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Vol. III, No. 318, 3rd Waxing of Taboung 1378 ME

www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com

Tuesday, 28 February 2017

Anti-violence ceremony at Yangon airport

A protest against violence was held yesterday evening at Yangon International Airport, the site of two senseless deaths last month.

The demonstration began with 8 seconds of silence for Legal Advisor U Ko Ni and taxi driver U Nay Win.

“I would like to thank those who were able to show that violence does not profit anyone, because in a way, you are contributing to the future of the country by teaching the coming generations by sacrificing your own lives. Our comrade U Ko Ni provided enormous assistance to the League with his expertise and his contribution will not be forgotten. He was of tremendous importance in both the legal level and national level and his death is an enormous loss to the nation,” said Thura U Tin Oo, Patron of National League for Democracy.

Thura U Tin Oo also had words of remembrance for U Nay Win.

“Ko Nay Win was living a simple working life. In light of these events, he can be said to have acted on his intrinsic morals and courage and this is deeply appreciated and we grieve for his valiant death. **SEE PAGE 3 >>**



Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein addresses the anti-violence ceremony at Yangon International Airport. PHOTO: ZAW GYI (PA NI TA)

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves 5 million euro loan from Germany for locomotive factory

PYIDAUNGSSU Hluttaw passed the motion on borrowing 5 million euros from German KfW Development Bank for a Diesel Locomotive Shed in Ywa Htaung for Myanma Railways.

Following a debate, the issue was put to a vote and passed 506 to 6.

“It is required to give training to employees of Ywa Htaung locomotive shed because the technology used for current engines of the

Myanma Railways is advanced,” said U Kyaw Myo, Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications in his clarification at the parliament.

The loan will ultimately result in more reliable trains and service, improved safety and advanced training for Myanmar engine repairmen, the Union minister added.

The Ywa Htaung Locomotive Shed was established in 1975 and Railways Technical Training

Centre (Ywa Htaung) was opened in 1981 with the assistance of the German Organization for Technical Cooperation-GTZ.

Currently, a 2 million euro grant assistance from Germany is under discussion to inject into upgrading of the Railways Technical Training Centre (Ywa Htaung) as slated 0.25 million euro, which is a portion of the 5 million euro loan, is not enough to carry out the work, according

to the Myanma Railways.

Under the Industrial Attachment Program, students from the technical universities receives on-job training the centre every year.

The Diesel Locomotive Shed (Ywa Htaung) repairs and maintains both diesel hydraulic and diesel electronic engines of the Myanma Railways while the Locomotive Shed (Insein) maintains diesel electronic engines.

“Experts would be hired in

order to use the loan in accordance with the guidelines and in order to minimise loss and wastages,” said the deputy minister.

Deputy Minister for Planning and Finance U Maung Maung Win also participated in the debate before the issue was put to the vote.

The terms and conditions of the deal are for a 40-year loan with a 30-year payback period with an interest rate of 0.75 per year.—*Myanmar News Agency*



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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approves to extend terms of parliamentary committees

PYIDAUNGSU HLUTTAW Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than brought up the matter of the committee dealing with Joint Committee on ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly and the joint committee on international parliamentary committee; which were established on 1 March 2016 at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw 1st regular meeting 6th day; both committees are about to reach the end of their one-year term today.

The Speaker asked the Hluttaw to voice their opinions on extending the terms of both committees by another year, to 28 February 2018, to which Hluttaw representatives voiced their approval.

Afterwards, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker presented the 38-member Commission for Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment, which was established on 1 March 2016 with approval from the Hluttaw and is about to reach the end of its one-year term today, former Hluttaw Speaker U Kyin Pe of Mon's letter of resignation from the commission, and appointing former Hluttaw Speaker U Ye Myint of Magway as a commission member.

The Speaker then listened to the Hluttaw's opinions on extending the term of the commission, approving resignation of an active member and appointing a new member in place to which Tatmadaw Hluttaw Representative Brig-Gen Maung Maung voiced his disapproval on extending the term of the committee.

With the use of an electronic voting system, 333 approval votes, 189 disapproval votes and 6 neutral votes were given on the case concerning the extension of the term of the commission. The Speaker then announced the approval of extending the term of the Commission for Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment after viewing the voting results.

Afterwards U Khin Maung Thi from Loilem constituency proposed raiding the GDP of local productions and services to 7% concerning the 2017-2018 Fiscal year and National Planning Law. He further discussed that to reach the target of improving the agricultural sector by 4.2%, assistance is needed in the form of agricultural equipment and machinery that confirms with the ecosystem in Myanmar.



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw is being convened in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

Next U Tin Htun Naing from Seikkyi/Khanaungto constituency, U Yan Linn from Kyaiklat constituency, U Sai Ba Thein from Langkho constituency, U Aung Min from Zalun constituency, U Sai Thant Zin from Hsipaw constituency, Dr. Aung Khin from PyinOoLwin constituency, U Ye Htut from Sagaing constituency (5), U Myo Win from Mon constituency (8), Daw Nan Ni Ni Aye from Kayin constituency (6), U Khin Cho from Hlaingbwe constituency, U Than Soe Aung from Pinyinmanar constituency, Naw Hla Hla Soe from Yangon constituency (10), U Kyaw Kyaw from Rakhine constituency (4), U Ohn Lwin from Nyaungdon constituency, U Win Htut from Pyapon

constituency, U Thant Zin Htun from Dekkhinathiri constituency, U Aung Kyaw Kyaw Oo from Hlaing constituency and U Aye Min Aung from Paungde constituency discussed on the National Planning Bill for 2017-2018 FY and its policy and projects vision and Basic Planning Projects.

Afterwards, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Mahn Win Khaing Than explained that the decision of Hluttaw Representatives concerning the National Planning Bill for 2017-2018 FY and its policy and projects appendix 2(A) includes removal and lessening of approval of certain strategic planning, therefore, if necessary, Hluttaw representatives wishing to amend the bill

should discuss with the Collaboration Committees and National Organizations concerned to get better ideas for amending and submitting for approval as soon as possible.

The Speaker concluded by announcing the discussion concerning the draft law/bill between the Draft Law Committee's reports and Hluttaw Representatives' discussion on basic principles and visions will be replied by National Organizations concerned will resume on 1 March 2017.

Also submission of approvals, disapprovals, and reducing of planning projects will be discussed National Organizations concerned on 6 March 2017. — Myanmar News Agency

Private school teacher licenses to be issued in June

THE Ministry of Education will issue teaching licenses for those in private schools in June of this year, according to a spokesperson of the Yangon Region Education Officer Office.

Eligible people may submit their application forms at the education office in respective townships until the end of this

month. Applicants should have Ph.D or B.Ed degree offered by a local or foreign university with at least five-year teaching experience in respective subjects at universities and basic education schools. The applicants need to pay registration and annual fees.

Teachers in private schools are required to have teaching

certificates given by the ministry.

Private schools are to appoint only licensed teachers. Both private school owners and teachers who are found to fail to abide by the existing laws, rules and regulations of the ministry shall face up to three years of imprisonment.—200

Faculty, students from Mandalay University observe workings of Election Commission

UNION Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein and members of the commission received a delegation of teachers, lecturers and students led by Professor Dr. Daw Thida Htun, head of Mandalay University's National Affairs

and Education Department, at the Union Election Commission in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

The Commission Chairman proceeded to explain the commission's constitution, the process of specifying constituencies, com-

puting of voter's lists, submitting and analysing Hluttaw representative candidates, announcement of voting results, reviewing letters objecting to the election, and inspecting appeals through a Union Court. Commission member U Aung Myint explained the framework of the three Hluttaws, election laws, rules, regulations, and procedures on different stages of an election. Commission member U Hla Tint explained the process of analysing letters of objections concerning the election.

Later, the Commission Chairman, members and other officials responded to questions put forward by the students with the Commission Chairman delivering a concluding speech. —Myanmar News Agency



Union Election Commission Chairman U Hla Thein speaks at meeting with faculty and students from Mandalay University. PHOTO: MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives President of USIP



Speaker U Win Myint holds talks with the President of the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) Ms. Nancy Lindborg in Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

PYITHU HLUTTAW Speaker U Win Myint received a delegation led by the President of the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) Ms. Nancy Lindborg yesterday afternoon at the Pyithu Hluttaw Building in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they discussed matters concerning the democratic reform process and human resources, national reconciliation, internal peace

and legislative issues.

Also present at the meeting were Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U T Khun Myat, Pyithu Hluttaw Ethnic Affairs and Internal Peace Implementation Committee Chairman U Khun Maung Thaung, Pyithu Hluttaw Ethnic Affairs and Internal Peace-making Committee secretary U In Hton Khar Naw Sam and responsible officials. —Myanmar News Agency

Vice President receives Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister

VICE President U Myint Swe received Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Hor Namhong and his delegation at the Credential Hall of the Presidential Palace yesterday in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting, they discussed promoting friendship and promotion of cooperation between the two countries, cooperation in

the education and tourism sectors, mutual cooperation between cultural zones in Bagan and Mandalay in Myanmar and the Angkor Wat cultural zone in Cambodia.

Also present at the meeting were Deputy Ministers U Min Thu, U Win Maw Tun and responsible officials.—*Myanmar News Agency*



Vice President U Myint Swe welcomes Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Hor Namhong in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

State Counsellor receives President of USIP



State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the President of USIP Ms. Nancy Lindborg pose for a documentary photo at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. PHOTO: MNA

STATE Counsellor and Union Minister for Foreign Affairs Daw Aung San Suu Kyi received the President of the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) Ms. Nancy Lindborg and party at 10:00 am at

the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday.

During the meeting, they openly exchanged views on the peace process in Myanmar. Also present were Mr. Derek Mitch-

ell, Senior Advisor of Asia Center and former US Ambassador to Myanmar, and Mr. Andrew Wilder, Vice President of Asia Center.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Anti-violence ceremony . . .

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“He demonstrated that no matter what level of society you were raised in, the courage you were born with can fulfil a good purpose, and this a great lesson to be learned. Violence is never the answer, it can never bring progress and prosperity to the nation, and this can even be observed in other countries. We can take this as a lesson in utilising peaceful and tolerant methods moving forward,” Thura U Tin Oo said.

U Ko Ni was shot to death on 28 January at Terminal 1 of Yangon International Airport upon returning from a conference in Indonesia. U Nay Win was shot to death as he attempted to apprehend

the assassin. Three people are in custody for the killings.

After Thura U Tin Oo’s address, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Phyo Min Thein delivered a speech and U Jimmy from 88 Generation’s Peace and Transparency Organisation gave words of honour followed by a mass prayer by different religious groups for Legal Advisor U Ko Ni and taxi driver U Nay Win. Attending the ceremony were: Region Hluttaw Speaker U Tin Maung Htun; Regional Ministers; Hluttaw representatives; taxi drivers from the airport and citizens striving for rule of law. All attendees then laid down flowers and wreaths in respect and said prayers.—*Zaw Gyi (Pa Ni Ta)*



Flowers and wreaths laid in respect. PHOTO: ZAW GYI (PA NI TA)

Correction and Apology by Editorial Team

A caption for the story headlined “Cambodian deputy PM arrives in Nay Pyi Taw” on page 3 of yesterday’s Global New Light of Myanmar was incorrect.

The correct caption should read: “Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister H.E. Hor Namhong is welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Deputy Minister for Transport and Communications U Kyaw Myo. The Global New Light of Myanmar apologises for the error.—*Editorial Team*

Vice President U Myint Swe hosts dinner in honour of Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister

VICE President U Myint Swe hosted a dinner in honour of the delegation led by the Deputy Prime Minister of Cambodia Mr. Hor Namhong at Park Royal Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw, yesterday evening.

At the dinner, U Myint Swe in saying words of greetings said, “We lay stress on Myanmar-Cambodia relations. In 1955, bilateral diplomatic relations was established. We are very happy to see friendship between the two countries and mutual cooperation developing gradually. Myanmar and Cambodia are similar in historical background, Asian Values and temperament. Besides, the two countries are undertaking the task of achieving regional and global peace, as well as the harmony with each other. Both of our countries are working hand in hand with each other in making concerted efforts for building a better and strengthened ASEAN community. Meanwhile, friendship has been found to be stronger than ever. Exchange of State Visits is remarkably helpful to the development of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. Very recently, President U Htin Kyaw, made an official state visit to Cambodia, bringing about creation of new opportunities in the sphere of cooperation between the two countries.”

The Vice President added, “Myanmar will continue to cooperate closely with other ASE-



Vice President U Myint Swe hosts dinner for Deputy Prime Minister of Cambodia Mr. Hor Namhong at Park Royal Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw. PHOTO: MNA

AN member countries in addition to Cambodia, so as to be able to solve present and future challenges so that we can build a prosperous and harmonious ASEAN community. Myanmar and Cambodia are moving towards a brighter future with firm resolutions and aims. We firmly believe that the existing friendship and cooperation between our two countries will strengthen more and more as time goes by.”

Afterwards, Mr Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister of Cambodia, spoke words of thanks, followed by the dinner hosted by Vice President U Myint Swe.

Present at the dinner were

U Ohn Maung, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism, Dr Myo Aung, Chairman of Nay Pyi Taw Council, Deputy Ministers, departmental heads, invited guests and responsible officials.

Prior to the dinner party, “An Agreement on Educational Cooperation in 2017-2021 between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Cambodia Government was signed by U Win Maw Tun, Deputy Minister for Education and Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia, in the presence of the Vice President and the Deputy Prime Minister.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Myanma Railways to decrease freight rates as of 1 March



The circular train is crowded with passengers at Yangon Central Railways Station. PHOTO: PHOE KHWAH

AS PART OF its plans to offer extensive passenger and freight transportation services to commuters, the state-run Myanmar Railways will decrease the freight rate on some goods starting 1 March, according to the railway.

Under the new policy, passengers can carry portable elec-

tronic devices for their personal use without paying any fees, including VCD, DVD and EVD players, video cameras, still cameras and laptops, which were included in the list of 69 kinds of cargo with a fixed freight rate.

The MR will also reduce rail freight prices for televisions measuring between 14 and 26

inches from Ks3,000 to Ks2,700; for televisions between 29 and 32 inches from Ks7,000 to Ks6,300; for big refrigerators from Ks10,000 to Ks9,750; for small-sized water pump from Ks2,000 to Ks1,800; for motorcycles from Ks7,000 to Ks6,300 and for air conditioners from Ks5,000 to Ks4,500. —Soe Win (MLA)

Myanmar seafarers invited to join luxury cruise liners

TO create more job opportunities for Myanmar seafarers, Singapore and Malaysia-based shipping companies will invite local job seekers to apply for mid-year shipboard vacancies of companies, according to a local employment agency.

Applicants with no sea service experience have to take a

job qualifying examination conducted online by those companies. Outstanding persons may easily pass the test and will have an opportunity to join overseas shipping companies — Star Cruise and Marine Cruise — without giving any fees for service.

English language profi-

ciency is vital for those seamen wishing to join the foreign shipping companies, an official from the local employment agency said.

Both companies are recruiting deck, engine and hotel officers and workers with the salaries ranging from US\$300 to \$6,000.—200

Seeds from endemic endangered orchids placed in Norway's Global Seed Vault

MYANMAR sent collected seeds from over 270 species of endemic endangered orchid plants to the Global Seed Vault for permanent storage for the very first time, a spokesperson said.

The move is principally aimed at preventing extinction of those beautiful flowering plants by storing their seeds at the Glob-

al Seed Vault, a secure seed bank on the Norwegian island of Spitsbergen, opened in 2008.

Thanks to scientific storage, seeds held in the vault could survive hundreds, possibly thousands of years to insure against the loss of species in the event of a large-scale regional or global crisis.

The Ministry of Natural Re-

sources and Environmental Conservation has further plans to collect seeds of rare native plants to be sent to the Global Seed Vault.

Myanmar is a country with rich plant resources. Some of the bio-diversity in the country is under threat in part because of illegal harvests for export to other countries.—200

Eindu-Zarthapyin asphalt road almost completed

CONSTRUCTION of the Eindu-Zarthapyin asphalt road under the road improvement project in Hpa-an District, Kayin State, is 90 per cent finished and is expected to be finished by the end of March, according to the project manager.

The project was initiated on 1 November of last year. The government plans to spend millions on upgrading the narrow

15-mile long road that is used for cargo transport and bus commutes.

The road department in Hpa-an District constructed 11.6-kilometers of the road with the use of a Ks3 billion budgets granted by the government in the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Chit Lynn Myaing Construction Company continues to repave the remaining 9.6 kilometers of

the road.

The state road department plans to celebrate opening of the newly upgraded road in the first week of April.

The paved portion of the road will be 24 feet wide, which will double to road's width. The road is always busy with about 240 cargo trucks and over 1,600 vehicles, including passenger buses.—200

Crime NEWS

Man in charge of 100 Households attacked with knife in Maungtaw

ON 24 February at 8pm in the village of Nwayontaung, Adu Zawli, 38, the in-charge of 100 households, was attacked by an unidentified person with a knife as he was returning home after making arrangements for village sentry duty. Adu Zawli suffered a knife wound to his wrist. Security forces are making efforts to seize the culprit, it is learnt. —Myanmar News Agency



Civilian gets injuries in mine blast

A civilian was injured in the mine blast planted by Ta'ang National Liberation Army-TN-LA armed group on 25 February in Momeik.

U La Htaw Gun hit the mine on his way to a jungle

south of Hinkok Village in Momeik Township to cut fire wood and the mine exploded.

He is now receiving treatment for the injuries on his legs and eyes at the hospital. — Myanmar News Agency

Fire destroys home in Maungtaw

A fire broke out in Ducheerdan (South) Village in Maungtaw Township, Rakhine State, on Sunday, destroying a house.

The fire caused by neg-

ligence started in the kitchen of the home owned by Phartay Markhartu and destroyed the house worth about Ks200,000.— Myanmar News Agency



The negligence fire totally destroys the house in Ducheerdan (south) village in Maungtaw. PHOTO: MNA

Missing Khami ethnic found dead

ONE of the two Khami ethnic villagers attacked by three unidentified people armed with axes and knives near Thaye Konebaung village of Maungtaw Township on Friday was found dead on Sunday.

On Friday evening, Aung Kyaw Sein, 46, a Khami national, was wounded with a cut to his back and was hospitalized at Buthidaung hospital. The other Khami national, Htun

Thar Maung, 24, fled the scene and did not return home. The security forces searched for him and found his body on Sunday afternoon in the upper reaches of the Letwedan creek near Kai-gyi village with knife wounds to his neck and back.

The search for the attackers continues, at which time they will be arrested, according to the police force. — Myanmar News Agency

6.5 million yaba pills seized in Heho

A local anti-narcotic squad searched a six-wheel vehicle en route from Taunggyi to Meiktila at milepost 98 near Bawathanthaya Bridge in Heho Township on 26 February.

Police found 6.5 million yaba pills worth Ks 60,500

lakh from the six-wheel vehicle driven by Kyaw Tun Hlaing alias A Nge Lay, 38, with Sai Thura Aung, 32, on board.

Police have taken action against them under the anti-narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—Myanmar Police Force

LOCAL Business

Association to request that thanakha be delisted as forest product

THE Ayadaw Thanakha Planters and Producers Association from Monywa District, Sagaing Region will request that Myanmar's thanakha plants to be removed from the list of forest products and added to the list of agricultural products, it is learnt.

According to Myanmar's Forest Law, thanakha is listed as a minor forest product. When thanakha is traded, there are actions taken under Forest Law that cause growers difficulties, said U Kyaw Moe, the Chairman of Ayadaw Thanakha Planters and Producers Association.

"We decided to request to the respective Hluttaw representatives so that Myanmar's Thanakha is removed from secondary forest products when we held two year anniversary of our

association on 28 January," he added.

The Ayadaw Thanakha Planters and Producers Association is also exerting efforts to be a registered association.

Myanmar's thanakha requires the assistance from respective departments to penetrate the international market as a value-added product.

Thanakha plants are mostly grown in Yesagyo, Ayadaw and Shwebo townships. Thanakha products (a yellowish-white cosmetic paste made from ground bark) are sent to Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway regions. Thanakha is no longer a minor forest product, which is widely cultivated in the central regions of Myanmar and so, it should be listed in agricultural products, the association stated.

—Phyo Lwin Aung (AMIA)

Management committees for 29 industrial zones to be formed

The formation of management committees for 29 industrial zones in Yangon Region will be implemented as soon as possible, said U Myint Thaung, the minister for Yangon Region Planning and Finance.

In a bid to effectuate the development in industrial zones, Yangon region officials will form the management committees for 29 industrial zones including the Hlaingtharya and Shwelinban industrial zones. The committee will systematically solve the problems of the industrial zones, including the management of real property.

The Yangon Region is planning to form management committees to ensure the operation and maintenance of wa-

ter and electrical supply and water sanitation in the zones. Additionally, efforts will be made to develop these 29 zones with expertise and assistance from locals and foreigners. The plan will be mainly implemented in Yangon and Mandalay regions to enhance the industrial sector.

The industrial development in these two regions has a strong impact on development of Myanmar. Therefore, the policies are formulated on the basis of development in industrial economy, said U Myint Thaung.

There are 10 zones in the Yangon's Eastern District, one zone in the Southern District and 18 zones in the Northern District, it is learnt.—200

Metro Group to form local food distribution JV

THE Metro Group is set to form a new joint venture in Myanmar, in partnership with Singapore-based YOMA Strategic Holdings.

The JV – to be called Metro Wholesale Myanmar Ltd – will see the German group holding an 85% stake, with Yoma holding the rest. Neither group said

how much they plan to invest on the JV, nor did they offer a timeline for the launch.

The new entity will create a distribution platform that will target HoReCa sector, offices, and independent small retailers. Reports said the JV will offer more than 3,300 food and non-food items.—kamcity.com

KBZ Bank opens settlement account in US

KANBAWZA Bank (KBZ Bank) Limited, part of the KBZ Group of companies, announced yesterday that it has opened a USD settlement account with international bank Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation's New York branch (SMBC New York), to offer streamlined remittance services that enable faster, more convenient trade financing and transactions between Myanmar and the United States, it was announced yesterday at a news conference.

Mr. Nobuyasu Akagi, General Manager of SMBC Yangon and U Win Lwin, Managing Director of the International Banking Division of KBZ Bank, delivered opening addresses and replied to questions raised by the media.

The arrangement allows KBZ Bank to centralise its USD clearing services through SMBC New York, which also improves the management of fees for transactions as a result of having to process transfers via different banks with varying respective costs.

"We would like to congratulate our partner, KBZ Bank, on this momentous development. As KBZ Bank is the biggest private bank in Myanmar, we believe that supporting them with our best effort in many ways, means we are strongly participating in the development of the Myanmar economy and financial market. The opening of a USD account as a Myanmar private bank is a good example of how Myanmar financial institutions are com-

mitted to join the international community," said Mr. Nobuyasu Akagi, the General Manager of SMBC Yangon, at the news conference held at Strand Square in Yangon yesterday.

This development will spur business growth between both countries, with KBZ Bank customers now able to utilise SMBC New York's 24-hour USD clearing service, which eliminates cut-off times for transfers.

The press conference was also attended by diplomats from the US Embassy in Yangon, responsible personnel of the SMBC, U Than Cho, Vice-Chairman-2 of KBZ Bank, U Maung Maung, Vice-Chairman-3, responsible personnel of the KBZ Bank Ltd and members of the media.—Thura Lwin (Eco)



Dignitaries pose for a photo at the ceremony to announce USD settlement account between KBZ Bank and SMBC New York. PHOTO: THURA LWIN (Eco)

Myanmar honey eyed for export to EU countries

MYANMAR's honey was scrutinised so as to export to EU countries by Mr. Stephen Robert, senior SPS Expert and delegates, according to the Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation Ministry.

Previously, Myanmar's honey was exported to Japan, Thailand and China. Now the honey has attained more markets such as America and Canada. Efforts are currently being made for Myanmar's honey to penetrate the EU market.

The expert and team visited Kyaikto Township, Mon State, in order to study the honey production process and collect the honey to check whether it contains antibiotics or not, it is learnt.

Mr. Stephen Roberts expressed that he is so delight-

ed with the cooperation of the Apiculture Enterprise that operates under the agriculture ministry. The local beekeepers practice a good beekeeping system, he added.

Currently, Myanmar's honey is mainly exported to China. About 55 tonnes of honey worth US\$38,500 were sent to China through the Muse border trade camp in December 2016. Similarly, about 84 tonnes of honey worth US\$58,800 were shipped in the first week of January 2017. Over 32 tonnes of honey worth US\$22,470 were exported through the Muse trade camp to China between 4 and 10 February, according to the Commerce Ministry.

Honey is locally utilised as medicine, whereas it is used a

substitute for sugar in foreign countries. People believed that honey contained medicinal qualities, and thus it became highly valued.

The honey season in Myanmar is from September to May. In the 2014-15 fiscal year, a total of 3,551 tonnes were exported, but only 2,490 tonnes of honey were exported in the previous year. All these exports are handled by 13 Myanmar companies which own about 120,000 hives in the country, according to a local source.

In the 2015-16 fiscal year, exporters only shipped out about 2,000 tonnes, according to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation. The honey fetches up to US\$700 per tonne in the international honey market, it is learnt.—Ko Khant

Indonesia police say bomber “possibly” linked to IS sympathisers

JAKARTA — A militant killed by police in Indonesia after detonating a small bomb in the city of Bandung on Monday was “possibly” part of a radical network sympathetic to Islamic State, police said. The blast in the courtyard of a government office in the capital of West Java province did not cause any casualties and the bomber was shot by police after running into the building.

The militant had arrived at the office on a motorbike and placed his home-made bomb, assembled using a pressure cooker, in the corner of the courtyard.

The attacker had demanded that Indonesia’s anti-terror police unit, Densus 88, release all its detainees, according to provincial police chief Anton Charliyan.



Police are seen near a local government office following an explosion in Bandung, West Java, Indonesia n 27 February, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

The police chief speculated that he may have been linked to Jemaah Ansharut Daulah (JAD), a group on a

US State Department “terrorist” list.

“There’s a possibility of JAD,” Charliyan said,

when asked which group the militant belonged to.

JAD is an umbrella organization that is estimated

by Indonesian authorities to include hundreds of Islamic State sympathizers in the Southeast Asian country.

Indonesia, a secular state with the world’s largest Muslim population, has recently come under attack from radical Islamist groups.

An assault by suicide bombers and gunmen on the capital Jakarta in January 2016 was claimed by Islamic State. It was the first time that Islamic State had claimed responsibility for an attack in Indonesia.

Islamist militant attacks had been relatively rare in Bandung, about three hours away from Jakarta. Provincial police spokesman Yusri Yunus said the situation was “under control” in Bandung after the bomber was killed.—Reuters

Philippines-based militant group Abu Sayyaf beheads German hostage : SITE

MANILA—The Philippines-based militant group Abu Sayyaf posted a video on Monday showing the beheading of a man identified as a German hostage captured last November.

The video reposted by the militant-cy-monitoring group SITE showed a machete-wielding militant kill the elderly German hostage. SITE identified the man as Jurgen Kantner. Abu Sayyaf is believed to be holding a number of hostages and has freed several in return for ransom payments. Kantner’s deadline for ransom had expired on Sunday, according to SITE.—Reuters

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Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No.150, Nga Htat Kyee Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily under Printing Permit No. 00510 and Publishing Permit No. 00629.

S Korea’s Lotte approves land swap for missile defence — ministry

SEOUL — The board of an affiliate of South Korea’s Lotte Group approved a land swap with the government on Monday that will enable authorities to deploy a controversial US missile defence system, the defence ministry said.

The government decided last year to deploy the US Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD) system in response to the North Korean missile threat, on land that is part of a golf course owned by Lotte in the Seongju region, southeast of Seoul.

The board of unlisted Lotte International Co Ltd approved the deal with the government, and the ministry and Lotte were due to sign an agreement as early as Tuesday, the ministry said.

Lotte could not be immediately reached for comment.

South Korea has said it and the United States aim to make the system operational by the end of the year. A South Korean military official said last week the deployment could be completed by August. But China objects to the deployment in South Korea of the THAAD, which has a powerful radar capable of penetrating Chinese territory.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang repeated China’s opposition it on Monday, saying it would not help peace and stability of the Korean peninsula, and called on South Korea and the United States not go to go ahead.

China will take necessary steps to protect its se-

curity interests, Geng said, without giving details.

“All the consequences of that are the responsibility of South Korea and the United States,” he told a daily news briefing in Beijing.

Chinese state media recently warned the Lotte Group, South Korea’s fifth-largest conglomerate, that it would face severe consequences if it allowed its land to be used for the missile system.

The Lotte Group said on 8 February Chinese authorities had stopped construction at a multi-billion dollar real estate project in China after a fire inspection, adding to concern in South Korea about damage to commercial relations with the world’s second-largest economy.

South Korea’s central bank said this month the

number of Chinese tourists visiting the tourist island of Jeju had fallen 6.7 per cent over the Lunar New Year holiday from last year, partly because of China’s “anti-South Korea measures due to the THAAD deployment decision”.

Earlier, South Korean officials said they suspected a Chinese decision in December to deny applications from South Korean airlines to expand charter flights was “indirect” retaliation for deployment of the missile system.

But Finance Minister Yoo Il-ho later said China had not taken any retaliatory measures over the missile system that merited official response, though adding South Korea was ready to complain about any “unfair” action.—Reuters

Vietnam cracks down transnational drug trafficking ring

HANOI— Police in Vietnam’s central Thanh Hoa province, cracked down a transnational drug trafficking ring, arresting three people with 15 kg of synthetic drugs, said local police on Monday.

Specifically, in Thanh

Hoa’s Muong Lat district, some 140 km south of capital Hanoi, local police arrested three people including Cheo Thi Phoi (born in 1980) and Cheo Van Man (born in 1976), who are living in Laos, as well as Phan Thi Pham

(born in 1978), who is living in Vietnam. They also seized 15 kg of synthetic drugs, related objects and documents, reported Vietnam’s state-run news agency VNA.

According to the police, in the province’s

largest-ever synthetic drug case, Cheo Van Man used to join other Vietnamese nationals to transport drug from Laos to consume in Vietnam. The police are continuing to expand investigation of the case, said VNA.—Xinhua

Duterte shores up support as Philippine senators lose posts



Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte. PHOTO: REUTERS

MANILA — Four Philippine legislators who supported a staunch critic of leader Rodrigo Duterte's war on drugs lost important positions in the Senate on Monday, drawing political lines in the upper house in a tightening of the president's grip on power.

In a motion led by Senator Manny Pacquiao, a famous boxing champion and close ally of Duterte, three senators lost their leadership of house committees and one was ousted as pro-tempore, the Senate's second highest position.

All four had backed Senator Leila de Lima, the chief critic of Duterte's anti-narcotics crackdown, who since Friday has been remanded in police custody on drug-related charges.

Political observers said the sudden realignment indicated moves by Duterte to strengthen his control over the powerful 24-seat Senate. Dozens of lawmakers in the lower house have switched loyalties to his party since he took office last year.

The four senators who lost their posts had attended a rally on Saturday to mark 31 years since the "People Power" uprising that removed dictator Ferdinand

Marcos. The demonstration turned into a march to denounce the war on drugs.

More than 7,700 people have died since Duterte unleashed his bloody campaign eight months ago, a third in police raids and sting operations. The authorities deny activists' claims that many of the other deaths were extrajudicial killings. "If this is the price to pay for showing up at the streets ... for talking about democracy, if this is the price to pay, I'd gladly pay," said Paolo Benigno Aquino, who was voted out as head of the Senate education committee. De Lima, a former justice minister who has called Duterte a "sociopathic serial killer", is accused of taking bribes from convicts who ran narcotics businesses in jails. She dismisses the accusation as part of a vendetta by the president. With De Lima detained, the Senate has a minority bloc of five members, which will now be led by Antonio Trillanes, another critic of the president. He alleges Duterte has tens of millions of dollars of hidden wealth and operated a death squad when he was a city mayor. Duterte denies all of the allegations. —Reuters

South Korean prosecutors are denied Park scandal probe extension

SEOUL — South Korean special prosecutors investigating impeached President Park Geun-hye were denied permission to extend their probe and question her in person on Monday amid a graft scandal that threatens to topple her from office.

The special prosecutor's office will make its final indictments before its investigation into the scandal, which has engulfed the highest levels of politics and business in South Korea, closes on Tuesday, spokesman Lee Kyu-chul told reporters.

A Constitutional Court ruling on whether to uphold the impeachment, which would result in South Korea's first democratically elected leader being thrown from office, is expected next month.

The office of Prime Minister Hwang Kyo-ahn, acting as president since Park was impeached by parliament in December, said Hwang had rejected a request by prosecutors for a 30-day extension of their investigation.

"The special prosecutor's office regrets that the in-person questioning of the president could not happen and is deeply disappointed by the outcome," Lee said.

The sticking point had been over the presidential office's refusal to allow audio or video recordings of the questioning, resulting in a breakdown in negotiations last week, Lee said. Prosecutors had sought to question Park as a suspect, he said.

The corruption scan-

dal erupted last year over accusations that Park colluded with a friend, Choi Soon-sil, to pressure big businesses to donate to two foundations set up to back the president's policy initiatives.

The scandal has led to weekly protests by tens of thousands of Koreans, not only those who want Park gone but also some who want to see her stay in power and blame North Korean agents for the political instability.

Park, 65, was stripped of her powers after parliament's impeachment. She cannot be prosecuted while she remains president.

The scandal has also engulfed Samsung Group [SAGR.UL], South Korea's largest chaebol, or conglomerate. Jay Y Lee, the head of the smartphones-to-biopharmaceuticals conglomerate, was arrested on 17 February on suspicion that he had pledged bribes to a compa-

ny and foundations backed by Choi to curry favour.

Park reiterated in a statement to the Constitutional Court read by her lawyer on Monday that she did not act in self-interest while in office. She also denied making improper demands or receiving illicit requests from Samsung.

Choi, Lee and Samsung also deny wrongdoing.

Prosecutors could issue up to another 15 indictments on Tuesday, including of Lee and other Samsung Group executives. Their findings were expected to be disclosed by Friday at the latest.

Hwang's office said the special prosecution investigation had served its purpose and it was in the country's best interests for it to conclude as scheduled on Tuesday.

"After much deliberation, the acting president has decided that it would be best for the country's stability to not extend the

special investigation and for the prosecutors to take over," said Hong Kwon-heui, a spokesman for Hwang.

Hwang, who was appointed prime minister by Park in 2015, is seen as a potential candidate if Park's impeachment is upheld, which would trigger an election.

However, soon after announcing there would be no extension of the investigation, Hwang found himself dragged into the scandal when the two main opposition parties said they would seek his impeachment too.

The special prosecution team has already indicted former Park aide Kim Ki-choon and former culture minister Cho Yoon-sun.

Should the Constitutional Court uphold parliament's impeachment of Park, South Korea would hold an election within 60 days. —Reuters



Judges of the Constitutional Court sit during the final hearing on whether to confirm the impeachment of President Park Geun-hye at the Constitutional Court in Seoul, South Korea on 27 February, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

MV MCC MERGUI VOY. NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MCC MERGUI VOY. NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.2.2017 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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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.

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

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

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Opinion

Write for us

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

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

Connecting to the big brain

Kyaw Myaing

IT is common knowledge now that we have already passed the "Information Age" and that we are now in what the experts call the "Knowledge Age". In this age where knowledge reigns supreme, the internet has become very important for all those who wish to take the fullest advantage of this "Knowledge Age".

While the rest of the world has had ample opportunity to reap the benefits of the internet, the people of Myanmar have not been very fortunate. Let us take a brief look at our recent history to understand this point better. Myanmar gained her independence in 1948 and for a brief moment enjoyed what has been called "a parliamentary form of government". During that time Myanmar was called the Union of Burma and the people enjoyed the freedoms of a democratic form of government although this period was short-lived. From 1958-60 we were under the Caretaker Government of General Ne Win. After that we had a brief moment under the Clean AFPFL Government of U Nu. However, beginning from 2 March 1962, we once again came under the rule of General Ne Win and from that moment on, the people of Myanmar had been under the rule of various forms of military dictatorships.

Fast forward. After the 1988 people's uprising, Myanmar was ruled by SLORC – State Law and Order Restoration Council and then by the SPDC – State Peace and Development Council. The

SPDC was headed by Senior General Than Shwe. In 2008 the present Constitution was adopted by a public referendum which brought into power a quasi-civilian government under the leadership of President U Thein Sein, a retired General. He was inaugurated on 30 March 2011.

As far as the Myanmar people were concerned, they lived under strict censorship and internet connectivity was practically non-existent. As far as cell phones were concerned, the sim cards were way too expensive for the general population and the cell phones themselves were way above the price range for ordinary citizens to even dream of buying. Thus while the rest of the world enjoyed internet connectivity, and smart phones, the people of Myanmar lived in a relatively dark age having to rely on a few government controlled newspapers and a radio and TV station owned by the government.

However, things have been changing gradually. During the administration of President U Thein Sein which can be credited for a number of political and economic reforms, Myanmar citizens began to get better access to the internet and the price of sim cards and smart phone became relatively cheaper. Later when the monopoly of the government on internet connectivity and cell phones was broken with the advent of Telenor and Ooredoo, the life of Myanmar citizens really began to change with better internet connectivity and

less-expensive smart phones.

Let us look at the situation now. At present we have a democracy government led by the NLD which has a majority in both houses of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. This government which has the full support of the majority of the people is more responsive to the voices of the people. From the side of the government, they have tried their best to have better communications with the people. To do this, the government set up better channels of communications using internet websites and digital technology such as "Viber". Thus the people feel much closer to their leaders.

Enter Facebook. Facebook has been quite popular with the Myanmar people as this social media website has empowered the Myanmar citizens. FB as it is affectionately called, allows its users to not only post pictures and comments about their daily lives but most important of all for Myanmar citizens who have been yearning for a more democratic form of government, it gave them the opportunity to post and share their thoughts about political matters. Thus, as far as the Myanmar people are concerned, it was a sea change for them.

For the Myanmar people, rights come with responsibilities. Just because we have internet access does not mean that we can behave like irresponsible children. As Myanmar moves into the modern era with better internet access and smart phones (we now talk about

3G and 4G), we need to understand what is appropriate and what is not. Also, we need to understand that very soon, each smart phone user will be totally responsible for how the phone is being used.

The title of this editorial reads "Connecting to the big brain". In the opinion of the writer, the internet is like a virtual brain that covers the whole globe. Once we are connected to the internet, we are connected to all the people in the world who also have internet access. Thus the opportunities for sharing knowledge and researching for information on the internet is mind-boggling. With search engines like Google, Yahoo and Bing and with video websites like YouTube, the youths of today have a tremendous advantage over the youths of the older generation. So, since we are now connected to the big brain, we have the ability to connect with the best brains on this planet and even make lifelong friends with people all over the world. How we use the power and connectivity of the Big Brain will determine how we will develop as a nation. Our citizens will be able to educate and train themselves to become better citizens by learning from the experience of other countries and getting the best technologies in every field of endeavor. Let us get the best advantage of the Big Brain by taking the best that modern technology can offer while at the same time keeping our traditions and cultures intact.

Newspapers We Loved to Read Once

Khin Maung Oo

I am really a journalist manque. Abortive as my ambition was, a burning desire to see a developed press world still existed in my heart. Among mass media—radio, television & newspapers, the last one is my favorite. Being a rustic brought up in a small town, I was familiar with newspapers only. It was over 50 years ago. Perhaps someone will not believe my saying that radio, in my childhood days, was a rare means of communication in our locality. I had no access to it, which was nearly always occupied by my elder siblings. Thus the then dailies became my friends. Unbelievably the whole town had only a meager amount of radios. So, most of the townspeople relied completely upon those papers to know about Myanmar and the world, one day later than usual. Here I would like



PHOTO: NZM/GNLM

to call it "a country crier" to coin a phrase "a town crier." Some of my father's colleagues, who were illiterates, did not subscribe to dailies. So, my dad made me read them aloud, thus helping a habit of read-

ing newspapers to develop in me.

When I was young, I tried my best to read them with the help of a dictionary [U Tun Nyein Eng-Bur Dictionary]. Those reading materials included the then state-

run paper "the Working People's Daily" issues. "The Guardian" was its contemporary one. At first, I found it very difficult to peruse them. Very often, I had to read local news in consultation with those which appeared in papers [Myanmar-version Loke Thar Pyithu Nezin]. Thus, reading English newspapers became an acquired taste for me, before I recognized it. I had mostly acquainted with Saya Tet Toe's writings. Motley Ko Ko, U Thet Tin [lecturer], U Myint Thein, U Chaw, U Than Myint [Aba], U Ye Dwe, U Mya Thaung were my favorites. I had many other writers who were worth emulating in my life. Some were prolific writers while some wrote only sporadically. I profited a lot from their works: vocabulary accumulation, various writing styles and literary elements.

Facts and figures are important in a news report, as is the presentation. In news writing, we

should several important facts. In writing news, we need to avoid using euphemism. Especially reporting news in a chronological order is unacceptable at all. Sentences in a news item should be written in active forms as much as possible. Reports must be simple, correct and concise, unlike articles and perspectives. In fact the scope of my knowledge is not wide. I firmly believe that there are many knowledgeable experts who will be able to produce promising new generation of journalists. Moreover, enthusiastic newsmen can get what they want through internet.

Nowadays the bonanza year for the press media in our country is coming in. From now on, youths ought to prepare themselves to vie for a rightful place. I admit myself that the nation's future really belongs to them. They all are ebullient and they have potentials each.

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VP U Henry Van Thio inspects regional development works in Kanpetlet & Mindat

VICE President U Henry Van Thio inspected the regional development works in Kanpetlet and Mindat on February 26.

Accompanied by Union Ministers U Thant Zin Maung and U Win Khaing, Deputy Ministers Brigadier-General Than Htut and Dr Win Naing the Vice President left Nay Pyi Taw for Bagan-Nyaung U airport by air. Then the Vice President, accompanied by Chin State Cabinet's Chief Minister left for Chin State, arriving at Kanpetlet.

Afterwards, the Vice President arrived at the 25-bed township hospital in Kanpetlet, inspecting the wards for treatment in the campus and construction site for the extended hospital and providing subsidy to patients.

Then, the Vice President and party inspected the arrangements being made for community-based tourism work in Sawlaung village and construction of typical Chin lodging houses. Sawlaung village is situated one mile from Kanpetlet and CBT (Community Based Tourism) was inaugurated on 3rd January 3 2017 by the Forever Top Company and the villagers.

80% of CBT's income will be used for the development of the village and other needs of the villagers, with 20% of the total income to be taken by the investor.

CBT lodges include 6 solo-type buildings in which 12 guests can be accommodated at one time, and one dining hall.

From there, the Vice President proceeded to the Basic Education High School of Kanpetlet, meeting with the locals at the Zalattwa Hall to explain about development work for the region being implemented by the State, followed by presentation of the needs for regional development from town elder U Mya Moun and U Kwee Htan, Chin State Hluttaw representative.

Concerning matters on com-



Vice President Henry Van Thio meets with locals at Zalattwa Hall. PHOTO:MNA

munications, telecommunications, health, border-area development, power supply, upgrading schools and gymnasium, tourism industry development and conducting training courses for tourism that are basically of great importance, in the State were explained respectively by officials according to sectors about the programmes to be provided.

Then, the Vice President presented the donation money amounting to 100 Lakh Kyats donated by the Ministry of Border Affairs for the development of Kanpetlet, to the township administrator. Following that, Brig-Gen Than Htut, Deputy Minister gave aid supplies and solar panels for the village donated by the Ministry of Border Affairs to the chairman of township development committee.

In the afternoon, the Vice President and party visited Nat Ma Taung National Park designated as the ASEAN Heritage Park. Nat Ma Taung is situated at 10500 feet above the sea-level. It is sur-

It was a national duty to spread the Rhododendron trees and not to cause the extinction of Indian Pied Hornbill birds.

rounded by hills and ranges and it is the major diverging channel for Myittha river, Lemyo river, Mone Creek, Maw Creek and Yaw Creeks. It remarkably stands out as the highest soil-covered mountain among ASEAN nations.

Nat Ma Taung National Park came under protection as a weather-control forest reserve under forest law article 19, starting from 1936, with a view to making the natural environment survive eternally and to protect different species in the area from becoming extinct. In 1997, it was proposed to be designated as the national park and it was designated officially in 2010. On December 20, 2012,

it was designated as the ASEAN Heritage Garden.

The Vice President was briefed by U Thein Lwin, Nat Ma Taung administrator at the Nat Ma Taung 10-mile camp as regards maintenance works for the conservation of the Nat Ma Taung national park and surrounding areas in natural condition and working condition of Nature-Based Tourism.

Based on presentations made by officials, the Vice President stressed that it was necessary to organize local people to take active part in performing conservation of natural environment, and to give educational talks on conservation of the natural environment to the locals.

In the evening, the Vice President arrived at the Mindat 100-bed district hospital, where he inspected the hospital and construction site of the 4-storey RC extended hospital and provided cash assistance to patients. Then, the Vice President met with local people and departmental officials at the No. 1 Basic

Education High School of Mindat, clarifying programmes to be implemented by the State for regional development.

Daw Har Awe, member of the Mindat township development committee submitted needs of the region and responsible officials made explanations about arrangements to be provided according to the respective sectors.

Afterwards, U Henry Van Thio gave K 100 lakhs as assistance money from the Ministry of Border Affairs to the township administrator, for the development of Mindat. Following that, Brig-Gen Than Htut, Deputy Minister for the Ministry of Border Affairs offered 50 sets of solar panel for the villages of Keitnar, Talanvee and Wilu, 500 blankets for the villages of Chai, Malai and Otsardoo with 300 blankets for the villages of Khuloo and Ro provided by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

In the meetings, the Vice President expressed emphatically that the State gave special attention to Chin State, where development work is greatly needed. Hence such a visit was made for the authorities to witness the needs of the region. The State will carry out the development tasks without delay, depending upon the budget allotment, and the remaining tasks to be done systematically. He went on to say that local people needed to help the government to implement the plans. It is necessary to extend the production of the regional produce, "Loo-sat," paddy that is good for health. The Vice President emphasized that it was a national duty to spread the Rhododendron trees and not to cause the extinction of Indian Pied Hornbill birds, the symbol of Chin State.

The Vice President then cordially greeted those who came to the meeting.—*Myanmar News Agency*

Newspapers We Loved to Read Once

>> FROM PAGE 8

Today in building up our nation, media plays an important role as the fourth estate. Now our press let us have an opportunity to take part in this challenging campaign, working hand in hand with vested interests.

Regarding the progress of journalism world, language skill should not be neglected. An able writer needs to be capable of manipulating the language, and must have had fundamental knowledge on writing.

As a grammar teacher, I would like newsmen to pay an attention to grammatical rules. Certainly, readers will not argue with errors as a hair-splitter. But we believe that press media's prestige and dignity depend not only upon its stance, its acquire-

ment of people's credibility but also on its accuracy, its standard size, its writing style and its layout. Especially we should be careful not to write down noticeable errors, just at a glance at a sentence.

Grammarians consider dangling participles and split infinitives incorrect, but we accept these kinds of writing today.

Editors need to be ready and get ready to correct such a trivial but inexcusable error. I would like to suggest newspapermen to sustainably motivate themselves to be well-equipped with professional qualifications and progress of media world.

An expert, ipso facto, cannot stop their learning. We all are always learners to our last hours.

UPDJC holds discussion for security sector

THE political parties' group included in the Union Peace and Development Joint Committee conducted a workshop to discuss the security sector yesterday in Yangon.

At the workshop, the secretary of the political parties' group of UPDJC Sai Kyaw Nyunt (Shan Democratic Party) urged the representatives from the 22 political Parties in attendance to discuss how the security sector in our country should move forward.

"Policies and considerations cultivated in this discussion can be presented in discussions with the working committee, UPDJC and Union Peace Conference. With respect to the security sector, political parties have not made much progress in discussions.

We will need to hold more discussion meetings like

these," he said.

In yesterday's meeting, retired Brig-Ben Gordon Hughes of the British Army led the discussion on setting and transitions of security in the national context, improving and developing the security sector, basic facts and policies, reviewing the transition process of North Africa's defense sector, and discussions on developing a security sector that covers all areas.

U Htun Htun Hein (National League for Democracy), a member of the UPDJC, said, "Security is the most important sector concerning peace efforts. It is also the most difficult to come to a mutual agreement. Politics and Security are not the same.

Politics is just politics, but security is a sector to itself. We as politicians are some-

what versed in politics but we lack expertise in the security sector. That experts on this sector have come to share and discuss with us is of great support and nurtures new ideas for us."

The meeting and discussion is organised by the HD Centre and will be held from February 27 to March 1 and includes representatives from UPDJC's 22 political parties that won in the 2015 elections.

The Union Peace Conference-21st Century Panglong 2nd meeting is slated to be held this March and will include dialogues on politics, security, sociality, business and commerce, landownership, and natural resources. It is also hoped to include policies discussed from national political levels.—*Myanmar News Agency*

US says Trump order will not undermine data transfer deals with EU

US President Donald Trump. PHOTO: REUTERS



BRUSSELS — An executive order signed by US President Donald Trump to crack down on illegal immigration will not undermine two data transfer agreements between the United States and the EU, Washington wrote in a letter to allay European concerns.

An executive order signed by Trump on 25 January aiming to toughen enforcement of US immigration law rattled the European Union as it appeared to suggest Europeans would not be given the same privacy protections as US citizens.

The order directs US agencies to “exclude persons who are not United States citizens or

lawful permanent residents from the protections of the Privacy Act regarding personally identifiable information.”

Securing equal treatment of EU citizens was key to agreeing the Umbrella Agreement which protects law enforcement data shared between the United States and the EU.

And the EU-US Privacy Shield — which makes possible about \$260 billion of trade in digital services — was only clinched after Washington agreed to protect the data from excessive surveillance and misuse by companies.

In the first written confirmation since the executive or-

der stoked uncertainty over transatlantic data flows, the US Department of Justice said the executive order did not affect either the Umbrella Agreement or the Privacy Shield.

“Section 14 of the Executive Order does not affect the privacy rights extended by the Judicial Redress Act to Europeans. Nor does Section 14 affect the commitments the United States has made under the DPPA (Umbrella Agreement) or the Privacy Shield,” Bruce Swartz, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, wrote to the European Commission in a letter seen by Reuters.

EU Justice Commissioner Vera Jourova, who will travel to the United States at the end of March, said she was “not worried” but remained vigilant.

The EU-US Privacy Shield is used by almost 2,000 companies including Google, Facebook and Microsoft to store data about EU citizens on US servers.

Its predecessor was struck down in 2015 by the EU’s top court for allowing US agents unfettered access to Europeans’ data, forcing an acceleration of difficult talks to find a replacement.—Reuters

UK government spokesman: Scotland should not hold new independence referendum

LONDON — The threat of a new Scottish independence referendum is creating unnecessary uncertainty and division, a British government spokesman said on Monday, reiterating Prime Minister Theresa May’s view that there was no need for another vote on the issue.

The comments came in response to media reports that Scottish nationalists were preparing to demand a fresh vote, possibly as early as next month to coincide with May’s plan to formally trigger Britain’s exit from the European Union.

“The question is not whether there could be a second referendum, it is whether there should be one - and the clear answer to that is no,” the spokesman said.

“The threat of one is creating unnecessary uncertainty and division.” Scots rejected independence by a 10-point margin in a 2014 referendum, but the issue has resurfaced following the vote last June to leave the EU.

Scottish voters overwhelmingly backed staying inside the bloc in the referendum, but Britain as a whole voted to leave.



A supporter of the “Yes” campaign reacts in George Square after the referendum on Scottish independence in Glasgow, Scotland on 19 September, 2014. PHOTO: REUTERS

The Times newspaper reported that May’s government was preparing for Scotland to call a second referendum.

Sources told Reuters last week that the semi-autonomous Scottish government, which is run by the pro-independence Scottish National Party, was in-

creasingly confident it could win a new independence vote. “The decision to remain in the UK was made by the Scottish people in 2014 and all the evidence at the moment shows people in Scotland don’t want another referendum,” the British government spokesman said.—Reuters

NEWS IN BRIEF

Putin says Syria talks in Astana helped revive Geneva

ALMATY — Talks on consolidating the Syrian ceasefire held in Kazakhstan this year have helped jumpstart the United Nations-led peace negotiations in Geneva, Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Monday.

“A mechanism to control the ceasefire has been created, which is the most important thing,” he told reporters during a visit to Kazakhstan, referring to the talks sponsored by Russia, Turkey and Iran. “This is the foundation that has allowed the Geneva negotiations to resume,” he said.—Reuters

Killing of Kim Jong Nam organised by N Korean govt ministries — S Korea

SEOUL — The killing of the half-brother of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was organized by the reclusive state’s ministry of state security and foreign ministry, according to South Korean lawmakers briefed by the country’s intelligence agency.

The eight North Korean suspects include four officials of the state security ministry and two officials of the foreign ministry, the lawmakers quoted the intelligence agency as saying.

South Korean and US officials said Kim Jong Nam, the North Korean leader’s estranged half-brother, was killed by North Korean agents in an airport in the Malaysian capital on 13 February. North Korea has not acknowledged his death.—Reuters

British PM May sees settling EU citizens rights a priority in Brexit talks

LONDON — British Prime Minister Theresa May wants to settle the question of the rights of EU citizens living in Britain as a priority in talks to leave the European Union, but has not set a timetable for her migration policies, her spokesman said on Monday.

“I think in terms of the issue of EU citizens’ rights in the UK, the prime minister has been clear on wanting that to be an issue that is addressed as a priority once the negotiations with the other member states get under way,” the spokesman told reporters.—Reuters

Serbia opens Chapters 20, 26 in its EU negotiation talks

BRUSSELS — Serbia opened two new chapters in its EU accession talks - Chapters 20 (enterprise and industrial policy) and 26 (education and culture) at an EU-Serbia Intergovernmental Conference (IGC) in Brussels on Monday.

Chapter 26 was immediately closed at the same meeting as there are no common EU benchmarks for its closure.—Tanjug

S Korea president again says never advanced personal gain in office

SEOUL — South Korean President Park Geun-hye told the Constitutional Court in a statement disclosed on Monday that she did not advance her own interests while in office as the court prepares to rule on whether to uphold her impeachment.

Park also reiterated that she also never received improper requests from Samsung Group or made wrongful demands on the country’s top conglomerate, according to a statement read by her lawyer. Park, 65, was impeached by parliament in December over accusations that she colluded with a friend, Choi Soon-sil, to pressure big businesses to donate to two foundations set up to back the president’s policy initiatives.—Reuters

Vietnamese capital pilots software to manage public car parks

HANOI — Vietnamese capital Hanoi People’s Committee has approved a pilot program that will utilize software and automation technology to manage public parking zones in the city.

The plan, developed and implemented by the Hanoi Parking Company, includes the digital mapping of car parking areas in the city, the use of management software, and the installation of cameras to record vehicle registration plates at car parking areas, reported Vietnam’s state-run news agency VNA on Monday.

All information relating to car parks will be available online, and car owners will be able to find and book parking spaces in advance on devices such as smart phones and tablets.—Reuters

Iraqi forces seize Mosul bridge as thousands of civilians flee

SOUTH OF MOSUL, Iraq — Iraqi forces seized a damaged Mosul bridge on Monday which could link up their units on either side of the Tigris river, as thousands of civilians fled the fighting for Islamic State’s remaining stronghold in the west of the city.

US-backed army and police units advanced through populated western districts, fighting tough street battles, and announced they had captured Mosul’s southernmost bridge.

Once repaired, the bridge could help bring reinforcements and supplies from the eastern side, piling pressure on the militants dug in the western side among 750,000 civilians.

Iraqi forces captured eastern Mosul in January, after 100 days of fighting. They launched their attack on the districts that lie west of the Tigris a week ago.

If they defeat Islamic State in Mosul, that would



A special forces member feed a displaced Iraqi woman who just fled her home, as she waits to be transported while Iraqi forces battle with Islamic State militants in western Mosul, Iraq on 27 February, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

crush the Iraq wing of the caliphate that the group’s leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi declared in 2014 over parts of Iraq and neighbouring Syria. The US commander in Iraq has said he believes US-backed forces

will recapture both Mosul and Raqqa — Islamic State’s Syria stronghold — within six months.

Since government forces broke through the city’s southern limits on Thursday, more than 10,000 civil-

ians have fled Islamic State-held areas, seeking medical assistance, food and water, Iraqi commanders said.

About 1,000 civilians arrived in the early hours of Monday at the sector held by the Counter Terrorism

Service (CTS), the wounded taken to the clinic of this elite unit, while men were screened to make sure they are not Islamic State members. Among the people treated at the CTS clinic was a little girl with a blood on her face and a woman with shrapnel in her hand, lying immobile, apparently unconscious.

An old man who came with them said about 20 people were sheltering in their house when it was hit by an air strike two days ago in the southwestern Maamoun district.

Those who managed to escape have had to walk through the desert for at least an hour to reach government lines.

Several thousand militants, including many who traveled from Western countries to join up, are believed to be still in Mosul, prepared for a fierce standoff amid a remaining civilian population of 750,000.

The United Nations

World Food Programme said on Monday it was extremely concerned about dire humanitarian situation facing families in western Mosul. A Reuters reporter saw several trucks teeming with people, lifting columns of sand and dust as they drove away from the city.

One had two women and infants riding in the cabin. The rest stood on the open bed, held on to the truck from outside, or sat on top of the cabin. “They booby trapped our homes and our cars,” said an old woman. A Western volunteer medic at the CTS clinic said a boy with a gunshot wound that shattered his knee was among those treated on Monday, and a pregnant woman who had both legs amputated.

“Most of those who arrive to this point are hungry and thirsty and suffering neglect, and need medical care,” CTS Brigadier General Salman Hashim told Reuters.—Reuters

More looting in Johannesburg after wave of anti-immigrant attacks

JOHANNESBURG — About 100 people ransacked shops in Johannesburg overnight, police said on Monday, in the latest of a wave of looting incidents in South African cities.

Doors and windows were smashed in, and food and other items were strewn on the floor in stores believed to belong to immigrants in Jeppestown, an area in the central business district, a Reuters witness said.

“We’ve been stuck inside here until the police came,” Abdul Ebrahim, a

Somali shopowner, said after emerging from his store, where a number of his colleagues had barricaded themselves.

“No one told us what they were looking for,” he added when asked why the mob had attacked his shop.

At least one person was arrested.

“We are following up on leads and we are expecting to make more arrests,” police spokesman Brigadier Mathapelo Peters said.

She said she did not know the nationalities of

the shopkeepers and police were waiting for owners to come forward, so that they could open cases of violence and damage to property.

Similar incidents have taken place in Pretoria this month, but police have been reluctant to characterise the attacks as being directed against foreigners. Anti-immigrant violence has flared sporadically in South Africa against a background of near-record unemployment, with foreigners being accused of criminal activity and tak-

ing jobs from locals.

Home Affairs Minister Malusi Gigaba last week acknowledged violence had flared up against foreigners this year, saying that “unfortunately, xenophobic violence is not new in South Africa.”

On Friday, police fired tear gas, water cannon and rubber bullets to disperse marches by hundreds of anti-immigrant protesters in Pretoria, after mobs looted stores believed to belong to immigrants. More than 150 people were arrested.—Reuters

Senior Taliban commander killed in northern Afghanistan air strike

PESHAWAR, Pakistan — After having been declared dead several times in the past, a senior Taliban commander has been killed in an air strike in northern Afghanistan, officials of the militant group confirmed on Monday.

Mullah Abdul Salam Akhund, who commanded Taliban forces in Kunduz, was one of three fighters killed in a weekend strike by an unmanned aircraft, a senior Taliban official in the province told Reuters, on condition of anonymity to ensure his safety.

“He was on a journey a few days ago and stopped at a house at Dashte Archi town when the drone fired

missiles,” said the official.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid confirmed Akhund’s death in a statement.

A US military spokesman said an American warplane had conducted a strike in Kunduz on Sunday, but the command did “not have confirmation of the results”.

The strike killed Akhund and eight other Taliban, said Sher Aziz Kamawal, a senior police commander in northern Afghanistan. Akhund, who oversaw the Taliban offensive that briefly seized Kunduz city in 2015, had previously been reported dead several times by Afghan officials.—Reuters

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

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

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

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MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPROT (S’PORE)
PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIM’S DAY NOTICE

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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.

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LINE PTE LTD

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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.

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Philippine police say ready to return to war on drugs as dealers return

MANILA — Philippine police are ready to resume President Rodrigo Duterte's war on the drugs trade which had returned to the streets, the police chief said on Monday, a month after Duterte halted police operations, labeling the force "rotten to the core".

Ronald dela Rosa told reporters the sooner police returned to the fight better, otherwise gains made against drug traders could be lost.

"We are ready to go back to war if given orders by the president," dela Rosa told reporters. "The longer that we are out of the war on drugs, the situation is getting worse, problems will return. So, the sooner we return, the better."

Despite his denunciation of the police, Duterte told reporters he may allow them to resume anti-drug operations, saying there had been a rise of about 20 percent in drug sales on the streets since police were pulled back.

"I will leave it to the



Philippine National Police (PNP) Director General Ronald Dela Rosa gestures during a news conference at the PNP headquarters in Quezon city, Metro Manila, Philippines on 30 January 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Philippine National Police to decide," he said. "What they have to do (is) to succeed."

Dela Rosa said he had spoken with governors, mayors and village officials who, he said, were clamoring for police to return to the anti-drugs campaign because drug ped-

dlers and users were back on the streets.

Duterte ordered the police to stand down from the drugs war last month after declaring the force rotten to the core. Since then, the drugs trade has come back out of the shadows, more than half a dozen drug users and dealers in some of

Manila's toughest areas told Reuters.

More than 8,000 people have been killed in the war on drugs since Duterte was sworn in almost eight months ago, about 2,500 of whom were killed in official police anti-narcotics operations.

Human rights groups believe many of the others were extra-judicial executions committed in cooperation with the police — a claim the Duterte administration has vehemently denied.

Reporters and photographers working the crime beat on the night shift said "vigilante-style" killings of drug suspects had continued, but at a much slower pace after the suspension of police operations.

Duterte halted police operations at the end of January and transferred the role to the 1,800-member Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, supported by the army.—Reuters

Fillon criticises French government over campaign violence

PARIS — Francois Fillon, The Republicans' presidential candidate, on Sunday accused the French government of not doing enough to curb the violence that has hit election campaign events.

Fillon said in a statement that two months before the April and May election, France was witnessing a "quasi civil war" situation that has disrupted campaigning.

He cited an event of his rival Emmanuel Macron in the southeastern city of Toulon that was disrupted by protesters last week, and a National Front campaign rally in the Atlantic port city of Nantes that was marred by two days of violence on Saturday and Sunday.

Authorities said 13

gendarmes were injured in the clashes in Nantes on Saturday when left-wing activists staged a protest against the National Front rally.

"I remind you that we are in a state of emergency and yet the government is letting this happen," Fillon said. "It is necessary that the government ensures that conditions for the smooth running of the elections and that it enforces the rule of law."

Saying that the situation was serious, the conservative Fillon said candidates must have the right to express themselves.

"The government must ensure that enemies of democracy cease disrupting this presidential campaign," Fillon said.—Reuters

N Korean senior official put under house arrest: S Korea

SEOUL — Kim Won Hong, a major figure in North Korea's leadership as head of the State Security Department, has been placed under house arrest after making a false report to the country's leader Kim Jong Un, South Korea's state intelligence organization said in a briefing to a parliamentary committee on Monday.

Separate from the punitive measure taken against Kim Won Hong, more than five senior officials who worked under his command were shot dead by anti-aircraft fire, Kim Byung Kee, a lawmaker from the main opposition Democratic Party of Korea who attended the closed briefing, told reporters.

The intelligence agency's report has come to provide more details after South Korea's Unification Ministry said earlier this month Kim Won Hong had been dismissed in mid-January as the result of an inspection. The organization led by him is known to be charged with monitoring the movement of citizens, detecting spies and punishing those seen as threatening the regime. He emerged as a central figure in North Korea after being appointed head of the State Security Department in 2012 and was known to have led the execution of Jang Song Thaek, the uncle of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, in December 2013. — Kyodo News

Aerospace Force chief says Russian army to get new combat jets and helicopters

MOSCOW — Russian military within the current year will receive about 160 aircraft and helicopters; about 140 of them will be for the Aerospace Force, Commander-in-Chief Viktor Bondarev told reporters on Sunday.

"The total of about 140 aircraft and helicopters will be given to the Aerospace Force this year," he said. "Plus the naval aviation - and thus about 160 items of new

equipment."

The Aerospace Forces' all units are equipped fully now, and the share of new equipment is about 55%.

"We continue purchases, continue receiving it, the plants are working at full capacity," he said, adding "thus, today I do not see problems with equipment supplies." In 2016, Russia's Aerospace Force received 139 items of new aviation equipment.—TASS

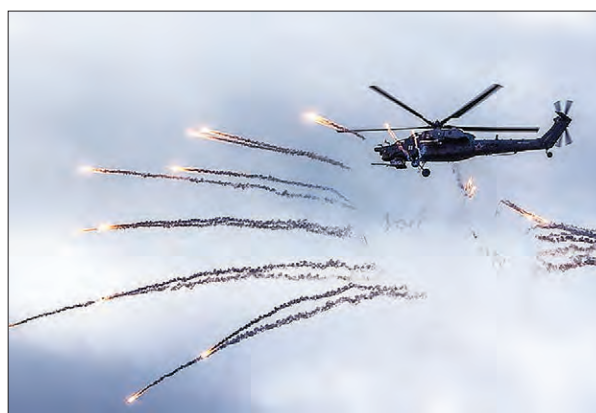


PHOTO: TASS

CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

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CLAIM'S DAY NOTICE

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In Ukraine, separatists issue ultimatum to end rail blockade

KIEV — Pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine said on Monday they would take control of Ukraine-run businesses in rebel-held areas if the Ukrainian government does not end a rail blockade that has halted coal supplies.

For the past month, a group of Ukrainian lawmakers and veterans have blocked some rail traffic in eastern regions — a move opposed by the government as it prevents coal produced in separatist territory from reaching Ukrainian power plants and the steel industry, whose exports are a keystone of the economy.

In a joint statement, leaders of the so-called Donetsk and Luhansk People’s Republics (DNR and LNR) said the blockade had caused many businesses to suffer in rebel-held areas and that it went against the spirit of the 2015 Minsk peace agreement.

“We are forced to announce that if by midnight on Wednesday the blockade is not taken down, we will introduce a system of external management on all companies registered in Ukraine’s jurisdiction that operate in the DNR and LNR,” leaders Alexander Zakharchenko and Igor Plotnitsky said.

They also said they would stop selling coal to Ukraine and send future coal supplies to Russia or elsewhere.

Ukraine’s largest steel producer, Metinvest, is one of the biggest employers in eastern regions on both sides of the front line. The blockade has already forced it to halt production temporarily at one of its mills and several coal mines.

Metinvest said it would be “unacceptable” for separatist officials to take control of its businesses in rebel-held areas, saying this would force it to halt the affected operations.

“In those specific businesses alone, almost 20,000 people would face redundancy. This would inevitably be followed by the dismissal of people at related businesses ... and contractors, which would lead to social upheaval,” Metinvest said in emailed comments.

Heorhiy Tuka, Ukraine’s deputy minister for issues relating to rebel territories, dismissed the separatists’ threat to seize the companies.

“It’s an attempt to scare us,” he said in a statement published by website InfoResist, saying the separatists did not have the ability to manage the large industrial companies.

In government-controlled areas, the economic impact of the blockade is already being felt.

The government has warned that low coal stocks in power plants could lead to rolling blackouts, while the central bank has said it could take emergency measures if the supply squeeze hits steelmakers’ export revenue.

Ukraine stands to lose up to \$2 billion in foreign currency revenue if the blockade continues, according to President Petro Poroshenko.—Reuters



The Russian Navy’s frigate Admiral Grigorovich sails in the Bosphorus on its way to the Mediterranean Sea, in Istanbul, Turkey on 4 November, 2016. PHOTO: REUTERS

Russian frigate heads to Mediterranean on Syria mission — source

SEVASTOPOL, Crimea — The Russian frigate Admiral Grigorovich left the port of Sevastopol in Crimea on Monday for the Mediterranean where it will join the country’s naval forces deployed near the Syrian coast, a naval official said.

A Reuters witness saw the ship leaving its moorings in the naval port of Sevastopol.

“It (the frigate) will be operating as part of the permanent Russian Navy force in the Mediterranean,” the Interfax news agency quoted the navy’s Captain Vyacheclav Truhachev, a spokesman for the Black Sea fleet, as saying.

The frigate armed with Kalibr (Caliber) cruise missiles was deployed to the Mediterranean Sea last November as part of Russia’s naval task force to Syria where it launched missile strikes against Islamic State targets.

The Admiral Grigorovich is the first in the class of six frigates commissioned by the Russian navy in 2010 for its Black Sea Fleet.—Reuters

Decision on early Italian elections up to PM Gentiloni —Renzi

MILAN — Former Prime Minister Matteo Renzi said on Sunday it is up to his successor to decide whether Italy should hold its next national election before the natural end of the current legislature early next year.

“The elections are envisaged in February 2018. Fullstop. If (Prime Minister Paolo) Gentiloni wants to vote before, it’s up to him to decide, not others,” Renzi said during a talk show on state TV channel Rai3.

Renzi quit as premier in December after a crushing defeat in a referendum on his constitutional reform drive and handed over the reins of power to his political ally Gentiloni.

He had earlier called for national elections to be brought forward to June from the scheduled 2018 date, eager for a swift return to high office. With that in mind, he wanted to wrap up his ruling Democratic Party’s (PD) leadership vote in early April to enable a snap ballot.

However, the PD said on Friday that it would hold its leadership contest only on 30 April, a decision that effectively rules out any snap national election in June.—Reuters

Myanmar Statistical Yearbook 2016 has been published by Central Statistical Organization as international statistical bulletins. It is mentioned the methodology sheets on statistical sources, a glossary and an analytical index. It can take the better response to the information scope and depth of user needs. It is available Hard copy as well as CD-Rom two-volume prices at the kyat (20,000/-), if you buy a single CD-Rom (12,000/-) will be sold out. It is available for the purchase at Central Statistical Organization, Office No(32), NayPyiTaw, Myanmar, Central Statistical Organization Yangon Branch, No(1), ThitSar Road, Yankin Township, Yangon and SarPayBeikMan Store (NayPyiTaw, Yangon) will be purchased.

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THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY AND ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(5 / 2017)

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

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB-119(16-17)	Spare Parts and Maintenance for GCS (Myaingalay) (1) Lot	US\$
(2)	IFB-120(16-17)	Upgrade and Inspection for Cooper 12 SGT and MH 64 Compressor (1) Lot	US\$
(3)	IFB-121(16-17)	8” ERW API 5L Grade X-42 MS 3 layer PE Coated Steel Line Pipe (PSL-2) (8050) MTR	US\$
(4)	IFB-122(16-17)	API Class ‘G’ Cement (500) Tons	US\$
(5)	DMP/L-035(16-17)	Air Compressor Reciprocating with (15-18) HP Diesel Engine (4) Sets	Ks
(6)	DMP/L-036(16-17)	Water transfer Pump Skid Mounted with Engine (300 GPM x 150 Ft hd)/(25-40)HP (5) Sets	Ks
(7)	DMP/L-037(16-17)	Crude Transfer Pump Skid Mounted with Motor (100 GPM x 15 Ft hd), 10 KW (1) Set	Ks
(8)	DMP/L-038(16-17)	12 KV, 630 A, VCB Switch gear Panel Complete Set (Two Incoming Two Outgoing) (1) Lot	Ks
(9)	DMP/L-039(16-17)	Air Compressor with Motor (20 HP) 3 Phase, 50 Hz, 400 V (500 PSI Air Compressor Complete Sets) (2) Sets	Ks
(10)	DMP/L-040(16-17)	132 KW Motor for ZW type CNG Compressor (400 V, 740 RPM, 3 Phase) (2) Nos	Ks
(11)	DMP/L-041(16-17)	Assorted Sizes Tyres (11) Items	Ks
(12)	DMP/L-042(16-17)	Steel Wire Rope (6) Items	Ks
(13)	DMP/L-043(16-17)	Spares for CAT-3512 Rig Engine Ex ZJ 70L SR-I Rig (51) Items	Ks
(14)	Container (1/2017)	ကွန်တိန်နာ သယ်ယူပို့ဆောင်ခြင်းလုပ်ငန်း (ရန်ကုန်ဆိပ်ကမ်းများမှ သာကေတရေနံအခြိုစိုက်စခန်းသို့ အသွား / အပြန်) (၁-၄-၂၀၁၇ မှ ၃၀-၉-၂၀၁၇ ထိ ၆ လအတွက်)	KS

Tender Closing Date & Time - 28-3-2017, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 27TH February, 2017 at the Finance Department , Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

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'Moonlight' upsets 'La La Land' for top Oscar after major gaffe

LOS ANGELES — African-American coming-of-age tale "Moonlight" won the Oscar for best picture on Sunday on a big night for Hollywood diversity that was overshadowed by an embarrassing onstage gaffe over the top award.

In a mishap that caused uproar and confusion, presenters Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway initially announced that romantic musical "La La Land", the presumed favourite for best picture, had won.

As the casts of both films stood awkwardly on stage, Beatty explained he had been given the wrong envelope to open.

It was the first time in living memory that such a major mistake had been made at the Academy Awards, Hollywood's biggest night. It even eclipsed the prior three hours of a show peppered with jokes about US President Donald Trump.

Accountants Price Waterhouse Cooper, who oversee the ballots, said the presenters had mistakenly been given the wrong category envelope.

"We are currently investigating how this could have happened, and deeply regret that this occurred," PwC said in a statement, while apologizing to "Moonlight" and "La La Land", Beatty and Dunaway and Oscar viewers.

Officials from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences were not immediately available to comment.

"Is that the craziest Oscar moment of all time?" Stone, who won the best actress Oscar for her "La La Land" role as a struggling actress, told reporters backstage "It's a very strange happening for Oscar history."

"Moonlight," about a young boy struggling with poverty and his sexuality in Miami, also brought a supporting actor Oscar for first timer Mahershala Ali, a



Barry Jenkins and the cast of *Moonlight* after winning the Oscar for Best Picture of the 89th Academy Awards — Oscars Awards Show — at Hollywood in California, US on 26 February, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

best adapted screenplay statuette.

Viola Davis won for her supporting role as a long suffering housewife in African-American family drama "Fences."

The recognition for both the actors and their films made a stark contrast to the 2016 Academy Awards when no actors of colour were even nominated.

"Moonlight" producer Adele Romanski said she hoped the movie would inspire "little black boys and brown girls and other folks watching at home who feel marginalized."

"La La Land" went into the Oscars with a leading 14 nominations and emerged with six, including for its score and theme song "City of Stars." "La La Land" director Damien Chazelle, 32, became the youngest person to ever win a best director Oscar.

Elsewhere, "Manchester by

the Sea" star Casey Affleck was named best actor, winning his first Oscar despite 2010 sexual harassment allegations that resurfaced during awards season. Affleck denied the allegations which were settled out of court.

"Man, I wish I had something better and more meaningful to say...I'm just dumbfounded that I'm included," said Affleck, who played a heart-broken father in the movie.

Earlier in the show, Trump had been the butt of numerous jokes, capping an awards season marked by fiery protests by celebrities at his policies.

Oscars host Jimmy Kimmel fired off political zingers and even tweeted at the Republican president, getting no immediate response.

Several celebrities wore blue ribbons on Sunday in support of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) advo-

cacy group that worked to get Trump's bid to ban travelers from seven majority Muslim nations blocked in US courts. But for the most part, speeches at the ceremony were mild or made general pleas for tolerance rather than directly attacking Trump.

Iranian director Asghar Farhadi was an exception. His drama "The Salesman" was named best foreign language film but Farhadi, boycotted Sunday's ceremony because of the Trump's travel ban.

In a speech delivered on his behalf by Iranian-American space expert Anousheh Ansari, Farhadi said his absence was due to "an inhumane law that bans entry into the US... Dividing the world into the 'us' and 'our enemies' categories creates fear, a deceitful justification for aggression and war."

—Reuters



Actor Bill Paxton. PHOTO: REUTERS

Actor Bill Paxton, known for roles in 'Big Love,' 'Titanic,' dies at 61

LOS ANGELES — American actor Bill Paxton, who rose to stardom with roles in Hollywood blockbusters such as "Aliens" and "Titanic," has died at age 61 after complications from surgery, his family said in a statement on Sunday.

Paxton, who appeared in dozens of films over some four decades, had recently starred in the HBO television series, "Big Love," about a polygamous Mormon family, and acted alongside Tom Cruise in the film, "Edge of Tomorrow."

For his role in "Apollo 13," Paxton won a Screen Actors Guild Award for outstanding performance by a cast in a motion picture in 1996.

He was nominated for three Golden Globe Award in the best actor category for his work in "Big Love" and the 1990s mini-series, "A Bright Shining Lie."

It was not immediately known what surgery Paxton, a Fort Worth, Texas, native had undergone. "It is with heavy hearts we share the news that Bill Paxton has passed away due to complications from surgery," a family representative said in the statement. "Bill's passion for the arts was felt by all who knew him, and his warmth and tireless energy were undeniable," it said.

Paxton leaves behind his wife, Louise Newberry, and two children, James and Lydia.—Reuters

Part premiere, part Trump protest, Londoners gather for Oscar movie

LONDON — Thousands of people braved London's winter drizzle on Sunday for a screening of the Oscar-nominated movie that has become a rallying point for opponents of US President Donald Trump's immigration policy.

Hours ahead of what looked set to be the most politicised Academy Awards for years, London Mayor Sadiq Khan made clear his political motivation in hosting the British premiere of the "The Salesman", whose Iranian director is boycotting the Hollywood ceremony.

"President Trump cannot silence me," Khan said to cheers

from the crowd gathered in Trafalgar Square. "We stand in solidarity with Asghar Farhadi, one of the world's greatest directors."

Farhadi, who won an Oscar in 2012 for "A Separation", is bookmakers' favourite to win another Best Foreign Language Film statuette later on Sunday but is staying away in protest at Trump's attempt to ban people from seven Muslim-majority countries from entering the United States.

In a video message from Tehran, Farhadi thanked the "dear people of London who are gathered on this cold afternoon", and said he was heartened by the

reaction of filmmakers and artists to "the oppressive travel ban of immigrants".

"I hope this movement will continue and spread for it has within itself the power to stand up to fascism, be victorious in the face of extremism and saying no to oppressive political powers everywhere," Farhadi said.

The directors of the four films he is up against — from Sweden, Germany, Denmark and Australia — joined Farhadi in issuing a joint statement ahead of the Oscars criticising a "climate of fanaticism and nationalism" in the United States and elsewhere.—Reuters



Director Asghar Farhadi's film *The Salesman* is shown on a screen in Trafalgar Square in London, Britain on 26 February, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Families walk down the catwalk at Dolce & Gabbana's Milan show

MILAN — Mothers and daughters, siblings and families took the catwalk on Sunday at the Milan fashion show of Italian brand Dolce & Gabbana, who frequently use the image of the family for campaigns and projects.

"Family is our point of reference," said Dolce and Gabbana on a company website, where people are invited to post family portraits.

The two designers, who remained business partners after their romantic relationship ended, weighed in to an impassioned debate about gay rights in Italy last year, as parliament was approv-

ing a bill to offer rights to same-sex couples.

They recently launched clothes and accessories depicting a cartoonish image of themselves with their dogs and cats, with a #DGfamily logo on the back.

Dolce and Gabbana continued with the influencer theme around which they based the show of their last men's collection in January, bringing to their runway young millennials who boast millions of followers on Instagram, including Kristina Bazan, Marcus Butler and Lucky Blue Smith.

Celebrity guest models on the runway included

the daughter of model Laetitia Casta, the son of TV actress Pamela Anderson and the three daughters of actor Andy Garcia.

Designs of the "New Renaissance" collection were a triumph of opulence, with many of the brand's signature traits including lace, roses, black transparencies, corsets, and leopard print.

Next to glittered green dresses, wide black and gold tuxedo jackets, short damasked outfits and long coats with embroidery in the shape of roses, the collection showcased fur vests and coats with leopard and bear head shaped hoods.

Famed model Bianca Balti, star of many of the fashion house's advertisements, wore a knee-length gold and leopard-print sleeveless dress, adorned with a golden crown and cross-shaped earrings.

The show was styled as a concert, with young American pop star Austin Mahone singing as models strutted down the leopard print catwalk.

Milan fashion week ends on Monday, with designs from Giorgio Armani. Also showcasing its autumn and winter 2017/18 collection on Sunday is Italian luxury group Salvatore Ferragamo. —Reuters

Japan's 1st outdoor Legoland theme park to open in Nagoya in April

NAGOYA — Japan's first outdoor Legoland theme park, which will open in Nagoya in April, has been created with much effort devoted to making its buildings appear more Lego-like, the head of its operator said.

"We have put a huge effort in improving the park image, which is very much about...making it more authentic," Torben Jensen, president of Legoland Japan, said in a recent interview with Kyodo News.

He said most of the buildings and attractions at the park have been "scaled to Lego" as Lego blocks were used in the process of modeling them.

In addition to over 40 attractions, visitors will be able to see Lego recreations of Japanese scenery and animals, who took around 500,000 man-hours to produce.

Japan already has Legolands in Tokyo and Osaka, but they are indoor theme parks located in shopping malls. The Nagoya park, the first full-scale outdoor theme park of its kind in Japan, follows seven similar parks abroad.

Jensen said that un-

like other theme parks in Japan, Lego's new park is entirely dedicated to families with children aged between 2 and 12.

He said Legoland has taken various measures to accommodate such young visitors, including offering smaller versions of roller coasters for children who cannot go on regular rides due to safety reasons.

The park is also training staff to interact with young children by stooping down and speaking accordingly, he added.

Referring to the recent surge in foreign visitors to Nagoya and Japan, Jensen said, "Obviously it is a big potential that we would be targeting moving forward."

He indicated hopes to attract overseas visitors, particularly from Asia, to Nagoya Legoland.

Looking ahead, Jensen said his company has already secured a plot of land to expand the park by 40 percent from the current 9.3 hectares and is planning to open a Lego-themed hotel in 2018 on adjacent the land as well as an aquarium inside the hotel.—Kyodo News

Chinese traditional Dragon Boat Festival marked in Hainan



The team of Jiujiang celebrate after winning Men's 200m final during the dragon boat race in Wanning of south China's Hainan Province, on 27 February, 2017. A total of 36 teams took part in the event to mark the Chinese traditional Dragon Boat Festival. PHOTO: XINHUA

mitv Myanmar International Programme Schedule

(28-2-2017 07:00am ~ 29-2-2017 07:00am) MST

07:03	Am	News
07:27	Am	A Visit To Ye
07:48	Am	Gold from Garbage
08:03	Am	News
08:26	Am	Natural Mineral Water
08:42	Am	Family of Toys
09:03	Am	News
09:27	Am	Let's perform a buffalo dance
09:40	Am	Wet Market in Yangon: Shwe Pa Dauk Fish Market
09:49	Am	Today Myanmar: Hand in Hand for Peace
09:54	Am	Wet Market in Yangon:

10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	MOYINGYI WILDLIFE SANCTUARY
10:45	Am	Safari World
10:55	Am	Sticky Shan Snack

(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-7)
07:53	Pm	Porcelain and Glass
08:03	Pm	News
08:26	Pm	Taste Of Myanmar (Fried Flat Noodle)
08:49	Pm	Entrepreneur - Dr. Thant Thaw Kaung

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

MRTV

Programme Schedule
(28-2-2017, Tuesday)

6:00 Am	♦ Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw	2:45 Pm	♦ Yes or No Show (Season-3) (Needs or Wants) (Part-3)
7:00 Am	♦ Breakfast News	4:45 Pm	♦ Mono Classical Songs
7:30 Am	♦ Socio Economic Scenes	5:05 Pm	♦ Catch Classical Songs
8:35 Am	♦ Law Affairs	5:20 Pm	♦ Documentary
9:10 Am	♦ Documentary	5:30 Pm	♦ Money Talk Myanmar
9:30 Am	♦ MRTV's Youth Programme	6:15 Pm	♦ Football Magazine
10:30 Am	♦ MRTV's Education Programme	7:15 Pm	♦ TV Drama Series
11:00 Am	♦ 2017 Matriculation Education Examination Lessons(History)	8:00 Pm	♦ News/International News/ Weather Report
11:25 Am	♦ Documentary	8:35 Pm	♦ Life Struggles
1:00 Pm	♦ Radio Drama Documentary	9:00 Pm	♦ Myanmar Classical Songs
			♦ Myanmar Video

Tsonga stays on hot streak to win title in Marseille

MARSEILLE — France's Jo-Wilfred Tsonga won his second title in succession by comfortably beating compatriot Lucas Pouille 6-4, 6-4 in the Marseille Open final on Sunday.

The number two seed hit seven aces and did not face a break point in sweeping aside fourth-seeded Pouille to win the trophy for the third time, having also triumphed in 2009 and 2013. "This is the second week in a row that I'm heading home without a loss, it does not happen so often," said the 31 year-old, who should rise four places to No 7 in the world rankings to be announced on Monday. "It's good for my confidence."

Last week Tsonga won his first title in two years, the ABN Amro World Tennis Tournament in Rotterdam.—Reuters

Bilic confident West Ham can repeat cup win over Chelsea

LONDON — West Ham United's recent form has given manager Slaven Bilic belief that his side can repeat their October League Cup victory over Chelsea when the London rivals meet in the Premier League at the London Stadium next Monday.

West Ham have lost just once in their last six league games but will be the underdogs when they come up against a formidable Chelsea side that appear on course for the title with a 10-point lead at the top of the standings.

"Hopefully we are going to do the same (as the 2-1 League Cup win). They are doing fantastic, they are winning and they are everything," Bilic, whose side sit ninth in the table, told the club's website. "They are solid and up front they have that unbelievable pace, strength and quality that is hard to stop. But we are a good team now, and we have been really good for a period of seven or eight games," the Croatian added.

"We are good physically, we are good mentally, we are good on the ball, we are good in transition, and that is why there is always belief." —Reuters

United's Ibrahimovic strikes twice to win League Cup

LONDON — Manchester United's Zlatan Ibrahimovic proved his hunger for silverware has not diminished with age as the Swede's double earned a 3-2 win over Southampton in an absorbing League Cup final at Wembley on Sunday.

After a stirring Saints fight-back revived memories of their shock 1976 FA Cup final victory over United and with extra time looming, the 35-year-old Ibrahimovic pounced to head Ander Herrera's cross past goalkeeper Fraser Forster.

His 26th goal of the season in all competitions followed a sublime first-half free kick that gave United the lead and enabled

manager Jose Mourinho to claim his first silverware since arriving at Old Trafford in the summer.

Mourinho's fourth League Cup triumph, three of which came during his two spells with Chelsea, put him alongside former United manager Alex Ferguson and Nottingham Forest great Brian Clough as the most successful managers in the competition.

United had taken a rather fortunate 2-0 lead with Ibrahimovic's 19th-minute strike and Jesse Lingard's clinical finish but Southampton striker Manolo Gabbiadini's brace either side of halftime breathed life into the showpiece match.



Manchester United players celebrate with the trophy at the end of the EFL Cup Final match at the Wembley Stadium on 26 February, 2017. PHOTO: REUTERS

Both sides could have snatched victory but in the end it was the irrepressible Ibrahimovic who stole the limelight — even if United's unused captain Wayne Rooney hoisted the trophy aloft. "This is a team effort. This

is what I came for — to win and I am winning. The more I win the more satisfied I get," said Ibrahimovic, who has won silverware at Ajax Amsterdam, Inter Milan, Juventus, Barcelona and Paris St Germain.—Reuters

Klopp believes board not players decided Ranieri fate

LONDON — The Leicester City squad have found an unlikely ally in Jurgen Klopp after the Liverpool manager said that the club's board were likely responsible for Claudio Ranieri's sacking and that the concept of 'player power' was often exaggerated.

The Foxes have been subjected to plenty of negative headlines over the weekend after media reports suggested a player revolt led to Ranieri's sacking on Thursday, nine months after the manager led the club to the Premier League title.

"Players are not more powerful. We were much more powerful in the past," Klopp told British media ahead of Monday's clash at Leicester, who are languishing in the relegation zone after picking up just five league



Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp. PHOTO: REUTERS

victories this season. "It depends always on the board. As long as the players talk together there is no problem. It is not about how powerful (the players are)."

According to several reports, senior players in the Leicester dressing room encouraged club owner Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha to sack Ranieri, saying they had lost faith in the Italian's ability to guide them to league survival.

"The players need to be powerful but not in sacking managers. It's not like the Leicester players did it. It is if someone asked, they gave an answer," Klopp added.

"If there is a direct way to the board the owners sit with the players and ask 'how are you?' and they say 'not too good because of the manager'. I have never had this situation.

"There was never a direct line to the owner. But I know it has happened." As for

his own squad, Klopp said the relationship between him and his players was one filled with mutual trust and respect.

"I don't have a second of doubt about my relationship with the team. I know what they want, they know what I want. Nobody expects perfection. I don't expect it from them and they don't from me," the charismatic German added. Liverpool are fifth in the table while Leicester are

18th ahead of the clash at the King Power Stadium. —Reuters

Koeman urges Everton to maintain push for top-four

LONDON — Everton manager Ronald Koeman has urged his side to make a late push for the Champions League qualification spots but at the same time be wary of the teams below them in the Premier League.

Everton are seventh in the table and moved to within six points of fourth-placed Arsenal, who hold the final Champions League qualification spot and have a game in hand, after Saturday's comfortable 2-0 victory over bottom side Sunderland.

"The worst situation for a football player is you play for nothing. Yeah, (we want) the

highest position but I like to play for something," Koeman told British media.

"Above us is still a gap but it is never ending, when it is five or six points it is still possible to reach them. But the first team behind us is West Brom (four points back) and we get West Brom at home in two weeks."

Koeman also praised Romelu Lukaku after the Belgium striker equalled the club record of 60 Premier League goals set by Duncan Ferguson, who is part of the Dutchman's backroom staff. "Rom went to Duncan and, of course, Duncan knows that

Romelu will beat his record," Koeman added.

"I think he will be happy when the record is broken because that means Lukaku is scoring and, normally, if he scores goals it gives the team three points."

Everton travel to face second-placed Tottenham Hotspur on Sunday.—Reuters



Britain Football Soccer - Everton v Sunderland - Premier League - Goodison Park - 25/2/17 Everton manager Ronald Koeman Reuters / Andrew Yates Livepic