

## Special economic zone a product of growing trust among Mekong countries: president

Tokyo, 3 July—The establishment of the Dawei special economic zone, arranged at a meeting last January between Myanmar, Thailand and Japan, is the outcome of growing trust among countries within and outside the Mekong region, President U Thein Sein said Friday at the Mekong-Five Economic Forum in Tokyo.

The president thanked the host country for offering financial and technical assistance to the special economic zone, the construction of which is under way and providing temporary employment for local people.

The project covers a 27 square-kilometre industrial block, a motorway linking Myanmar to Thailand, a labour quarter, a port for export of liquefied natural gas, a power station, ports and reservoirs.

A memorandum of intent on the special economic zone will be signed at the coming 7<sup>th</sup> Myanmar-Japan Summit.

The Dawei special economic zone is in a strategic location regarded as a western door to the southern economic corridor of



President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo together with leaders of Mekong countries at Mekong-Five Economic Forum in Japan.

MNA

Great Mekong, linking the Pacific and Indian oceans by land.

The economic corridor passes Ho Chi Min City, Phnom Penh and Bangkok to Dawei, bringing development to multiple countries.

Myanmar, Japan and Thailand are engaged in discussion on extension of the railroad network to Dawei.

An environmental conservation law is being written with the intention of limiting environmen-

tal damage likely to result from industrial and economic zones, President U Thein Sein said.

The Mekong-Five countries are Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam, whose combined population runs to

230 million.

Last year, Japanese investments in the Mekong region amounted to US\$6.8 billion, equal to its investments in China.

In the afternoon, Japanese Emperor Akihito hosted a tea party for lead-

ers of the five Mekong nations. Present at the tea party together with President U Thein Sein were Cambodia's Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen, Laos' Prime Minister Thongsing Thammavong, (See page 3)

## Gov't team, ethnic armed groups extend Chiang Mai meeting to second day

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 3 July — Peace negotiators from the government and ethnic armed groups agreed Friday in Chiang Mai, Thailand, to continue their meeting for a second day amid optimism that roadblocks in the ceasefire process can be cleared, according to a senior advisor on the government side.

The talks were the first meeting between the government's peace ne-

gotiating team and a new 15-member senior negotiating team appointed by the ethnic groups at the LawKheeLar summit in early June.

"The meeting was set as a preliminary meeting instead of informal talks, as had been requested by the ethnic side," U Hla Maung Shwe of the Myanmar Peace Centre told The Global New Light of Myanmar via phone.

A draft nationwide ceasefire accord between

the two sides has remained unsigned since the ethnic side's unexpected rejection of the draft deal at the summit. They decided not to sign the accord until further amendments were made and appointed a new team for further talks with the government.

Fourteen of 15 senior delegates including five former members of the Nationwide Ceasefire Coordination Team met in Chiang Mai with the government's peace negotiators, includ-

ing Union Ministers U Aung Min and U Khin Yi, the MPC senior adviser said.

Both sides outlined their respective positions on the draft deal before exchanging views on how to end the impasse, he added.

"The government side suggested that a set of amendments to the approved deal by the ethnic side can be considered to be in line with agreements," he said.

(See page 9)

## For "quality growth" of the Mekong Region

I am pleased to welcome the leader of your country to Tokyo and hold the Seventh Mekong-Japan Summit Meeting on July 4, to further enhance the vibrancy and attractiveness of the Mekong region.

This year is a historic milestone that will mark the launch of the ASEAN community. In light of this, it is very important for me to hold frank discussions with leaders of the Mekong region countries on the partnership between the Mekong region and Japan, which will grow together, and mutually affirm that we will continue to work together even more closely. Based on the "New Tokyo Strategy 2015" that will be adopted today, I would like to convey Japan's wholehearted sup-



Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe.

port to the Mekong region countries, moving on to the launch of the ASEAN community.

From the airplane I saw vast lands with abundant greenery. Traveling to different towns, I witnessed vibrant markets and offices, as well as cultural elements (See page 2)

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## Pyithu Hluttaw discusses irrigation facilities and allowance for far-flung areas

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July — The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has been properly maintaining the irrigation facilities around the country and providing agricultural wa-

ter to farmland, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw said at the Pyithu Hluttaw session on Friday.

In addition, the ministry has been carrying out

prevention of salt infiltration and flood and building sluice gates depending on the availability of budget funds, according to the deputy minister.

The government is re-

viewing the list of 110 far-flung townships with ten criteria at region/state level and national levels, Deputy Minister for Finance Dr Lin Aung told the Pyithu Hluttaw session.

## Upper House approves TV and Radio Broadcasting Bill

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July — The Amyotha Hluttaw on Friday approved the TV and Radio Broadcasting Bill sent back by the Pyithu Hluttaw with amendments.

Earlier in the session, Deputy Minister at the President Office U Kyaw Kyaw Win told the Upper

House that the Yangon City Development Committee would take over a vacant plot designated as parkland in Shwenatha village in Mingaladon Township from the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry.

MP U Nu of Yangon

Region constituency No 10 asked about construction of low-priced housing on the plot.

U Phone Myint Aung of Yangon Region constituency No 3 asked where there is a plan to allow private entrepreneurs to operate traffic lights in the

municipal area of Yangon. The deputy minister replied that private entrepreneurs will not be allowed to erect commercial billboards in traffic light areas while operating the lights through tender.

Deputy Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and

## Myanmar signs Articles of Agreement-AOA for AIIB



Finance ministers and delegates to signing ceremony for article of AIIB pose for documentary photo.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July — Union Minister for Finance U Win Shein, on behalf of Myanmar government, signed Articles of

Agreement-AOA for establishment of Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank in Beijing, People's Republic of China, on 29 June.

Chinese President Xi Jinping held a meeting with finance ministers and delegates from 57 AIIB member countries on establish-

ment of the bank.

At the special meeting, they discussed election of the president for the bank, financial programme and acceptance of new members. A total of 22 Asian countries signed the MoU on establishment of AIIB on 24 October 2014. Coordinators held meetings five times for establishment. At present, the AIIB was formed with 37 regional countries and 20 outsiders.

AIIB, an international financial institution, will contribute to investment and regional economic development in economic infrastructure and other development projects.—MNA

### Pyithu Hluttaw

After reviewing the list of far-flung townships, the government will adopt a new rate of allowance for distant areas and will permit government employee to enjoy the allowance.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Session on Friday invited

representatives who would like to debate the Myanmar Red Cross Society Bill and the bill amending the evidence law the bill for manual oil wells and approved the Border Areas and Ethnic National Races Development Law.—MNA

### Amyotha Hluttaw

Rural Development U Tin Ngwe replied to a query raised by U Aung Nyein of Magway Region Constituency No 2 on upgrading In-taw-Yagybyin Road in In-taw village, Yenangyoung Township, Magway Region. The deputy minister said the Rural Development Department has no plan to upgrade the 15-mile long road this fiscal year.

The Hluttaw invited MPs to discuss the artifacts preservation bill, the ancient buildings protection bill, the union government law, the attorney-general of the union law, the union auditor-general law, the union civil services board law, the Nay Pyi Taw council law, the union judicial law, and the constitutional tribunal of the union law.—MNA

## Myanmar Women's Day marked in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July — Honorary patron of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of the president, presented prizes to 2015 ASEAN Women's Entrepreneurs award winner Daw Khaing Zaw and Dr Daw Thet Thet Khaing and SEA Literary Award winner Daw Khin Than Win (Kyu Kyu Thin) at the ceremony to mark the Myanmar Women's Day, here, on Friday.

Honorary Patron Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of

vice president Dr Sai Mauk Kham, also presented prizes to 2014 outstanding police-woman Police Major Khin Lay Myint, Myanmar women's football team and 2013 national literary award (selected short stories) winner.

Union Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin and officials awarded outstanding persons in the photo and short story contest and outstanding women.

They viewed documentary photos and books related to women's affairs.—MNA

## For "quality growth" ...

(from page 1)

and traditions that have been handed down over time. After being appointed as Prime Minister in 2012, my first international visit was to the Mekong region. On that occasion, and every time I have visited the Mekong Region since then, I am captivated by wherever I go.

The peace and stability of the Mekong region, which is in a key location for ground and marine transportation, is of great importance to Japan, and I hope that the Mekong countries will co-exist with Japan as partners that hold enormous potential for growth. To date, our predecessors have spared no effort with regard to initiatives in the Mekong region, ranging from peace building to improving regional connectivity. Many people

from Japan have worked on these initiatives, and have transferred capitals, technologies, and experience from Japan to this region. Japan's ongoing efforts in the Mekong region, such as the construction of Economic Corridors, have been making a steady progress. Looking at this year so far, Noi Bai International Airport Terminal 2 and Nhút Tân Bridge were completed in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in January, and the Tsubasa Bridge was opened in the Kingdom of Cambodia in April. Going forward, Japan intends to provide the people of the Mekong Region with a wide range of experience and technologies in an even more proactive manner.

Cooperation, not only regarding infrastructure development, but also soft aspects is one of the pillars of the New Tokyo Strategy.

Japan intends to proactively cooperate with each country in the areas of cultivating human resources and developing legal systems as well.

The Government of Japan has announced the "Partnership for Quality Infrastructure," and will provide "quality infrastructure investment" in Asia, with a total scale of approximately 110 billion dollars over five years, in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The Mekong region will certainly be the top-priority region in this initiative. Let us continue to grow the fruits of these investment activities together.

I look forward to seeing the future of growth in the Mekong region. There is a need to upgrade infrastructure and social systems in order to respond to the expansion of energy demand and increase in automobiles. In order to cope with the pressing issue of the aging of soci-

ety, it is essential to enhance the functionality of health-care and medical treatment services. It will be important to address these numerous challenges in innovative ways. Japan, as an island nation with few resources, has taken on challenges with regard to increasing energy efficiency. Japan has repeatedly dealt with natural disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis. We would like to share with you our experience in these areas. We hope to realize a "green Mekong," and contribute to quality growth. This is our sincere wish. While Myanmar is taking steps to bring about democratic reforms, bilateral relations between Japan and Myanmar have reached a stage of development anew. Japan, through government-private cooperation, has been providing an assistance to Myanmar for its reform efforts in the country. I am of the view

that it is of vital importance for Myanmar citizens to be able to feel that they will prosper if reforms meet with success. From this viewpoint, Japan has been cooperating with Myanmar to develop the Thilawa Special Economic Zone in suburban area of Yangon and it is exhorting Myanmar to strive to increase job opportunities and bring about economic development. Moreover, socio-economic reforms and internal peace are indispensable to bring about democratization and development in Myanmar. The process of peace talks between the government and armed ethnic groups has reached an important moment and the Government of Japan has determined to provide firm assistance to Myanmar for its efforts to achieve peace in the country, by joining hands with Non-Governmental Organizations. In conjunction with this summit meeting,

the "Japan-Mekong U-15 Football Exchange Programme" was held. In this event, soccer players aged 15 or younger were invited to Japan from Mekong countries, and engaged in exchanges with Japanese players of the same age. These athletes are part of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games generation. I strongly hope that many, if not all, of these players will return to Tokyo in 2020 as Olympic athletes.

I hope that Japan and the Mekong region can continue contributing to peace and prosperity in Asia and the entire international community, working hand in hand based on the friendship, trust, and cooperative relationships that we have developed up to now over many years. I look forward to welcoming President U Thein Sein and other leaders of the Mekong countries to Tokyo.

## President U Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to United States of America

NAY PYI TAW, 4 July—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to the Honourable Barak Obama, President of the United States of America, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Independence Day of the United States of America which falls on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

MNA

### Special economic zone...

(from page 1)

Thailand's Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha and Vietnam's Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung.

In the evening, the leaders met Speaker of the Japanese House of Repre-

sentatives Tadamori Oshima and President of the Japanese House of Councillors Masaaki Yamazaki. President U Thein Sein met Komeito Party Leader Natsuo Yamaguchi on Friday morning at the Hotel New

Otani in Tokyo where they discussed matters related to rural development, poverty reduction, disaster preparedness, rehabilitation of areas hit by Cyclone Nargis, mutual cooperation between legislatures and political parties of the two countries. Natsuo expressed his

support for reforms in Myanmar. President U Thein Sein also met a delegation led by Shintaro Ambe, Vice President of MitsuiCo. Ltd. Their discussions focused on development of energy and electricity sectors, export of agricultural produce, improvement of rice pro-

duction, and upgrading of rail transportation.

The president and his entourage also attended a working lunch hosted by the Mekong-Japan Parliamentary Friendship Association at Hotel New Otani.

Together with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe,

President U Thein Sein visited Minamiaoyama Idol to enjoy the Myanmar Fashion and Handicrafts Show in the evening. The president, together with other leaders of the Mekong region, also attended a dinner hosted by Japanese prime minister.

MNA

## Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham urges local officials to reduce mortality rates of children and mothers

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July—A ceremony to launch the campaign for reduction of mother and child mortality rates was held at the City Hall in Magway on Friday, with an opening speech by Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham.

In his speech, the vice president said that Myanmar is included in the lowest of life expectancy in Southeast Asia due to high mortality rates in states and regions where mortality rate hits 36.43 percent in 2015.

Although Myanmar has a life expectancy of 66.8 years, that of Magway Region stands at 60.6 years while its mortality rates for children under the age of one and of five are the highest in the country, according to the vice president.

The vice president added that almost 65,000 children under the age of five

die in Myanmar in one year, causing losses for families as well as the country.

Then, the vice president urged different levels of departmental officials, the public, UN agencies and civil society organizations to cooperate for the reduction of mortality rates in the region.

The ceremony included a workshop on reduction of mother and child mortality rates, prevention of TB, HIV, Diabete, heart disease and many other diseases.

After the vice president's speech, Magway Region Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe and Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint reported to the vice president on plans to reduce the mortality rates.

After the ceremony, the vice president cordially greeted the attendees.

MNA



Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets health officials and staff at ceremony to launch campaign for reduction of mother and child mortality rate in Magway.—MNA

### Erratum

Please read third paragraph in the first column of the news under headline of "Education means acquiring knowledge and skill through teaching, learning and training: Vice President" as follows:-

In Myanmar, the existing basic education period lasts 11 years in total (kindergarten plus 10 grades). Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham quoted the National Education Law as proposing to extend the period for another two years and make it 13 years in total (kindergarten plus 12 years).—GNLM

## Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits Bahtoo Station

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July—There is no reason for the Tatmadaw to deviate from the political path to multi-party democracy, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing told cadets at the Officer Training School in Bahtoo Station on Friday.

Also present were Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Thura Thet Swe, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Khin Aung Myint, senior officers from the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army), Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Aye Win, and officers and instructors from the Bahtoo Station.

Then, the senior general presented Shwe Phi Oo instant coffee and books



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing cordially meets with trainees at Bahtoo Station.—MYAWADY

for the cadets while Lt-Gen Aung Than Htut presented sport equipment for the trainee officers.

Later, the senior general and party cordially greeted the cadets and proceeded to the military hos-

pital in Bahtoo, where the senior general comforted patients and provided food and cash for them.

Afterwards, the senior general visited WO and Sgt training school in Bahtoo and enjoyed lunch with the trainees before cordially greeting them.

Then, the senior general and party inspected maintenance, repair and construction of a sport stadium, a judo room and a soccer field, before visiting Historical Museum of the Officer Training School.

Myawady

## Union FM sends message of felicitations to USA

NAY PYI TAW, 4 July—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to the Honourable John F Kerry, Secretary of State of the United States of America, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Independence Day of the United States of America, which falls on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2015.—MNA

## Farmers receive new techniques for cultivation of premium cotton strain

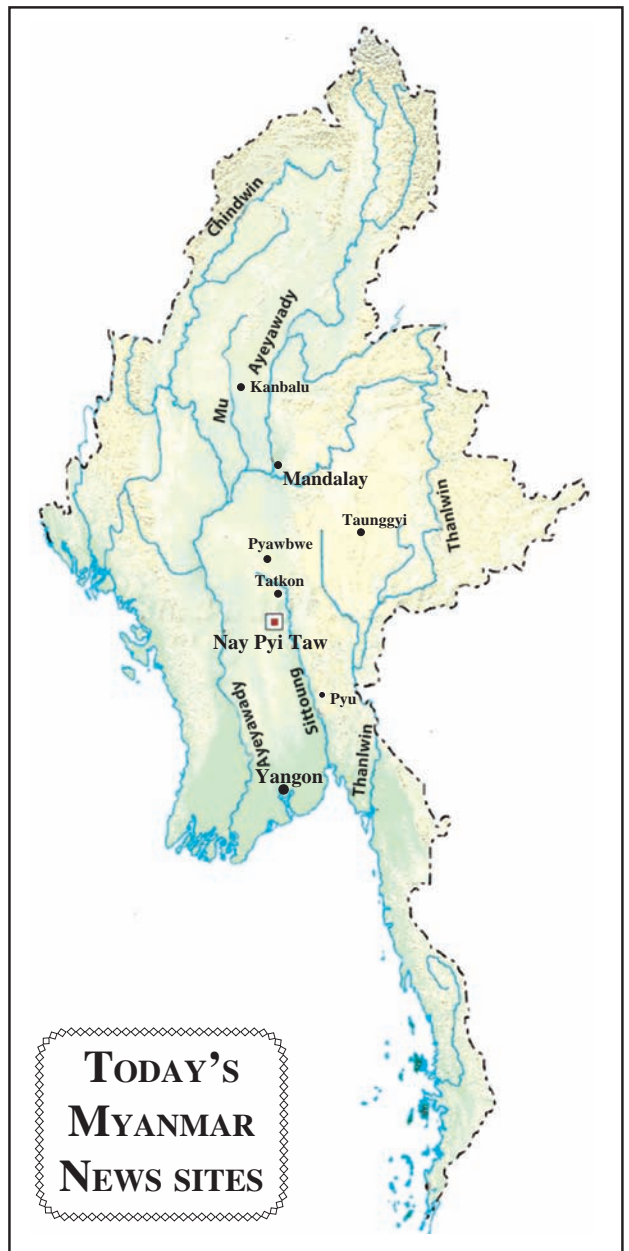


PYAWBWE, 3 July — A demonstration on cultivation of Ngwechi-9 long staple cotton was held in Thitseintpin village in Pyawbwe Township, Mandalay Region recently.

The high-quality cotton strain was cultivated on a 3-acre plot of farmer U Kyaw Win. The new strain is tipped to yield 1,600 kilos per acre.

The Ngwetaung-9 strain has a higher per-acre yield and greater pest resistance than some widespread strains.

*Township IPRD*



## Coffee growers receive latest farming knowledge

TAUNGGYI, 3 July — Staff of Shan State Industrial Crops Development Department made a field trip to Alechaung village in Ywangan Township in the last week of June to share knowledge about modern agricultural methods with about 70 local farmers.

Officials of the department explained that

Ywangan Township is the most suitable for cultivation of coffee plants in Shan State. Local growers can fetch about K3.5 million per ton from sales of A-grade coffee products.

A total of 7,165 acres of coffee plantations in Ywangan Township yield about 400,000 viss of coffee yearly.

*Naing Tun (TGI)*

## Post-primary school upgraded to middle school branch in Tatkon Tsp

TATKON, 3 July — A ceremony to open an upgraded basic education middle school branch was held in conjunction with the handing over of a new school building in Yeaye village in Tatkon Township on 2 July.

Officials of Nay Pyi Taw Council and Township Education Officer U Tin Hsint cut the ribbon to open the new school.

Local people contributed to construction of the school building at a cost of K7.7 million.

Officials of Nay Pyi Taw Council and Town-



ship Education Officer U Tin Hsint unveiled the signboard of the school.

The newly-upgraded school has admitted 771 students from Shaukkon

village and eight nearby villages.—*Tin Soe Lwin (Tatkon Township IPRD)*

## Earth works prevent flooding of farmland

PYU, 3 July — To prevent flooding of farmland, the Irrigation Department recently used heavy machinery to dredge silt

from creeks and drains in Nyaungbintha and Kanyutkwin regions, as well as Pyu Township in Bago Region.

Local farms in years past have been damaged by the flooding of the Sittoung River and silted creeks.

Following the con-

struction of an embankment along the river, farms in the area have been free from floods this year.

*Pyu Myint Oo*

## Tree-planting ceremony aims to make urban area greener

MANDALAY, 3 July — Mandalay City Development Committee held its third tree-growing ceremony in front of the University of Dental Medicine in Chanmyathazi Township on 1 July.

Mayor U Aung Mung planted a teak sapling while other attendees also grew saplings.

The ceremony was also attended by leader of the advisory group of MCDC U Po Myint, Rector of Mandalay University of Dental Medicine Dr Daw San San Win, officials of MCDC and staff.

They planted 867 saplings in total.

*Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)*



LOCAL NEWS

Community bodies receive cash donations from city



MANDALAY, 3 July—Mandalay City Development Committee donated cash to community associations at its hall on 2 July. The MCDC provided

cash to 14 social welfare associations, eight funeral service associations, three philanthropic associations and 11 civic society organizations through representatives.

At the ceremony which opened with a speech by Mayor U Aung Mung, a total of 36 associations received K300,000 each.

*Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)*

Nursing students participate in skill demonstrations

MANDALAY, 3 July — Students from first to third-year nursing courses demonstrated skills at Mandalay's University of Nursing on 2 July.

Rector of the university Dr Thida made a speech while Pro-Rector Professor Dr Daw Khin Win explained disciplines for the skill demonstration.

Rector of Mandalay

University of Medicine Prof Dr Khin Maung Lwin, Medical Superintendent Dr Kyi Lwin of the Orthopaedic Specialty Hospital and officials viewed the demonstration. The students will continue the skill demonstrations until 9 July. Fourth-year students will give demonstrations on 10 July.—*Tin Maung (Mandalay)*



Townships prepare for football, volleyball, Sepak Takraw tournaments

MANDALAY, 3 July — Amarapura Township Sports and Physical Education Department will hold a football tournament at its sports ground, as well as volleyball and Sepak Takraw events at its gymnasium from 4 to 10 July.

Likewise, Myittha Township will organize the

football tournament from 5 to 19 July and volleyball and Sepak Takraw events from 5 to 11 July.

Natogyi Township plans to hold a football tournament from 6 to 20 July and Sepak Takraw and volleyball events from 6 to 12 July.

Kyaukpadaung Town-

ship scheduled the football tournament from 7 to 19 July and volleyball and Sepak Takraw events from 7 to 13 July while Meiktila Township will hold its football tournament from 8 to 22 July and volleyball and Sepak Takraw events from 8 to 14 July.

*Tin Maung (Mandalay)*



Mandalay Region football officials discuss federation setup

MANDALAY, 3 July — The Myanmar Football Federation, former players and coaches held a get-together at Win Yadana Hall on 12<sup>th</sup> Street in Mandalay on 2 July.

Joint general secretary of the federation U Tin Myint Aung spoke about the

organizational setup of the federation and future plans. U Aye Maung Gyi, technical adviser to the Myanmar women's football team and Deputy Director U Wai Zin discussed formation of committees.

*Tin Maung (Mandalay)*

Tractor station branch opens in Kanbalu Tsp

KANBALU, 3 July — The No 40 tractor station opened its branch in Ywama village, Kanbalu Township, recently to provide agricultural services to local farmers.

The station branch will have four Sonalika tractors, one combine harvester and other agricultural

machinery. Local farmers may hire the machinery from the branch. The branch offers local farmers fair prices, Head of Township Agricultural Mechanization Department U Bo Aye said.

"We used farming cattle in our agricultural tasks in the past," said a local farmer. "Those who

had no farming cattle needed to hire oxen from other farmers for farming works. Now, thanks to the station branch of Township Agricultural Mechanization Department, we can hire modern agricultural machinery at fair prices."

*Myo Win Nyo (Kyunhla)*



Road works force temporary relocation of market

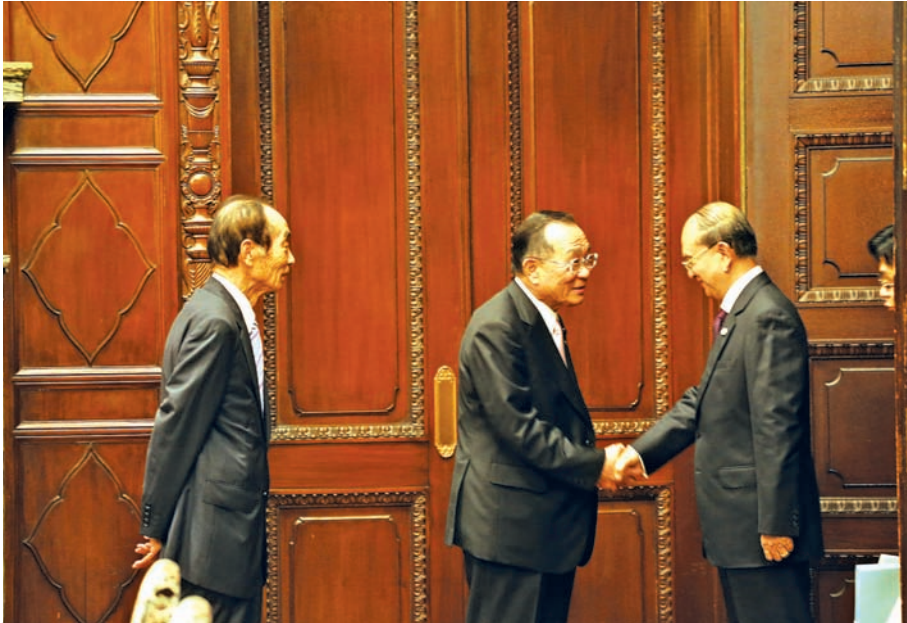


MANDALAY, 3 July — Mandalay City Development Committee on 2 July decided to temporarily relocate Myohaung Market in Chanmyathazi Township

while road works are carried out. Opened in 1991, the market between 82<sup>nd</sup> and 83<sup>rd</sup> streets in Tampawady Ward has more than 400 vendors.

MCDC officials earlier inspected a section of 82<sup>nd</sup> Street west of the market that has been damaged by heavy usage.—*Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)*

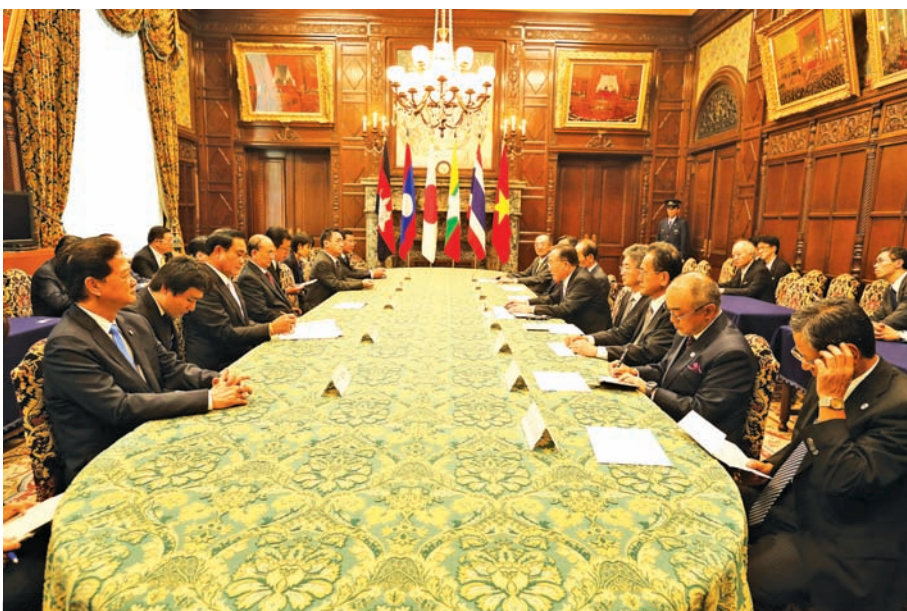
## Images of President U Thein Sein's Japan visit



*President of the Japanese House of Councillors Masaaki Yamazaki welcomes President U Thein Sein.—MNA*



*President U Thein Sein being welcomed at Royal Palace of Japanese Emperor.—MNA*



*President U Thein Sein and party hold talks with President of the Japanese House of Councillors Masaaki Yamazaki and party.—MNA*



*President U Thein Sein and party hold meeting with Speaker of the Japanese House of Representatives Tadamori Oshima and party.—MNA*

## Advanced HIFU cancer treatment comes to Myanmar

**By Khaing Thanda Lwin**

YANGON, 3 July — An advanced, non-invasive surgical procedure for people with cancerous tumours is now available in Myanmar, a doctor from a new Health Ministry treatment centre said Wednesday.

High-intensity focused ultrasound “is a type of cancer treatment that gives off high frequency sound waves to kill cancer cells,” Dr U Aye Chan Maw said in an interview with The Global New Light of Myanmar.

The new HIFU Centre is located within the compound of the 500-bed Specialist Hospital in downtown Yangon. The health

ministry bought the HIFU machine from ACS Myanmar Medical Co. at a cost of US \$2.8 million.

“Five local people with liver cancer have received this treatment free of charge after establishing the centre,” Dr Aye Chan Maw said.

“It doesn't have as many side effects as other types of cancer treatments already in use,” Dr Aye Chan Maw said. “The machine might be able to treat cancers including prostate cancer, kidney cancer, liver cancer, breast and ovarian cancer, but it is not a suitable treatment for some cancers

such as brain tumours and lung cancer.”

Managing Director U Sithu Aung of ACS Myanmar Medical Co. said the company plans to import more high intensity-focused ultrasounds from China in the future.

Myanmar has high rates of liver cancer, while ovarian cancer is the fastest-growing health problem for women.

According to a report, cancer is the leading causes of death in developed countries. Each year, about 4 million people die from cancer worldwide while more than 6 million people are diagnosed with cancer.

GNLM

## Press Release

1. At the 29<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, Switzerland, a resolution on Myanmar was tabled by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and adopted by the Council on 3 July 2015.
2. The resolution infringes on the sovereignty of Myanmar. It also contains allegations on human rights and interfering with issues which fall within domestic jurisdiction of Myanmar. Additionally, it carries languages that mislead the people in their views on freedom of religion being practiced and allowed in the country. It is a subjective act abusing the Human Rights Council on religious grounds.
3. It is considered as an attempt to harm existing peace and unity among the people of different faiths in Myanmar's pluralist society. In a broader sense, it is a step which constitutes a beginning that would detrimental to the present harmony among the religions of the world. In the contrary, this harmony should be preserved and promoted by all.
4. When the Human Rights Council took action on the resolution, Permanent Representative of Myanmar strongly rejected the unacceptable terminology mentioned in it. He further rejected paragraphs in the resolution one by another. Then, he firmly stated the stand that Myanmar dissociates itself from the resolution.
5. Myanmar will continue efforts on better promotion and protection of human rights, and also for the people of different faiths to keep on living harmoniously and peacefully in the country.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
Nay Pyi Taw  
Dated: 3 July 2015

PHOTO GALLERY



President U Thein Sein delivers speech at working luncheon of Mekong-Japan Parliamentary Friendship Association.—MNA



President U Thein Sein shakes hands with Komeito Party Leader Natsuo Yamaguchi at Hotel New Otani in Tokyo.—MNA

Images of President U Thein Sein's Japan visit



President U Thein Sein and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe enjoy Myanmar Fashion and Handicrafts Show at Minamiaoyama Idol.—MNA



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe warmly welcomes President U Thein Sein at Minamiaoyama Idol.—MNA



President U Thein Sein receives Shintaro Ambe, Vice President of Mitsui Co. Ltd. —MNA

## PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 4 July, 2015

## Time to stop political daydreaming

By Myint Win Thein

**I**N the six months leading up to the 2010 general election, an array of politicians and analysts urged the public to cast their votes, saying it would turn the country into a democracy overnight. At that time, the public was largely indifferent to the general election, but

the politicians and analysts eventually persuaded them.

It is true that general elections are important but they alone cannot solve all the problems that have been raging for decades. It will take some time to change old mindsets and systems. However, politicians say all problems will be solved when the people vote for them.

Now, with another general election looming later this year, politicians and analysts have already been gripped by a high fever and are trying to spread it to the public once more, promising that the upcoming ballot will change the political landscape of Myanmar dramatically.

It is undeniable that 2015 general election is important for Myanmar, but it is unlikely to eliminate all rooted social woes that have been jeop-

ardizing the country for decades. History has shown us that transition of a country takes time.

It is high time politicians and analysts take accountability for their political rhetoric and stop political daydreaming and misleading the public.

## Write for us

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

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

## Choose Cooperatives Choose Equality

Htun Tin Htun

**T**O honour the co-operators and members of cooperative movement in the World who are going to participate in the Celebration of International Day of Cooperatives falls on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2015 (Saturday).

**Concern for the Community: is the Seventh Cooperative Principle** for Cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members:

Historically, cooperatives have been used as a tool to alleviate housing shortages in times of crisis. Cooperative housing has a long history as a vehicle for home ownership and resident control since the early 1900s. Housing cooperatives play an important role in the world's housing and shelter development to build better. On average, 10% of Europeans live in housing co-operatives. They show that living in housing co-operative provides many advantages in terms of economic, social and environmental sustainability. Housing co-operatives often manage to provide housing at costs that are below the price of a similar home in the open housing market. The reason for this is that the prime objective of housing co-operatives is to provide good quality and affordable housing in the interests of their members, and not to maximise profit for developers or shareholders.

One man one vote is the democratic essence of forming and functioning of cooperatives and to support the **Second Cooperative**

**Principle: Democratic Member Control:** Cooperatives are democratic organisations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women, serving as elected representatives, are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives, members have equal voting rights [one member one vote], and cooperatives at other levels are also organised in a democratic manner.

**Open and voluntary membership is the First Cooperative Principle: Voluntary and Open Membership:** Cooperatives are voluntary organisations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination, for all cooperative societies in the world.

Survival, sustainable, success and significance are the 4 Ss for the progress and expansion of our cooperative movement.

Economic Participation of Members **is the Third Cooperative Principle: Member Economic Participation:** Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the cooperative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing their cooperative, possibly by set-

ting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

**Cooperation among Cooperatives** is the Sixth Cooperative Principle: Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the Cooperative Movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

Ownership is very important for the individual members of cooperatives (any organization) to steward and steer the cooperative identity and entity.

Organizational Development (OD) is important for the advancement, betterment, comfort, development and enhancement (ABCDE) of any cooperative society

Peoples' Centered Development needs to be focused for the sustainable development of cooperatives.

Endurance, efficiency, economy, effectiveness are 4 Es required for gaining the best performance of our cooperatives.

Responsiveness, predictability, efficiency and effectiveness, consensus orientation, follows the rules of law, transparency, accountability, participatory, equity and inclusiveness are the main elements for ensuring good cooperative governance for the success of cooperative societies.

A cooperative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural

needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically controlled enterprise. (The ICA's Definition of a Cooperative in 1995)

The cooperative model of enterprise contributes to youth employment not by only providing salaried employment, but also facilitating job creation through self-employment. The model lends itself to both rural and urban areas and for persons of all academic and skill levels including recent graduates who have limited prospects of finding jobs.

Independence and Autonomy is **Fourth Cooperative Principle: Autonomy and Independence:** Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organisations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organisations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative autonomy.

Vicissitudes: "the

eight ups and downs of life" (*attha lokadhammā*). (These are: **gain** and **loss** (*lābho alābho*), **blame** and **honour** (*ayasa yaso ca*), **insult** and **praise** (*ninda pasamsā*), **delight** and **despair** (*sukhañ ca dukkhañ*.) are natural law for all human beings so that cooperative members need to cultivate "Equanimity" (*Upekkhā*) or our ability to remain calm and unruffled when we face "the eight vicissitudes" and be resilient when facing financial, economic, political crisis, natural and man-made disasters.

**Equal access to goods and services is meant Equality**—The United Nations have recognized as a critical strategy, at the national level, that of ensuring universal access to good-quality, basic goods and services, the very purpose of a co-operative.

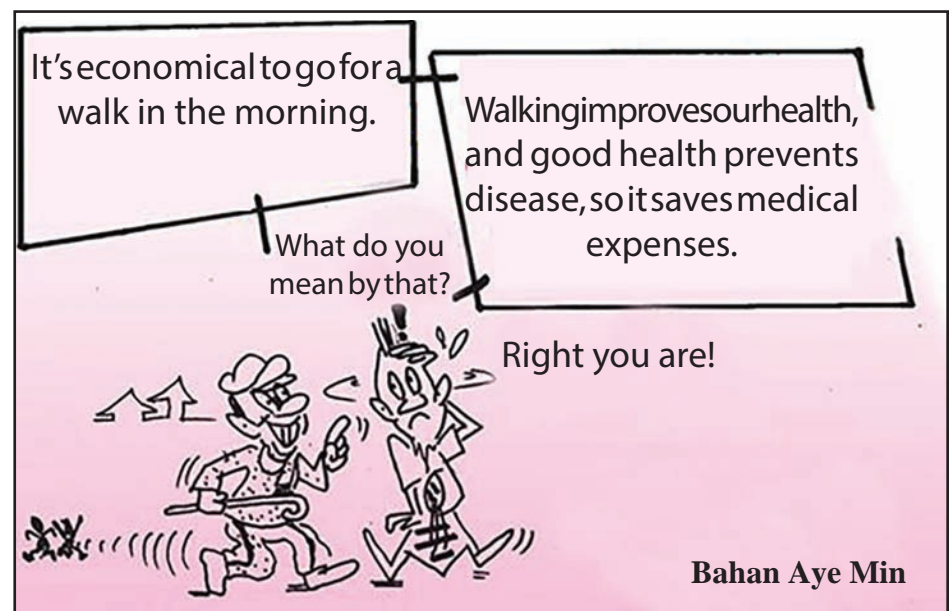
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of Post 2015 Development Agenda and its indicators are important goals and indicators for cooperative societies in the world to make concerted actions and efforts for achieving the targets within the time frame

Cooperatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and Solidarity. Cooperative members, in the tradition of their founders believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others. (ICA's Basic Cooperative Values)

Happiness can be attained through the practice of Four Sublime States or Divine Abodes (*Brahma-Vihāra*): a) Loving Kindness (*Mettā*); b) Compassion (*Karuṇā*); c) Appreciative (Altruistic) Joy (*Muditā*); and d) Equanimity (*Upekkhā*) (an attitude of impartiality and an ability to remain calm and unruffled)

*Our vision and our responsibility are to end extreme poverty in all its forms in the context of sustainable development and to have in place the building blocks of sustained prosperity for all.* (UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals)

(See page 9)





NATIONAL

## OCBC aims to strengthen financial sector through cooperation with local banks

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 3 July — The Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation signed memorandum of understanding with 10 Myanmar banks Thursday at the official opening of its Yangon branch, agreeing to collaborate with the local lenders in training and capability building.

Singapore-based OCBC said its partnership with the local banks aims to boost their capabilities in cash management, trade

finance and treasury solutions, thereby supporting the anticipated growth in trade and foreign direct investments into Myanmar.

According to a press release, the three state-owned banks signing the MoU on Thursday were Myanmar Economic Bank, Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank and Myanmar Investment and Commercial Bank. OCBC also signed MoUs with seven private commercial banks—Asia Green Development Bank Limited, Ayeyarwady

Bank, Co-operative Bank, Kanbawza Bank Ltd, Myanmar Apex Bank, Myanmar Oriental Bank Ltd and United Amara Bank.

OCBC Chairman Mr Ooi Sang Kuang said the bank set two significant milestones on Thursday that would contribute to a stronger financial sector in Myanmar.

OCBC was granted a banking license from the Central Bank of Myanmar together with eight other foreign banks last year.

GNLM



Witnessed by Central Bank of Myanmar Governor U Kyaw Kyaw Maung (left), Singaporean Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Teo Chee Hean (centre) and Union Minister for Finance U Win Shein, officials from OCBC Bank and 10 domestic banks sign agreements on collaboration in training and capability building in Yangon on Thursday.— PHOTO: OCBC BANK

## Choose Cooperatives Choose...

(from page 8)

Over a thousand school co-operatives recently took part in the Schools Cooperative Day in Malaysia for young entrepreneurs, which was themed ‘Creativity and Innovation Empowers School Cooperatives’. Co-operatives have been established and encouraged in schools in Malaysia for over 50 years as a way of introducing young people to the co-operative values and principles and fostering the culture of co-operatives. The Education Ministry in Malaysia aims to have co-operatives in all secondary schools, and so far 2,090 of the 2,190 secondary schools in the country have established co-operatives. Of these, 1,835 have registered as members of Angkasa (the Malaysian Cooperative Commission), meaning they have access to programmes and training. School co-operatives are involved in projects that help develop the qualities of independence and responsibility, with links to

education, business, entrepreneurship and the economy. Students engaged in training through school co-operatives gain more knowledge on the finer points of business at an early age, enabling them to become effective leaders of co-operatives later in life and successful. The Schools Cooperative Day, which is organised by ANGKASA and the Education Ministry, has been running annually since 1995. Participants take part in activities such as a quiz, essay writing and drawing competitions, seminars themed around co-operatives and the co-operative movement and a petanque tournament. Prizes include visits to co-operatives and universities in other countries and the opportunity to experience first-hand the co-operative movement around the world.

SMART is an acronym for setting objectives of co-operatives’ action plan, Specific, Measurable, Attainable (Achievable), Realistic and Time-bound

need to be considered in planning the cooperatives’ operational activities to produce good results.

Equity (Pro-Poor), Employment (Pro-Job), Empowerment (Pro-Women) and Environment (Pro-Nature) are 4 main considerations for Human Development in order to enlarge the choices of the people in this planet.

Environmental preservation and sustainable management of natural resources is one of the Sustainable Development Goals of Post 2015 Development Agenda.

Quantity is important and quality is much more important for cooperatives in carrying out their production, services and trading activities to efficiently and effectively produce outputs, outcomes and impacts using Results-Based Management techniques.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by

## Discussion focuses on formation of Myanmar Media Council

YANGON, 3 July—Ministry of Information and Myanmar Press Council (Interim) held a meeting on formation of the Myanmar Media Council in line with the Sub-rules (a) and (b) of the Media Rule-5, at the hall of the council at Yuza-

na Tower, here, on Friday.

At the meeting, Deputy Minister for Information U Pike Htway said that the ministry and the council will cooperate in formation of the Myanmar Media Council and the ministry will provide necessary as-

sistance for the tasks.

Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department U Ye Tint discussed election of members of the media council while the attendees spoke about the future plans.—MNA



Union Minister U Aung Min-led government’s peace negotiating team holds talks with senior delegates of ethnic armed groups in a preliminary meeting to revive stalled peace talks.— PHOTO: CREDIT TO NYO OHN MYINT

## Gov’t team, ethnic armed...

(from page 1)

“We proposed to hold further talks about who the NCA signatories should be and to ink the ceasefire deal with 15 ethnic armed groups first.” At the Law Khee Lar summit, the ethnic side decided all mem-

bers of the NCCT, a coalition of 16 ethnic armed groups, must be included in the signing process.

Nai Hong Sar, the former NCCT leader who is also a member of the new ethnic negotiating team, told The GNLM in Yangon

last month that signing of the ceasefire must be all-inclusive, and the deal must guarantee lasting peace.

U Hla Maung Shwe ended the phone interview to the GNLM by calling for flexibility in peace talks, hoping to hear good news at Saturday’s 3 p.m. meeting.—GNLM

teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, both among the peoples of Member States themselves and among the peoples of territories under their jurisdiction has been proclaimed by UN’ General Assembly

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood. Ambition, Attitude, Authority, Appearance and Audacity are 5As for achieving multilevel marketing objectives

Leadership is, most fundamentally, about changes. What leaders do is create the systems and organizations that managers need, and, eventually, elevate them up to a whole new level or . . . change in some basic ways to take advantage of new opportunities.—(John P. Kotter)

In cooperation with the

United Nations, the Member States of the UN have pledged themselves to achieve, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms the peoples of United Nations reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and have determined to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Training, Education and Information is the **Fifth Cooperative Principle: Education, Training and Information:** Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees, so that they can contribute effectively to the development of their coop-

eratives. They inform the general public – particularly young people and opinion leaders – about the nature and benefits of cooperation.

Youth of today are leaders for tomorrow so that the cooperative societies have responsibility to nurture and train youth in their communities to be ready for future Cooperative Leaders and Good Co-operators. The democratic nature of the cooperative enterprise encourages participation, broadens ownership and fosters empowerment of youth. Indeed, young people often cite that it is the cooperative values and principles that make cooperatives attractive to them both a means to create their own enterprises or as a potential employer who will provide them “decent work”.

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Prime Minister  
Shinzo Abe

## Abe apologizes for LDP lawmakers' anti-media remarks

TOKYO, 3 July — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe apologized on Friday for remarks made last week by some lawmakers of his Liberal Democratic Party calling for pressure to be applied on media critical of the government. “It was extremely inappropriate,” Abe told a session of a House of Representatives committee. “I apologize for (the remarks) that may have hurt the feelings of people in Okinawa

Prefecture,” he said, referring to remarks at an LDP meeting that the two major newspapers in Okinawa have been “taken over by left-wingers” and should be “destroyed.”

In the 25 June meeting of about 40 junior LDP lawmakers close to Abe, participants lambasted media critical of the government’s security policies such as the plan to relocate a key US military base within Okina-

wa despite strong calls from local people to move it outside the island prefecture.

Best-selling novelist Naoki Hyakuta, a close friend of Abe’s, was invited to the session as the featured speaker, and said the two Okinawa papers should be “destroyed.”

Abe did not attend the meeting. But he said on Friday, “Since the study session was held at the party’s headquarters, I am ultimate-

ly responsible.” “Those remarks were very regrettable and thoughtless,” the premier said, adding that they “significantly damage people’s trust and are not acceptable.”

Yukio Edano, secretary general of the main opposition Democratic Party of Japan, told the same Diet session, “It should never be allowed for public authorities to put pressure on the media.”

The LDP has already announced disciplinary measures against the lawmakers who made the remarks. On Thursday, the editors in chief of the two Okinawa papers — *The Ryukyu Shimpo* and *The Okinawa Times* — held Press conferences in Tokyo, saying they are reflecting major opinions in the prefecture critical of the government’s handling of the issue.—*Kyodo News*

## Death toll from capsized Philippine ferry rises to 41, divers halt search

MANILA, 3 July — The death toll after a ferry capsized in the central Philippines rose to 41 on Friday when rescuers recovered three more bodies, but bad weather was hampering the search for another 12 people still missing, the coast guard and police said.

The motorized, wooden-hulled *MBCA Kim-Nirvana* was carrying 187 passengers and crew when it rolled onto its side and overturned minutes after leaving the port of Ormoc City on Thursday. There were 134 survivors.

High waves and strong currents on Friday forced divers to postpone efforts to search the sea floor off Ormoc but rubber boats continued to scour the surface for survivors, Philippine National Police Director Asher Dolina said.

Part of the upturned ferry’s hull was still visible above the surface of the water on Friday, a *Reuters* witness said.

Search and rescue operations continued through the night, with coast guard personnel reinforced by a Philippine navy ship and two air force planes.

A marine casualty investigation into the cause of the sinking will begin on

Friday, coast guard spokesman Armand Balilo told Philippine radio.

Survivors said the ferry appeared to turn sharply to the right and was hit by a large wave before it overturned after leaving port in Leyte province, south of the capital, Manila.

“We were given life vests but we were not able to wear them before the ferry sank,” said Rhe-An Garciano, a survivor.

Panicked passengers crowded the right side of the ferry, causing it to tilt slowly before capsizing, Balilo said.

“The ferry was carrying cement and rice but it didn’t appear to be overloaded,” Balilo said.

The number on board was revised down on Friday after it was found two crew members did not board the ferry.

Scores, sometimes hundreds, of people die each year from ferry accidents in the Philippines, an archipelago of 7,100 islands with a notoriously poor record for maritime safety. Overcrowding is common and many of the vessels are in bad condition.—*Reuters*



Members of the Philippine Coast Guard attempt to recover the remains of the capsized boat *MBCA Kim-Nirvana* during a search and rescue operation near a port in Ormoc city, central Philippines on 2 July, 2015.—*REUTERS*

## Thai gov’t says Omani MERS patient fully recovered from disease

BANGKOK, 3 July — The Public Health Ministry said on Friday a 75-year-old Omani man who tested positive for the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus after entering Thailand last month and was the country’s only MERS patient has fully recovered from the disease.

“The patient has recovered from MERS — he has no fever, he can breathe by himself, and he can walk a short distance. The medical

team agrees to let him return home,” Public Health Minister Rachata Ratchatanawin told a Press conference.

The man and his three relatives are scheduled to leave for Oman later Friday.

The man, who entered Thailand on 15 June to undergo treatment for a heart condition at a Bangkok hospital, was confirmed to be infected with MERS three days later. He was in an isolation unit of the ministry’s

Bamratnaradon Infectious Disease Institute for the past two weeks, during which his condition improved considerably under treatment. His relatives who were traveling with him tested negative for the disease, the ministry said. Now that the two-week incubation period of the disease has passed, the ministry will also stop monitoring 176 people who came into contact with the man.

*Kyodo News*

## Singapore navy launches 1<sup>st</sup> Littoral Mission Vessel



Photo taken on 3 July, 2015 shows a littoral mission vessel “*RSS Independence*” berthing at Singapore’s *ST Marine Benoi Shipyard*. Singapore’s Navy on Friday held a launch ceremony for its very first of six littoral mission vessels “*RSS Independence*”.—*XINHUA*

SINGAPORE, 3 July — Singapore’s Minister for Defence Ng Eng Hen on Friday officially launched “*Independence*”, the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN)’s first Littoral Mission Vessel (LMV), which marked a significant milestone for the LMV programme.

Ng said the LMV is not just another new ship, instead it will lead the way in how Singaporeans use technology to overcome operational demands. That is the ethos of the country as Singapore celebrate its Golden Jubilee this year.

The Ministry of Defence decided to build eight “uniquely Singapore” LMVs and signed a contract with Singapore Technologies Engineering Ltd for the construction in 2013. The eight new LMVs will replace the RSN’s Fearless-class patrol vessels (PVs), which have been in service for 20 years.

According to introduction of Lieutenant Colonel Chew Chun-Chau, Head of Littoral Mission Vessel Project Office RSN, the

new LMVs will be “smarter, faster, sharper” compared with the previous ships.

Col Chew said they want to design a ship that’s smarter and can operate efficiently with a smaller crew size as the RSN have been increasingly tasked to do many new operations with tight personnel. Thus, Customizing a ship which can meet their demands rather than buying a one seems a better choice.

The new LMVs are designed and equipped with advanced combat capabilities and technologies to further strengthen RSN’s ability in the seaward defence of Singapore and protecting sea lines of communication.

One of the key features of LMVs is the Integrated Command Centre where the ships Bridge, Combat Information Centre and machinery Control Room are co-located, said Chew.

The centre integrates and synergizes the management of navigation, engineering, and combat functions to achieve greater operational effectiveness

and efficiency, especially during maritime security operations.

The LMVs also have greater endurance and are able to stay at sea for up to 14 days (3,500 nautical miles). The LMVs ability to respond rapidly to maritime security incidents is further enhanced with its faster speed in excess of 27 knots and the ability to support a medium-lift helicopter.

In addition, the LMVs are versatile and can be quickly configured to take on a wide spectrum of operations, such as conducting maritime security operations, supporting humanitarian assistance and disaster relief and search-and-rescue operations.

Following the launching, installation of combat systems on board “*Independence*” will commence before it undergoes sea trials. *Independence* is expected to be delivered to the RSN in 2016 and will be fully operational by 2017. All eight LMVs are expected to be fully operational by 2020.

*Xinhua*

## No breakthrough in talks between Iran and nuclear watchdog



Austria's President Heinz Fischer (C) and Foreign Minister Sebastian Kurz (L) welcome Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif for a bilateral meeting in Hofburg Palace in Vienna, Austria, on 3 July, 2015.—REUTERS

VIENNA, 3 July — No breakthrough was reached between the UN nuclear watchdog and Iran on unresolved questions around Teheran's nuclear programme, the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said on Friday after a visit to Teheran.

Teheran and world powers are pushing for a final deal at nuclear talks in Vienna, under which Iran would agree to scale back its atomic research — which it denies is aimed at developing a bomb — in exchange for a lifting of sanctions.

The IAEA will play a crucial role in monitoring and verifying any final deal. Iran has been stalling the agency's investigation, running parallel to the

political talks, into possible military dimensions of Tehran's past nuclear work.

Yukiya Amano, the IAEA's director general, on Thursday met Iran's President Hassan Rouhani and the secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, Ali Shamkhani, in Teheran.

"The purpose of the visit was to advance work towards the resolution of all outstanding issues regarding Iran's nuclear programme, including clarification of possible military dimensions," Yukiya Amano said in a statement.

"I believe that both sides have a better understanding on some ways forward, though more work will be needed."

Reuters

## M6.1 quake jolts central, southern Philippines

MANILA, 3 July — An earthquake with a magnitude of 6.1 shook the central and southern Philippines on Friday, but there were no reports of damage or casualties, the state volcanology and seismology bureau said.

The quake's epicenter was located 41 kilometres northeast of Burgos town in Surigao del Norte Province facing the Pacific Ocean, at a depth of 30 kilometres. The quake was felt on the islands of Cebu and Leyte in the central Philippines as well as in the provinces of Surigao del Sur, Surigao del Norte, Agusal del Sur, Dinagat Island and Davao City in Mindanao island. Aftershocks are expected, the bureau said.—Kyodo News

## Japan, Cambodia agree to work closely on developing Mekong region

Tokyo, 3 July — Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida and his Cambodian counterpart Hor Namhong agreed on Thursday to keep working together over infrastructure development in Cambodia and four other countries along the Mekong River, Japan's Foreign Ministry said.

The two met ahead of a summit in Tokyo on Saturday that will gather Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and the leaders of five Southeast Asian nations known as Mekong

states — Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

Japan will continue to provide assistance for infrastructure building in Cambodia and help boost intraregional connectivity, Kishida was quoted by the ministry as saying during their talks at his office.

Hor Namhong, who is also Cambodia's deputy prime minister, said the development of the Mekong region will contribute to connecting more of the entire region covering mem-

bers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the ministry said.

Pushing for infrastructure development in Cambodia, which is one of the least-developed members of ASEAN along with Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam, is in line with the Japanese premier's investment initiative announced in May to provide \$110 billion to promote "quality infrastructure" in Asia over the next five years.

Kishida and Hor Namhong also said they will

continue to cooperate in efforts to build the so-called ASEAN Economic Community, the ministry said. With the launch of the regional economic bloc by the end of this year, barriers to the flow of people, goods and money across ASEAN member states' borders will be lowered.

The five Mekong states belong to the 10-member regional grouping, which also includes Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore.

Kyodo News

## Thai navy seeks to buy three Chinese submarines worth \$1 bil

BANGKOK, 3 July — Thailand's navy is seeking to acquire three submarines from China in a deal that would be worth 36 billion baht (\$1.1 billion), its top commander said on Thursday.

Adm Kraisorn Chansuwanit told a Press conference that if Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Prawit Wongsuwan approves the procurement request, it would be submitted to the Cabinet for deliberation.

Besides China, a special committee also considered buying submarines from Russia, Germany, France and Sweden, he said.

Thailand's navy currently has no submarines in its fleet.

Kyodo News

## Senior Japan diplomat sent to Russia over Putin's Japan visit

TOKYO, 3 July — The Japanese government has sent a senior diplomat to Russia to coordinate Russian President Vladimir Putin's visit to Japan later this year, government sources said on Friday.

Hajime Hayashi, director general of the Foreign Ministry's European Affairs Bureau, is expected to discuss a visit to Russia by Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida, which would be a precondition for Putin's visit to Japan, the sources said.

The diplomat is expected to discuss with Russian officials Japan's long-

time push for the return of islands it calls the Northern Territories — Kunashiri, Etorofu, Shikotan and the Habomai islets — which the Soviet Union seized shortly after Japan surrendered in World War II in August 1945.

He is also expected to discuss Japan's economic sanctions against Russia due to the crisis over Ukraine, the sources said.

In telephone talks with Putin on 24 June, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe confirmed the Russian president's plan to visit Japan by the end of this year.

Kyodo News

## Two Koreas to meet again on ex-S Korean first lady's visit to N Korea

SEOUL, 3 July — A group of aides to former South Korean President Kim Dae-jung is scheduled to hold talks with North Korean officials on Monday at the North's border city of Kaesong to continue arranging a visit to North Korea by Kim's widow Lee Hee Ho, South Korea's Unification Ministry spokesman said on Friday.

The talks between five people from the Kim Dae Jung Peace Centre, dedicated to the former president, and officials

from the North's Asia-Pacific Peace Committee will be the second of its kind after the first round was held on Tuesday.

At the previous meeting, the South Korean side conveyed the 92-year-old former first lady's wish to visit the North this month. The two sides agreed to continue talks to finalize details like the timing, itinerary and size of her entourage.

Any South Korean who wants to visit North Korea must gain permission from the South Korean

government.

Attention is focused on whether Lee will be able to meet with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un during her visit at a time when inter-Korean relations remain tense.

North Korea has further heightened tensions by threatening retaliation against South Korea for the opening last week in Seoul of a UN office on monitoring human rights violation in the North.

Lee met Kim in December 2011 when she traveled to Pyongyang to

express condolences over the death of then North Korean leader Kim Jong Il, father of the current young leader.

She had sought to travel to the North in December last year, but the plan was cancelled mainly due to her declining health. In 2000, Kim Dae Jung held a landmark summit with Kim Jong Il in Pyongyang and agreed to promote national reconciliation and economic cooperation. Kim Dae Jung died in 2009.

Kyodo News

## Solar-powered plane breaks solo flight record across Pacific to Hawaii

HONOLULU, 3 July — A Swiss man attempting to circumnavigate the globe with an aircraft powered only by the sun's energy has broken a world record for the longest non-stop solo flight, the project team said on Thursday.

The *Solar Impulse*, which took off from Japan on Monday on the seventh leg of its journey and is expected to land in Hawaii early on Friday, shattered the solo-flight record threshold of 76 hours while crossing the Pacific.

The aircraft, piloted alternatively by Swiss explorers Andre Borschberg and Bertrand Piccard, set off on its 22,000-mile (35,000-km) journey around the world from Abu Dhabi on 9 March.

"Can you imagine that a solar powered airplane without fuel can now fly longer than a jet plane!"

said Piccard in a statement. "This is a clear message that clean technologies can achieve impossible goals."

The plane, which was piloted by Borschberg when it broke the record, weighs about as much as a family sedan and has 17,000 solar cells across its wingspan.

Overall, its trip around the globe was expected to take some 25 flight days, broken up into 12 legs at speeds between 30 to 60 miles per hour (50 and 100 kph).

The plane was expected to land around sunrise on Friday at Hawaii's Kalaeloa Airport, a former military base, according to a website logging updates of the journey.

The *Solar Impulse 2* initially left Nanjing, China, on 31 May for Hawaii, but was forced to cut short its bid a day later due to



Crew members push the solar-powered plane *Solar Impulse 2* to its parking position at Nagoya airport after changing weather conditions thwarted a planned take-off, on 24 June, 2015.—REUTERS

what Borschberg termed "a wall of clouds" over the Pacific. It landed in the central Japanese city of Nagoya.

The solo record was previously set in 2006 by

American adventurer Steve Fossett, who flew the Virgin Atlantic Global Flyer for 76 hours non-stop.

The *Solar Impulse 2* remained airborne three con-

secutive days and nights, producing its own power with solar energy, the pilots said.

The *Solar Impulse 2* is the first aircraft to fly

day and night without any fuel, solely using the sun's energy.

Borschberg navigates alone in an unheated and unpressurized cockpit, sleeping in bursts of 20 minutes while on autopilot.

The next leg of the flight will be from Honolulu to Phoenix, Arizona, and then Borschberg and Piccard will fly together across the Atlantic on a return path to Abu Dhabi.

Studies, design and construction took 12 years and a first version of the craft rolled out in 2009 broke records for heights and distances travelled by a manned solar plane.

"The experience of flight is so intense that I can only focus on the present moment and discover how to deal with my own energy and mindset," Borschberg said in a statement.

Reuters

## Three dead as 6.4 earthquake hits China's Xinjiang

BEIJING, 3 July — At least three people were killed and more than 20 injured when a strong 6.4 magnitude earthquake hit a rural part of China's far western Xinjiang region on Friday, Chinese officials said.

Many traditional houses in the mainly ethnic Uighur region collapsed when the shallow quake struck about 160 km (100 miles) northwest of the southern city of Hotan in the early morning, according to Chinese emergency officials.

"Currently, the earthquake has resulted in three deaths, including a father and son, and more than 20 injuries," China National Emergency Broadcasting (CNEB) said on its website.

The quake was initially re-

ported at various magnitudes up to 6.5. Several aftershocks were reported, the strongest measuring magnitude 4.8, according to the US Geological Survey.

Residents of the region expressed shock at the intensity of the quake on social media, although authorities said they were optimistic the death toll would not be high.

"If many people are gathered in one place during an earthquake, it can lead to a serious disaster, but in this case, there were relatively few people so it isn't so serious," China Earthquake Networks Centre researcher Sun Shihong told state broadcaster China Central Television.

Pictures on social media and state television showed cracks on

the walls of buildings and other minor damage.

Earthquakes frequently strike China. A quake in the southwestern province of Sichuan in 2008 killed almost 70,000 people.

Xinjiang, strategically located on the borders of India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Central Asia, is one of China's most politically sensitive regions following years of violence, blamed by the government on Islamist militants.

Exiled Uighur groups and human rights activists say the government's own repressive policies and religious and cultural restrictions have provoked unrest, an accusation the government denies.

Reuters

## WWII documentary translated into 8 languages

BEIJING, 3 July — A Chinese documentary on how Germany and Japan reflected on their wartime atrocities has been translated into eight languages, and is available on major news portals.

The Chinese version of the 90-minute, four-episode documentary, "Truth and Denial: Germany and Japan's Postwar Redemption", was first aired on China Central Television in early June.

Produced by the Institute of World History under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, it has been translated into English, Russian, French, German, Japanese, Korean, Spanish

and Arabic.

The documentary details how the two major countries in the war reflected on their actions post-World War II.

While Germany earned respect through concrete efforts, Japan irked its Asian neighbours by denying its war crimes. Jiang Youxi, the director and producer of the documentary, said the documentary offered a new Chinese perspective on WWII.

"There are many articles on the Internet analyzing Japan and Germany's different attitudes following WWII, but they did not answer my question: Why did they embark on different paths."—Xinhua

## Israeli officer kills stone-throwing Palestinian youth in West Bank

RAMALLAH, 3 July — A senior Israeli army officer shot and killed a Palestinian youth who was throwing stones near a checkpoint in the occupied West Bank on Friday, Palestinian and Israeli sources said.

A Palestinian witness and an Israeli military spokeswoman said the Palestinian was among a group throwing stones at an army vehicle near Qalandiya, a major checkpoint between Jerusalem and the West Bank city of Ramallah.—Reuters

## Parrot predicts Japanese victory in Women's World Cup final



Olivia, a gray parrot kept at the Nasu Animal Kingdom in Tochigi Prefecture, eastern Japan, picks up the Japanese flag with its beak on 3 July, 2015, in "predicting" that Japan would beat the United States in the Women's World Cup final on 5 July. The 10-year-old parrot had accurately predicted the outcomes of the team's previous six games in the tournament.—KYODO NEWS

UTSUNOMIYA, 3 July — Olivia, a gray parrot kept at a zoo in eastern Japan, predicted on Friday that Japan would beat the United States in the Women's World Cup final, having accurately predicted the outcomes of the team's previous six games in the tournament.

In front of visitors to the Nasu Animal Kingdom in Tochigi Prefecture, the 10-year-old parrot, facing miniature flags of the Rising Sun and the Stars and Stripes on a tiny stage covered with artificial grass, showed little hesitation in picking up the Japanese flag with its beak and giving it to its keeper, drawing applause and cheers. But Olivia made its last prediction after some hesitation, according to a zoo official.

For the semifinal match against England, which turned

out to be a close game, the parrot first picked up England's flag but then dropped it, seeming to rethink. It picked the flag again and then dropped it again, before finally grabbing the Japanese flag and giving it to the keeper.

The way Olivia predicted the outcome of the semifinal match, won by the reigning champions 2-1 after an injury-time own goal by England, seemed to suggest the bird knew the course of the game, making it a kind of animal oracle, the official said.

The parrot is a veteran in fortunetelling. Usually it picks paper fortunes for visitors, a job it has been doing for six years.

Japan will meet the United States in the Women's World Cup final for the second tournament in a row in Vancouver, Canada, on Sunday.—Kyodo News

**ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL**

**INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**  
**Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development, Myanmar**  
**Department of Rural Development,**  
**Taunggyi District, Southern Shan State**

1. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received a Grant from the Federal Republic of Germany (KfW Bank) through the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development towards the cost of Rural Development Programme Phase (I).
2. Department of Rural Development under Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development intends to implement, with a contract system, the construction of bituminous roads and Macadam roads (total length around 35km) and bridges along the roads in Taunggyi District, Shan State.
3. Interested companies should provide an Expression of Interest in writing on the Prequalification forms provided and submit the completed forms in person to the address below not later than (7- 08 - 2015) 16:00 pm.
4. Only the prequalified companies will then be invited to take part in the bidding process organized by the Central Tender Selection Committee, Further inquiries should be made by telephone or in person as mentioned below.

**Contact Address**

- (a) Director  
 Rural Road and Bridge Division  
 Ph & Fax : +95 67 409410 , +95 67 409210  
 Email : rbbdrd@gmail.com
- Director  
 Procurement and Logistics Division  
 Department of Rural Development  
 Ph & Fax : +95 67 409029  
 Office No-14, Nay Pyi Taw.
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 Shan State Department of Rural Development  
 Taunggyi  
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**BAY INFERENCE:** Monsoon is moderate to strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.  
**FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2015:** Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, scattered in Shan and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Chin State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Taninthayi Region, Rakhine and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

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**MV LANTAU ACE VOY NO (004N)**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**  
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**Five dead, one missing in explosion accident of S Korean chemical factory**

SEOUL, 3 July — Five workers have been identified dead, with one missing, in an explosion accident near a waste water disposal facility of a Hanwha Chemical factory in the country's southeastern city of Ulsan, YTN and *Yonhap News Agency* reported on Friday.

The explosion occurred at about 9:19 am (0019 GMT) at the second plant in Ulsan of the chemical unit of South Korean conglomerate Hanwha Group. Five workers, who

were welding the upper part of the waste water pool, were killed with the explosion, and one has been missing, leaving the possibility for a rise in death toll. One more worker sustained a minor injury.

A total of 11 workers were working on the facility before the explosion happened. Residual gas was estimated to have caused explosion during the welding operation, but the exact cause is under investigation.—*Xinhua*

**12 killed as 4 compartments of train fall into canal in Pakistan**

ISLAMABAD, 3 July — At least 12 people including a senior army officer was killed when four compartments of a train fell into a canal in eastern Pakistan's city of Gujranwala on Thursday afternoon, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said.

Maj Gen Asim Bajwa, Director General of ISPR, the mouthpiece of Pakistani army, said that a railway bridge collapsed when the train carrying military troops was crossing it near Jamke Chattha area of Gujranwala, a district located in the country's eastern Punjab Province.

He said a lieutenant colonel was among the 12 people who were killed in the bridge collapse.

The ISPR said 80 people including four injured were rescued and eight bodies were retrieved from the canal while the search of the remaining four bodies is underway.

The special train had 21 cargo and six passenger compartments was on its



*Rescuers and local residents take part in a search operation after train compartments fell into a canal in east Pakistan's Gujranwala, on 2 July, 2015. At least 12 people were killed, over 100 others injured and at least four people went missing when four compartments of a train fell into a canal while crossing a bridge in Pakistan's city of Gujranwala on Thursday afternoon, local media and officials said.—XINHUA*

way to the cantonment city of Kharian from Pano Aqil for military exercises when it met the accident.

The irrigation department closed the canal water to help the army rescue teams find the remaining bodies once the canal water subsides.

Pakistani army backed by two helicopters and a crane conducted the rescue

operation.

Railway Minister, Khwaja Saad Rafique said the possibility of terrorist attack behind the attack cannot be ruled out as there was no apparent fault in the train or the bridge.

He said another passenger train crossed bridge in the morning and at that time it was intact and fully functional.

The minister said no traces of explosive materials were found from the collapsed bridge, however, it seems that there were some terrorist elements behind the incident as the train driver went missing after the collapse.

Regional Police Officer, Faisal Shahkar, contradicted the minister's statement saying the collapsed bridge is a hundred-year-old and was in a dilapidated condition due to which it collapsed when a 27-bogeyed train crossed it.

A relief train carrying medical staff and technicians has been dispatched from Lahore city to the incident site.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif expressed concerns over the incident and directed the officials with Pakistan Railways to reach at the site.

He also directed the officials to repair the track in the quickest possible way to restore the railway traffic.—*Xinhua*

## Comic-Con International to stay in San Diego for now, spurning LA

SAN DIEGO, 3 July — Comic-Con International will remain in San Diego through 2018, despite an effort by the city of Los Angeles to attract one of the world's top conventions for comic books and pop culture, officials said on Thursday.

Its roots date back to a 1970 event in San Diego that drew 300 attendees. It is the longest continuously running convention of its kind in the United States, contributing an estimated \$136 million to the regional economy.

The annual event, which draws more than 100,000 people, has become increasingly important to Hollywood film studios over the last decade as a platform for announcements tied to superhero and



People wait to enter the convention centre during the 2014 Comic-Con International Convention in San Diego, California on 25 July, 2014.—REUTERS

science-fiction film franchises.

Comic-Con had previously only committed to staying in San Diego until 2016, and there had been concerns among city officials that it could move to Los Angeles or Anaheim in

Orange County. But under the agreement, the event will stay in San Diego for two more years.

"Fans near and far can rejoice that their favourite superheroes and celebrities will continue to gather under the San Diego sun,"

Mayor Kevin Faulconer said in a statement.

Comic-Con spokesman David Glanzer said in a statement that his group was pleased to stay in the city where the event has grown up.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti said in April that WonderCon, a smaller sister event to Comic-Con International, would be held at the Los Angeles Convention Centre in 2016. At the time, he expressed hope that the larger event might set up a home base in Los Angeles.

WonderCon was last held in Anaheim.

This year's Comic-Con International will kick off with a preview night on 8 July and continue through on 12 July.

Reuters

## Rolling Stones to stage major career exhibit at London gallery



British veteran rockers The Rolling Stones lead singer Mick Jagger performs in front of bandmates Ron Wood (L) and Keith Richards during a concert on their North American "Zip Code" tour in Nashville, Tennessee on 17 June, 2015.—REUTERS

LONDON, 3 July — Veteran rockers The Rolling Stones will put on their first major exhibition looking at their more than 50 years in music at a London gallery next year, showcasing some 500 items including original stage designs, guitars and costumes.

"EXHIBITIONISM" will run from April to September 2016 at the Saatchi Gallery in the British capital, with some of the objects said to be from the band's personal archives and never seen before by the public.

Among the items on display from the legendary rock group which formed in London in 1962 will be costumes, dressing room paraphernalia, instruments, audio tracks as well as unseen video clips, according to organizers.

Original poster and al-

bum cover artwork as well as personal diaries will also feature.

A similar kind of exhibition dedicated to British singer David Bowie's career opened in London in 2013 at the Victoria & Albert Museum, drawing huge crowds.

"We've been thinking about it actually for quite a long time, collecting things, thinking 'We better save this because we want people to see it,'" lead singer Mick Jagger said.

"It is a kind of look at your career. I think it's an interesting time to do it. We have enough stuff, in fact too much stuff."

"EXHIBITIONISM" is said to have taken three years of planning and will spread over two floors at the gallery.

Tickets go on sale on 10 July.—Reuters

## Trump's Miss USA pageant finds new broadcaster after NBC drops show

NEW YORK, 3 July — The independent US cable network REELZ will telecast the Miss USA pageant on 12 July, the company announced on Thursday, stepping in after NBC dropped plans to broadcast the show because of inflammatory remarks about Mexican immigrants made by co-owner and US presidential candidate Donald Trump.

"The decision on the part of REELZ to acquire

the rights to the MISS USA Pageant was based on our belief that this special event, and the women who compete in it, are an integral part of American tradition," CEO Stan Hubbard said in a statement.

The fate of the pageant's English-language broadcast had come into question after Comcast Corp-owned NBC announced on Monday it would no longer air the event "due to the recent

derogatory statements by Donald Trump regarding immigrants" the company said in a press statement.

Several judges and guests have also scrapped plans to take part in the event.

Trump, in announcing on 16 June that he was seeking the Republican Party nomination for the 2016 presidential election, described migrants from Mexico to the United States as drug-runners and rapists.

"They're bringing drugs, they're bringing crime, they're rapists, and some I assume are good people," the billionaire developer said in opening his campaign at Trump Tower on Manhattan's Fifth Avenue. Spanish-language Univision [UVN.UL] last week cancelled its contract to broadcast the Miss USA and Miss Universe pageants, co-owned by Trump, calling his remarks insulting.—Reuters

## "The Great Wall" Sino-US film set to wrap

BEIJING, 3 July — "The Great Wall", a Sino-US co-production, will finish shooting in August, said director Zhang Yimou on Thursday.

The fantasy film, featuring Chinese and Hollywood stars such as Matt Damon, Willem Dafoe, and Andy Lau, centres on mankind's resistance against demon monsters.

To fight evil, an international elite force turn the Great Wall into a weapon to ward off monsters trying to devour humankind, said the director.

All scenes were shot in China, said Zhang Yi-



Leading casts of the "The Great Wall" pose for photo during the Press conference of the movie in Beijing, capital of China on 2 July, 2015. Directed by Zhang Yimou, the movie is expected to hit the global screen in November next year.—XINHUA

mou, adding that he had been driven by a desire to promote Chinese culture through the iconic Great Wall, with the help of Hol-

lywood. The film is slated for worldwide release on 23 November, 2016.

Xinhua

## Inspired by Spice Girls, Britain's Little Mix eye movie next

LONDON, 3 July — Taking inspiration from the Spice Girls, whose popularity endures 15 years after the group split, British all-girl pop band Little Mix say they would like their version of the 1997 "Spice World" movie.

With two albums, a perfume and the kudos of being the first group to win Britain's talent show "The X Factor" to their name, Little Mix are eyeing a movie and world tour next.

"We want a movie really badly and a world tour," member Jesy Nelson told Reuters in a recent interview. "We have so much more we want to do so hopefully this will be the year."

Asked what a Little Mix movie would entail, fellow band member Leigh-Anne Pinnoch said: "It would not just be comical, you would see our sensitive side (too)."

"We wear our hearts on our sleeves, what you see is what you get, and we would love to put that into a film and show

everyone the real Little Mix."

The foursome, which also includes Perrie Edwards and Jade Thirlwall, met on "The X Factor" 2011 show where they had auditioned individually before being put together as a band. They won, becoming the first group to do so in Britain.

Their two albums since made it into the UK and US top 10 with "DNA" entering the US Billboard 200 chart at No 4, the highest debut position for a British female band's first album.

With a third album slated for later this year, their latest single "Black Magic" is out on 10 July.

"This time it was a bit of a struggle because obviously 'Wings' was a massive song, (single) 'Move' was completely different ... so we knew we had to nail it again with this one," Thirlwall said.

"It did take a bit longer but we got there in the end and I feel like this is one of our favorite songs we've done."

Reuters

GENERAL

# United States asks Swiss to extradite seven in FIFA inquiry

ZURICH / GENEVA, 3 July — The United States has asked Switzerland to extradite seven FIFA officials arrested in an investigation into a global bribery scandal at football's governing body, the Swiss Federal Office of Justice (FOJ) said on Thursday.

The move marks the start of a legal process expected to last several months during which the officials, who have been in jail since their detention on US arrest warrants in May, will either keep fighting extradition to the United States or agree to go.

The arrests of the seven, including two then-members of FIFA's executive committee, took place in a raid on a luxury Zurich hotel on 27 May, two days before FIFA's annual congress, pitching the organization into turmoil.

US prosecutors say their investigation — which is running parallel to a separate Swiss inquiry — exposes complex money laundering schemes, millions of dollars in untaxed incomes and tens of millions in offshore accounts held by FIFA officials.

The seven were among 14 people charged in cases involving more than \$150



Members of the media stand in front of the entrance of the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) headquarters in Zurich, Switzerland, on 30 May, 2015.—REUTERS

million in bribes over a period of 24 years. Those being held in Switzerland include Jeffrey Webb, the former president of FIFA's Americas confederation CONCACAF, and Eugenio Figueredo, who sat on the executive committee at the time of their arrest.

The FOJ said it would rule on the extradition requests within a few weeks, based on statutory hearings and the responses of the FIFA officials.

Edward O'Callaghan, a New York-based lawyer representing Webb, declined to comment on the extradition request and a lawyer for Figueredo did not respond to requests for comment.

The US Justice Department did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Under a bilateral treaty, US authorities had up to 40 days to file an extradition request — by 3 July. All seven of the officials had previously said they would contest extradition.

Proceedings under the treaty are relatively straightforward, even if the defendants have the right to appeal along the way, legal experts say.

If the FOJ orders extraditions, defendants may appeal to Switzerland's Federal Criminal Court in Bellinzona.

The detainees were pro-

visionally banned by FIFA's own ethics committee following the arrests. FIFA has said that it is cooperating with the investigation.

A Swiss court last month rejected one official's request to be released on bail, citing the risk he might flee.

Rafael Esquivel, 68, the former head of the Venezuelan Football Association, is among the seven FIFA executives held since the Zurich arrests.

At a news conference on Thursday, the interim head of the association said Esquivel's lawyers had received the extradition request on Wednesday and were already moving to block it.

"The lawyers are going to try to seek that the Swiss tribunal not go forward with the extradition," said Laureano Gonzalez.

"If that fails, we'll appeal to the immediately higher instance that could extend Rafael Esquivel's stay in Switzerland," he added.

Esquivel is represented by a group of lawyers led by Gorka Villar, the son of Spanish Football Federation president and FIFA executive committee member Angel Maria Villar.

Reuters

## mitv Myanmar International

(4-7-2015 07:00 am~ 5-7-2015 07:00 am) MST

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- \* Let's Cook (EP-5) Creamy Mushroom Soup & Honey Lemon Drink
- \* Inspiration
- \* MONASTERY Yot Son Kyaung (Sa-Le)
- \* News
- \* The Long-Lasting Royal Tradition
- \* Orchid Lover
- \* News
- \* The Eel Business (Fisherman the eel culture)
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- 6:40 am • Musical Programme
- 7:00 am • Cassette Drama
- 8:30 am • Dramatic Arts
- 9:50 am • Myanmar Video

# Wimbledon 'all-white' clothing rule is too strict — Federer

LONDON, 3 July — Players' efforts over the years to get Wimbledon's "all-white" clothing rule relaxed got a boost on Thursday when Roger Federer said he thought the policy as it stood was "quite extreme".

Federer, whose remarks carry more weight than some other players because as a former champion he is a member of the All England Lawn Tennis Club (AELTC) that runs Wimbledon, said he did not object to white clothing.

But he said he thought the AELTC was pushing it by ruling out garments that are less than pristine white — which could come from repeated washes — and he spoke wistfully of the days when players like John McEnroe and Boris Becker wore striped T-shirts and colourful headbands that are no longer allowed.

"I mean, that it's all white, we're all for it. We get that. I just find it quite extreme to what extent it's got to be white. We're talking white like it was in the '50s. If you look at the pictures then, it was all white," Feder-

er told a news conference after his second-round win over Sam Querrey.

"The thing is, when I came on tour, when I was watching on TV, I still have the pictures in my mind where (Stefan) Edberg and Becker and all those guys, they had more colour. There were iconic T-shirts, iconic moments, I thought," said Federer, who was ordered by Wimbledon officials not to wear orange-soled Nike shoes on court in 2013 when he was the defending champion.

He said when he joined the tour the garments were "90 percent" white but could still have some light blue or black.

"But then it got to a point where stripes would be borderline here. I find that a bit of a pity because you can't do anything with it. No cream colour, no this, no that, fine.

"I would still be in favour of loosening it up a little bit. But, then again, it is what it is. You know, I'm happy, I'm proud to be here. So whatever, it's okay," he said.

The undercurrent of



Roger Federer of Switzerland hits a shot through his legs during his match against Sam Querrey of the USA at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, on 2 July, 2015.—REUTERS

resistance to the all-white rule this season has included a woman player wearing a black bra which she concealed by wearing a white one over it.

Then American Bethanie Mattek-Sands, who is ranked 158<sup>th</sup> in the world and whose headshot for her WTA profile shows her with her hair dyed turquoise and lime green, turned up the volume after she upset seventh-seed Ana Ivanovic on Wednesday.

She said the all-white rule had "gotten a little excessive" and was disappoint-

ed that she could not wear tennis skirts she'd brought with coloured underwear.

"It was funny, because I was actually googling some players like when John McEnroe played, Arthur Ashe, they had colour everywhere. They had colour on their sleeves, big stripes, they were coming out in coloured jackets. So I feel it's actually gotten stricter," Mattek-Sands said.

Given a choice, she said she would almost never wear white, and had not worn a white gown for her wedding.

Reuters

# Miyama, Ariyoshi shortlisted for Women's World Cup MVP awards

VANCOUVER, 3 July — Japan captain Aya Miyama and teammate Saori Ariyoshi are among eight players shortlisted by FIFA for the Golden Ball award as the tournament's best player at the Women's World Cup in Canada.

Ayumi Kaihori, who made a howler in Japan's 2-1 win over the Netherlands in the round of 16, is one of three goalkeepers up for the Golden Glove award.

The winners will be announced after Sunday's final between defending champions Japan and the United States, a rerun of the championship match in Germany four years ago.

The respective lists have been submitted by

the FIFA technical study group):

### Golden Ball

- Saori Ariyoshi (Japan)
- Lucy Bronze (England)
- Amandine Henry (France)
- Julie Johnston (US)
- Carli Lloyd (US)
- Aya Miyama (Japan)
- Megan Rapinoe (US)
- Celia Sasic (Germany)

### Golden Glove

- Nadine Angerer (Germany)
- Ayumi Kaihori (Japan)
- Hope Solo (US)

### Young Player Award

- Kadeisha Buchanan (Canada)
- Ada Hegerberg (Norway)
- Tang Jiali (China)

Kyodo News

## Portugal winger Nani to have Fenerbahce medical



Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo (R) attends a training session with Nani in Yerevan, Armenia on 12 June, 2015.—REUTERS

LISBON, 3 July — Portugal winger Nani is set to join Fenerbahce from Manchester United with the Turkish club saying negotiations were underway and he will be in Istanbul on Sunday for a medical.

"Fenerbahce has begun talks with Luis Nani and his club Manchester United to transfer the player," the Turkish league runners-up said on

their official Twitter feed. The 28-year-old joined United in 2007 from Sporting Lisbon, where he spent last season on loan scoring 11 goals. He has been told he is not part of United manager Louis van Gaal's plans. Nani, who won four Premier League titles and the Champions League at United, signed a five-year deal in September 2013.—Reuters

## Japan, US have revenge on their minds in World Cup final

EDMONTON, 3 July — Defending champions Japan and the rival United States are gearing up for the Women's World Cup final in Vancouver on Sunday where both teams will have the added motivation of trying to avenge a past loss to the other.

For the Americans, it is all about avenging their loss to Japan in the 2011 World Cup final where the latter triumphed on pen-

alties after the game finished 2-2 after extra time.

For the defending world champions, the game represents a chance to get one back on the Americans for their 2-1 win in the gold medal game at the 2012 London Olympics.

"(The Americans) took the Olympic gold medal but we aren't going to hand over the World Cup. That is the kind of spirit we will play with,"

said Japanese midfielder Aya Miyama.

Many Japanese fans will still clearly recall the referee's controversial failure to award Japan a penalty during the gold medal game when midfielder Tobin Heath handled inside the area.

Heath, on the other hand, will still have painful memories of her penalty being saved in the 2011 shootout after team mates Carli Lloyd and Shannon Boxx had also failed to convert.

All three of those players are in Jill Ellis's current US squad and will be keen to erase those memories by winning the country's third World Cup title and first since 1999.

"These are two talented teams with a lot of history and rivalry, and I think it will be a classic match-up," said Ellis.

"Both teams have a lot of the same players from 2011, but that said, this is a different team on a differ-

ent journey, and I know all 23 players and our staff are tremendously excited for this next challenge."

For Japan coach Norio Sasaki, the final, which will offer a clear contrast in styles between the clever, short-passing game of the Asian champions and the more robust, direct approach of the Americans, should be another thriller.

"In 2011, both teams had a wonderful game in the final and for women's football in the world, I hope that we will have a wonderful game like the way we did then," said Sasaki.—Reuters



Japan midfielder Mizuho Sakaguchi (6) and England forward Toni Duggan (18) fight for the ball during the first half in the semifinals of the FIFA 2015 Women's World Cup at Commonwealth Stadium, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada on 1 July, 2015.—REUTERS

## Nadal loss sends shockwaves round Wimbledon

LONDON, 3 July — The untroubled advance of the heavy hitters at Wimbledon was spectacular halted on Thursday when twice champion Rafa Nadal was bundled out by German qualifier Dustin Brown who played the match of his life.

Roger Federer, Andy Murray and Petra Kvitova all cruised into the third round with straight-sets victories as the tournament meandered serenely through its fourth balmy day.

But the calm was shattered by the final match on Centre Court when Brown, a man until now best known for his unconventional approach and dread-locks, brought back memories of the golden summer Wimbledon evenings of wooden rackets as he combined relentless power with brave and ambitious creativity.

Brown came out swinging and even when Nadal dug deep to level the match at one set all he did not hold back, going for his shots and harrying his illustrious opponent at every opportunity.

Along with the power there was finesse which had the Centre Court crowd

roaring their approval and Brown rattled through the final set to secure a fully deserved victory.

"You have to play your A game against him," said Brown, who also beat Nadal in their only previous meeting in Halle last year.

"I'm fortunate I played him twice on grass, which is my favourite surface — I wouldn't want to play him anywhere else. My game makes him not play his game. He doesn't get in a rhythm."

Defeat continued Nadal's wretched run at Wimbledon since he lost the 2011 final to Novak Djokovic.

In successive years he has lost to players ranked 100, 135, 144 and now 102 without getting past the fourth round — a stunning decline for the 14-times grand slam winner who triumphed at Wimbledon in 2008 and 2010 and has been runner-up three times.

"My motivation is to be back to that level but I don't know if I can," 10<sup>th</sup> seed Nadal said.

"But I've played on the last day here five days and had the trophy back home twice, so it's not bad."

The day's explosive finale was in marked contrast to the early matches which went exactly to form.

Murray led the way by polishing off Dutchman Robin Haase 6-1, 6-1, 6-4 in 87 minutes with barely a misplaced shot.

"In grand slams you have to try to conserve energy when you can really because the two weeks can be quite draining physically and mentally," Murray told reporters.

Federer was equally untroubled in a 6-4, 6-2, 6-2 mauling of American Sam Querrey.

Seeking a record

eighth Wimbledon singles title, the Swiss was on cruise control from the off.

On one rare occasion when he did find himself out of position he managed to manufacture a lob from between his legs that climbed over his 6ft 6ins (1.98m) opponent.

"So far so good," Federer said. "Sometimes the feeling is good out there and today was definitely a good day."

"I guess there's also a little bit of relief that I'm also playing well at Wimbledon."

Possibly even more impressive was Kvitova, whose 6-2, 6-0 demolition

of Kurumi Nara meant the defending champion has dropped only three games in two matches.

After four days of action the top four men's seeds have yet to drop a set between them, with only two going as far as a tie-break.

It is a similar story on the women's side. Although third seed Simona Halep went out in the first round, the remaining top four players have also not dropped a set.

There are still threats floating in the draw, however, and Germany's 18th seed Sabine Lisicki, runner-up two years ago and with a great Wimbledon record, is one of them.

Lisicki lost the first set American Christina McHale and was broken in the opening game of the second but regrouped impressively and by the end was pounding down a succession of powerful winners en route to a 2-6, 7-5, 6-1 victory.

However, there will be little room for her accomplishments in Germany's sports pages on Friday as the country's newest, and most unlikely, tennis hero Brown will be hogging all the headlines.—Reuters



Dustin Brown of Germany shakes hands with Rafael Nadal of Spain after winning their match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, on 2 July, 2015.—REUTERS

## We won't man-mark Messi, Chile's captain says

SANTIAGO, 3 July — Chile will not try to man-mark Argentina's playmaker Lionel Messi out of the Copa America final but will concentrate on playing their own quick-fire passing game, captain and goalkeeper Claudio Bravo said on Thursday.

Bravo knows Messi well from their past season together at Barcelona and acknowledged the Argentine would be difficult to stop on Saturday.

"It's not easy, given Leo's ability. If you look at what he's done in his career, it's been incredible, but we're not going to put a man on him for the 90 minutes of the match," Bravo told a news conference at Chile's training camp in Santiago. "He's not the only one playing. We have to worry about Argentina as a whole, not just Leo." Saturday's tie will bring Bravo face to face with another Barcelona team mate — Argentine defensive midfielder Javier Mascherano.

"It's a privilege to play against two of my club team mates. I hope they don't play like they often do for my club team," he joked.

"Javier is the heart of the side, and they (Argentina) have a great team — not just Leo and Javier, they have a lot of great players."

Bravo is hoping to be the first Chilean captain ever to lift the Copa America while Argentina are looking for a record-equaling 15<sup>th</sup> title.—Reuters