

Myanmar launches Early Childhood Care and Development policy



Myanmar launches Early Childhood Care and Development policy to give Myanmar children a better start in life, with a pledge to increase budgets for kindergarten and pre-school education.

PHOTO SUPPLIED/UNICEF MYANMAR

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 8 July— Myanmar launched its first ever multi-sectoral policy on Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) in Nay Pyi Taw on Tuesday.

Participants included high-level officials from ministries, chairs of parliamentary affairs committees from the

Lower and Upper Houses and representatives from UN agencies, development partners and civil society organizations, who all called for “the best start in life for children” at the ECCD policy launching ceremony.

Myanmar has achieved only 22.9 per cent in ECCD service coverage while other ASEAN countries have achieved 57 per cent coverage, according to

a press release the New Light of Myanmar received from UNICEF Myanmar. It also pointed out that there has been a great service coverage gap for urban and rural areas, 39.1% and 15.9% respectively.

UNICEF Myanmar stressed the importance of investing in early childhood, saying that investment in ECCD is the most cost-effective way for national development as it

could yield high economic returns and break the cycle of poverty.

Launching the ECCD policy is the first concrete step toward mobilizing more resources across ministries for the support to early childhood development and a crucial measure in tackling child poverty and reducing inequalities, UNICEF Myanmar voiced.

Calling for increased

budgets in early childhood services, it also pointed out that only 10 per cent of the total budget of the Department of Social Welfare goes to ECCD and that the Ministry of Education has a low level of investment in it.

President U Thein Sein stated in the preface of the ECCD policy that the future of children depends on the implementation of ECCD activities which are not just about the quantity but also the quality of services.

In her speech at the ceremony, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin called for more investments in early childhood care and development, stressing the need to fully cooperate with development partners for achieving the vision, mission and objectives collectively agreed upon for children.

The release says the SWRR Ministry will inject 28 per cent of its budget in ECCD services while the Education Ministry will invest 12 per cent of its budget in early preschool and kindergarten education by 2020.

On behalf of the Multi Donor Education Fund (MDEF) which

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Gold foil industries worried about fading out of traditional work process

MANDALAY, 8 July— Gold foil production is a traditional work of Myanmar, with many tourists interested in observing the production of gold foils at the industries, but as local producers are worried about prospects for the Myanmar traditional gold foil production, the gold foils from foreign countries flow into the domestic market.

“Gold foil industries are located in Myetpa Ward of Mandalay. The workers produce very thin layers of gold so their residence was called the Gold Thinner Ward in the past,” said an entrepreneur who has been producing gold foils for 40 years.

“This year, foreign-made gold foils flow into the domestic market. But I do not know its quality. The quality of domestic gold foils is 92.22 per cent. The gold foils are offered to pagodas, stupas and religious buildings. That is why it needs to test the quality of foreign-made gold foils. Moreover, if the plenty of foreign-made gold foils flow into the domestic market, the employers and employees from the domestic gold foil industries might be jobless. If so, it is sure to fade out the Myanmar traditional gold foil making process,” said an entrepreneur.

In Myetpa Ward of Mandalay, ten workers in

a group can produce 200 sheets of gold foils daily. The production process passes five steps to finish the work.

A total of 49 workers are engaged in the production of gold foils in Myetpa Ward. About 15,000 pieces of gold foils per month can be sold for Maha Muni Buddha Images in Mandalay.

In fact, the gold foil industries in Mandalay depend on people donating gold foils at Shwedagon Pagoda in Yangon and Maha Muni Buddha Image in Mandalay.

In the reign of King Anawrahta (AD 1044-77), the gold foil making pro-

cess was taken from Mon nationals to the people of Bagan.

Till today, the gold foil industries in Myetpa Ward of Mandalay are attracting

flocks of globetrotters.

Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)



Everyone must avoid hate speech and incitement

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—The following was the full text of the radio message of President U Thein Sein on Mandalay riots on Monday.

My fellow citizens,

The reason I am speaking to you today is because I want to inform you of my government's position on the terrible events that occurred in the cultural city of Mandalay – events caused by those that used a crime as a pretext to instigate violence on an entire community. I share in the sadness of the families of those injured and killed by the violence.

The main goals of the reforms undertaken by my government since it took office are stability, development, and nurturing democratic practices. Due to political reforms – the most important of the reforms we are undertaking – there is now freedom of expression and the media is one of the freest in South-East Asia.

When building an open and developed society, the most important requirement is to nurture democratic practices within our society. This means cultivating democratic attributes such as understanding and accepting our differences, respecting the rights of the minorities, and solving differences in opinions peacefully. We should also note that our

Constitution fully guarantees freedom of religious worship.

During this reform period, we have faced various challenges with ethnic and religious conflicts. Some of these conflicts are due to poverty, lack of education, and lack of development. However, many of the conflicts were deliberate instigations to derail our aim of achieving a society based on democratic principles. Innocent people were injured and killed and the nation's image damaged because of the actions of those who put their self-interest and hate first. Those seeking to provoke hatred within our communities intend to destroy our nation, and are a threat to our society no matter from which race or religion. We must bring the full force of the law to bear on all those responsible for such developments.

The citizens of Mandalay have for generations peacefully coexisted with each other without regard for ethnicity or religion. Indeed, Mandalay citizens are admired afar for setting an example of tolerance, and living under a common identity. It is not uncommon

for citizens of this city to help with each other's social and religious events, and enjoy these occasions together in peace. For these reasons, the citizens responded sensibly, bravely, and intelligently to the events of the last few days. Amid the sad scenes of violence and destruction, it was reassuring to see Mandalay citizens respond to the events in unity. Monks, religious leaders, community leaders of both faiths, and elders worked hand-in-hand to reduce tensions, clearly showing that the cherished values of mutual trust and cooperation exist in Mandalay. My government encourages and welcomes these efforts, and we pledge to work together with everyone in the future.

With the help of the security forces, we are currently taking systematic action to bring peace and stability. We will investigate and take swift legal action against those participating in and promoting violence. The nation will not accept incitement and violence, and will bring immediate and severe legal action against those responsible.

Every society, ethnicity, and religion has people

who put their self-interest and hate first with the aim of destroying their societies. It is clear that the events in Mandalay are the intentional and deliberate acts of a group or organization. I urge all citizens to denounce incitements, violence and threats and to work together with the government.

We are making tangible progress with internal peace building, and will soon achieve a nationwide ceasefire, and a political solution through dialogue. We are preparing for the

tasks that will accompany political dialogue such as securing equal rights for each and every citizen, making necessary constitutional amendments, and for the emergence of a genuine Union. Since our country is multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and multi-religious, it is only through embracing harmonious relationships with each other that we will nurture democratic practices and achieve a developed and open society. Indeed, there are many examples in the world today where disunity among citizens has

led to chaos.

Therefore, everyone must avoid hate speech and incitement, and sensibly, bravely and with foresight cooperate to bring legal action against those responsible for such acts.

In conclusion, I urge you all to take lessons from the Mandalay events so that they are never repeated, and to cooperate with the authorities so that swift and stern legal action is brought against those inciting hatred and violence.

The citizens of Mandalay have for generations peacefully coexisted with each other without regard for ethnicity or religion. Indeed, Mandalay citizens are admired afar for setting an example of tolerance, and living under a common identity. It is not uncommon for citizens of this city to help with each other's social and religious events, and enjoy these occasions together in peace.

MKTI donates US \$58,000 to Myanmar Taekwondo team

YANGON, 8 July—Myanmar Korea Timber International Ltd (MKTI) made an agreement with the Myanmar Taekwondo Association to support the Myanmar national Taekwondo team to be able to take part in the Incheon Asian Games 2014 in the Republic of Korea.

At the ceremony, Myanmar Korea Timber International Ltd donated US

\$58,000 to finance the Myanmar team which will participate in three Taekwondo Open Championships in Korea before the Asian Games. A two months training will be given to the Myanmar team in Korea.

Sangshin Cho, Managing Director of MKTI said, "MKTI will play the role to share the experiences of Sunchang Corporation during the era of de-

veloping economies. I hope that Myanmar and Korea will be much closer in both economic and cultural exchange with our small contribution."

MKTI is a joint venture company of Myanmar Timber Enterprise and Korea (Sunchang Corporation) mainly manufacturing plywood and timber, established in 1991.

NLM



MKTI official donates US \$58,000 to the General Secretary of Myanmar Taekwondo Federation U Zaw Win for Myanmar national Taekwondo team.

Roads in Lewe Township upgraded



LEWE, 8 July—Authorities expanded the Yangon-Mandalay Highway

section in Lewe Township and upgraded the road leading to Nay Pyi Taw Airport

and local roads.

On Tuesday afternoon, members of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Myint Swe and officials oversaw progress of construction. The road section of Yangon-Mandalay Highway is being expanded with six-foot wide asphalt sections on both sides. Twelve rural roads leading to the airport are being upgraded to asphalt ones.

Zaw Myo Naing

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is supporting education reform in Myanmar, Counsellor Mr. Michael Hassett, head of Development Assistance of Australian Aid, said that development partners are willing to provide

continued support for this comprehensive policy for children at the ceremony.

In his call for effective implementation of the policy, Mr. Bertrand Bainvel, UNICEF representative to Myanmar, highlighted the

importance of collaborative efforts of parties concerned including the private sector. The policy on Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) is Myanmar's first ever multi-sectoral policy calling for increased government investment in the services for young children.—NLM

NATIONAL

Myanmar needs more X-ray machines: Union health minister



Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin replies to question at Lower House session.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July— Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin said on Tuesday that more X-ray machines are needed for the huge number of patients.

During the Lower House session, Dr Pe Thet Khin also said cancer patients have to wait from one and a half months to

four months to receive radiation therapy treatment as the capacity of existing machines is declining, and the need for more machines constantly increasing. He said the number of cancer patients is getting higher in the country.

He also said that a linear accelerator (Linac) machine, a source of powerful X-rays has been set up at Yangon General Hospital in April 2014, providing treatment to 80 more cancer patients each month.

Myanmar now has four Radiotherapy Departments in four major cities of Yangon, Mandalay, Taunggyi and Nay Pyi Taw.

Regarding the agricultural sector, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Than

said that the ministry has no plan to give out agricultural loans to the farmers of perennial crops and horticulture as the budget allocation for the ministry this year was only K984 billion.

Moreover, the government will not fix the minimum price of raw rubber to stabilize its market as Myanmar has adopted a market oriented economic system. Myanmar practiced a centralized planning economic system for more than two decades before 1988.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July— Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Hla Htay Win on Tuesday met Jason Eligh, Country Manager of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

During the meeting at Zeyathiri Beikman Hall at the capital, the officials discussed drug elimination activities of Myanmar and UNODC, and the contribution of the military working together with the Ministry of Home Affairs, international organizations and local people from respective areas.

General Hla Htay Win also met General Suravach Butrwong, Director of the Neighbouring Countries Coordination Centre of the Royal Thai Army at the same venue.

Both sides agreed

Technical skills, vocational qualifications create job opportunities and more incomes: Union Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July— Technical skills and vocational qualifications play a pivotal role in creating job opportunities and generating more incomes for people, Union Minister U Tin Naing Thein told a meeting held at the Ministry of Science and Technology here on Tuesday, sources said.

U Tin Naing Thein quoted President U Thein Sein as saying that the Third Wave Reforms emphasizes the growth of private businesses, more job opportunities and more

Kayah state gov't to construct dykes along Belu creek



Deputy Minister U Aung Thein answers the question at Upper House session.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July— Deputy Minister at the President Office U Aung

Thein said on Tuesday that Kayah state government will construct more dykes along Belu creek to prevent flood into the paddy farms in nearby areas.

During the parliamentary session of the Upper House, U Aung Thein said that the state government will use its original budget allocation of K 40 million for this project.

The Belu Creek originates at Inlay Lake of southern Shan State and flows through Loikaw plain in Kayah State, where various kinds of crops are culti-

vated. The deputy minister also said that the Rakhine state government has made a plan for the full supply of hygienic drinking water in MraukU Township of Rakhine State in western Myanmar, with an estimate cost of K1 billion.

Talking about the census at the same session, Deputy Minister for Ministry of Immigration and Population U Win Myint said that the ministry will detail the names of ethnic groups, with people required to submit proof of their ethnicity.—MNA

General Hla Htay Win receives UNODC, Thai military officials



General Hla Htay Win holds talks with General Suravach Butrwong of the Royal Thai Army.

MNA

on promotion of military ties and border security affairs between the two countries.

MNA

Myanmar Investment Commission invites more Japanese investments

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July— The Chairman of the Myanmar Investment Commission said on Tuesday that Japanese companies have the opportunity to invest in the agriculture, telecommunication and manufacturing sectors of Myanmar.

In his opening speech at the investment seminar of Mizuho Myanmar Mission held in the capital to mark the 60th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Myanmar and Japan, U Zeyar Aung said that the new investment policies of Myanmar government will benefit the private sector, job opportunities and market competition.

He added that the government is implementing to ensure 'green economy' and 'green growth' in the country's business sector.

U Zeyar Aung also said that Myanmar is cooperating with ASEAN, the European Union, Asia Development Bank and World Bank to meet the country's legal procedures and financial matter with international norms. Those present at the seminar were senior government officials from MIC and the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, as well as representatives of 26 companies under the Mizuho Myanmar Mission.

MNA

Warning for heavy rain in next days

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—According to the observation and analysis of meteorological conditions at 12.30 hrs MST on Tuesday, under the influence of strong to vigorous monsoon in the Andaman Sea and South Bay of Bengal, rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread to widespread in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Tanintharyi Regions, Kayin and Mon States with likelihood of regionally and isolated heavy falls during the next three days commencing on Tuesday noon, announced by the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.—MNA

Agricultural machinery provided to poor farmers of Kawkareik Tsp



KAWKAREIK, 8 July — A ceremony to deliver agricultural machinery to local farmers was held at the monastery in Kawwale village of Kawkareik Township in Kayin State

on Monday.

Head of Township Agricultural Mechanization Department U Aung Thu said that agricultural machinery has been provided to poor farmers from Kaw-

wahle and Yankok villages of the township through the rural development fund for the first time. Tractor driving courses will be conducted to help youths of the villages and the youths

who completed the course will be appointed at the department.

Head of Kawkareik Township Agriculture Department Naw Thue Lay Hti explained that the government will distribute quality paddy strains and fertilizer to the local farmers.

Those wishing to gain more paddy plants may buy it from Kayin State Agriculture Department through installment and in cash.

Meanwhile, Staff Officer of Kawkareik District Information and Public Relations Department Daw Khin Lay Nwe urged local people to support the village library.

Later, officials presented agricultural machinery to the poor farmers of the two villages.

Soe Htet Aung (IPRD)

Katha District General Hospital turns out new midwives

KATHA, 8 July—With the assistance of Sagaing Region government and the Health Department, Katha District General Hospital conducted a midwifery course for the 2013-14 fiscal year on Monday.

Head of Katha District Health Department Dr Sein Aye explained the conducting the midwifery course for improvement of public health care services for the people. Chairman of District Management Committee U Kyaw Kyaw Ohn and Medical Superintendent Dr

Sein Aye awarded the outstanding trainees.

Officials presented

medicine kits to the trainees.

Nyein Nyein (Katha)



Vehicles under K10 million on high demand in Mandalay market

MANDALAY, 8 July—Various brands of automobiles worth less than K10 million are on high demand at Pyigyimyetshin automobile sales centre and auto showrooms along 35th Streets in Mandalay in the first week of July.

Of them, Honda Fit, AD van, Success, Mazda, Demio and Suzuki Swift 2008 brands of vehicles with engine power 1300cc are favorites among buyers from urban and rural

people. Toyota VITZ 2008 model cars are traded at about K9.5 million but it is on less demand. The price of Toyota Probox falls to K8 million but its demand is still high.

As Daihatsu Hijet (2008/AC), Suzuki carry truck and Suzuki Auto cars equipped with 660cc can save fuel consumption, the buyers eye on purchasing these brands to be used as light trucks and taxis.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



Village library equipped with Sky Net receiver

WETLET, 8 July—One set of Sky Net receiver was handed over to ShweUdaung library in Kyeeton Village of Wetlet Township in Sagaing Region on Saturday.

The receiver was provided by Sagaing Region government through its poverty alleviation programme in 2013-14 fiscal year.

Staff Officer U Htay Win of Shwebo District Information and Public Relations Department and

Head of Township IPRD Daw Nan Myint presented the Sky Net receiver to the officials of the village library.

Kyeeton Village was the home of well-known author and translator Shwe U Daung who served as Chief Editor of the Botahtaung Daily about 40 years ago and translated stories of British writer Sir Arthur Conan Doyle into Myanmar language.

Nan Myint

REGIONAL

Japan's Abe declares 'special relationship' with Australia on visit

CANBERRA, 8 July — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe told Australia's parliament on Tuesday that the two nations were launching a "special relationship" of cooperation on areas such as defence after putting aside any lingering enmity from World War Two. Abe, warily eyeing China's rapid military buildup and more assertive claims to islands held by Japan in the East China Sea, has been courting governments from Canberra to Southeast Asia in recent months. China is Australia's largest trading partner.

"Today I stand in front of you, who represent the people of Australia, and state solemnly that now Japan and Australia will finally use our relationship of trust," Abe told a joint session, the first such speech by a Japanese



Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (L) and his Australian counterpart Tony Abbott depart the House of Representatives after Abe's address to a joint sitting at Parliament House in Canberra on 8 July, 2014.—REUTERS

leader. He and Australian counterpart Tony Abbott were to sign an agreement

on military equipment and technology transfers, a week after Abe loosened curbs

on Japan's military, as well as an economic partnership pact.—Reuters

New breed starts to muscle in on Indonesia's old-style patronage politics

JAKARTA, 8 July — Indonesia's presidential election on Wednesday could be the last chance for old style politicians to lead what is one of the world's biggest democracies, and one of its youngest. Since 1998, when Indonesia finally shrugged off decades of autocratic rule, the national leadership has remained dominated by old faces and old practices, including patronage and rampant corruption. Until now, that is.

On 9 July, ex-general

Prabowo Subianto will battle for the presidency against Joko "Jokowi" Widodo, who has arrived on the national stage through local politics and is the first presidential candidate not to rely on the traditions that have produced past leaders.

"(Prabowo's bid) is really the last gasp of the old guard," said one of Indonesia's most senior bankers, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue.

Jokowi, the governor of

Jakarta, was born in poverty and muscled into key positions with the promise of a leader who gets things done, cuts through red tape and is clean. For decades, officials have viewed bribes as their chief source of income and have helped turn Indonesia into one of the world's most corrupt societies. The public response to the new group of politicians has been remarkable and is changing the face of the country's politics. With about a third of Indonesia's 190 million voters

under 30, entrenched political parties are being forced to embrace the change to remain in power. Jokowi is considered the most popular politician in Indonesia and is the frontrunner heading into Wednesday's election. In March, ex-president Megawati Sukarnoputri and head of the Indonesian Democratic Party-Struggle (PDI-P), had no choice but to put aside her own ambitions to be back in the palace and nominated Jokowi for the post instead.—Reuters

Female leftist rebel leader captured in S Philippines

COTABATO, (Philippines), 8 July — Government security forces arrested a suspected top ranking female leftist rebel leader in southern Philippines on Monday, a military official said on Tuesday.

Philippine military officials identified the captured female leader of the New People's Army (NPA) as Mercy B Maghinay, alias Joyce and Genevie. Maghinay was captured by soldiers following a brief firefight in the village of Guibo in Siayan town, Zamboanga del Norte Province.

Captain Franco Suelto, spokesman of the Philippine Army's 1st Infantry Division, said soldiers recovered a shot gun and a

hand grenade from the rebel leader.

Suelto said Maghinay is believed to be the top leader of local NPA group "Feliciano Bravo," which is said to be behind the burning of construction equipment in Sindangan town, Zamboanga del Norte Province last 19 November.

The NPA, armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, has been waging war against the Philippine government since 1969.

Military estimates placed the NPA's strength at more than 5,000 men scattered in more than 60 guerrilla fronts throughout the country.

Xinhua



India's Railway Minister D V Sadanand Gowda (R, front) gives a final touch to the rail budget 2014-15 on the eve of its presentation at Parliament House in New Delhi, India, on 7 July, 2014.

XINHUA

South Korea ferry children were steps from safety

GWANGJU, (South Korea), 8 July — Many of the 250 children who drowned when a South Korean ferry sank in April would have survived if the crew had issued a simple order to evacuate to emergency decks just outside their cabins, a prosecutor said on Tuesday.

Fifteen surviving crew of the ferry *Sewol*, including the ship's captain, are on trial on charges ranging from negligence to homicide after they told passengers to stay put in their cabins before abandoning the sharply listing vessel.

The court in Gwangju, the city closest to the scene of the 16 April disaster, was shown video for the first time of the crew abandoning ship, prompting an outpouring of anger and grief.

Family members rose in rage when one by one the crew were seen escaping the vessel. Many broke down in sobs and shouted at the defendants who watched the video as if mesmerized.

A woman tried to throw a shoe but was restrained by a court guard. Another rose to ask yet again what has been asked repeatedly during the trial — whether the crew would have done the same if it had been their children obeying orders and waiting in their cabins.

"You may have sneaked out and may live a little longer, but you will all die one day," a sign held by a father said.

"Do not end up forever lost in the nether world after being torn to pieces by the children who wait for



A woman reads messages on yellow ribbons dedicated to dead and missing passengers of the sunken ferry Sewol, at Seoul City Hall Plaza in Seoul on 19 May, 2014.—REUTERS

you having died with their eyes wide open. Try your best to tell the truth about what happened."

The prosecution used a replica model of the *Sewol* to argue that many of the students were in cab-

ins located near emergency decks on the third and fourth levels.

"Had there been swift

rescue measures, the young students would have been able to leave the vessel through the emergency exits," prosecutor Kim Hyun-woo told the court, adding the decks were just outside the cabin doors. "Then there would be minimum or no casualties."

Of the 476 passengers and crew on board, 339 were children and teachers from the same school on the outskirts of Seoul. Only 172 people were rescued and the remainder, including children and their teachers, are all presumed to have drowned.

The court also viewed video footage taken by one of the children's mobile phone that showed them in turn joking, pleading for help, and leaving messages for their family saying that they loved them.—Reuters

Italy's Renzi cancels meeting with 5-Star over reforms

ROME, 8 July — Italy's ruling Democratic Party (PD) on Monday cancelled a meeting with the anti-establishment 5-Star Movement (M5S) to discuss fundamental reforms, with each side blaming the other for the failure to meet.

The setback with M5S may increase the chances that Prime Minister Matteo Renzi will concentrate on sealing a deal with centre-right leader Silvio Berlusconi to help push through changes to Italy's political system.

The agreement to meet was a U-turn for former comedian Beppe Grillo's M5S, which had previously refused to talk to traditional parties. It potentially gave the PD an alternative part-

ner with whom to negotiate reforms instead of its historic rival Berlusconi.

The electoral system is widely blamed for creating political deadlock, contributing to widespread voter disillusionment that helped propel Grillo's party to 25 percent of the vote in its first general election last year.

Renzi's PD said M5S had failed to provide written responses to 10 proposals which the PD said had to be part of a reform package. But later on Monday the M5S published answers on Grillo's blog, saying that it accepted all the pre-requisites.

One of the M5S's most prominent members, vice president of the chamber



Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi

of deputies Luigi Di Maio, expressed regret that the meeting had not occurred.

"We are sorry to have missed an important opportunity. Our ideas are clear — on the other side there is a lot of confusion," Di Maio told a news confer-

ence in Rome.

Renzi reached a preliminary agreement over the electoral law and abolishing the Senate as an elected chamber with Berlusconi in January, but Berlusconi has threatened to pull out of the deal several times, and the proposals have made slow progress in parliament.

Beppe Grillo said on his blog that Renzi clearly preferred closed-door meetings with Berlusconi and wanted to isolate M5S.

"We see that a democratic and transparent debate is impossible in Italy today," Grillo wrote. "The M5S represents millions of Italian who cannot be treated like pariahs."

He said M5S was still

open to discuss reform proposals.

Grillo's party came second to the PD in European elections in May, losing ground after its resounding success in the general election, but still more than four percentage points ahead of Berlusconi's Forza Italia.

M5S's electoral reform proposal aims to ensure representation for small parties but it also includes a run-off between the two highest scoring parties if neither gets 51 percent in the first round, and a bonus of extra seats for the victor.

The two-round system is an aspect insisted on by Renzi which M5S had previously rejected.—Reuters

Iran's Khamenei says US, Israel playing 'good cop, bad cop'

DUBAI, 8 July — Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said the United States and Israel were playing "good cop, bad cop" to intimidate his country into making concessions on the nuclear dispute with the West.



Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei

"They make it seem like Israel wants to attack, but America is stopping it: the good cop, bad cop trick," Khamenei told senior statesmen at an iftar (fast-breaking supper during the holy month of Ramadan) function. "But I say out-loud: the reason they are not attacking is because it is too costly. The enemy has no other option at its disposal but make threats and impose sanctions."

Israel has repeatedly threatened to attack Iranian nuclear sites, and been skeptical about the current diplomatic drive by Western allies to persuade Iran to scale back its nuclear programme in exchange for relief in economic sanctions imposed over the years as penalty.

Iran insists its nuclear programme is peaceful, saying Israel's presumed nuclear arms are the real threat to peace.

In a boost to President Rouhani, who has been accused of being too soft toward the West, Khamenei said: "All should know that I support his government and use everything in my power to help it. I have trust in our negotiating team and am sure they will not give in on the rights of this nation."

Reuters

North Korea's Kim takes centre stage with a limp



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un (C) visits the Kumsusan Palace of the Sun at midnight on Tuesday on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the demise of President Kim Il Sung in this photo released by North Korea's Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) in Pyongyang on 8 July, 2014.—REUTERS

SEOUL, 8 July — North Korean leader Kim Jong Un limped on to the stage on the anniversary of his grandfather's death, footage broadcast by state media on Tuesday showed, in a rare display of weakness in a country where leaders are portrayed as semi-divine.

The footage showed Kim limping quickly on to the centre of a large stage in front a vast smiling portrait of his grandfather, North Korean founding president Kim Il Sung, who died 20 years ago.

State media and propaganda are highly choreographed by the isolated country and any defects with its leadership are usually kept a tightly guarded secret.

Kim Il Sung, who ruled until his death in 1994, had a large and inoperable tennis-ball sized growth on the back of his neck which meant state media were forbidden from filming him from certain angles.

It was not immediately clear how Kim Jong Un developed the limp. State

media has shown the 30 year-old leader conducting extensive military on the spot guidance visits on the east and west coasts in recent weeks.

North and South Korea are technically still at war after their 1950-53 civil conflict ended in a truce, not a peace treaty.

North Korea, which has threatened a fourth nuclear test in violation of UN sanctions, has test-fired short-range missiles and rockets three times in the past 10 days and threatened to continue doing so.—Reuters

Moscow accuses United States of 'kidnapping' Russian hacker

WASHINGTON / MOSCOW, 8 July — Russia accused the United States on Tuesday of violating a bilateral treaty and "kidnapping" a Russian accused of hacking into US retailers' computer systems to steal credit card data.

The US Department of Homeland Security said on Monday the Secret Service had arrested Roman Valerevich Seleznev, 30, on 5 July for actions carried out from 2009 to 2011.

Russian media carried reports that the man arrested may be the son of a member of parliament, Valery Seleznev. The deputy told Russia's *Itar-Tass* news agency he had not been able to speak to his son but added: "This is a monstrous lie and a provocative act."

The man was apprehended in an airport in the Maldives, the Russian Foreign Ministry said.

"We consider this as the latest unfriendly move from Washington," it said in a statement on its website.

"This is not the first

time the US side, ignoring a bilateral treaty ... on mutual assistance in criminal matters, has gone ahead with what amounts to the kidnapping of a Russian citizen."

Roman Seleznev was indicted in Washington state in March 2011 on charges including bank fraud, causing damage to a protected computer, obtaining information from a protected computer and aggravated identity theft, the US agency said in a statement.

The indictment said Seleznev hacked into websites ranging from those run by the Phoenix Zoo, a branch of Schlotzsky's Deli and many other small restaurants and entertainment venues around the country.

Relations between Russia and the United States are at a low ebb in Vladimir Putin's third term as president, with the former Cold War enemies divided over the conflicts in Syria and Ukraine as well as on human rights, democracy and defence matters.

Reuters

WORLD

US, France say Russia could draw further costs over Ukraine



US President Barack Obama

WASHINGTON, 8 July — President Barack Obama and French President Francois Hollande decided on Monday that Europe should impose further costs on Russia if Moscow does not immediately take steps to de-escalate tensions in eastern Ukraine, the White House said. The two leaders spoke by phone.

They agreed that Russia should stop “destabilizing activities” such as allowing and facilitating the transit of weapons and fighters across the border and should cease its own military build-up near the Ukrainian border and its ongoing support for separatists, the White House said.

Reuters

CIA had role in Germany spy affair

WASHINGTON, 8 July — The Central Intelligence Agency was involved in a spying operation against Germany that led to the alleged recruitment of a German intelligence official and has prompted renewed outrage in Berlin, two US officials familiar with the matter said on Monday.

CIA Director John Brennan has asked to brief key members of the US Congress on the matter, which threatens a new rupture between Washington and a close European ally, one of the officials said.

It was unclear if and when Brennan’s briefing to US lawmakers would take place. The CIA declined any comment on the matter.

The office of Germany’s Federal Prosecutor, based in the western city of Karlsruhe, late last week issued a



A small photo camera placed in a book and used by the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), is displayed at the ‘Top Secret’ Spy Museum in Oberhausen, on 10 July, 2013. — REUTERS

statement saying that a 31-year old man had been arrested on suspicion of being a foreign spy, and that investigations were continuing. The statement offered no further details.

German politicians have said that the suspect, an employee of the country’s foreign intelligence service, admitted passing to an American contact details

concerning a German parliamentary committee’s investigation of alleged US eavesdropping disclosed by Edward Snowden, a former contractor for the US National Security Agency.

The US officials who confirmed the CIA’s role spoke on condition of anonymity, and offered no further details.

White House Press

secretary Josh Earnest declined comment on the dispute.

“The relationship that the United States has with Germany is incredibly important.

This is a very close partnership that we have on a range of security issues, including some intelligence issues,” Earnest said. “All of those things are high priorities not just to this administration, but to this country. So we’re going to work with the Germans to resolve this situation appropriately.”

Snowden’s revelations last year, which included evidence that the NSA was targeting German Chancellor Angela Merkel’s personal cell phone, frosted US-German relations. The White House agreed to stop targeting Merkel, but rejected Berlin’s pleas for a wider “no spy” pact.—Reuters

Pushed from Slaviansk, Ukraine rebels barricade Donetsk



Ukrainian troops stand near destroyed military vehicles just outside the eastern Ukrainian town of Slaviansk on 7 July, 2014. — REUTERS

DONETSK, (Ukraine) 8 July — Pro-Russian rebels erected new barricades on the streets of Donetsk on Monday, preparing to make a stand in the city of a million people after losing their bastion in the town of Slaviansk in the worst defeat of their three-month uprising. Occasional bursts of gunfire could be heard in the distance from the centre of Donetsk, where residents said they were living in fear of a potential battle between government forces and the separatist gunmen now out in force.

Ukraine’s richest man, Rinat Akhmetov, pleaded with the government on Monday not to bomb his home city. Local authorities

say thousands of residents have left Donetsk, but most have nowhere to go.

The Kiev government has said it will act quickly to seize back more territory from the rebels after re-taking Slaviansk over the weekend in what President Petro Poroshenko called a turning point in the conflict.

Rebels retreating from Slaviansk, some driving armoured vehicles flying Russian flags, drove 110 km (65 miles) south into Donetsk over the weekend.

About 1,000 of them held a bellicose rally in the central square on Sunday, and on Monday many were visible on the streets, having established checkpoints to examine the

documents of drivers.

Their presence drew a warning from Donetsk’s local authorities. “There are men in camouflage and with weapons on the streets. We ask residents not to enter into arguments with these people and be extremely careful,” said a message from the municipality.

Most shops and businesses were still open, but some were shut, and residents spoke of their fear that government forces could soon attack. “The atmosphere is very tense now. There is no prospect of a future. You go to sleep in alarm and wake up in alarm,” said Konstantin, 28, a cook. — Reuters

Israel launches military offensive against Gaza militants

GAZA/ JERUSALEM, 8 July — Israel launched an aerial offensive in the Gaza Strip on Tuesday, bombing more than 30 targets including homes and calling it part of a campaign named “Operation Protective Edge” targeting Hamas Islamist militants firing rockets at the Jewish state.

The military urged Israelis within a 40-km (24-mile) radius of the southern coastal territory to stay within reach of protected areas and ordered summer camps shut as a precaution against rocket fire.

Palestinian officials said Israel bombed more than 30 targets in little

more than an hour before dawn, including two homes in southern Gaza, one of which was identified by a neighbour as belonging to a Hamas member.

Nine people suffered shrapnel injuries. There were no other reported casualties as the buildings were believed to have been evacuated beforehand.

Witnesses said a house bombed in Khan Younis was flattened. The Palestinian Health Ministry said nine neighbours were wounded by debris from that strike.

The Palestinian Interior Ministry said the family in the targeted home had received a

telephone call from an Israeli intelligence officer asking them to leave the house because it would be bombed, and the family evacuated in time. A military spokeswoman confirmed air strikes were launched but had no details.

Military spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Peter Lerner said in a tweet that “Operation Protective Edge is under way, targeting Hamas capabilities that are terrorizing Israel.”

Hamas’ armed wing threatened an “earthquake” in response to Israel’s attacks, and said it had fired a rocket at a southern Israeli town.

Reuters



Israeli soldiers ride atop a tank outside the southern Gaza Strip on 7 July, 2014. — REUTERS

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 9 July, 2014

Human Rights and Human Responsibilities

By Kyaw Thura

Man is said to be the most sapient being of all. It is through unrivalled intelligence and knowledge that the world we live in has come this far. Unfortunately, the whole of civilization is now on the decline on sheer account of moral laxity of today's society.

The world is now noisy with calls for hu-

man rights. Our country is not an exception. It is quite understandable that human rights must be held in high esteem. When it comes to human rights, there is one important thing which cannot be left out. It is human responsibilities. Human rights and human responsibilities are inseparable. Simply put, human rights without acceptance of responsibility are just a fantasy. Only when rights and responsibilities are balanced can a better, safer world be created.

It should be noted that the enforcement of laws and conventions alone is incapable of helping a better social order materialize. To translate this into reality, all cultures and societies are required to respect and recognize equal and inalienable rights of all people, regardless of gender, age, religion, social status and ethnic origin.

At a time when our country demands a greater unity and amity, now is a crucial time for all people in the country to move from indifference to involvement so that a peaceful coexistence cannot lose its meaning.

If we want to enjoy human rights to the full, we must accept human responsibilities on our own initiatives. Therefore it is time to talk about human responsibilities, which starts with individuals.

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 wallace.tun@gmail.com with your name and title.

Long lasting old Capital Inwa Part V
Fourth Inwa under second Konebaung dynastyMaha Saddhamma Jotika dhaja
Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

(Continued from Monday)

Rajas of Manipur and Assam, two border states on the western frontier of Myanmar empire, were respected Myanmar kings and sought military assistance when they had disputes over succession between rival claimants, when the Myanmar military might was great. Myanmar kings responded to their requests for help and accepted the settlement of their disputes by Myanmar kings whom they recognized as their suzerains, to whom they paid yearly tributes. But when the Myanmar military might declined, they turned to the British in India for foreign suzerainty. Bagyidaw was bound to send out punitive military expeditions to the two vassal states—Assam and Manipur, thereby coming into confrontation with British India. The un-demarcated border between Rakhine and British India also became a burning issue because rebels were freely crossing the borders at their free will. In 1823 the British, unknowingly the real background history, occupied Shapuri Island [Shrinmhyu Kyun] in the Naaf River, which was Myanmar territory. So, the Myanmar army drove out the occupiers by force and put the island under army control.

Meanwhile, the British mercantile communities in British India urged the British India Government to annex Myanmar for commercial interest

lest the French would succeed the British. The Anglo-French colonial rivalry which had already started in Myanmar in the reign of Alaungpaya was now played up to the point of war brinkmanship. Though the Home Government in London was hesitant to expand the British Empire too far flung as that would mean greater responsibilities and heavier budget for defence, the British Indian Government overruled the authority on the spot, well versed in oriental affairs.

Therefore, the first Anglo-Myanmar war was unavoidable and inevitably broke out. Although the British gave excuses of British diplomatic measures to settle matters with the “Ava” (Inwa) King” Lord Dalhousie, the then Viceroy and Governor-General of British India was harshly censured in the British Parliament by a Liberal Party M.P. Richard Cobden for making unjustified war with a backward medieval Ava King by creating pretexts out of trifling matters, and causing too much expenditure and heavy loss of lives. Due to the superiority of weapons and modern naval warfare, the British were bound to win and the Myanmar bound to lose despite their patriotic spirit and morale. Worst still was that the British suffered much in terms of money and men. So they imposed hard terms upon Myanmar to pay for their losses.

The infamous Treaty

of Yandabo unilaterally drafted by the British and imposed upon Bagyidaw the last Inwa King demanded.

- (1) Myanmar to give to the British all vassal states, Assam, Manipur, Catcher and Jaintia
- (2) Myanmar to give up two provinces, Rakhine and Taninthayi
- (3) Myanmar to pay by installment so-called war indemnity (a million sterling pound)
- (4) A British Resident Envoy to station at Inwa and Inwa King may send Myanmar Resident Envoy to reside in Delhi
- (5) A commercial Treaty to be signed by Inwa King to allow free trade to the British.
- (6) Boundaries between Myanmar and British India were to be demarcated

In April 1830, Major Henry Burney arrived at Inwa. But for some months, he could not get royal audience because he refused to understand and agree to comply with Myanmar courtly etiquette of un-shoeing and bowing upon entering the Palace and at the royal audience. But Minister Myawaddy Mingyi U Sa managed to convince Burney logically. After some months of stay at Inwa, Burney came to understand Myanmar culture and Myanmar spirit. He kept on sending to his superiors favourable reports and high opinion of Inwa king and things Myanmar. The Myanmar king and court also held him in good esteem as he proved fair and just in the settle-

ment of dispute over the Kabaw valley. Unknowingly, the British in demarcating the Indo-Myanmar boundary included that valley within their side. With strong evidences of maps and documents Myawaddy Mingyi U Sa protected and pressed for its return to Inwa-Burney after careful study, found that the valley was Myanmar territory and he presented the care to the British India Government and Kabaw Valley was officially returned. For this service and other matters which the British Resident had done for Inwa, King Bagyidaw conferred upon him the rank of Wundauk (Junior Minister) and an insignia of Salwe [twelve chains of gold worn on the shoulder].

Burney ceased to be a person at grata at the court of Inwa, when Bagyidaw's younger brother Thayawaddy Min quarreled with his brother king especially chief queen Mei Nu and Minthagyi her brother who he thought were interfering in the state affairs. Besides Thayawaddy Min never recognized Yandabo Treaty because it was unjust and he would at any amount reduce it to scraps. Two credits that Myanmar culture and history owed to King Bagyidaw of Fourth Inwa were (1) the famous religion song about the sacred Tooth Relic of the Buddha kept for royal worship in the courtyard of Inwa and (2) a history of Myanmar kings from the earliest to the time of Bagyidaw. The religious song was a Te Diem “Htoo Ma Cha Nar” which Myawaddy Mingyi

U Sa composed instrument “Saung” (harp). It became a classical hit in Myanmar song and music. The history was the Glass Palace Chronicle [Hman Nan Yazawuntawgyi]. Bagyidaw tasked learned scholars monks, Brahmin priests and laymen formed into a royal historical commission to compile history of kings to draw lessons from the past to improve the present and to plan the future. The main purpose was to find out why Myanmar was defeated in the war and to get answer how to prevent such a national humiliation in future. Because the commission carried out its task in the ante-chamber of the Glass Palace of Bagyidaw, it came to be called “The Glass Palace Chronicle”. Well documented and objectively written, with critical remarks on every king, foreign writers of Myanmar history use this chronicle as a standard reference. Ashamed and humiliated King Bagyidaw often fell into frequent moments of mental derangement. Thayawaddy thus dethroned him.

Inwa was no longer auspicious. Its glory and greatness were spent up. Therefore Myanmar was utterly defeated in the war. Thayawaddy Min escaped

to Shwebo, the victory land of Alaungpaya there he collected followers and marched to Inwa and dethroned his elder brother Bagyidaw. Burney interned so that coup was bloodless. Though Bagyidaw was spared and given safe and fair treatment, his chief queen and followers were done to death.

Burney knew that he was unliked by new King. So he returned to India on the excuse of ill health. New king Thayawaddy abandoned inauspicious and spent up Inwa. But he did not move to Shwebo though he went there to collect followers to dethrone his brother and he earned two more names for him (1) Shwebo Min and (2) Kone Baung Min. He moved back to Amarapura where his royal grandfather Bodawpaya reigned long and made many great achievements. Thayawaddy Min ascended the throne in Amarapura in 1837. Since then, Fourth Inwa under second Konebaung dynasty was abandoned for good.

Though its career as long lasting capital ended, it remains till today one of the rich archaeological rites in Myanmar with a wealthy store of Myanmar cultural heritages.

(Concluded)

GOLD PRICE, FE RATE (8-7-2014)

Yangon Gold Price

Buying K674,500 per tical: Selling K675,500

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K673,300 per tical: Selling K675,300

FE RATE

USD Buying K970 - Selling K975

SGD Buying K775 - Selling K782

Euro Buying K1310 - Selling K1325

LOCAL NEWS

Talks given in memory of late professor Dr Daw Myint Myint Khin



MANDALAY, 8 July — A talk on facts about Professor Dr Daw Myint Myint Khin was given at Yadanabon Hall of Myanmar Medical Association (Mandalay) at the corner of 31st and 71st streets in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay.

Professor Dr Than Yin Mar, writer Kyaw Yin Myint and Professor Dr Aung Gyi talked about the legacy of the late professor Dr Daw Myint Myint Khin in the medical and literary arenas. Dr Myint Zan explained the plans to establish a Profes-



sor Daw Myint Myint Khin Foundation to provide assistance to outstanding persons in the Myanmar literature and medical fields.

Emphasizing the development of not only the medical education but also the Myanmar social field,

Professor Dr Daw Myint Myint Khin wrote her masterpieces of various books and a lot of articles on medical, health and education sectors from 1995 to 2014. She passed away aged 91 on 19 June 2014.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

People plant trees to green ancient Pyu city Hanlin

WETLET, 8 July — Hanlin located in Wetlet Township of Sagaing Region is one of the ancient Pyu city states in Myanmar. The ancient Pyu city has already been included on the World Heritage List thanks to utmost efforts of the government, archaeologists and local people.

Local people should join hands with departmental officials under the guidance of the authorities to maintain the ancient cities, said an official.

As part of efforts to green the ancient Pyu city, the Arid Zone Greening De-

partment held a monsoon tree planting ceremony at the entrance road to the ancient city on Saturday.

Staff Officer U Hong Lwam of the Wetlet Township Arid Zone Greening Department, the staff officer of Township Forest Department, staff, policemen, teachers, students, NGOs and local people participated in growing of 400 saplings in various species along both sides of the road.

In June, they planted 900 saplings along both sides of the road.

Nan Myint (Wetlet)

Action will be taken against rioters regardless of citizenship, race, religion: Nay Pyi Taw Council



PYINMANA, 8 July — Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council Col Myint Aung Than met with Islamic leaders from 13 mosques at Daw Thay Mosque in Pyinmana of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on Tuesday.

The council member said that action will be taken against all those who participate in riots, regardless of race, religion and citizenship, and that “rumours are the root cause of conflicts and must be ignored.” Security personnel has been assigned in the township to beef up security, with officials saying that law and order have so far been maintained.

Zaw Myo Naing



MANDALAY, 8 July — After placing Mandalay District under curfew of Section 144 of the Criminal Law as of 3 July, police from Mandalay Region Police Force, No 4 and No 14 police battalions are on patrol at junctions of Chanayethazan, Mahlaungmye and Chanmyathazi townships discharging

security duty day and night for the people.

The police joined hands with local authorities and members of the Auxiliary Fire Brigade for patrolling the streets in the townships of Mandalay District by security car from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. every night.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Use of paddy transplanting machine demonstrated in Dawei Township

DAWEI, 8 July — Farmers in Dawei District of Taninthayi Region place 27,000 acres of farmlands under monsoon paddy through good agricultural patterns in 2014-15

tract authorities.

On Monday morning, a ceremony to introduce use of paddy transplanting machines was held at the nine-acre farmland of U Than Sein in Kanaingda Village

machine. It was attended by 55 local farmers from Kanaingda, Shinmokhti and Kadon villages of Dawei Township.

Dawei District IPRD

DAWEI, 8 July — The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) has been striving for rehabilitation of the human trafficking victims and other refugees who returned home since 2008, Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Myat Ko said at the opening ceremony of the Vocational and Life Skills Education (VLE) No 1, organized by Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), at the Mechanical Training School in Hsanchi Ward of Dawei in Taninthayi Region on Monday.

At first, Region Chief Minister U Myat Ko and officials opened the VLE centre. The three-month course will be given to 100



cultivation season.

Officials of Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation held educative talks on cultivation of monsoon paddy through GAP system in the region. To overcome shortage of farming workers and high cost of cultivation, the Region Government provided six paddy transplanting machines to Dawei Dis-

trict of Dawei Township while growing Kyawzeya paddy strain. Officials explained advantages of using paddy transplanting machines for boosting production by minimizing loss and waste in cultivation and saving time and money.

Staff of Township Agriculture Department demonstrated the use of

100 youths get opportunity to get vocational and life skills education

trainees from villages from Myitta region of Dawei District. The trainees will have the opportunities to learn

agriculture, foodstuff, basic business management, anti-human trafficking and life skill courses. An official of

KNU Brigade No 4 (Myeik-Dawei) extended greetings to all.

Taninthayi Region IPRD



Kenya opposition demands troops quit Somalia after attacks

NAIROBI, 8 July — Kenya's opposition leaders demanded on Monday the country withdraw troops from Somalia after a spate of bloody attacks by militants at home, but dropped a demand for talks with the government.

Before the opposition rally began, police fired tear gas at protesters who chanted slogans against President Uhuru Kenyatta and clambered over statues in Nairobi's streets. They also shot gas canisters at youths who hurled stones at them at the park venue of the gathering.

But the rally passed off calmly, after many Kenyans had feared it would stoke tensions in a nation battling an upsurge in political violence. In the latest assaults on Saturday, gunmen killed at least 29 people at two locations on the coast.

Somali Islamist group al Shabaab said it carried out those and other attacks, vowing to drive Kenyan and other African Union forces out of Somalia. The government has blamed local politicians instead, drawing angry denials from the opposition. "Time for talks is over," opposition leader and veteran politi-



Policemen from the General Service Unit (GSU) take cover from stone throwing youths during the "Saba Saba Day" rally at the Uhuru park grounds in the capital Nairobi on 7 July, 2014.—REUTERS

cian Raila Odinga told his supporters, speaking on the day he had said was the deadline for dialogue. Fellow opposition politician, Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka, told the crowd: "We cannot speak with deaf people."

Odinga had promised mass rallies to drive home his message. Several thousand turned up at the rally but that was fewer than had gathered at the same park on 31 May to welcome the veteran politician home from three months abroad.

Religious leaders had

called for calm and some told their congregations to stay away, fearing the event could fuel the kind of political violence that has haunted Kenya in recent years.

The government said anyone heeding Odinga's call to take a day off work would be disciplined.

In a list of demands issued at the rally, the opposition called on the government to take "immediate steps to withdraw our gallant soldiers from Somalia", deal with "runaway insecurity", halt price rises

and address other grievances. Government officials had dismissed the opposition's demand for talks, saying the place for discussion was parliament. They have also repeatedly said Kenya will not withdraw from Somalia.

"This country is not well and this government hasn't delivered a single thing from their manifesto," said Mohamed Hassan, 30, at the rally. "Raila Odinga wants people to get jobs and (a) poor man to get a good home".—Reuters

More than 60 females escape from abductors in Nigeria

LAGOS, 8 July — More than 60 women and girls kidnapped by suspected Boko Haram militants two weeks ago have escaped from their abductors, local media reported on Monday.

About 63 of the abducted women and girls had made it back home when their warders dozed off, local vigilante Abbas Gava was quoted as saying.

However, more than 200 school girls abducted by Boko Haram in April remained captive.

At least 56 people were killed in a deadly clash on Friday between security forces and the Boko Haram sect in the northeast Nigerian city of Damboa in Borno State, defence spokesman Chris Olukolade said late Sunday.

Over 50 rebels died after troops repelled a daring attack by the sect, which stormed the troops' bases and police locations while most of the troops were out on patrol of surrounding villages.—Xinhua

Bahrain expels top US diplomat

MANAMA, 8 July— Bahrain has ordered a top US diplomat to leave the country immediately, as he meddled in Bahrain's internal affairs, the Foreign Ministry said in a statement on Monday. The Ministry said that US Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labour Tom Malinowski is not welcome and should leave immediately. "His activities included holding meetings with one party, leaving out others who represent different parts of society," the statement said.

Reports said that Malinowski on Sunday met

with members of Shiite opposition group Al Wifaq, which has staged frequent anti-government protests in order to gain more political rights. "Such activities are contrary to diplomatic norms and relations between states," the statement added. But the statement reaffirmed Bahrain's strong and solid relations with the United States, underlining that the progress and development of the bilateral ties should not be affected by such unfortunate acts. A US ally in the Middle East, Bahrain provides a base for US Navy's fifth fleet.

Xinhua

Four NATO servicemen killed in Afghanistan — ISAF

KABUL, 8 July— At least four NATO servicemen were killed in an attack in eastern Afghanistan on Tuesday, the International Security Assistance Force said.

Earlier, Ziaul Rahman Sayedkhili, a senior police officer in the eastern province of Parwan, said the death toll included six NATO soldiers, 10 Afghan civilians and two Afghan policemen.

"Two days ago a rocket was fired from the village of Qalandar Khil which hit the Bagram (military) base and this morning a joint Afghan-ISAF operation went there to in-

vestigate the case," he said.

"There was a suicide bomber on a bicycle who detonated his explosives which killed 10 local civilians, two policemen and six ISAF soldiers."

ISAF said in a separate statement four of its servicemen were killed.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack in a text message to Reuters.

The attack took place amid deteriorating security in Afghanistan as most ISAF forces prepare to leave the country after 12 years of war against Taliban insurgents.

Reuters

Chinese envoy to attend French WWI memorial

BEIJING, 8 July — Chinese envoy Li Zhaoxing will attend an event to mark the 100th anniversary of the start of World War I in France on 14 July, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Hong Lei announced on Tuesday.

Li, the former Chinese Foreign Minister, will attend at the invitation of French President Francois Hollande, Hong said at a daily news briefing.

Xinhua

US ship begins neutralizing Syrian chemical weapons

WASHINGTON, 8 July — US container ship *Cape Ray* began neutralizing chemical materials on Monday that were once part of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's weapons arsenal, the Pentagon said.

The ship, in international waters in the Mediterranean Sea, began processing about 600 metric tonnes of chemical weapons and raw materials that could be used in them, Pentagon spokesman Colonel Steve Warren told reporters.

The US government has said the materials include mustard gas and components for the nerve agent sarin.

The materials were transferred to the *Cape Ray* earlier in July from a vessel that brought them out of Syria. Assad agreed last year to turn over his chemical weapons stockpile as part of a disarmament deal.

Warren said it is expected that the ship will



A US Navy personnel gestures in front of the US MV Cape Ray ship docked at the naval airbase in Rota, near Cadiz, southern Spain on 10 April, 2014.—REUTERS

need 60 days to process the materials. The *Cape Ray* is equipped with a hydrolysis system that uses substances like water, sodium hydroxide and sodium hypochlorite to make chemical war-

fare agents safe enough to be disposed of at commercial sites.

Warren said the processed material would be transferred to Finland and Germany.

Washington and Moscow supported the agreement under which Assad surrendered Syria's chemical weapons after it was accused of using them against civilians.—Reuters

HEALTH & BUSINESS

Asian shares pause after recent climb, focus on earnings

SYDNEY, 8 July — Asian stocks were subdued on Tuesday as Wall Street turned cautious ahead of the corporate reporting season and earnings guidance from regional tech heavy-weight Samsung came in well short of forecasts.

Investors could also be forgiven for feeling a touch of altitude sickness after many indexes recently hit all-time or multi-year peaks. MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan, MIAPJ0000PUS, was a fraction lower in thin trade. It briefly struck a three-year high at 502.00 but shied away from tough resistance at the 2011 top of 512.12.

Samsung Electronics Co Ltd (005930.KS) said its operating profit probably fell 24.5 percent in April-June to 7.2 trillion won (\$7.12 billion), under the 8.3 trillion mean estimate from 38 analysts polled by Thomson Reuters. Its shares, however, still managed to bounce 0.6 percent, perhaps because



Pedestrians look at an electronic board showing the stock market indices of various countries outside a brokerage in Tokyo on 25 June, 2014.—REUTERS

they have been falling for most of the past month as the market priced in a poor result.

Japan's Nikkei, N225 followed Wall Street's lead

and fell 0.5 percent, so failing to sustain last week's six-month high.

The Dow .DJI had lost 0.3 percent on Monday, while the S&P 500, SPX

shed 0.4 percent and the Nasdaq, IXIC 0.8 percent. [N] Cyclical stocks tied to the pace of economic growth ranked among the weakest of the day. The S&P indus-

trial sector index, SPLRCI fell 0.7 percent.

Wall Street hit a number of milestones last week, with the Dow topping 17,000 for the first time and

the S&P 500 closing at a record high after a strong June jobs report. The earnings season kicks off with Alcoa, AA later on Tuesday and dozens of major companies are scheduled to report next week, including numerous Dow components.

Profits are forecast to grow 6.2 percent for the quarter, according to Thomson Reuters data, but investors see a slight chance of a return to double-digit growth for the first time in nearly three years.

Markets are also on guard for minutes of the Federal Reserve's last meeting to be released on Wednesday, which will be scoured for hints on when the policy committee might consider raising interest rates. Some analysts have brought that day forward following June's upbeat payrolls report. Yet most assume a move is still a whole year away, too distant to trouble Treasury investors right now.

Reuters

Study paves the way for a blood test to predict Alzheimer's

LONDON, 8 July — British scientists have identified a set of 10 proteins in the blood that can predict the onset of Alzheimer's and call this an important step towards developing a test for the incurable brain-wasting disease.

Such a test could initially be used to select patients for clinical trials of experimental treatments being developed to try to halt progression of Alzheimer's, the researchers said, and may one day move into routine use in doctors' clinics.

"Alzheimer's begins to affect the brain many years before patients are diagnosed (and) many of our drug trials fail because by the time patients are given the drugs the brain has already been too severely affected," said Simon Lovestone of Oxford University, who led this work from King's College London.

"A simple blood test could help us identify patients at a much earlier stage to take part in new trials and hopefully develop treatments," he said.

Alzheimer's is the most common form of dementia, a brain-wasting disease which in 2010 was estimated to be costing the world \$604 billion a year. The fatal disease affects 44 million people worldwide, with the number set to triple by 2050, the campaign group Alzheimer's Disease International says.

Several big pharma firms including Roche, Eli Lilly, Merck & Co and Johnson & Johnson, are pursuing various ap-



Blood test can predict Alzheimer's disease

proaches to get to the root cause of Alzheimer's and try to find treatments to halt its progression.

Yet over the past 15 years, more than 100 experimental Alzheimer's drugs have failed in trial. Lovestone and other experts believe this may be because drug trials are conducted too late, in patients whose condition has already gone too far.

A predictive test for use before people develop symptoms would help researchers select the right people for drug trials, and help show whether the experimental drugs are working.

Previous studies have found that PET brain scans and tests of lumbar fluid can be used to predict the onset of dementia from people with a less severe condition known as mild cognitive impairment (MCI), but these tests are expensive and invasive, so scientists are keen to develop a cheaper, simpler blood test.

Reuters

How to maintain falling suicide rate

BEIJING, 8 July — Suicide is a major public health issue across the world. It is the cause of 800,000 premature deaths globally, according to latest statistics.

In the 1990s, China had one of the highest suicide rates (23.2 per 100,000 people). An estimated 250,000 suicides were reported every year in the 1990s, accounting for about a quarter of all suicides in the world. In fact, suicide was the fifth leading cause of deaths in China.

Besides, more women than men committed suicides in China during the period, which was drastically different from the about 3:1 male-female suicide ratio in Western countries. Also, the suicide rate in China was substantially higher in rural areas than in cities, with older adults more prone to committing suicide.

Perhaps the imbalance in medical and social welfare between urban and rural areas in China put older residents in the countryside at greater risk of com-

mitting suicide. Although mental illness plays a relatively low role in suicides in China, psychiatric help and other related support are far from sufficient. And the low social status of Chinese women and the limited opportunities they have to fulfill their dreams have been blamed for the relatively high rate of suicide among women, especially in rural regions.

The good news is that the overall suicide rate in China has declined significantly because of the country's fast-paced economic development. The estimated mean national suicide rate now is 9.8 per 100,000 people, nearly 60 percent lower than in the 1990s. Urbanization and economic growth in the past decade have created more education and employment opportunities for everyone, especially those women in rural areas, and reduced gender inequality. Controls on the sale of pesticides, which many rural people used to drink to commit suicide, and the improvement in healthcare services have also contributed to the decline in the suicide rate.

China's experience seems to be at odds with French sociologist Emile Durkheim's suicide theory, which says that economic growth epitomized by industrialization, urbanization and modernization usually leads to higher level of social anomie and lower level of social integration as a result of popularized individualism and egoism, and subsequently increases the suicide rate. In China, however, these factors can work as protective shield against suicides.

An increasing number of rural women are migrating to cities in search of better livelihood. Relocation from rural to urban areas provides women with an escape route — from familiar obligations and undesired marriage proposals — and employment provides them with financial means to pursue a career and/or find their Mr Right. In the past, Chinese women were often trapped in a routine life in which they rarely realized their personal goals. But today, women in China have more opportunities for better education and employment.—Xinhua

One dead as powerful typhoon hits Japan's Okinawa

TOKYO, 8 July — One man died, more than 500,000 people were urged to evacuate and hundreds of flights were canceled in Japan as a strong typhoon brought torrential rain and high winds to its southwestern islands and could bring heavy rain to Tokyo later this week.

Typhoon Neoguri weakened from its original status as a super typhoon but remained intense, with gusts of more than 250 km per hour (155 mph). It was powering through the Okinawa island chain where emergency rain and high-seas warnings were in effect.

The storm was at its most powerful when passing Okinawa, some 1,600 km (1,000 miles) southwest of Tokyo on Tuesday, but the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) warned of heavy rains and potential flooding in Kyushu, the westernmost of Japan's main islands, as well as heavy rain in the rest of the nation as the storm turns east later in the week.

"People must take the utmost caution," Keiji Furuya, state minister in charge of disaster management, told a news conference.

One man died after his boat was swamped by high waves, NHK national television said. Several people suffered minor injuries from falls.

More than 50,000 households in Okinawa lost power and an oil refinery halted operations.



Women walk in strong winds caused by typhoon Neoguri at Kokusai street, a shopping and amusement district in Naha, on Japan's southern island of Okinawa, in this photo taken by Kyodo on 8 July, 2014.—REUTERS

Television footage showed a collapsed roof of a shopping arcade, street lights rocking in high winds and branches being blown down largely deserted streets.

There are no nuclear plants on Okinawa, but there are two on Kyushu, which lies in the area through which the typhoon is likely to pass after hitting Okinawa. There is another on Shikoku island, which borders Kyushu and could also be affected.

All are shut down due to national policy and the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant, which was wrecked by an earthquake and tsunami in March 2011, is on the other side of the country.

"When the wind blows most strongly, it's impossible to stand. You have

to hold on to something," said Kei Shima, a self-employed Okinawa resident in her 30s. "The lights are fading in and out, like the house is haunted. The rain is getting stronger and falling sideways." Neoguri was roughly 110 km (68 miles) west of Kumejima of island at 5 pm (0800 GMT) and moving north at 30 kph (19 mph), with sustained winds of 162 kph (100 mph).

Kadena Air Base, one of the largest US military facilities on Okinawa, was at its highest level of storm alert and all outside activity was prohibited.

Nansei Sekiyu KK, a Japanese refiner wholly owned by Brazil's Petrobras, said it had suspended oil refining operations at its 100,000 barrels-per-day Nishihara refinery in Okina-

wa on Monday evening.

A JMA official said the storm will maintain its strength as it heads north but gradually turn to the east, making landfall in Kyushu before raking its way up the main island of Honshu and coming close to Tokyo on Friday. "But it will be weaker by then, so that Tokyo can mainly expect a lot of rain, and maybe some gusts of wind," he added.

Around two to four typhoons make landfall in Japan each year but they are unusual in July.—Reuters

Quake rocks Guatemala, Mexico, newborn baby among three dead

GUATEMALA CITY, 8 July—A strong earthquake shook the border between Guatemala and Mexico on Monday, killing at least three people, including a newborn boy, damaging dozens of buildings and triggering landslides.

Much of the damage from the 6.9-magnitude quake was reported in the Guatemalan border region of San Marcos, where it downed power lines, cracked buildings and triggered landslides that blocked roads.

Guatemalan President Otto Perez said the baby died when a hospital ceiling collapsed on him in San Marcos, an area hit hard by quakes in recent years. In November 2012, the region suffered a 7.4-magnitude quake that killed 48 people.

"With the reports we have so far, we can say this quake has caused moderate damage. It's not light dam-

Brazil bandits steal \$36 mln of Samsung phones, computers

RIO DE JANEIRO, 8 July — Bandits attacked a Samsung Electronics Co Ltd (005930.KS) factory near Sao Paulo late Sunday and held workers hostage while they robbed truckloads of smartphones, tablets and notebook computers that police valued at \$36 million. The dramatic heist, carried out by armed robbers who carjacked a shuttle used by factory employees, took place overnight during nearly four hours in Campinas, an industrial hub in the southeastern state of Sao Paulo.

A spokesman for the state's public security secretariat said the bandits made off with seven trucks laden with more than 40,000 Samsung products. State police are investigating the attack, he added, but said no suspects have yet been identified.

A spokesman for Samsung in Sao Paulo confirmed the heist but said police estimates for the value of the stolen goods were too high. He said roughly 100 employees were present at the factory during the robbery, but declined to give further details.

"We have cooperated fully with the police investigation that is underway and will do our best to avoid any sort of repeat incident," said Samsung Eletronica da

Amazonia Ltda, the manufacturing unit of the Korean electronics giant in Brazil, in a statement.

The police report, as related to Reuters by the spokesman for the state security secretariat, reads like the script of a daring crime movie.

After stopping the shuttle on its way to the factory, 7 armed assailants took over the vehicle while colleagues took all but two of the eight employees originally on board to a remote location, where they were set free. Just before midnight, the assailants proceeded with the two other employees to the factory, where they disarmed security guards, gathered the rest of the plant's employees and made sure none of them could communicate with the outside. With the coast clear, the attackers then allowed 13 other culprits, driving the getaway trucks, into the factory. The robbers, communicating with one another by radio and cell phones, then proceeded to load the vehicles with the loot.

Using stills allegedly taken from the factory security cameras, local news media showed images of the alleged culprits, dressed in black and wearing dark headgear, roaming about the factory and pushing crates of goods toward the trucks with pallet loaders.—Reuters

Nicaragua approves route for \$40 billion canal linking oceans

MANAGUA, 8 July — A Nicaraguan committee approved a proposed route on Monday for a \$40 billion (23.35 billion pound) shipping channel across the Central American country that would compete with the Panama Canal.

The committee of government officials, businessmen and academics approved a 172 mile (278 km) route from the mouth of the Brito river on the Pacific side to the Punto Gorda river on the Caribbean that was proposed by executives from the HK Nicaragua Canal Development Investment Co Ltd (HKND Group). The Hong

Kong-based HKND group, which is leading the project, is headed by Chinese lawyer Wang Jing, who also heads Chinese company Xinwei Telecom Enterprise Group.

The proposed canal would pass through Lake Nicaragua, Central America's largest lake, and will be between 230 metres and 520 metres (755 feet to 1,706 feet) wide and 27.6 metres (90 feet) deep, said HKND engineer Dong Yunsong.

The proposed route still faces environmental and social impact studies that could recommend some changes to the plan, but those studies should be finished later this year to allow work to begin

by December, said committee member Telemaco Talavera. Opponents of the plan are concerned about the canal's effect on Lake Nicaragua, an important fresh water source for the country, as well as the impact on poor communities.

The plan is to finish the canal in 2019 and begin operations in 2020, Talavera said. The proposed channel would be more than three times longer than the 48-mile (77-km) Panama Canal, which took the United States a decade to build at the narrowest part of the Central American isthmus. It was completed in 1914.

Reuters



Municipal firefighters stand outside a damaged building in the San Marcos region, in the northwest of Guatemala, in this on 7 July, 2014 handout picture by Guatemala's municipal fire department.—REUTERS

age," said Perez.

Authorities had earlier reported the death of two other people in San Rafael Pie de la Cuesta, also in San Marcos. However, Sergio Cabanas, a spokesman for Guatemalan emergency authority CONRED, said the reports turned out to be wrong.

Thirty-three people were hurt, many with head injuries, and 41 houses were severely damaged, Perez said. A further 39 houses suffered lighter damage, and 36 people in the municipality of San Sebastian Huehuetenango were evacuated, he added.

Reuters

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

**GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION
OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
BUDGET DEPARTMENT
MODERNIZATION OF PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT PROJECT
(MPFMP)
(PROJECT ID No: P144952)
REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR
INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT - AN INTERNATIONAL PROCUREMENT
SPECIALIST POSITION
(REF: E2-C001)**

1. **Background.** The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing in the amount of US\$ 30 million equivalent from the World Bank, and US\$25 million grant from the UK and Australian governments toward the cost of the Modernization of Public Finance Management Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments for goods and consulting services to be procured under this project.

The development objective of the Modernization of Public Finance Management (PFM) Project for Myanmar is to support efficient, accountable, and responsive delivery of public services through the modernization of Myanmar's PFM systems and strengthening institutional capacity. The project has five components:

- Improving revenue mobilization through bringing more revenues from natural resources on budget and strengthening tax administration
- Responsive Planning and Budget Preparations
- Supporting Effective Budget Execution and Financial Reporting
- Fostering External Oversight and Accountability
- Establishing a Sustainable Institutional Platform and Skills-base for PFM

For a more detailed understanding of the scope of the Project and its governance and organizational structure, kindly consult the project appraisal document (PAD):

<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2014/02/19393607/myanmar-modernization-public-finance-management-project>.

2. On behalf of the Ministry of Finance, the Procurement Coordinating and Advisory Unit (PCAU) is now seeking to recruit

an **International Procurement Specialist** to carry out and assist the PCAU on all procurement related activities in compliance with the World Bank guidelines.

Brief description of the assignment.

3. The *main tasks* of the Consultant within this assignment are as follows:

(Details of these and other specific tasks are discussed in the Terms of Reference)

- Training and Skills Development of PCAU project staff on procurement tasks and management;
- Develop draft proposal for a long term capacity building plan on procurement for relevant MoF staff and staff from the Office of the Auditor General;
- Assistance, Advice, Mentoring, and Guidance in conducting the procurement procedures for the project.
- Assisting in procurement document development and guidance on evaluation, as required by the head of the PCAU.

4. The assignment is for an *estimated duration of 10 months over a two year period*. Consultant will be subject to a performance review within 3 months into the position; contract may be extended beyond the 10 months period, subject to the needs and availability of funds. Consultant will need to travel to Nay Pyi Taw as specified in the terms of reference.

Selection criteria

5. The consultant will be selected in accordance with the "Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers" dated January 2011. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the Guidelines, setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/PROJECTS/PROCUREMENT/0,,contentMDK:20060656~menuPK:93977~pagePK:84269~piPK:60001558~theSitePK:84266,00.html>

6. The minimum selection criteria are: (other criteria are discussed in the Terms of Reference)

- Master Degree in one of the followings: Accounting, Finance and/or Administration, Engineering, Economics/ law/business administration;

- At least 10 (ten) years of experience in procurement management or have had responsibilities with a substantial content of his/her position in the procurement area and at least 5 (five) years must be in Donor funded projects and must be fully proficient in application of the World Bank Procurement Guidelines and Procedures;
- Experience in capacity building and skills development in procurement related matters.

Administration and submission details

7. In submitting their expressions of interest, consultants are kindly requested to indicate the following reference: E2-C001. Interested consultants must provide their updated curriculum vitae, indicating personal and technical skills, academic qualifications, experience in similar assignments, and experience in Myanmar and/or other developing countries along with the names of at least three (3) referees with contact information (e-mail address, telephone or fax numbers). Expressions of Interest shall be submitted in hard copy to be transmitted by fax followed by an electronic copy sent by email to the below specified addresses.

8. Interested consultants may obtain copies of the detailed Terms of Reference (in English) by submitting a request to the attention of U Zaw Naing at the below email address.

Expressions of interest must be submitted to the postal address below or by email no later than **July 31, 2014 (before 17:30 hours)**.

Modernization of Public Financial Management Project Unit

To the Attention of:

Daw Khin Lay Myint,
Deputy Director General
Budget Department
and

U Zaw Naing,
Director, Budget Department
Procurement Coordination and Advisory Unit (PCAU)
Budget Department,

Ministry of Finance, Office No, 26 Nay Pyi Taw,
Tel: 95-67-410529, 410530
Fax: 95-67-410529, 410530, 410451

e-mail: pcaumm@mptmail.net.mm

**THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(15/2014)**

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 -067(14-15)	Portable Welding Machine with Complete Accessories (300 AMP, Diesel Engine Driven (4) Sets	US\$
(2)	IFB -068(14-15)	Data Processing Center and Interpretation Work Station (1) Lot	US\$
(3)	IFB -069(14-15)	High Pressure Rubber Hoses for ZJ 70L Drilling Rig (2) Items	US\$
(4)	IFB -070(14-15)	Spares for HDD Rigs (12) Items	US\$
(5)	IFB -071(14-15)	Spares for CAT G 398 Gas Engine and Worthington 5 SU 3 Compressor (46) Items	US\$
(6)	DMP/L -012(14-15)	Spares for Komatsu Dozers (23) Items	Ks
(7)	DMP/L -013(14-15)	Fuel Bowser (3200 Gal Capacity) (2) Units (13) Items	Ks

Tender Closing Date & Time - 5-8-2014, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 8th July, 2014 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph: +95 67 - 411097/411206

Flood victims launch Australia's largest ever class action

SYDNEY, 8 July—Lawyers for more than 4,000 flood victims have filed Australia's largest class action on Tuesday three and half years after their homes and businesses were destroyed. The lawyers argued that the flooding from Brisbane's Wivenhoe Dam caused a disaster almost completely avoidable if the operators had not released enough water earlier enough.

The case was lodged in the New South Wales Supreme Court against the dam operator and the

Queensland government and if successful could net the victims more than 2 billion US dollars in damages.

The decision of legal firm Maurice Blackburn to run the case for the victims of the January 2011 floods follows an evidence-testing programme by a team of US-based hydrologists.

The lead lawyer who has been managing the case, Damian Scattini, told The Australian that data proves that this was a disaster that didn't have to happen.

"The evidence tells

us that the rainfall that occurred was not a so-called 'black swan' event — we say that the rainfall that was forecast to fall actually fell, but the operators of the dam had not left any capacity in the dam to deal with it," he said.

"For whatever reason, probably because that was how Wivenhoe Dam had always done it, the operators just let the rainfall keep going into the dam in the weeks before January, and when it stopped raining they were going to drain it off.—*Xinhua*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV SEA SUNNY VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA SUNNY VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.7.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W 5 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims 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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State of the Sea

Occasional squalls with rough sea will be experience Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon-Taninthyai Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) m.p.h. Seas will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 11th July (Friday) (Fullmoon Day of Waso) 2014, being public holidays under the Negotiable Instruments Act.
Central Bank of Myanmar

TRADEMARK CAUTION

Warrix Sport Co., Ltd., a corporation incorporated in Thailand and having its registered office at 149/73 Moo 13, Soi Petkasem 95, Petkasem Road, Aomnoi, Kratumban, Samutsakorn 74130, Thailand is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark:



Reg. No. 4/3015/2014
(13 March 2014)

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U Than Maung, Advocate
For Warrix Sport Co., Ltd.
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.
#1505-1508-1509, 15th Floor
Sakura Tower, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union
of Myanmar.

utm@kcyangon.com
Dated 9 July 2014

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Myanmar Reg. No. 4/6926/2014 (4 June 2014)

In respect of "Business management advisory services relating to real estate franchising; franchising, namely, consultation and assistance in business management, organization and promotion; franchising, namely, offering business management assistance in the establishment and/or operation of real estate brokerages" in Class 35; and

Myanmar Reg. No. 4/6925/2014 (4 June 2014)

In respect of "Real estate brokerage services; franchising services, namely, providing financial information and advice regarding the establishment and/or operation of real estate brokerage business" in Class 36.

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U Than Maung, Advocate
For ERA Franchise Systems LLC
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,
#1505-1508-1509, 15th Floor, Sakura Tower, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Dated 9 July 2014

utm@kcyangon.com

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KT & G Corporation, a company incorporated in Republic of Korea and having its registered office at 71, Beotkot-gil, Daedeok-gu, Daejeon, Republic of Korea is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademarks:

ESSE café

Reg. No. 4/7132/2014
(6.6. 2014)

ESSE CHANGE

Reg. No. 4/7134/2014
(6.6. 2014)

RAISON

Reg. No. 4/7133/2014
(6.6. 2014)

TIMELESS TIME

Reg. No. 4/7135/2014
(9.6.2014)

In respect of "Tobacco; cigarettes; cigars; snuff; cigarette papers; tobacco pipes; cigarette filters; cigarette cases (not of precious metal); tobacco pouches; lighter for smokers (not of precious metal); matches; pipe cleaners for tobacco pipes; ashtrays (not of precious metal) for smokers; cigar cutters" in International Class 34.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Marks shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, Advocate
For KT & G Corporation
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,
#1505-1508-1509, 15th Floor, Sakura Tower,
Kyauktada Township, Yangon,
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Dated 9 July 2014

utm@kcyangon.com

SELENA GOMEZ'S family urges her to join rehab?

LOS ANGELES, 8 July — Singer Selena Gomez's family and friends have reportedly urged her to return to rehab soon so that she can avoid getting stressed out.

The 21-year-old singer, who is apparently going through a rough patch with her on-on boyfriend Justin Bieber, 20, and friend Demi Lovato, 21, has been asked by her closed ones to join the rehabilitation centre, reported *Hollywood Life*.

"Family and friends are stressing to Selena that she should enter rehab this weekend," a source said, adding, "She is a mess over what Justin has been doing to her, and how he has played with her emotions. She really is taking things hard with the Justin and Demi (Lovato) drama."

Her family and friends are reportedly worried that Gomez will party hard on the Fourth of July weekend and not care for her health.

"And with this weekend being all about partying, people in her camp believe she is going to partake in it and really get into some trouble so they want to get her help as soon as possible," the source said.

The singer has also been to rehab in January this year reportedly for young adult issues, working too much, relationship issues.—PTI



Singer Selena Gomez

Robert Pattinson flirts with multiple girls?

LONDON, 8 July — "Twilight" star Robert Pattinson reportedly flirted with multiple girls at a party.

The 'The Rover' star, who split from Kristen Stewart last summer and is rumoured to be dating British model Imogen Kerr, was among the star-studded crowd at a nightclub at Nobu in California, reported Contactmusic. "He was wearing a hat and trying to stay undercover. He hung out at a corner table and was flirtatious with multi-

ple girls all night. He stayed through the performances and was really enjoying himself," a source said. The 28-year-old actor attended the Independence Day bash with 'The Lying Game' star Ryan Rottman, 30, and watched a number of artists, including Chris Brown and Jamie Foxx perform. — PTI



Sunny Leone

Sunny Leone's 'Pink lips' attracts 1 million YouTube views

MUMBAI, 8 July — Bollywood 'Baby Doll' Sunny Leone-starrer song "Pink lips" is turning out to be a chartbuster, and her fluid moves in the number have already managed to attract over one million views for the video on YouTube.

The song's video was uploaded on the online platform on 2 July. It features Sunny grooving to the beats of the song, composed by Meet Brothers and choreographed by Uma-Gaiti. The choreographers were under pressure to deliver something bigger and better than "Baby doll", and made sure Sunny gave her best shot to the new song, which is a promotional track for the movie "Hate story 2. But they're excited with the response.— PTI

Pharrell leaves Montreux festival fans wanting more

MONTREUX, (Switzerland), 8 July — Pharrell Williams gave a slick concert for a pumped-up crowd at the Montreux Jazz Festival on Monday night, but some fans were less than happy when he left the famed stage after just an hour.

The American R&B singer and producer, accompanied by his band, two vocalists and six

female dancers, played tracks from his second album "GIRL", including "Marilyn Monroe" and "Come Get it Bae", before closing with his global viral hit "Happy."

Known simply by his first name Pharrell, he repeatedly voiced support for women's rights during the concert, declaring 2014 "The Year of the Woman" when things are going to change.

"My new album is an ode to women. From A to Z, I make no apologies for the way I appreciate women," he told the sold-out standing crowd who paid 135 Swiss francs

(\$150)(87.57 pounds) per ticket. "I make no apology. I love women in every kind of way." Minutes later he played "Blurred Lines", the raunchy R&B smash hit with Robin Thicke that was last year's top song across the US Billboard music charts, followed by Daft Punk's Grammy-winning disco track "Get Lucky."

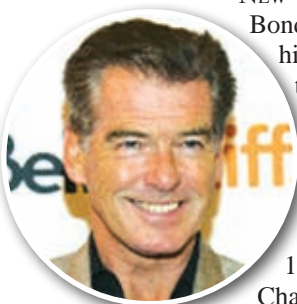
"I told you, it's all about women," Pharrell said. For "Happy", from the "Despicable Me 2" soundtrack, he was joined on stage by a young female fan whom he told: "We are depending on a girl like you to grow up and change the world."—Reuters

PIERCE BROSNAN gets strength from faith

NEW YORK, 8 July — Former James Bond star Pierce Brosnan credits his faith for helping him through tough times, such as the death of his first wife.

The 61-year-old actor was left devastated when his first wife Cassandra Harris died from ovarian cancer in 1991 and his adopted daughter Charlotte succumbed to the same disease last year, and thinks his religious beliefs and upbringing have given him the strength he needed to carry on, reported *New York daily News*. "I would say faith, being Irish, being Catholic, it's ingrained in my DNA," Brosnan said. The 'Long Way Down' actor, who is now married to Keely Shaye Smith, also admitted to being a keen artist.

"I paint landscapes, figuratives. I painted all my life. In fact, I started as a commercial artist," he said. —PTI



US singer Pharrell Williams (R) performs on the Stravinski Hall stage at the 48th Montreux Jazz Festival in Montreux on 7 July, 2014. —REUTERS

GENERAL

Sony to solicit early retirement from August

Tokyo, 8 July — Sony Corp will solicit applicants for early retirement from its corporate planning and finance sections at its Tokyo headquarters starting in August as part of its efforts to restructure its businesses and cut costs, sources close to the matter said on Tuesday. The programme is part of a reform plan unveiled in February that sets forth

plans to slash 1,500 domestic jobs, including those at group companies, by the end of the current business year through next March. Those who have worked for at least 10 years and are aged 40 or older may apply for early retirement, the sources said, adding that those in management positions must be at least 45 years old to apply.

The company will solicit applicants until the end of October, with no numerical target set initially. Those working in distribution and procurement may also apply for the programme.

Sony plans to increase retirement payments for those taking early retirement, depending on the length of their service and their positions, while help-

ing them find jobs, according to the sources.

The company aims to cut costs at its finance and other sections affected by the programme by about 30 percent by the business year through March 2016, compared with the year ended this March. Sony also plans to cut about 3,500 jobs overseas by the end of next March. — *Kyodo News*

American studio talks making Doraemon for a Western audience

BURBANK, (California), 8 July — It took brainstorming and compromise, mixed with a lot of trust, love and respect, but after two years of effort, Eric Sherman and his employees at Bang Zoom! Entertainment have finally brought Japan's beloved blue robotic cat Doraemon to US television screens.

With a 20-minute pilot and 26 episodes lined up, America was treated to its first taste of the show Monday afternoon when the US version debuted on cable channel Disney XD. It will be broadcast in the channel's 12:30 pm time slot every weekday throughout the summer.

The anime, based on manga written by Fujiko F Fujio, has aired in 35 countries and regions mainly in Asia and Europe, but those broadcasts used the Japanese version of the show, adding only subtitles or voice dubbing in local languages. This is the first time



Doraemon has been localized for a specific audience. Changes include character names, food and item names, other cultural references, and music and sound effects to appeal to a US audience. Sherman, president and CEO of Burbank, California-based audio post and creative production

company Bang Zoom, said localizing the show was challenging because "the rights holders are extremely protective of their beloved character and show, as they should be," but added that he thought Bang Zoom was a good fit because "we always approach every project from a place of respect

and admiration for the creators." "We need to know lots of details and we need to get deep into the show, to what the bones are," he said. "Then we can put the flesh back on and color it for a new audience — the US audience — maintaining the original intent of the creators, while making it amazing for the new audience." On Twitter, the show received a number of positive reviews and viewers appeared to enjoy the show.

Kevin Grussing (@KevDGrussing), an anime fan, wrote, "This #Doraemon is...actually good. Unbelievable, I dare say SUPPORT THIS DUB...."

Rex Kidd (@EponymousKid) also wrote "Doraemon is pretty good and I'm digging it. I'm on the hook for more, I gotta say."

Some, though, were quick to note the name change for dorayaki, Doraemon's favourite snack, to "Yummy Buns."

— *Kyodo News*

MYANMAR TV

(9-7-2014, Wednesday)

6:00 am

* Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw

6:25 am

* Classical Songs

7:20 am

* Myanmar Language

8:00 am

* News/ International News

8:30 am

* TV Drama Series

9:30 am

* Documentary

10:00 am

* News

11:20 am

* Kyaew Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than

12:00 pm

* News/ International News/ Weather Report

12:25 pm

* Myanmar Video

2:45 pm

* Musical Programme

3:00 pm

* News

4:45 pm

* University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Second Year (Geography)

5:30 pm

* TV Drama Series

6:00 pm

* News/ Weather Report

7:25 pm

* TV Drama Series

8:00 pm

* News/ International News/ Weather Report

8:45 pm

* People Talks

9:30 pm

* Documentary
* Five Arts Bosoom of Dramatic Performance

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(9-7-14 07:00 am~
10-7-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Charity in Myanmar: School For the Blind (Kye Myin Dine)
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- * Modifying Natural Thanakha Bark into Ready-Made Skin Care Product
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- * Local News
- * Traditional Instruments: Htan Taw Drums (Part-I) "Dobat"

White House says most children at border to be sent home

WASHINGTON, 8 July — The White House said on Monday that most unaccompanied minors flooding into the United States from Central America will not be allowed to stay as the Obama administration prepares to ask Congress for \$2 billion to address the border crisis.

White House spokesman Josh Earnest said most of the border-crossers would not qualify to stay in the United States.

Those who possibly could get asylum are children who have been victims of domestic abuse. Minors who fled because of gang-related violence could have a harder time qualify-

ing, according to immigration experts.

The strong warning came as the White House is expected to lay out on Tuesday what it wants in emergency funding from the US Congress to deal with the flood of children.

The money would go toward more detention facilities to house the children and additional immigration judges and asylum officials to expedite hearings. A Justice Department official told *Reuters* the aim is to hire 30 more immigration judges to help tackle the case load. The spending bill could face some rough going in Congress, however. — *Reuters*

Japan mulls introduction of amphibious assault ships



Photo shows USS Makin Island, an amphibious assault ship of the US Navy, at a Navy facility in San Diego, on 7 July, 2014. — KYODO NEWS

PREVIEW —

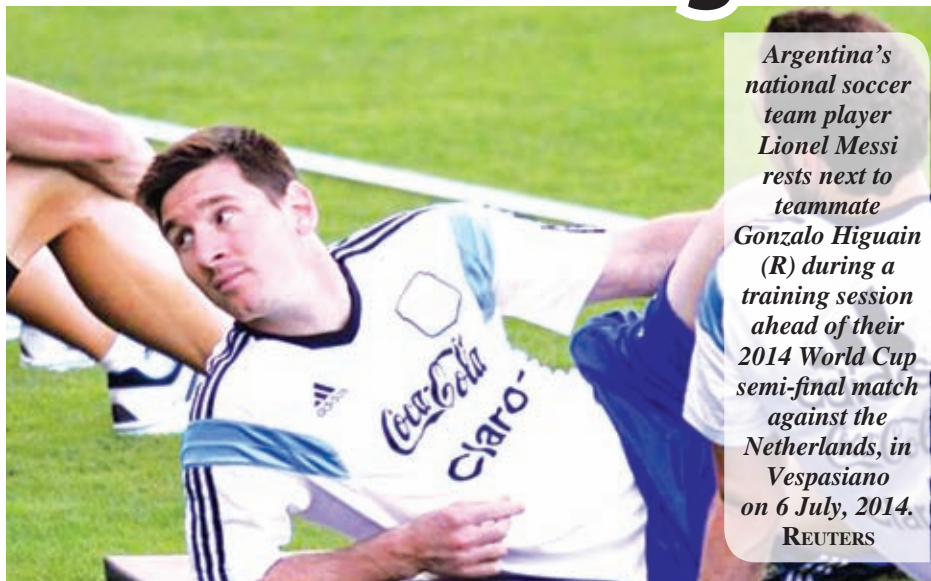
All eyes on Messi and Robben with Rio in sight

SAO PAULO, (Brazil), 8 July — The Netherlands are one win away from a second straight World Cup final while opponents Argentina head into Wednesday's last-four clash looking to end their 24-year wait for a place in the biggest game of all.

Two teams with a rich tradition and an abundance of motivation should produce a close game, characterized by tight marking, disciplined defence and threats on the break as they bid to reach the 13 July final at Rio de Janeiro's Maracana. But for all the expectation, all the history and all the focus on the tactical approaches of Alejandro Sabella and Louis van Gaal, the clash at the Corinthians arena is likely to come down to how two individuals seize the moment.

With both teams set to pack the midfield, regardless of what formal formation they field, Argentine Lionel Messi and Dutchman Arjen Robben will be charged with producing thrilling moments of skill that could decide who heads to Rio for the final.

The narrative around the 27-year-old Messi's stature in the game has long suggested that the four-time



Argentina's national soccer team player Lionel Messi rests next to teammate Gonzalo Higuain (R) during a training session ahead of their 2014 World Cup semi-final match against the Netherlands, in Vespasiano on 6 July, 2014. REUTERS

World Player of the Year needs to take his country to a World Cup triumph to enter the list of the game's true greats.

Whether that assessment is fair or not, Messi is certainly doing his best to prove that he deserves to be mentioned in the same breath as compatriot Diego Maradona and Brazil's Pele.

The forward has four goals, all in the group stage, but his contribution has gone well beyond finding the back of the net.

Messi has always had the ability, for Barcelona and Argentina, to drop away from the opposing back-line

and run at defences from deep, but in the quarter-final win over Belgium he played almost as a classic playmaking number 10.

In this withdrawn role, Messi successfully controlled the tempo of the game, slowing it down when needed and probing for spaces for striker Gonzalo Higuain to exploit.

Conductor Messi

So often the virtuoso who provides the dramatic crescendo to an attack, Messi has evolved in this tournament into the conductor of the orchestra.

The absence of Angel Di Maria on the right through injury is a blow for

Argentina because the Real Madrid winger has provided the other main attacking threat for Sabella's team.

It will be interesting to see whether the Argentine coach goes with the defence-minded Enzo Perez, who replaced Di Maria against the Belgians, or goes for a more attacking option. His Dutch counterpart Van Gaal has been willing to adjust his lineup and formation for each game, but the one constant is the reliance on Robben to terrorise de-

fences with his high-speed dribbling.

While much attention has focused on the tricky winger's tendency to go down easily in seeking penalties, that has distracted somewhat from the way his pace, directness and shooting have been the main focus of the Dutch attacks.

Van Gaal's side have cut it fine on the route to the semi-finals though — they needed penalties to get past Costa Rica in the quarter-finals having only beaten Mexico by a controversial last-minute penalty in the previous round.

They will need striker Robin van Persie to recapture his form from the group stage to give the Argentina defence something else to ponder apart from Robben's direct threat.

The two teams have met four times before in the World Cup, including in the 1978 final which Argentina won 3-1 after extra time on home soil. That was their only win over the Dutch at the finals having lost twice and drawn once in the other matches. —Reuters

Nike to end kit supply deal with Manchester United



LONDON, 8 July — US sportswear company Nike will not renew a long-running kit supply deal with English football club Manchester United because of the cost of a new contract, a source with knowledge of the negotiations said.

Nike has been supplying United's famous red shirts since 2002 but the current agreement expires next year. Its withdrawal is expected to clear the way for the club to sign a lucrative new deal with German sportswear company Adidas.

"Clearly Nike's football business is booming and they could easily afford to do this (deal). They had the right to match any other offer but looking at the deal on the table, they will walk away as it doesn't make commercial sense," the source said. —Reuters

IOC accepts Beijing, Almaty and Oslo for bidding 2022 Winter Olympics



LAUSANNE, 8 July — Beijing, Almaty and Oslo have been accepted as candidate cities for the 2022 Olympic Winter Games and proceeded to the second phase of the bidding process, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Executive Board unanimously agreed here on Monday.

In a meeting held from 7 to 9 July at the IOC headquarters in Lausanne, the Executive Board made the decision based on a technological analysis of the applicant cities' applications submitted earlier this year.

"The Executive Board was impressed by the legacy plans of each of the three cities, and will continue to support any future candidate or host city in developing them further," IOC President Thomas Bach said.

"The Executive Board is confident that the future hosts of the Olympic Win-

ter Games can break even with the Olympic Games budget, as Vancouver has just announced for the Olympic Winter Games 2010. Or, as in the case of Sochi, make a considerable profit, which they project to be in the range of 200 million dollars," Bach added.

As the the candidate Beijing, he said the city is seeking to provide an extended legacy for venues built for the Olympic Games 2008. It wants to create a winter sports center for China and use the winter games to act as a catalyst for the further development of the tourism and winter sports industry. Five bidding cities, namely Almaty (Kazakhstan), Beijing (China), Krakow (Poland), Lviv (Ukraine) and Oslo (Norway) for the 2022 Olympic Winter Games met the deadline of 14 March and submitted their application file. —Xinhua

Becker gamble pays off for Djokovic

LONDON, 8 July — When Novak Djokovic jumped on the super-coach bandwagon and hired Boris Becker, the appointment came straight out of left field and appeared to be a baffling one.

Three-times Wimbledon champion Becker had never shown any inclination towards coaching, was neck deep with his media and business commitments and as a classic serve-and-volleyer, his playing style could not have been more different to Djokovic's baseline power game.

But just as Ivan Lendl found the lure of working with Andy Murray hard to resist, Becker was intrigued by the challenge of working with a man who, like him, owned six grand slam titles.

Six months later Djokovic hit the jackpot when he finally ended months of torment and frustration by edging out Roger Federer in a pulsating five-set Wimbledon final on Sunday for his seventh grand slam title.

Despite the joyous scenes that unfolded in the players' box, with the Serb clambering up to hug his German mentor, many were left wondering what ex-



Novak Djokovic of Serbia kisses the winners trophy after defeating Roger Federer of Switzerland in their men's singles final tennis match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, in London on 6 July, 2014. —REUTERS

actly Becker's impact had been. Whereas Federer provided plenty of evidence of why he too had hired a grand slam champion — in his case Becker's great rival Stefan Edberg — by approaching the net 67 times and winning 78 percent of his serve-and-volley approaches during Sunday's battle, Becker's influence was less tangible. It was nevertheless omnipresent in Djokovic's mind. —Reuters

<h3>World Cup 2014 Brazil</h3>			
<h4>Semi-final</h4>			
<p>Match-62</p> <p>Netherlands</p>	<p>2:30 MST (10.7.2014)</p>	<p>Argentina</p>	