**THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR**

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**New Light of Myanmar**

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**President U Thein Sein starts official visits to Britain, France**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 14 July**—At the invitations of British Prime Minister Mr. David Cameron and French President Mr. Francois Hollande, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein left Yangon by air this morning to pay official visits to the United Kingdom and the French Republic.

The President was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Union Ministers U Aung Min, U Tin Naing Thein and U Nyan Tun Aung, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hsan and Minister U Myint Swe.—

**SSPP/SSA (Wamheng) urged to make preparations for advancing to political dialogue**

**Nay Pyi Taw, 14 July**—A delegation led by Vice-Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee U Thein Zaw held talks with a peace group led by U Sao Khun Hsai, General Secretary of SSPP/SSA (Wamheng) of Shan State (North) at Shweli Hall of North-East Command Headquarters yesterday.

The vice-chairman and party held discussions with the peace group on cementing already-established peace and stability, trust, disciplinary procedures and friendship and called on SSPP/SSA to make necessary preparations for advancing to a political dialogue.

Members of Union Peace-making Work Committee elaborated on measures to be taken for ensuring improvements in education and health care sectors of Wamheng region, reclamation of farmlands to create job opportunities, smooth and secure transport for regional development and electrification process and coordinated with them.

Next, the vice-chairman and party proceeded to Thala Dhamma Kontha Tawya monastery where they paid respects to Sayadaw U Kovida.

They then met with town elders and responsible persons of national race organizations at Kengtung Airport in Kengtung.

At the meeting, the vice-chairman gave accounts of peace process carried out on 12 July, releasing a joint-statement with “Wa” special region (2) and follow-up tasks for ensuring a long-lasting peace and those present welcomed and supported the peace process.

Next, town elders and officials reported on regional development requirements. The Union level members of the delegation coordinated with officials and attended to the needs.
Competitive highway bus lines brings quality consumer services

Pakokku, 14 July — Pakokku region has seen swift flows of commodities and smooth and speedy transport thanks to rapidly expanding bus services. As of 14 July, a new punctual and reliable bus service between Pakokku and Mandalay emerged. As a special program, passengers will be offered free meal service at the cost of K 3000 per head during the period from 14 to 16 July. Starting from 17 July, passengers at Pakokku will be given a service in which they will be picked up by bus at their homes. A trip between Pakokku and Mandalay is priced K 4500 per head. Buses will depart from Pakokku to Mandalay at 4 am and 5 am and 6 pm and from Mandalay to Pakokku at 6 am and 3 pm and 6.30 pm.

I welcome bus lines with quality services. Today is the age of consumers. We can travel from one place to another, enjoying quality consumer services as all bus lines work harder, competing with each other in providing better services,” said a passenger.

Kyemon-Maung Nay Oo

CCTV footages help police to identify suspect of Nann Hay Wun garden murder in Lashio

Lashio, 14 July — It was learnt that CCTV images helped the police to identify and arrest a suspect of Nann Hay Wun garden murder that caught much interest of residents in Lashio on 10 July. Police was informed of a death of a woman in the garden at about 10.30 am on 4 July and they arrested the suspect accused of killing the victim within seven days.

According to a statement of the Ma Sandar Win who is believed to have killed Ma Moe Swe Oo, she stabbed the victim in a row at the garden. She confessed to the murder of the victim after other near Nantmi traffic lights around 10 am on 2 July and first went together to Myoma market in Lashio before walking to Nann Hay Wun garden. Next, they sat together on a park bench behind a beer pub in the garden. While they had a big argument over a case, the victim was cutting a fruit with a small knife used for peeling fruit. Their argument became heated and turned into a fight. She started stabbing her in the back with the knife. When the victim had fallen to the ground, she knifed her in the left and right of her breast. She could not remember how many of stabs she made at her. By the time the victim was unconscious, she took off a pair of earrings and two gold rings from the victim and pulled off her gold chain by force.

The case occurred in broad daylight in the garden, but no one saw the incident. So, she left the garden and went to Shwe La Wun gold shop where she sold the pair of earrings for K 50,000. Then she came back Myoma market where she sold one of gold rings at Zwe Htet gold shop for K 60,000. She settled her debts with the use of money from selling gold items.

According to the statement of one of the witnesses, the police traced the images of a CCTV installed at the market in charge office in the market to their images that showed the victim and the accused were in the market together and arrested the suspect.

Kyemon-Cherry Hlne

Humanitarian assistance to flood victims in Pakokku Township

Pakokku, 14 July — Mandatory evacuation had happened to two villages—Thimeng and Myayegon—situated on the western bank of Pakokku Township in Magway Region during the first week of July as there has been a sharp rise in water level in Ayeyawady River and an escalating riverbank erosion. Nearly 800 people from around 200 households were forced to leave their homes as Ayeyawady River is in flood, it is learnt.

Local authorities, Tatmadawmen, members of Myanmar Police Force, Fire Services Department and social organizations are giving a helping hand in relief works and providing necessary assistance to flood victims.

“We moved to a new village, on an area of nearly 200 hectares where flood victims in Pakokku are paying their voluntary contributions to the new village was carried out under the supervision of local authorities concerned.

Wellwishers from Mandalay and Pakokku are donating cash and kind to the victims. Moreover, urban ward dwellers of Pakokku are paying their voluntary contributions in construction of houses for victims, taking an assignment on building of two houses by one ward.

Kyemon-Nay Oo Maung (Pakokku)

Myanmar rout Brunei 4-0 in front of home crowd

Yangon, 14 July — Myanmar youth football team produced its brilliant attacking display in the match 8 of ASEAN Youth Championship Football Tournament at Aung San Stadium yesterday evening to claim a 4-0 home win over Brunei and gain its second win in the tournament.

Myanmar upset Brunei after Ye Yint Aung scored the opener after 34th minute in the first half at home. He completed his hat-trick by adding two more goals at 67 and 79 minutes in the second half. Kyaw Lwin Moe hit the fourth and last winning goal for the home team before the final whistle.

After seven matches, Myanmar had two wins, three draws and two defeats, securing nine points. Myanmar will play an away match against the Philippines on 20 July.

Kyemon-Shwe Htet Zaw

TRANSPORT

of services of intercity highway buses has improved. Especially, highway buses on Yangon-Mandalay route are providing quality customer service.

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NATIONAL DISASTER

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Kyemon-Nay Oo Maung (Pakokku)
US seeking direct nuke talks with Iran

WASHINGTON, 14 July — The Obama administration is seeking to hold direct talks with Iran over Tehran’s controversial nuclear programme after Iranian President-elect Hasan Rouhani sent out some positive signals, the Wall Street Journal reported on Saturday.

Senior US officials were quoted as saying that Washington is preparing to communicate to Rouhani its desire to hold direct negotiations in the coming weeks after the moderate cleric expressed his interest in engaging with the international community on the nuclear issue.

Rouhani, who won the Iranian election in June, is to succeed President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad early next month. Senior US officials will meet with representatives of the four other permanent members of the UN Security Council, plus Germany, in Brussels on Tuesday to map out a coordinated approach to Rouhani and Teheran, the officials disclosed.

Communications from Washington to Teheran have at times been sent through the office of Catherine Ashton, who is the European Union’s foreign policy chief and head of the diplomatic bloc negotiating with Iran in the so-called P5+1 talks.

The US government is “open to direct talks” and wants to reinforce this in any way, said a senior US official who will take part, in the Brussels meeting, noting Iran has sent out signals that the new government “might be going in a different direction.”

Through intermediaries, Rouhani has told the Obama administration about his wish to bring more openness to Iran’s nuclear programme.

The P5+1, referring to Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States, plus Germany, hopes to schedule a new round of negotiations with Iran by September, the report said.

The US government is still waiting for Teheran to formally respond to the diplomatic package that the P5+1 presented to Iranian nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili during the last round of talks in February in Kazakhstan.

It included an easing of some economic sanctions against Iran in return for stopping producing near weapons-grade nuclear fuel and agreeing to deposit much of it outside the country.—Xinhua

21 naval ships from Russia, China sail off Hokkaido after drill

TOKYO, 14 July — A fleet of 16 Russian naval ships and five vessels of the Chinese navy sailed through an international strait north of Hokkaido from midday Saturday to the Sea of Okhotsk, Japan’s Defence Ministry said on Sunday.

Russia and China conducted a joint naval drill off the coast of Vladivostok from 5 to 12 July, but the purpose of their passage through the Soya Strait, which is not a strait, is still waiting for Teheran to formally respond to the diplomatic package that the P5+1 presented to Iranian nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili during the last round of talks in February in Kazakhstan.

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Czech ex-PM admits relationship with aide at centre of graft probe

PRAGUE, 14 July — Former Czech conservative Prime Minister Petr Necas has now acknowledged he had a relationship with his closest aide, whose arrest for suspected illegal spying and graft led to the government’s fall last month, a daily reported on Saturday.

The aide, Jana Nagyova, is among a group of people who have been charged with illegal surveillance of Necas’s wife, whom he is now divorcing, or with bribing parliamentary deputies who had rebelled against Necas last year.

“I have a relationship with Jana Nagyova. It is a firm relationship and I correct it for the future,” Necas, 48, told daily Pravo when questioned about his private life in an interview published on Saturday.

Nagyova and six other suspects have been in police custody for a month since 400 policemen raided government and private offices and homes in the biggest sweep against graft since the communist era ended in 1989, causing a political crisis in the EU member country that may last for months to come.

The charges against Nagyova and others are a by-product of a wide investigation into what police suspect is an organized corruption ring involving businessmen and public contracts. That investigation led police to Nagyova and the others, but none of them is accused of links to organized crime.

A lawyer for Nagyova has said she acted in good faith.

Police have also asked parliament to lift the immunity of Necas, who remains a deputy and thus is protected from investigation, so that they could charge him with bribery. Necas is in a close relationship with the blonde single mother of two of had fuelled speculation among politicians and in the media in the centre-right Czech state for months but neither Necas nor Nagyova had previously acknowledged it.

Necas, a church-going father of four, said in January he had separated from his wife of more than 25 years, and the couple filed for divorce last month, just before the police raids.

The former prime minister testified on Friday in the bribery case, cited on accusations that three deputies were promised jobs at state firms if they ceased opposing a key piece of tax legislation.

Necas said he considered the process to be political and denied any wrongdoing. Some Czech politicians and commentators agree with his view, and the case will help set the boundary between acceptable political horse trading and corruption.—Reuters

Egypt announces criminal investigation of Mursi

CAIRO, 14 July — Egypt announced a criminal investiga- tion on Saturday against deposed Islamist President Mohamed Mursi, with prosecutors saying they were examining complaints of spying, inciting violence and ruining the economy.

Egypt’s first freely elected leader has been held at an undisclosed loca- tion since the army removed him from power on 3 July, but has not yet been charged with any crime. In recent days, Washington has called for him to be freed and for the authorities to stop arresting leaders of his Muslim Brotherhood.

The public prosecu- tor’s office said in a state- ment it had received com- plaints against Mursi, eight other named Islamist fig- ures including the Brother- hood’s leader, Mohamed Badie, and others it did not identify. The military said it deposed Mursi in a justifi- fied response to popular de- mand after millions of peo- ple demonstrated against him. The Brotherhood said it was a coup that reversed democracy. Turmoil in the most populous Arab state has alarmed the United States and other Western donors. Egypt straddles the Suez Canal and signed a US-brokered peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

Complaints such as those against Mursi are a first step in the criminal process, allowing prosecu- tors to begin an investiga- tion that can lead to charges. Announcing the step was unusual: typically prosecu- tors wait until charges are filed.—Reuters

Former Czech Prime Minister Petr Necas arrives for questioning over corruption allegations at the headquarters of the Unit for Combating Organized Crime.

Delegates attend a family photo session during a meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in Cholpon-Ata, Kyrgyzstan, on 11 July, 2013.—Xinhua

SCO FM’s meet to promote cooperation

Delegates attend a family photo session during a meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in Cholpon-Ata, Kyrgyzstan, on 11 July, 2013.—Xinhua

Fifth SCO foreign ministers’ meeting in Cholpon-Ata

The fifth meeting of foreign ministers from the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) ended in Cholpon-Ata, Kyrgyzstan, on Saturday, with participants discussing the organization’s role in regional frameworks.
Amazon criticized over low German tax bill

London, 14 July — Amazon.com Inc’s main German unit paid income tax of just 3 million euros in 2012 after the group channelled sales to German clients of $8.7 billion via Luxembourg units, prompting one lawmaker to call for an investigation of the company. Accounts for Amazon.de GmbH filed with Germany’s companies register show that the company reported profit of just 10 million euros for 2012, which was taxed at the headline German rate of 30 percent.

Germany is Amazon’s largest non-US market and represents a third of its overseas sales, but the vast bulk of that German cash ends up ultimately in Luxembourg-registered Amazon Europe Holding Technologies, which reported profits of 118 million euros but, as a tax-exempt partnership, paid no income tax. Amazon declined requests to comment but has previously said it follows the tax rules in all the countries where it operates. All companies seek to reduce their tax bills and have a duty to steward their assets effectively, tax lawyers say. “Managers have a fiduciary duty to get the best return for their shareholders, and tax is a part of that,” said Laurence Field, tax partner at Crowe Clark Whitehill LLP. Even so, the lengths to which some go to avoid tax has put the issue at the top of the political agenda in the past year. Citizens bearing the brunt of the financial crisis through high unemployment, falling real wages and government spending cuts have been angered at revelations that some companies have created elaborate networks of subsidiaries whose chief purpose is to siphon profits out of countries where their economic activity occurs and into tax havens where they have little or no physical presence.

Lilly plans big Alzheimer’s disease study after prior failures

New York, 14 July — Despite two failed late-stage trials of its experimental Alzheimer’s drug solanezumab, Eli Lilly and Co said on Friday it plans to run yet another study, this time focusing only on mild patients who appeared to respond to the treatment. And the company will take extra steps to ensure it is testing actual Alzheimer’s patients by pre-screening them with its imaging agent Amyvid to ensure they have deposits of the protein beta amyloid that is linked with the disease.

Solanezumab, which patients take by infusion, was ‘cool’ to have a Micro- max tag for a very long time. This made the company realise that if it wanted to take on the big boys of the smartphone world, marketing was as important as the products themselves. Enter the launch of its new smartphone, the Gionee Elife E6.

Micromax Canvas 4 is bearing the brunt of heightened expectations

New York, 14 July — Micromax has come a long way already in its relatively short, yet incredibly successful journey. The company first came to the limelight selling dual-SIM phones, and positioned itself as an ‘aspirational’ brand with 2GB free cloud data and supports 16.7 million colours. The device is powered by a 1.5GHz quad-core processor, giving the Cloud storage using features including Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, proximity sensor, a dual LED flash and also a 5-megapixel auto focus camera accompanied by an 8.0-megapixel autofocus camera. The device is powered by a 1.5GHz quad-core processor, giving the smartphone world, marketing was as important as the products themselves. Enter the launch of its new smartphone, the Gionee Elife E6.

Spice Pinnacle FHD with full-HD display launched for Rs 16,990

Mumbai, 14 July — Spice has launched the Spice Pinnacle FHD in the Indian market for Rs 16,990. Spice Pinnacle FHD features a 5-inch full-HD display and comes with a screen resolution of 1080x1920 pixels and supports 16.7 million colours. The device is powered by a 1.5GHz quad-core processor with 2GB RAM and has 8GB of internal storage that can be further expanded up to 32GB through microSD card. On the multimedia front, the Spice Pinnacle FHD sports an 8.0-megapixel auto focus camera accompanied by a 1.3-megapixel front-facing camera. The device is backed by a 2,100mAh battery. Other features include Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, proximity sensor, G-sensor, light sensor, Pop-up Play, FM Radio, Intelligent Answer, Flip to Mute, Direct Call and GPS/AGPS. It is dual-SIM smartphone with 3G support on both SIMs. The handset also comes with 2GB free cloud data storage being offered by the manufacturer. Users can access the Cloud storage using the web interface. Currently, the handset is available for pre-booking at Saholic while it will hit retail stores from 20th July. The company has confirmed that the deliveries for pre-booking of Spice Pinnacle FHD will start from 20th July, 2013.

Gionee Elife E6 full-HD smartphone launched

Mumbai, 14 July — China-based handset maker Gionee has announced the launch of its new smartphone, the Gionee Elife E6. The smartphone, which features a unibody design, sports a 5-inch OGS(One Glass-Solution) AMOLED display with a resolution of 1080x1920 pixels and pixel density of 441ppi. The phone is extremely thin at just 6.18mm, and weighs 128 grams.

A worker packs boxes at Amazon’s logistics centre in Graben near Augsburg on 17 Dec, 2012.— Reuters

At a meeting of the G20 group of leading economies in November last year German finance minister Wolfgang Schaeuble teamed up with his British counterpart, George Osborne, to push for changes in international rules that allow companies to shift profits.— Reuters

PTI
US FDA proposes arsenic limit in apple juice

New York, July 14—The US Food and Drug Administration, after decades of consideration, has proposed limiting the amount of inorganic arsenic in apple juice to the same level of the potential cancer-causing chemical allowed in US drinking water. Although the vast majority of apple juice that has been tested by the FDA over the years has contained low levels of inorganic arsenic that were considered safe, the FDA has been wrestling whether to set limits because of the cancer risk. That agency on Friday proposed a limit of 10 parts per billion (ppb) for inorganic arsenic in apple juice, the level set by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for arsenic in drinking water. “This action level will keep any apple juice that may have more inorganic arsenic than that out of the marketplace,” Michael Taylor, the FDA’s deputy commissioner for foods and veterinary medicine, said in a blog post. Last year the agency tested 94 samples of arsenic in apple juice and found that all were below the 10 ppb threshold for inorganic arsenic. The FDA is now setting that limit as the allowable future benchmark. It will accept public comments on its recommendations for 60 days. Inorganic arsenic may be found in foods because it is present in the environment, both as a naturally occurring mineral and due to the use of arsenic-containing pesticides.

Inorganic arsenic has been associated with skin lesions, developmental effects, cardiovascular disease, neurotoxicity and diabetes. Organic forms of arsenic, also found in soil and ground water, are considered essentially harmless. Some consumer groups said the limit on arsenic is a good first step, but the carcinogenic needs to be limited further.—Reuters

Praktiker shareholder mulls taking over bank loans

Frankfurt, July 14—A leading shareholder of insolvent German home improvement retailer Praktiker (PRAG.DE) is considering buying out banks in a move to save the company, Germany’s leading tabloid newspaper reported on Saturday.

“An insolvency is not the end. Together with other investors we are considering buying the loans held by Alliance Isabella de Kransny told Bild. She and her husband Alain de Kransny together own about 15 percent of Germany’s No 3 DIY chain, according to Thomson Reuters data.

Praktiker could return to profitability if costs were cut substantially, de Kransny told the paper. “Procurement expenses could be cut by 80 million euros ($104 million) annually with better contracts,” he said, adding administrative costs could easily be halved. Despite filing for insolvency, Praktiker will carry on trading from all its stores pending a review to see if it can be restructured, its insolvency administrator said on a board call.

Praktiker, a household name in the country, filed for insolvency on Thursday after talks with creditors failed, triggering fears of heavy job losses. The group has been weighed down by growing debts, which posted a year-on-year increase of more than a quarter to 535 million euros by the end of March. At the same time, its liquid funds shrank by almost 29 percent to 51.3 million euros.

Praktiker stores selling paints, tools and gardening products are a familiar sight in Germany’s out-of-town shopping centres. But years of under-investment had left the stores looking tired and made them vulnerable to competition from rivals with more up-to-date shops and service.

Clouds are pictured above the entrance of German do-it-yourself retailer Praktiker in Kolbermoor near Rosenheim on 11 July 2013.—Reuters

AT&T to pay hefty $1.2 billion for Leap in latest telco deal

New York, July 14—AT&T Inc will buy Leap Wireless International Inc for $1.19 billion, paying almost double the current value of the prepaid mobile service provider as major US carriers scramble to acquire valuable wireless spectrum.

The No 2 US carrier is offering $15 a share in cash—an 88 percent premium to Leap’s Friday close of $7.98—to seal the latest of a wave of acquisitions to emerge from a telecoms sector struggling to expand network capacity, as use of bandwidth-hungry smartphones and tablets explodes.

The deal’s announcement comes days after Softbank’s acquisition of Sprint. No 4 US mobile carrier T-Mobile USA merged in April with smaller rival MetroPCS.

While Leap was one of the last obvious acquisition targets, some analysts and investors are hoping to see a deal that only helps AT&T get their hands on more spectrum, customers and revenues, but also further consolidates the industry,” said independent telecoms analyst Jeff Kagan. “Expect to see more deals with Verizon, Sprint and others.”

Leap’s shares more than doubled to $17 in after-hours trade. Under the deal, the telecoms rival bids but AT&T has the right to match rival offers that surface. Also, the companies said Leap shareholders will get the proceeds from a future sale of spectrum in Chicago that Leap bought from AT&T in 2012 for $200 million.

AT&T said it would keep Leap’s Cricket brand name.—Reuters

Gulf Keystone recommends voting against M&G nominees

London, July 14—Oil exploration firm Gulf Keystone (GKP.L) said its board would recommend that shareholders vote against four proposed directors backed by M&G Recovery Fund, an activist shareholder which has criticized governance and “excessive” executive pay at the firm.

Gulf Keystone said on Saturday senior board members had met M&G representatives on Friday and interviewed three out of the four nominees during the week, and had concluded that the candidates did not have the right experience.

“Following the meeting, the board unanimously recommends shareholders to vote against all of the proposed M&G candidates,” Gulf Keystone said in a statement, adding that it was posting a circular to shareholders to explain its reasons.

M&G, which owns 5.1 percent of Gulf Keystone, could not immediately be reached for comment.

Shareholders will have the chance to vote on the proposed new directors at the annual meeting on 25 July. They will also vote on the re-appointment to the board of two existing directors, whom M&G said it will be voting against.

On 7 July, M&G said Gulf Keystone still needed to do more to strengthen its board, days after the firm had hired former Glencore (GLEN.L) chairman Simon Murray as its new chairman. The hiring of Murray was seen by analysts as an effort to calm investor concerns over corporate governance ahead of a planned move by Gulf Keystone to London’s main market from its junior exchange.

M&G had called in June for four new directors to join the board of Gulf Keystone, whose price asset is an oil field in the Kurdistan region of northern Iraq.—Reuters

Doctor must be present for drug-induced abortion in Missouri

Kansas City, July 14—A doctor will have to be present for any drug-induced abortion in Missouri starting on 28 August because Governor Jay Nixon on Friday allowed a measure passed by the state legislature to become law without his signature.

Nixon, a Democrat, said he decided not to sign the law and made no further comment.

The law applies to the so-called “abortion pill,” RU-486 or any other abortion inducing chemical. Missouri will be the 11th state to require doctors be present for administration of the drug, which is allowed up to about nine weeks of pregnancy, said Elizabeth Nash, state issues manager for the Guttmacher Institute, a pro-choice research group. The law is on hold in Wisconsin and North Dakota due to litigation, she said. The measure is the latest of a wave of small restrictions on abortion approved by conservative states where opposition to the procedure is strong.

Abortion opponents favour the law in part because it eliminates telemedicine in which a doctor at a different location can observe a patient taking the medication. Abortion rights advocates said the law is unfair to rural residents who live far from an abortion provider and need telemedicine to get early term abortions. Nash said. According to the Guttmacher Institute, Missouri with the law now joins Alabama, Arizona, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota and Tennessee.—Reuters

The AT&T logo is pictured by its store in Carlsbad, California, on 22 April, 2013.—Reuters

The No. 2 US carrier—now owned by Vodafone Group Plc—will buy Leap’s Cricket brand name.—Reuters

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The AT&T logo is pictured by its store in Carlsbad, California, on 22 April, 2013.—Reuters

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The AT&T logo is pictured by its store in Carlsbad, California, on 22 April, 2013.—Reuters
Kenyan peacekeepers aided illegal Somalia charcoal export

KISIMAYO, 14 July—A conflict report by UN monitors accuses Kenyan soldiers in the African Union peacekeeping force in Somalia of facilitating illegal charcoal exports from the port city of Kismayu, a business that generates millions of dollars a year for Islamist militants seeking to topple the government.

The case of the failed ban on Somali charcoal outlined in the report highlights the difficulty of cutting off al Shabaab militants’ funding and ensuring compliance with UN sanctions when there is little appetite for enforcing them on the ground. The Kenyan military denied the allegations in the UN Monitoring Group’s latest annual report to the Security Council’s sanctions committee on Somalia and Eritrea.

The report was completed before recent clashes in Kismayu. In that fighting, rival militias battled for control of the strategic port city after Ahmed Madobe, leader of the Ras Kamboni militia and a former Islamist warlord, became leader of the Jubaland region, which includes Kismayu, in May. The situation remains tense though the Mogadishu government, which initially opposed Madobe, is letting him stay on as interim leader.

Kismayu is a lucrative prize for clan leaders, bringing with it generous revenues from charcoal exports, port taxes and levies on arms and other illegal imports. The Security Council banned the export of charcoal from Somalia in February 2012 to cut off one of the main sources of income for al Shabaab, which has been fighting for control of Somalia for years and enforces a strict version of sharia law in the areas it occupies.

Kenyan forces in the African Union’s AMISOM peacekeeping mission, which has a UN Security Council mandate and receives funding from the European Union and United Nations, helped the Somali government retake control of Kismayu when the al-Qaeda-aligned militants fled in September 2012.

Afterwards, the AU almost immediately urged the Security Council to lift the charcoal export ban, at least temporarily. Kenyan security, apparently supporting the idea, argued that Kismayu’s angry charcoal traders could undermine the security of its troops. The Monitoring Group, which reports on compliance with the Somalia/Eritrea sanctions regime, disputed Nairob’s analysis.

“The argument that a group of charcoal traders constituted a greater threat to the KDF (Kenyan Defence Force) than al Shabaab that had just been routed in Kismayu, was difficult to appreciate,” the group said in an annex to its annual report, which was seen by Reuters.

“Instead, it was far more likely that exporting charcoal would exacerbate clan tensions and resource interests, leading to much broader conditions of conflict,” the group said in its report, which is nearly 500 pages with all its annexes. “And this is precisely what subsequently occurred.”

The Monitoring Group’s report is likely to elicit new criticism of Nairobi from Somalia’s government, which has accused Kenyan troops of taking sides against it in the recent clashes in Kismayu and suggested they should be replaced by a more neutral force. Kenya denied the charge.—Reuters

Turkish police fire tear gas at Istanbul protesters

Protesters light a fire as they block a road during clashes with riot police at Istiklal Street in central Istanbul late on 13 July, 2013.—REUTERS

ISTANBUL, 14 July—Turkish police fired water cannon and tear gas on Saturday to disperse hundreds of protesters who gathered to march to Gezi Park, which has been at the heart of fierce unrest against Prime Minister Erdogan’s rule. Protesters scattered, running into side streets where police pursued them, before starting to regroup on Istiklal Street, metres from the main Taksim Square.

The demonstrators also clashed with security forces. Erdogan changed his schedule, an apparent attempt to quell demonstrations that had started as a small protest against the planned redevelopment of Istanbul’s Gezi Park triggered a nationwide wave of protest last month gathered against Erdogan, accused by his critics of becoming increasingly authoritarian.

Five people died and thousands were injured in the police crackdown on the protests across Turkey, which posed the biggest challenge to Erdogan’s decade old rule. Saturday’s demonstrations were triggered by discontent over a government-sponsored bill that stripped an architect’s and engineers’ association involved in the protests, the TMMOB, of its final approval authority on urban planning projects.

The bill, passed to become law by parliament this week, is seen by the TMMOB and opposition party members as part of a government vendetta.

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Police confirm final death toll in French train derailment at six

PARIS, 14 July—French police have said that the final death toll in Friday’s train derailment south of Paris is now definitive at six, media reported on Saturday.

According to the national railway company SNCF, the train was carrying about 385 passengers when six of its carriages went off track at 5:15 pm (1515 GMT) on Friday and crashed into the platform at the Bretigny-sur-Orge station, about 20 km south of Paris. Earlier official reports said at least six people had been killed.

The country will be in mourning on Sunday’s national holiday, Bastille Day. It was the country’s worst train accident since 1988, when a crash at Gare de Lyon station in Paris killed 56 people.—Xinhua

Russia starts largest snap military exercise in post-Soviet period

MOSCOW, 14 July—About 160,000 servicemen early Saturday participated in Russia’s largest snap combat readiness military exercise since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, Russia’s defense minister said.

The large-scale military drill also involves nearly 1,000 tanks and armoured fighting vehicles, 130 aircraft from a wide range of units and 70 naval ships, Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu said on a conference call, according to the Ministry of Defence website.

Aside from performing given tasks, the troops will practice long-distance march and live ammunition firing tactics. The drill also plans to transport troops to a location 3,000 km away by railway, ocean and air.

Shoigu said the military exercise did not target any other country.

President Vladimir Putin issued the drill order on Friday, requesting Russia’s Eastern Military Area Command be in full combat readiness by early Saturday morning and military force be transported to appointed areas.

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Caroline Kennedy to become US Ambassador to Japan

WASHINGTON, 14 July—Caroline Kennedy, the daughter of the late US President John F. Kennedy and a strong backer of President Barack Obama, will become ambassador to Japan, sources close to Japan-US relations said Friday.

Kennedy, an attorney, will take the post at a time when the United States faces contentious issues in its relationship with Tokyo such as negotiations on the US-led Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade pact and the realignment of US military forces in Japan. The White House will announce the appointment soon, the sources said.—Kyodo News

Caroline Kennedy, the daughter of the late US President John F. Kennedy, holds a book signing in Kansas City, Missouri, on 2 April, 2013. A strong backer of President Barack Obama, Kennedy will become US ambassador to Japan, sources close to Japan-US relations said on 12 July, 2013. —Kyodo News

Working staff of French national railway company SNCF are seen during clearance work at the site of derailed train in a railway station in Bretigny-sur-Orge, south of Paris, on July 13, 2013. French police have said that the final death toll in Friday’s train derailment south of Paris is now definitive at six, media reported on Saturday.—Xinhua

Soldiers, who are serving with the Kenyan Contingent of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), patrol along a street as a commuter taxi passes by in the center of the southern Somali port city of Kismayo, about 500 km (310 miles) south of Mogadishu in this on 7 Oct, 2012 handout photo taken and released by the African Union-United Nations Information Support Team.—REUTERS
Donors visit remote village to provide health, education aids

Pathinngyi, 14 July—A donors group toured a remote village 20 miles from Pathinngyi in Mandalay Region on 10 July to open school and dispensary and donate school uniforms and stationery to village school.

Vice-Chairman of Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Sayadaw Bhaddanta Piññavuda, abbots of monasteries, villagers and students were present at the opening ceremony of Kan Yadana new school building and a charitable dispensary.

Wellwishers U Hsan Nyunt Wai and wife Daw Mya Mya Aye of Pathinngyi provided uniforms, stationery and snacks to the students.

The dispensary at the low-income village will focus on malaria.

The donations on the day amounted to K2.2 million.

MMAL-Aung Kyaw Tun (Pathinngyi)

Printing development training conducted in Mandalay

Mandalay, 14 July—A course on development of printing technology was opened in Shwepyu Plaza in Mandalay on 11 July.

The course was provided by experts of HEIDELBRG Thailand and organized by Mandalay Region Printing and Publishing Association.

They gave trainings on lighting, Denistometer and Colourimetric.

MMAL-Maung Min

Human trafficking educative talk organized in Singu

Mandalay, 14 July—Singu Township Women’s Affairs Organization organized an educative talk on human trafficking in Malae village in Singu Township in Mandalay Region on 8 July.

Mon State Chief Justice U Khin Maung Gyi awards an outstanding student.

Mawlamyine, 14 July—High Court of Mon State awarded outstanding students in 2012-2013 matriculation examination at the state High Court in Mawlamyine on 6 July in conjunction with the paper reading session.

Region Chief Justice of Mon State High Court U Khin Maung Gyi awarded prizes to outstanding students in matriculation exam.

Head of State Justice Department U Win Huy presided over the paper reading session. Judicial officers and judges read out the papers.

MMAL-District IPRD

CONSTRUCTION

Inter-village road being constructed in Myinmu Tsp

Myinmu, 14 July—A new rural earth road is being constructed in Myinmu Township.

The road with the length of four miles and six furlongs and will link Peku, Lalphin and Maenaw villages in the township.

Region Hluttaw Representative U Thaung Myint, Township Administrator Assistant Director U Thein Zaw visited the site of the construction on 12 July morning.

They were conducted round the site by executive engineer U Than Oo and engineer in-charge U Myint Aung.

Upon completion of the road, box culverts will be installed and it will be paved with gravel.

MMAL-Ko Ko Naing (Myinmu)

Mini book corners opened in Kyaukme

Kyaukme, 14 July—Information and Public Relations Department is opening mini book corners at bus stops, tea shops and other public places in Kyaukme Township in Kyaukme District to enable the people access the books and publications at any place.

149 Myanmar migrant workers return from Malaysia

Yangon, 14 July—A total of 149 Myanmar migrant workers arrived back at Yangon International Airport from Malaysia by a Myanmar Airways International flight on 12 July afternoon.

They included 104 male workers and 45 female workers who had worked in Malaysia.

Deputy Director U Kyaw Kyaw Naing (Yangon)
Tug-of-War for men and women

YANGON, 14 July—The First Inter-Region/State Men’s and Women’s Tug-of-War Contest 2013 was launched at the National Indoor Stadium in Thuwunna of Thingangyun Township, here, this morning. Director U Kyaw Hsan Oo of Institute of Sports and Physical Education (Yangon) made a speech and opened the first-day events.

The contest will run up to 18 July.—MNA

(Continued from 11 July 2013)

Key points of the discussion of the Union minister during the meeting on 23 March, 2013 are as follows:

Discussion of the Union Minister

Union Minister U Aung Kyi said he totally disagreed with the fact that the registrar took legislation, administration and judiciary powers. It was usual to use the term “Ministry” in the bill and the ministry has the right to write bylaw, but he gave the reason why the registrar was vested with authority was to remove the red tape system, he said. Publishing permits was issued through the bylaw and would be continued through the same system in the future as well, he said. If a publication was designated as an illegal one, it would not be allowed to be published further though actions would not be taken against it and any periodicals would not be confiscated.

However, anyone would be charged if he or she committed the offence of illegal publishing again, he added, and he or she had the right to appeal. The adopted principles were within the framework of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the bill, in accordance with the suggestion of the bill committee, says that any action taken should not hurt the freedom of expression, any action taken in accordance with any rule would be annulled if the action breached that provision, he said. He also said that he would definitely submit every suggestion of the Press Council (Temporary) to the bill committee.

In his concluding address, the Union minister said he was satisfied with the Zero Draft of the Press Council and still they had rights to discuss the Printing and Publishing bill though it had been submitted to the bill committee.

Though there came to happen the former law and the latter law, he would try to synchronize the former and the latter laws. He also pledged that when the government wrote bylaw, it would limit the rights of the registrar in accordance with the discussion of the Press Council. He also promised that he would try to make the registration as like as just sending information to the registrar and would learn thoroughly the bill which would be sent by the Press Council and would submit it to Hluttaw.

The ministry had some bad feelings caused by lack of contacting it, however, the ministry was more willing to work together with the council in unity without bringing the bad feelings to the future, he said.

Events after the meeting

(1) After the Union Minister held a meeting with Chairman, Secretary and responsible personnel of the Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) on 23 March, 2013, a delegation led by the Director-General of the Myanma Radio and Television held meetings with the responsible personnel of the Press Council (Temporary) on 23 April and 27 April, 2013. During the meetings, the two sides discussed the Printing and Publishing Bill, and the Press Council (Temporary) suggested the points that should be added, amended and omitted.

(2) The Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) which rejected the Printing and Publishing Bill before, did not object the bill during the meetings, reaching the agreement between the two sides to submit the Printing and Publishing Bill to Hluttaw committees concerned to be able to take into consideration the current discussion with the ministry when the bill was discussed, to draft the bill which was currently written by the Press Council (Temporary) to become a media law which not only has dealt with the periodicals but also media world, to bring the Printing and Publishing Bill and by the ministry as well as the Media bill drafted by the Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) before Hluttaw. Under the agreement, Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) had sent the points to which they wanted to add, amend and omit from the Printing and Publishing Bill and Ministry of Information sent the official letter dated 8, May 2013, to the Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee, reporting the suggestions of the Press Council (Temporary) to the committee. The ministry also sent copies of the letter to Pyithu Hluttaw Sports, Culture and Public Relations Development Committee, Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) and other media and publishing associations.

(3) Therefore, it has shown that the ministry did not neglect the points the Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) wanted to add to, amend and omit from the bill. In accordance with the agreement, suggestions of the Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) have been sent to the Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee in conformity with the rules and regulations while the bill is in debate at Hluttaw.

(4) Regarding the Printing and Publishing Bill, a delegation led by a deputy minister for Information for Information held ceremonies to seek suggestions and advice for the bill from the people from regions and states in Magway, Mandalay, Monywa, Sitway, Mawlamyine and Hpa-an from April 10 to 24 in 2013.

The ceremonies were participated by representatives of region and state Hluttaw members, members of state government, law officers, regional printers and publishers, media men and departmental officials, local people and observers. The ceremonies were covered in dailies to ensure transparency. As some journals accused Ministry of Information of putting pressures on the Myanmar Press Council by using the monitoring tool, the ceremonies have been suspended in order to maintain the relations between the ministry and the press council. Therefore, the bill committee led by the deputy minister put forward and discussed the feedback of the public to the members of Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee on 1 and 2 July.

(5) Meanwhile, Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) sent their official letter to the office of Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) by using the Press Council (Temporary) sent their official letter to the office of Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) on 5, May 2013 to discuss the suggestions and amendments of the ministry about the bill. The bill was written based on the basic principles of non-interrelation between the two laws according to the prior agreement between the two sides. Both sides agreed to rewrite the original bill of the bill as news media bill with 26 amendments.

(6) After the discussion of the Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) sent their press bill with the letter No. Ma Sa Ka/17/2013 dated 31-5-2013 to the Ministry of Information which discussed it together with local and foreign legal experts on 3 June, 2013.

It was found that some of the parts were not amended or the some were not put in order and some added against the prior agreement and some do not meet the international norms. The ministry made a list of suggestions, amendments, and omission with detailed explanations quoting the international press laws, media laws and press council laws and sent it to the council with letter No. 1-5/2013 (1978) dated 7-6-2013. The letter also included the offer that the deputy minister is willing to discuss it with the council at its invitation at the convenient time for both sides.

(7) However, the ministry received no responses. The council had taken internal discussion rewrote the bill with consent to 22 out of the 65 points of suggestion and amendment made by the
Chiefs of Armed Forces’ Invitational Friendly Golf Tournament takes place in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July—The opening ceremony of Invitational Friendly Golf Tournament of Chiefs of Armed Forces was held at Nay Pyi Taw Golf Course, here, this morning.

It was attended by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Chief of Malaysian Armed Forces General Tan Sri Dato’ Sri Zulkifeli Bin Mohd Zin, Chief of Defence Forces of Singapore Lieutenant General Ng Chee Meng, Supreme Commander of the Royal Thai Armed Forces General Tanasak Patimapragorn, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win, Deputy Supreme Commander of the Royal Thai Armed Forces Admiral Yuttana Phagopongham, senior military officers of the Commander-in-Chief Office, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Southern Air Command of the Republic of India Air Marshal RK Jolly, VM, VSM, and senior military officers of Malaysian Armed Forces, Singaporean Defence Force and Royal Thai Armed Forces.

First, Senior Gen Min Aung Hlaing, the Chief of the Malaysian Armed Forces and the Chief of Defence Force of Singapore teed off smoke balls at tee No (1) to launch the golf tournament.

Next, the Invitational Friendly Golf Tournament kicked off. At the prize-giving ceremony, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, the Supreme Commander of the Royal Thai Armed Forces and officials presented awards to the Deputy Supreme Commander of the Royal Thai Armed Forces who stood third, the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win who stood second and the Chief of Defence Forces of Singapore who stood first in the tournament.

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July—Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin inspected maintenance works of Yangon-Mandalay Expressway (Nay Pyi Taw-Yangon Section), Myochuang-Padao-Kyungon Road, Yangon-Bago-Mandalay-Nyaunglebin-Madauk-Shwegyin Road and construction of Madaukkalay Bridge yesterday morning.

The Union minister then looked into progress of Nyaunglebin-Zeyawady road section which was implemented through BOT system on Yangon-Bago-Mandalay Road, preparation for construction of RC type bridge at mile posts 122/3 and 122/4, maintenance of Penwegen-Kyaukkyi-Thano road and construction of ground retaining wall between mile posts 9/0 and 9/1.

After inspecting the bridge construction site in Kyaukkyi Township and construction site of No 3 Sittoung Bridge (Htantabin) on Khaupalng-Myinsu-Htantabin Road, the Union minister called for timely completion of the bridge and approach road as it links east and west banks of Sittoung River and facilitates smooth transportation for the people and development of the region.

Non-formal primary education service launched in Pathein Tsp

PATHEIN, 14 July—Opening ceremony of non-formal primary education service for 2013-14 academic year was launched at the city hall in Pathein Township, Ayeyawady Region on 12 July.

The ceremony was attended by Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung, the region Hluttaw speaker, region ministers, region district and township-level departmental officials, district division commissioners, township administrators, education officers of township and district, and teachers and students.

At the ceremony, the chief minister, Deputy Director-General U Tun Kyi (Rtd) and Region Education Director Min Naing gave speeches.

Afterwards, Region Commissioner U Aye Kyaw assigned duty of township supervisory committee chairmen to the township administrators and awards to the best schools and outstanding students.

Later, the chief minister and guests conducted round the show rooms.

Record of meeting...

(from page 8) Ministry and left the 43 points disagreed and unchanged and made amendment to three points and sent it in the ministry as second draft with the letter No. Ma Sa Ka/22/2013 dated 26-6-2013. (8) The letter requested the Ministry of Information to submit the bill (second draft) to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to ask the opinions and comments of legal parliamentary committees and MPs since the council reckoned that the second bill needed not further discussion.

(9) The ministry held discussion with legal parliamentary committees on 1 July, 2013. In order to submit press bill as soon as possible and to avoid continuous disagreements with Myanmar Press Council (Temporary), the ministry accepted the 51 out of 68 amendments made by them. However, the ministry sent back the bill to the council as it found it hard is to accept the 17 points. The ministry as a Union level agency responsible for submitting the bill had decided to send it back because some of the points do not meet international norms, some unnecessary, some not in compliance with procedures and some unlikely to pass through different levels of scrutiny throughout submission process. However, Myanmar Press Council (Temporary) replied that it could not accept the response of the ministry with the letter No. Ma Sa Ka/24/2013 dated 9-7-2013. So, the submission of press bill to the parliament has not been started.

Conclusion

I wrote this article not to point the finger at others and neither for self-defence. The most important ethics for a journalist is accuracy of the news and the most important conduct is verification. This is just to get authentic source of information, essential for journalists. The minister often reminds his staff like this: “In this age when the spread of news takes place in the blink of an eye, every word you say, every sentence you write, and every piece of work you do is your history. You but no one else have to write your own history.” I am just writing our real history. Everyone would find it acceptable that news on newspapers reflect the age. Would anyone can deny that they also tell the histories of newspapers and periods.

(continued) Trs: AMS+TKK

Kyemon-District
IPRD
Mini book corners serving knowledge to people in Sagaing

Sagaing, 14 July—Staff Officer U Myint Thein and staff from Sagaing District Information and Public Relations Department opened mini book corners in the wards of Sagaing for disseminating knowledge to the people as of 11 July. They opened mini book corners at Nyein Nyein Ei Village in Tawma Township, Kyaukse on 10 July. They also warned the travelers to always use life jackets on the vessels if natural disasters fall suddenly. Kyemon-Min Min Oo (Kyaiklat)

Extempore talks, poem and story telling contests in Monghsat

YANGON, 14 July—The students extempore talks, poem and story telling contest was held at Thanlwin Hall of Basic Education High School in Monghsat on 13 July, with an address by Township Education Officer U Myint Thein, 35, son of U Thein Myint, 52, an injured under section of Myint Htwe under sections K 84750. Thuwunna Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Myint Htwe for disseminating knowledge about it to the vessels from the villages in Kyaiklat Township of Pyapon District in Ayeyawady Region on 10 July.

Sanitation carried out at Bago BEHS No. 3

BAGO, 14 July—Sanitation task was carried out at Bago BEHS No. 3 during 12 July morning.

52-year-old man dies of electrocution

MEIKTILA, 14 July—A 52-year-old man died from electrocution while repairing electric oven at Yecho Village in Tawma Village-tract in Meiktila Township.

Life jacket drill demonstrated in Kyaiklat

Yangon, 14 July—A police station opened the house of Myint Htwe and K 84750. Thuwunna Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Myint Htwe under sections 15(a)/16(a) of Gambling Law. Kyemon-31

CRIME

One injured in head-on collision in Kyaukse

KYAUKSE, 14 July—One person was injured in an accident at traffic light on Yangon-Mandalay Highway in downtown of Kyaukse on 10 July night. A Light Truck, driven by U Toe Min Thein, 35, son of U Thein Myint, of Kyatmintun Ward, heading for Mandalay from Yangon was collided with a motorbike, driven by Ko Yarzar Myint, 21, son of U Thein Sein, of Pinlaung Village in Taunggyi Township. The motorbike driver was injured and is charged with his reckless under the law. Kyemon

Illegal two-digit lottery gamblers arrested

YNAGON, 14 July—A squad led by IP Tin Tun Naing and SIP Than Soe and party of Thuwanna Police Station together with witnesses searched the house of Myint Htwe (a) Si Ton, 41, in Seepwaryay Ward of Thuwanna Township on 11 July morning. The authorities seized three voucher books with illegal two-digit lottery and four voucher sheets, one calculator, one Chai paper and K 84750. Thuwanna Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Myint Htwe under sections 15(a)/16(a) of Gambling Law.
Singapore strengthening anti-money-laundering controls

SINGAPORE, 14 July—The Monetary Authority of Singapore fined 22 financial institutions and restricted operations at seven institutions in the past three years for weak controls to prevent money laundering and terrorism financing, a senior official of the central bank said on Friday.

The authority also issued 47 warnings and reprimands and revoked or not renewed the licences of 13 money changers and remittance agents, Lee Boon Ngiap, assistant managing director of the Monetary Authority, said at a seminar on Friday. A few financial institutions were directed to conduct a review of their anti-money laundering frameworks. From 1 July, Singapore has tightened its laws to make tax evasion a money laundering offence, to safeguard the country’s reputation as an international financial centre. It is also expanding its network of partners with which it shares information on tax issues.

Lee said the authority carried out 108 on-site inspections of financial institutions related to anti-money laundering and terrorism financing controls from 2010 to 2012. The authority aims to identify potential risks at financial institutions at an early stage and have these risks addressed before they become too serious, he said.

Thosands of Cambodian garment workers hold election campaign for ruling party

PIROM PENH, 14 July—Around 10,000 garment and footwear workers held a rally on Sunday to round up votes for the ruling Cambodian People’s Party (CPP) of incumbent Prime Minister Hun Sen ahead of the fifth National Assembly elections on 28 July.

The campaign gathered at the capital’s Diamond Island complex in early morning before travelling by motorcycles and trucks to areas with garment and footwear factories around Phnom Penh City.

The event was organized by the Cambodian Labour Union Federation. Speaking to the rally, Ith Samheng, CPP’s lawmaker-candidate for Phnom Penh City, said the campaign was to appeal to all garment workers to cast their ballots for the CPP.

The country has about 500 garment and footwear factories employing some 510,600 workers. Garment industry is the kingdom’s largest income maker.

“Voting for the CPP will bring more progress and development to the nation,” said Ith Samheng, minister of social affairs. “The CPP has enhanced workers’ rights and opposed to any forms of exploitation of workers. We will continue doing so when our party wins in the upcoming polls.”

He also pledged to attract more investors for garment and footwear industry to create more jobs and revenues for Cambodian people.

A month-long election campaign kicked off on 27 June and will complete on 26 July.

Eight political parties will compete in the elections with about 9.67 million eligible voters.

Cambodia bans selling, drinking alcohol during parliamentary polls

PIROM PENH, 14 July—The government of Cambodia on Friday issued a directive to prohibit selling and drinking all types of alcohol for two days, a day before the election day and on the election day.

“‘To ensure a free, fair, non-violent, and no intimidation election on 28 July, traders and vendors must suspend selling alcohol and all Cambodians and foreigners living in Cambodia must stop drinking alcohol—day before the election day and on the election day,’” said the directive signed by Prime Minister Hun Sen.

It said the ban is in accordance with the election law in order to prevent violence, traffic accidents, offences or social disorder that can arise from alcohol drinking.

The directive ordered heads of ministries, institutions, and armed forces to instruct their subordinates and advised them to continue educating common people and foreigners to comply with the prohibition.

Lt Gen Kirt Chantharith, spokesman for the National Police, said recently that about 70,000 members of the security forces would be deployed during the Election Day on 28 July.

Eight political parties will compete in the elections with about 9.67 million eligible voters. Two main parties are the ruling Cambodian People’s Party of incumbent Prime Minister Hun Sen and the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party led by Sam Rainsy.

Hun Sen’s party is widely expected to win the majority in the forthcoming elections.

Hun Sen, 61, has been in power for 28 years and vowed to stay in the post until he is 74.

Shaping Japan’s nuclear policy to be Abe’s key task after election

TOKYO, 14 July—Prime Minister Shinzo Abe would face an important task of shaping Japan’s nuclear policy if his Liberal Democratic Party wins the lower house election in December last year, the new government has retracted its predecessor’s goal of phasing out nuclear power in the 2030s, and vowed to push for the restart of idled reactors.

The new approach signals that nuclear power will continue to play a certain role to meet the energy demand of the resource-poor country, but the government has been skipping around the issue ahead of the House of Councillors election in an apparent bid to avoid provoking antinuclear sentiment in the public.

Thimphu, 14 July—Bhutan’s opposition People’s Democratic Party scored a landslide victory in Saturday’s general election, winning 32 seats out of the 47 seats contested in the National Assembly.

Formally announcing the results of the second general election in the Himalayan nation’s political history, chief election commissioner Kunzang Wangdi said the election process has been “Bhutan’s journey on the path of democracy.”

The Peace and Prosperity Party, which won 45 seats in the previous election five years ago, saw its parliamentary strength cut down to 15 seats.

Kyodo News

Regional

Garment and footwear workers attend a rally in Phnom Penh on 14 July, 2013. Around 10,000 garment and footwear workers took part in the rally on Sunday to round up votes for the ruling Cambodian People’s Party ahead of the fifth National Assembly elections on 28 July—Xinhua

Two main parties are the CPP of Prime Minister Hun Sen and the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party led by Sam Rainsy.

Cambodia bans selling, drinking alcohol during parliamentary polls—Xinhua

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Hun Sen’s party is widely expected to win the majority in the forthcoming elections. Hun Sen, 61, has been in power for 28 years and vowed to stay in the post until he is 74.

Xinhua

Workers queue outside a polling station in Thimphu, the capital of Bhutan, to elect a new National Assembly on 13 July, 2013, only the second parliamentary election in the nation’s political history. Kyodo News

Xinhua
Monday, 15 July, 2013

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPENED TENDER)

(3/2013)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars and Myanmar Kyats.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No</th>
<th>Tender No</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>IFB -021(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Accessories for Ywama Gas Distribution Station</td>
<td>(1) Lot</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>IFB -022(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Accessories for Kambbau Gas Distribution Station</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>IFB -023(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Accessories for Kyauk Phyu Gas Distribution Station</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>IFB -024(2013-2014)</td>
<td>6” ERW API 5L Grade X 42 Steel Line</td>
<td>(2414) MTR</td>
<td>USD $</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>IFB -025(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Pipe and accessories (1) Lot</td>
<td>(1) Set</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>IFB -026(2013-2014)</td>
<td>(NEC WA - 2510 System Unit only)</td>
<td>(1) Unit</td>
<td>each USD $</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>IFB -027(2013-2014)</td>
<td>185 KW, 3.3 KV Induction Motor</td>
<td>(1) No</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>IFB -028(2013-2014)</td>
<td>11 KV Gas Circuit Breaker (or) Oil Circuit Breaker Complete Set</td>
<td>(4) Sets</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>IFB -029(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Derrick Shaker Unit</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>IFB -030(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Water Transfer Pump with Engine Driven</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>DMP/L-011(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Telephone Cable, Branch Exchange and Cordless Telephone</td>
<td>(1) Lot</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>DMP/L-012(2013-2014)</td>
<td>(a) Aluminium Conductor Steel Reinforce (ACSR) Wire (2.5) Tons</td>
<td>(1) Ton</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>DMP/L-013(2013-2014)</td>
<td>(b) Hard Drawn Bore Copper (HDBC) Wire</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>DMP/L-014(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Circular Concrete Post (9) M</td>
<td>(50) Nos</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>DMP/L-015(2013-2014)</td>
<td>(a) 5 KW Diesel Engine Driven Generating Set (3) Sets</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(b) 5 HP Phase Induction Motor</td>
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<td>Spares for F 1600 Drilling Pump Ex ZJ 70 L Drilling Rig (1) Lot</td>
<td>(1) Lot</td>
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</table>

-Tender Closing Date & Time - 12.8-2013, 1300 Hrs.

Tender documents are available for download hours commencing from 15.7.2013 at the Material Planning Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph: +95 67-411097/411206

Ministry of Energy
Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise
Invitation for Opened Tender

1. Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars (CIF Yangon) and Myanmar Kyats.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No</th>
<th>Tender No</th>
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<th>Qty</th>
<th>Remark</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>MPPE/MC/AV/CAPIII(2) (2013-2014)</td>
<td>New 4000 Imperial Gallons Capacity Rigid Aircraft Refueller</td>
<td>2 Nos</td>
<td>USD</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>Aviation Gasoline 1000L</td>
<td>400 Drums</td>
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<td>MPPE/AV/LUB/T1(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Aviation Lubricating Oil &amp; Grease</td>
<td>6 Items</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>MPPE/LP/MC/T1(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Aviation Fuelling Equipment Spare Parts</td>
<td>3 Items</td>
<td>Kyat</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>MPPE/LP/Chem/T1(2013-2014)</td>
<td>Shell Water Detector Capsules</td>
<td>890 Boxes</td>
<td>Kyat</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

2. Tender Closing Date & Time - 14.8.2013, 12:00 Hrs.

Tender documents are available at our office starting from 15.7-2013 during office hours and for further detail please contact

Phone: 067-411487

Planning Department
Myanma Petroleum Products Enterprise
Ministry of Energy, No (6) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw

Ministry of Energy,
U Than Maung, Advocate
For OVERSEAS COURIER SERVICE CO., LTD.,
Claimed by Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd.,
Reg. No. 4/6405/2013 (25 June 2013)

TRADEMARK CAUTION
OVERSEAS COURIER SERVICE CO., LTD., a company incorporated in Japan and having its registered office at 9-13 Shibaura 2-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-8701 Japan is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademark;

U Than Maung, Advocate
For OVERSEAS COURIER SERVICE CO., LTD.,
Address: 15-7-2013
Ministry of Energy, No (6) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw

Ministry of Energy,
9-13, Shibaura 2-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-8701
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Dated 15 July 2013

56 people arrested during rallies in Rio

RIO DE JANEIRO, 14 July—Sixty-five people have been arrested for alleged vandalism during two rallies held on Thursday in Rio de Janeiro, the Military Police said on Friday in a statement.

According to the statement, 26 people were arrested during a rally held in downtown, while 30 others were arrested in front of Guanabara Palace, seat of the state’s government.

The police said all the arrested people had committed “vandalism acts”, such as throwing Molotov cocktails and other objects against police agents in charge of upholding public order during both rallies. Three people were injured during the incidents, including a police officer due to a blow with a stone in the head. Two cars were set on fire and a police post was destroyed in downtown Rio. The police used tear gas against the protesters and a subway station near the seat of the government had to be closed. Rio de Janeiro’s governor Sergio Cabral issued a statement in which he condemned vandalism during the “legitimate protests” and affirmed “vandalism will not be tolerated,” warning that “the groups that have the clear goal to cause panic and destroy public and private properties” will be punished.—Xinhua

Young giraffes are seen at their pen at the Qingdao Great Wildlife World in Qingdao, east China’s Shandong Province, on 14 July, 2013. Nine young giraffes settled in the zoo Sunday after their long journey from South Africa. These new tall residents will debut to visitors after a 45-day quarantine.—Xinhua

MYANMAR PORT AUTHORITY HOLIDAY NOTICE

As the wharves, warehouses and chelan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on 19th JULY 2013 (Myanmar Calendar) or 20th JULY 2013 (FULL MOON DAY of WASO). Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

Manufacturer & General
Remo Fernandes: Happy I’m not forgotten

MUMBAI, 14 July—Singer-composer Remo Fernandes, who has composed the title track of forthcoming film Luv U Soniyo, is grateful that people have liked his new compositions, and that they remember his work even after many years.

“If everybody has appreciated it, I’m very happy because I’m doing it after a long time. I’m also very happy for the appreciation that was received by Maria pitaach from David,” said Fernandes.

“I’m very happy... people have not forgotten me. They still like my music. I feel grateful and blessed,” he added.

The Goan singer, who has sung popular Bollywood numbers such as Dekho dekho ye hai jalwa, Humma humma and Pyaar hona hi tha in the past, says he prefers composing and singing his own songs. That is one reason which kept him away from films.

“I love composing music, I love singing songs. That’s the reason I stopped singing songs for other music directors and I decided I’m going to direct my own music,” says Fernandes, creating music, and not just singing.

“Right from Jalwa, which was my composition, and O meri munn still enjoy doing that the most,” said Fernandes, 60. Luv U Soniyo is set to release on 26 July and features debuts Tarun Virwani and Neha Hinge.—PTI

Lady Gaga to release new ‘ARTPOP’ album in November

NEW YORK, 14 July—Pop star Lady Gaga will release her next album, “ARTPOP”, on 11 November, a color photo of the singer’s website said on Friday.

The 27-year-old “Born This Way” singer -- who has postponed the same concert in Michigan, citing recovered from health issues, “I’m very happy people have not forgotten me, been forced to cancel a concert earlier this year. I’m also very happy for the appreciation that was received by Maria pitaach from David,” said Fernandes.

“I’m very happy... people have not forgotten me. They still like my music. I feel grateful and blessed,” he added.

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Why Channing Tatum feels intimidated by Jamie Foxx

NEW DELHI, 14 July—Hollywood actor Channing Tatum says his White House Down co-star Jamie Foxx’s musical talent is intimidating.

Tatum plays a Capitol policeman in the film and Foxx essays the US president and, it was during the movie’s shooting that the Magic Mike star got a taste of Foxx’s musical talent. "Let me tell you something about playing with Jamie Foxx, you feel very inadequate at times because the president is on the piano playing Mozart and Chopin. You walk in and you are like, ‘I need to start taking piano lessons!’ But that’s what’s fun about it. I get to learn from all these guys,” said Tatum.—PTI

Singer Aretha Franklin cancels Michigan concert

LOS ANGELES, 14 July—Soul music superstar Aretha Franklin on Friday cancelled an upcoming concert in Michigan, citing recovery from health issues that forced her to postpone concerts earlier this year.

Franklin, 71, in an open letter to her fans that she was cancelling her 27 July show at the DTE Energy Pine Knob Theatre in Clarkston, Michigan, due to “miscalculation” of the end of her treatment.

“It would be totally disruptive to stop them now and go into concert with total success right at the door,” Franklin said. Franklin and her representatives did not disclose the nature of the singer’s illness.

“Aretha fully intends to get back to her full schedule of work as soon as she can,” the soul singer’s publicist David Brokaw said.

The “Queen of Soul” had postponed the same Michigan concert in June, along with other shows in Chicago, Connecticut, Ottawa, and Montreal, Canada. The other shows had not been rescheduled.

Franklin, a towering figure in popular music during the 1960s and 1970s with a long string of hits including “Respect” and “Chain of Fools,” had also been forced to cancel a concert tour in 2010 to undergo surgery for undisclosed health issue.—Reuters
New York, 14 July— World number two Maria Sharapova, a stunning second-round loser at Wimbledon last month, has taken on eight-time grand slam winner Jimmy Connors as her new coach, she said on Saturday.

“I am happy to announce that Jimmy Connors will be my new coach,” the 26-year-old Russian, a four-time major winner, posted on her website (maria sharapova.com).

“I have known Jimmy for many years and we briefly worked together in 2008 just before the Australian Open. I am really excited about our new partnership and looking forward to the upcoming tournaments.”

The Russian won the 2008 Australian Open, beating Ana Ivanovic of Serbia in the final in an all-conquering campaign in which she did not lose a set. Sharapova, who was ousted at Wimbledon in straight sets by Michelle Larcher de Brito of Portugal, announced the coaching move two days after officially parting ways with Thomas Hogstedt, who had coached her the past three years.

Connors, 60, previously served a 19-month stint as coach for Andy Roddick from 2006 to 2008. Under his guidance, Roddick reached the final of the 2006 US Open and won five ATP titles.

Manchester United’s David Moyes era begins with shock loss to Singha All-Star XI

BANGKOK, 14 July— David Moyes’s reign at Manchester United began with an embarrassing upset as the Premier League champions slumped to a 1-0 defeat against Thailand’s Singha All-Star XI in Bangkok on Saturday.

The new manager sat grim-faced on the bench as the highly paid visitors, who have been given a heroes’ welcome in Thailand, failed to recover after falling behind early in the second half.

United were missing Robin van Persie, Wayne Rooney, Nani and captain Nemanja Vidic among others, but they can have few complaints after making a sluggish start and allowing the All-Stars repeated chances.

The result, albeit in a friendly and with an inexperienced team, does nothing to ease the task of Moyes as he seeks to follow Alex Ferguson’s 27-year, 38-trophy stint at the world’s most famous club.

But the Scotsman, who has also had to deal with repeated speculation about the future of the unsettled Rooney in his first weeks in charge, played down the insipid performance.

“I hope not,” said Moyes, when asked if the result was a bad omen. “If I was going to lose any games I’m happy to lose these ones, that’s for sure.”

He added: “It wasn’t a brilliant result but I was more pleased with the way the players kept going. We gave a lot of young players an opportunity. I’m disappointed we didn’t get something out of the game.”

What we did get out of it was certainly a real good fitness work-out—anyone watching that will tell you it was very hot.”

Fans had paid up to 4,000 baht ($130) for tickets but they may have been left feeling short-changed after a slow start to the match on a sultry evening in suburban Bangkok.

Summerhays fires 62 for lead, Johnson lurking

New York, 14 July— American Daniel Summerhays fired a nine-under-par 62 to grab a two-stroke lead over Canadian David Hearn heading into Sunday’s final round of the John Deere Classic in Silvis, Illinois.

Defending champion Zach Johnson, the 2007 Masters winner and overnight co-leader, was lurking just off the pace another shot back at 16-under-par 67 after posting 67 at TPC Deere Run in the third round on Saturday.

Summerhays, having for his first PGA Tour win, had 10 birdies against a lone bogey in ideal scoring conditions, using a string of three in a row from the 15th hole to vault to the top of the leaderboard.

“I think when I’m playing well the mentality is make as many birdies as you can,” Summerhays told reporters. “I’m really looking forward to (Sunday). I’m playing really well.”

Hearn, also seeking his maiden tour victory, posted eight birdies and one bogey in his 64, running off three successive birdies over the same stretch of holes from 15. Tied for fourth on 198 were Americans JJ Henry (65) and Jerry Kelly (66).

Australian Matt Jones and Americans Nicholas Thompson and Chris Kirk were another shot back. Two-time US Junior Amateur champion Jordan Spieth, 19, was among three players on 200, six shots off the pace after three rounds.

Summerhays blew a two-shot lead during the final round of last year’s Mayakoba Golf Classic in Mexico but said he was more relaxed this time.

“I know there’s going to be obstacles and challenges, as there always are,” he said.

“There are always things that stand in your way. But I’m just excited to see what those are and deal with them.” Johnson sank not one but two massive putts on Saturday, a 60-foot eagle putt on the par-five second hole then a 42-foot birdie putt on the par-four 14th, to surge into contention.

“I certainly think there were a lot more positives out there than negatives,” Johnson said. “My putter has been great. Even the ones I’ve missed have been great.”

Summerhays was in the first group of the day, slicing his drive on the first hole to set up an easy birdie and then navigating the next 15 holes without a blemish.

Summerhays, who said he did not expect another 62, said he was able to focus with a relatively short game plan.

“Everything has been really smooth on the course,” Summerhays said. “I’m really happy with the way we’ve been able to do things, to get ourselves in contention.”

Landon Donovan converted a penalty in stoppage time at the end of the first half.

Joe Corona gave the Americans the lead when he scored his first international goal after 56 minutes before Wondolowski banged in two more to lift his tally to five following his hat-trick against Belize.

The victory gave the US a maximum six points from two matches and ensured they would advance to the quarter-finals regardless of the outcome of their final match with Costa Rica.

Costa Rica, who beat Cuba 3-0 in their first match, were playing Belize later on Saturday needing a win to also secure their spot in the quarters with a match to spare.

Cuba’s Joel Colome (L) and Jaime Valencia defend against Edgar Castillo (C) of the US during their CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer match in Salt Lake City, Utah on 13 July, 2013. —Reuters

Salt Lake City (Utah), 14 July— In-form striker Chris Wondolowski scored twice to steer the United States to a comfortable 4-1 win over Cuba on Saturday and a guaranteed place in the CONCACAF Gold Cup quarter-finals.

Wondolowski continued his red-hot form for the American national team with two superbly taken goals in the second half to clinch an expected win after Cuba had grabbed a surprise lead.

Jose Ciprian Alfonso had put the visitors ahead at Rio Tinto Stadium in Sandy, Utah with a 35th minute goal against the run of play but the US dominated the remainder of the match.

The Americans, who thumped Belize 6-1 in their previous Group C match, got back on level terms when Landon Donovan converted a penalty in stoppage time at the end of the first half.

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Condolesences
Mr. Joseph Melvin S/O David C.E.O
Noel Dive Group

Our heartily condolences go to Mr. Joseph Melvin S/O David, aged 30, C.E.O of Noel Dive Group of Singapore who fell asleep in Jesus at 12:01am on 13-7-2013(Saturday).

PAN Global Co., Ltd (MYANMAR)

Transfer news: Norwich signs midfielder Leroy Fer from FC Twente

LONDON, 14 July—Norwich manager Chris Hughton continued his pre-season spending spree as the Premier League club signed Holland midfield Leroy Fer has joined from FC Twente on a 4-year deal, subject to international clearance.

Hughton had already signed Sweden defender Martin Olsson from Blackburn earlier in the week, while Fer’s fellow Holland international Ricky van Wolfswinkel became the club’s record capture at £8.5 million in May.

England Under-21 winger Nathan Redmond arrived from Bournemouth last week and defender Javier Garrido has signed permanently from Lazio after a loan spell with Norwich last season.

Fer, 23, came through the youth ranks at Excelsior before he moved to Feyenoord, making his debut in December 2007 and establishing himself as a regular in the side the following season. He became an integral part of the squad, earning widespread praise, before his move in 2011 to FC Twente, and after further impressing there he was on the brink of a switch to Everton in January this year.

France beat Uruguay on penalties to clinch U20 World Cup title

ISTANBUL, 14 July—France won the Under-20 World Cup for the first time after drawing with Uruguay 0-0 after extra time and winning the penalty shootout 4-1 on Saturday. France goalkeeper Alphonse Areola saved Uruguay’s first two penalties - from Emiliano Velezquez and Giorgian De Arrascaeta - before Dimitri Foulquier converted the fourth for France, giving the Europeans an insurmountable lead.

The French celebrated for minutes on the field with rhythmic dance moves, singing and waving to fans, before captain Paul Pogba lifted the trophy.

Incredible, this is the World Cup, the World Cup! It is something extraordinary,” said Pogba, who was voted best player of the tournament by FIFA. “It will need some time to realize what we’ve done tonight.”

In the 36-year history of the event, France is the sixth European champion, but only the second in the past 20 years following Spain’s victory in 1999.

“This is a formidable day,” France coach Pierre Mankowski said. “I have to take my hat off to my players. France is a collective. Paul (Pogba) is important but it is the group of 21 that won us this title. Solidarity is the biggest quality of this team.”

Areola started in goal with a couple of excellent saves in regulation before mastering two penalty kicks.

“A France player holds the trophy as he celebrates with teammates after they defeated Uruguay to win the 2013 Under-20 World Cup in Istanbul on 13 July, 2013.” —REUTERS

France beat Uruguay on penalties to clinch U20 World Cup title

A French player holds the trophy as he celebrates with teammates after they defeated Uruguay to win the 2013 Under-20 World Cup in Istanbul on 13 July, 2013. —REUTERS

Suspected militants killed in Pakistan drone strike

PESHAWAR, (Pakistan), 14 July—At least two suspected foreign militants were killed in a US drone strike in Pakistan’s volatile border region of North Waziristan, local officials said on Sunday.

Drones armed with missiles have inflicted the most damage against Taliban fighters in Pakistan’s lawless tribal areas straddling the Afghan border over the past seven years, sometimes with heavy civilian casualties.

In the third drone attack since Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif took office last month, two people riding a motorcycle were struck by missiles in the Mir Ali area of North Waziristan on Saturday night, one official said.

“The two men, probably Arab nationals, were passing through Mosaki village when the drone fired two missiles and hit them,” said the official.

Their identities were not immediately known.

The official in Mir Ali said they were Arabs, but another security source in the region told Reuters they were foreign militants of Turkmén origin.—Reuters

Eighteen killed in Moscow bus crash

MOSCOW, 14 July—Eighteen people were killed and 25 injured when a truck ploughed into a bus in a Moscow suburb on Saturday, according to the Russian emergency ministry.

An eyewitness video of the crash, broadcast on state television, showed the green and white passenger bus’s windows shattering as it split in half, forcing other vehicles on the road to swerve wildly out of its way.

Death rates from Russian road accidents are higher than in most Western countries, and lawmakers are moving to toughen drunk-driving penalties.

The country has gained fame for its erratic drivers, with footage of cars over-taking on blind corners, rear-ending each other and careening off the road amassing millions of views on YouTube.—Reuters

A Russian police officer works at the scene of a collision between a bus and a truck outside Moscow on 13 July, 2013. —REUTERS

France beat Uruguay on penalties to clinch U20 World Cup title

A French player holds the trophy as he celebrates with teammates after they defeated Uruguay to win the 2013 Under-20 World Cup in Istanbul on 13 July, 2013. —REUTERS

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A Russian police officer works at the scene of a collision between a bus and a truck outside Moscow on 13 July, 2013. —REUTERS
Responsibility rests on parents, teachers to produce good, able citizens as government is improving image of schools

Speaker U Khin Aung Myint at the ceremony to upgrade Myohla Basic Education High School (branch) into a BEHS in Yamethin Township in Mandalay Region.

Nay Pyi Taw, 14 July — “Responsibility lies with parents and teachers for nurturing their offspring and pupils to be good and able citizens, keeping in touch with them, while the government, in its part, is striving for improvement of image of schools,” said Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint addresses the ceremony to upgrade Myohla Basic Education High School (branch) into a BEHS in Yamethin Township in Mandalay Region. — MNA

Royal Thai Armed Forces Team emerges champion in invitational football friendly

Nay Pyi Taw, 14 July — Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended the final match and prize awarding of invitational football friendly at Zeyathiri Tatmadaw Stadium, here, this evening.

It was attended by Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, wife of Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Lt-Gen Ng Chee Meng, Chief of Singaporean Defence Forces and wife, Chief of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Tanasak Patimapragorn and wife, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and wife, the deputy chief of Royal Thai Armed Forces, the Union Sports Minister, Commanding-in-Chief Air Marshal RK. Jolly of Southern Air Command of India, senior military officers from Thai and Singaporean Armed Forces and their wives, invited guests and local people.

At the final match, Royal Thai Ramed Forces Team beat Myanmar Tatmadaw Team 7-1. Chief of Singaporean Armed Forces Lt-Gen Ng Chee Meng presented individual prizes to man of the match and best players of the tournament. Then, Chief of Royal Thai Armed Forces General Tanasak Patimapragorn awarded individual prizes and cup to runner-up Myanmar team.

The Senior General awarded individual prizes and championship trophy to Royal Thai Armed Forces Team. — MNA

Second plenary meeting of seventh 47-member State Maha Nayaka Committee in progress at Wizaya Mingala Dhamma Thabin on Kaba-Aye Hillock.

Second plenary meeting of seventh 47-member State Maha Nayaka Committee took place at Wizaya Mingala Dhamma Thabin on Kaba-Aye Hillock, here, this morning. Chairman of SSMNC Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of Bhamo Monastery Abhidhaja Maha Ratthha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Suddhammajotika Dr Bhaddanta Kumarambahvamsa chaired the meeting, and SSMNC Joint Secretary Sayadaw Agga Maha Pandita

Bhaddanta Gunabhyavamsa MC.

After delivering Ovada Katha by the meeting chairmain Sayadaw, a Joint Secretary Sayadaw held member Sayadaws read out respective reports on work progress.

Next, Union Minister for Religious Affairs U Hsan Hsint supplicated on matters related to religious affairs.

Then, members of the Sangha reported on religious matters and SSMNC Sayadaws made decisions on the matters.

The meeting was also attended by Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs U Soe Win, departmental heads and officials.

Wellwishers who offered alms for a day were Dr Mya Thida Swe Tin (SI Company) and family. — MNA

Trees planted in Loikaw in commemoration of School Environment Day

Nay Pyi Taw, 14 July — In commemoration of School Environment Day, the planting ceremony was held at No. 3 Basic Education High School in Loikaw, this morning. Kayah State Chief Minister U Khin Maung Oo planted a teak sapling and viewed tree growing of the students and took part in the similar ceremony at No 2 BEPS in Naungya (B) Ward. — MNA