

## Vice president wraps up Russia visit

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June — Vice President U Nyan Tun headed home after meeting with Myanmar embassy staff and scholars in Moscow on Saturday. He was seen off at Moscow's Domodedovo airport by Myanmar Ambassador to Russia U Tin Yu and officials. The vice president and his entourage arrived in Yangon on Sunday. He was welcomed at the airport by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, the Russian Ambassador to Myanmar and officials.

MNA



### Joint Press Release

## Myanmar and the European Union (EU) hold second bilateral Human Rights Dialogue



1. The second Myanmar-EU Human Rights Dialogue was held in Nay Pyi Taw on 18 June 2015. The Dialogue was preceded by a Civil Society Forum on 17 June in Yangon, where the human rights situation in both the EU and Myanmar was discussed with civil society and human rights defenders, as well as by bilateral meetings with various stakeholders.

2. The second Myanmar-EU Human Rights Dialogue was opened by His Excellency U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the European Union's Special Representative for Human Rights, Stavros Lambrinidis, and was co-chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the Myanmar Ministry of Foreign Affairs, U Aung Lynn and the Head of Delegation of the European Union, Ambassador Roland Kobia. Union Minister for President Office (3) U Soe Thane and Union Minister for President Office (4) U

Aung Min also witnessed the opening, as well as the Deputy Minister for Defence, Commodore Aung Thaw and the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Oo Lwin.

3. During the dialogue, both sides reaffirmed their commitment to continued and strengthened dialogue and cooperation in the field of human rights on the basis of shared values and international human rights standards. The EU underlined its strong commitment to continue supporting Myanmar's democratic transition and reforms and to further deepen bilateral ties on this basis.

4. The day-long discussion covered the full range of human rights issues, including prisoners of conscience and improving conditions of detention, land rights, labour rights, migration and the human rights of migrants, non-discrimination, the legal framework for the fight against intolerance and the protection of minorities in the EU and Myanmar, human rights cooperation in international hu-

man rights fora and the ratification of core human rights treaties. During the dialogue, both sides exchanged best practices and provided updates on ongoing efforts to strengthen the protection and promotion of human rights.

5. On migration, the two sides discussed the main challenges and lessons learned from recent events in the Mediterranean and the Andaman Sea, agreeing on the importance of saving lives and protecting the human rights of the affected populations. The EU welcomed and encouraged regional initiatives to combat people smuggling and human trafficking in countries of origin, transit and destination and to provide necessary assistance. The EU underlined the importance of addressing the root causes of irregular migration in national and regional contexts, including economic factors and human rights concerns.

(See page 3)

## Myanmar celebrates International Day of Yoga with a demonstration of 500 enthusiasts in Yangon

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 21 June — As part of celebrations around the world marking the inaugural International Day of Yoga, yoga enthusiasts performed a demonstration of yoga postures at Thuwunna Indoor Stadium in Yangon on Sunday morning.

Some 500 people mainly drawn from yoga centres in Yangon took part in the demonstration of the ancient Indian practice aimed at showing local observance of the special day designated by the United Nations.

Men, women and children ranging in age from five to 65 bent and twisted their bodies in unison at the mass session. Among the more than 3,000 attendees including schoolchildren were Deputy Minister for Sports U Zaw Win and the Indian ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Gautam Mukhopadhyaya, Yangon Command Commander Maj-Gen Tun Tun Naung and officials. "Yoga means unity of mind and body, thought and action, restraint and fulfillment, harmony between

man and nature", said the Indian Ambassador in his welcome remarks, adding that yoga is an exercise and a form of meditation. In his welcome address, the deputy sports minister said that the ministry is pleased to see the widespread popularity of practicing yoga among Myanmar enthusiasts.

Myanmar was one of 177 countries to vote in favour of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's proposal at the United Nations General Assembly last year for a world Yoga Day. The United Nations declared 21 June, the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemi-

sphere, as the International Day of Yoga through a resolution in December 2014.

"Yoga is good thing. Everyone regardless of age should do it", said Wai Lu Kyaw, an award-winning movie star who was invited to give remarks on yoga at the public event, suggesting schoolchildren do yoga for attaining peak fitness when they grow up. Similar IDY celebrations were held simultaneously across the world in more than 251 cities of 192 countries. According to the Indian Embassy, a similar yoga event took place at Mandalar Thiri Football Stadium in Mandalay.



## No MERS cases found in Myanmar

YANGON, 21 June — No suspected cases of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome have been reported in Myanmar despite outbreaks of the potentially fatal virus in neighbouring countries, Dr Soe Lwin Nyein, Director-General of the Department of Public Health under the Health Ministry, said on Sunday.

MERS is a viral respiratory illness caused by a coronavirus that was first identified in Saudi Arabia in 2012. It is believed that humans can be infected through direct or indirect contact with infected dromedary camels in the Middle East.

To prevent any outbreak of MERS in Myanmar,

By Khaing Thanda Lwin



Surveillance activities on infectious disease like MERS-CoV virus being carried out at international airport by well-trained staff.—PHOTO: [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ MYANMAR CDC](https://www.facebook.com/MyanmarCDC)

mar, the health ministry is monitoring every point of entry into the country for the virus, especially in Yangon, Mandalay, the capital Nay Pyi Taw and NyaungU

international airports, Dr Soe Lwin Nyein said. "Waibargi Specialist Hospital in Yangon, Kandaw Nadi Hospital in Mandalay, a 1,000-bed hospital in Nay Pyi Taw and NyaungU Hospital are on call for treatment of suspected patients," he said, adding that the country's national health laboratory in Yangon can provide test results for the virus in 24 hours.

Currently, there is no cure or specific treatment for MERS but the virus (See page 3)

500 yoga enthusiasts perform a common yoga protocol including prescribed asanas in the presence of more than 3,000 spectators at Thuwunna National Indoor Stadium in Yangon on Sunday. PHOTO: YE MYINT

## Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker meets locals in Bago Region

PHYU, 21 June — Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann met with local people in Kyaukkyi Township at the meeting hall of township general administration department office on Saturday.

At the meeting, the speaker said that education, health, transportation and regional development in Kyaukkyi have improved, and the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Union Government and the Region Government are cooperating for regional development in Kyaukkyi. In conclusion, the speaker urged all to make exerted efforts maintain stability and the rule of law in the township and government employees to assume the township as their native and work for development.

Then, chairmen of the township development supporting committee and the township development affairs committee and local people reported to the speaker on education, transportation and health requirements for hilly areas in the township, farmland issues, environmental conservation, right to vote



*Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann meets with local people in Kyaukkyi, Bago Region, and urges them to work for development of their region.—MNA*

in elections and issuance of citizenship registration cards and agricultural loans.

After the meeting, the speaker inspected Natthankwin station hospital and provide cash for patients.

Afterwards, the speaker met with local people of Penwogon town at the high school. At the meeting, the speaker explained the development efforts of authorities and invited local

to report any requirement for regional development.

Officials of township development supporting committee, town elders, education staff and local people reported to the speaker on requirements for development.

The speaker fulfilled the requirements and the meeting conclude with remarks by the speaker.

Afterwards, the speaker inspected Tawkywein station hospital and provid-

ed cash for patients, before paying homage to monks at a monastery in Tawkywein.

At the monastery, the speaker met with local people and fulfilled their requirements, before inspecting inter-village roads.

Then, the speaker presented cash donation for temporary building for a post primary school in Naungbo Village.

The speaker warmly greeted local people in villages along his tour and attended to their needs. The speaker was accompanied by Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win, the speaker of the Region Hluttaw, Hluttaw representatives and officials.

MNA

## Mandalay government meets for speedy urbanization

MANDALAY, 21 June— The Mandalay Region government on Sunday had a meeting with authorities of its townships to discuss how to speed up its accelerating socioeconomic drive.

Union Minister U Soe Thane urged departmental officials to overcome diffi-

culties arising from the implementation of urban development projects through negotiations.

Union Minister U Tin Naing Thein stressed the importance of developing human resources, which he said were central to socioeconomic growth of the

whole country. He urged officials to encourage plans for education, health and vocational training.

Officials gave progress reports on infrastructural development activities in townships.

*Tin Maung (Mandalay Subprinting House)*

## Myanmar delegation attends international conference on prevention of food losses and wastage

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June — Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw attended an international conference on prevention of food losses and wastage, poverty reduction

and prevention of famine held from 16 to 19 June in the Hague, Netherlands.

The union minister, together with Deputy Minister Dr Aung Myat Oo, took part in high level round table discussions and the delegation visited fruits and

vegetables wholesale centre and seed production companies during the trip. The delegation attended the closing ceremony of the conference on 19 June. During the trip, the delegation held discussions with officials from Netherlands.—MNA

## Rehabilitation tasks carried out in Kokang area

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June — Chairman of the Administrative Supporting Committee for Rehabilitation of Kokang Self-Administered Zone in Shan State Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun arrived at Laukkai by Air Force helicopter on Saturday.

Then, the union minister attended the ceremony to hand over assistance of the union government at the city hall and made a speech.

He said that stability and tranquility was undermined in the zone and local people suffered losses of lives and property due to violence attacks of Kokang insurgents.

According to the union minister, the government, while restoring stability on the one hand, has formed an administrative supporting committee to speed up implementation of tasks for reconstruction of education, health and so-

cioeconomic conditions for people who have returned to the self-administered zone and the committee will find out ways and means to fulfill the needs of local more effectively by studying conditions on the ground.

Then, he urged local people to cooperate with the government.

Afterwards, the union minister, the chief minister of Shan State and officials presented assistance to a local people who accepted on behalf of locals.

Later, Military Administrative Region Commander Col Saw Myint Oo reported on the union minister and party on work done during the military administration in the zone.

After hearing the report, the union minister said that national unity is important for peaceful and developed stage after building favourable economic, political and social conditions desired by the union in successive eras and urged local

people to cooperate with authorities.

Then, the union minister attended a ceremony to present assistance for locals at Kokang High School.

The union minister also inspected Yanlonkyan gate at Myanmar-China border and NO. 14 Military Hospital.

On Sunday, the union minister visited the military hospital in Lashio and comforted the patients, before organizing a meeting of the committee with its members in Lashio.

The committee has provided 7,080 bags of rice, 2,900 viss of edible oil, 22,500 viss of pulses and over K 2 billion worth of household goods.

Those wish to donate for reconstruction of Kokang Self-Administered Zone can contact Secretary Deputy Minister U Phone Swe of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement at 09-5052352.

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**NATIONAL**

**Joint Press Release**

**Myanmar and the European Union (EU) hold ...**

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6. Both sides also provided updates on the legal framework for the protection of persons belonging to minorities and ongoing efforts to promote non-discrimination, including in the context of Roma in EU Member States and the situation in Rakhine State. The four bills on the “protection of race and religion” were also raised by the EU. Human rights being universal and inalienable, the EU reiterated its concerns over the proposed legislation with Myanmar’s international human rights obligations. In this context, both sides agreed on the need to fight intolerance and incitement to hatred and violence in order to ensure the full enjoyment

of human rights for persons belonging to minorities, including freedom of religion and belief.

7. On land rights, the two sides agreed on the importance of public consultations towards developing an effective legal framework covering access to land, security of tenure for small holder farmers and the resolution of land disputes.

8. On labour rights, both sides committed to continue cooperation in the framework of the “Initiative to Promote Fundamental Labour Rights and Practices” which the EU joined in May 2015. Myanmar and the EU discussed the need for a strengthened legal framework for labour rights as well as improved law enforcement in order to promote responsible investment and equitable economic growth.

9. Both delegations agreed that 2015 will be a landmark year in Myanmar’s democratisation process with general elections taking place later this year. The EU expressed its expectation

that elections will be inclusive, credible and transparent. Myanmar reiterated its unwavering determination to conduct free and fair elections in accordance with international standards and expressed appreciation of the EU’s recent exploratory mission that assessed the feasibility of sending an EU Election Observation Mission later this year.

10. Myanmar and the EU discussed a wide range of multilateral issues to help deepen mutual understanding, and to enhance cooperation. The EU welcomed Myanmar’s ongoing cooperation with the OHCHR in the field of human rights and encouraged Myanmar to allow the opening of a country office.

11. While the issue of human rights will continue to be a key aspect of the permanent dialogue between Myanmar and the EU, both sides agreed that the next formal dialogue round should be held in Brussels in 2016.

**Senior Officials’ Meeting For the 7<sup>th</sup> CLMV Summit**



The Senior Officials’ Meeting for the 7<sup>th</sup> CLMV Summit in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June — The Senior Officials’ Meeting for the 7<sup>th</sup> CLMV Summit was held in Nay Pyi Taw, MICC I on 21 June 2015 with the active participation of SOM Leaders from the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Social-

ist Republic of Viet Nam. The Senior Officials discussed the Draft Provisional Agenda of the CLMV Foreign Ministers’ Meeting and the Draft Provisional Agenda for the CLMV Summit. They agreed to submit the Draft Provisional Agendas of the Foreign Ministers’ Meeting and the CLMV Summit to

the next Foreign Ministers’ Meeting to be held on 22 June 2015.

They also discussed thoroughly on the Draft Joint Statement of the 7<sup>th</sup> CLMV Summit and agreed to submit the outcome document to the upcoming Foreign Ministers’ Meeting to be held on 22 June 2015 in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

**Appointment of ambassador agreed on**

NAY PYI TAW, 22 June — The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of H.E. Mr. Paul R. Seger as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Switzerland to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar with residence in Yangon.

Mr. Paul R. Seger was born in December 1958 in Basel. He obtained Law

Degree from the University of Basel. He joined the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland as Legal Officer in the Directorate of International Law in 1983. He then served in various capacities in the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, and was also assigned to various postings in Swiss Embassies/Missions in Kinshasa, Buenos Aires and New

York. From 2003 to 2010, he served as the Head of Directorate of International Law and Legal Advisor of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland. Since June 2010, he has been serving as Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations in New York. Mr. Paul R. Seger is married and has two sons.

MNA

**Senior Officials’ Meeting for the 6<sup>th</sup> ACMECS Summit**

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June — The Senior Officials’ Meeting for the 6<sup>th</sup> Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy Summit was held in Nay Pyi Taw MICC-1 on 21 June 2015 with the participation of SOM lead-

ers from the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

The Senior Officials discussed in details on

the Drafts of Nay Pyi Taw Declaration and ACMECS Plan of Action (2016-2018) and agreed to submit to the upcoming Foreign Ministers’ Meeting to be held on 22 June in Nay Pyi Taw.

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NAY PYI TAW, 21 June — Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications is planning to provide service to people through its brand shops. It has opened its shops in Yangon and Mandalay. The fifth shop was opened Saturday in Nay Pyi Taw Myoma market. Prepaid top up cards, E-load, and SIM cards manufactured by MPT will be available at the shop. The shop will also provide services regarding service concerning with the phones, applying ADSL Internet lines, installing auto telephones, and lost and damage of MPT SIM cards. These services will be provided as a one-stop service with the fixed prices. Currently, there are five shops in Yangon and two in Mandalay. MPT is planning to open two shops each in states and regions. For further information, please contact 067-422884.—MNA

**Prepaid top up cards, SIM cards available at MPT Brand Shop in Nay Pyi Taw**



**No MERS cases found ...**

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does not seem to pass easily from person to person unless there is close contact.

Most infected patients developed a severe acute respiratory illness with symptoms such as fever, cough and shortness of breath, Prof Dr Zaw Lynn Aung said.

Doctors advise people, particularly healthcare providers, to wash their hands often with soap to reduce the spread of virus infection.

A total of 26 countries including South Korea, China, the Philippines, Malaysia and Thailand have reported cases of MERS. Approximately 36% of reported patients with MERS have died.—GNLM

## World Vision conducts workshop on human trafficking in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 21 June — A total of 80 people — 15 men and 65 women - from watch groups in Mandalay participated in a workshop on human trafficking organized by World Vision on Sunday. Sub-inspector Ne Aung Kyaw of the anti-

human trafficking squad gave accounts of the history of human trafficking, the difference between human trafficking and human smuggling, the difficulties faced by migrants, human trafficking laws and measures being taken in

Myanmar to curb human trafficking. The workshop was aimed at preventing human trafficking and protecting children by enhancing the capacity of anti-human trafficking members.

*Tin Maung (Mandalay)*



## Village in Tatkon Tsp gets upgraded high school



TATKON, 21 June — An affiliated high school in Taungbotha village in Tatkon Township, Mandalay Region, in central Myanmar was upgraded to a full-fledged high school on Saturday.

Parliament representative U Maung O, members of the Nay Pyi Taw Council and the district education officer officially opened the school, which was built in 1957 as a primary school. It became a middle school

in 1955 and was upgraded to an affiliated school in 1998. Located on 5.26 acres of land, the school accommodates nearly 500 students from eight nearby villages.

*Tin Soe Lwin*

## Full version of Myanmar text-to-speech software set to be released in December

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 21 June—The full version of a Myanmar text-to-speech solution for visually impaired people is scheduled to be released in December, U Min Maun Maung, a developer from the Solve Circle Software Development Team, said Saturday.

At an event for introducing the development of the program called MyTTS, the team showcased the latest developments of the text-to-speech system on Microsoft Word, Notepad and Webpage.

Thanks to the software, the blind can overcome difficulties in reading digital text in the Myanmar

language on a computer, but some difficulties remain such as articulation and grammar rules, the developer said.

Around 1996, the blind started using JAWS, the most widely used screen reader on the Windows platform, but it supports English only. Nowadays, the blind also use the open source NVDA screen

reader, but it too does not support Myanmar text.

“The NVDA software build in the Myanmar language will be available at a time when the full version is released, with the team planning to release the app on the international Day of Persons with Disabilities which falls on 3 December,” U Min Maun Maung said.

Under the organization of the Myanmar National Association for the Blind, the team has been developing MyTTS since later 2013 with the assistance of the Nippon Foundation, aiming to promote reading skills of people, especially the blind.

“This app can help the blind themselves know

Myanmar texts in e-mail and webpages without the help of others,” said U Aung Ko Myint, chairman of the Myanmar National Association for the Blind, who said “there will be no blind on the internet”.

According to the country’s latest census, half of people with disabilities are blind.

*GNLM*

## Myanmar, China eye trans-border economic cooperation

MANDALAY, 21 June — A Myanmar delegation comprising Advisor to the President Office U Zaw Oo, Shan State Planning and Economics Minister U Aung Kyaw Nyunt, Myanmar Counselor General U Aung Kyaw Oo and Myanmar businessmen participated in a meeting to conduct a survey on trans-border economic cooperation. The meeting was held in Kuming, Yunnan Province, recently and it focused on the swift flow of commodities in the border region, preventing illegal trade and promoting trade.

*Maung Pyi Thu Mandalay*

## Myingyan dwellers team up to clean road

MYINGYAN, 21 June — People living in Myingyan gathered rubbish along the road leading to Bagan-NyaungU on Saturday. Organized by Myingyan District Administration Department governmental staff, members of a women’s affairs organization, a maternal and child welfare association, the Red Cross Society, and a local fire brigade gathered plastic rubbish, which destroys the soil and blocks drains in monsoon season. Not only in Myingyan but also in Taungtha, Nwatogyi and Nganzon in Mandalay Region, rubbish was gathered with the efforts of governmental staff. Authorities are planning to organize all the people to participate in the activities.

*Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)*



## REGIONAL

## Modi seeks to turn yoga record on its head as India stretches soft power

NEW DELHI, 21 June — Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi led tens of thousands of people in a yoga session in the centre of the capital on Sunday to showcase the country's signature cultural export, which has prompted criticism of fomenting social divisions at home.

The ancient Hindu discipline which has become an estimated \$27 billion (17 billion pounds) industry in the United States is being celebrated across the world as an International Yoga Day which Modi pushed for soon after taking power last year.

More than 35,000 people, clad in white, rolled out yoga mats at Rajpath, a ceremonial boulevard in Delhi, to perform 21 asanas, or postures, that were kicked off by a prayer and chants of Om.

Modi, clad in loose kurta and trousers with a scarf depicting the colours of the Indian flag, also joined in the demonstrations, working on various parts of the body such as the neck and the spine. It ended with some light meditation.

"This program is only about human welfare, about freeing the universe from stress and about spreading



India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi performs yoga with others during a yoga camp to mark the International Day of Yoga, in New Delhi, India, on 21 June, 2015.—REUTERS

the message of love, peace, unity and goodwill," Modi said in a speech before the 35-minute session that was being marked across the country. But activists and minority groups say Modi's hardline Hindu nationalists are trying to force yoga on minority groups and schools.

Others said they practised the ancient discipline in any case in their personal lives and didn't need Modi to tell them what to do.

"This is about the mind

and the body. Let us not play politics with yoga," Arvind Kejriwal, the chief minister of Delhi and a bitter Modi foe, said after taking part in the Delhi event.

More than 170 countries including the United States and France are expected to join in mass yoga gatherings. Indian Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj will lead the event in New York's Times Square.

Yoga, a discipline that dates back thousands of

years, has gained immense international prominence over the last several decades as a holistic regime for the mind and body.

Modi set up a yoga ministry last year as part of efforts to reignite interest in its country of birth.

The government has also applied to the Guinness World Records to record Sunday's event as the largest gathering of people doing yoga together in the capital.—Reuters

## Rising unemployment piles up problems for Indonesian president

JAKARTA, 21 June — Indonesian companies are shedding jobs as they grapple with the weakest economic growth in six years, adding to the troubles facing President Joko Widodo, who was elected last year on pledges to dig the country out of a rut.

Government data might suggest no cause for alarm — unemployment was 5.81 percent in February, up only slightly from 5.70 percent a year earlier — but the official numbers are notoriously unreliable and don't adequately cover the informal sector, which is two-thirds of Southeast Asia's biggest economy.

Recent reports of heavy lay-offs across the country paint a bleaker picture, and business executives, recruitment firms and jobseekers say it is getting worse.

Young people are being hit hardest; the International Labour Organization estimated the youth jobless rate was more than 20 percent in 2013, and economists believe it is higher now.

About a third of the workforce is aged 15 to 29, a youth bulge that could bring Indonesia, a country of 250 million people, the sort of demographic dividend China and South Korea enjoyed a generation ago — but only if there are jobs for the 2 million people joining the workforce every year.

"The government doesn't have a blueprint for labour absorption," said property businessman Hariyadi Sukamdani, chairman of the Indonesian employers' association. "If this condition is allowed to continue, what we would

get is not a demographic bonus, but a demographic disaster. There could be social turmoil and higher crime rates."

When he took office eight months ago, Widodo said he would pour billions of dollars into infrastructure and foster growth in manufacturing.

But the promised splurge on roads, power plants and ports has not materialized, largely because of bureaucratic hold-ups and land disputes, and a shortage of skilled labour is holding back growth in value-added industries.

Miners have been hammered by a double whammy: a ban on mineral ore exports and a sharp drop in commodity prices.

Meanwhile, labour-intensive industries such as textiles and manufacturing have been hit by the rupiah's slide to a 17-year-low, which has raised the cost of imported raw materials.

Hundreds of redundant garment factory workers protested for hours this week in the financial district of Jakarta, the capital, after their company was declared bankrupt and its assets seized by two banks.

Unemployment in turn is hitting consumption, which makes up more than half of Indonesia's economy. Automobile sales in May fell 18.4 percent from a year earlier, the ninth decline in a row.

"Stocks are piling up because nobody is buying. The people's purchasing power is weak," said Ade Sudrajat, head of Indonesia's textile association. "This has never happened before in the last 45 years." —Reuters

## South Korea reports three new MERS cases, Thailand says none

SEOUL / THAILAND, 21 June — South Korea reported three new cases of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome on Sunday, bringing the total to 169 in the largest outbreak outside Saudi Arabia, but Thailand said it had no new infections.

South Korea's Health Ministry late on Saturday reported the 25th fatality, a patient who had suffered a heart ailment and diabetes. The outbreak was first confirmed on 20 May but seems to have leveled off, the ministry said on Friday.

Thailand, which discovered its first case last week, says 175 people were exposed to its single patient,



A man wearing a mask to prevent contracting Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) rides an escalator in Seoul, South Korea, on 19 June, 2015.

REUTERS

with no new infections reported so far. "We can confirm that there are no new MERS patients," said Health

Minister Rajata Rajatanavin as he led reporters on a tour of Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi airport to show health and

safety measures that have been put in place, including thermoscans for passengers. Bangkok is one of the region's main aviation hubs and tourism accounts for 10 percent of the Thai economy. Thai tourism minister Kobkarn Wattanavrangkul said tourism had not been hit. MERS was first identified in humans in Saudi Arabia in 2012 and the majority of cases have been in the Middle East. Scientists are not sure of the origin of the virus, but several studies have linked it to camels.

Isolated cases have cropped up in Asia before South Korea's outbreak.

Reuters

## Cambodia's ruling party rejects rumors of Hun Sen quitting PM post

PHNOM PENH, 21 June — The ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP) has categorically rejected rumors that Prime Minister Hun Sen would step down after he was elected as the CPP's president on Saturday.

According to a CPP statement released Saturday night, after the 38th congress of the CPP's Central Committee elected Hun Sen as the party's president, rumors spread that Hun Sen would stop holding the post of the prime

minister.

"For this issue, the CPP would like to publicly announce that Hun Sen still continues to be the prime minister and will be the (party's) candidacy for the post of prime minister in next terms in accordance

with the past resolutions of the party's congresses," the statement said.

Hun Sen, who was formerly the party's vice president, was elected as the party's president on Saturday, 12 days after former party president and Senate

president Chea Sim died at the age of 83 due to illness.

Prime Minister Hun Sen, 63, has been in power for 30 years. In May 2013, he publicly said that he would stay in power until he is 74.—Xinhua

## Japan, S Korea foreign ministers to meet amid rows over WWII issues

TOKYO, 21 June — Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida will hold talks on Sunday in Tokyo with his South Korean counterpart Yun Byung Se, who is making the first visit to Japan by a South Korean foreign minister in four years, amid bilateral relations badly strained over World War II-related issues.

This is also the first trip to Japan by South Korea's top diplomat under the administration of South Korean President Park Geunhye, who has rebuffed holding summit talks with Japanese

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe since both took office, she in 2013 and Abe in 2012. At a news conference on Friday, Kishida said the South Korean foreign minister's visit to Japan under the Park government has "major meaning." "Naturally we will discuss various bilateral issues, but we want to hold a frank exchange of opinions on North Korea and other international issues," Kishida said, stressing the importance of bilateral cooperation in dealing with North Korea's development of nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles.

Yun, who last held

talks with Kishida in Seoul in March, timed his trip to Japan to attend an event on Monday organized by the South Korean Embassy in Tokyo to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the normalization of bilateral ties. Kishida is also expected to attend. Yun's visit is the latest sign of a budding rapprochement between the Northeast Asian neighbours. Last month, the first bilateral meetings were held of their finance ministers since 2012, and of their defence ministers in four years. However, the Japanese and South Korean foreign ministers still confront the need

to bridge conflicting views of wartime history, especially regarding what is euphemistically referred to in Japan as "comfort women" who "worked" in front-line wartime brothels for the Imperial Japanese Army.

South Korea has demanded Japan settle the issue in a way acceptable to those women still alive, such as through an apology and compensation. Park has cited the need for progress on that issue as a precondition for holding summit talks with Abe.

But Japan maintains that all compensation issues were settled under the 1965

bilateral treaty that normalized diplomatic ties.

"We have no intention to use the occasion of the foreign ministerial talks to change our basic position in order to move the issue forward," a senior Japanese Foreign Ministry official said ahead of Sunday's meeting. A more recent dispute involves differences over the proposed UNESCO World Heritage listing of historical industrial sites in Japan, which South Korea opposes.

Japan aims to register the "Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution," which represent Japan's

industrialization in the late 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. South Korea contends the application should be rejected as approximately 60,000 Koreans were conscripted to work at some of the 23 proposed sites during World War II.

Tokyo and Seoul also continue to be at odds regarding a host of other issues, including the sovereignty of a group of South Korea-controlled, Japan-claimed islets, and views on Japan's 1910-1945 colonial rule of the Korean Peninsula.

*Kyodo News*

## US, India discuss intellectual property concerns 34,000 residents affected by restive volcano in E Philippines

WASHINGTON, 21 June — Indian Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said on Saturday that senior Obama administration officials had raised US concerns with him about India's handling of intellectual property rights during his US visit this week.

Jaitley held talks with Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew and Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker during a tour that has taken him to New York and Washington, including meetings with CEOs and think tanks. His main purpose has been to seek more US investment in India, Asia's third largest economy.

While offering a mostly upbeat assessment of his trip so far, Jaitley said discussions with US counterparts had also touched upon contentious issues between the two countries.

"There are references on the US side to their concerns with regard to intellectual property regulations in India," he told a news conference in Washington.

In an annual review of trading partners published in late April, the US Trade Representative's Office said India — along with 12 other countries — remained on a US priority watch list for lax rules on copyright, trade secrets and other intellectual property rights violations.

But USTR also said there had been signs of progress in addressing intellectual property concerns and the United States expected "substantive and measurable improvements."

Intellectual property concerns and trade protectionism have long been cited by US companies as obstacles to doing more



*India's Finance Minister Arun Jaitley speaks at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York on 18 June, 2015.—REUTERS*

business in India.

Jaitley said he also raised with US officials India's concern about reaching a Totalization Agreement "so that our professionals could get the benefits which have otherwise been denied to them." Completion of such an accord would allow Indians working in the United States to avoid double taxation on social security.

Another topic of discussion was continued efforts to reach a Bilateral Investment Treaty, Jaitley said. The finance minister is seeking increased US investment with the promise of more stable, transparent economic policies. Since taking office last year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has sparked optimism that he can implement significant reforms.

"In an otherwise troubled times of the global economy, India clearly is a bright spot," said Jaitley, who heads to San Francisco on Sunday to meet with other potential investors.

India's economy is expected to grow 7.5 per cent this year, according to the latest World Bank forecast. But Jaitley said earlier on his trip that reforms could lead to even higher growth rates this year.—Reuters

## 34,000 residents affected by restive volcano in E Philippines

MANILA, 21 June — At least 34,000 residents in eastern Philippine province of Sorsogon, who have been affected by restive Bulusan volcano, are being assisted by the government, a senior official said on Sunday.

Presidential Communications Operations Office Secretary Herminio Coloma said in an interview with a state-run radio that the government continues to monitor the volcano to ensure that necessary assistance could be extended to the affected residents from 22 villages and five towns in Sorsogon.

So far, he said the Department of Social Welfare and Development has

already distributed 200 food packs to two affected towns and about 171-million-peso (3.8-million-US dollar) worth of food packs and fund were on standby.

Mount Bulusan's seismic monitoring network recorded three volcanic earthquakes during the past 24 hours, and traces of ash from the volcano fell on areas in nearby towns, according to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology.

Alert Level 1 (abnormal) remains in effect over the volcano, indicating that hydrothermal processes are underway beneath the volcano that may lead to more steam-driven eruptions, it added. — Xinhua

## France's Fabius to meet Iran's Zarif on nuclear talks

CAIRO, 21 June — France's Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius said on Saturday he would meet his Iranian counterpart Mohammad Javad Zarif on Monday to assess where Iran stands ahead of the final round of talks on its nuclear programme, beginning later that week.

The bilateral meeting, on the sidelines of an EU foreign ministers' summit in Luxembourg, will be followed by a meeting between Zarif and all the European parties negotiating with Iran.

"Towards the end of next week the ministers will go (to the talks), so I'd like to have an explanation

and conversation to see where the Iranians are," Fabius told reporters in Cairo.

Iran reached a framework nuclear deal with the United States, Russia, China, France, Britain and Germany on 2 April in Lausanne.

The parties are aiming for a final agreement by 30 June under which Iran would restrict its nuclear programme in exchange for relief from economic sanctions.

France is deemed to have been one of the toughest in pressing for limits to prevent Iran acquiring an atomic bomb capability, although it denies seeking one.—Reuters

## Six fugitives back to China from Indonesia

BEIJING, 21 June — Six wanted suspects were returned to China from Indonesia on Sunday morning, said the Ministry of Public Security.

They are added to the 256 fugitives who have been handed back to China from more than 30 countries and regions since the operation of "Fox Hunt 2015" started in April, said the ministry in a press release. Three of the six suspects are wanted by Interpol under Red Notice, including one surnamed Chen, who is suspected of contract fraud involving about 10 million yuan (1.63 million US dollars).

Chinese police also retrieved fund and property worth about 30 million yuan, the statement said.

It has been the first joint operation with Indonesian police in the "Fox

Hunt 2015". The ministry pledged to step up the hunt and expand cooperation

with foreign police to round up those still at large.

*Xinhua*



*Six fugitives involved in economic crimes are taken back under escort from Indonesia at Capital International Airport in Beijing, capital of China, on 21 June, 2015. A total of 256 suspects have been captured since "Fox Hunt 2015" began in April. "Fox hunt 2015", part of the "Skynet" operation, targets economic crime suspects, many of them corrupt officials of government departments and state-owned-enterprises. —XINHUA*

## Obama blames gun lobby 'grip' on Congress for lax US gun laws

RANCHO MIRAGE, 21 June — President Barack Obama blamed public apathy combined with the tight “grip” on Congress of the National Rifle Association, the powerful US gun lobby, for blocking stricter gun laws.

Speaking during an interview recorded on Friday, just two days after the mass shooting at a black church in South Carolina, Obama said he did not foresee any quick changes to gun laws.

“Unfortunately, the grip of the NRA on Congress is extremely strong,” Obama said in a clip of the interview with “WTF with Marc Maron” posted by the *New York Times*.

It was not the first time Obama has railed against the NRA. After the Newtown, Connecticut school massacre in 2012, a tragedy that Obama has called

his toughest time in office, he pushed for changes to gun laws.

He proposed more background checks for gun sales and pushed to ban more types of military-style assault weapons and limit the capacity of ammunition magazines.

But he failed to convince enough lawmakers to support the restrictions.

“I don’t foresee any legislative action being taken in this Congress. And I don’t foresee any real action being taken until the American public feels a sufficient sense of urgency and they say to themselves, ‘This is not normal, this is something that we can change, and we’re going to change it,’” he said in the interview with Maron.

The interview marks the fifth time in two days

that Obama spoke publicly about his frustrations with gun laws. He addressed the issue in Washington before travelling to California, where he brought it up at the US Conference of Mayors, and at two fundraisers for the Democratic Party.

Obama, who is spending the weekend golfing in the Palm Springs area with friends, took to Twitter on Saturday to vent.

“Here are the stats: per population, we kill each other with guns at a rate 297x more than Japan, 49x more than France, 33x more than Israel,” Obama said on Twitter.

The US constitution protects the right to own guns. Obama acknowledged in the interview that guns are an important part of many Americans’ heritage.

“The question is just:



People take part in a ‘Black Lives Matter’ march around Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston on 20 June, 2015.—REUTERS

is there a way of accommodating that legitimate set of traditions with some common-sense stuff that prevents a 21-year-old who

is angry about something or confused about something or is racist or is deranged from going into a gun store,” Obama said in

the interview.

“That is not something that we have ever fully come to terms with,” he said.—Reuters

## UK finance minister vows hefty welfare cuts in July budget plan



A demonstrator wears a face mask of Britain’s Chancellor George Osborne during an anti-austerity protest in central London, Britain on 20 June, 2015.

REUTERS

LONDON, 21 June — British finance minister George Osborne has said he will press ahead with hefty cuts to welfare in a budget statement next month, a day after tens of thousands of people marched against austerity in central London.

Writing in the *Sunday Times*, Osborne and welfare minister Iain Duncan Smith said the newly re-elected Conservative government would go ahead with plans to cut welfare spending by 12 billion pounds (\$19 billion), out of an annual budget of 220 billion pounds, including old-age pensions.

British media had previously reported that Osborne was under pressure from colleagues to rein in the cuts, which are likely to fall most heavily on low-paid workers.

Separate media reports on Sunday also pointed to other demands on Osborne for spending on defence and overseas aid ahead of his post-election budget statement on 8 July.

“We will set out in detail all the steps we will take to bring about savings totalling 12 billion pounds a year in next month’s budget and at the spending review in the autumn,” Osborne and Duncan Smith

wrote.

“For a start, we will reduce the benefit cap, and have made clear that we believe we need to make significant savings from other working-age benefits,” they added.

Britain’s budget deficit currently stands at just under 5 percent of gross domestic product, higher than in almost all advanced economies. Fresh from an unexpected election victory last month for the ruling Conservatives, Osborne has said he wants to run a surplus by the 2018/19 tax year and commit future governments to the same.

*The Sunday Times* said

cuts under consideration included banning people aged under 25 from claiming housing benefit and restricting tax credits to a couple’s first two children.

On Saturday tens of thousands of protesters marched from the Bank of England in London’s financial district to parliament to protest against further cuts, saying they were unnecessary and would worsen inequality.

Further demands on spending appeared in other British media.

Microsoft founder and philanthropist Bill Gates, writing in the *Sunday Telegraph*, urged Britain’s government to stick with its commitment to spend 0.7 percent of GDP on foreign aid, which some Conservative lawmakers think could be better spent at home.

In the same newspaper, defence minister Michael Fallon said Britain’s armed forces still had enough resources despite cuts to their 34 billion pound budget and the world “becoming a darker place” with threats from Russia and Islamic State.

Fallon said Britain would offer an extra 1,000 troops to a NATO rapid reaction force aimed at deterring Russian aggression at a NATO defence ministers’ meeting this week.

Reuters

## Colombia protests Venezuela fixing of maritime border



Venezuela’s President Nicolas Maduro speaks after handing the national flag to a Venezuelan delegation to participate in the 2015 Pan American Games, at the Miraflores Palace in Caracas, on 16 June, 2015.

REUTERS

BOGOTA, 21 June — Colombia’s foreign ministry has sent a letter of protest to neighbouring Venezuela after the government of President Nicolas Maduro decreed maritime borders in a disputed area of the Atlantic Ocean, a ministry source said on Saturday.

Venezuela’s Decree 1787, approved 26 May creates Operating Zones of Integral Maritime and Insular Defence, or Zodi-main, and is meant to bolster Venezuela’s national defence system.

However, one of the zones includes an area in the Gulf of Venezuela which the two countries both claim.

“In the past few hours Colombia presented a letter

of protest to the Venezuelan government because of the fixing of maritime borders to strengthen their offensive system,” a spokesman from the foreign ministry told *Reuters*. The Venezuelan government was not immediately available for comment. Caracas and Bogota have a long list of diplomatic disputes and temporarily froze trade during the administration of late Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez. At the beginning of June, Maduro demanded Colombia explain why Spanish ex-president Felipe Gonzalez travelled from Caracas to Bogota in a Colombian air force plane. The Colombian military said the entry of the plane had been authorized.—Reuters

## PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 22 June, 2015

## An art of listening to the silent majority with care

By Kyaw Thura

**A**t a time of rising public interest in elections planned for late October or early November, the entire electorate may have been losing in speculation about the country's future president.

Nearly five years into the inception of the democratically elected government, pressing issues such as land grabbing, communal violence, extreme religious sentiment, lawsuits against

journalists and disputed housing developments are all placing the reforms of the government under unprecedented stress.

These issues are so increasingly complex that all stakeholders will need to work closer in unprecedented ways. Political parties, the government, the parliament and the judiciary should ensure that the country's political landscape relies on reason rather than emotion. Only then will they be able to protect the most vulnerable members of every community.

On the other hand, a majority of voters are starting to feel that the representatives they have sent to parliament are not representing them at all. This changing reality is beyond doubt.

The silent electorate, on their part, should keep in mind that the future of the country is nowhere but in their own hands. Most important of all, our trust should be put on candidates who are national healers and unifiers rather than national

orators.

Anyway, the future government will sure be left with a responsibility to repair the missing links between the governing and the governed. Lincoln once said in the 1860 election that he had a country to save and rebuild. However, ours is not to be saved yet rebuilt.

## Write for us

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## TRANSLATORS AND TRANSLATIONS

Arakan Sein

**T**ranslators do translations; translations make them suffer from headaches. Nobody claims that he wants to become a translator when he grows up. But becoming an accomplished translator—after having already acquired a basic knowledge of both languages (here, Myanmar and English) and cultures—may require a minimum of ten years' experience, experts say. And again when it comes to translations of Buddhist texts, the Bible or the Holy Quran, the translators have shaped the very languages into which they have translated. Naturally, they have been under pressure in the course of translation process in order to avoid terrible mistakes which believers may easily get offended.

To the contrary, you are expected to show a lot of attributes: a sound knowledge of the language, both spoken and written; familiarity with the subject matter of the text to be translated; and an enormous knowledge of being not only bilingual but bicultural. Wow! The task of a competent translator is a lifetime job. So, why do so many people get deeply involved with associations of translators? The answer is easy; multinational organizations and corporations are greatly in need of translators, interpreters and ter-

minologists for global communications. The United Nations typically publishes documents in six official languages, surely with the help of competent translators. The importance of translation and interpretation in global communications leads to the creation of International Federation of Translators. Based in Paris, the Federation is an international grouping of associations of translators, interpreters and terminologists. More than 100 professional associations are affiliated, representing 80,000 translators in 55 countries. It seeks constantly to improve conditions for the profession in all countries and to uphold the translators' rights and freedom of speech. I wonder why there are virtually no translation services or groups in downtown Yangon; may be right or wrong I saw an ad of Myanmar Translation Co.Ltd of Ahlon Township in a newspaper several months ago.

Translation groups which deal with technical issues—legal, medical, literary, etc—should be encouraged to form and do translations for local and foreign businesses and investors who now faces a lot of problems to get their documents properly translated. Contracts and agreements need to be made mainly in English and as well as in Myanmar. Chinese, Japanese and Korean languages become more and more popular and

translation services of these languages should be formed to tackle their respective problems.

A translator's reference (Vol.1&2) published in 1990s by the Ministry of Information has been regarded as one of the best guides to a new generation of translators. In 1993, the Student's Eng-Eng/Myanmar Dictionary came out with compilation of the private Sam translation service in close cooperation with the then Ministry of Trade. As many as 100,000 copies were published for sales and some were distributed to universities, colleges and high schools throughout the country. According to unofficial surveys and feedback from teachers and students alike, this dictionary has been beneficial, to a certain extent, for the majority of students across the country. After all, the compilation is, especially in this case, a kind of translation. I would like to mention something in passing: Myanmar to English version should be included in Sarpay Beikman Manuscripts Awards and the amount of prize money be increased to attract a lot of writers and translators.

To fill a wide gap in the creative writing category and a new generation of translators, a translation symposium was held at the Taw Win Garden Hotel on the Pyay Road from 27th to 31st May. Mainly sponsored by Taw Win Foundation together with

British Council, Writers' Centre Norwich and other local groups, it was supervised by Pen Myanmar which selected twenty candidates who were divided two groups—English-Myanmar and Myanmar-English groups—into equal numbers. They were accommodated in each separate room and had to do the on-the spot translations under proper guidance of original writers and editors who included British and American writers and translators. Being a candidate in the Myanmar-English session, I would like to compare this symposium to the Seminar on Translation held in Gandhi Hall on Bo Aung Kyaw Street in 1969; the former was unique in its nature—first exposure to native speakers, essence of creating writing and short-story writing whereas the latter to which I was also chosen as a candidate didn't offer us a chance of taking part in discussions given by leading writers and translators. I had to sit and listen to the talks given by writers such as Khin Myo Chit, Dagon Shwemyar, Thein Pe Myint and other leading translators and journalists.

In conclusion, I would like to see associations of translators, public or private, sprouted up all over the country so that we could write things Myanmar in order to send out a clear message to the outside world of our cultures and traditions.

## Myanmar coordinates border security with India

NAY PYI TAW, 21 June— A rebel group known as NSCN (IM) launched an attack on Indian security guards on patrol in a village of Chandel, Manipur, India, on 4 June, killing some security officers.

The Indian army while securing the area on 9 June got engaged in fighting with NSCN (IM) insurgents near the border with Myanmar.

Myanmar and India

are now working together to cooperate in security issues through regular meetings between the two armies.

The Myanmar troops maintain a continuous patrol of the border to ensure that there is no hideout for insurgents.

Myanmar will not tolerate any rebel groups on its soil which are trying to harm the interests of its neighbouring countries.

Myawady





ARTICLE

# Fight for the Fatherland

*Kyi Mun*

All of us who were born in Myanmar, our FATHERLAND, and have been living and moving and having our being in it are essentially bound to fight for it. We have righteously got to faithfully focus on fighting for the Fatherland. It is our bounden duty to go all-out in the fight for the fatherland.

Let's explore how we can passionately concentrate our FAITH, FOCUS & FIGHT FOR THE FATHERLAND in the following manner:

- **F for Faith, Focus & Fight**
  - **I for Insight**
  - **G for Goal**
  - **H for Hope & Courage**
  - **T for Tough-mindedness**
- for the*
- **F for Freedom & Human Rights**
  - **A for All-round Development**
  - **T for Total Democracy Development**
  - **H for Harmony & Unity In Diversity**
  - **E for Economic Modernization**
  - **R for Revolutionary Transformation of the Entire Nation**
  - **L for Love & Serve the Fatherland**
  - **A for Active Participation of the Entire People**
  - **N for National Rejuvenation & Modernization**
  - **D for Dare to Struggle & Dare to Win!**

**\* FAITH, FOCUS & FIGHT**

We must have full and complete faith in our Fatherland. We must have faith in the integrity, sovereignty and freedom of the Fatherland. We must be strongly and passionately focused on loving and serving the Fatherland. And we must fearlessly fight for sustainable development and modernization of the Fatherland. To love and serve the Fatherland with Faith, Focus & Fight should be our passionate pledge and courageous commitment.

**\* INSIGHT**

In fighting for the Fatherland, we have got to have INSIGHT. We must have the right:

- **Vision**
- **Mission**
- **Core Values & Beliefs**
- **Goal**
- **Objective**
- **Strategy**
- **Tactics**

We should have sound and solid vision for the unique future of the Fatherland. We should also have the passionate and prudent mission or purpose for the forward and upward march of the fatherland. Then, we can set the revolutionary goal of our Fatherland for the rightful place in the ASEAN with pride and power and prosperous progress. We have got to boldly and brilliantly set the STRATEGY OF GOING ALL-OUT FOR THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DYNAMIC MYANMAR DEMOCRACY DREAM!

**\* GOAL**

In fighting for the Fatherland, we must be goal-driven with pride and passion. The Golden GOAL for our Fatherland should be:

**A Fully Developed Democratic People's Republic of the Union of Myanmar**

For this goal, our objectives should be:

- **To develop democracy**
- **To modernize the economy**
- **To establish national unity and**
- **To hold high the banner of our culture and education, science and technology.**

**\* HOPE & COURAGE**

In fighting for the Fatherland, we must be fully equipped with the right morale and the right weapon. In our eastern traditional culture, it is said that HOPE IS THE SHIELD AND COURAGE IS THE SWORD! If we have high hope and conquering courage, we will be certainly able to surmount all difficulties to win victories.

**\* TOUGH-MINDEDNESS**

In fighting for the Fatherland, we have got to go all-out, aim high, give all we have got. We must give every bit of ourselves, holding nothing back. The one thing that we have got to do is to press towards the MARK! with indomitable audacity and prudent perseverance.

**\* FREEDOM AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

In fighting for the Fatherland, our primary purpose should be relentlessly establishing freedom and human rights for the broad masses of the people.

**\* ALL-ROUND DEVELOPMENT**

All-round development of the entire nation must be strategically planned and all available resources must be broadly mobilized for the greater, better, faster, more economical and more sustainable growth and development of the whole country in fighting for the Fatherland.

**\* TOTAL DEMOCRACY DEVELOPMENT**

The total development of democracy must be strategically aimed at, and all the necessary infrastructure must be meticulously established such as liberty, equality and fraternity. All the national strivings and efforts must be channeled into strengthening, broadening and consolidating the democratic practices and human rights.

**\* HARMONY & UNITY IN DIVERSITY**

In fighting for the Fatherland, national unity is of paramount importance. All the sectarian differences, all the ethnic and racial divisions should be obliterated entirely, and mobilizing and organizing of all political and military forces must be strategically unified and cemented. The entire national struggle must be directed at the "One Country-One Aim" of establishing fully developed democracy.

**\* ECONOMIC MODERNIZATION**

In fighting for the Fatherland, economic development and modernization is fundamental. The following POWERS must be built in parallel:

- **Political Power**
- **Economic Power**
- **Technological Power**
- **Military Power**
- **Educational Power**
- **Socio-cultural Power**

**\* REVOLUTIONARY TRANSFORMATION OF THE ENTIRE NATION**

In fighting for the Fatherland, revolutionary ideas, creative concepts and innovative initiatives are imperative. We should not be the followers of others; we must develop our own revolutionary model of nation building and establishment of people's wisdom and power. Our mindset should be unique and revolutionary in raising our national power and international prestige.

**\* LOVE & SERVE THE FATHERLAND**

We should all love and serve our Fatherland with all our mind, with all our heart, with all our soul and with all our strengths. After all, the Fatherland is the place where we live and move and have our being, under the mighty influence of Loving-kindness, Compassion, Sympathetic Joy and Equanimity.

**\* ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF THE ENTIRE PEOPLE**

In fighting for the Fatherland, the entire people of the whole country must be fully mobilized. The participation and involvement of the broad masses of the people are imperative. The core of the whole nation and the people must be fired red hot with the revolutionary fervor and invincible morale.

**\* NATIONAL REJUVENATION & MODERNIZATION**

It is high time, we, the Myanmar people, must rise up as one man, and carry out the revolutionary task of national rejuvenation and modernization. All factional, racial and sectarian divisions must be healed and closed. All the Myanmar national forces must be vehemently mobilized, organized, unified and cemented in the historically great fearless fight for the Fatherland!

**\* DARE TO STRUGGLE AND DARE TO WIN**

In fighting for the Fatherland, we all have got to dare to struggle and dare to win!

We all must not hesitate a bit to do beyond due diligence; all of us must be eager to do beyond the call of duty; and everyone of us must be passionately ardent to go the extra mile in fighting for the Fatherland.



U Kyi Mun residing in Yangon is a consultant of NAING Group Capital Co.,Ltd.

## Air strikes kill 15 in Yemen attacks: Houthi media



People and police gather at the site of a car bomb attack outside the Qubbat al-Mahdi mosque in Yemen's capital Sanaa on 20 June, 2015.—REUTERS

SANAA, 21 June — Saudi-led airstrikes killed 15 people and wounded dozens across Yemen late on Saturday, the Houthi-run *Saba* news agency reported.

The dead included five women and two children in attacks on Saada and Marib provinces, the agency said.

A Saudi-led Arab coalition has been bombarding Houthi rebels and allied army units since 26 March in a campaign to restore President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi to power.

Hadi, Riyadh's ally, was pushed aside last year when Houthis advancing from their northern strongholds overran the govern-

ment in the capital Sanaa and went on to capture lands to the south.

The Houthis are allied to former president Ali Abdullah Saleh, who still has the loyalty of much of the army.

UN-sponsored talks in Geneva between Yemen's warring parties ended on Friday without agreement on a ceasefire, an outcome relief agencies had sought in order to support efforts to stave off what many see as a humanitarian disaster.

More than 2,800 people have been killed since 26 March. The United Nations says more than 21 million people, or 80 per-

cent of the population, are now estimated to be in need of some form of humanitarian aid, or protection, or both.

A series of coordinated bombings claimed by Islamic State has adding another layer to the conflict.

In the latest, Islamic State said it was behind a car bomb that exploded in Yemen's capital Sanaa on Saturday near the Qiba al-Mahdi mosque, killing two people and wounding six.

Islamic State consider the Houthis, a political movement hailing from the Zaydi sect of Shi'ite Islam, as apostates.

Reuters

## Bomb kills nine Afghan children, 10 adults; key district falls in north

KABUL, 21 June — A roadside bomb killed at least 19 Afghan civilians including nine children in a southern province, while Taliban fighters in the north captured a key district on the frontline of the battle for Kunduz city, officials said on Sunday.

Violence has spiralled in Afghanistan since the departure of most foreign forces at the end of last year. Insurgents are pushing to take territory from the NATO-trained Afghan security forces more than

13 years after the US-led military intervention that toppled the Taliban from power.

In the southern province of Helmand, police official Haji Janan Aqa said 19 people, including nine children and eight women, were killed on Saturday night. He said five people were wounded.

He said the villagers had recently fled fighting in Marjah district and were apparently trying to go home.

"They wanted to return

to their village, but their van hit a roadside bomb planted by Taliban," Aqa said.

A Reuters witness said all of the dead children he saw at the scene were under the age of five.

No one has claimed responsibility for the bombing. The Taliban typically deny targeting civilians, although their tactic of planting roadside bombs has been harshly criticised by the United Nations.

In northern Kunduz province, officials said that Taliban forces advancing

on the provincial capital Kunduz city on Saturday evening captured the outlying district of Chardara.

Heavy fighting was ongoing on Sunday just three kilometres away from the governor's compound, said Hamdullah Danishi, a deputy governor of the province.

Security officials held a meeting early on Sunday to plan a counter-offensive.

"Today we will take Chardara district back and you will witness this," Danishi said.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said in a statement that their fighters took control of Chardara district centre and 12 police check posts.

He also said 24 police and army soldiers were killed, 19 wounded and 25 captured. Mujahid said two of their fighters were killed and four wounded.

Danishi, however, said the government forces evacuated Chardara without any casualties. Both sides in the intensifying war downplay their own losses

and exaggerate their enemies' casualties.

If the city centre of Kunduz were to fall, it would be a major embarrassment to Afghan forces fighting this year mostly without US support.

Although American advisers and Afghan officials say Taliban rarely hold territory for long, the surge in violence and aggressive offensives around the country have rattled confidence in the US-backed government.

Reuters

## Malian rebel alliance signs peace deal with government

BAMAKO, 21 June — An alliance of Tuareg-led rebels and the Malian government signed a peace deal on Saturday meant to draw a line under a 2012 uprising and allow the authorities to focus on tackling Islamist militants in the desert north.

The Algerian-brokered deal, signed by a representative of the rebel Coordination of Movements of Azawad (CMA), grants greater autonomy to sparsely populated northern Mali in a bid to end a cycle of four uprisings since independence from France in 1960.

The Algiers Accord had been signed in May by a coalition of loyalist armed groups but the CMA held out for concessions on the return of refugees, security arrangements and development plans for the region.

These were agreed with the government this month.

A French-led military campaign in early 2013 liberated northern Mali from al-Qaeda-linked Islamist rebels, who seized control of it after the Tuareg uprising sparked a military coup that plunged Mali into chaos.

However, the north remains prey to attacks by jihadist groups, and some 140,000 Malians remain abroad as refugees.

"Hand in hand, let us make Mali better, more brotherly, more united than ever," President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, elected after a transition back to democracy, told the ceremony. "Long live a reconciled Mali! Long live peace!"

Previous deals with northern rebels have failed to secure a lasting peace. The light-skinned Tuareg

and Arab peoples of northern Mali say they have been marginalised by successive black African governments in the southern capital, Bamako.

The application of this accord will be complicated by the division of fighters into competing splinter groups. Analysts say some northern factions vie for control of smuggling routes to north Africa.

French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius told reporters in Cairo that the deal differed from previous pacts because it would be monitored by the international community, including France.

The deal has, however, left the issue of Azawad's political identity for a national debate between Malian parties.

The government has said it is prepared to devolve more authority under

Mali's existing decentralised structure, but rejects demands for full autonomy within a federal system.

CMA representative Mahamadou Djeri Maiga told the ceremony: "We are placing a lot of hope in the assurances of IBK (the president) and our international partners."

Malian authorities said Algeria would head an independent commission charged with monitoring the deal.

The Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Mali, Mongi Hamdi, said the 11,000-strong UN peacekeeping mission (MINUSMA) would also support the deal's implementation.

With violence still simmering in the north, MINUSMA has suffered 49 fatalities since its deployment in 2013, according to its website.—Reuters

## Four militants killed in raid on Somali government site, attack over

MOGADISHU, 21 June — Four Islamist gunmen were killed after detonating a car bomb and shooting their way into a national intelligence agency training site, the internal security ministry said, adding that the government did not suffer any casualties during the attack.

A spokesman for al-Shabaab, which wants to topple a Western-backed government in Mogadishu, said the group's fighters had killed more than 10 intelligence officials. In the past, al-Shabaab has exaggerated the number of government members it has killed, while officials have played down losses. The interior ministry displayed the insurgents' bullet-ridden bodies to the media following the assault, which started just after dawn and lasted for about one hour. "We foiled the attack. As you can see, these are the dead bodies of the four al-Shabaab men who attacked this building," Mohamed

Yusuf, internal security ministry spokesman, told reporters at the scene.

"Two were in the car bomb while the other two were infantry. There were no other casualties," he added. Sheikh Abdiasis Abu Musab, al-Shabaab's military operations spokesman, told Reuters the militants lost three fighters. "They martyred themselves in the operation. We killed over 10 intelligence (officials), mostly officers," he said. The al-Qaeda-aligned group has in the past stepped up attacks during the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan, which began on Wednesday. Al-Shabaab fighters on Saturday attacked a police post near the capital, killing eight officers. The latest assault highlights al-Shabaab's ability to launch attacks even though it has lost territory and urban strongholds since a major military offensive against them began last year.—Reuters

## China to promote cross-border e-commerce as incomes rise



The logo of the Alibaba Group is seen inside the company's headquarters in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province on 11 Nov, 2014.—REUTERS

BEIJING, 21 June — China will increase support for cross-border e-commerce as the world's second-largest economy shifts from manufacturing to higher-value services, the

government said.

China's e-commerce industry has been booming in recent years, with companies like Alibaba Group Holding Ltd and JD.com Inc benefiting from a ris-

ing middle class with more disposable income.

The government released policy guidelines on Saturday that include tax policies aimed at boosting domestic consumption and pilot projects to ease overseas payments, according to a statement posted on the central government's website [www.gov.cn](http://www.gov.cn).

Chinese e-commerce firms will be given state support on international projects while credit insurance services will also be introduced.

Customs will streamline clearance of goods and quality supervision agencies will allow collective declaration, examination and release of goods.

There will be tax

sweeteners on e-commerce retail exports and settlement of payments in yuan will be promoted, it added.

The policy document followed Friday's announcement that China will allow full foreign ownership of some e-commerce business to boost competitiveness.

Cross-border e-commerce has reaped a turnover of \$3.32 billion since China piloted cross-border foreign exchange payments in 2013, with trade volume in the first five months of this year near the total value of the whole of 2014, according to *Xinhua*, which cited the State Administration of Foreign Exchange.

Reuters

## Hawaii becomes first US state to raise smoking age to 21

SAN FRANCISCO, 21 June — Hawaii's governor on Friday signed a bill raising the legal smoking age statewide to 21, the first US state to do so. The law takes effect on 1 January, 2016, and will also ban the sale, purchase or use of electronic cigarettes for those under the age of 21.

"Raising the minimum age as part of our comprehensive tobacco control efforts will help reduce tobacco use among our youth and increase the likelihood that our keiki (children) will grow up to be tobacco-free," Governor David Ige said in a statement.

Also on Friday, Ige signed a bill banning smoking and e-cigarette use at state parks and beaches, acts already banned in all city and county parks other than of Kaua'i County, according to his office.

Most US states set the legal smoking age at 18, while a handful have set it higher at 19. Some cities and counties, including New York City and Hawaii County, have already raised the smoking age to 21.

Lawmakers in Washington state and California have also pushed to raise the legal smoking age to 21 in recent months.

Opponents of the bill have argued that it limits choice for people considered adults in other situations, like joining the military. In Hawaii, roughly nine out of 10 smokers start before the age of 21 and many report receiving cigarettes from friends or relatives of legal age, according to the governor's office.

The Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids said that tobacco use kills 1,400 people and costs some \$526 million in medical bills annually in Hawaii.

Cigarette smoking is the leading cause of preventable death in the United States, accounting for more than 480,000 deaths annually, or one of every five deaths overall, according to the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Researchers have found that raising the minimum age to buy tobacco products to 21 or 25 years old would significantly reduce smoking and tobacco-related illnesses in the country and that a majority of US adults support raising the legal age to 21.

Adult smoking rates in the country have dropped sharply to 18 percent of the population today from 42 percent in 1964.—Reuters

## UAE economy embarks on robust growth with rosy prospect

DUBAI, 21 June — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) recorded a nominal GDP of 1.47 trillion Dirham or 400.55 billion US dollars in the past year, the highest ever in history of the country, state news agency WAM reported on Saturday.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) Vice President, Prime Minister Sheikh Mohamed Bin Rashid Al-Maktoum said "Today UAE has a robust and diversified economic base and great optimism about the future and the projects we have

launched."

With the nominal GDP reaching for the first time 400.55 billion dollars, "2014 was the strongest year economically for the UAE with a growth in Real Gross Domestic Product of 4.6 percent and the country is set to continue to perform strongly in 2015."

The UAE, a major oil supplier, is poised to continue to achieve strong growth in 2015, said the UAE vice president, adding that a large number

of infrastructure projects have been launched.

In addition, UAE'S non-oil sector achieved growth rates in GDP of 8.1 percent in 2014, which contributed 68.6 percent of the constant-price GDP," said Sheik Mohamed Bin Rashid.

He added the UAE will continue implementing a long-term plan facilitating transition to a knowledge economy.

Xinhua

## Anthem offers \$47 billion for Cigna as insurers race for a deal

NEW YORK, 21 June — US health insurer Anthem Inc (ANTM.N) said on Saturday it had offered \$47 billion (£29.6 billion) in cash and stock for smaller rival Cigna Corp (CI.N), signaling a pick-up in the industry's long-awaited consolidation.

The biggest US health insurers are seeking acquisitions to boost membership in government-paid health-care plans and the employer-based insurance that is Cigna's speciality. Being bigger can help them negotiate better prices and improved networks of doctors, they said.

Anthem's offer comes as Cigna, as well as insurer Aetna Inc (AET.N), are participating in an auction to acquire another rival, Humana Inc (HUM.N), according to a person familiar with the matter, who asked not to be identified because the sale process is confidential. Humana was first reported to be considering a

sale in May.

Humana declined to comment. Aetna was not immediately available for comment. Cigna declined to comment on the Humana auction or the Anthem offer.

Anthem, the second largest US health insurer, said in a statement it had made four offers for Cigna in June, but that the deal was stalled over Cigna Chief Executive David Cordani's role in the merged company. *The Wall Street Journal* first reported on the rejected offers last week.

In a letter published as part of the company's statement on Saturday, Anthem detailed its weeks-long attempts to reach a deal with Cigna, including the steps by which it raised its offer to \$184 per share. Based on that price and 257,370,000 shares outstanding, the deal is worth about \$47 billion.

Cigna shares closed on Friday at \$155.26, down \$1.15 or 0.7 percent, making the \$184 offer a premi-



The office building of health insurer Anthem is seen in Los Angeles, California on 5 Feb, 2015.—REUTERS

um of about 18 percent. The offer consists of 68.6 percent cash and 31.4 percent stock.

CEO Joseph Swedish wrote that the company did not think investors supported Cigna's rejection of the deal because of Anthem's refusal to guarantee that the CEO role would eventually go to Cordani. The letter also said Cigna had refused to sign a two-week standstill agreement with Anthem that would prevent both sides from having other deal talks.

A combined Cigna and Anthem would have 53 million customers in commercial, government, consumer and other kinds of health insurance plans. Anthem, which offers Blue Cross Blue Shield plans in 14 states, said the purchase would boost earnings more than 10 percent in the first year and double that in the second year.

The deal making comes as insurance companies have adjusted to the major changes introduced by President Barack Obama's national healthcare reform law, which has created new kinds of insurance, cut government payments for medical services and introduced new healthcare taxes.

The news broke in May that Humana, which specializes in Medicare Advantage plans for older people and the disabled, was considering selling itself, a source familiar with the matter said.

*The Wall Street Journal* last month reported that Aetna and Cigna were possible buyers. Both companies declined to comment on the report at the time.

Last week, the *Journal* reported that Cigna had turned down Anthem after two offers and also said UnitedHealth Group Inc was interested in buying Aetna. Aetna itself has for years been speculated to be a buyer for Cigna, but Wall Street analysts have said one barrier would be finding a role for the CEO of each company.

Leerink Partners analyst Ana Gupte said she thought the Anthem-Cigna deal would close and that Aetna had an 80 percent or more chance of buying Humana. She also wrote in a research note that she expects UnitedHealth to try to buy Aetna, but that it could face too many regulatory barriers. Regulatory issues would likely not be an issue with Anthem as the buyer and Cigna as a target, Wall Street analysts have said, while Anthem and Humana is another combination that could pass regulatory scrutiny.

Swedish wrote in a letter to Cigna's board that Anthem had proposed that Cordani could be president and chief operating officer of the new company during a two-year period while Swedish remained CEO. After that time, Swedish said he would step down and that the board could appoint a new CEO.

Reuters

## Jolie decries 'explosion of suffering' after visiting refugees in Turkey

MIDYAT, (Turkey), 21 June —Hollywood actress and director Angelina Jolie on Saturday described a spiralling global refugee crisis as an "explosion of human suffering" whose causes the international community refuses to confront.

Jolie, who serves as a United Nations special envoy for refugees, was speak-

ing at a news conference in southeastern Turkey, home to Syrians and Iraqis displaced by war, on World Refugee Day.

The UN refugee agency UNHCR said in a report last week that there were now more refugees than at any other time in history, with 59.5 million people displaced from their homes

worldwide. "There is an explosion of human suffering and displacement on a level that has never been seen before," Jolie said, warning that Syrians and Iraqis were running out of safe havens as neighbouring states reached the limit of their capacity.

"It is hard to point to a single instance where, as an international community,

we are decisively addressing the root causes of refugee flows," she said.

Jolie and UN High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Guterres met Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan in the city of Midyat, some 50 km (30 miles) from the Syrian border. She also visited refugees.

This was Jolie's third visit to Turkey since 2011, when the conflict in Syria began. The war has displaced more than 3 million refugees, or almost a fifth of the pre-war population.

Turkey shelters 1.8 million Syrian refugees, as well as thousands of Yazidis, whose ancient religion draws on Zoroastrianism, Christianity and Islam, who fled attacks by Islamic State in Iraq last August.

The long-running wars in neighbouring Iraq and Syria mean that Turkey has overtaken Pakistan to become the world's leading host of refugees, and has spent \$6 billion on assisting Syrians alone, UNHCR said.

Reuters

## Dacic and Tsipras discuss building gas pipeline



Serbian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ivica Dacic (L) and Prime Minister of Greece Alexis Tsipras (R).—TANJUG

SAINT PETERSBURG, 21 June — Serbian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ivica Dacic has met with Prime Minister of Greece Alexis Tsipras in St Petersburg to discuss setting up a joint company to construct a gas pipeline.

"The Serbian foreign minister and the Greek prime minister talked about an agreement between Greece and Russia on setting up a joint company to build a gas pipeline that should go from Russia to Turkey and pass through

Serbia," the Serbian Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a release on Friday.

Dacic and Tsipras also touched on a planned visit by the prime minister to Serbia.

Tsipras said he would probably visit Serbia in July, or no later than September, according to the release.

The Greek prime minister said his visit to Serbia depended on Greece's negotiations with financial institutions, the Foreign Ministry said.—Tanjung



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Special Envoy Angelina Jolie (C) arrives at a Syrian and Iraqi refugee camp in the southern Turkish town of Midyat in Mardin Province, Turkey, on 20 June, 2015.—REUTERS

## Japan lawyer leads UN body on women's rights

TOKYO, 21 June — Yoko Hayashi, the first Japanese head of a UN watchdog on women's human rights, is geared up to be the one who makes history and changes the world for the better for women suffering discrimination.

In February, the 59-year-old veteran Japanese lawyer, practicing in Tokyo, assumed the post of chair of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, becoming the first Japanese leader of the UN body.

This year happens to mark the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Japan ratifying the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

"I would like to utilize my experience and trust I have earned during my legal career," said Hayashi who joined the committee in 2008.

Hayashi said that her favourite phrase is "a person makes history," because "I believe that when something happens there must always be someone who strives to make that happen." The UN committee is to monitor if states that



Yoko Hayashi, a lawyer who has become the first Japanese chair of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, speaks in an interview with Kyodo News in Tokyo on 9 April, 2015.—KYODO NEWS

ratified the convention implement concrete measures to empower women and counteract discrimination against them, referring to evaluations by international organizations and civic groups.

Hayashi explained that each state deals with different forms of discrimination and that they could be sexual violence, human trafficking, patriarchal systems or selective corporate rules.

Noting Nigeria, where

schoolgirls were kidnapped in droves by Islamic militant group Boko Haram, Hayashi said that girls could be the subject of discriminatory acts.

"We have to eliminate despicable violence against women and protect their right to be educated," she said.

A native of Mito, Ibaraki Prefecture, in eastern Japan, Hayashi entered university in 1975 — the year the United Nations designated as the International Women's Year — and developed an interest in gender issues.

After becoming a lawyer, Hayashi worked as a volunteer at safety shelters for women and learned that many women from such countries as Thailand and the Philippines are forced to work as prostitutes and are being exploited. In Japan, she said, "what we have to do first is to eliminate the gap in wages between male and female workers and introduce a quota system in politics," reserving a certain number of parliamentary seats for female candidates.

Her term as committee chairwoman is two years.

Kyodo News

## Police converge on NY towns where escaped prisoners said sighted

DANNEMORA, 21 June — Heavily-armed police converged on towns in western New York state on Saturday to investigate possible sightings of two convicted murderers who escaped a maximum-security prison two weeks ago, police said.

A witness saw two men who might have been the escapees walking along a railroad track in Friendship, a community of about 2,000 residents in a rural patch of Allegany County, New York State Police said in a statement.

Police set up a perimeter in the area of Friendship, about 280 miles (450 km) southwest of the Clinton Correctional Facility where the escaped convicts had been serving sentences for murder, said New York State Police spokesman Beau Duffy.

It could not be confirmed if the two men were the escapees Richard Matt and David Sweat, Duffy added.

About 150 law enforcement officers were searching the area, Duffy said. The resources deployed, from a variety of agencies including the US

Marshals and State Police, included special operations teams, officers with dogs and helicopters.

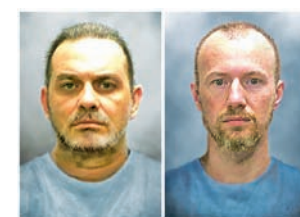
State Police in a statement on Saturday said another possible sighting was made about 50 miles (80 km) east of Friendship around a construction site in Erwin, New York state, and that troopers and investigators were sent there.

Police had said the two men might have been spotted on 13 June near a rail yard in Erwin and the next day in nearby Lindley and that investigators were examining surveillance video to determine if that sighting from a week ago was the escapees.

The Marshals Service has put Matt and Sweat on its 15 Most Wanted Fugitives List.

The reported sightings of the men on Saturday came a day after officials said a corrections officer at Clinton Correctional Facility was suspended in connection with the escape.

Authorities did not say whether they believed the corrections officer, whose name was not released, would face charges or if the officer was believed to



Prison inmates Richard Matt, 48, (L) and David Sweat, 35, are seen in a combination of enhanced pictures released by the New York State police on 17 June, 2015, showing how they might look after escaping 12 days ago.

REUTERS

have assisted in the breakout.

Another prison worker, Joyce Mitchell, is accused of assisting the escapees. Mitchell, 51, a training supervisor in the prison tailor shop who is charged with giving hacksaw blades to the convicted murderers, lost her nerve to drive their getaway car and instead checked into a hospital with a panic attack, authorities said.

The two inmates, who went through prison cell walls, a steam pipe and a manhole cover to escape, were discovered missing the morning of 6 June, officials said.—Reuters

## GENERAL



A judge from Guinness World Records measures the length of a giant pizza made by 80 chefs in Italy at the Expo Milano 2015 in Milan on 20 June, 2015.

The rectangular pizza, measuring 1,595.45 metres long, set a new Guinness World Record, beating a 1,141.5-metre long pizza made in Spain.

KYODO NEWS

## Palestinian shot after stabbing Israeli policeman in Jerusalem

JERUSALEM, 21 June — A Palestinian stabbed an Israeli paramilitary policeman at the entrance to the walled old city of Jerusalem on Sunday and was then shot by the policeman, police said.

Israel's Magen David Adom ambulance service said both men were seriously wounded. Police spokeswoman Luba Samri said the border policeman had been stabbed in the neck.

Violence in Jerusalem has risen in the past year, after a Palestinian teen was burnt alive by Israeli assailants in an alleged revenge attack over the killing of three Israeli youths in the West Bank by two Palestinians.

Tensions have flared further after the July-August Gaza war.

Palestinians seek a state in East Jerusalem, the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip, territories Israel captured in the 1967 Middle East war. Peace talks between the sides broke down in April 2014.

On Friday, two Israeli hikers were shot by a suspected Palestinian assailant near a Jewish settlement in the West Bank, killing one man and wounding the other. The attacker escaped.

Reuters

## Traces of tsunami hundreds of years ago found near nuclear plant

TOKYO, 21 June — A group of researchers has found traces of a tsunami believed to date back to the 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> century near Takahama nuclear power plant in Fukui Prefecture, western Japan.

The plant's operator, Kansai Electric Power Co, said the finding does not affect its evaluation of the risk of a tsunami at the plant or its countermeasures. The Nuclear Regulation Authority, however, said it plans to ask the utility to look into the research.

The idled Nos 3 and 4 reactors at the Takahama plant obtained safety clearance from the regulator in February, clearing a key hurdle toward resumption.

An official with the regulator said on the finding, "We will examine the information without preconceptions, and will note whether it may relate to a threat to safety."

Hirofumi Yamamoto, professor of geology at Fukui University, and other researchers in the group

found a layer of sand containing seashells in shallow ground at a location more than 500 metres from the shore of the bay.

Age measurement via carbon isotope analysis has dated the layer to between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.

An ancient document says the Tensho earthquake that struck the central Japan region in 1586 caused major tsunami damage in the Wakasa Bay area, where the plant is now located.

Yamamoto said it is possible that the traces are from the Tensho tsunami, although there is not enough evidence to prove it.

All of Japan's commercial reactors have been gradually taken offline since the Fukushima nuclear crisis erupted in 2011.

The Takahama reactors are among several reactors that have obtained the authority's approval of enhanced safety measures against possible earthquake and tsunami hazards as well as other severe accidents.

Kyodo News

## Moonshine kills at least 94 in India city slum



Family members of Mehboob Sheikh, 45, who died after consuming bootleg liquor, sit inside their house at a slum in Mumbai, India, on 20 June, 2015.—REUTERS

MUMBAI, 21 June — Toxic homemade liquor has killed at least 94 slum dwellers in India's financial capital Mumbai, with more than 45 in hospital, police said on Sunday, in the latest disaster involving moonshine.

Police have arrested five people in connection with the deaths in a western

neighbourhood of the city, on the west coast of India, which started on Wednesday.

"More than 150 have consumed this alcohol. The death toll may rise," said Dhananjay Kulkarni, Mumbai's deputy police commissioner, adding that eight police officials had been suspended for sus-

pected negligence.

Homemade liquor, often using poisonous industrial methanol, is popular among the poor in India because it is cheap. More than 140 people were killed in West Bengal state, in eastern India, in 2011 from drinking homemade liquor.

Reuters

## Saudi Arabia warns citizens against sharing 'faked' documents after Wikileaks release

RIYADH, 21 June — Saudi Arabia on Saturday urged its citizens not to distribute "documents that might be faked" in an apparent response to WikiLeaks' publication on Friday of more than 60,000 documents it says are secret Saudi diplomatic communications.

The statement, made by the Foreign Ministry on its Twitter account, did not directly deny the documents' authenticity.

But on Sunday, foreign

ministry spokesperson Osama Naqli warned the country not to "allow enemies of the state to achieve their intentions in regards to exchanging or publishing any documents" and said "many of them had been fabricated in a very obvious manner".

Naqli said investigations were under way and that the ministry would prosecute those involved, a statement on the *Saudi news agency* said.

The released docu-

ments, which WikiLeaks said were embassy communications, emails between diplomats and reports from other state bodies, include discussions of Saudi Arabia's position regarding regional issues and efforts to influence media.

Reuters was not able to independently verify the authenticity of the released documents. The world's top oil exporter, an absolute monarchy, is highly sensitive to public criticism and

has imprisoned activists for publishing attacks on the ruling Al Saud dynasty and senior clerics. It maintains tight control over media.

Since the 2011 Arab uprisings, Saudi authorities have grown increasingly intolerant of dissent, apparently fearful that the instability sweeping neighbouring countries will in turn hit the conservative Islamic kingdom. WikiLeaks said the released documents were a batch of more than half a

million Saudi documents it has obtained and plans to publish.

WikiLeaks did not say where it obtained the documents, but it referred in a press release to Riyadh's statement in May that it had suffered a breach of its computer networks, an attack later claimed by a group calling itself the Yemeni Cyber Army.

Saudi state and private media on Saturday ignored the release.—Reuters

## Man kills three by ploughing SUV into Austrian shoppers

VIENNA, 21 June — A driver killed three people and injured 34 on Saturday in the Austrian city of Graz when he ploughed a vehicle at high speed into a crowded shopping street, police said.

The driver of the sport-utility vehicle (SUV), a 26-year-old Austrian of Bosnian origin known to police for domestic violence, was detained.

Police said there was no reason to suspect any terrorist motive and they believed the man was suffering family problems.

Eyewitnesses cited by the public broadcaster ORF

said the vehicle had been travelling at about 100 kph (62 mph). ORF said no explosives had been found in the car.

"We can now absolutely rule out an extremist, religious or political background," Josef Klamlinger, head of the police force of the province of Styria, told reporters. "He has (previously) appeared ready to use violence," Klamlinger said. The man also stabbed two people after jumping out of the crashed car.

When asked whether the man had any psychological problems, a Graz police

official, Kurt Kemeter, said: "Of course there would have been problems".

He said the man, a truck driver who is married and has two children, gave himself up to the police after the incident. Three children were among the injured. Six people were in a critical condition, according to emergency services. More than 60 police, about 80 ambulances and a rescue helicopter were mobilised. Pictures on local media websites showed a green SUV with a severely damaged front and smashed broken lights, and a scarf hanging from it.—Reuters

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### WEATHER REPORT

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2015: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Kayah State, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region and Shan State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Regions, Rakhine State. Degree of certainty is (80%).

## Don Gummer and I are perfect odd couple: Meryl Streep



Oscar-winning actress Meryl Streep & Don Gummer

LONDON, 21 June — Oscar-winning actress Meryl Streep thinks her marriage to Don Gummer has been so successful because they are the “perfect odd couple”.

The “Into the Woods”

actress has been married to sculptor Gummer — with whom she has four children — for 36 years, reported Contactmusic.

“We’re kind of the perfect odd couple. Don is a man of few words —

I’m the one who keeps up a constant stream of chatter in the house. He listens very patiently and then goes back to his work. He also loves me as I am, eager and overactive, even at this age,” she said.

The 65-year-old actress is incredibly proud of her family and never feels like she sacrificed any part of her career to raise her kids.

“Women should not have any stigma attached to them if they choose to pursue careers. Life is about choices and I’m very happy with mine,” she said.

PTI

## Unfair for people to expect me to apologize: Justin Bieber



Pop star Justin Bieber

LONDON, 21 June — Pop star Justin Bieber does not think it is fair that people expect him to apologize for his actions over the past eighteen months.

The 21-year-old singer, who had a few brushes with the law recently, believes he should take responsibility for his actions but it is unnecessary to apologize, reported *Female First*. “I don’t think anyone has really doubted my musical capability and that’s what has sustained me this long, through all the negative stuff that’s been portrayed of me.

“People wanted me to apologize, which I don’t know if it’s really fair. I’ll definitely take responsibility... as I’m growing but I’ll never apologize for being human and making mistakes,” the “Boyfriend” hitmaker said.—PTI

## Angelina Jolie, daughter bond with 12-year-old Refugee in Lebanon

LOS ANGELES, 21 June — Mother-daughter duo Angelina Jolie Pitt and Shiloh spent some quality time with a 12-year-old Syrian girl named Hala in Lebanon.

Angelina, 40, met Hala a year ago during a trip for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, reported *People* magazine.

“Shiloh is very aware that I hold refugee families in high regard and has been asking to come on missions and meet them for many years,” Angelina said.

“She had heard about Hala since my last visit to Lebanon, and has been wanting to meet her and her brothers and sisters.

“It was wonderful that they were able to meet, play together, and make friends. So many refugees are children.

I’ve often heard them say that the most painful thing is not that they have lost their homes — it is that they have lost their friends,” she added.—PTI

## Matt Smith joins new drama ‘The Crown’



Matt Smith

LOS ANGELES, 21 June — Netflix’s ambitious new series “The Crown” has added Matt Smith, who will play Prince Philip.

The former “Doctor Who” actor will play Philip Mountbatten, Duke of Edinburgh, and join an all-star cast in the drama, which also features Wolf Hall’s Claire Foy as Queen Elizabeth II and John Lithgow as Winston Churchill, reported *Variety*.

“The Crown”, which is believed to be costing USD 100 million and is inspired by the play “The Audience”, follows the story of Queen

Elizabeth and her relationships with various prime ministers in the post-war era.

According to Netflix, the show “tells the inside story of two of the most famous addresses in the world — Buckingham Palace and 10 Downing Street — and the intrigues, love lives and machinations behind the great events that shaped the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century”. Each season will focus on a different decade in the Queen’s reign, with the first run of episodes focusing on her coronation and her fledgling relationship with Churchill.—PTI

## Reese Witherspoon enjoys Italian Vacation with daughter, mother



Reese Witherspoon, took to Instagram to share a photo of her, Ava and Betty each holding an ice cream.

PTI

LOS ANGELES, 21 June — Actress Reese Witherspoon is enjoying her Italian vacation with her 15-year-old daughter Ava Phillippe and her mother Betty Reese. Witherspoon, 39, took

to Instagram to share a photo of her, Ava and Betty each holding an ice cream.

“The best way to enjoy #gelato??? #ThreeGenerations,” she captioned it.

In the photo, the “Le-

gally Blonde” actress donned a cream hat with red ribbon, a sleeveless floral print dress and a black shoulder bag. Ava sported a printed off-the-shoulder dress with white lace. Her hair was styled in a side braid. Betty, meanwhile, wore black aviators, long-sleeved top and beige trousers. During their trip, Witherspoon and her daughter had a dinner with famous designer Valentino Garavani. “What an honor to see Mr Valentino at dinner last night in Rome @maisonvalentino #legend,” the “Hot Pursuit” actress wrote alongside a snap of her, Ava and Valentino.—PTI



## The Empire strikes back ... at a secret London location

LONDON, 21 June — Hooded jawas search for treasures and stormtroopers patrol the streets on the lookout for suspicious activity. Nearby, R2-D2 trundles alongside C-3PO while Chewbacca makes his way past huts and tents.

A galaxy, far, far away has arrived at a secret location in London for a “Star Wars” film screening with a difference.

Secret Cinema, which specializes in immersive film events, is bringing back to life one of the most popular film franchises of all time in a summer screening of “The Empire Strikes Back”.

As the name suggests, little is revealed of what the evening entails and attendees are asked not to unveil details.

The secrecy begins as soon as the 78-pound (\$124) ticket is bought — a price some say is too steep compared to past events but organizers justify by the scale

of the sprawling production.

Buyers are given codes and identities as they join the “Rebel Alliance” against the Empire.

Upon arrival, they are transported into the space fantasy mingling among aliens and well-known characters in a narrative that begins with “Star Wars: A New Hope”.

“I think that audiences are looking for experiences

that go beyond the traditional theater, traditional concert, traditional gallery, traditional restaurant,” Secret Cinema founder and director Fabien Riggall told *Reuters*.

“People are looking for a new way to experience culture and I think what Secret Cinema has untapped is that desire is increasing with every technology that comes out.”

Reuters



‘Star Wars: The Force Awakens’ writer, director and producer JJ Abrams appears at the kick-off event of the Star Wars Celebration convention in Anaheim, California, on 16 April, 2015.—REUTERS

GENERAL

## Daw Hla Sein

Aged 91 Years

Daw Hla Sein, daughter of (U Soe Pe & Daw Phyu), beloved wife of Col. Sein Lin (rtd) / Director General, Road Transport Administration (rtd), mother of U Thein Soe & Daw Swanti, U Soe Aung & Daw Lily Han, Dr Kyaw Thein, Dr. Ohmar Moe Myint & U Moe Myint; Grandmother of Sandy Soe, Saw Malar Soe, Dr.Suu Myat Soe, Suu Pyae Sone Soe, Aung Zaw Lin, Yu Lei Aung, Sithu Moe Myint, and Phone Kyaw Moe Myint; Great Grand Mother of five; peacefully passed away on 20 June 2015 at 02:40 am and her remains were cremated at Yeway Crematorium on 21 June 2015 (Sunday) at 08:00 am.

**Bereaved Family**

## Paraguay draw puts them top ahead of Argentina game



Paraguay's Bruno Valdez (5) heads the ball past Uruguay's Christian Stuani and Jose Gimenez (R) near the Uruguay net during their first round Copa America 2015 soccer match at Estadio La Portada in La Serena, Chile, on 20 June, 2015.—REUTERS

LA SERENA, (Chile), 21 June — Paraguay drew 1-1 with Uruguay at the Copa America to go top of Group B, one point ahead of Argentina before the tournament favourites take on eliminated Jamaica later on Saturday.

Centre back Jose Maria Gimenez put holders Uruguay in front after 29 minutes with a header from Carlos Sanchez' corner, the ball going in off the post.

Paraguay equalized on the stroke of halftime from a

## mitv Myanmar International

(22-6-2015 07:00 am~ 23-6-2015 07:00 am) MST

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- \* U Kyaw Thu: From Artist to Philanthropist (Part-II)
- \* Cosplayer
- \* Horse Cart Driver
- \* News
- \* Sitagu International Buddhist Academy (Part-3)
- \* Amazing: Magician Sak Kaw Ma
- \* News
- \* Myanmar Classic Car Rally 2015
- \* News
- \* Mt Naw Bu Baw
- \* Architect: U Thaw
- \* News
- \* Unique Pattern of Myanma...A Trend of Chin Traditional Dress
- \* Myanmar Traditional Art Bronze Casting

corner taken by Edgar Benitez that striker Lucas Barrios nodded emphatically past Fernando Muslera.

The Paraguayans have five points from three matches while Uruguay, sure of a berth in the quarter-finals at least as one of the two best third-placed teams, and Argentina have four apiece.

Jamaica will finish bottom even if they manage to get an upset win over Argentina. "I'm happy with Paraguay's strength, we're a good team," Barrios told reporters. "We were a goal down and drew against tough opponents. Uruguay had most of the chances in a match that pitted the two finalists of the previous tournament in 2011 against each other. Gimenez almost put

the holders two up in the 37<sup>th</sup> minute but Justo Villar made a fine save, diving to his right to push the ball away. Striker Diego Rolan latched on to the rebound and fed Edinson Cavani but the striker steered the ball past the outside of the far post. In the second half Uruguay's substitute forward Cristhian Stuani steered a header wide of the post when he had the goal at his mercy and Villar saved a volley from Cavani.

Paraguay nearly stole victory in added time when Muslera did well, diving to his right to push a shot from defender Bruno Valdez out for a corner. "Unfortunately a loss of concentration cost us. I liked the team, we created the best chances," said Gimenez.—Reuters

## MRTV News Channel in Brief

(22-6-2015, Monday)

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| <p><b>6:00 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw</li> </ul> <p><b>6:30 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical Exercise</li> </ul> <p><b>7:00 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• News / Weather Report</li> </ul> <p><b>7:35 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly Entertainment</li> </ul> <p><b>8:00 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• News / International News</li> </ul> <p><b>8:35 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentary (Women in Myanmar Society)</li> </ul> <p><b>9:35 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentary(ASEAN)</li> </ul> <p><b>10:35 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People's Talks</li> </ul> <p><b>11:35 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRTV's Youth Programme</li> </ul> <p><b>12:00 noon</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• News / International News / Weather Report</li> </ul> <p><b>12:35 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tasty Trip</li> </ul> <p><b>1:10 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gitadagale Phwintbarohn</li> </ul> | <p><b>2:00 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fine Arts-Bosom of Dramatic Performance</li> </ul> <p><b>2:45 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teleplay</li> </ul> <p><b>3:00 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• News / International News</li> </ul> <p><b>3:35 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People's Talks</li> </ul> <p><b>4:35 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) — Fourth Year (Law)</li> </ul> <p><b>5:30 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Head Line News</li> </ul> <p><b>6:35 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Socio Economic Scenes</li> </ul> <p><b>7:00 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• News</li> </ul> <p><b>7:35 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentary</li> </ul> <p><b>8:00 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• News / International News / Weather Report</li> </ul> <p><b>9:00 pm</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• News</li> <li>• Hluttaw Image</li> <li>• TV Drama Series</li> </ul> |
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## MRTV Entertainment Channel

(22-6-2015, Monday)

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| <p><b>6:00 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mono Classical Songs</li> </ul> <p><b>6:20 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pyi Thu Ni Ti</li> </ul> <p><b>6:40 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fashion Show</li> </ul> <p><b>7:05 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Musical Programme</li> </ul> <p><b>7:15 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TV Drama Series</li> </ul> <p><b>8:00 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TV Drama Series</li> </ul> | <p><b>8:35 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teleplay</li> </ul> <p><b>9:00 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Musical Programme</li> </ul> <p><b>9:50 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teleplay</li> </ul> <p><b>10:00 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pyi Thu Ni Ti</li> </ul> <p><b>10:15 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ABU Radio Song Festival (2015)</li> </ul> <p><b>10:35 am</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Myanmar Video</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

## Gritty Day grabs share of US Open lead

UNIVERSITY PLACE, (Washington), 21 June — Jason Day wrote his name into US Open folklore on Saturday, grabbing a share of the third-round lead on a punishing Chambers Bay layout that had literally brought the Australian to his knees a day earlier.

Even though Day's round will be long remembered, there is still another chapter to be written in the 115<sup>th</sup> US Open with Americans Jordan Spieth and Dustin Johnson and South African Branden Grace all level on four-under 206 going into Sunday.

Day had collapsed on his final hole on Friday and had to be helped from the course by medics after he collapsed again when he

completed his round three shots off the lead.

There was worry the world number 10 would have to withdraw but he dug deep and on Saturday was back on the first tee.

Looking drained, Day shot a two-under 68 highlighted by a brilliant back nine that featured five birdies, including three over his four closing holes.

His storming finish earned him a share of the lead and a rousing standing ovation from the 6,000 fans packed into the 18<sup>th</sup> hole grandstands.

Day took only a moment to savour the applause as he gingerly made his way to a waiting van where he slumped into the back seat with closed eyes and laid his



Jason Day hits his tee shot on the 18<sup>th</sup> hole in the third round of the 2015 US Open golf tournament at Chambers Bay, University Place, WA, USA, on 20 June, 2015.—REUTERS

head on the back rest.

"Last year I didn't play the round after I had vertigo and this one was worse," Day told reporters. "I think the goal was just to go through today and see how it goes."

Day's effort dominated another dramatic afternoon on the links-style layout that saw five different names at

the top of the leaderboard and an assortment of brilliant and bewildering shots.

Masters champion Spieth and his American Ryder Cup team mate Patrick Reed began the day with a one-shot lead but as the sun set into Puget Sound the leaderboard had a very different look. One of the longest courses ever for a golf ma-

tor, Chambers Bay was tailor-made for the big-hitting Johnson, who muscled his way to the top with an even-par 70 while Grace, a six-time winner on the European Tour, also had a 70.

With its picture postcard vistas, Chambers Bay may have an attractive look but it has been widely criticised by golfers and commentators with the attacks growing louder with each day. Most of the grumbling has been directed at the bumpy and undulating greens, but Spieth proved they can be conquered as he rolled in a 38-foot birdie putt at the second to move two ahead.

The world number two continued to wield a hot putter, draining a 40-footer for birdie at the third to open up a three-shot cushion.

But even the best putter

in the game would have his problems with the controversial greens and Spieth's first wobble came at the fourth when he three-putted from 30 feet for his first bogey.

That was followed by another at the fifth and suddenly Spieth's three-shot advantage had vanished, leaving him to scramble his way to a 71. "I knew that even par was a really good score starting the day, but when I get to seven-under for the tournament I don't want to finish at four-under, no matter where you're playing," said Spieth, who will try to become just the sixth player to win the Masters and US Open in the same year. "I had four three-putts today and that's going to happen out here but two of them are unforced and shouldn't have happened."

Reuters

# Rampant Germany, gritty China advance into quarters

EDMONTON, (Canada), 21 June — Twice champions Germany and a resurgent China reached the quarter-finals of the Women's World Cup after contrasting victories the first matches in the knockout phase of the competition on Saturday.

Germany crushed Sweden 4-1 in Ottawa with Celia Sasic scored in each half against a disappointing Swedish side.

Anja Mittag and Dzsenifer Marozsan also found the target for the pre-tournament favourites. A 12<sup>th</sup> minute goal from Wang Shanshan was all that separated China from a lively Cameroon with some resilient defending ensured a place in the last eight for the 1999 runners-up. The knockout phase continues on Sunday with Brazil taking on Australia, France up against South Korea and hosts Canada facing Switzerland. Germany's resounding victory against a traditionally strong Swe-



Cameroon forward Gabrielle Onguene (7) controls the ball against China during the second half in the round of sixteen in the FIFA 2015 women's World Cup soccer tournament at Commonwealth Stadium, Edmonton, Alberta, CAN on 20 June, 2015. China won 1-0.—REUTERS

den sent a clear message that Silvia Neid's team have a real chance to go all the way and join their male counterparts as world champions.

"Every German player seems to be comfortable with the ball ... we had a hard time defensively," said Sweden coach Pia Sundhage. "If you want to win that kind of game when Germany is playing well you need everything

to go your way and unfortunately it did not," she said.

Neid found no need for false modesty about the performance of the 2003 and 2007 champions. "We were clearly the better team and that's why we won ... I think (Sweden) did well but we didn't allow them to make much of it," she said.

"We played well but we're not world champions



Germany forward Celia Sasic (13) collides with Sweden goalkeeper Hedvig Lindahl (1) as defender Amanda Ilestedt (14) defends during the second half in the round of sixteen in the FIFA 2015 women's World Cup soccer tournament at Lansdowne Stadium Ottawa, Ontario, CAN, on 20 June, 2015.—REUTERS

yet ... we're human beings, not robots," she said.

China's win came without their head coach Hao Wei on the bench as he served a one-match suspension but his assistant Chang Wei Wei was delighted with the way his players stuck at their task.

"They were resilient and brave. They were like warriors for 90 minutes," he said.

China will face the

winner of the match between the second ranked US and Colombia in Edmonton on Monday with Cameroon counterpart Enow Ngachu thinking the Chinese could produce an upset if they meet the United States in the next round. "They defend very well and looking at the way they defend I think they have chances to beat the United States," he said.—Reuters

# Anderson powers into Queen's final, Murray delayed

LONDON, 21 June — Kevin Anderson produced a devastating display of serving power to reach the final of the Aegon Championships with a 6-3, 6-7(6) 6-3 defeat of gallant Frenchman Gilles Simon at Queen's Club on Saturday.

Seventh seed Simon watched 34 aces fly past him on the slick Centre Court grass but hung on to stretch the towering South African into a decider before succumbing.

Anderson, ranked 17 in the world, will face either top seed Andy Murray or Serbia's Viktor Troicki in Sunday's final which will be his first on grass.

World number three Murray, bidding for a fourth Queen's Club title,



South Africa's Kevin Anderson in action during his semi final match during Aegon Championships at Queens Club, London on 20 June, 2015.—REUTERS

and Troicki were locked at 3-3 in the first set when heavy rain wiped out the rest of the day's play, meaning they will resume at 1000GMT (6:00 am ET) on Sunday.

Troicki slipped and

fell and appeared to injure his shoulder during the final point before the rain arrived but was ready to resume when play was suspended.

The 29-year-old Anderson has dropped serve only once on the way to

the final, against former champion Lleyton Hewitt in round one when he was a point away from defeat.

Since then he has gathered momentum and has looked impregnable on serve, bashing down 96 aces.

"I think at this point it's more just about the rhythm and the way it feels," the unseeded Anderson told reporters.

"I really feel it's been clicking the last few matches."

It was in the groove against the agile Simon who did not sniff a single break point.

Anderson is not just a monstrous server though.

He struck plenty of precision groundstrokes

and a couple of rasping forehands allowed him to break decisively in the eighth game of the opener.

Simon stuck to his task manfully to reach a tiebreak in the second set but Anderson looked on the cusp of victory leading 5-4 with a mini-break and two service points to come.

But Simon turned it round, saving one match point when Anderson skewed a backhand wide, before levelling the match.

The decider went with serve until 4-3 when Anderson, whose baseline game was solid throughout, snatched the Frenchman's serve and he then duly sealed victory, predictably with an ace.

Reuters

# Phelps wins 200 butterfly at Pro Swim meet

SANTA CLARA, (California), 21 June — Michael Phelps took a positive step forward in his attempts to make the US team for the Rio Olympics when he posted his fastest time in the 200 metres butterfly since he launched his comeback.

The 18-time Olympic gold medallist clocked

1:57.62 to win the event at the Pro Swim Series meet in Santa Clara, California, though he was still three seconds slower than the fastest time of the year set by Japan's Daiya Seto.

"I would have like to have finished a little better but we have been doing things in workout that I haven't done a long time

in butterfly," he said in a poolside interview.

"Having that confidence back helped me."

Seto clocked 1:54.56 last month.

The American is coming off a high-altitude training stint and said he did not know whether he would even try to qualify for the event for next

year's Rio Olympics.

"We haven't really seen much progression in this event over the last couple of years," said Phelps, a two-time Olympic champion in the event.

"I came into tonight wanting to do 1:57 and I did it. I'm not sure what's going to happen over the next year, but I'm just

happy to do that (1:57) because I think it's going to help me a lot in the 100."

The 29-year-old, who retired after the 2012 Olympics but launched a comeback last year, will not contest August's world championships in Russia, due to a drink driving conviction last year.

Reuters

# Messi celebrates 100 int'l matches with Argentina

SANTIAGO, 21 June — The true protagonist of Saturday's Argentina vs Jamaica Copa America 2015 match in Chile will be Lionel Messi as he celebrates his 100<sup>th</sup> cap with Argentina. The player who still hasn't turned 28 will be the youngest player to ever reach such a figure in the history of the South American team. The Argentine player, who will turn 28 on 24 June, continues breaking records and this period of football has even begun to be known as "Messi's century", according to Spanish sports daily *Marca*.

Fellow Argentinians Javier Zanetti reached 144 international matches in his career followed by Mascherano who currently holds 113 caps at 30 years-old said the sports daily. All this suggests that the Barcelona star will overtake both Zanetti and Mascherano's caps. The mythical 100-mark was also beaten by Cholo Simeone (104) and Roberto Ayala (114). Everyone is expecting Argentina to beat Jamaica in the final match of the Copa America 2015 group stages. A win would warrant a double celebration from Messi to mark his centenary playing for his national team and also with a win Argentina will pass to the quarter finals of the tournament.

The Argentinian forward has won every title available at club level with Barcelona but he still hasn't won a World Cup with his national team. Messi is competing for the third time in the Copa America and has also played in the World Cup the same amount of times according to *Marca*.

"In these 100 matches I have had the opportunity to live some incredible, very beautiful experiences. Unforgettable. I have experienced situations that have allowed me to grow as a player but unfortunately no title," said Messi about his 100 caps during an interview with the Spanish newspaper.

"I hope that these 100 matches will come with one (a title)," added the Barcelona forward. Although Messi has won Olympic and Youth medals with the South American side, Argentina haven't won a title since the Copa America 1993 which was 22 years ago.—Xinhua

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THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Printed and published at the Global New Light of Myanmar Printing Factory at No. 150, Nga Htat Kye Pagoda Road, Bahan Township, Yangon, by the Global New Light of Myanmar Daily.