based system could bring back democratic control and better meet businesses' needs. May's words will fuel fears among voters and Eurosceptic lawmakers that having a pro-Remain prime minister in charge will result in a watered-down version of Brexit that does not represent what people voted for.—*Reuters*

Clinton's classified email errors due to 'improper labeling' — Kaine

WASHINGTON — Democratic vice presidential candidate Tim Kaine on Sunday defended Hillary Clinton against criticism over her handling of classified information as secretary of state, saying she was unaware of the sensitivity of some information she exchanged over email because it had been "improperly labeled."

In July, the Federal Bureau of Investigation rebuked Clinton, the Democratic presidential nominee, for her use of a private email server during her tenure as secretary of state from 2009 to 2013, saying she was "extremely careless" in her handling of classified information.

According to records released by the FBI on Friday, Clinton told the bureau's investigators in a July interview that she could not recall getting any briefings on how to handle classified information or comply with laws governing the preservation of federal records.

Kaine, a US senator from Virginia who sits on the Senate Foreign Relations and Armed Services committees, told ABC's programme "This Week," that the volume of information received by government officials often makes it difficult to know what information has been declared classified.

"There were emails that contained classified information that had been improperly marked. So when she received the email, the material that was classified — which is supposed to be flagged and identified as classified — in many instances was improperly labeled," he said.

"We look at so much material, unless it is specifically pulled out and identified, it is difficult to know sometimes whether a statement or a paragraph is classified or not," Kaine added.

Clinton, who is facing Republican Donald Trump for the White House in the 8 November election, has been dogged for more than a year by the fallout from her decision to use an unauthorized private email account run from the basement of her Chappaqua, New York, home.

She repeatedly said she did not use it to send or receive classified information. The government forbids handling such information outside secure channels.

Contradicting Clinton's comment that she never exchanged classified information over her private email server, the FBI said that at least 81 email threads contained information that was classified at the time, although the agency said the final number may be more than 2,000. While the FBI has scolded Clinton over the handling of classified information, the agency recommended that no criminal charges be filed against her.—*Reuters*

NEWS IN BRIEF

Putin says premature to say if he will run again for presidency in 2018 — Bloomberg

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin considers it "absolutely premature" to say now if he will seek a new presidential term in 2018, the Bloomberg news agency reported on Monday.

Asked whether a future Russian president could represent a younger generation of politicians, Putin replied: "Yes, of course. I believe a future leader must be fairly young but mature.—*Reuters*

Australian teenager gets ten years for ANZAC Day terror plot

SYDNEY — An Australian teenager who planned a terror attack which involved beheading a policeman and attaching explosives to a kangaroo at commemorations of the World War I ANZAC landings at Gallipoli was sentenced on Monday to ten years in prison.

Sevdet Ramadan Besim, 19, had planned to attack police at the Melbourne ANZAC Day parade on 25 April, 2015, but his scheme was uncovered when police in Britain discovered phone messages between Besim and a 15-year-old British boy.

Victoria Supreme Court Justice Michael Croucher said that Besim's decision to plead guilty was a major factor in his decision to impose a ten-year, rather than 15-year, sentence.

Croucher said that he had sought in his ruling to balance the need to protect the community from Besim's "evil" and "terrifying" plans against the young man's age, contrition and prospects of rehabilitation.—*Reuters*

6th Zika case confirmed in Philippines

MANILA — The Philippine health department confirmed on Monday that a 45-year-old woman from central Philippine city of Iloilo has tested positive for Zika virus, the sixth case recorded in the country.

Health Undersecretary Gerardo Bayugo told a news conference that the Zika-infected woman, whom he did not identify, has no history of travel abroad, adding that she probably acquired the virus locally.

He also said the disease does not pose a public health risk at this point, adding that the department has not confirmed any local transmission.

He said this could be a case of sporadic transmission. The woman's husband has yet to be tested for the virus, he added.

"As of now we have no confirmation of any local transmission," Bayugo said. Nevertheless, he said the government is closely monitoring the situation.

The health department has monitored at least five Zika-infection cases since 2012.

"These (five cases) did not convert into an outbreak. And we hope that this (new) one is sporadic that will not translate (into an outbreak) similar to what is being experienced elsewhere," Bayugo said. —*Xinhua*

Dozens of Kansai airport employees have contracted measles since August

OSAKA — Dozens of employees at Kansai International Airport in the western Japan prefecture of Osaka have contracted measles since August, according to the airport operator and the local government. At least 32 workers in their 20s and 30s were confirmed to have become infected with the disease. Three others, including a doctor who performed virus checkups for the employees, were reported Sunday to have contracted the virus in connection with the epidemic, they said. Kansai airport, the main international gateway to Osaka and other western Japan areas, said it is working closely with related government agencies to prevent the further spread of the virus and called on airport workers to stay away from work if they show symptoms like fever and rashes.

At an emergency meeting held at the airport on Friday, Keiko Taya, a senior official at the National Institute of Infectious Diseases, said the virus is believed to have come from a traveler from abroad who passed through the airport as measles has been eliminated from Japan.—*Kyodo News*

Dozens injured in Israel in crane collapse

JERUSALEM — Dozens were injured as a construction crane collapsed on a four-story building in northern Tel Aviv on Monday, Israel's medical emergency teams said. Local media reported that emergency crew were trying to rescue at least 20 people who were still trapped inside the building. —*Xinhua*

US, Russia meeting on Syria ends without a deal

HANGZHOU, (China) — US Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov were unable to strike a deal for a ceasefire in Syria and differences remain, a senior State Department official said after their meeting in China on Monday.

Kerry and Lavrov met on the sidelines of the G20 summit in the eastern city of Hangzhou. Details of their talks were not immediately available.

This is the second time in two weeks that Kerry and Lavrov have failed to reach a deal on a ceasefire deal. The previous time they met was in Geneva on 26 August . Kerry has said the United States won't accept just any deal just to have it collapse again.

A cessation of hostilities agreement brokered by Lavrov and Kerry in February unraveled within weeks, with Washington accusing Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's forces of violating the agreement.

The next time they are likely to meet is on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly meetings in New York from 18 September.

State Department officials have refused to elaborate on what the sticking points are preventing a deal.

Russia has insisted that it cannot agree to a deal unless opposition fighters, backed by the United States and Middle East allies, are separated from al-Qaeda linked militants they overlap with in some areas.—*Reuters*

Israel strikes Syrian positions after shells land in Golan

JERUSALEM — Israeli aircraft attacked targets in Syria on Sunday after errant mortar fire from fighting among factions in Syria struck the Golan Heights, the Israeli military said.

There were no casualties from the shellfire.

The area where the shells landed in the Israeli-controlled Golan is close to where fighting in the Syrian civil war is taking place and in retaliation, an aircraft targeted "canons of the Syrian regime," an Israeli military statement said.

Israel has responded similarly in the past when there has been an overspill of fire into the territory.

Israel captured the Golan, a strategic plateau, from Syria in the 1967 Middle East war and annexed it in 1981 in a move that has not won international recognition.—*Reuters*

Syrian forces besiege rebel-held Aleppo as Turkish-backed fighters drive Islamic State from border

BEIRUT/HANGZHOU, (China) — Syrian government forces and their allies again laid siege to rebel-held eastern Aleppo on Sunday, while Turkish-backed fighters drove Islamic State from all the areas along its border, in two significant but separate developments in the multi-sided conflict.

The fighting — two potential turning points in the conflict if the gains can be sustained — complicated efforts by the United States and Russia to reach a ceasefire deal for Syria, whose civil war is in its sixth year.

Talks by the Cold War foes on a ceasefire were set to continue on Monday, but "we're not there yet," US President Barack Obama told reporters at the G20 summit in the Chinese city of Hangzhou.

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad wants to fully recapture divided Aleppo, Syria's largest city before the war. Gains made by Damascus have relied heavily on Russian air support since September last year.

On Sunday, intense aerial and artillery attacks helped government forces and their allies drive insurgents out of the Ramousah military complex in Aleppo, according to rebels and a monitoring group.

The rebels had captured the complex in early August, breaking through a government siege of eastern Aleppo. Sunday's government advances resulted in a new siege of the area, said Zakaria Malahifji of the Fastaqim rebel group.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a Britain-based group monitoring the war, and a Damascus military source also reported the new siege.

Free Syrian Army fighters prepare to fire a Grad rocket from Halfaya town in Hama province, towards forces loyal to Syria's President Bashar al-Assad stationed in Zein al-Abidin mountain, Syria, on 4 September 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Russian support has turned the war in Assad's favour in many areas, although rebels have made some gains, including in Hama province, further south.

Rebels launched a campaign on Sunday to try to capture the town of Maan, north of the city of Hama, the provincial capital, said Mohammed Rasheed, a spokesman for rebel group Jaish al-Nasr. Advances by the insurgents in recent days have brought them to within 10 km (six miles) of government-controlled Hama, the Observatory and insurgents say.

In a separate battle further east, rebels backed by Turkey — and made up of Aleppo-based factions — drove Islamic State militants from all areas they controlled along the Syrian-Turkish border, according to the rebels, Ankara and the Observatory.

Some 10 days ago, Turkey mounted its first full-scale incursion into Syrian territory since the conflict began in 2011, aimed at IS and at US-backed Kurdish forces in the area, which have also been battling the jihadists.

The Turkish-backed advance denied Islamic State its main route to the outside world, through which it has moved fighters and weapons. It was another blow for the jihadist group, which is under pressure in its self-proclaimed caliphate in Syria and Iraq. But Turkey's operation was focused just as firmly against US-backed Kurdish forces, which it fired at last week and which it insists must withdraw to east of the Euphrates river.

Ankara fears that advances by the Kurdish YPG militia, which has been one of the most effective partners for the US coalition fighting IS, will embolden Kurdish militants on its own soil.

With support from Turkish tanks and warplanes, the rebels now appear to have secured a roughly 90 km stretch of land that Turkey long wanted to control to keep out jihadists and to stop the advance of the YPG. Sunday's advances illustrate the complexity of the Syrian conflict, which has drawn in most world and regional powers. Efforts to end the fighting have been repeatedly confounded. A deal brokered in February by the United States and Russia fell apart earlier this year. Even before Sunday's battlefield developments, US President Obama said that the two countries were struggling to reach a new ceasefire agreement between Damascus and rebels. "We're not there yet," Obama told reporters after a meeting with British Prime Minister Theresa May in Hangzhou. "We have grave differences with the Russians in terms of both the parties we support but also the process that is required to bring about peace in Syria."—*Reuters*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MARENS VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MARENS VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.9.2016 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 DANCE FLORA SW VOY. NO (0417)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DANCE FLORA SW VOY. NO (0417) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.9.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of MITT 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 CHUN AN SHIPPING PTE LTD.

Phone No: 2301928

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV MAASHALM VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MAASHALM VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.9.2016 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

Truckers slow traffic at Calais in protest at migrant impact

LILLE, (France) — Two convoys of trucks and tractors slowed traffic to a crawl on the main approach road to Calais on Monday in a protest against the impact of growing numbers of migrants disrupting the French port.

Answering an appeal from drivers and farmers unions, the vehicles set off from different assembly points towards Calais at around 8 AM (0600 GMT). Calais residents would also form a human chain along the port road, said protest organisers.

Thousands of people fleeing war and poverty are waiting in Calais for a chance to reach Britain, regularly trying to force their way onto vehicles heading there by ferry and rail tunnel.

Harbor workers, storekeepers and residents march to participate in a human chain protest demonstration against the migrant situation in Calais, France, on 5 September 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

The attempts have continued in the face of extra security staff and the construction of high fences along road and rail routes.

"We have to do this. We have to escalate things, because for months now the situation has been getting worse and worse," said David Sagnard, president of FNTR national truck drivers' federation, as the convoys, each with about 40 vehicles, set off.

"Before, it was just attempts to get on trucks. Now there is looting and wilful destruction, tarpaulins are slashed, goods stolen or destroyed ... Drivers go to work with fear in their bellies and the economic consequences are severe," he said.

Calais is one of the flashpoints of Europe's migrant crisis, resurgent in recent weeks as more people arrive on the continent's southern shores.

The site has also become the focus of political debate in both France and Britain.

Fears of growing numbers of migrants, partly fuelled by scenes from Calais, were a key issue influencing Britain's recent vote to quit the European Union.

Some French opposition politicians have also called for the ditching of an agreement under which border controls take place on the French side of the sea, saying Britain should handle the problem.

In February and March this year, French authorities dismantled the southern half of Calais' so-called "jungle" migrant camp and dispersed some of its inhabitants. Last week, Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said French authorities would dismantle the rest.

About 7,000 migrants are living in the remaining northern half of the camp, up from 4,500 in June, according to local authorities. Humanitarian groups put the number closer to 9,000.

Authorities have also put up shelters and welcome centres for the migrants, and have pledged to build more and increase the number of police officers to help manage the crisis.—*Reuters*

German anti-immigrant party beats Merkel in her home district

BERLIN — German Chancellor Angela Merkel's Christian Democrats were beaten into third place by the anti-immigrant and anti-Islam Alternative for Germany (AfD) party in a north-eastern state election on Sunday, TV exit polls showed.

In a stinging defeat for Merkel in her home district that could weaken her chances of a fourth term in next year's federal elections, the upstart AfD took 21.9 per cent of the vote behind the centre-left Social Democrats (SPD) in their first election in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern by campaigning hard against the chancellor's policies on refugees, according to a projection by ARD TV at 1815 GMT.

"This isn't pretty for us," said Michael Grosse-Broemer, one of Merkel's top deputies in parliament in Berlin in a ZDF TV interview. "Those who voted for the AfD were sending a message of protest."

Merkel's approval rating has plunged to a five-year low of 45 per cent, down from 67 per cent a year ago, due to spreading disenchantment with her open-door policies on refugees.

According to a *Der Spiegel* magazine report, Merkel wanted to announce her intention of running for a fourth term this year but put that on hold due to resistance from her Bavarian sister party, the Christian Social Union. The arch-conservative CSU has demanded that Merkel put limits on the numbers of refugees.

"This was a dark day for Merkel," Thomas Jaeger, a political scientist at Cologne University, told Reuters. "Everyone knows that she lost this election. Her district in parliament is there, she campaigned there, and refugees are her issue."

The election took place exactly a year after Merkel's decision to open Germany's borders to hundreds of thousands of refugees and the discontent in the state was palpable.

"This is a slap in the face for Merkel — not only in Berlin but also in her home state," said Frauke Petry, co-leader of the AfD. "The voters made a clear statement against Merkel's disastrous immigration policies. This put her in her place."

The AfD's win was cheered by the leader of France's far-right National Front party, Marine Le Pen, who posted on Twitter: "What was impossible yesterday has become possible: the patriots of AfD sweep up the party of Ms Merkel. All my congratulations!"

The SPD, which has ruled the rural state on the Baltic coast with the CDU as junior coalition partners since 2006, won 30.2 per cent of the vote, down from 35.6 per cent in the last election in 2011. The CDU won 19 percent, down from 23 per cent in 2011, and its worst result ever in the state, ARD TV said.

The Left Party won 12.7 per cent, down from 18.4 per cent five years ago, while the Greens won 4.9 per cent, down from 8.7 percent, and fell out of the assembly. The far-right NPD was also knocked out of the state legislature, falling below the 5 per cent threshold for the first time since 2006.—*Reuters*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SENTOSA STAR VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SENTOSA STAR VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.9.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S BLPL SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV NINOS VOY. NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NINOS VOY. NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.9.2016 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 2301185

PUBLIC NOTICE OF APOLOGY

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Nagasaki publishes A-bomb damage records in English

NAGASAKI — The city of Nagasaki has recently published an English version of records listing the damage and destruction from the US atomic bombing in 1945.

Of the five original volumes, the first volume with about 700 pages of general analysis has been translated, providing descriptions of injuries and building damage near the epicenter of the blast that killed around 74,000 people, according to the city. The English edition contains photos not included in the original volume and a newly produced map showing the area of devastation.

The translation by the Nagasaki National Peace Memorial Hall for the Atomic Bomb Victims began in 2006.

The city has distributed copies to the National Diet Library and some libraries in Nagasaki Prefecture. It is also planning to give complimentary copies to foreign embassies in Japan and international organisations.

Brian Burke-Gaffney, a professor at the Nagasaki Institute of Applied Science who oversaw the translation work, said he hopes the records will become a useful tool for researchers abroad.

The United States dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima on 6 August, 1945 and a second one on Nagasaki three days later.—*Kyodo News*

Photo taken on 31 March, shows an English version of records published by the city of Nagasaki listing the damage and destruction from the US atomic bombing in 1945. PHOTO: KYODO NEWS

Climate change threatens to double malaria risk from African dams, say researchers

LONDON — The number of Africans at risk of malaria who live near dams will nearly double to 25 million by 2080 as areas where the disease is not currently present will become transmission zones due to climate change, researchers said on Monday.

Without prevention measures, the number of malaria cases associated with dams could triple to nearly 3 million a year over the same period, they said in a study published in *Malaria* Journal.

"While dams clearly bring many benefits ... the role of climate change on malaria around dams will fundamentally alter the current impact," said Solomon Kibret of the University of California and the paper's lead author.

"Accurately predicting the impacts of such changes is critical to planning effective disease control," he said in a statement.

Malaria is transmitted by mosquitoes, which breed in stagnant water such as shallow puddles along dam shorelines.

Workers look for abnormal holes in mosquito netting at the A to Z Textile Mills factory producing insecticide-treated bednets in Arusha, Tanzania, on 10 May 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

The disease kills around 400,000 people a year, the vast majority of them children and babies in sub-Saharan Africa. World Health Organization (WHO) data show there are around 200 million malaria cases a year.

More than half of dams that are located in malaria-free areas that will turn into transmission zones as temperatures rise due to climate change are mainly found in the east African highlands and southern Africa, the study said.

In those regions the impact of dams may be especially harsh because of lower immunity among people who have not had to deal with the disease before, it said.

Africa is experiencing a surge in dam construction so as to generate electricity, irrigate crops and store water for fast-growing populations.

Dams should be designed and managed to minimize the breeding of mosquitoes, such as periodically drying out shoreline areas or introducing fish that eat mosquito larva in reservoirs, said the study.—*Reuters*

ကနဦးတင်ဒါအောင်မြင်သော ကုမ္ပဏီစာရင်းကြော်ငြာခြင်း

ရန်ကုန်တိုင်း ဒေသကြီးအတွင်း လျှပ်စစ်ဓာတ်အား လိုအပ်ချက်ကိုဖြည့်ဆည်းရန် 300 MW လျှပ်စစ်ဓာတ်အား ထုတ်ပေးနိုင်မည့် ဓာတ်အားပေးစက်များ ငှားယူလိုကြောင်း ၄.၇.၂၀၁၆ ရက်ထုတ် နိုင်ငံပိုင်သတင်းစာများမှ ကြော်ငြာခေါ်ယူခဲ့ပါသည်။

၁၈.၈.၂၀၁۶ ရက်တွင် ကုမ္ပဏီ ۶ ခုက တင်ဒါတင်သွင်းခဲ့ကြပြီး တင်ဒါစည်းကမ်းချက်များနှင့် စိစစ်ချက်အရ အောက်ပါ ကုမ္ပဏီ ၃ ခုက ကနဦး စိစစ်ချက်အောင်မြင်ခဲ့ပါသဖြင့်ဈေးနှုန်းဖွင့်ဖေါက်စစ်ဆေးခြင်းကို ၂၀၁۶ခုနှစ်၊စက်တင်ဘာလ ၈ ရက် ကြာသပတေးနေ့ ၁၀း၀၀ နာရီတွင်၊ နေပြည်တော်ရှိ ရုံးအမှတ် (၂၇) တွင် ကျင်းပမည်။ သက်ဆိုင်သော ကုမ္ပဏီများသို့ တယ်လီဖုန်း၊ စာနှင့် Email များဖြင့် ပေးပို့ထားပြီး ဖြစ်ပါကြောင်း ကြော်ငြာအပ်ပါသည်။

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လျှပ်စစ်ဓာတ်အားထုတ်လုပ်ရေးလုပ်ငန်း

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(11 / 2016)

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

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB-039(16-17)	Sucker Rods and Pony Rods (17) Items	US$
(2)	IFB-040(16-17)	Pipe Fittings (13) Items	US$
(3)	IFB-041(16-17)	Working Barrels, Working Valves and Standing valves (9) Items	US$
(4)	IFB-042(16-17)	Spares for Progressing Cavity Pump (4)Items	US$
(5)	IFB-043(16-17)	Insert Pumps (26) Items	US$
(6)	IFB-044(16-17)	"SP" Sand Pump (2) Items	US$
(7)	IFB-045(16-17)	Electrical Spares for ZJ 70L Rigs (19) Items	US$
(8)	IFB-046(16-17)	Spares for Mitsubishi S6N Engine (36)Items	US$
(9)	IFB-047(16-17)	1 1/2" Pitch Five Layer Roller Chain (2) Items	US$
(10)	IFB-048(16-17)	Spares for QY 50K Mobile Crane (5) Items	US$
(11)	IFB-049(16-17)	Spares for Grove Mobile Crane (16) Items	US$
(12)	IFB-050(16-17)	Spares for Dongfeng Nissan Tractor (43) Items	US$
(13)	IFB-051(16-17)	Spares for Dongfeng Nissan Tractor (21) Items	US$
(14)	IFB-052(16-17)	Spares For Pressure Regulating System (10) Items	US$
(15)	IFB-053(16-17)	Spares For Sino Truck (20-Ton Long Body) (29) Items	US$
(16)	IFB-054(16-17)	Spares For GM 8V-71 Engine Ex Cementing Unit (22) Items	US$

Tender Closing Date & Time - 29-9-2016, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 5TH September, 2016 at the Finance Department , Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
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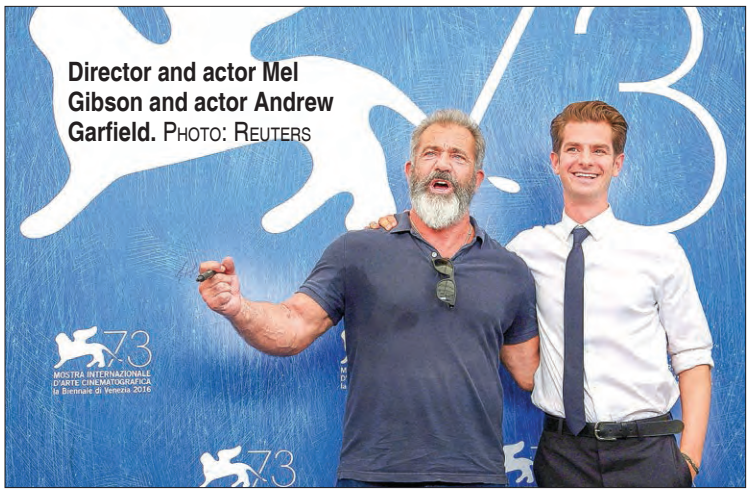


Director and actor Mel Gibson and actor Andrew Garfield. PHOTO: REUTERS

Mel Gibson 'surviving' in Hollywood as war drama premiers in Venice

VENICE — Mel Gibson called his relationship with Hollywood "survival" as he prepared for the Venice film festival premiere of a war drama that marks his directorial comeback after a turbulent decade in his personal life.

The Oscar winner's troubled years began in 2006, when he was arrested for drunk driving and responded with an anti-Semitic tirade. That led to headlines around the world, tarnished his reputation and set back a remarkable career that had made him one of Hollywood's highest paid actors, directors and producers.

But in Venice the 60-year-old is set to premiere "Hacksaw Ridge", a gripping war epic about a pacifist during World War II that cannot but move.

The film tells the true story of Desmond Doss, an army medic who refused to bear arms but later received the Medal of Honour for saving 75 of his comrades. The movie is screening in the out-of-competition section in Venice.

"It's a man in the worst situation possible, in the midst of hell on earth, and he goes into that struggle armed with nothing than faith and conviction, and he sticks by those things and does something extraordinary ... that inspired me," Gibson told a press conference.

The "Lethal Weapon" actor and maker of action thriller "Apocalypto" said he hoped the movie would result in more attention being paid to veterans returning from conflict. "When they come back, they need some love, they need some understanding," he said.—*Reuters*

Jessica Alba doesn't care about film reviews

LOS ANGELES — Actress Jessica Alba says bad movie reviews does not bother her.

The 35-year-old actress said she makes films to entertain her fans and not for critics, reported Female First.

"My latest film ('Mechanic: Resurrection') is a popcorn movie. I don't think I've ever had a good review, and you know what? I don't really care. If people walk away smiling and enjoying themselves after watching something I'm in, that's all I care about.

"I'm not in control of the edit or the writing or the promotion. No one sets out to make a bad movie, we all want it to be good. But it's a complicated thing to do and it's a miracle when it all comes together," Alba said.

The actress said she is quite choosy about the roles she takes on and decided to star in Jason Statham- starrer because her character Gina is a strong woman.

"I've only ever been attracted to characters who have that strength and toughness. That's why I wanted to play Gina. I enjoy action films — I have seen pretty much every Jason Statham movie, and Gina is bringing something to the table that's not just the damsel in distress waiting to be rescued. "Women today are resourceful and strong.—*PTI*

PHOTO: REUTERS

Taylor Swift, Tom Hiddleston Relationship in trouble?

LOS ANGELES — The much-publicised relationship of singer Taylor Swiftand actor Tom Hiddleston has reportedly hit a rough patch with the "Thor" star rumoured to be fed up of being a "laughing stock".

Since the couple made it official in June, there have been endless rumours and theories about their relationship mainly due to its timing— it came just two weeks after Swift broke up with DJ Calvin Harris.

PHOTO: REUTERS

While some speculated the pop star had begun dating the actor while she was with Harris, to a few it looked like their affair was staged as they looked "too much in love too soon."

Hiddleston, 35, is not liking the immense attention on his personal life does not want to be Swift's arm candy anymore, reported Radar Online.

"Tom can't deal with being a laughing stock and has told Taylor he's done unless there's a 360-degree change on her part," an insider said.

"It's become a total charade... Tom is just done with it. It bothers him so much that they've become known as this fauxmance laughing stock," the source said.

26-year-old Swift, meanwhile, thinks the actor is "lucky" to have with her.

"Tom's new strong approach has infuriated Taylor, who is complaining to friends that he's gotten so much free press thanks to her. The prognosis for these two lasting is not looking so good," the insider added.

In early August, Tom chose to travel alone to Australia, where he's been filming "Thor: Ragnarok", because he was reportedly fed up with Swift's "possessive" behaviour and her fear of being cheated on.—*PTI*

PHOTO: REUTERS

'Don't Breathe' Frightens Competition at Labour Day Box Office

LOS ANGELES — The second weekend of horror-thriller "Don't Breathe" is showing plenty of life at an otherwise quiet Labour Day box office with an estimated $19.4 million at 3,051 North American locations for the four days.

Warner Bros. fifth weekend of "Suicide Squad" showed impressive staying power in second place with about $13.6 million for the weekend — enough for the supervillain tentpole to top the $300 million mark on Monday.

But the holiday proved tough for two new entries into the market. Disney's "The Light Between Oceans" was heading for a modest sixth-place finish with $6.1 million at 1,500 sites and Fox's sci-fi thriller "Morgan" was nearly invisible with $2.4 million at 2,020, leaving it in 18th place.

Monday will also mark the final day for summer box office with the last year's $4.48 billion, according to comScore. That would be about even with last summer's total but 5.5% behind the 2013 record of $4.75 billion. The Labour Day frame is performing better than last year's, when Sony's second weekend of "The War Room" won with $13.3 million over the four days.—*Reuters*

Seaweed farming, a sudden slimy success, needs greener rules: UN

OSLO — Seaweed farming needs tighter regulation to limit damage to the environment after booming into a $6.4 billion business with uses in everything from sushi to toothpaste, a United Nations study showed on Sunday.

Led by China, South Korea, Indonesia and the Philippines, seaweed's surge in recent years has seemed environmentally friendly since it needs no fertilisers and has created both jobs and food in remote coastal areas of developing nations.

But emerging evidence shows that seaweed can sometimes cause harm and spread diseases and pests, the UN report said. One Asian seaweed brought to Hawaii has smothered some coral reefs by out-competing local plants.

"There's very little regulation" in many nations, Elizabeth Cottier-Cook, lead author of the UN University study who also works at the Scottish Association for Marine Science, told Reuters.

"You can take a plant from the Philippines and plant it in East Africa. There are pests, there are pathogens that can go along with that plant. There is no quarantine," she said.

A damaging bacterial disease known as ice-ice, for instance, has spread with a red seaweed from the Philippines and infected new farms in nations such as Mozambique and Tanzania.

Cuts in production caused by ice-ice caused losses estimated at $310 million in the Philippines alone from 2011 to 2013, according to the report.

Globally, about 27.3 million tonnes of farmed seaweed were produced in 2014, worth $6.4 billion and up from almost nothing in 1970, the UN University said.

Seaweed is used in foods such as soup, sushi wraps and spaghetti, as fertilisers and as feed for animals. Seaweed extracts are used in products from skin care to toothpaste.

The report urged governments to learn from the pitfalls of other aquaculture businesses.

A virus that infected farmed salmon in Norway in 1984, for instance, wiped out up to 80 per cent of fish at some farms and led to tighter laws. A virus that harms shrimp has spurred some nations to ban imports from all but bio-secure hatcheries.

Nidhi Nagabhatla, an author at the UN University's Canada-based Institute for Water, Environment and Health, said seaweed could have extra benefits such as helping combat global warming because plants soak up carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.—*Reuters*

Wooden sculpture of London goes up in flames to mark Great Fire anniversary

A 120-meter long model of the 17th century London skyline is set alight on the River Thames to commemorate the 1666 Great Fire of London in London, Britain, on 4 September, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

LONDON — Flames once again licked the historic buildings of Britain's capital as a wooden replica of 17th century London went up in smoke to mark the 350th anniversary of the Great Fire of London. The Great Fire began at a baker's shop in Pudding Lane in the early hours of 2 September, 1666, and spread rapidly through the wooden structures of the old city.

It raged for four days, ravaging the parts of the city inside the old Roman wall, but surprisingly, only six deaths were reported.

The old, medieval St Paul's Cathedral was completely destroyed by the fire, and then rebuilt in its present form following the designs of architect Christopher Wren. The wooden replica was designed by American artist David Best and built by unemployed young Londoners over several months. The spectacle marked the end of "London's Burning", a four-day festival of free art events to mark the anniversary.—*Reuters*

Line launches cheap smartphone service in Japan

TOKYO — Messaging app provider Line Corp. said on Monday it started offering a cheap smartphone service starting from 500 yen ($4.80) a month in Japan to a limited number of subscribers.

The new business, to be fully launched in October, uses the network infrastructure of mobile phone carrier NTT Docomo Inc. Line is giving users multiple subscription options costing up to 3,220 yen a month depending on the amount of data usage, providing unlimited use of its own Line app along with Twitter and Facebook.

Line's entry into the mobile phone business is expected to fuel price competition at a time when companies such as e-commerce giant Rakuten Inc. and retailer Aeon Co. are offering cheap smartphone services. "I believe we have a competitive edge... as we can offer the best prices depending on how users use smartphones as an MVNO (mobile virtual network operator)," Line Chief Strategy and Marketing Officer Jun Masuda said at a press conference.

There is still room for future growth in the mobile phone market as an industry survey shows the penetration rate of smartphones stood at around 57 per cent last year, according to Masuda. According to the MM Research Institute, high monthly fees have been one of the hurdles for smartphone use in Japan. Line began its voice calls and messaging services in 2011 and had around 220 million users as of June.—*Kyodo News*

MRTV Entertainment Channel

(6-9-2016, Tuesday)

06 : 00 pm
- Weather Report
- International Movie Songs

06 : 15 pm
- X Sports

06 : 45 pm
- MRTV Entertainment Music

07 : 00 pm
- International Drama Series

07 : 40 pm
- International Drama Series

08 : 20 pm
- MRTV Entertainment Music

08 : 25 pm
- International Movie

10: 20 pm
- Myanmar Video

(00:00 Am ~ 06:00 Am) Transmission (Repeat - 06:00 Pm ~ 00:00 Am)

(06:00 Am ~ 08:25 Am) Transmission (Repeat - 06:00 Pm ~ 08:25 Pm)

08 : 25 Am
- Myanmar Video

10 : 05 Am
- International Movie

(12:00 Pm ~ 04:25 Pm) Transmission (Repeat - 06:00 Am ~ 10:25 Am)

04 : 05 pm
- Pyi Thu Ni Ti

04 : 25 pm
- Dances

04 : 30 pm
- Cartoon Movie "SWEET LOST NIGHT"

From 6-9-2016 (Tuesday) 6:00 pm
To 7-9-2016 (Wednesday) 6:00 pm

mitv Myanmar International

(6-9-2016 07:00am ~ 7-9-2016 07:00am) MST

Today Fresh

07:03	Am	News
07:26	Am	Insight Myanmar "ILO-SIYB Project (Episode-I)
07:45	Am	The Recycle Art: Tyre
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	Myanmar Traditional Instruments - Myanma Harp (Episode-2)
08:51	Am	Today Myanmar: Mobile Banking System
09:03	Am	News
09:26	Am	Culture Show: Abdication of King Thibaw
09:43	Am	A Way of Life: Karate-do
10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	Yatana Theinga City and Shwe Bon Yatanamingalar Palace
10:45	Am	Amazing: Magician Sak Kaw Ma

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

Prime Time

07:03	Pm	News
07:27	Pm	A Day Out With Sarah (EP-6)
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	A Glance At A Naga Family Life
08:44	Pm	Chef Life: Avi Bitton (Israeli Chef)

(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am) - Monday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(03:00 Am ~ 07:00 Am) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(For Detailed Schedule – www.myanmaritv.com/schedule)

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

5th Waxing of Tawthalin 1378 ME

Tuesday, 6 September, 2016

Djokovic shakes off rust, shrugs off Edmund at US Open

NEW YORK — Top seed Novak Djokovic has been starved of competitive action at the US Open but on Sunday the world number one feasted on unseeded Briton Kyle Edmund in a 6-2, 6-1, 6-4 romp that put him into the quarter-finals.

Djokovic had a second-round walkover as Czech Jiri Vesely withdrew due to injury, and was leading 4-2 in his third-round match when Russian Mikhail Youzhny retired with a leg ailment, making it six days since his last full match.

The Serb kept himself busy on the practice courts but was happy to cut loose against an actual opponent, making 21-year-old Edmund the target of his arsenal of rifled groundstrokes, angled volleys, pinpoint passing shots, lobs and drop shots.

"Feels great to play a match," Djokovic said in an on-court interview. "I haven't played much tennis.

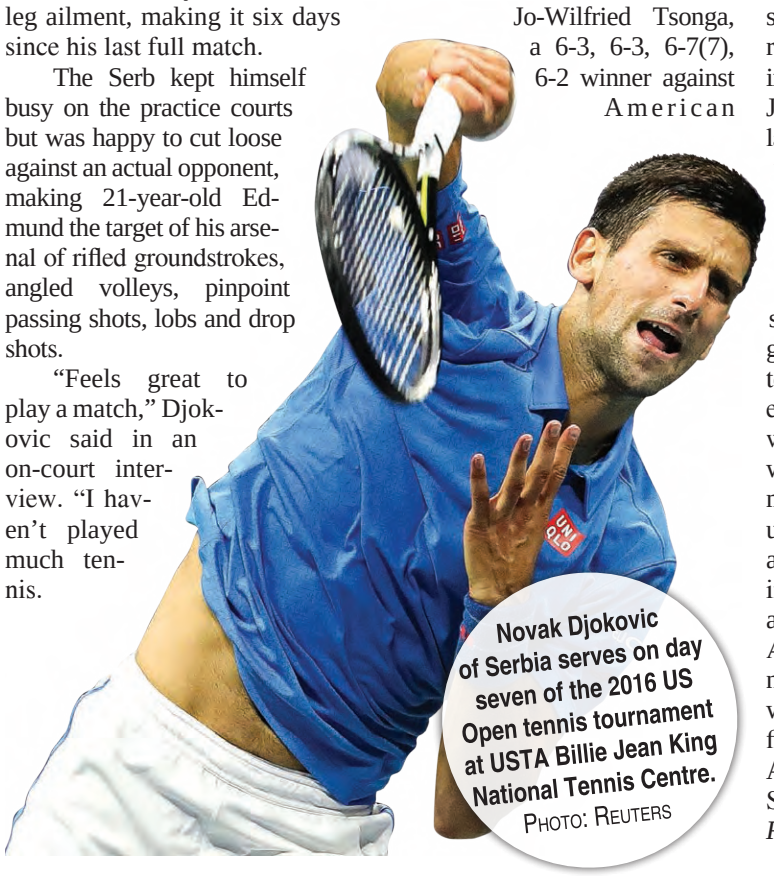
"Baseline shots, both forehand and backhand, were working very well. Think I was most pleased with that."

After two lopsided sets that Djokovic totally controlled, Edmund made the third set competitive, holding for 4-4 before the Serb closed out the set to end the match.

Djokovic's victory put him into the last eight against ninth-seeded Frenchman Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, a 6-3, 6-3, 6-7(7), 6-2 winner against American 26th seed Jack Sock.

The world number one, who was bothered by a left wrist injury that may have been a factor in his third-round exit from Wimbledon and first-round loss at the Rio Olympics, had his right arm and elbow area treated during a medical timeout at 2-1 in the third set against Edmund, but Djokovic downplayed it.

"I needed a little bit of massage," he said of treatment similar to that which he received during his opening-round match against Jerzy Janowicz of Poland. "I feel great at this moment physically; mentally as well. I'm motivated. So coming into the second week of a grand slam quarter-finals ... it's exactly where I want to be." Edmund, who entered the tournament ranked 84th and upset 13th seed Richard Gasquet of France in the first round and 20th-seeded American John Isner in the third , was playing his first match at Arthur Ashe Stadium.—*Reuters*



Novak Djokovic of Serbia serves on day seven of the 2016 US Open tennis tournament at USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Centre. PHOTO: REUTERS

Kerber reaches US Open quarters, closes in on No1 slot

NEW YORK — Angelique Kerber won a battle of grand slam champions when the second seed powered her way into the quarter-finals of the US Open on Sunday with a 6-3 7-5 win over Petra Kvitova.

By reaching the last eight Kerber has put herself in position to end Serena Williams' long reign as world number one.

Williams, bidding for a record seventh US Open title, will now need to reach the final to have a chance of retaining top spot.

"When I was a kid, of course I was dreaming to winning slams and being one day number one," admitted Kerber. "Now it can happen."

"I'm trying to not put pressure on myself because I know I have to win few more matches to reach the number one."

"When it's happen it will be amazing feeling because that was also one of my dreams.

"But let's see what happens here in the next few days."

The fourth-round match had a grand slam pedigree to it with Kerber, the Australian Open champion, going against twice Wimbledon winner Kvitova, but it failed to deliver any major excitement. To be fair, Kerber and 14th-seeded Kvitova were handed a tough act to follow with the capacity Arthur Ashe Stadium crowd left buzzing about Frenchman Lucas Pouille's upset win over Rafa Nadal in a five-set thriller that had closed out the day session an hour earlier.—*Reuters*

Angelique Kerber of Germany. PHOTO: REUTERS

Lallana gives England last-gasp win over 10-man Slovakia

LONDON — England's Adam Lallana scored his first international goal with the last kick of the game as the visitors beat 10-man Slovakia 1-0 in their World Cup Group F qualifier on Sunday to get new manager Sam Allardyce's reign off to a winning start.

With the referee checking his watch, Danny Rose sent a hopeful low ball into the area for Lallana, who jinked left past a defender and struck a low shot through the legs of goalkeeper Matus Kozacik for his first England goal in 27 games.

However, for much of a lacklustre contest in Trnava it looked like England would be frustrated with a re-run of the goalless draw the teams shared in their last clash during the group stage at Euro 2016 in Saint-Etienne in June.

England struggled to shrug off familiar problems, controlling the game without looking like winning it even after Slovakia defender Martin Skrtel was dismissed for stamping on Harry Kane in the 57th minute.

His departure signalled a period of intense pressure from England with Lallana hitting the post, and substitute Theo Walcott seeing a scrambled effort ruled out for offside, before the Liverpool midfielder snatched the last-gasp winner.

"We didn't panic, that was the main thing," said captain Wayne Rooney, who played in his 116th international to become England's most capped outfield player ahead of David Beckham.

"We stuck to our plan and kept our shape. Adam scored the goal to get us off to an excellent start (in the campaign)."

Before the game Allardyce, who replaced Roy Hodgson after England's shock Euro 2016 exit to Iceland, said he would be happy with a point from what he expected to be their hardest qualifying game, so he was delighted with the win. "We got what we deserved," he said. "It looked like it wasn't going to be our night and it was pretty nerve-wracking at the end, but well done Adam. It was an important win."—*Reuters*

Pouille tops French charge at US Open

NEW YORK — Lucas Pouille crowned a glorious French charge at the US Open on Sunday by ousting 14-times grand slam singles winner Rafa Nadal in a five-set thriller.

The 22-year-old Pouille, seeded 24th, won a deciding tiebreak 8-6 to complete a 6-1 2-6, 6-4, 3-6, 7-6(6) marathon victory and join compatriots Jo-Wilfried Tsonga and Gael Monfils into the last eight at Flushing Meadows.

"I couldn't dream better than this," said Pouille.

Tenth seed Monfils motored into the quarters with a 6-3, 6-2, 6-3 dismissal of Marcos Baghdatis of Cyprus to launch the French advance at the year's last grand slam championship.

Ninth seed Tsonga followed Monfils' lead and booked his quarter-finals berth 6-3, 6-3, 6-7(7), 6-2 over American 26th seed Jack Sock.

Playing his third consecutive five-set match, Pouille, still looking for his first ATP Tour title, showed that his quarter-final advance earlier this season at Wimbledon was no fluke.

After taking a two sets to one lead in the fourth-round match against fourth-seeded Nadal, Pouille slumped in the fourth set and was down an early break in the fifth but brought the match back on serve at 4-4.

In the climactic tiebreaker, Nadal fought off Pouille's triple match point at 6-3, but the Frenchman won the final two points, the last coming on a blistering forehand winner.

"He's young. He's a player that has all the shots. He's a potential top 10," Nadal said of Pouille.

Tsonga advanced to a clash against either world number one Novak Djokovic or unseeded Briton Kyle Edmund.

Pouille will next face compatriot Monfils, who has won 18 of his last 20 matches, winning the biggest ATP World Tour title of his career in Washington during that stretch.

"He's in very good form. He has won so many matches for the last two months," Pouille said about Monfils.

"But I'm playing well. I have good feelings on the court, so we'll see."—*Reuters*

Lucas Pouille of France. PHOTO: REUTERS

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