Investing in education and health sectors is key to building a nation

NAY PYI TAW, 6 July — In his address at an opening ceremony of U Kyi Maung self-reliant library held in conjunction with a ceremony to upgrade the basic education middle school into the basic education high school (branch) at West Hlyawpyukon village in Pyawbwe Township in Mandalay Region this morning, Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint said that investing in education and health sectors is key to building a nation; that Pyidaungsu Hluttaw allocated billion of kyats to education sector year after year, resulting in upgrading and construction of schools.

He stressed the need to instill democratic practices into school children who will be tomorrow’s citizens and to create a democratic school environment as promotion of education standards of children is needed for democratization. He called on parents and teachers to nurture their children to be educated citizens.

Next, Union Minister U Aung Kyi, Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyi and Pyawbwe Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Myint Soe spoke on the occasion.

A ceremony to upgrade Taung Nyaungkon village basic education high school (branch) into basic education high school took place at the village in Pyawbwe Township.

The Speaker unveiled the signboard and officials formally opened the ceremony.

In his speech, the Speaker praised teachers for their role played in preparing today’s children for tomorrow’s democratic society, disclosing that educational staff is so noble.

Next, wellwishers handed over cash donations and documents related to their donations to officials. MNA

Cash and kind donated to Day Care Center for the Aged

NAY PYI TAW, 6 July — The cash donation ceremony for Day Care Center for the Aged, to be run by Social Welfare Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement took place at Social Welfare Training School on Kyaukwaing Pagoda Road in Mayangon Township, this morning.

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin clarified matters on opening of Day Care Center for the Aged in Yangon Region for the first time and follow-up programmes to open the center in Mandalay Region.

The wellwishers then made cash donations for the fund of the center through Union Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin who returned certificates of honour to them.

At today’s cash donation ceremony, the wellwishers donated K 20.2 million, US$ 100, one refrigerator, three sets of settee and 12 sleeping bags. MNA

Moderate earthquake jolts outside Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 6 July — A moderate earthquake of magnitude (6.0) Richter Scale with its epicenter outside Myanmar (Southern Sumatra, Indonesia) about (1750) miles south-southeast of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at (11) hrs (40) min (12) sec MST today, announced Meteorology and Hydrology Department. MNA
Clarification of Myanmar Go for Gold

The meeting focused on shipment of fungus-free rice with no excessive chemical fertilizers to Japan if Myanmar wins the tender and other general matters.

Japan purchases processed broken rice of Myanmar to distill Sake and traditional Japanese soup (MISO soup).

Storage and disinfection of rice prior to shipment in May were carried out step by step of inspections of chemical residues and non-GMO test. As Myanmar rice passed tighter controls on rice import of Japan, Myanmar rice will be able to have access to EU market.

Before rice shipment to Japan, rice were ground and processed at the mills of MAPCO and Golden Delta, Ayeyar Hinthar, Shwe Wae Yang and Shwe Zarchi rice mills. MAPCO Managing Director U Ye Min Aung said that more efforts would be made to export rice to Japan for long time as one ton of rice fetched US$ 110.

Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint visited Japan on 22 June and looked into unloading 5000 tons of Myanmar's Hsinthwelatt at Nagoya port. He held discussions on shipment of 50000 tons of rice to Japan with the Japanese ministry concerned and officials of Mitsu Company.

MAPCO and Mitsui Co., Ltd signed agreement on 23 January, 2013 and Myanmar is providing rice, with the aim of helping Myanmar sports and athletes win international recognition. Plans are underway to develop public awareness of SEA Games before and during the tournament through Go for Gold program and to honour outstanding Myanmar athletes who achieved success in the tournament.

While companies are contributing their commitments to the SEA Games and sports athletes are undergoing intense training, active participation of the entire people is needed.

Kye-mon Zeyar (Maing Yar)

MYANMAR EXPORTS RICE (Hsinthwelatt) TO JAPAN IN FIRST 45 YEARS

YANGON, 6 July — Myanmar’s Hsinthwelatt and Hmawby (2) paddy strains have access to the rice market of Japan that needs to import over 600 tons of rice from foreign countries including the US and Thailand, it learnt.

A Myanmar-Japan business meet took place at the hall of Myanmar Rice Federation on 13 December 2012. Those present held talks on rice tender at the meeting shortly after winning the tender. Then, raw rice, packed rice and sample of rice were under scrutiny at the every stage to meet Japanese standards and they were allowed to transport to warehouses in Japan after passing a final check before unloading them from the ship.

Sample of Myanmar rice was subject to a thorough scrutiny by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan and passed through series of departmental signboards of YCDC.

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ITEMS OF NEWS

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Kye-mon Zeyar (Maing Yar)
Tokyo, 6 July—To­kyo Electric Power Co said on Friday it has detected highly radioactive water in a well newly built to check the spread of underground contamination at the crit­i­cally damaged Fukushima Daiichi nu­clear power plant.

The well is only sev­eral metres from a pit from which highly radioactive water was found seeping into the ocean in April 2011, shortly after the nuclear crisis commenced at the plant. According to TEPCO, a water sample collected Monday from the well, around 25 meters from the sea, contained about 960,000 becquerels per litre of radioactive sub­stances such as strontium that emit beta rays.

A TEPCO spokesman Masayuki Ono told a Press conference that the company will check whether the water took more than two years ago has affected the contamination level of water inside the well.

Meanwhile, to improve the reliability of the cool­ing system for the crippled TEPCO reactors Nos. 1 to 3 reactors, TEPCO started using a 3-kilom­eter-long water circulation route that is 1 km shorter than previously.

Venezuela offers asylum to US fugitive Snowden

CARACAS, 6 July—Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro offered asylum to former US intelli­gence contractor Edward Snowden on Friday in del­i­cance of Washington, which is demanding his arrest for divulging details of secret US spy programmes.

“Of course I am going to give asylum to Edward Snowden,” Maduro told a military parade marking the anniversary of the declaration of the US as an enemy state.

Meanwhile, to improve the cooling system of the crippled reactors Nos. 1 to 3 reactors, TEPCO used a 3-kilometre-long water circulation route that is 1 km shorter than previously.

Highly radioactive water found in another well at Fukushima plant

Two Koreas open talks on suspended industrial zone

SOUTH, 6 July—North and South Korea began working-level talks Sat­urday at the truce village of Panmunjom to discuss is­sues related to a joint indus­trial complex in the North’s border city of Kaesong, at which operations have been suspended for three months.

Each side has sent a three-member delegation to the talks, which are being held on the North Korean side of Panmunjom, located in the midst of the De­militarized Zone between the two Koreas.

The South had pro­posed the meeting on Thursday after North Ko­rea said the previous day it would allow South Korean businesses and govern­ment officials to visit the Kaesong industrial zone.

Operations at the zone, which has long been a sym­bol of inter-Korean coop­eration, came to a halt on 9 April after Pyongyang, amid heightened tensions on the Korean Peninsula, withdrew its 53,000 work­ers employed by more than 100 South Korean companies there. Pyongyang had cut off communication links with Seoul in March in response to joint South Korea-US military exercis­es and the South’s condem­nation of the North’s third nuclear test in February in defiance of UN Security Council resolutions.

On Friday, South Ko­rea’s Unification Ministry spokesman Kim Hyung Seek said Seoul wants to discuss “construc­tive nor­malization” of the Kaesong complex at the Panmun­jom talks.

The government has pointed out on numerous occasions that Kaesong must be developed as an area that follows interna­tional standards and where common sense prevails,” he was quoted as saying by Yonhap News Agency, suggesting Seoul seeks safeguards to prevent work stoppages caused by ar­bitary actions taken by Pyongyang.

Kyodo News

Islamist protests hit cities across Egypt, at least 24 dead

CAIRO, 6 July—At least 24 people died across Egypt on Friday as Islamists op­posed to the overthrow of President Mohamed Mursi took to the streets to vent their fury at what they say was a military coup.

Fierce clashes in the Mediterranean city of Al­exandria left 12 dead and 200 injured, while in Cairo, five people were killed as pro- and anti-Mursi pro­testers ran amok in central areas and armed person­nel carriers rumbled among them to restore calm.

Five police officers were gunned down in sepa­rate incidents in the North Sinai town of El Arish, and while it was not clear whether the attacks were linked to Mursi’s ouster, hardline Islamists there have warned they would fight back. Tens of thou­sands of people marched across the country in what Mursi’s Muslim Broth­erhood movement called a “Friday of Rage” to dem­onstrate against his over­throw and the army-backed interim government being set up to prepare for new elec­tions.

A new prime minister could be named as early as Saturday. Egypt’s first freely elected president was toppled on Wednesday, the latest twist in a tumultuous two years since the fall of Hosni Mubarak in the Arab Spr­ing uprisings that swept the region in 2011.

The events of the last week have aroused concern among Egypt’s allies in the West, including key donors the United States and the European Union, and in neigh­bouring Israel, with which Egypt has had a US­backed peace treaty since 1979.

Friday’s fatalities added to the dozens of deaths in a month of unrest. Last Sunday, huge rallies in Cai­ro and other cities called for Mursi’s resignation, vent­i­ng anger over economic stagnation and perceptions of a Brotherhood power grab. His overthrow was greeted with wild scenes of celebration but infuriated sup­porters who fear a return to the suppression of Islamists they endured under gener­ations of military rule.

It has deepened Egypt’s crisis. With its supporters enraged by Mursi’s removal from power, the Brother­hood says it wants nothing to do with what the army has billed as an inclusive trans­ition plan, culminating in fresh elections. The military has given scarce details — its road map gave no time frame for a new ballot — adding to political uncertainty at a time when many Egyptians fear violence could polarise soci­ety even further.

Leftist former president­ial candidate Hamdeen Sa­hadi told Reuters he hoped the transition could last only six months. And, in common with allies on the liberal left, he insisted there had been no military coup. He called the idea an insult to Egypt. In an early incident that raised ten­sions in Cairo, three protest­ers were shot dead outside the Republican Guard bar­racks where deposed Mursi is being held, security sourc­es said.

The army denied blame for the shootings. An army spokesman said troops did not open fire on the de­monstrators and soldiers used blank rounds and teargas to control the crowd.

Reuters

A television screen shows former US spy agency con­tractor Edward Snowden during a news bulletin at a cafe at the Moscow’s Sheremetyevo Airport on 26 June, 2013. — Reuters
Myanmar History in Decisive Dates

The following is a reproduction of an article published in Myanmar Hotels and Tourism Guide 2013 — Ed

The earliest civilisations were those of the Pyu people, who flourished after the 3rd century BCE, and the Falokhime, whose kingdom was established in the 4th century BCE. The Pyu kingdom fell in the 9th century CE and was invaded by Burmese forces from Chiang Mai's present-day Yunnan province and the remainder of the race assimilated with the Barma. After the fall of the Pyu, the first Myanmar Empire was founded in the 11th century CE by the great King Anawrahta of Bagan.

It was due to his efforts that Theravada Buddhism flourished in the country to day, and the temple-studded plain around Bagan is his legacy. Under the reign of weak rulers of the late 13th century Bagan fell to the invading hordes of Kublai Khan. Of the four thousand temples of the time, only over two thousands remain as living places of worship. Smaller kingdoms were founded by descendants of the Bagan kings. They include the 16th century kingdom of Taungoo. King Tabinshwe Thi, the Third Myanmar Empire was founded by King Alaungpaya in 1752 in upper Myanmar. His Konbaung dynasty the last of Myanmar’s monarchies, ended with the invasion of British colonialists in 1885. The last monarch, King Thibaw, was sent into exile in India with his family.

After mounting nationalist fervour against the British that began in the 1920s, a harsh period of war and Japanese occupation, Myanmar finally regained its independence in 1948. A short and chaotic period of democratic government followed, during which insurgencies broke out throughout the country.

In 1962, the military seized power in a coup and introduced austere socialist policies that doomed what had been one of the most open and prosperous countries in the region to the status of one of the poorest. As insurgencies raged throughout the country, economic mishandling — including demonetisations that rendered peoples’ savings worthless — led to a mass uprising in 1988, with an initial demand for greater economic opportunity being overtaken by calls for a return to multi-party democracy.

The military took power the same year and ruled until 1988 as the State Law and Order Restoration Council and then as the State Peace and Development Council. During its tenure the military government made peace with most of the insurgent groups, a development that brought law and order to vast areas of the country and provided opportunities for Myanmar and foreigners to visit areas containing historical and natural wonders to which access had previously been restricted.

General elections were held in November 2010 and the State Peace and Development Council handed over power on 30 March 2011 to the elected government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, under President U Thein Sein. History has much impact on the present and this is never truer than for Myanmar, a country strongly rooted in traditions, culture and proud memories of a centuries old civilisation.

Over 30,000 Tibetan antelopes give birth in Hoh Xil

Xining, 6 July—About 35,000 pregnant Tibetan antelopes have given birth or are expecting on the Hoh Xil National Nature Reserve on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau. Marching across grasslands and mountains, the pregnant antelopes finished a long journey from their habitats in northwest China’s Qinghai Province and Xizang Autonomous Region and the Ngari prefecture and Changtang area of Tibet Autonomous Region, southwest China, to arrive at the bank of Zongz Lake in Hoh Xil to give birth.

Xiao Penghu, deputy chief of the reserve’s management bureau, said the bureau has sent special teams out to prevent the antelopes from being poached. Five conservation stations have been set up to monitor the antelopes’ migration and ensure their safety while traveling across the Qinghai-Tibet Railway and Qinghai-Tibet Highway, Xiao said.

Songame, a ranger at the reserve, said they have asked passing vehicles to slow down so the antelopes can cross the highway smoothly. When pregnant antelopes come over in large groups, rangers close some sections of the road temporarily to make way for the antelopes, Songame added. Over 60 per cent of the 35,000 antelopes have already given birth, said Zhao Xinxin, Director of Zongz Lake’s conservation station.

The number of Tibetan antelopes in or near the reserve has increased from about 20,000 in 1998, when the reserve was established, to almost 35,000 in 2013, according to Xiao.

The antelopes have been targeted by poachers since the 1980s. Armed poaching led to a sharp decline in the antelope population in the 1990s.

Japan’s DoCoMo holds out to iPhone mania, but at what cost?

Tokyo, 6 July—NTT DoCoMo Inc, Japan’s largest mobile provider and a pioneer of the mobile Internet, is one of just a few holdouts among the world’s big mobile carriers not offering Apple Inc’s iPhone to its 60 million customers. It is paying heavily for that obstinacy— with a net 3.2 million users jumping ship to its two domestic rivals over the last 4-1/2 years — but is determined to protect the walled garden of services it has built around its own smartphones.

“We’re trying to develop a lifestyle system,” NTT DoCoMo CEO Kaoru Kato told Reuters in an interview this week. While customers and even some executives increasingly clamor for it to relent and sign an iPhone deal, DoCoMo is showing no signs of softening towards Apple. “The biggest problem is the impact on the services that we offer,” Kato said.

DoCoMo’s broad offering of exclusive features, however, is no longer attracting what has become the iPhone generation. It is expected eventually to either reach a deal with Apple or risk losing its crown at the top of its industry. “Units sales are doing quite well this year but they’re losing customers to other networks,” said Hiroshi Yamashina, senior telecoms analyst at BNP Paribas. “If that’s the case then they really have no choice but to go for the iPhone.”

Japanese consumers favored DoCoMo’s mode of integrated product planning, but it launched the world’s first large-scale mobile web access service and introduced streamlined TV to cellphone users. But its wide array of features — while retaining its share of fans — is not considered sufficient to counter the appeal of the iPhone’s photo service, for example, is very difficult to use and I’m not sure anyone still bothers in the age of Instagram and Flickr,” said Yamashina.

DoCoMo’s resistance contrasts with holdouts in other markets that are giving in this year to the demand for iPhones. — Reuters

HTC smartphones are displayed in a mobile phone shop in Taipei on 8 April, 2013. — Reuters

Rivals to loom large over HTC sales, third-quarter growth seen flat

Taipei, 6 July—HTC Corp may not sustain growth into the third-quarter as the glow around the Taiwanese smartphone maker’s flagship model is likely to be eclipsed by new products from bigger rivals Apple Inc and Samsung Electronics Co Ltd. Strong sales of the latest version of the HTC One, as well as the colour business, has boosted HTC’s second-quarter net profit surged to T$2.35 billion ($41.63 million) from a record low in the previous quarter when a shortage of camera components delayed its product launch.

The profit figure, however, lagged forecasts and analysts said the sales growth was likely to be short-lived. Sales for the July-September quarter are expected to remain little changed from the previous quarter and new few products are expected in the pipeline. The company has also cut back on component orders for the quarter, which traditionally sees higher sales, several analysts said. BNP Paribas, in a recent research note, said it expected overall third-quarter orders to remain flat from the second-quarter.

“HTC may have new products in Q3, but competition from Apple and other Chinese brands are fierce,” said Taipei-based analyst Peter Liao of Nomura Securities. “It’ll be hard to keep the growth.” Analysts said the almost 25 percent drop in HTC’s June sales compared to the same year ago period also cooled off for the next quarter. The big drop on June sales likely proves the One Mini sales momentum slowdown and 3Q may be only flatish as is the market experience, Goldman Sachs analyst Michael Shiah said.

Growth in sales for smartphone market leader Samsung Electronics has also started to wane. The South Korean firm missed already modest expectations for its quarterly earnings guidance, deepening worries that its smartphone business may have peaked. HTC has embarked on a marketing campaign to prop up its brand image, a strategy it said in May would squeeze operating margins for the rest of the year. The company is expected to launch the One Mini phone, which features a 4.3-inch screen and is targeted at the mid-market, in August, a month before both heavyweight Samsung and Apple are likely to release new and upgraded offerings. — Reuters
Dell shares fall as investors bet against higher buyout bid

New York, 6 July— Shares of Dell Inc fell more than 3 percent on Friday, as investors grew skeptical of the company’s ability to return to profitability. The incident on 3 April, when Michael Dell and Silver Lake Partners, and credit card accounts, the company has also sent notices to its clients asking them to reset their passwords. Morningstar says clients’ credit card data may have been leaked

Boston, 6 July—Investment research firm Morningstar Inc (MORN.O) said personal information, including credit card details, of about 2,300 users of its Morningstar Document Research service may have been compromised due to a security breach last year. The incident on 3 April, 2012 may also have led to the leakage of names, addresses, email addresses and passwords, the company said in the filing on Friday. Morningstar Document Research, formerly 10-K Wizard, provides a global database and search tool for company filings. An additional 182,000 clients who had email addresses and user-generated passwords on the system may also have been affected, Morningstar added. We have encouraged clients whose credit cards may have been compromised to monitor their credit reports and credit card accounts, the research firm said. The company has also sent notices to its clients asking them to reset their passwords. Morningstar spokeswoman Margaret Cohen said the company became aware of the breach in late May and began informing clients in June. The matter may become public on Friday when Morningstar released its 8K filing, which it does on the first Friday of every month, and uses as an opportunity to answer questions that have been posed to the company.—Reuters

WHO sets up emergency committee on MERS virus

Geneva, 6 July—The World Health Organization is forming an emergency committee of international experts to prepare for a possible worsening of the Middle East coronavirus (MERS), which has killed 40 people. WHO flu expert Keiji Fukuda said on Friday. Fukuda said there was currently no emergency or pandemic but the experts would advise on how to tackle the disease if the number of cases suddenly grows. Most of the cases of MERS so far have been in Saudi Arabia, which hosts millions of Muslim visitors every year for the annual haj pilgrimage. “We want to make sure we can move as quickly as possible if we need to,” Fukuda told a news conference. “If in the future we do see some kind of explosion of or if there is some big outbreak or we think the situation has really changed, we will always have a group of emergency committee experts who are already up to speed so we don’t have to go through a steep learning curve.” The emergency committee is the second to be set up under WHO rules that came into effect in 2007, years after the 2002 SARS outbreak. The previous emergency committee was set up to respond to the 2009 H1N1 pandemic. Fukuda said MERS (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome) remained a patchwork of infections that had not yet swept through countries or communities as influenza can. The committee was partly being formed to consider big gaps in knowledge about the disease, he added.—Reuters

WHO calls for action against obesity, excess weight

Vienna, 6 July—The World Health Organization (WHO) on Friday urged member states to take stronger action against obesity and excess weight to lessen obesity-related diseases. Representatives from 48 states at the European ministerial conference on nutrition and noncommunicable diseases signed the Viennese Declaration at the two-day meeting. “We reaffirm our commitment in the context of European and global initiatives to combat the major risk factors for non-communicable diseases, especially an unhealthy diet and physical inactivity,” the declaration said. Measures recommended include less fat, sugar, and salt consumption in diets along with an increase in physical activity, through which it is hoped to bring about a 25 percent reduction in premature mortality from related noncommunicable diseases by 2025. Austrian Health Minister Alois Stoger said he was happy with the conference, APA reported. “The WHO has come up with a common nutrition strategy in the European region for the first time and that it was now up to individual countries to implement them, something Austria has already achieved,” he said.—Xinhua

Minorities, poor receive fewer strong painkillers

New York, 6 July—People who are poor, African American or both are less likely to be prescribed opioids for pain than well-off white patients, according to a new study, powerful painkillers, which include codeine and oxycodone, have been in the spotlight recently as deaths from overdoses rise and more drugs end up in the hands of people taking them for non-medical purposes. ast studies have found that blacks in pain don’t receive opioids as often as whites, but the new study suggests economic differences matter in addition to racial ones. The disparities are concerning and definitely warrant further investigation,” said Dr. Michael Joynt, who led the study at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in New York. However, he added, there’s probably not “any one single factor” that explains those disparities, a researcher not involved in the study said cultural differences between doctors and patients and a lack of time to closely evaluate each person in the emergency room may encourage unconscious stereotypes that affect doctors’ treatment decisions. ack of standardized guidelines on how to treat pain may also be a factor, Joynt told Reuters Health. e and his colleagues analyzed data from about 1,400 hospital ERs between 2006 and 2009. Daring that span, the ERs prescribed opioids to just over 50,000 people reporting moderate or severe pain. Both race and income were linked to a pain patient’s chance of being prescribed an opioid, for example, 46 percent of white patients with moderate or severe pain were given opioids, compared to 28 percent of black patients. And 45 percent of non-Hispanic people received the drugs, versus 40 percent of Hispanics. —Reuters

World Health Organization
Murdoch belittled British police in secret recording by staff

London, 6 July—Rupert Murdoch belittled a British police inquiry into bribes allegedly paid by his journalists in a secret recording made by his staff in sharp contrast to the profuse public apologies he made to defuse anger at news gathering practices.

Murdoch told staff at his Sun tabloid in a private meeting in March that he had been wrong to help the police investigation into tactics he said reporters had used for decades, and promised unspecified support to reporters snared by the inquiry.

Cameron wins symbolic vote on EU referendum

LONDON, 6 July—Prime Minister David Cameron won a parliamentary vote on Friday on making a referendum on Britain’s European Union membership legally binding, but his victory is largely symbolic as it will not the the hands of a future government.

Trailing in the polls before a 2015 election, Cameron hopes his support for the bill will end his Conservative Party’s feud with Europe, win back voters lost to anti-EU rivals and expose the opposition Labour Party’s refusal to back a referendum.

MPs backed the bill, which legisates for an EU referendum by the end of 2017, by 304 votes to zero, in an exercise seen as a way to convince europhile Britons that Cameron is serious about giving them a “in/out” EU vote.

Cameron’s pro-EU coalition partner, the Lib Dems, and most opposition Labour MPs abstained after dismissing the vote as a parliamentary “stunt” that wasted lawmakers’ time.

Unable to put forward a referendum bill as a government due to Liberal Democrat opposition, Cameron threw his support behind the bill proposed by his party’s youngest lawmaker, 29-year-old James Wharton. “It is about time we gave those millions of British people who want a say the chance to do so,” Wharton told a charged session of the Commons.

Cameron, who wants Britain to stay inside a reformed EU, says upholding the EU since they opted to stay in the bloc in a 1975 referendum. The bill could still be defeated as it passes through parliament.

Top Chinese universities to enroll student pilots

BEIJING, 6 July—A total of 87 student pilots from military colleges will be able to study in public universities in China, the first of its kind in the country. According to an official military news website, chinamil.com.cn, the new cooperation protocol was signed in December 2013, will enable Peking University, Tsinghua University and The Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics to enroll 25, 32, and 30 student pilots respectively this year.

The website says霾 Peking and Tsinghua University students, the two most prestigious ones in China, will lower entry requirements for the young pilots. Under the joint education program, the public universities will be responsible for the student pilots’ cultural and rudimentary education.

The student pilots will get diplomas from the two partner institutions upon their graduation after 4 year study.

Columbia, (Bolivia). 6 July—South America’s most outspoken leftist leaders gathered on Thursday to rally behind Bolivian President Evo Morales, whose labour movement power plant

BEIJMA, 6 July—Pakistan’s Cabinet Executive Committee approved on Thursday setting up two 1,100 megawatt nuclear power plants at the Karachi coast, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar said. He told a Press conference the two power plants would be set up by Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission, which is already operating a 337 megawatt nuclear power plant at Karachi known as K-1.

Budget documents had revealed the setting up of only one, 1,300 megawatt coastal power plant at Karachi, with Chinese assistance.—Kyodo News

South American leftist leaders rally to Bolivia’s side in Snowden saga

Chairman and CEO of News Corporation Rupert Murdoch arrives at the 86th Academy Awards in Hollywood, California on 24 Feb, 2013.—Reuters

Cochabamba, (Bolivia). 6 July—South America’s most outspoken leftist leaders gathered on Thursday to rally behind Bolivian President Evo Morales, whose labour movement will be defeated as it passes through parliament. Even if it becomes law a future government could repeal it. The Lib Dems pointed out that Britain already has a law guaranteeing a referendum if the 28-nation bloc seeks treaty changes that would transfer more powers to Brussels.

Labour leader Ed Miliband refuses to back an EU vote, though media reports suggest the party might soon change tack, perhaps even seeking an early referendum.—Reuters

Pakistan approves two nuclear power plants

Islamabad, 6 July—Pakistan’s Cabinet Executive Committee approved on Thursday setting up two 1,100 megawatt nuclear power plants at the Karachi coast, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar said. He told a Press conference the two power plants would be set up by Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission, which is already operating a 337 megawatt nuclear power plant at Karachi known as K-1.

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Britain’s Prime Minister David Cameron departs Westminster Abbey after celebrating the 60th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth’s coronation in London on 4 June 2013.—Reuters
159 Myanmar migrant workers return from Malaysia

YANGON, 6 July—Sitagu Support Group established by the Sitagu Sayadaw, Myamna Airways International and Kanbawza Bank Ltd provided free fare to 159 Myanmar migrant workers in Malaysia with the Kuala Lumpur-Yangon charter flight for the second time yesterday.

A total of 7827 Myanmar migrant workers have returned to Myanmar from Malaysia so far.

U Han, secretary of Sitagu International Buddhist Academy, said, “Those who have returned today are from Myanmar, Monywa, Magway, Rakhine State, Ponnagyun, Seikkyi-Khanaungto, Sittway and anywhereelse. Another 5500 Myanmar migrant workers have contacted us to take next flights. Sitagu group, Kanbawza and MAI have joined hands to enable their return.”

A total of 175 Myanmar workers took the first free-of-charge charter flight jointly offered by MAI and Air Kanbawza on 29 June. Air MAI would continue to offer free charter flights to the Myanmar migrant workers in trouble, Marketing and Public Relations Manager of MAI Daw Aye Mra Tha of the Region Labour Department under the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security said, “We organize a face-to-face meeting between the workers returning from Malaysia and willing to explore employment here and employers at proficiency training school in Yankin Township.”

Employers offer jobs for garment factories, restaurants, electronics and related fields, construction sites, automobile assembling, hotels and driving.

ASEAN dialogue on 12-13 July

YANGON, 6 July—The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and HannsSeidel Foundation will jointly organize a dialogue on ASEAN on 12-13 July.

Challenges in assuming ASEAN chairmanship in 2014 and impacts of Myanmar’s reforms on regional and global affairs will be on the agenda.

Experts from relevant fields will give lectures at the dialogue.

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry will host the event.

Those interested are to contact the foundation at aungmyan@hs.de and 01-667225.

Sesame farmers “unpleasant” due to lack of rainfall

LANGHKIO, 6 July—Despite hopeful showers in early June, lack of rainfall since 6 June has given sesame farmers in Langhkio a splitting headache.

Under intense heat on these days, the sesame plants are being withered, leading to the depression of the farmers. They said it is unpleasant to see plants withering in their farms.

“We are concerned about potential high price of sesame oil as it does not rain in sesame harvest. Lack of rainfall in monsoon sesame season causes loss of labour of sesame farmers and reduces incomes of the farmers,” a farmer said.

Food supply in Kyaukkyi Tsp inspected

KYAUKKYI, 6 July—Authorities in Kyaukkyi Township in Toungoo District in Bago Region inspected meat in the market to ensure healthy supply of food on 3 July.

The group formed with executive officers of Township Development Affairs Committee and party, Dr Naw Ba So Wah of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department, ward administrator and town councilors inspected pork, meat, chicken and other food in the Nat Than Kwin market.

The effort is aimed at ensuring safety of food in the area.

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Traffic Police Corps donate exercise books

NAV PYI TAW, 6 July—Myanmar Traffic Police Corps donated 300 dozens of exercise books with the cover of traffic rules at Basic Education High School 3 (Branch) in Zabuthiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area yesterday.

The ceremony was attended by Commander of the Traffic Police Corps Police Col Kyaw Htway and gave educative talks on traffic rules. The exercise books are donated to BEHSs and middle schools in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

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MMAL-145

Meiktila victims return home from Pyawbwe relief camps

MEIKTILA, 6 July—Victims of recent conflict in Meiktila who had taken refuge in Pyawbwe Payintaw temporary relief camp returned to their native town Meiktila of Mandalay Region on 4 July.

A total of 135 residents of Aung Zeya ward were allowed to return home.

They are expected to be followed by victims in Sulegon relief camps in Kyaukse. Despite extension of two months of state of emergency, the area has returned to normalcy.

Families from Aung Zeya, Yan Myo Aung, Myoma, Mandawgon, Aung Hlay, Kaing, Thir Thint Mingala, Pyithaya (South), Pyithaya (North) and Yadana May Aung wards where homes were not damaged are being allowed to return home, according to an official of Township General Administration Department.

Due to violence broke out on 20 May, Islam families were allocated at relief camps in Sulegon ward in Kyaukse and Yindaw ward in Pyawbwe.

A total of five relief camps now hold only 800 victims.

MMAL-145

Anti-DHF measures carried out in Monywa

MONYWA, 6 July—Anti-Dengue Fever measures were carried out in Thalla youth philanthropic school in Monywa of Sagaing Region on 1 July morning.

Head of Township Regional Health Department and staff participated in the efforts.

Head of Township Health Department Dr Nyunt Sein, his assistant Dr Myint Myint Aye, Township Health in charge U Myint Swe, health staff gave talks on DHF.

The water sources in the school yard were sterilized.

MMAL-145

Social Affairs

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MMAL-145
PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 7 July, 2013

Zero-tolerance to corruption

Corruption is an enormous obstacle to a nation’s realization of politically, economically and administratively sweeping reforms to build a clean government in good governance. No matter what it comes in various forms, corruption is a breach of the Rule of Law. Any countries with young democracy and poorly-corrupted administrative mechanism have to face its crippling blows of a similar magnitude to genuine democracy and sustainable development.

Corruption and poverty can create a vicious circle. Developing countries with illicit financial flows, prolonged armed conflicts or fears of natural disasters are afflicted with the cancer of corruption. Stealing public money for private gain and siphoning foreign aid into private bank accounts have been called modern-day corruption.

When corruption takes root in the countries, only marginalized people suffer first and worst. Then infrastructure projects and financial resources needed to bolster economic growth and address social needs are paralyzed. Moreover, corruption can ruin reputation of a certain country, a race and a person, hamper foreign investment and international recognition of being a developmentally-stable dissatisfaction with the incumbent government.

It is an excerpt from a speech by former Indian President Abdul Kalam that “if a country is to be corruption free and become a nation of beautiful minds, I strongly feel there are three major forces at work that need to be supported. The most important force is public awareness and support for corruption. The second major force is the media forces at home is needed in a fight against corruption. The third major force is the commitment of young democracy and poorly-corrupted administration to corruption with a culture that values ethical behaviors. The most important force is public awareness and support for corruption.”

YCDC plants saplings in Hlawga watershed area

YANGON, 6 July—Yangon City Development Committee held the tree-planting ceremony at the teak plantation near Hlawga watershed area of Mingaladon Township of Yangon Region this morning.

The sacred museum of the Sixth Buddhist Council

With a view to protecting and propagating the Theravada Buddhism, a Sacred Museum commemorating the Sixth Great Buddhist Council of 1954 has been already built with support of many devout people and the Government of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar in the year 2000. The Sacred Museum is grandly situated on Sirimangala Kaba Aye Hillrock close to the east of the Mahapasana Cave (Great Cave) in which the Sixth Great Buddhist Council was successfully held in the year 2498 of the Buddhist Era, 1954 AD. The Sixth Great Buddhist Council was attended by an assembly of (2500) venerable elders (Bikkhus) and heads of states from five Theravada Buddhist nations, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Sri Lanka and Myanmar. At the Sixth Great Buddhist Council, an assembly of (2500) venerable elders (Bikkhus) led by the most Venerable Revata recited and verified the scriptures which were later put into print.

We all Buddhists throughout the world know that altogether Six Great Buddhist Councils were held in order to retrieve and give authenticity of the whole body of the teachings of the Buddha and to preserve and propagate those sacred teachings after the demise of the Buddha in 544 BC.

Just three months and four days (in 544 BC) after the noble demise of the Buddha, the First Buddhist Council were held in the city of Rajagaha (India). The whole body of the teachings of the Buddha was recited and given authenticity by an assembly of five hundred Arahats presided over by the Venerable Mahakassapa at the First Great Buddhist Council which was held with the support of King Ajatasattu.

In the year (100) of the Buddhist Era, 443 BC, the second Great Buddhist Council was held in the city of Vesali (India). The Great Buddhist Councils were trying to add to the original teachings of the Buddha were dismissed by an assembly of seven hundreds Arahats led by the Venerable Yasa at the Second Great Buddhist Council which held with support of King Kalasoka.

Then infrastructure projects and financial investment and international recognition of being a developmentally-stable dissatisfaction with the incumbent government.

New gas deposit discovered at Mottama M-3 offshore block

NAY PYI TAW, 6 July—Union Minister for Energy U Thaw Hla and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe are to preside over PTTEPI Co’s test drilling of oil and gas well at M-3 offshore block this morning.

In 2010, the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) started test drilling at 26-3-2011 and drilled test oil and gas well for three times.

Since 2010, MOGE had drilled four wells at Mottama M-3 offshore block. PTTEPI Co found a new gas deposit there. The Ministry of Energy is carrying out oil and gas explorations with local and foreign companies. The Ministry has set policy to use these oil and gas as to satisfy local power demand.
 **LOCAL NEWS**

**MPF launches emergency, complaint-handling phone lines**

NAY PYI TAW, 6 July—Myanmar Police Force under the Ministry of Home Affairs has put hot lines into place at Myanmar Police Force HQ and region/state police stations to enable the public to submit tip-offs and complaints over illegal acts, mis-appropriation and corruption.

The public may reach the numbers for their information and complaints but are requested to avoid manners causing disruptions to these phone lines.

Myanmar Police Force HQ, Nay Pyi Taw Police Force, Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Chin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan State Police Forces, Sagaing, Taninthayi, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon and Ayeawady Region Police Forces, Offices of Commanders of East, West, South and North District Police Forces in Yangon Region. No (1) Police Station in Taungyi, Office of Deputy Commander of State Police Force in Lashio, and Kengtung Police Station in Kengtung have emergency numbers of 199.

Phone numbers receiving complaints from the public are Myanmar Police Force HQ (067-41222 and 067-41244), Nay Pyi Taw Police Force (067-550333), Kachin State Police Force (074-21444), Kayin State Police Force (058-23355), Sagaing Region Police Force (071-24996), Taninthayi Region Police Force (059-23998), Bago Region Police Force (052-23999), Magway Region Police Force (063-280999), Mandalay Region Police Force (02-61444), Mon State Police Force (057-24987), Rakhine State Police Force (043-24833), Mon State Police Force (081-2125455) and Ayeawady Region Police Force (042-2384).

**Pedigree species of pig distributed in Mohnyin Tsp**

MOHNYIN, 6 July—Mohnyin District Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department in cooperation with Livestock, Feedstuff and Dairy Enterprise distributed DYL pig species and feedstuffs from 17 to 20 June, with the aim of increasing numbers of pedigree pigs in local area, developing meat production and enabling the local people to earn increased income. A total of 286 species of pig and 7279 viss of feedstuffs were distributed to 76 livestock breeding entrepreneurs from Mohnyin and Moguang townships and Hopin sub-township.

The DYL pig species got from pigbreeding farms of Htonbo of Mandalay Region and Daik U of Bago Region. Under the arrangement of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, the entrepreneurs can buy pigs through six month loan system. — NLM-001

**Monsoon Palethwe hybrid paddy strains under cultivation in Mawlu Area**

MAWLU, 6 July—With the aim of enhancing socioeconomic status and doubling income of farmers, high-yield Palethwe hybrid paddy strains have been cultivated across the nation.

Palethwe hybrid paddy strains were cultivated at Field No 535 of 10-acre farmland owned by Village Administrator U Ohn Kyaw in Phaungton Village in Mawlu Area of Indaw Township, Sagaing Region on 2 July.

“Indaw Township Agriculture Department distributes high-yield Palethwe hybrid paddy strains to the farmers at a reasonable price. It can yield 100-200 baskets per acre. We cultivated Chin 3 paddy strain and it produced from 70 to 95 baskets per acre. This year, we expect to produce from 100 to 150 baskets per acre due to high yield Palethwe hybrid paddy strains,” said Village Administrator U Ohn Kyaw.

**People get easy access to Internet through district public library**

SAGAING, 6 July—Sagаing District Information and Public Relations Department of Sagaing Region has made arrangements for enabling the people to have easy access to Internet through WiFi facility at its office.

Therefore, the number of Internet users is growing day by day.

“We are convenient in applying Internet at the district Information and Public Relations Department. The library is quiet. We can enjoy Internet at the tea shops but these venues are noisy. I do not intend to put blame on others. In fact, any Internet users prefer to enjoy the websites quiet. The staff of the department switch on fans and lightings as giving services to the users,” said U Thant Kyaw who is applying WiFi daily.

Ma Zin Zin Win of the urban ward explained, “I am convenient in applying Internet. At first, I did not catch such information. After browsing up-date information daily through Internet at the library of the IPRD, I pass the information to my friends and local people.”

**Chin State eyes on regional development**

REZWA, 6 July—Chief Minister of Chin State U Hong Ngai together with officials of the state government gave instructions to departmental officials and local people on regional development at the meeting hall of Rezwa Sub-Township General Administration Department on 3 June morning with the aim of fulfilling the requirements of social, health, education and economic sectors of the local people.

Deputy Speaker of the State Hluttaw U Ohn Lwin reported on Hluttaw affairs, State Minister for Transport U Ngum Hsan Aung on road and bridge matters and State Minister for Development Affairs U Nein Naine on development tasks.

Townsender U Thong Linn presented a report on requirements of the state.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks.

Kyemon Hla Thurein (West Yoma)

**WFP, Save The Children carry out survey in Kanna**

KANMA, 6 July—WFP and Save The Children led by Mrs Victoria Louise Silson and U Thein Tun Naing in cooperation with Department of Rural Region Development under the Ministry of Border Affairs conducted a survey of tropical area’s foodstuff and nutritious sufficiency on 3 July.

They chose 12 households in Htagauk Village where they carried out survey on health, body weight, height and daily consumption of food nourishment of 12 children under five and an acre per person.

They also carried out survey in Pyaung Village on 4 July.

Both Htagauk and Pyaung Villages are located in Kanna Township.

Kyemon Kyaw Kyaw (IPRD)

**Pedigree of four-district police forces meeting held in Bago**

BAGO, 6 July—A meeting of Four District Police Forces in Bago Region organized by the Bago Region Police Force Commander was held at the police Yeiktha of Bago Region Police Force on 4 July morning. At the meeting, Region Security and Border Affairs Minister Col Thet Tun provided 250 dozens of exercise book to the children of police families and presented cash awards to police members for their excellent performance in June through Region Police Commander Police-Col Mya Win.

Kyemon San Wai (BagoBagoBagoBago)
Portugal PM says found formula for government stability

LISBON, 7 July—Portugal’s Prime Minister has found a way to maintain government stability with the junior partner in the ruling coalition, but the full details still need to be agreed to end a political crisis that has threatened Lisbon’s adjustment under a bailout.

Prime Minister Pedro Passos Coelho said a formula had been found after meeting with the leader of the rightist CDS-PP party three times in the past 24 hours to heal the most damaging political rift since the country received a bailout in 2011. “A formula was found to maintain government stability,” Passos Coelho told journalists after a crisis meeting with the president to discuss the political situation.

The resignations this week of Finance Minister Vitor Gaspar and Foreign Minister Paulo Portas, who also heads the CDS-PP, have threatened to deprive the government of a majority in parliament as the country goes through its worst slump since the 1970s.

Passos Coelho said the solution would involve a “way to guarantee the political support of the CDS-PP of the government,” adding that the resignation of Portas had been a personal decision. Still, the prime minister gave no details of the agreement and the final outcome still depends on further negotiations with Portas in coming days. It is likely to include more ministerial positions for the CDS-PP, analysts said.

Any final agreement will also have to be approved by President Anibal Cavaco Silva, who will meet with all political parties starting on Monday.

Portuguese assets were highly volatile on the day but after the afternoon bond yields fell and stocks recovered most of their sharp losses from a day earlier as agreement appeared closer.

Qinghai-Tibet Railway expands its reach

XINING, 6 July—Seven years after the Qinghai-Tibet Railway went into operation, the “roof of the world” is about to see more railways connecting it to other parts of China.

Several new railway lines are either under construction or being planned to form a rail network in the large, sparsely populated Qinghai-Tibet Plateau in western China, according to the Qinghai-Tibet Railway Company, the operator of the world’s highest railway.

During China’s 12th Five Year Plan (2011-2015) period, the Qinghai-Tibet Railway will branch out in all directions, ending the history of no railways in the southern part of Tibet Autonomous Region and strengthening its ties with neighbouring provinces.

The Qinghai-Tibet Railway, which spans 1,956 km from Xining, Qinghai Province, to Lhasa, regional capital of Tibet, carried 10.76 million people and 56.06 million tonnes of cargo in 2012.

With these new extension lines in place, the company estimates that its passenger and cargo loads will increase to 14 million and 90 tonnes, respectively, in 2015.

The railway has led to a boom in tourism in Tibet. In 2010, more than 10 million tourists visited the autonomous region, up 21.7 percent year on year, and tourism revenue surged 30.3 percent to 12.61 billion yuan (2.06 billion U.S. dollars).

According to Zhu Jing, the company’s vice general manager, the rail way network will bring major cities in western China closer.

One of the first extensions to be completed will be a 233 km line linking Lhasa to Xigaze, a historical city in southwestern Tibet. Construction of the line began in September 2010, and is expected to finish at the end of this year.

Losing Jemcun, chairman of the Tibet regional government, said during China’s annual parliamentary session in March, the company is also considering a line between Lhasa to Nyinagri, a prefecture in the southeastern part of the autonomous region famous for its virgin forests.

Meanwhile, two new lines will extend from Golmud, a city in Qinghai that serves as an important junction on the Qinghai-Tibet Railway, to the western China’s Gansu Province and the other to Korla, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

With 12.9 billion yuan in investment, construction on the Golmud-Dunhuang line was kicked off last October and is expected to be completed in five years, company spokesperson Wang Tao told Xinhua. — Xinhua

Mexican generals accused of ties with drug cartel set free

MEXICO CITY, 6 July—A Mexican federal judge on Thursday ordered the release of three generals and two other officers accused of collaborating with a drug cartel after investigators determined there was insufficient evidence against them.

The generals, Roberto Dawe, Ricardo Escorcia and Ruben Perez, were accused of working with the Beltran Leyva cartel, a violent gang that has smuggled tons of cocaine, heroine, crystal meth and marijuana across the US border.

The three had been senior figures in former President Felipe Calderon’s crackdown on organized crime, which pitted the Mexican armed forces against powerful cartels. — Reuters

Cuba to launch 8th national audit in anti-corruption efforts

HAVANA, 7 July—Cuba will launch its Eighth Internal Control National Audit on 21 October as part of the government’s fight against corruption, a senior official of the Comptroller General Office announced on Thursday.

The one-month audit campaign will look into programs including building materials sales in the provinces of Santiago de Cuba and Guantanamo, which were hit hard by Hurricane Sandy last October.

Other programmes to be audited involve export subsidies, the granting of land use permits, direct trade between farmers and tourism entities, the implementation of the 17 recently adopted measures on agricultural cooperatives and state payments to private entities. The Comptroller General Office was created by the government of Cuban leader Raul Castro in 2009 to fight corruption and strengthen law enforcement in the country.

The last general audit was held six months ago, when 34 percent of the surveyed state-run entities showed deficiencies. — Xinhua

Syria’s Assad says only foreign invasion can threaten him

BEIRUT, 7 July—Syrian President Bashar al-Assad said he and his government would survive the civil war having endured everything his opponents could do to topple him and only the distant prospect of direct foreign military intervention could change that.

After steady rebel gains in the first two years of civil war, Syria became stuck in a bloody stalemate lasting months until a June government offensive that led to the capture of a strategic border town. Momen­tum now looks to be behind Assad.

“This was their goal in hitting our infrastructure, hitting our economy, and creating complete chaos in society so that we would become a failed state,” As­sad said in an interview with Syria’s official Toun­ea newspaper published on Thursday. “So far we have not reached that stage.”

The only factor that could undermine the resil­ience of the government, he said, was direct foreign intervention. But he said that was unlikely due to foreign powers’ conflict­ing views of an opposition movement increasingly overridden by radical Islam­ist militaries.

“They have used every material, emotional and psychological means available to them. The only op­tion they have is direct for­eign intervention,” he said.

“But there is hesitation and rejection of interven­tion from most countries so if we can overcome this stage with resilience and awareness, we have nothing more to fear.”

Syria’s two-year upris­ing against Assad, whose family has ruled Syria for more than four decades, be­gan as peaceful protests but became militarised after an army crackdown.

The rebels remain strong in the north of Syria, but Assad has been slowly reinforcing his forces there in the hope of retaking ter­ritory. Fierce fighting is raging around several cit­ies in central Syria and near the capital. Assad’s counter-offensive led the United States to announce last month military support for the opposition, a move it said would restore the bal­ance of power ahead of any peace talks. — Reuters

Bolivian President Evo Morales (C) takes part in the ceremony to celebrate the 4th anniversary of Shinashka Township Cochabamba, Bolivia, on 4 July, 2013. — Xinhua
Indonesian president meets with Australrian PM

Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd (L) walks with Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono (R) after a press conference at the Presidential Palace in Bogor, Indonesia, on 5 July, 2013. —Xinhua

Jakarta, 6 July— Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd met in Bogor town on Friday, discussing asylum seeker, trade issues and regional issues.

President Yudhoyono said that Indonesia and Australia in the near future would discuss the boat people issue involving all the countries where the people come from and the countries where the asylum seekers transit.

“We agreed that all parties have responsibility on the boat people, it is not only the responsibility of Indonesia or Australia, but also the other countries such as the origin countries,” Yudhoyono said after meeting the Australian Prime Minister at the Bogor Presidential Palace in West Java Province.

In recent years, asylum seekers from Afghanistan, Iran, Myanmar and other Middle East countries have transpired to Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand to continue a long sea journey to Christmas Island of Australia.

Indonesia and Australia have cooperated in handling the asylum seekers and have set up a deal so called “the Lombok Treaty.” On trade, President Yudhoyono said both leaders agreed to boost cattle trade.

Indonesia is Australia’s major cattle export destination. Indonesia’s suspension of cattle import from Australia in recent years has aroused complaints from cattle raisers in Australia. Both leaders also discussed the latest developments in the region and the world as a whole, said Yudhoyono.

Prime Minister Rudd and I have a commitment to look for new opportunities to step up this cooperation, he said, quoted by Kontan online.

President Yudhoyono expressed congratulations to Rudd for his reelection days ago.

Tokyo, 6 July— Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is likely to face challenges in pushing ahead with his economic policies dubbed “Abenomics,” even if his ruling Liberal Democratic Party wins control of the House of Councillors in the 21 July election.

Abe has been promoting his “three arrows” of drastic monetary easing, massive fiscal spending and a growth strategy to tackle Japan’s prolonged deflation, but a recent decision on whether to implement a sales tax hike as well as a possible spike in long-term interest rates could prove to be significant obstacles, some analysts said.

As public support for Abe’s Cabinet has been relatively high since it was formed on 26 December, the election is highly likely to put an end to the divided Diet, where opposition parties control the upper chamber, said Tatsuhiko Yoshizaki, executive vice president of the Sof适宜 Research Institute.

“No national election will be held for the next three years,” he said, “so unless there is a very big political blunder, Mr. Abe can stay in office” throughout that period.

Yoshizaki said that even though Abe’s growth strategy has caused disappointment due to its lack of detail on structural reform and deregulation, keys to boosting private-sector investment, his government “can accelerate economic reforms over the next three years.”

Abe’s administration has promised to draw up a medium-term fiscal reform plan in August, aiming to achieve its international pledge to halve the ratio of the primary balance deficit to the country’s gross domestic product by fiscal 2015 from the level in fiscal 2010 and turn the balance into a surplus by fiscal 2020. —Kyodo News

Japanese expats start voting in upper house election

New York, 6 July— Japanese expatriates on Friday began visiting embassies and consulates around the world to cast their ballots for the upcoming House of Councillors election set for 21 July in Japan.

Jun Mikihara, 53, who cast his vote at the Consulate General in New York, said he supports Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and said, “If the Liberal Democratic Party scores a major victory and makes the Abe government a long-term administration, it will probably be a good thing.” In London, a 33-year-old male company employee, who has lived in the British capital for two years, said at the Japanese Embassy that he is not sure how much the prime minister’s economic policies, widely referred to as Abenomics, are having an impact.

At the Japanese Embassy in Seoul, a 33-year-old Japanese man who works for a South Korean company said, “I feel relieved if Japan’s relations with neighboring countries will normalize and stabilize through this election.”

The 2013 Beijing Summer Jewelry Show kicked off at the Beijing Exhibition Center in Beijing, capital of China, on 4 July, 2013. The five-day exhibition is attended by more than 200 jewelry suppliers from home and abroad. —Xinhua

Singapore must get politics right first to remain competitive

Singapore, 6 July— It is important for Singapore to get the politics right before it begins to remain economically competitive, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said on Friday.

“If the politics is wrong, you can’t get the economy’s right,” he said at a dialogue with bankers.

Singapore has been known for its achievements over the past decades to jump from being a third-world to a first-world economy and its rule of law, clean government and good environment. The government has given high salaries to attract talent to join politics to govern the city state, and the country has opened its doors to qualified immigrants.

Lee said the right politics will allow the government to implement policies to share the wealth broadly, and continue to attract the talent to join politics.

Several shots fired in clash during Cambodia’s election campaing

Pnom Penh, 6 July— Several shots have been fired inside a luxury villa during an altercation between several hundred supporters of the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP) and residents in the villa, military police spokesman said on Saturday.

The dispute occurred at 8 pm on Friday when the CNRP election campaigners passed the villa and triggered verbal attacks and violent reaction on the residents having tendency to the ruling Cambodian People’s Party.

“We have checked security cameras installed at the villa already and found that opposition supporters triggered the violence and people in the villa, who are military police officer, fired into the air in order to defend themselves,” spokesman for the National Military Police Kheng Tito told Xinhua.

There were no reports of injuries.

He said after the incident, four people in the villa, including two military police officers, were detained for enquiries by the police. But they were released later on Friday night after the prosecutor at the Pnom Penh Municipal Court found there was no ground for the shooting. “One of the military officers holds the rank of colonel, so he has rights to use weapons and he shot himself when rivals besieged the villa,” Kheng Tito said.

However, the CNRP issued a statement on Saturday, claiming that the violence was triggered by people in the villa. “They threw stones at the CNRP election campaigners and fired at them using five or six guns,” said the statement. The CNRP condemned the violence on the party’s peaceful election campaigning and accused the authority to investigate the case in order to arrest wrong doers for legal punishment.

The CNRP is set to hold a general election for the 123-seat parliament on July 28 with eight political parties joining the contest. The primary election campaign kicked off Thursday last week and will complete on 26 July. —Xinhua
Hollande pledges to rebuild Tunisian-French ties on “new bases”

TUNIS, 6 July — During an address delivered at the Tunisia’s Constituent Assembly on Friday, French President Fran ois Hollande pledged to “rebuild Tunisian-French relations on new bases.” France is ready to cooperate with all Tunisian parties, he said, adding that France “knows that Islam and democracy are compatible.”

Hollande also announced that France would transform Tunisia’s debt into development projects and urge French businesses to further invest in the country.

The French head of state also paid tribute to the slain political opposition leader, Chokri Belaid, calling for the capture of his assassins. He also apologized to the widow of Farhat Hached, a trade union leader allegedly killed by a French paramilitary group in 1952, adding that he will help uncover the truth behind the assassination, by promising to open up French classified archives on the subject.

Hollande, who will wrap up his two-day visit to Tunisia later on Friday, met on Thursday with the country’s president Moncef Marzouki and Prime Minister Ali Laarayedh.

Prime Minister Najib Sharif shakes hands with Xiuhuanet CEO Tian Shubin in Beijing, July 5, 2013. Xinhua

River polluted in S China

GUANGZHOU, 6 July — Government authorities of Fengkai County, south China’s Guangdong Province, on Saturday warned that water in a section of the Hejiang River has been tainted by pollution upstream.

A 9-year-old boy was drowned in a river in Fengkai County after hazardous substances had been detected upstream in neighboring Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, the county government said.

14 militants killed in Afghanistan

KABUL, 6 July — Fourteen Taliban militants have been killed in Afghanistan within the last 24 hours, said the country’s Interior Ministry on Saturday morning. “Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) conducted a series of clean-up operations in Kunar, Baghlan, Ghazni, and Paktiya provinces. As a result, nine armed Taliban were killed, two wounded and six other armed Taliban were arrested by the ANSF over the last 24 hours,” the ministry said in a statement.

In addition, two suicide attackers were shot dead by police in eastern Paktika province Friday, leading to one explosion. Two police men were slightly wounded in the blast, the statement added. Three other militants were killed when an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) they were planting along a main road in eastern Nangarhar province went off prematurely Friday evening, it said.

The ANSF and the NATO-led coalition troops have intensified operations against Taliban and other militants recently. But the insurgent groups responded by bombings. On Friday, up to nine police cops and three civilians were killed and 17 others wounded in two separate suicide bomb attacks in southern Kandahar and neighbouring Uruzgan province.

16 killed as train hits rickshaw in Pakistan’s Punjab province

ISLAMABAD, 6 July — At least 16 people including women and children were killed Saturday afternoon when a train hit a rickshaw in Khairpur area of Sheikhupura District of Punjab Province that killed all the 16 passengers on board.

Twelve out of total 16 persons, who were riding in the rickshaw, were killed on spot as the rickshaw was shattered into pieces after train hit while four of them sustained serious injuries. Rescue teams and local people rushed to the site and shifted the bodies and the injured to the hospital where all the injured also succumbed to their injuries during treatment with death toll rising to 16. District civil administration said that the rickshaw was overloaded and its driver tried to cross the railway track carelessly but the vehicle’s engine was jammed in the middle of the track. The fast train could not stop and rammed into the rickshaw and pushed it up to 1 kilometer distance. Parts of rickshaw and human limbs were scattered on both sides of the railway track.
Superman Henry Cavill dating Big Bang girl Kaley Cuoco?

Los Angeles, 6 July—Man of Steel actor Henry Cavill is reportedly dating Big Bang Theory actress Kaley Cuoco. “They were both single and started dating recently,” people.com quoted a source as saying.

Though Cuoco, 27, and Cavill, 30, have not made any official announcements yet, the couple is getting to know each other. “It’s just the beginning stages of a relationship and they’re having a great time,” the source said.—PTI

‘Lone Ranger’ ambushed at box office, Disney may face loss

The film’s poor opening is a black eye for producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and star Depp, the trio behind Disney’s ultra-successful “Pirates of the Caribbean” series.

Disney made their prior success a key part of marketing the current film, and Depp’s international appeal still could help the film’s overseas box office. “The Lone Ranger” is an action remake of a 1930s radio show and television series in the 1950s. Armie Hammer plays John Reid, the lawman who dons a mask to fight injustice in the Old West. This time, though, it is the Lone Ranger’s Native American sidekick Tonto, played by Depp, who takes center stage.

American folk singer Sixto Rodriguez

Montreux, (Switzerland), 6 July—American singer-songwriter Sixto “Sugar Man” Rodriguez, virtually unknown a few years ago, opened the Montreux Jazz Festival on Thursday, which American producer and its former co-director Quincy Jones calls the “Rolls Royce of music festivals.”

Fresh from the Glastonbury festival in Britain last weekend, Rodriguez gave a Fourth of July concert in the Swiss resort, mixing songs from his two albums that never made it onto the charts with borrowed tunes including the classic rock ‘n roll hit “Fever.”

The Detroit-based singer, whose lyrics evoke the folk-soul sound of Bob Dylan, is the shy subject of “Searching for Sugar Man,” a film by Swedish director Malik Bendjelloul that tells the incredible story of his fame late in life. It won the Oscar for best documentary this year.

“I am a sold 70. I just received a doctorate from Wayne State University. I hear that I am going to receive the Legion of Honour from France,” Rodriguez told the sell-out crowd at the prestigious 47th edition, the first since the death of founder Claude Nobs in January.
Moyes says Rooney to stay at United

Manchester, 6 July—New Manchester United manager David Moyes was adamant on Friday that striker Wayne Rooney was not for sale but stopped short of saying the player had changed his mind about wanting to leave.

The issue dominated the Scot’s first news conference since he took over from the retired Alex Ferguson. His predecessor said in May that the England international had asked for a transfer.

“I’ve had a chance to speak to Wayne... the fact of the matter is Wayne is not for sale,” Moyes said at Old Trafford, home of the Premier League champions.

“He is a Manchester United player and will remain a Manchester United player. I’ve known Wayne since he was 16... he’s training very well, he’s come back in good shape and I really look forward to working with him.”

From pets to Ryan Gosling, Lisicki and Bartoli uncovered

London, 6 July—Sabine Lisicki taught a lot, in alligic grass, about her Yorkshire terrier Happy and carries animal-shaped charms in her tennis bag.

Marion Bartoli hit rock bottom recently, enjoys painting, loves her two cats, and is rather partial to actors Pierce Brosnan and Ryan Gosling. The likes and dislikes of the two women who will battle it out in Wimbledon’s women’s final on Saturday, have the media scrambling to find titbits on the players who started the tournament as outsiders.

Both Germany’s fair-haired Lisicki and Bartoli, a dark-haired Frenchwoman, were coached by their fathers and both will rev up with music by French DJs ahead of the match with Lisicki listening to David Guetta’s “Play Hard” and Bartoli opting for Bob Sinclar’s “Summer Moonlight”. But differences between the two have emerged as the public decide who to support in the absence of tournament favourites including Serena Williams, who left Wimbledon after her shock defeat to Lisicki and headed to Disneyland Paris for a break.

Lisicki, 23, nicknamed “Boom Boom” for her powerful serve, has won over the crowds at Wimbledon with her easy laugh, displays of emotion on the court and tears of joy at winning.

The 28-year-old Bartoli, meanwhile, known as “The Genius” after once saying she had an IQ of 175, has come across as more of a lone wolf who is intensely focused on success after admitting she hit rock bottom recently. It is going to be interesting to see how these two players cope with this opportunity. There will be a lot of emotion in this,” Tracy Austin, a former world number one, told Reuters. — Reuters

Queens Park Rangers’ Christopher Samba returns to Russia from QPR

London, 6 July—Defender Christopher Samba has rejoined Russia’s Anzhi Makhachkala from relegated Queens Park Rangers for an undisclosed fee (club record), the Champions League last-16 second-leg defeat by Real Madrid in March.

Rooney is no stranger to Moyes, with the striker having begun his career at Everton under the Scot.

The two then fell out over an account in one of the player’s autobiographies about how he came to join United. — Reuters

Murray holds nerve to tame big-serving Janowicz

London, 6 July—Andy Murray celebrated after defeating Jerry Janowicz of Poland in their men’s semi-final tennis match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, in London on 5 July, 2013. — Reuters

Murray, however, showed why he is considered among the very best returners in the game and was not going to be bullied by the lofty Pole.

He subdued his fiery opponent with a forehand winner after two hours and 52 minutes of heated combat in which Janowicz had transformed himself into a comedy villain after taking his anger out on the net in the third set.

Murray was calm and collected. There was none of the emotion that greeted his victory over Jo-Wilfried Tsonga at the same point 12 months ago, just a hefty fist pump and swift salute to the crowd.

The Briton is now a player who expects to be competing on the biggest stages. — Reuters

Nearly man Zanotti leads French Open as favourites struggle

Paris, 6 July—Paraguay’s Fabrizio Zanotti was one of the nearly men of the European Tour, grabbed a one-stroke lead in the second round of the French Open near Paris on Friday while overnight leader Anders Hansen had a day to forget.

Zanotti, three times a runner-up on tour, the last time at the 2012 Irish Open, shot his second 68 to finish six-under-par and ahead of a group that included 42-year-old Dane Thomas Bjorn.

Overnight leader Hansen, another 42-year-old Dane, dropped four shots in his first 11 holes, following up his 66 with a 78 and was two over along with former world number one Martin Kaymer of Germany, who carded a 78. Zanotti, 30, ranked 391st in the world, had four birdies and a single bogey in his round at the testing Le Golf National course, venue for the 2018 Ryder Cup.

Defending champion Marcel Siem of Germany also missed the cut and others who struggled were Luke Donald and Ian Poulter, the Britons both on two over, American Matt Kuchar was three over after a 75.

After fog delayed the start for an hour, one man in early contention was Northern Ireland’s Graeme McDowell. The former US Open champion fired a second 69 to be four under, McDowell, like many of the leading contenders warming up for the British Open at Muirfield this month, had missed the cut in five of his last six stroke-play events before this week. — Reuters
Djokovic wins another epic to set up Murray finale

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**

*Reuters*

Novak Djokovic of Serbia celebrates after defeating Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina in their men’s semi-final tennis match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, in London on 5 July, 2013. Novak Djokovic added his name to the list of eighth seed Juan Martin del Potro he was stretched to breaking point.

**MYANMAR TV**

*Reuters*

1. Paritta ByVenerable Mingun Sayadaw
2. Paritta By Mingun Sayadaw
3. Dance & Song of National Races
4. 12pm: The Internet
5. News/Weather Report
6. Teleplay
7. News/ International
8. Amazing World
9. Science & Environment
10. Food Trip (Episode 8)
11. World News
12. Myanmar Movie "You Worship Love, dear!"
13. TV Drama Series
15. Round Up Of The Week’s International News
16. Myanmar Video

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**BLANG MANCUNG, (Indonesia)** 6 July — Villagers that sought shelter in tents erected outside their houses and in wide open spaces in areas devastated by a strong earthquake in the center of Indonesia’s province of Aceh are still worried about possible aftershocks as of Friday night.

The villagers have no option except to stay in the open after their houses collapsed or tumbling down from the impact of a 6.2 magnitude earthquake that hit their area on Tuesday.

Some villagers recounted to Xinhua their horrible experience when the earthquake struck in the afternoon.

Irwansyah, chief of Lorong Aya neighborhood in Pondok Bale village located in Bener Meriah regency, said that people were on their way home after they buried a fellow villager when the earthquake struck.

“We frantically ran to get our children out of our houses and bring them outside. It was a school holiday, thank to Allah, that we have our children with us,” the 38-year-old Irwansyah said.

He said that in their neighborhood, one person died and 10 others were injured.

The village chief said that it was the first powerful earthquake that hit their place since the strongest one in December 2004 that triggered a deadly tsunami.

“But this time, the tremor was unusual because it seemed that the ground shook vertically, not horizontally like in the previous earthquakes in our area,” Irwansyah said.

He said that the earthquake made the roof tiles of houses bounced back and forth before falling. “We had a strange feeling,” Irwansyah added.

Irwansyah said that after the earthquake struck, some of the houses collapsed right away while the others fell during the aftershocks.

The villagers put up makeshift tents in front of their houses where they placed their belongings. They decided to stay in the open during the next few days.

In villages of Blang Mancung and Serempah in the regency of Aceh Tengah located about two kilometers from Pondok Bale, the condition was worse since most of the villagers’ houses were flattened.

Many people were injured when their houses collapsed at the height of the earthquake.

As of Friday afternoon, police and rescue teams have discovered 40 bodies and continued the search for survivors in Serempah village located in the valley area in the regency. Those missing were believed to be living in houses that collapsed because of the landslide that followed the earthquake.

The office of the Aceh governor has declared the earthquake as provincial level disaster since it only affected two of its regencies, Bener Meriah and Central Aceh. The emergency response period was extended by the authorities from the original 9 July to 17 July. The emergency response period started on 3 July.

An evaluation is now being conducted to find out whether or not to extend the emergency period which would depend on the length of the rescue efforts and the condition of the refugees. The extension is aimed at maximizing the search and rescue efforts, treating the injured and providing for the basic needs of the refugees, particularly food and medicines.
Pyu BEHS No (1) holds prize presentation ceremony

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Mann attended a prize presentation ceremony of Basic Education High School No (1) in Pyu Township of Bago Region this morning.

First, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker delivered an opening address. Next, Hluttaw Hluttaw committee Chairman U Thein Swe, the Bago region chief minister, the region Hluttaw speaker and officials awarded outstanding students in Pyu Township for 2012-2013 academic year.

On behalf of school heads in Pyu Township and distinction-winning students, Headmistress Daw Tin Hsint and Maung Yay Gan, five-distinction winner spoke words of thanks.

Next, Region Chief Minister U Nyin Win spoke on the occasion.

The ceremony came to an end with concluding remarks by the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker. — MNA

Cooperative remains strong in time of crisis

Ministry of Cooperatives celebrated the International Co-operative Day at the ministry here today.

In his speech, Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan said the ministry has a plan to disburse loans to people in over 60,000 villages across the country at the end of the 2012-13 academic year.

The minister also invited international cooperation to assist in implementing the project. He also called on UN, International Cooperative Alliance, United Nation Development Programme-UNDP and Food and Agriculture Organization-FAO for further participation and assisting in promoting the cooperative activities.

During the ceremony, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan awarded outstanding children of the employees of the ministry who passed the matriculation examination of the 2012-2013 academic year with distinctions and presented cash assistance to 2,521 students of the ministry.

Union Ministers U Tin Naing Thein, U Myint Hlaing, U Win Myint, Dr Pe Thet Khin and U Win Shein and officials presented prizes to outstanding students of universities and colleges under the ministry.

MNA

Stake driven for shopping mall, hotel

A ceremony to drive stake for construction of Shopping Mall of Dawei Development Public Co was held on Seikkantha Street in Dawei yesterday.

Similar ceremony was held for Budget Hotel at Maungmagan Beach in Launglon Township.

Chief Minister of Tanintharyi Region U Myat Ko and officials drove stake for construction of the buildings.

MNA

Homeless old man brought to Home for the Aged

An aged and homeless muslim man who slept at night under a shrine in Kandawgalay (South) Ward since one month ago and it seems that he is deaf as he can’t reply to answer and his left eye is swollen and closed.

Residents of the ward donated food and water to him when he arrived at the shrine.

As he was not able to stand or move about one week ago and he could not clean and wash himself, residents contacted the Home for the Aged in Ward 12 in Dagon Myothit (East) Township to bring him to the home.

“He will die from cold in this rainy season if he stays under the shrine,” said U Than Lynn Kywe who contacted the Home for the Aged on 1 July.

“We heard that he was a carpenter and mason. He does not beg money but some people donate money to him. We contacted the Home for the Aged as we found that he does not move these days,” said U Khin Maung Maung, head of ward ten households.

They found his citizenship scrutiny card in his pocket. It is found that the card number is 12/Da-Pa Na (Naing) 042682 and it includes Name: Mohamed Karsin; Father Name: UNa Larkin, Religion : Islam, Date of Birth: 1287.

“We will have him cleaned at the Home for the Aged first, and will provide medical check-up and treatment at Thaukha Clinic of the Free Funeral Service Society,” said Treasurer Daw Htway Myint of the Home for the Aged.

Myanma Alinn:5-7-13

Byline & Photo: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)

Local people help homeless old man exchange clothes before going to Home for the Aged.

Local people conveying homeless old man to the vehicle bound for Home for the Aged.

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