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 Kyu 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

Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin accepts cash donation of a wellwisher. — 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 Kyaikwaing 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

WHO sets up emergency committee on MERS virus

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) has set up an emergency committee on the MERS virus, a disease with symptoms similar to those of SARS, following a number of cases in the Middle East. — MNA

MURDOCH belittled British police in secret recording by staff

British police in secret recordings have accused Rupert Murdoch of belittling the service and calling police officers “thugs” and “idiots.” — MNA

Cameron wins symbolic vote on EU referendum

Cameron wins symbolic vote on EU referendum. — MNA

The sacred Museum of the Sixth Great Buddhist Council

With a view to perpetuating and propagating the Theravada Buddhism, a Sacred Museum commemorating the Sixth Great Buddhist Council of 1954 has been already built with support of multifarious Buddhist people and the Government of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar in the year 2000.
Clarification of Myanmar Go for Gold

NAY PYI TAW, 6 July — Only 158 days are remaining for the countdown to the 27th SEA Games which will be held in Myanmar as of today. A press meet to clarify the commitment of 100 Plus to SEA Games was held at Wunna Theikdi Stadium in Zabuthiri Township, here, on 4 July.

Deputy Minister for Sports U Thaung Htain spoke words of thanks on the occasion, wishing 100 Plus to have huge success. Next, a responsible person of the company elaborated on its ongoing works and answered the queries raised by media persons.

100 Plus is providing sports athletes with 1500 cans per day and it is planned to donate 500,000 cans to the SEA Games, it is learnt. Moreover, the company is taking part in Go for Gold program 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 athletes are underintensive training, active participation of the entire people is needed.

Kyemon-Zeyar (Maung Yar)

Myanmar exports rice (Hsinthwelatt) to Japan for first time in 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 is learnt. A Myanmar-Japan business meet took place at the hall of Myanmar Rice Federation on 13 December 2012. Those present held talks on the Japanese invitation of rice tender at the meeting.

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 (MESCO 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 stringent 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 Wah Yaung 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 the long term as one ton of rice fetched US$ 510.

Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint visited Japan on 22 June and looked into unloading 50,000 tons of Myanmar’s Hsinthwelatt at Nagoya port.

He held discussions on shipment of 50,000 tons of rice to Japan with the Japanese ministry concerned and officials of Mitsui Company, MAPCO and Mitsui Co., Ltd signed agreement on 23 January, 2013 and Myanmar rice (Hsinthwelatt) was shipped to Japan from Asia World port on 18 May for the first time in 45 years.

As Myanmar rice wins international market share, it will be of great benefit to rice producers and agriculture sector on which livelihood of 60 per cent of the total population of Myanmar rely to see an increase in foreign earnings from rice exports.

Permission has not been given for signboards of departments to set up except Myanmar Railways. Orders have been given to stop putting signboards upon the compounds of Myanmar Port Authority, an area near U Htaung Bo roundabout, police stations, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and the Ministry of Sports. According to Yangon Region Government, giant billboards measuring 300 square feet are no longer allowed to erect. Departments concerned replied that removal of signboards is in progress,” says an official.

Kyemon-Myo Min Thu & Ye Min Aung(MAPCO)

National Sports

YANGON, 7 June — Dawnataung-Thingan Nyinaung road linking between Myawady and Kawkareik is one of the major roads contributing to smooth and speedy flow of commodities in Myanmar.

The road linking with Myawady, a border exit of Myanmar-Thai trade relations, serves as an important route in transportation of goods and passengers. It was learnt that road works were being implemented to repair damage on the road caused by heavy rainfall and a number of traffic volume. Moreover, road signs calling on road users not to overtake at narrow places had already been set up along the road by the Ministry of Construction. Up and down vehicles shuttling between Myawady and Kawkareik are allowed to use the road on alternate days.

It was learnt that traffic came to a halt when some vehicles broke down on the road and mechanical failures of some vehicle and due to small vehicles trying to overtake the 12-wheeled trucks. Although the road allowed vehicles to be parked for repair at wide turns, even regular drivers have to take special attention to drive at narrow turns. It is usual to take three and half or four hours for the journey from Myawady to Kawkareik, but vehicle crashes or broken-down cars make traffic halt for long hours and drivers annoyed, resulting in road fatalities while overtaking each other.

That’s why, it is required for road users to have a strict adherence to traffic measures written on road signs so that loss of life and injuries caused by road accidents will be reduced.

Kyemon-Htet Khaing (Sangyoung)

Transport

Only billboards in Myanmar Railways’ yard allowed to continue standing

YANGON, 6 July — According to an official of Engineering Department (Building) of Yangon City Development Committee, only billboards set up in the compound of Myanmar Railways will be allowed to continue while no permission for setting up of departmental signboards in the municipal area of YCDC.

“Permission has not been given for signboards of departments to set up except Myanmar Railways. Orders have been given to stop putting signboards upon the compounds of Myanmar Port Authority, an area near U Htaung Bo roundabout, police stations, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and the Ministry of Sports. According to Yangon Region Government, giant billboards measuring 300 square feet are no longer allowed to erect. Departments concerned replied that removal of signboards is in progress,” says an official.

He added that the management department of YCDC deals with billboards on the roads. Billboards hanging at the private property would be allowed to continue standing, but billboards of other companies excluded. Twenty-four wall-mounted billboards were granted permission last year and 22 this year totaling 44. There are thousands of small billboards in each township.

Kyemon-Swe Win-MLA
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 crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

The well was less than 10 metres from a pit from which radioactive strontium-90 was found last month and last week. The utility said the radioactive water was found at 15 metres depth near Nos. 1 to 3 reactors, TEPCO spokesman Masayuki Ono told a news conference. The utility said it will check whether the attacks were rate incidents in the North Korean border area and armoured personnel carriers rumbled among pro- and anti-Mursi protesters in Cairo on Thursday. The two agreed to hold a joint antidisaster drill between Japan's Self-Defense Forces and US forces in Japan as early as the fall 2013. —Kyodo News

**Highly radioactive water found at Fukushima plant**

**Islamic protesters 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 Morsi 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 armoured 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, hardliners 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 “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 Sunday. 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 two weeks 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 US-backed 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 roadmap gave no timeframe for a new ballot — adding to political uncertainty at a time when many Egyptians fear violence could polarise society even further.

Lefist former president-
The earliest civilisations were those of the Pyu people, who flourished after the 3rd century BCE, and the Rakhine, whose kingdom was established in the 4th century BCE. The Pyu kingdoms were destroyed in the 9th century by invading Nan Ch'a's forces from China's present-day Yunnan province and the remainder of the race assimilated with the Bamar. After the fall of the Pyu, the first Myanmar Empire was founded in the 11th century by the great King Anawrahta of Bagan.

It was due to his efforts that Theravada Buddhism flourished in the country today, and the temple-studded plain around Bagan is his legacy. Under the reign of weak rulers of the late 12th century, Bagan fell to the invading hordes of Kublai Khan. Of the thousands of temples of the time, only over two thousand remains as living places of worship. Smaller kingdoms were founded by descendants of the Bagan kings.

They include the 16th century kingdom of Taungoo, King Tabin Sho Hti, who was at the age of fourteen already an experienced military commander, ascended the throne in 1531. He founded the Second Myanmar Empire and was succeeded by his brother-in-law, King Bayint Naung, whose feats of conquest raised the empire to even higher greatness.

The empire fell 1599 during the reign of his son.

The Third Myanmar Empire was founded by King Alaungpaya in 1752 in upper Myanmar. Under 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 national 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 richest countries in the region to the status of one of the poorest. As insurgencies raged throughout the country, economic mismanagement – including demonetisations that rendered peoples' savings worthless – led to a mass uprisings 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 first 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.

**Myanmar History in Decisive Dates**

**New Light of Myanmar**

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

**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. "Unit sales are doing quite well this year but they’re still 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 favoured DoCoMo’s mode of integrated system back when it launched the world’s first large-scale mobile web access service and introduced streamed 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. "Its photo service, for example, is very difficult to use and I’m not sure anyone else does it better in the age of Instagram and Flickr," said Yamashina.

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

** Over 30,000 Tibetan antelopes give birth in Hoh Xil **

**Xining, 7 June—**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 have just finished a long journey from their habitats in northwest China’s Qinghai Province and Xingjiang Uygur Autonomous Region and the Ngari prefecture and Changtang area of Tibet Autonomous Region, southwest China, to arrive at the bank of Zonag 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 stop so that the antelopes can cross the highway smoothly. When pregnant antelopes come over large grasslands, rangers close some sections of the road temporarily to make way for the antelopes, Songame added. Over 60 percent of the 35,000 antelopes have already given birth, said Zhao Xinxu, director of Zonag 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 over 60,000 at present, 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.

**Xinhua**
**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 that founder Michael Dell and Silver Lake Partners will raise their $24.4 billion buyout bid in order to overcome growing opposition. A deteriorating outlook for the PC industry has made a deal more challenging, and the buyout group is currently not planning to increase its $13.65 per share offer to take Dell private, people familiar with the matter said on Wednesday. Bloomberg separately reported on Friday morning that Michael Dell and Silver Lake ruled out raising their bid, citing people with direct knowledge of the matter. Shares of Dell were trading 3.1 percent lower at $12.89 on Nasdaq. Dell’s board has grown skeptical of the prospects of Michael Dell’s bid after recent meetings with major investors, and has advised Dell to raise the bid if he wanted the deal to go through, sources familiar with the matter previously said. Michael Dell did not commit to a new course of action and so far has not communicated his decision to the board one way or another, one of the sources said on Friday.

Several large Dell shareholders told the board that the bidders would need to increase the price or offer shareholders a chance to continue to own a piece of the company for them to approve the deal. Failing that, the investors said, they want the board to come up with a “Plan B” for Dell. The shareholder pressure on Dell comes ahead of a key report expected next week by investment advisory firm Institutional Shareholder Services, and a July 18 shareholder meeting, when investors will vote on the Michael Dell-Silver Lake deal.—Reuters

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 a 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 became 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 emergen- cy or pandemic but the ex- perts 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 or if there is some big out- break or we think the situation is really changing we will already have a group of emergency committee experts who are already up 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 that came into force in 2007, 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) is caused by 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

**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, accord- ing to a new study, so powerful painkillers, which include codeine and oxy- codone, 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 mat- ter in addition to racial ones. The disparities are concern- ing and definitely warrant further investigation,” said Dr. Michael Joynt, who led the study at the Univer- sity 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, no researcher not involved in the study said cultural dif- ferences between doctors and patients and a lack of time to closely evaluate each person in the emergen- cy room may encourage un- conscious stereotypes that affect doctors’ treatment decisions. Ack of standard- ized 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. During 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 pa- tient’s chance of being prescribed an opioid. or ex- ample, 46 percent of white patients with moderate or severe pain were given opi- oids, compared to 39 per- cent of black patients. And 45 percent of non-Hispanic people received the drugs, versus 40 percent of His- panics. —Reuters

WHO calls for action against obesity, excess weight

Vienna, 6 July—The World Health Organization (WHO) on Friday urged member states to take strong- er action against obesity and excess weight to lessen obe- sity-related diseases.

Representatives from 48 states at the European ministerial conference on nutrition and noncommu- nicable diseases signed the Viennese Declaration at the two-day meeting. “We reaf- firm 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 recommend- ed include less fat, sugar, and salt consumption in di- ets 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 Min- ister Alois Stoger said he was happy with the confer- ence, 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 coun- tries to implement them, something Austria has al- ready achieved,” he said. —Xinhua

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**New Light of Myanmar**

Sunday, 7 July, 2013

**BUSINESS & HEALTH**
Murschel belittled
British police in secret
recording by staff

LONDON, 6 July—Rupert Murschel 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.

Murschel 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.

A News Corp spokeswoman defended Murschel and the firm but did not question the accuracy of the recording, which was made by a member of staff at the meeting in London and obtained by the Exaro investigation website.

Murschel, the head of News Corp and 21st Century Fox, had described himself as humbled and appalled by the revelations of illegal phone hacking that forced the closure of his prized News of the World tabloid two years ago. But in the private meeting with staff the media mogul railed against police and said he had cooperated too closely with them when an internal committee he set up supplied thousands of internal emails at the height of the scandal.

"I will do everything in my power to give you total support, even if you’re convicted and get six months or whatever," he told a room full of Sun journalists, including some of the 23 who have been arrested for making payments to public officials. —Reuters

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 tie 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 feuds over 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 legislate for an EU referendum by the end of 2017, by 304 votes to zero, in an exercise seen as a way to convince sceptical Britons that Cameron is serious about giving them an "in/out" EU vote.

Cameron’s pro-EU coalition partners, 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 referendums 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 session of the Commons.

Cameron, who wants Britain to stay inside a reformed EU, says upheaval in the EU since the euro zone crisis makes it the right time to give voters their first say on Europe since they opted to stay in the bloc in a 1975 referendum.

The bill could still 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 of only one 1,100 megawatt coastal power plant at Karachi, with Chinese assistance.—Kyodo News

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 practice, which starts from 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 Peking and Tsinghua Universities, 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 courses, while the military colleges for professional training and flight-related practice.

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

Xinhua

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

COCHABAMBA, (Bolivia), 6 July—South America’s most outspoken leftist leaders gathered on Thursday to rally behind Bolivian President Evo Morales, whose plane was diverted in Europe this week on suspicions that fugitive US spy agency contractor Edward Snowden was aboard.

The summit in Cochabamba, Bolivia—where Morales began his political career as a leader of coca farmers—aims at expressing outrage over his “virtual kidnapping” and the US pressure they believe spurred it.

“Europe broke all the rules of the game,” Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro said shortly after arriving at the Cochabamba Airport. “We’re here to tell President Evo Morales that he can count on us. Whoever picks a fight with Bolivia, picks a fight with Venezuela.”

Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa said earlier that if any country had denied airspace to a US or European president, “it probably would’ve been grounds for war.” Despite the rhetoric, no Latin American country has offered asylum yet to Snowden, who is wanted by Washington for disclosure of intelligence secrets. Two radical leftist governments—Venezuela and Cuba—are in a cautious rapprochement with the United States that would be jeopardized if they gave him sanctuary. Russia is growing impatient over Snowden’s stay in a Moscow airport and officials have urged him to leave.

Morales said Morales was returning from Moscow on Tuesday when France and Portugal abruptly banned his plane from entering their airspace, and it was forced to land in Vienna. Austrian officials said they inspected his plane there, but Bolivia’s defence minister denied this.

US State Department spokesman Jen Psaki said: “We’ve broadly asked for Mr Snowden to be returned from any country where he may be, where he may land, where he may transplant.”

To allay the anger of allies over reported US spying that came to light in the Snowden scandal, US President Barack Obama has agreed to talks with the European Union, and also agreed to bilateral talks with Germany after speaking on Wednesday night with Chancellor Angela Merkel. “I made clear spying on institutions within the European Union is not how we would expect those we consider friends to treat us,” Merkel said.—Reuters

Chairman and CEO of News Corporation Rupert Murschel arrives at the 85th Academy Awards in Hollywood, California on 24 Feb, 2013. —Reuters

British Prime Minister David Cameron departs Westminster Abbey after celebrating the 60th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth’s coronation in London on 4 June 2013.—Reuters
**MIGRANT WORKERS**

**159 Myanmar migrant workers return from Malaysia**

YANGON, 6 July—Sitagu Support Group established by the Sitagu Sayadaw, Myanmar 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 Myingyan, Mandalay Region on 4 July, Yankin Township.”

**ASEAN dialogue on 12-13 July**

YANGON, 6 July—The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Hanns Siedel 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 myanmar@hss.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 Langhko 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 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 Sagaing 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 townswelders 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.

**Traffic Police Corps donate exercise books**

NAY 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.

**SociaL AFFAIRS**

**Meiktila victims return home from Pyawbwe relief camps**

MEIKTILA, 6 July—Vicims of recent conflicts 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, Nandawgon, Aung Hsan, Wurzin, Thiri Mingala, Pyithaya (South), Pyithaya (North) and Yadana Maha 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.

**Anti-DHF measures carried out in Monywa**

MONYWA, 6 July—Anti-Dengue Fever measures were carried out in Thulla 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-District IPRD**
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 remedies nations form, 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, which siphons 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 democracy and create public dissatisfaction with the incumbent government.

It is an excerpt from a speech by former Indian President Abdul Kalam that “a country is to be corruption free and become a nation of beautiful minds, I strongly feel there are three keys societal members who can make a difference. They are the father, the mother and teachers”. So, schools and homes are to serve as a good basis for good governance. A great responsibility rests with parents and teachers to instill good morals into their children to be deeply ashamed of committing corruption and firmly equipped with a culture that values ethical behaviors.

Being a global concern, cooperation with not only international community but civil societies and media forces at home is needed in a fight against corruption. Officials with great determination to go after the big fish, prosecutors who embrace justice to expose frauds, whistleblowers who dare to speak out about embezzlement and the media with high credibility to probe into bribery and corruption are necessary as a drive to build a least corrupt country, showing a zero-tolerance to corruption. The most important force is public strength. Only with participation of all, will a certain nation with young democracy be built as a corruption-free country.

YCDC plants saplings in Hlawga watershed

YANGON, 6 July—Yangon Region Development Committee held the tree growing ceremony at a teak plantation near Hlawga watershed area of Mingaladon Township of Yangon Region this morning. A plan is underway to cultivate 158,851 saplings on 200 acres of teak plantation in Hlawga Watershed Area. The committee has grown 625666 saplings on 147 acres of land. They grew 4480 saplings. This rainy season, a new gas deposit discovered at Mottama M-3 offshore block

NAY Pyi Taw, 6 July—Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay and Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe inspected PTTEPI Co’s test drilling of oil and gas well at M-3 offshore block this morning. PTTEPI Co which is making joint venture with Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) started test drilling at 26-3-2011 and drilled an oil and gas well for three times.

Since 1983, 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 so as to satisfy local power demand.
**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 Command was held at the police Yeikha of Bago Region Police Force on 4 July morning. At the meeting, Region Security and Border Affairs Minister Col Thein 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 (Hanthawady).

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

**KANNA,** 6 July—WFP and Save The Children led by Mrs Victoria Louise and Save The Children led by Mrs Victoria Louise of East, West, South and North District Police Forces in Bago Region, No (1) Police Station in Taunggyi, Office of the Bago Region Police Force and presented cash awards to police members for their excellent performance in June through Region Police Commander Police Col Mya Win—Kyemon-San Wai (Hanthawady).

**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 Ayeyawady Region Police Forces, Offices of Commanders of East, West, South and North District Police Forces in Yangon Region, No (1) Police Station in Taunggyi, Office of the Bago Region Police Force on 4 July morning. At the meeting, Region Security and Border Affairs Minister Col Thein 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 (Hanthawady).

**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.

Kyemon-Ni Toe

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

**MOHNVIN,** 6 July—Mohnyn 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 Mohnyn and Mogau townships and Hopin sub-township.

The DYL pig species got from pig breeding farms of Hionbo of Mandalay Region and DaikU 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

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

**SAGAING,** 6 July—Sagaying 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 library. 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 Than Zin Kyaw who is applying WiFi daily.

Kyemon-Zaw Myint Naing (Sagaying District IPRD)

**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 Ngun Hsan Aung on road and bridge matters and State Minister for Development Affairs U Nein Naine on development tasks.

Townelder U Thong Ling presented a report on requirements of the state.

The meeting ended with concluding remarks. Kyemon-Hla Thurein (West Yoma)
Portugal says found formula for government stability

LISBON, 6 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 resignation this week of Finance Minister Vítor 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 deepest 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 Aníbal Cavaco Silva, who will meet with all political parties starting on Monday.

Portuguese assets were highly volatile on the day but by 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 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 2012, more than 10 million tourists visited the autonomous region, up 21.7 percent year on year, and tourism revenue surged 30.3 percent to 12.64 billion yuan (2.06 billion U.S. dollars).

According to Zhu Jia-ning, the company’s vice general manager, the railway 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, Lasong Jampa, 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 Nyingchi, a prefecture in the southeast 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. One will run toward Dunhuang in northwest China’s Gansu Province and the other to Korla, Xinjiang Uyghur 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.

Syria’s Assad says only foreign invasion can threaten him

BEIRUT, 6 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.

“T 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 Thawra 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’ conflict— ing views of an opposition movement increasingly overtaken by radical Islamist militants.

“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.

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

HAVANA, 6 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 then government of Cuban leader Fidel 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.
Indonesian president meets with Austraian PM

Japanese expats start voting in upper house election

Singapore must get politics right first to remain competitive

Several shots fired in clash during Cambodia’s election campaign

Abe still facing challenges regardless of election outcome

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

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 final 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 Sojitz 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.

President Yudhoyono 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.”

Bach’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

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. —Xinhua

Phnom 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 violence 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 about the fire. But they were released later on Friday night after the prosecutor at the Phnom Penh Municipal Court found them not guilty for the shooting. “One of the military officers holds the rank of colonel, so he has rights to use weapons and his shooting was to defend himself only 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 between five and 10 shots,” said the statement.”The CNRP condemned the violence on the party’s peaceful election campaigning and appealed to the authorities to investigate the case in order to arrest wrong-doers for legal punishment.”

The month-long election campaign kicked off Thursday last week and will complete on 26 July. —Xinhua

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Jakarta, 6 July— Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd met in Bogor 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 transited to Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand to continue to 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 major cattle export destination. Indonesia’s suspension of cattle import from Australia in recent years has aroused complaints from cattle racers 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.

Photo taken on 4 June, 2013 shows giant panda Raunih (R) and her female cub, Yuhin, at the Adventure World park in Shirahama, Wakayama Prefecture. Raunih gave birth to Yuhin last August at the park, which has celebrated the birth of panda cubs on eight occasions, resulting in 12 cubs, all of which have survived. —Kyodo News

Several shots fired in clash during Cambodia’s election campaign

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

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

Singapore has grown to become a major cattle export supplier from Australia in recent years of cattle trade.

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

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Bomb targets police patrol in Yemen’s capital, kills three

SANAA, 6 July — An explosive device planted in a police patrol car near the Yemeni interior ministry’s headquarters on Saturday killed three soldiers, the country’s defence ministry said.

The ministry said on its website that several others were wounded as the police forces cordoned off the scene and began preliminary investigations into the attack.

Witnesses and residents told Reuters that the blast was powerful.

Yemeni security services have repeatedly blamed militants of the Yemen-based al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula for a series of assassination attacks against security personnel across the country.

The government has been waging crackdown on the militants since 2011.

Portugal’s coalition partners strike deal to heal rift

LISBON, 6 July — Portugal’s Prime Minister Pedro Passos Coelho has reached a deal with his junior coali- tion partner, the CDS-PP party, to end a rift that had threatened the country’s bailout programme, a gov- ernment spokesman said on Friday. “The prime minis- ter presented to President Anibal Cavaco Silva a po- litical deal reached with the leader of CDS-PP,” the spokesman said. Any deal will have to be approved by Cavaco Silva, who is due to meet political parties on Monday and Tuesday.

The spokesman did not provide details of the agree- ment but said the two par- ties would hold a meeting on Saturday, to be followed by a cabinet meeting.

The political crisis began this week after a resignation request by For- eign Minister Paulo Portas, who heads the rightist CDS-PP. The political uncer- tainty has threatened to up- set progress on Lisbon’s 78-billion-euro bailout pro- gramme.

Portas said he dis- agreed with the appointment of Maria Luis de Albuquer- que as finance minister to succeed Vitor Gaspar, who resigned from his post on Tuesday. The CDS-PP leader said the new minister was too close to the policies of her predecessor which have led to Portugal’s big- gest economic slump since the 1970’s.

Ratings agency Stan- dard & Poor’s revised down Lisbon’s sovereign credit outlook on Friday, chang- ing the outlook to negative from stable, citing the im- pact of political uncertainty. Its BB rating for Portugal is still in junk territory.

Cavaco Silva told a conference earlier on Fri- day that a negative scenario for the country would be a failure to return to markets as planned in 2014, which could happen due to in- ternal political and external events. —Reuters

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif shakes hands with Xinhuaet CEO Tian Shubin in Beijing, July 5, 2013. XINHUA

Hollande pledges to rebuild Tunisian-French ties on “new bases”

TUNIS, 6 July — During an address delivered at the Tunisia’s Constituent As- sembly on Friday, French President Fran ois Hol- lande 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.”

He also an- nounced that France would transform Tunisia’s debt into development projects and urge French business- men to further invest in the country.

The French head of State also paid tribute to the slain political opposition leader, Chokri Belaid, call- ing for the capture of his as- sassins. 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 Minis- ter Ali Laarayedh. —Xinhua

Guangzhou, 6 July — Government authorities of Fengkai County, south Chi- na’s Guangdong Province, on Saturday warned that water in a section of the He- jiang River has been tainted by pollution upstream. Around 6 am Saturday, dead fish were found in a section of the river in Fengkai County after hazardous substances had been detec- tected upstream in neighboring Guangxi Zhuang Autono- mous Region, the county government said.

The county govern- ment has warned the local tap water plant and resi- dents against taking water or eating aquatic products from the Hejiang River.

Investigation is under way to determine the pol- lutants and their source. —Xinhua

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 Inter- rior Ministry on Saturday morning. “Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) conducted a series of clean- up operations in Kunar, Baghlan, Farah, Ghazni and Paktiya provinces. As a result, nine armed Taliban were killed, two wounded, seven more 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 mili- tants were killed when an Improvised Explosive De- vice (IED) they were plant- ing along a main road in eastern Nangarhar province went off prematurely Fri- day evening, it said.

The ANSF and the NATO-led coalition troops have intensified operations against Taleban and other militants recently. But the Taleban recently said that they would target police and civilian areas 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 smashed into a rickshaw in Pakistan’s eastern Province of Punjab, local media reported.

According to reports, the incident took place when a train hit a rickshaw in Kharian area of Sheikhpura 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 police 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 line 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 kilometre distance. Parts of the rickshaw and human limbs were scattered on both sides of the railway track.

Xinhua

A severe thunderstorm in large area of East Chi- na has disrupted all flights, leaving a lot of passen- gers stranded in Shanghai Pudong Interna- tional Airport and the Shanghai Hongqiao Airport on Friday evening. XINHUA

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Superman Henry Cavill dating Big Bang girl Kaley Cuoco?

Henry and Kaley have not made any official announcement about their relationship yet.

The couple said 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 producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, director Gore Verbinski and 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Moyes says Rooney to stay at United

Manchester United's Wayne Rooney

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 former Everton man would battle it out in Wembley on Saturday have the media scrambling to find titbits on the players who started the tournament as outsiders.

Moyes was repeatedly asked about Rooney, including direct questions such as: “Has he told you he would like to stay at Manchester United?” but each time failed to give a ‘yes’ or ‘no’ answer.

“Whatever we are doing at the moment is we are looking to see if we can get Wayne Rooney getting those goals which are going to challenge the likes of Bobby Charlton and Denis Law’s (total) number,” said the former Everton manager. “As far as I’m concerned, the way he’s working I’m more than happy to work with him and make sure we get success.”

Rooney has scored 197 goals in 402 United appearances, winning five Premier League titles, the Champions League in 2008 and two League Cups.

Charlton holds the club’s all-time record of 249 with Law second on 237. Moyes’ answers will have done little to extinguish the media speculation over the future of Rooney who suffered a dip in form following the arrival of Robin van Persie as United’s leading striker last season. Often played out wide under Moyes, Rooney has left out of the United team for their biggest match of the season – 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

Defender Samba returns to Russia from QPR

London, 6 July—Defender Christopher Samba has rejoined Russia’s Anzhi Makhachkala from relegated Queens Park Rangers for a club record fee, the Championship side said on Friday.

“Christopher Samba has returned to Anzhi Makhachkala for an undisclosed fee (club record thought to be approx 12 million pounds),” QPR tweeted.

The 29-year-old Congo international moved to QPR on a 4½-year contract from Russia in January. He made 10 appearances for the London club but could not help them avoid the drop from the Premier League.

Murray holds nerve to tame big-serving Janowicz

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

London, 6 July—Andy Murray found himself in the crosshairs of a bullet-serving, net-smashing giant on Friday, but held his nerve to reach a second Wimbledon final and set up another meeting with great rival Novak Djokovic.

The second seed was a set down to the 6-foot-8 Jerzy Janowicz, but tamed the 140 mph serves that came hurtling out of the sky to move into Sunday’s showpiece with a 6-7(2), 6-4, 6-3 win that began in the afternoon sun and finished under the Centre Court lights.

Janowicz turned Wimbledon’s hallowed turf into the scene of a naval battle as he launched a barrage of heavy duty cannon fire in his first grand slam semi-final.

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 opens French Open as favourites struggle

Paris, 6 July—Paraguay’s Fabrizio Zanotti, 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 overall 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 76. 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 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

From pets to Ryan Gosling, Lisicki and Bartoli uncovered

Sabine Lisicki of Germany

London, 6 July—Sabine Lisicki singles a lot, is allergic to grass, adores her Yorkshire terrier Happy and carries animal-shaped charms in her tennis bag.

Marion Bartoli hit rock bottom recently. “It has been a difficult year for me,” she said. “It’s been difficult for me to cope with this opportunity. I’ve had a chance to laugh a lot, is allergic to grass, adores her Yorkshire terrier Happy and carries animal-shaped charms in her tennis bag.”

From pets to Ryan Gosling, Lisicki and Bartoli uncovered

Paris, 6 July—Para-

Paraguay’s Fabrizio Zanotti
Djokovic wins another epic to set up Murray finale

London, 6 July—The Wimbledon that just kept on giving reached new levels of generosity on Friday as Novak Djokovic added another episode to the box set of tennis epics and Andy Murray survived a fright to co-star in Sunday’s series finale.

World number one Djokovic needed all his dexterity and self-belief to fend off the brutal groundstrokes of eighth seed Juan Martin del Potro, winning the longest ever Wimbledon semi-final 7-5, 4-6, 7-4, 6-7(6), 6-3 in front of a spellbound Centre Court crowd.

Djokovic, whose career had a strange feeling,” Irwansyah, chief of Lombok Tengah located about two days. They decided to stay in the makeshift tents in front of a spellbound Centre Court crowd.

Irwansyah, chief of Lorong Ayu neighborhood in Pondok Bala 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 franticly 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 afterwards Murray knew he was in for a hairy evening.

Ultimately the experience of 12 previous grand slam semi-finals helped him stay calm under fire to win 6-7(2), 6-4, 6-4, 6-3 in a match that concluded under the Centre Court roof.

With Del Potro playing his best tennis since winning the US Open in 2009 and pre-co-star in Sunday’s series finale.

For now, though, it is all about Djokovic and Murray who, as predicted by many before a tournament laden with shocks and bizarre twists began, will face off for the 19th time on Sunday in their fourth grand slam final showdown. The 26-year-old Djokovic had not been seriously tested en route to his 13th consecutive grand slam semi-final but against Del Potro he was stretched to breaking point.

Even before the incredible, sn ew-stretching 25-stroke rally that Del Potro won to save the first of two match points in the fourth set tiebreak the match had already transcended anything seen at the tournament.

“We will go to Yogyakarta, winding up through the banks of river, as provincial regency, said that people were on their way home after they buried a fellow villager when the earthquake struck.

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“We will go to Yogyakarta, winding up through the banks of river, as provincial regency, said that people were on their way home after they buried a fellow villager when the earthquake struck.
Nay Pyi Taw, 6 July—Together with Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Transport, Communications and Construction Committee U Thein Swe, Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win, Bago Region Hluttaw Speaker U Win Tin and Hluttaw representatives, member of Pyithu Hluttaw Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Committee U Khin Maung Tun and departmental officials, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet 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 Nyan 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

Nay Pyi Taw, 6 July—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 60000 villages across the country at the end of this month.

Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan awards outstanding offspring of the staff of the ministry.— MNA

An aged and homeless muslim man who slept at night under a shrine in Mingala Taungnyunt Township has been sent to “Hsi-sar-yeik” Home for the Aged on 2 July.

The 88-year-old man had taken shelter at the shrine when he arrived at the township, said U Than Lynn Kywe who stays under the shrine, “He will die from cold and it seems that he is deaf 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 could not clean and wash himself, residents contacted the Home for the Aged in Ward-12 in Dagon Myothit (East) Township to bring the helpless 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/Pa-Na (Naung) 042682 and it includes Name: Mohamed Karsin; Father Name: U Nu Larkin, Religion : Islam, Date of Birth: 1287.

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

MNA

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

Byline & Photo: Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)