Bringing back peaceful and harmonious society will be optimal way to help people in Rakhine State

Nay Pyi Taw, 7 July — Accompanied by the Union ministers, deputy ministers, diplomats, UN officials and departmental heads, Chairman of Central Committee for Implementation of Peace and Stability and Development in Rakhine State Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham arrived in Sittway by special flight this morning. They were welcomed at Sittway airport by Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin, the commander of Western Command and officials.

In his address at the meeting hall of state government’s office, the Vice-President said that the government had resolutely taken actions against those involved in instigation, regardless of their races or religions, to restore peace and harmony in the country, doing it utmost to put an end to the communal violence, to bring back to normal as monsoon completed very soon. He assured that the government was implementing in the best possible way for the rights and opportunities of local Muslim people and at the same time it was giving its due attention to concerns of Rakhine people.

He said that the purpose of invitation to diplomats and officials of UN agencies was to witness the current works in progress, what are really necessary and how can coordinate in the future. He said he would like to officials of UN agencies to present reports reflecting ongoing development to their headquarters.

Next, the vice-chairman of the central committee, the chief minister, and the secretary of the central committee elaborated on work progress and chairman of work committee Union Minister U Aye Myint explained follow-up relief programs.

Then, the Indonesian ambassador and an official of UNHCR made clarifications of continued cooperation in rehabilitation of Rakhine State.

In his concluding remarks, the Vice-President expressed his belief that the remaining issues would be resolved through constructive (See page 8)

ROK investors eye establishing industrial estate in Dala Township

Byline: Maung Thitsar
Photo: Tin Soe

Thanks to its sweeping reforms and greater transparency, Myanmar attracts interest of neighboring countries and regional ones as well, fostering further relations and cooperation with the countries. The Republic of Korea has a plan to establish an industrial park in Dala Township near Yangon while there has been a surge of its investment in Myanmar, Chiang Rai Times newspaper reported.

The ROK had agreed to provide Myanmar with a loan of US$ 500 million during the period from 2013 to 2017. Moreover, it is planned to build an industrial park in Dala Township of Yangon.

The ROK’s interest to set up the industrial park in Dala Township which is accessible by waterways was due to available vast land resources and manpower in Myanmar. Cooperation between Myanmar and the ROK on 39 projects in eight sectors is under discussion. Infrastructural development and services sector are among the sectors, it is learnt.

According to the Thailand-based newspaper, the ROK targets to build a bridge across Yangon river to link Dala Township with Yangon. Nearly 50000 people from Dala have to use ferry or boat services across Yangon river every day to reach downtown Yangon. So, a plan to construct a Yangon river crossing bridge is underway.

While Japanese investment inflow occurs in Thilawa special economic zone, South Korean investors eye Myanmar for establishment of an industrial park in Dala Township.

Myanma Alinn
(23-6-13)
Tr: YM
Nearly K 3 million worth of stimulant tablets seized in Moegaung Township

MYITKYINA, 7 July — Peace and stability has been restored in Kachin State following a peace talks between Union Peace-making Work Committee and KIA/KIA in Myitkyina, with the result that tasks of eliminating narcotic drugs has become effective.

While actions are being taken in a fight against narcotic drugs by setting special plans to seize narcotic drugs and arrest drug traffickers, a seizure of nearly K 3.5 million worth of 600 red coloured 88 stimulant tablets from a passenger occurred at about 8 am on 3 July in Moegaung Township.

Acting to a tip-off that narcotic drugs were being transported to mining fields in Phakant from Mandalay, Police Sub-inspector Hein Lin Aung and police members together with witnesses discovered the stimulant tablets in a white plastic bag kept under the seat of Daw Mya Hmoon Hson, 42, of Pansae village in Namphkim Township in Shan State (North) while conducting a search of a passenger van going from Mandalay to Phakant at 64-mile village junction in the township on that day.

Myoma police station in Moegaung Township filed a lawsuit against Daw Mya Hmoon Hson.

Handset shop burglary in Lewe

LEWE, 7 July — Nearly K 3,386,000 worth of various kinds of handsets were stolen in a burglary at a shop in downtown Lewe of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area. The incident occurred at Tip Top mobile shop on Yangon-Mandalay highway ward-6 of Lewe Township on 1 July. U Aung Pyo Paing, shop owner, reported Lewe police station at about 6.30 am that 46 handsets worth about K 3,386,000 were stolen from a showcase as he found the main door of the shop open and its lock damaged and unlocked at about 5.30 am on that day.

The police filed a case and investigation is ongoing to expose the thief.

Man with mental disorder dies from being run over by vehicle while falling asleep under it

Mandalay, 7 July — A tragic accident happened to a 48-year-old man who was falling asleep under a vehicle as the car drove off.

The incident occurred on 82nd street between 33rd and 34th streets in Chanayethazan Township, here, at about 3 pm on 5 July. The man was identified as U Than Gyoung (48), who was in Grade VIII was hit by lightning and killed on his way back home after having a bath.

Barge hits against rock in Chindwin River

MONYWA, 7 July — According to officials concerned, a loaded barge going from Mandalay to the regions upstream of Chindwin River got caught in a crash in which its bottom had broken after hitting against rock. The incident occurred in the middle of the river at about 6.30 am on 4 July, causing some goods fallen into the water.

The barge called “Sein Win Hein” from Monywa carrying goods to transport them to Hemalin and Haungpa ploughed into a rock and some goods fell off the vessel. So, 390 barrels of diesel owned by Mya Myitta Hman company and some foodstuff were lost in the accident.

No one is injured in the boat crash and the vessel escaped from being capsized and sunk thanks to the help of motorized boats nearby and docked at a nearby jetty.

Schoolgirl struck, killed by lightning in Gangaw Township

GANGAW, 7 July — A 14-year-old girl died after being struck by lightning in Thakaung village of Gangaw Township at about 5 pm on 3 July. A local police station said that the girl was walking home after school.

Tragic drowning death of mother, two baby boys in Tachilek Township

TACHELIKE, 7 July — A woman and her two baby boys apparently drowned on 5 July in a lake which is 150 feet in length, 75 feet in width and eight feet in depth near Yangon village in Moneko village in Tachilek Township of Shan State (East).

Police Sub-inspector Aung Min Oo of Tachilek police station said that he received a phone call from U Phyo Win who informed him of the drowning death of three family members in a lake in a farmland at about 6.20 pm on 5 July. Police Captain Kyaw Than and member accompanied by witnesses rushed there and found Daw Lu Hta, her elder son one-year-and-nine-month-old Maung Kyaw Lin Tun aged one year and nine months and her younger son nine-month-old Maung Kyaw Lin Aung dead.

They carried out necessary investigations and arranged to send the bodies to the hospital.

Initial investigation revealed that U Chee Yo, 29, Daw Lu Hta, 29, and their two sons went to the lake near the village at about 7.30 am on that day.

The woman and her two sons are believed to have apparently drowned when the woman cradling her younger son in her back had attempted to rescue her drowning elder son. Maung Kyaw Lin Tun who accidentally fell into the lake while he was playing by it. U Chee Yo was working in the field at the time.

Tachilek police station opened case and investigation is ongoing whether or not there is evidence of third party hand in the case.

Sense of duty makes a person strong and tall.

New Light of Myanmar
LOCAL NEWS

CRIME

Mobile House gets caught in burglary in Toungoo

TOUNGOO, 7 July — Mobile House at Bayintnaung market on Yangon-Mandalay highway in Toungoo of Bago Region had got caught in a burglary on 5 July.

Police said they were called by U Pyae Phyo Aung, shop owner, that 14 handsets valued at more than K 1.4 million had been stolen in the burglary at his shop shortly after he found the ceiling partially damaged when he entered the shop at about 8.30 am on that day. Police rushed to the scene and said that the housebreaker is believed to have come into the shop after breaking the roof hidden by the signboard of the shop and the ceiling.

The burglary was the first time for the market in 20 years, but it was the second shop burglary in Toungoo where the first one occurred at a watch shop and over K 21.5 million worth of watches were stolen on 31 May based on a police report.

ACCIDENT

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**World**

**Egypt PM dispute stalls government, Islamists call more protests**

The Egyptian prime minister's decision to try to end a standoff between Muslim Brotherhood supporters and the military has sparked accusations from both sides.

Mursi was ousted by the military, a move that has been widely condemned by opposition groups. Mursi's decision to dissolve the Constituent Assembly and to call for a constitutional referendum has been met with widespread protests.

**San Francisco, 7 July—An Asiana Airlines Boeing 777 with 307 passengers on board crashed on Saturday after a flight from Seoul, killing two people and sending more than 180 to local hospitals.**

The pilots immediately after the crash said they were trying to gain height just before the plane hit the runway. Pictures taken by survivors immediately after the crash showed passengers emerging from the wrecked plane and hurrying away. Thick smoke then billowed from the wreckage, and TV footage later showed the fuselage of the aircraft gutted and blackened by fire.

**Temperatures soared across much of West Africa on Friday as the region’s most populous nation on Saturday, but just before midnight a presidential spokesman told reporters that the prime minister had not in fact been chosen.**

The abrupt U-turn came amid opposition to the appointment by the Nour Party, Egypt’s second Islamist force after Mursi’s Muslim Brotherhood movement, highlighting the challenge the military faces in finding consensus among liberals and conservatives on who should run the country.

Clashes between tens of thousands of pro-and anti-Mursi protesters swept the Arab world’s most populous nation on Friday and at least 35 people were killed and more than 1,000 wounded.

The violence, which saw rival factions fighting street battles in central Cairo and many other cities and towns, underlined the pressing need for a swift political solution seen as inclusive to all.

“We extend our hard to everyone, everyone is a part of this nation,” the spokesman told reporters.

“The Muslim Brotherhood has plenty of opportunities to run for all elections including the coming presidential elections or the ones to follow.”

**Two Koreas agree on inspections of suspended joint industrial complex**

Each side sent a three-member delegation to the joint industrial complex near the two countries’ joint border, official SUNA news agency reported. “These accusations are baseless and unjustified,” the agency quoted Al-Sawarmy Khalid Saad, a Sudanese army spokesman, as saying.

“No Sudanese plane has launched any attack on South Sudan’s territory because there are no battles between the two countries,” he said.

“Additionally, the Sudanese Armed Forces have withdrawn 10 km north into the Sudanese territory since the signing of a raft of agreements with South Sudan.”

He further described South Sudan’s accusation as “unacceptable,” noting that the agreements stipulate that such accusations must be referred to the monitoring committees which are entrusted with judging whether there are violations or not.

**Egypt’s interim President Adli Mansour (R) meets with opposition leader and former UN nuclear agency chief Mohamed ElBaradei at El-Thadiya presidential palace in Cairo in this handout picture dated 6 July 2013. REUTERS**

**Pedestrians walk with parasols in Tokyo’s Ginza District on 6 July, 2013. Temperatures soared across Japan that day as the rainy season in the Kanto-Koshin region, including the Tokyo metropolitan area, is believed to have ended 15 days earlier than usual, the Japan Meteorological Agency said. KYODO NEWS**

**Two killed, many injured as South Korean airliner crashes, burns in San Francisco**

**San Francisco, 7 July—An Asiana Airlines Boeing 777 with 307 passengers on board crashed on Saturday after a flight from Seoul, killing two people and sending more than 180 to local hospitals.**

*...*
S&P cuts Nokia rating further on Siemens venture buyout

**BEIJING/LONDON, 7 July —** Western governments are set to target a range of tax loopholes used by technology giants including Apple, Amazon as part of an international drive to tackle corporate tax avoidance, a draft action plan seen by Reuters said. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), which advises its mainly rich nation members on economic and tax policies, has been charged by the G20 group of countries with formulating measures to stop big companies shifting profits into tax havens.

Corporate tax avoidance has become a hot political issue following public outrage over revelations in the past year that companies such as Apple and Google had used structures US and European politicians said were designed to minimize the amount of taxes paid. The OECD is now due to present an “action plan” highlighting broad areas where changes will be discussed at a G20 meeting later in July. A preliminary draft of the plan, dated on 27 May, seen by Reuters, shows the organisation has already identified a number of specific profit shifting schemes.

“Domestic and international tax rules should be modified in order to more closely align the allocation of income with the economic activity that generates that income,” the draft said, echoing comments from politicians in the United States and Europe in the past year. Business lobby groups have questioned whether companies do engage in activities to shift profits to units in tax havens and whether there is a need for rule changes. But as governments struggle with large deficits following the financial crisis, lawmakers have said enough is enough.

The draft plan aims for OECD members and non-OECD G20 members to agree on specific changes to international tax rules in one to two years — fast by the standards of international tax diplomacy. Among the areas the draft said the OECD would seek to address are situations where companies avoid creating a taxable resident in a market where they have major activities. British lawmakers have accused Google of using certain arrangements to avoid creating a tax residence in the UK.

Its low tax bill is a result of channeling revenues through Ireland, from where most revenue is sent to Bermuda, with next to taxes being paid anywhere in the chain. The action plan said the OECD would also examine the avoidance of tax residence, or permanent establishment (PE) “through the use of commissionaire taxation and a mechanism used by companies including Dell to avoid reporting revenues in markets where they have major sales. Also up for possible revision are long-standing “specific activity exemptions” which have been used by Amazon to enable it to operate major retail businesses in countries like Britain and Germany without creating tax residences for these businesses. — Reuters

**HANOI, 7 July —** Vietnamese researchers are working hard in order to launch the first unmanned aircraft for military purposes of Vietnam later this year, local media reported on Friday, Colonel Do Van Lap, director of the Viettel Flight Instrument Centre, said the centre was tasked to create the first unmanned aircraft of Vietnam in November 2011. Last December, the first unmanned aircraft was tested. It could operate along mountain slopes in harsh weather with the temperature of about 10 degree Celsius and fog.

The VT-Patrol aircraft, with a wingspan of 3.3 metres, took-off weight of 26 kg, can automatically fly and transmit real-time information and images. The aircraft is made of composite to ensure durability and lightweight, reported online newspaper Vietnamnet. Through the process of flight testing, experts successfully dealt with glaciations in some parts of the aircraft when flying at a temperature below 15 degree Celsius and humidity of over 90 percent.

The VT-Patrol aircraft is capable of flying at a speed of 100 to 150 km per hour, with a range of about 50 km in distance. It is equipped with full High Definition (HD) infrared reconnaissance cameras which can identify and distinguish targets within a distance of 600 metres.

After the initial success, the centre plans to manufacture unmanned aircrafts with 15-24 hours of flight time for reconnaissance and then other devices such as missiles in order to strengthen defence capabilities of the country. — Xinhua

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**NEW YORK, 7 July —** An airplane entirely powered by the sun embarked that month from Phoenix to San Francisco to Phoenix in early May and flew later that month from Phoenix to Dallas. From there it flew to St Louis, stopped briefly in Cincinnati, then flew on to Washington, where is has remained since on 16 June .

Intended to boost support for clean energy technologies, the project began in 2003 with a 10-year budget of $112 million (90 million euros). It has involved engineers from Swiss elevator maker Schindler and research aid from Belgian chemicals group Solvay. — Reuters

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**Vietnam has unmanned military aircraft in late 2013**

**NEW YORK, 7 July —** A flesh-eating bacteria has been detected in the Gulf of Mexico and is believed to have caused one death, US media reported on Saturday. The bacteria, known as Vibrio vulnificus, was found in gulf waters in several US states, including Texas and Louisiana, local TV ABC13 reported. Officials said four swimmers have contracted the bacteria, and one of them died. The victims were supposedly swimming in seawater near the areas of New Orleans and Thibodaux, both in the US state of Louisiana.

Medical doctors said Vibrio vulnificus sickens people in two ways — by eating raw shellfish and by entering through an open wound. “You get bacteria into certain wounds, and they can cause a lot of tissue destruction by virtue of the fact that these bacteria produce enzymes that break down the tissue,” said Dr Peter Hotez, an infectious disease expert at Baylor College of Medicine.

People with normal immune systems typically fight off Vibrio, but those with weakened immune systems — including the young and elderly — can become seriously ill and die, Hotez said. Health officials are warning residents to be alert, as higher temperatures could increase the growth of the potentially deadly bacteria. — Xinhua
Shanghai, 7 July — Swift responses from Swiss food company Nestle (NESN.VX) and French rival Danone (DANO.PA) to Beijing’s announcement that it was investigating possible price-fixing of infant milk formulas are textbook examples of how firms should deal with such crises in China, executives and consultants say. Just a day after official Chinese media reported that the top economic planning agency had launched the probe into six firms, including Nestle and Danone, the two companies said on Wednesday they would cut prices of some instant milk products.

It was not clear how long the companies had known they may become the subject of investigation. But once it became public, they had to respond quickly before negative reports were circulated on Chinese social media, which could harm reputations and sales. The strategy seems to have worked — there has been limited comment on the subject so far, both in state media and online.

“The media environment here has absolutely changed. Social media has revolutionized what companies do in a crisis situation,” said Kent Kedl, in charge of Greater China and North Asia for risk consultancy firm Control Risks.

“It needs to be taken into account because the chatter out there really creates a voice of its own.”

KFC-parent Yum Brands (YUM.N) came under heavy fire from both mainstream and social media after the official China Central Television (CCTV) reported in late December that some of the chicken supplied to KFC and McDonald’s Corp (MCD.N) contained excess amounts of antiviral drugs and hormones used to accelerate growth. McDonald’s, by saying its chicken and raw materials pass through independent, third party tests.

Vivus, activist investor claim support in proxy battle

Washington, 7 July — The top US derivatives regulator will meet next week to vote on how its rules apply to foreign companies that want to do business with US firms, a sign it may be nearing a compromise on a thorny issue that has invoked the wrath of foreign regulators. The Commodity Futures Trading Commission announced a formal meeting for 12 July to decide how new rules it has written to regulate the $630 trillion swaps markets apply to companies abroad. The issue has split the CFTC for many months as it started writing new rules to rein in the lucrative swaps market, dominated by banks such as Citigroup Inc, Bank of America Corp and JPMorgan.

Chairman Gary Gensler, a Democrat who is widely expected to leave when his term expires at the end of the year, has insisted foreign companies comply with the CFTC’s rules if they want to do business with US companies. The rules are an effort to make the opaque derivatives market safer after the financial crisis, and prevent risk that affects US companies from building up abroad. But banks have complained it would subject them to cumbersome and redundant regulation. And European Union financial services czar Michel Barnier has said America should rely on similar rules that are being drawn up in other jurisdictions, after a 2009 global agreement to rewrite the rules for banking.


Brightening jobs picture may draw Fed closer to tapering

Washington, 7 July — Job growth was stronger than expected in June and the payroll gains for the prior two months were revised higher, cementing expectations for the Federal Reserve to start winding down its massive stimulus programme as early as September.

Employers added 195,000 new jobs to their payrolls last month, the Labour Department said on Friday, while the unemployment rate held steady at 7.6 percent as more people entered the workforce. The government revised its count for April and May to show 70,000 more jobs

were created than previously reported, a sign the economy is on solid ground, despite higher taxes, government spending cuts and signs of weakness overseas. “The report was the evidence the Fed was looking for to justify their decision to begin tapering purchases before the end of the year,” said Scott Anderson, chief economist at Bank of the West in San Francisco.

Prices for US government bonds tumbled, pushing the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note to a two-year high of 2.74 percent, as traders braced for a slowing in the purchases the Fed has been making to keep borrowing costs low. The higher yields on Friday helped lift the dollar to a near three-year high against a basket of currencies. — Reuters

In China, Nestle and Danone play by the book

Shanghai, 7 July — Swift responses from Swiss food company Nestle (NESN.VX) and French rival Danone (DANO.PA) to Beijing’s announcement that it was investigating possible price-fixing of infant milk formulas are textbook examples of how firms should deal with such crises in China, executives and consultants say. Just a day after official Chinese media reported that the top economic planning agency had launched the probe into six firms, including Nestle and Danone, the two companies said on Wednesday they would cut prices of some instant milk products.

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Vivus, activist investor claim support in proxy battle

London, 7 July — Obes- ity drugmaker Vivus Inc and its top investor, which has been seeking a takeover of the company’s board, both claimed support from proxy advisory firms ahead of a shareholder vote later this month. Vivus said Glass Lewis rejected First Manhat- tan’s slate of directors, while the investor said Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS) backed three of its nine nom- inees. Vivus shares were down 2 percent at $12.07 in afternoon trading on the Nasdaq. First Manhattan’s main point of criticism has been the founding sales of Vivus’s diet drug Qsymia. The activist investor, which owns about 9.9 percent of the company’s shares, has also proposed a new chief executive.

The investor has said that Vivus’s board and management have mishandled the launch of “the best obesity drug ever de- veloped” by not seeking the commercial muscle of a bigger pharmaceutical company to address the large US weight-loss mar- ket. — Reuters
No contact with Snowden since asylum offer

ISTANBUL, 7 July—Turkish police fired tear gas and water cannon to disperse hundreds of protesters in an Istanbul square on Saturday as they gathered to enter a park that was the centre of protests against Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan last month.

Taksim Solidarity, combining an array of political groups, had called a march to enter the sealed off Gezi park, but the government of Istanbul warned that any such gathering would be confronted by the police.

“We are going to open our park to its doors to its real owners ... We are here and we will stay here ... We have not given up our demands,” the umbrella group said in a statement.

Riot police chased protesters into side streets in what appeared to be the biggest police intervention since the mid-June protests and riots that saw Taksim Square sealed off by make-shift barricades.

“They can use Gezi Park as they wish, without gathering or demonstrating there ... If there is an illegal demonstration or march, of course we will intervene by using water cannons,” Interior Minister Mustafa Cakir said.

A police crackdown on a group protesting against the planned redevelopment of Gezi Park, a leafy corner of Taksim, triggered nationwide protests last month against Erdogan, accused by critics of increasingly authoritarian rule after a decade in power.

In the capital, Ankara, hundreds of protesters took to the streets in one area close to the centre.

Turkish Halk TV showed protesters standing in front of riot police in Istanbul, displaying a court decision cancelling plans for a replica Ottoman-era barracks on Taksim Square.

The plan is one of a string of ambitious projects fostered by Erdogan, including a canal parallel to the Bosporus waterway, a huge international airport and a giant mosque.

Authorities can appeal against the court ruling, which was considered a victory for the protesters and a blow for Erdogan, who stood fast against protests and riots he said were stoked by terrorists and looters. Reuters

Int’l ministerial confab on space exploration to convene in January

WASHINGTON, 7 July—The United States will host an international conference on future space exploration with ministerial-level delegates from some 40 countries plus the European Union on 9 January in Washington, a source close to Japan-US relations said on Saturday.

The multilateral conference, the first of this kind hosted by the US government, will be held at the State Department. A second session of the confab will likely be convened in Japan in 2016, the source said.

The confab, which will also be attended by the Paris-based European Space Agency, will discuss international cooperation in future space exploration, including possible voyages to Mars and other planets.

The United States is keen on leading international efforts in the field, including participation by Japan, in light of the Chinese government’s plans to build its own space station in the not-so-distant future, the source said.

The United States will invite China, Russia and the European Union to send ministerial-level representatives to the conference, the source also said.

The conference will highlight the importance of expediting international cooperation in manned and unmanned space exploration. Delegates are expected to discuss how to push multilateral collaboration by building on the current cooperation over the International Space Station among Japan, Canada, Russia, the European Union and the United States. They will also discuss how to optimize use of the ISS, which is to be operated at least until 2020, the source said.

Train carrying crude oil derails in eastern Canada

OTTAWA, 7 July—A large portion of a town in eastern Quebec Province of Canada was destroyed after a train carrying crude oil derailed early Saturday, causing explosions and forcing the evacuation of about 1,000 people from their homes.

A spokesperson for Quebec’s Environment Ministry told local media that 73 rail cars filled with crude oil were involved in the accident happening in the town of Lac-Megantic, some 250 kilometres east of Montreal.

At least four of the cars exploded, igniting a fire that sent flames shooting into the sky.

Belching smoke could be seen from several kilometres away.

Authorities said some 30 buildings were affected in the town of 6,000 people, but so far no casualties were reported. More than 100 firefighters from Quebec and from the United States were on the scene early Saturday morning to try to bring the flames under control.

In the capital, Ankara, hundreds of protesters took to the streets in one area close to the centre.
MAI offers free flight for Myanmar cyclone victims stranded in India

YANGON, 7 July—With the support of Khaubwa Bank, Myamna Airways International will provide free flight to Myanmar citizens stranded in India due to Cyclone Mahasen in Bay of Bengal in May on 10 July.

The MAI flight will carry some 130 Myanmar citizens in Port Blair of India, according to an official of MAI.

Outstanding students honoured in Bago

NAV PI TAW, 6 July—Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyang Tun delivered an address at the prize presentation for outstanding students at the city hall in Bago for 2013 academic year on 4 July.

The Chief Minister and wife awarded 20 five-distinction winning students and officials 10 best pass rate schools and 10 best pass rate townships.

In Bago Region, a total of 12277 students of 39919 passed the matriculation examination this year, accounting for 30.96 per cent. Of them, 20 students won five distinctions, 240 students four distinctions, 371 students three distinctions, 629 students two distinctions and 2057 students one distinction.

Chin State Chief Minister inspects regional development tasks

NAV PI TAW, 7 July—Chin State Chief Minister U Hong Ngai on 30 Jun visited proposed construction site of hotel zone and 66-KV power station in Mindat.

He attended the golden umbrella hoisting ceremony of Htut Tin, and Htut Myint pagodas in Taungpulu monastery (branch) in Mindat.

He also joined the 74th birthday celebration of hilly region missionary monk Agga Maha Suddhamma Jetikad-haja Ven Piññasiri and offered provisions to members of monks.

He then met the departmental personnel at the office of district deputy commissioner.

The chief minister on 2July visited the construction site of youth training school, women’s vocational education school, basic education schools, new school buildings, hospital, auto exchange and ghetto in Matupi.

The Chief Minister then inspected Yezwa Basic Education High School and people’s hospital.

He met departmental personnel, townsenders and local people in Yezwa sub-township administration office and viewed the progress in construction of Yezwa-Haka motor road.

Skynet launches Police Channel

NAV PI TAW, 7 July—Myanmar’s pay TV network Skynet has launched a new channel for activities of Myanmar Police Force, its services, crime preventive measures and educational programmes. The trial Police Channel was launched on 26 June.

The channel is aired three hours a day in trial period and will expand more programmes in the future.

Mingala Taungnyunt Tsp War Veterans meet

YANGON, 7 July—Mingala Taungnyunt Township War Veterans Organizing Committee of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Organizing Committee No 14 of the township on 29 June morning.

Leader of the Organizing Group No 14 of the Central Committee and Yangon Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Tin Win made an opening address at the meeting.

Chairman of the township committee Li-Col Aung Myint (Rtd) then made a speech.

The region minister and officials presented awards to three members who are Independence Mawgun Award winners and outstanding students who secured distinctions in the matriculation examination.

Later, the annual general meeting followed on the agenda.—MMAL-027
Bringing back peaceful and harmonious...

(from page 1)

National

Immigration and
Population Ministry

WORLD POPULATION DAY
Adolescent Pregnancy
11 July, 2013

MNA

Meiktila Township electrical staff perform maintenance works

Electricians carrying out maintenance of transformer in Meiktila.

MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets local people at temporary basic education primary school in Khaungdotta of Sittway Township.

MNA

Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan presents trophy to a winner in Pre-SEA Games 2013 Monsoon Cup Invitational Golf Championship that took place at Royal Myanmar Golf Course in Zabuthiri Township.

(News on page 16)—MNA

NATIONAL

Gift for Mother Earth

Now we are in the middle of rainy season, with rivers, streams and lakes at full brim, land emerald green again and the soil has enough moisture to support the growth of plants of all species. In addition, it is the most suitable time to conduct mass tree plantations.

Since the very beginning of man, trees have provided us with two of life’s essentials, which are, food and oxygen. As we later evolved, they gave us additional necessities such as shelter, medicine, and tools. Today, their value continues to increase and more benefits of trees are being discovered as their role expands to satisfy the needs created by our modern lifestyles.

Additionally, trees play a significant role in reducing erosion and moderating the climate. They remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and store large quantities of carbon in their tissues. Trees and forests provide a habitat for many species of animals and plants. Tropical rainforests are one of the most bio-diverse habitats in the world. Trees provide shade and shelter, timber for construction, fuel for cooking and heating, and fruit for food as well as having many other uses.

Unfortunately, in some parts of the world, forests are shrinking as trees are cleared to increase the amount of land available for agriculture or for other purposes. In this regard, peoples around the world are planting trees or regenerating land or protecting forests in saving the Mother Earth on their own agenda.

In Myanmar also, we have many protected forests and reserve forests apart from land regeneration, environmental conservation, reforestation, fuelwood cultivation and tree plantation. Especially in the rainy season, schools, universities, government institutions, private organizations, NGOs and communities intensify their tree planting activities as a way of presenting the most valuable gift to Mother Earth.

Meiktila, 7 July — Electrical staff of Meiktila Township Electricity Supply Enterprise performed cutting tree branches tangled in power lines at urban wards in the township recently.

Under the leadership of Meiktila Township Electrical Engineer U Moon Aung Zay, electricians carried out replacement of lamp-posts and power lines with new ones, substitution and installation of new transformers and measures to avoid power outage caused by short circuit in rainy season. About 2000 people of 300 households on Sekkyar, Thiri and Nandawun streets have been enjoying full voltage of electricity and Aung Zeya ward saw a 315 KVA transformer and extended installation of 0.6 mile long 400 volt power line on 3 July.

The opening ceremony of new transformer was attended by officials concerned and local people. Plans are underway to substitute new transformers with old ones, it is learnt.

Kyemon-U Tin Hlaing (Meiktila)
Maubin, 7 July—Opening library and literary talks organized by the Department of Myanmarasar, Maubin University were held at the convocation hall of the university, here, on 26 June.

The ceremony was attended by Rector of Maubin University Dr Huy Lin Maung, faculty members and students.

At the talks, the rector gave a speech and Dean Prof Daw Swe Swe Han, Department of Myanmarasar extended greetings.

Then, writer Dr Khin Aye (Maung Khin Min Danuway) and writer Dr Khin That Oo (Ma Moe Myay) gave literary talks under separate titles.

After that, writer Dr Khin Aye (Maung Khin Min Danuway) formally opened the library and the rector made a speech. Then, the Dean/Prof explained the purpose of opening the library and those present viewed round the library.

Yangon, 7 July—The opening of DIR-ACE Technology Ltd was held at Traders Hotel, here, yesterday evening.

President Mr. Takashi Fukai of Daiwa Institute of Research extended greetings.

Yangon Region Chief Minister Mr. Myint Swe expressed his satisfaction for establishment of the joint-venture company DIR-ACE Technology Ltd which will offer IT solutions and services to financial institutions, foreign corporations and government organizations in cooperation with ACE Data Systems Ltd from Myanmar and Daiwa Institute of Research from Japan. He believes that the firm will create experience, technology and job opportunities for Myanmar and facilitate development of socioeconomic status of the country, the Chief Minister added. 

Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Mikio Numata and Deputy Minister for Communications and Information Technology U Thaung Tin extended greetings and CEO and President Mr. Kazuhiro Okawa of DIR-ACE Technology Ltd spoke words of thanks.

MNA

Hsipaw, 7 July—A two-digit lottery gambler was seized in Myoma Ward 3 of Nyaunglebin Township, Bago Region on 21 June.

Acting on a tip-off, a police squad led by Police Inspector Win Htut Aung under the instructions of Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Tin Aung searched Ma Htway Kyi, 49 on Kussami 3rd Street in Myoma Ward 3 and seized cash and documents related to two-digit lottery gambling from her.

Nyaunglebin Township Police Station has filed a lawsuit against her in connection with the case.—Kyemon-Nay Linn (Nyaunglebin)

Hsipaw, 7 July—A ceremony to open a self-reliant sub-power station (33/04 KV, 200 KVA) was held at Pannay village of Panmeik village tract of Hsipaw Township, Shan State (North) on 4 July morning.

Deputy Township Administrator of Township General Administration Department U Moe Htway extended greetings.

Then, writer Dr Khin Aye (Maung Khin Min Danuway) and writer Dr Khin That Oo (Ma Moe Myay) gave literary talks under separate titles.

After that, writer Dr Khin Aye (Maung Khin Min Danuway) formally opened the library and the rector made a speech. Then, the Dean/Prof explained the purpose of opening the library and those present viewed round the library.

Kyemon-Ko Zaw (Maletto)

Pakokku, 7 July—The stage show and friendly football match were held at the sports ground in Pakokku District, here, on 4 July and the renowned vocalists presented entertainment at 2 pm at the show.

At 4 pm, Actor Star FC played against PKU STAR FC at the sports ground. Actor Star FC won over the PKU STAR FC with 3-0.


District Deputy Commissioner U Tin Maung Win, District Police Force Commander Police Lt-Col Aung Zaw Min and the Head of Sports and Physical Education Department enjoyed the match.—Kyemon-Aung (Mann Tekkatho)

Hsipaw, 7 July—Most of the traffic congestions cause long Anawrahta Street, Bo Aung Kyaw Street, Bo Sun Pek Street and Maha Bandoola Streets, around Theindawgyi, Hanthawady Roundabout and Yuzana Plaza and so on daily in downtown Yangon.

As of 4 July, Officers and members of Traffic Police Corps took out duty of traffic clearance at the public places as part of implementing the traffic clearance week plan.

Kyemon-Soe Win (MLA)
World

Brazil’s Rousseff denies plans for post-Protest Cabinet shakeup

SÃO PAULO, July—Brazil’s President Dilma Rousseff firmly denied on Saturday any plans to shake up her Cabinet, following the country’s largest protests in 20 years.

In a written statement, she called talk of ministerial change “unfounded speculation” and reiterated a plan developed with state governors and local mayors to address concerns raised last month in cities across Latin America’s largest economy.

More than 1 million people took to the streets at the peak of the demonstrations, which were fueled by frustration with deplorable health, education and public transportation services, a high cost of living, and outrage at the $14 billion Brazil will spend to host the 2014 World Cup.

In response, Rousseff, a pragmatic leftist who was in charge for conceiving against Brazil’s military dictatorship, laid out proposals to expand public services while ensuring fiscal responsibility, crack down on corruption and hold a non-binding national vote, or plebiscite, to see what other changes Brazilians wanted. But many doubt she can deliver on the plebiscite before presidential election next year. The latest survey by pollster Datafolha showed her approval ratings fell by 27 percent points in three weeks, a sign the wave of discontent poses a serious threat to her likely re-election bid.

A presidential spokesman told Reuters on 25 June that Rousseff would stand by Finance Minister Guido Mantega, who has been in office for more than seven years, denying rumors he would take the fall after the protests.—Reuters

Cuban parliament approves new marine sailing law

HAVANA, July—The Cuban Parliament on Saturday approved the bill for a new Marine, Fluvial and Lacustrine Sailing Law, the State-run news agency Prensa Latina reported.

Cuban Transport Minister Cesar Arocha said at a parliament session that Cuba lacked an “updated” marine legislation and was still using obsolete juridical instruments.

Arocha said the new bill is the result of 15 years of studies in pursuit of regulating the sailing in the territorial sea, the adjacent area, the exclusive economic zone in the Gulf of Mexico, the interior waters, rivers, lagoons and reservoirs.

The new legislation also specifies issues on marine auxiliary and related services, along with topics concerning to ships, crafts and naval devices dedicated to trade, scientific, tourist, sports and recreational purposes.

Syrian opposition chooses Saadani-backed leader

ISTANBUL/BEIRUT, July—Syria’s fractious opposition elected a new leader on Saturday but rebel groups were reported to be fighting among themselves in a sign of growing divisions on the ground between factions trying to topple President Bashar al-Assad.

The Syrian National Coalition chose Ahmad Jarba as its president after a close runoff vote that reinforced the influence of Saudi Arabia over a perpetually divided opposition movement that has struggled to convince its Western and Arab allies that its fighters are ready to be given sophisticated foreign weaponry.

Jarba is a tribal figure from the eastern Syrian Province of Hasaka who has Saudi connections. He defeated businessman Mustafa Sabbagh, a former man for Qatar, which has seen its influence over the opposition overshadowed by the Saudis.

“A change was needed,” Adib Shishakly, a senior official in the coalition, told Reuters after the vote held at an opposition meeting in Istanbul.

“The old leadership of the coalition had failed to offer the Syrian people anything substantial and was preoccupied with internal politics. Ahmad Jarba is willing to work with everybody,” the Muslim Brotherhood, the only organized body.” The Muslim Brotherhood, the only organized body.

The resignation of the two top ministers in the coalition government has left it at risk of collapse and sparked a severe political crisis in the country.

However, Pessos Coelho added that the accord reached by the two parties also ensured compliance with Portugal’s international commitments. Ports resigned on Tuesday for his opposition to the appointment of former Secretary of State for Treasury Maria Luis Albuquerque as new financial minister to replace Vitor Gaspar who stepped down the previous day.

Portas has been in odds with the coalition government over its tough austerity measures, the reduction of pension in particular, under a 78-billion-euro bailout agreement with international lenders of the troika comprising the European Commission, the International Monetary Fund and the European Central Bank.

The government implementation of harsh austerity measures has triggered outages among the Portuguese people who frequently took to the streets in protest against the government, which is blamed for deepening economic recession in Portugal in the past years.

The resignations of the two top ministers in the coalition government has left it at risk of collapse and sparked a severe political crisis in the country.

Free Syrian Army fighters sit on a sofa placed outdoor in the old city of Aleppo on 6 July 2013. —Reuters
Northeast Indian state under threat of flood, 100,000 affected

NEW DELHI, 7 July—The northeast Indian state of Assam is threatened with serious flood, one month after the northern state of Uttarakhand was partially ravaged by water from an early monsoon season, said local officials on Saturday.

The Brahmaputra river in northeast India and its tributaries are flowing above the danger level across Assam, affecting over 100,000, the Press Trust of India quoted officials as saying in the state capital Guwahati.

The Dhemaji District of the state has been worst-hit as incessant rainfall in the state’s upper reach has been worst, said local media. Authorities have set up five relief camps to provide relief materials and shelter to the affected people and those made homeless by the flood.

Hundreds have been confirmed killed while thousands remain missing in last month’s flood in Uttarakhand state.

1 killed, 37 injured in blast in Lahore, Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 7 July—At least one person was killed and 37 others injured when a remote-controlled blast hit a food street in Pakistan’s eastern city of Lahore on Saturday, said hospital sources.

Local media quoted unidentified sources with Mayo Hospital in Lahore as saying that the hospital had received one body and 37 injured people following the blast.

Five out of the injured were in critical conditions, said the sources.

Some of the injured have also been shifted to Ganga Ram Hospital in the city, said local media.

Local Urdu TV channel Dawn said that altogether 4 people were killed and 37 injured, out of which eight remained in critical condition.

But there is no official confirmation about the figures reported by the channel. Naseem Sadiq, District Coordination Officer of Lahore, confirmed that it was a remote-controlled blast instead of a gas cylinder blast as reported by some local media.

An estimated seven kg of explosives were used in the blast and a three-to-four-foot crater was left on the ground after the explosion, according to local media reports.

The blast took place at about 10:40 pm (local time) outside a restaurant on a food street in the Anarkali area of Lahore. Many people were having dinner on the street when the bomb, reportedly planted under a chair outside a restaurant, went off, leaving a number of shops and vehicles damaged.

One man was killed right on the spot, said an eyewitness. No group has claimed responsibility for the blast yet.

Radioactive tritium level continues to rise in sea just off Fukushima plant

TOKYO, 7 July —The level of radioactive tritium continues to rise in sea water just off the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, Tokyo Electric Power Co said on Saturday.

A sample collected Wednesday contained around 2,300 becquers of tritium per liter, the highest level detected in seawater since the nuclear crisis at the plant began in March 2011.

According to TEPCO, the sample with the highest tritium concentration was collected near a water intake on the northeast side of the No.1 reactor turbine building.

The level was up from 1,100 in samples taken on 21 June, and 2,200 in samples taken on 1 July, in the same area.

Soldier killed in ambush in Philippines

MANILA, 7 July—An Philippine Army soldier was killed in an ambush by the leftist New People’s Army (NPA) in southern Philippines Province of Zamboanga del Sur on Friday, local police said on Saturday.

Police Chief Inspector Ariel Huesca, chief of public information office of the Western Mindanao Regional Police Office, said a group of government troops were waylaid by about 15 fully-armed NPA rebels at Datagan village in Guiaspox town on Friday morning.

The rebels fled after a brief firefight, Huesca said, but the leader of the Army troops, Sergeant Danilo Saavedra, was killed in the incident. The pursuit operations have been ongoing against the insurgents, he added.

The NPA, the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, was formed on 29 March, 1969. Latest military estimates placed the NPA’s strength at more than 4,000.

108 arrested in anti-crime operation in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 7 July—About 108 people were arrested for suspected crime during an island-wide operation jointly conducted by Singapore’s police force, Central Narcotics Bureau and the Singapore Civil Defence Force.

The operation ended on early Saturday morning. All the arrested, including 21 men and 87 women, were alleged to have been involved in drug-related activities and vice-related activities, as well as drug-related offences.

The enforcement officers “conducted a series of targeted raids and checks at various locations,” mostly the entertainment venues in the city-state’s downtown area.

Five men, who were suspected to be members of a vice syndicate, were charged in court on Saturday, local media Channel NewsAsia said. Local paper Straits Times said that anyone “who knowingly lives on the earnings of a prostitute may face up to five years in jail, a fine of up to 10,000 Singapore dollars (7,812.5 US dollars).”

Investigations against the other arrested suspects are ongoing.

Graduates stand up and applaud during the graduation ceremony held by Beijing Concord College of Sino-Canada for its senior high graduates in Beijing, capital of China, on 6 July, 2013. A total of 303 senior high students graduate from Beijing Concord College of Sino-Canada this year, among which ten were admitted by universities in China, other 293 were accepted by universities from abroad, according to the school authority.

Performers of the Yandong Shaolin Kungfu troupe show their Kungfu during a performance held at the Worker’s Cultural Palace, Tianyuan, capital of north China’s Shanxi Province, on 6 July, 2013. The martial art troupe have their performers trained in the renowned Shaolin Temple, and staged performances worldwide in the hope of promoting Shaolin-style martial arts and Chinese culture.
Invitation to Open Tender for Equipment Tender 2013-A-OVS for Myanma Posts and Telecommunications.

1. Myanma Posts and Telecommunications (MPT), Ministry of Communications and Information Technology invites open tender for Equipment Tender 2013-A-OVS that to be used for overseas department and those are described in the below table. MPT will pay in local currency (Kyats).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Backhaul Link (STM-16) equipment for International Voice &amp; IJPC</td>
<td>1 lot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>MPT satellite Terminal Gateway Accessories</td>
<td>1 lot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Engine Main Breaker (800Amp)</td>
<td>2 Nos.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Copier ( Canon , Multifunction)</td>
<td>3 Nos.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Bidder should submit the open tender (Technical and requirement Proposal) on August 1, 2013 during 09:30 to 16:30 at Head Office Building of Overseas Department, Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, Near 8 mile junction, KaBaAye Pagoda Road, Yangon, Myanmar and MPT will deny the tender that is submitted over the assigned period as above.

3. Bidder should submit the price proposal when we call you the day of price bargaining.

4. Tender documents are available from Head Office Building of Overseas Department, Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, Near 8 mile junction, KaBaAye Pagoda Road, Yangon, Myanmar and detail can be asked to telephone number +95 1 650118 during office hours.

Tender Evaluation & Selection Committee

Invitation to Open Tender for IP Transit Services 2013-II for Myanma Posts and Telecommunications.

1. Myanma Posts and Telecommunications (MPT), Ministry of Communications and Information Technology invites open tender for capacity of 2.5 Gbps of IP Transit Services that to be used for Internet Backbone and this service should be provided via the link that are described in the below table. MPT will pay in foreign currency for those services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.</th>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Myanmar-China Cross Border (M)</td>
<td>1x 2.5 Gbps (1 x STM 16)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Bidder should submit the open tender (Technical and requirement Proposal) on August 2, 2013 during 09:30 to 16:30 at Head Office Building of Overseas Department, Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, Near 8 mile junction, KaBaAye Pagoda Road, Yangon, Myanmar and MPT will deny the tender that is submitted over the assigned period as above.

3. Bidder should submit the price proposal when we call you the day of price bargaining.

4. Tender documents are available from Head Office Building of Overseas Department, Myanma Posts and Telecommunications, Near 8 mile junction, KaBaAye Pagoda Road, Yangon, Myanmar and detail can be asked to telephone number +95 1 650118 during office hours.

Tender Evaluation & Selection Committee

TENDER INVITATION

Mother Industrial Co., Ltd. is intended to establish active lime producing plant on full turn-key basis, of 200 ton per day output, using locally available raw material, with coal-gas firing system, using local coal.

Sealed tenders are invited from interesting companies. The detail can be obtained from the following contact office, before 16:00 hours 16th July 2013.

Managing Director
Mother Industrial Co., Ltd.
Office: Corner of No. 4 Main Road and Shwe Pyi Thar Bridge Road, Insein Township (Brick Factory Danyin Gone.)
Tel : 951-642358

Mr. Akira Takeshi is intended to establish active lime producing plant on full turn-key basis, of 200 ton per day output, using locally available raw material, with coal-gas firing system, using local coal.

Sealed tenders are invited from interesting companies. The detail can be obtained from the following contact office, before 16:00 hours 16th July 2013.

Managing Director
Mother Industrial Co., Ltd.
Office: Corner of No. 4 Main Road and Shwe Pyi Thar Bridge Road, Insein Township (Brick Factory Danyin Gone.)
Tel : 951-642358

Complaint to be lodged against Mandela family lawyers for misleading courts on Mandela’s condition

CAPE TOWN, 7 July—A complaint will be lodged against the Mandela family’s lawyers for misleading the courts on the condition of former president Nelson Mandela’s health, his grandson Mandla Mandela’s lawyer said on Saturday.

A formal complaint would be lodged by Monday morning, Mandela’s lawyer Gary Jansen said in remarks published by the South African Press Association (SAPA).

“...We still need to formalize the complaint but certainly on my client’s side he has instructed me to lay a complaint both to the Law Society and the bar council,” Jansen said.

The complaint relates to an affidavit submitted by the 15 members of the Mandela family in an application to exhume the remains of Mandela’s three children.

“The point is they applied to court as a matter of urgency and they relied on certain affidavits in particular with regards to the health of the former president which wasn’t true,” Jansen said.

“We feel it should be investigated further,” Jansen said.—Xinhua

Xinhua

Pakistanis men unload mango boxes at a main fruit market in eastern Pakistan’s Lahore, on 6 July, 2013. Pakistan is among the largest producers of mangoes in the world.—Xinhua
Sonakshi Sinha: Lootera a beautiful learning experience

MUMBAI, 7 July—Actress Sonakshi Sinha calls Lootera a labour of love and feels proud to be part of the project. Directed by Vikramaditya Motwane, Lootera is a period romance and also features Ranveer Singh. The film is co-produced by Phantom Films and Ekta Kapoor’s Balaji Motion Pictures.

“Another journey comes to an end. We give you our labour of love—Lootera in cinemas today... A beautiful learning experience and a film I will always be proud of—thank you team,” she tweeted.—PTI

Sonakshi Sinha has been busy promoting her film Lootera

Diane Kruger’s secret for happy life

LOS ANGELES, 7 July—Actress Diane Kruger goes for therapy sessions to keep her relationship with actor Joshua Jackson healthy.

Kruger, who started dating former Dawson’s Creek star in 2006, insists for therapy sessions to keep her relationship with actor Joshua Jackson healthy.

“Therapy helps too,” Bratton said in an interview. "It's funny, in Paris (where she has a home), people don't talk about it. My friends ask, 'What's wrong with you?' But here (in the US) everyone talks about it, and I really like that about America. Therapy's not about getting help, it's facilitating yourself to deal better with life in a better way.

It's funny, in Paris (where she has a home), people don't talk about it. My friends ask, 'What's wrong with you?' But here (in the US) everyone talks about it, and I really like that about America. Therapy's not about getting help, it's facilitating yourself to deal better with life in a better way,“ she said.—PTI

Khaled Hosseini weaves global family ties in latest best seller

NEW YORK, 7 July—Khaled Hosseini’s first novel in six years echoes the themes of family relationships explored in his previous novels, but the multigenerational saga weaves together more characters and locales than the author has tackled previously.

Anchored by the story of two young siblings separated in early 1950s Afghanistan, “And the Mountains Echoed” features a patchwork of characters navigating familial relationships, histories and obligations over the next half century in places ranging from Greece to Paris to Northern California.

Hosseini, who was born in Kabul and has lived in Northern California since 1980, is also the author of the best-selling novels “The Kite Runner” and “A Thousand Splendid Suns,” both set in Afghanistan.

“I had more or less kept Afghanistan as the home base for my previous two books, but I decided I want to write about different parts of the world as well and expand the social milieu of my characters and their cultural backgrounds,” Hosseini, 48, told Reuters in an interview.

The broader scope of “And the Mountains Echoed,” published by Riverhead Books, has drawn praise as well as readers since its release in late May. Riverhead is a division of Penguin Group USA, which is co-owned by Bertelsmann and Pearson PLC (PSON.L),

The book currently holds the No. 3 spot on the New York Times best-seller list for print and e-book fiction and was named one of Amazon’s Best Books of 2013. It has also garnered kudos from the likes of the Los Angeles Times, Entertainment Weekly, and the Daily Beast.

Among the book’s characters are an Afghan socialite who flees to Paris to become a successful yet troubled poet, a doctor whose childhood on a Greek island leads him to a job in a Kabul hospital, and a wealthy pair of brothers trying to reconcile their familial history in Afghanistan with their suburban lives in California.—Reuters


Faxon, Rash go ‘Way, Way Back’ to explore teen’s coming-of-age in new film

LOS ANGELES, 7 July—Oscar-winning writers Nat Faxon and Jim Rash first explored a father’s journey with George Clooney in their 2011 hit “The Descendants,” and now they turn their focus to a teenage boy’s coming-of-age story with an all-star cast in their latest film.

Faxon and Rash explore dysfunctional family dynamics in independent comedy “The Way, Way Back,” out in US theatres on Friday, drawing on their own childhood experiences to follow the journey of a teenage boy on his summer vacation.

The film, which has garnered mainly positive reviews and earned a score of 65 out of 100 on review aggregator Metacritic.com, stars Steve Carell, Toni Collette, Sam Rockwell, Allison Janney and Maya Rudolph, and centres on 14-year-old Duncan, played by newcomer Liam James.

Shy and socially awkward, Duncan must spend a summer with his mother (Collette) and her new boyfriend (Carell), and finds a mentor in quirky, carefree Owen (Rockwell), the owner of a local water park.

“I think there’s a fear of disconnect sometimes, communication is a huge issue for all of us from adults to kids, as far as our face-to-face time and our ability to interact with each other without isolating itself to a phone. I think that has to be something that’s very challenging,” Rash told Reuters. phone.
**BOOM BOOM BARTOLI SINKS TEARFUL LISICKI TO WIN WIMBLEDON**

London, 7 July—In a blur of explosive motion, Marion Bartoli launched into a 101 mph serve and waited for the furry yellow sphere to hurtle back to her side of the court—except it did not and with it came the sudden realization that she was Wimbledon champion.

So unexpected was the ace, on her fourth match point, a wide-eyed Bartoli could scarcely believe that the final was over as she collapsed to her knees almost in slow motion.

But the distraught tears flowing down Sabine Lisicki’s cheeks and the raised list pumps and joyful hugs in the French half of the players’ box confirmed to Bartoli that she had just become Wimbledon champion with a 6-1, 6-4 victory on Saturday. “Holding this trophy has been my dream since I was six years old,” said the 28-year-old Frenchwoman, who clambered through the cheering crowds to hug her father Walter and coach Amelie Mauresmo. “Finishing with an ace to win Wimbledon, even in my wildest dreams I couldn’t have imagined that. Honestly, I cannot believe it. I have practiced my serve for so long, at least I kept it for best momentos!”

A goal that was 22 years in the making came true for Bartoli following a surreal and chaotic two weeks, where nothing went to plan and Wimbledon hosted a final showdown between two players ranked outside the world’s top 14. Germany’s Lisicki, despite being the 23rd seed, had been installed as the favourite having conquered two of the world’s top four players, including holder and top seed Serena Williams. However, for a woman who “had to learn how to walk and run again” three years ago after a serious ankle injury, the final proved to be one challenge too far as she simply froze on the biggest day of her career.

“I was overwhelmed by whole situation, credit to Marion, she handled it perfectly. She deserves it and I hope I get the chance one more time.” a sobbing Lisicki told the Centre Court crowd. While the experience of playing in her first grand slam final provided little comfort to Lisicki, at least the $1.2 million runners-up check will help to soothe her wounded pride. Lisicki’s inability to live up to her nickname of “Boom Boom Binte”, with her usually reliable thunderbolt serve and ferocious forehand both misfiring, allowed Bartoli to walk away with the biggest prize in lawn tennis.—Reuters

**Hsieh becomes Taiwan’s first grand slam title winner**

London, 7 July—Hsieh Su-wei became the first Taiwanese player to win a grand slam title when she and Peng Shuai beat Ashleigh Barty and Casey Dellacqua 7-6(1), 6-1 in the Wimbledon women’s doubles final on Saturday.

Hsieh and China’s Peng, the eighth seeds, took the first set in a tiebreak and romped through the second against their 12th-seeded Australian opponents to claim their first grand slam crown. Peng is the third Chinese to win a grand slam doubles. It was the third time Dellacqua finished runner-up after winning with a 6-1, 6-4 victory on 20 July. Robinho wants Santos return, says AC Milan

Peng Shuai of China (R) and Hsieh Su-Wei of Taiwan kiss their winners trophies after defeating Ashleigh Barty of Australia and Casey Dellacqua of Australia in their women’s doubles final tennis match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, in London on 6 July, 2013.—Reuters

Peng Shuai of China (R) and Hsieh Su-Wei of Taiwan kiss their winners trophies after defeating Ashleigh Barty of Australia and Casey Dellacqua of Australia in their women’s doubles final tennis match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, in London on 6 July, 2013.— Reuters

French Open mixed doubles title with American Scott Lipsky.—Reuters

**NEYMAR RECOVERING AFTER “SUCCESSFUL” SURGERY**

Rio de Janeiro, 7 July—Neymar is recovering in hospital after a successful operation to remove his tonsils, the striker’s surgeon said on Friday.

According to Brazil’s national team doctor, Augusto Cesar Lima, the 21-year-old is resting at the Sao Vicente hospital in Rio de Janeiro where he was due to stay until Saturday morning. “It [the operation] was a success and he is feeling well,” Lima told local media on Friday night.

Neymar’s new Barcelonal teammate Jordi Alba underwent the same procedure in Spain on Friday. Both players chose to de-

luy the surgery until after the Confederations Cup, in which Neymar’s Brazil beat Alba’s Spain 3-0 in the final last Sunday. Barcelona said in a statement that the recovery time for both players would be around 10 days.

**WAGNER TAKES CONTROL OF GREENBRIER CLASSIC**

Los Angeles, 7 July—American Johnson Wagner moved a step closer to winning his fourth PGA Tour title by seizing a two-shot lead after Saturday’s third round of the Greenbrier Classic at White Sulphur Springs in West Virginia.

One stroke off the pace overnight on a tight-bunched leaderboard, Wagner took over at the top as he fired a sparkling six-under-par 64 on a sunsplashed day at The Greenbrier’s Old White Course.

The 33-year-old Texan, who played the course several times a year when he was a student at Virginia Tech, mixed seven birdies with a lone bogey to post a 14-under total of 196. “Today my goal was to go out and make as many birdies as I could, and I did that,” Wagner told Golf Channel after sinking a 12-foot birdie putt at the par-three last and pumping his right fist in delight. “Now I’ve got to take the same attitude into tomorrow.” Fellow American Jimmy Walker, seeking his first victory on the PGA Tour, was alone in second after matching Wagner for the day’s best score, storming home with five birdies in the last nine holes.

Swede Jonas Blixt (67) was a further two strokes back at 10 under, a shot better than Australians Steven Bowditch (69) and Matt Jones (66), and American teenager Jordan Spieth (67).

American Matt Every, the 36-hole leader after opening with scores of 69 and 62, tumbled backwards with four bogeys in the first seven holes on the way to a 74 and a five-under total of 205.
Obama orders “constant contact” in response to air crash in San Francisco

WASHINGTON, 7 July—US President Barack Obama has directed his team to stay “in constant contact” with the federal, state and local partners in response to the air crash in San Francisco, California, the White House said on Saturday.

The president learned of the incident, in which an Asiana Airlines Boeing 777 passenger plane carrying 291 passengers crashed on passenger plane carrying Boeing 777 of the incident, in which an crash in San Francisco, Cali- partners in response to the air crash. Obama’s “thoughts and prayers go out to the families who lost a loved one and all those affected by the crash,” the White House said. —Xinhua

Castro guides Astros to victory after All Star pick

HOUSTON, 7 July—Houston catcher Jason Castro celebrated his first All Star selection by hitting a three-run homer to give the Texas Rangers in the seventh inning of their MLB American League baseball game at Arlington, Texas on 6 July, 2013.—Reuters

Disney’s ‘Lone Ranger’ off to a slow gallop at holiday box office

NEW YORK, 7 July—“The Lone Ranger,” Walt Disney Co’s big-budget Western starring Johnny Depp, wrapped just $19.5 million in ticket sales in its first two full days at US and Canadian movie theatres, trailing far behind the $59.5 million raked up by animated sequel “Despicable Me 2.”

The tally for “Lone Ranger,” which included receipts starting on Tuesday night through Thursday’s US Independence Day holiday, put the film on pace to miss, by a long haul, industry expectations for the holiday period.

The film about the masked man who fights in justice was likely to finish the weekend with $45 million at domestic theaters through Sunday, Disney said. That was far below the $60 million to $70 million predicted ahead of the film’s opening.

“If it does end up...
YANGON, 7 July—

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann met with members of the central executive committee of the Myanmar Medical Association today.

At the meeting held at the MMA in Mingla Taungnyunt Township, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Health Care Promotion Committee Dr. Kyaw Myint reported on measures being taken by the committee and Chairman of the MMA (central) Dr. Kyaw Myint Naing reported on objectives and tasks of the MMA.

After hearing discussions of the central committee of the MMA and chairmen of the respective societies of MMA, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker fulfilled the needs of the association.

The meeting was also attended by Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa, chairmen of the Pyithu Hluttaw committees, the Yangon Region Chief Minister and regional ministers and members of the MMA.

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann cordially greets those present in meeting with members of the central executive committee of the Myanmar Medical Association.—MNA

Medical massage centre put into service at Kyimyindine School for the Blind

Yangon, 7 July—

A ceremony to hand over a two-storey school building donated by Japan Heart to Kyimyindine School for the Blind was held at the school in Kyimyindine Township, here, this morning, with an address by Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr. Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin.

Next, well-wisher Mr. Minemi of Japan explained purpose of donation and Counsellor Mr. Hideaki Matsuo of Japanese Embassy in Myanmar spoke words of thanks.

Then, the Union minister and officials formally opened the new school building.

Kyimyindine School for the Blind was established by a Christian missionary on 4 August 1914 and it was handed over to Social Welfare Department under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement on 1 November 1963. The school is home to visually impaired students from states and regions and they are being given academic and training courses there.

School started running a Japan-Myanmar massage centre in cooperation between the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and Ministry of Health in 2011 organized in cooperation with Japan-Myanmar massage physiotherapy techniques. A medical massage course there was put into service today thanks to efforts of Japanese government and Japan Heart.

The newly-inaugurated RC building is 88 feet in length and 51 feet in width and it was built with the contribution of US$ 0.3 million by Japan Heart.

Mandalay Region grows saplings as monsoon activity

Nay Pyi Taw, 7 July—

The Mandalay Region tree growing ceremony was held in the precinct of Sacred Tooth Relic Pagoda in Amarapura Township yesterday morning.

Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint planted a Gangaw (Mesua ferrea) sapling.

Then, the Union Minister and party viewed round cultivation of saplings by the local people.

At the today’s ceremony, they planted 610 saplings including Ingyin, Gangaw (Mesua ferrea), star-flower, ginko, tamarind, rain tree and others.—MNA

Prizes presentation for 2013 Monsoon Cup Invitational Golf Championship held

Nay Pyi Taw, 7 July—

Organized by the Ministry of Sports, the final rounds of Pre-SEA Games 2013 Monsoon Cup Invitational Golf Championship took place at Royal Myanmar Golf Course in Zabuthiri Township, here, this morning. A total of 30 male golfers and 12 female golfers participated in the tournament and Ye Htet Aung stood first followed by Myo Win Aung the second and Thein Naing Soe the third in the men’s event. In the women’s event, Yin May Myo secured first, Khin Ma Nwe the second and Aye Aung third.

The prize awarding ceremony followed. Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan in his speech said that the purpose of monsoon cup invitational golf championship is to turn out selected Myanmar golfers for 27th SEA Games. He pointed out that the golf sport needs not only physical fitness but also spiritual fitness. The Union minister urged the athletes to constantly try their best as the golf championship would be held monthly to select outstanding golfers with a view to successful hosting SEA Games and enhancing Myanmar golf standard. He also called for the golfers to boost the dignity of the country with their performance in accord with the motto of the ministry “Discipline is first, record is second”.

Then, Union Minister U Tint Hsan, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Hray Aung, Deputy Minister U Thaung Htay and officials presented prizes to winners.—MNA

5 injured in suspected bombing attack on Buddhist temple in India

New Delhi, 7 July—

At least five people, including two Tibetan lamas, were injured in a series of bombing attack on a world famous Buddhist holy place in the eastern Indian state of Bihar Sunday morning, said police.

A live bomb was also found by police at the site after the blasts which occurred from 05:20 to 6:00 am at the 1,500-year-old Mahabodhi temple in Bodh Gaya district, a UNESCO world heritage site in Bodh Gaya District, and put on high alert.

The blasts did not cause any damage to the temple and the Bodhi tree under which Buddha is said to have attained enlightenment 2,550 years ago, Indo-Asian News Service quoted a police officer as saying.

The injured have been rushed to hospital for treatment.

The Bihar government has sounded high alert in Bodh Gaya and other sensitive places across the state.

Indian Intelligence Bureau and other security agencies last month warned the local authorities about security threat to the temple.

Last year, security of the Mahabodhi temple was handed over to the Special Task Force (STF) of Bihar Police.—MNA/Inhab