New centres in Yangon, Mandalay to showcase performing, visual arts

By Aye Min Soe

Yangon, 17 June — The Myanmar Agricultural Bank on Pansodan Road in Kyauktada Township on Wednesday received the Blue Plaque of the Yangon Heritage Trust, in recognition of its importance as one of the city’s architectural landmarks.

The Blue Plaque is the sixth issued under the YHT’s initiative following City Hall, the Aya Bank Headquarter, the Armenian Church, Central Fire Station and the General Post Office.

Built in 1930, the Myanmar Agricultural Bank building originally served as the Yangon branch of Grindlay’s Bank. Myanmar’s modern banking system is one of the oldest in Asia, with international banks having been present in Yangon since the 1850s.

Central Bank promises unrestricted foreign exchange for purchase of fuel and edible oil

Nay Pyi Taw, 17 June— The Central Bank of Myanmar will begin the unrestricted sale of foreign currencies at its set rates, in a move aimed at facilitating the import of fuel and edible oil, according to a decision reached at a meeting here on Wednesday.

CBM Deputy Governor U Set Aung spoke of the bank’s effort to deal with the unstable exchange rates between the local and foreign currencies, adding that the initiative is intended to prevent unwanted hikes in foreign currency rates.

The Central Bank will sell foreign currencies through financial institutions, with the deputy governor saying the sales are expected to start on 17 June.

The Myanmar Economic Bank and the Myanmar Investment Bank will introduce the plan on 22 June, he added.

Currently, the Central Bank has set its exchange rate at K1,105 per US dollar.— Moe Thuzar Soe

European delegation explores import deal on aromatic rice from Myanmar

By Ye Myint

Yangon, 17 June — A delegation from the European Commission met with representatives of the Myanmar Rice Federation in Yangon on Wednesday to discuss the potential for supplying the EU market with aromatic varieties of the country’s staple crop.

In the meeting at the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, European Commission rice market officer Mr Damien Plan asked the federation about Myanmar’s ability to export fragrant strains to Europe in the mid- to long-term. Demand for fragrant rice varieties produced outside EU is on the rise among European consumers, according to the visiting delegation.

U Ye Min Aung, secretary-general of Myanmar Rice Federation, makes a presentation to delegation from the European Commission.— PHOTO: YE MYINT
Unsettled education amendment bill brought before Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

NAY PYI TAW, 17 June — The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on Wednesday discussed the education amendment bill, with MPs scrutinizing the bill clause by clause.

The Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw had held different views on the bill. MP U Khin Maung Yi discussed in favour of the Amyotha Hluttaw’s use of terminology for ‘scholar’ as ‘independent scholar’, defining the qualities of an independent scholar as academic excellence, neutrality and free will.

Academics involved in the writing of the education law were not able to take a neutral stance in the process, he noted.

Supporting the amendment made by the Amyotha Hluttaw, MP U Thein Nyunt stressed the need to recognize the role of intellectuals representing students’ unions, warning that the denial of their role will be called into question in history.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the amendment bill of the Amyotha Hluttaw Law.—MNA

Central Bank’s responsibility questioned at Pyithu Hluttaw

NAY PYI TAW, 17 June — The Pyithu Hluttaw on Wednesday heard a query about the responsibility of the Central Bank of Myanmar to report to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on the country’s monetary policies.

U Phyo Min Thein of the Hlegu constituency asked the Pyithu Hluttaw whether the Central Bank provides information on the developments of monetary affairs to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

In response, CBM's Deputy Governor Daw Khin Saw Oo said the bank monitors financial stability and improves the stability and efficiency of payment systems.

CBM reported its functions to the parliament in November 2013 and in March 2014, with the deputy governor saying that the bank is preparing two reports on monetary policy and financial stability.

Daw Khin Hlun Kywe of the Mawlamyine constituency asked about actions to be taken against illegal logging and exploitation of natural resources in the area of dam projects on Thanlwin river.

She also asked about compensation to local people who have lost their land to the projects.

In response, Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Aung Than Oo said compensation will be made according to the economic values of crops and trees.

He added arrangements have been made to compensate for damages incurred by the dam projects on the river.—MNA

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets Swiss Ambassador, Indian National Security Adviser

In his response, the Swiss Ambassador said that Myanmar is on the right track from the point of view of the international community as a step-by-step approach is needed for implementation of reforms.

Likewise, the Commander-in-Chief also met with Mr. Ajit Doval, National Security Adviser of India, at the same venue in the afternoon.

The meeting focused on further cooperation between the two armed forces, border security and exchange of army delegations between the two countries.

Also present at the two separate calls were Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Soe Win and senior military officers from the Commander-in-Chief’s Office.

It was highlighted that the importance of the Three Main National Causes, the Senior General expressed his belief that cooperation and experiences gained from Switzerland will be of great benefit to the country.

Mr. Ajit Doval said that the economy of Myanmar has been opening up to the world.

He added that the price of export rice would be around US $900 per ton.

According to the MRF, Myanmar targets to export some 200,000 tons of rice to the EU this year, compared to 100,000 tons last year. Around 70 percent of Myanmar’s rice exports go to China, with the remaining 30 percent going to the EU, Japan and Africa markets.

EU statistics show exports of Myanmar milled rice to Europe increased 120 percent between September 2014 and April 2015, while broken rice exports rose 81 percent during the same period.

A member of the European delegation said an export deal with Myanmar on aromatic rice strains would “create a win-win situation, as we don’t produce them and we want and eat them.”

“We hope to come back again in the future and continue discussions,” he said.—GNLM

Electoral authorities seek to clarify Dala Tsp voter enrolment

YANGON, 17 June — Authorities in Dala Township held a meeting Wednesday with local residents, representatives from political parties and civil service organizations to clarify electoral enrolment procedures, in order to ensure the correct numbers of voters are registered in the township ahead of the upcoming general election.

Though there are more than 100,000 people of voting age in the township, only about 90,000 people are eligible to vote, said U Saw Naing, head of the electoral commission in Yangon Region’s South District.

For purposes of voter registration, the commission does not count people staying in the township with temporary census certificates and guests, even if they are of voting age, he added.

Those who are registered with the township’s census form 66/6 are eligible for voter enrolment.

Local authorities are working in cooperation with the people to be able to compile accurate voter lists, and are aiming to release the electoral roll for Dala Township on 22 June.—Phyo Min Thein
New centres in Yangon, Mandalay to showcase performing, visual arts

NAY PYI TAW, 17 June—New art centres to be built in Yangon and Mandalay will host music and dance performances, exhibitions, cultural shows and film screenings, President U Thein Sein said here Wednesday at a meeting with artists.

The president said the government is responsible for both economic development and pursuit of public happiness through the arts, and these centres will be able to host cultural shows all year around under the management of independent bodies comprised of artists.

U Kyaw Myint Hlaing, the vice chairman of the construction committee for the centres, detailed the projects during the meeting at the hall of the farmer educational farm.

Union ministers and artists then discussed the needs of the centres.

The meeting was also attended by Union ministers U Soe Thane, U Tin Naing Thein, U Myint Hlaing, U Ohn Myint, U Aye Myint Kyu and U Ye Htut, as well as Deputy Minister U Soe Tint and representatives of arts and cultural associations.

President U Thein Sein also received Mr Ajit Doval, the 5th National Security Adviser to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Myanmar ministers and Indian delegates discussed border issues and military cooperation between the two countries. —MNA

Vice President U Nyan Tun meets secretary of Russia’s Security Council, Chairman of Russia-Myanmar Friendship Association

MOSCOW, 17 June—Vice President U Nyan Tun met Mr. Nikolai P. Patrushev, Secretary of Russian Security Council and party at the President Hotel in Moscow on Wednesday morning.

They discussed further cementing friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries, cooperation in defence and security sectors, preparations for signing the MoUs, signing of MoU between Ministry of Science and Technology of Myanmar and Russia’s ROSATOM State Atomic Energy Corporation over nuclear safety, assessment for impact of nuclear energy on environment, technology on nuclear medicine, and cooperation in research and development of nuclear energy utilization for peace process, cooperation in drug control, anti-terrorism, criminal matters, cooperation in international relations and issues on ASEAN-Russian Meeting.

The vice president also met retired General Mr Michael Dmitriev, Chairman of the Russia-Myanmar Friendship Association at the President Hotel here Tuesday for talks on increasing cooperation between the two countries.

The vice president also called on Natural Resources and Environment Minister Mr Sergey Donskoy and discussed cooperation in the natural resources conservation sector between the two countries.

The deputy minister and Russian Minister Mr Sergey Donskoy signed an MoU on cooperation of expertise in the geological field between Myanmar’s Ministry of Mines and Russia’s Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. —MNA

President U Thein Sein cordially meets with artists in meeting to open art centres in Yangon and Mandalay.—MNA

Union FM receives National Security Adviser of India

NAY PYI TAW, 17 June—U Winna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs, received Ajit Doval, National Security Adviser (Minister in Prime Minister’s office) of India, Wednesday at the ministry, here.

During the meeting, they discussed and exchanged views on bilateral relations and cooperation in a cordial manner.—MNA

President U Thein Sein shakes hands with Mr Ajit Doval, National Security Adviser to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.—MNA
Myawady to upgrade Bayintnaung Market

Mandatory, 17 June — A coordination meeting on upgrading Bayintnaung Market was held at the hall of Shwemyinwun Pagoda in Myawady, Kayin State, on Tuesday.

Kayin State Minister for Development Affairs U Than Daing outlined construction of the new market. An official of Phasi, Thanlwin and Zwegabin Public Company spoke about the new market’s design, including allocation of shops, fire prevention and security measures. Officials and shopkeepers shared their thoughts on the market upgrade.

Htein Lin Aung (IPRD)

Experts review ancient Pyu inscriptions, murals

Mandalay, 17 June — The Ministry of Culture on 15 June gave a presentation to share findings on the ancient Pyu stone inscriptions and paintings recently discovered at a cave near Kapani Village in Ywangan Township.

Deputy Director U Aung Aung Kyaw of the ministry and lecturer U Kyaw Khang of the National University of Arts and Culture gave talks during the briefing at the National Theatre in Aungmyethazan Township. Officials explained findings of ancient Pyu stone inscriptions. The ceremony was also attended by faculty members from Mandalay and Yadanaon universities, historical researchers and media.

Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)

Course spreads knowledge of electoral procedures

Hinthada, 17 June — An electoral knowledge course under the guidance of the Union Election Commission concluded at the hall of the Hinthada District General Administration Department on 16 June.

UEC member U Win Ko and the respective chairmen of Hinthada District and Ayeyawady Region election sub-commissions gave lectures on electoral laws and procedures. Altogether 87 people attended the two-day course.—Kyaw Kyaw (Hinthada)

Farmers hope to boost production of green gram

Nay Pyi Taw, 17 June — After recent rains, monsoon green gram is thriving on more than 300 acres of farmland in Wegyi village-tract in Pobbathiri Township.

Local farmers spent K35,000 per acre on cultivation of Yezin hybrid green gram. They can harvest the plants in two months with 15 baskets of green gram per acre. Merchants pay K45,000 per basket of bean, a local farmer said.

Shwe Ye Yint
**Police promote campaign against human trafficking**

**Mandalay, 17 June** — Police gave a talk on human trafficking to residents in Myawady, Kayin State, on 16 June. Deputy Director Daw Phyu Phyu Win of Kayin State Relief and Resettlement Department outlined procedures for the training course. The course included rescue operations during natural disasters.

**Roundtable highlight challenges for universities**

**Mandalay, 17 June** — The Government Technological University marked its 60th anniversary with a roundtable discussion on challenges facing the higher education sector at its Mandalay campus on 16 June.

Chairwoman of the university’s Literature, Culture and Fine Arts Association Ma Ei Pyat Phone, rector Dr Hsint Soe and writer Tin Maung Than participated in discussions.

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**New body for farmers formed in PyinOoLwin Tsp**

**PyinOoLwin, 17 June** — A new representative body for farmers and agricultural workers was formed in Nyaungkwe Ward, PyinOoLwin Township, on 15 June.

The Tagun Ahman of No. 11 Anti-Human Trafficking Police Squad spoke about the different types of human trafficking, laws related to overseas employment and efforts of the government to combat the crime. Police officers distributed pamphlets about efforts to combat human trafficking to some 70 local residents who attended the talk.

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**Revenue officers widen knowledge of taxpayers**

**Muse, 17 June** — Muse Township Internal Revenue Department clarified tax laws of the union and revenue affairs at the city hall in Muse, northern Shan State, on 16 June.

Muse District’s deputy commissioner U Kyaw Kyaw Tun gave guests an overview of tax laws of the union. Head of Shan State Internal Revenue Department U John Sein Gi and Head of Township IRD U Maung Than outlined the Union Tax Law 2015 and stamping of vouchers.

Some 200 participants, including Shan State Hluttaw MP Daw Nang Ngwe Ngwe, officials and taxpayers, took part in the discussions.

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**Residents in Myawady seek to reduce disaster risk**

**Myawady, 17 June** — A course on disaster risk reduction was conducted at the hall of Township Administrator in Myawady, Kayin State, on 16 June.

Township Administrator U Khin Maung Zaw explained preparedness for disaster risk reduction while Deputy Director Daw Phyu Phyu Win of Kayin State Relief and Resettlement Department outlined procedures for the training course.

The course included rescue operations during natural disasters.

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**Workshop aims to combat drug abuse**

**MonekOe, 17 June** — A workshop on combating drug abuse and prevention of HIV infection was recently held at the church in Ward 4, MonekOe, northern Shan State.

Township Administrator U Wai Lwin Oo and officials from the police force, Information and Public Relations Department and Public Health Department gave talks on the dangers of narcotic drugs and the risk of HIV infection for drug users.
Japan’s parliament enacts law lowering voting age from 20 to 18

Tokyo, 17 June — Japan’s parliament enacted legislation on Wednesday to lower the voting age to 18 from 20 in the biggest reform of the nation’s election system in 70 years aimed at encouraging political participation by younger voters.

The bill to revise the public office election law passed the House of Councillors unanimously after winning approval in the House of Representatives on 4 June. The voting age was last changed in 1945, when it was lowered to 20 from 25.

The change is almost certain to apply to an upper house election scheduled for the summer of 2016, unless the more powerful lower house is dissolved for a snap election. Some 2.4 million people aged 18 and 19 will join the electorate.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told a news conference that the change will have “great significance” for Japanese politics because the “voices of young people will be more reflected in politics.”

It will be important to educate senior high school and university students about the right to vote, he added.

The revised law will be promulgated in about a week and will take effect in one year. It will apply to both national and local elections held after that.

The decision to give 18- and 19-year-old citizens the right to vote comes as over 80 percent of the 198 countries and regions surveyed by the National Diet Library in 2014 had set the minimum voting age at 18.

The change would require political parties to cater to a wider voter base, as political observers say they have so far tended to focus on the elderly, who have a higher voter turnout than younger electorates.

In recent elections, voter apathy was more evident among young voters than middle-aged and elderly people, raising the bar for Japan to consider how to get more young people involved in the political process.

The legislative work comes as the ruling Liberal Democratic Party headed by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe seeks to amend the Constitution for the first time since it took effect nearly 70 years ago.

The minimum voting age for national referendums on constitutional amendments is already set to be reduced from 18 to 20 in 2018 under a revision to the national referendum law enacted last year.

In line with the lowering of the voting age, political parties are expected to consider whether to reduce the statutory age of adulthood from 20 and the maximum age covered by the juvenile law from 19.

The issue of lowering the age ceiling in the juvenile law is especially controversial because some question whether 18- and 19-year-olds should be punished in the same manner as adults.

Political parties will also consider lowering the minimum age for eligibility to run for public office. Currently one must be at least 25 years old to run in lower house elections, while they must be at least 30 to run for house seats. The voting age reduction will allow 18- and 19-year-olds to also engage in election campaigns. But it also means that in principle, they will be sent to prosecutors for possible prosecution if they are suspected of committing serious violations of electoral laws, such as vote buying.

S Korea reports eight new MERS cases, total hits 162

Seoul, 17 June — South Korea’s health authorities said on Wednesday eight new cases of the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus have been confirmed, raising the total number of infected to 162.

No additional fatalities have been reported since Tuesday with the latest death toll standing at 19, according to the Health and Welfare Ministry.

Out of the 162 infected cases, 19 patients have been discharged from medical facilities after fully recovering. Among the 124 patients, 18 are currently under unstable conditions.

Four of the eight new cases were infected after visiting the emergency room of Samsung Medical Hospital, which has been pinpointed as the source of about half of cases of infection by the potentially fatal virus, including the country’s first known case.

Since Sunday, the hospital has partially suspended operations and stopped receiving outpatients in an effort to prevent the virus from spreading.

More than 5,500 people are under quarantine for possible infection in hospitals or at their homes after coming into contact with MERS patients.

As of midday Tuesday, 365 schools were still temporarily closed, down from 2,622 on 11 June. Last week, a joint investigation team of South Korea and World Health Organization recommended that schools be reopened, noting schools have not been linked to any transmission of the viral disease. The government has been making all-out efforts to tackle the outbreak since a 68-year-old man who traveled to the Middle East became the first South Korean case. His infection was confirmed on 20 May.

South Korea has the second-largest number of MERS patients, after Saudi Arabia, which has reported over 1,000 confirmed cases since the virus emerged there for the first time in 2012. People with preexisting conditions such as diabetes, renal failure and chronic lung disease, as well as those whose immune systems have been compromised, are considered to be at high risk of MERS infection.

Cambodia renews call for Vietnam to stop building military post at undemarcated border area

Phnom Penh, 17 June — Cambodia on Wednesday renewed its call for Vietnam to cease immediately the construction of a military post at an undemarcated border area between Cambodia’s Kandal Province and Vietnam’s An Giang Province.

In a diplomatic note sent to the Vietnamese government, the Cambodian Foreign Ministry said Cambodia has requested Vietnam several times to stop digging the land to lay foundation for the construction of a military post at the border area close to Prekseb village in Kandal Province, but the Vietnamese authorities have still continued the construction.

“Therefore, the Royal Government of Cambodia reiterates its request to the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to cease immediately the said activities until the JBC (Joint Border Commission) of the two countries has completely demarcated this area,” said the diplomatic note.

On Sunday, Cambodia also demanded Vietnam to “respect the borderline” after it had discovered eight ponds dug by Vietnamese authorities deeply inside northeast Cambodian territory in Ratanakiri Province.

Cambodia shares 1,270 km of border with Vietnam to the east. To date, about 80 percent of the border demarcation between the two countries has been completed. —Kyodo

File photo taken on 12 June, 2015, shows a worker disinfecting a street in Seoul. The number of deaths linked to the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus has reached 20, while that of diagnosed cases stands at 162, South Korean health authorities said on 17 June, 2015.—Kyodo News
Japan-led AIIB may attract as many as 70 members in near future

China, Germany agree on reformed UN on Korean Peninsula

France, Italy, Germany act to defuse spat over allocation of migrants

Abe, Okada clash over constitutionality of security bills

China-led AIIB may attract as many as 70 members in near future

LUXEMBOURG, 17 June — France, Italy and Germany agreed on Tuesday to join forces to identify migrants arriving by sea and to swiftly relocate them across the EU Union or send them back to their home countries if their claims for asylum in Europe are rejected.

Ministers from the three countries put on a show of unity after the arrival in Europe of thousands of migrants who make perilous Mediterranea crossings from Libya, strained the resources of Italy and Greece and raised tension with northern European states that are the destinations of many migrants.

“Once a friend in front of you,” French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said at a joint Press conference with his Italian and German counterparts in a gesture to defuse the simmering spat. “France, together with Germany and Italy support a relocation and readmission mechanism,” Cazeneuve said during a break from a meetings of EU interior ministers in Luxembourg to discuss a plan to tackle the migrant emergency.

As they deliberat- ed, police began removing mainly African migrants from makeshift seaside camps on the Italian-French border. Around 300 had collect- ed on the Italian side in hopes of proceeding into France and onwards to northern Europe where relat- ives live and job chances might be better.

France and Austria have stepped up border controls on migrants com- ing from attacked, turning back hundreds and leaving growing numbers camped out in railway stations in Rome and Milan.

In a sign of persisting discord over how to deal with the migrant crisis, Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi threatened "retaliation" if other EU countries did not agree to take their fair share of ref- ugees that land on Italy’s shores.

In an interview with the BBC’s international news program, Andrew Marr, Bernard Cazeneuve outlined new measures to make such re- patriations more effective.

He proposed changing the mandate of the EU border protection agen- cy, Frontex, to allow it to repatriate migrants on its own initiative and to sup- port an individual EU gov- ernment that wished to do so itself.

The government submitted the bills to the Diet last month amid an increasingly severe secu- rity environment in the Asia-Pacific region such as China’s military build- up and muscle-flexing in the East and South China seas, as well as North Ko- rea’s missile and nuclear weapons development.

The bills consist of a new permanent one that would allow the SDF to provide logistical support for foreign militaries in international peacekeeping activities and another comprising revisions to 10 existing security-relat- ed laws.—Kyodo News

Beijing, 17 June — More than 10 additional countries are willing to join the Asian Infrastructure In- vestment Bank in the near future, raising the possibil- ity that the China-initiated lender may have more mem- bers than this of the Asian Development Bank led by Japan and the United States, sources familiar with the sit- uation said on Wednesday.

China will hold a cere- mony to sign the new invest- ment bank’s articles of in- corporation on 29 June with its 57 prospective founding members.

The Asia Development Bank, founded in 1966, has 67 members. Its largest shareholder is Japan with 67 percent, followed by Russia, China with 65 percent.

The Manila-based de- velopment bank had $153.1 billion in capital as of 31 De- cember, 2014. Japan and the United States have decided to stay out of the AIIB, citing concerns over transparency and standards governing the lender.

The new investment bank with an initial capital- ization of $100 billion is expected to be set up by the end of this year follow- ing the signing ceremony in Beijing.

The ceremony will be attended by Chinese Pres- ident Xi Jinping, who pro- posed its establishment in 2013, and ministerial-level representatives from the 57 founding members.

In proportion to their economic power, about 98 percent of the AIIB’s shares have already been divided among the founding members and, theoretically speaking, there is a possibili- ty of the remaining 2 percent being allocated among the new applicants, the sources said.

But in the event a coun- try with a relatively large domestic product wants to join the AIIB, more time will be required as the lender needs to go through the procedure of increasing its capital.

Under the articles, as discussed by chief negotia- tors of the founding mem- bers last month in Singapore, China will contribute nearly 30 percent of AIIB’s capi- tal base and will effectively have veto power on vital is- sues. Approval by at least 75 percent of voting rights will be necessary for important matters.

China’s voting rights will be over 25 percent, ac- cording to the sources.

The AIIB’s second-big- gest shareholder will be India, followed by Russia, Germany and South Korea, and all of them do not have a stake of more than 10 per- cent.

China’s say in the AIIB will inevitably be strong. The first president will come from China, where it will be headquartered, and its board of directors will be non-resi- dent.—Kyodo News

Thursday, 18 June, 2015
being unable to handle another’s success. It may strike when one sees another’s achievements or possessions. When someone is successful, some will hate him, others may even try to destroy what he has achieved.

Psychologists suggest there are two types of envy: malicious and benign. Ideally, it would be wonderful if we could all just enjoy the success of others. If an accomplishment benefits society as a whole, it should be celebrated and supported.

Envy is one of the most potent causes of unhappiness. If it cannot be controlled, it can threaten the peace and stability of human society.

If someone succeeds where another has failed, the latter will feel envious. But success achieved through hard work and perseverance should be celebrated, not hated. Genuine success cannot be snatched away from someone who has earned it.

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

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish “Letter to the Editor” that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.
Myanmar, Japan discuss upgrading Yangon’s circular railroad

NAY PYI TAW, 17 June—A delegation led by Mr Hideo Watanabe, Chairman of Japan-Myanmar Association called on Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Than Htay at the ministry, here, on Wednesday to hold talks on running high speed train on Yangon-Mandalay rail.

They also discussed operating the electric train on the Strand Road section, upgrading Yangon circular railroad, comprehensive development of Kyimyindaing and Pazundaung railway stations and soonest conveyance of RBE train bought from Japan and donated trains to Myanmar.—MNA

Myanmar athletes return home from SEA Games

NAY PYI TAW, 17 June—Union Election Commission chairman U Tin Aye said voter lists for Defence Services personnel and police will be announced soon, allowing voters to confirm they have been listed correctly.

The UEC also reiterated that the commission will ensure a free and fair election, as it is crucial for the country and people.—MNA

Management...

(From page 8)

- Corporate Performance Management
  - In Managing Performance, the following principle should be consistently followed: “PRIOR PLANNING PLUS PREPARATIONS PROMOTE PEAK PERFORMANCE”
  - In managing performance, the following PERFORMANCE STRATEGY has been in common practice:
    - The Business Strategy of Core Competence – IPC
    - Innovation, Productivity and Growth.
  - In managing performance, the Power of Incentives and the Power of Morale should be consistently practiced.
  - In managing a business or any other matter, the following principle should be consistently followed: “Conquest, Growth & Consolidation”
  - Always Executing the Corporate Grand Strategy of:
    - Strategy should be effective and tactics should be efficient.
    - Marketing Management—Customer Relationships Management
    - The Customer-base should be soundly built by vigorously attracting new customers and retaining the old ones by cementing the customer relationships very strongly and carefully on the basis of win-win outcomes.
    - Man, Mind & Morale Management
      - Man Matters Most.
      - Mind is the Key to Life; and
      - You can elevate your life with your mind, and
      - You can degrade your life with your mind.
      - Morale is to Material as 3 is to 1.
    - Physical Strength determined by Discipline & Diligence
    - Mental Strength determined by Vision & Strategy
    - Emotional Strength determined by Passion & Values
  - Spiritual Strength determined by Selflessness & Service
  - Achievement Strength determined by Character & Competence
  - Managing for Results/ Value/ Wealth/ Growth
    - Management should always be passionately vigilant:
      - To get results
      - To add value
      - To create wealth
      - To spur growth
    - Always Executing the Corporate Grand Strategy of:
      - “Conquest, Growth & Consolidation”
  - Management’s Triple Bottom Lines:
    - People, Planet, Profit

- Managing Effectiveness & Operational Efficiency
  - Effectiveness means doing the right things.
  - Efficiency means doing the things right.
  - Effectiveness is used in the domain of strategy; and Efficiency is used in the area of tactics.
  - Effectiveness helps the achievement of goal & objective; and efficiency means greater or better productivity.

People warmly welcome silver medalist U-23 footballers at the airport.—MNA

Thousands of people packed the arrivals hall at Yangon International Airport to welcome the athletes.

The silver medal was the Myanmar football team’s third, following second-place finishes in 1993 and 2007. The footballers captured their sole gold medal in 1973.

Union Minister for Sports U Tin Hsan arrived home with the athletes after attending the opening and closing ceremonies of the games and supervising the Myanmar team.

Myanmar finished seventh in the medal tally out of 11 Southeast Asian nations at the biennial event, capturing 12 gold, 26 silver and 31 bronze. Thailand topped the table with 95 gold, 83 silver and 60 bronze.—MNA

Myanmar, Switzerland sign MoU on cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 17 June—The signing ceremony of Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar and the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of the Swiss Confederation was held at the ministry, here, on Wednesday.

The MoU was signed by U Tin Oo Lwin, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Mr Christoph Burgener, Ambassador of Switzerland to Myanmar. Also present at the ceremony were officials of the ministry and Embassy of Switzerland in Yangon.—MNA

Heritage trust recognizes Myanmar Agricultural...

(Bank buildings along Panodan are a physical link to a past that we need to study if the country is going to do better in future,” he said.

In its incarnation as the National Museum, the building housed the Lion Throne of the Last King of Myanmar, which was looted by the British and taken to Calcutta. In 1996, the building resumed service as a bank, becoming a branch office of the Myanmar Industrial Development Bank.

The commemorative Blue Plaque is part of the VHT’s efforts to promote and integrate Yangon’s unique heritage into a 21st Century vision of the metropolis as one of Asia’s most liveable cities.

Myanmar to host 7th CLMV Summit, 6th ACMECS Summit

NAY PYI TAW, 17 June—Myanmar will host two major regional summits here from 22 to 23

June, officials said Wednesday.

Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam will attend the 7th CLMV Summit at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-1 in the capital, before a second meeting involving the four countries plus Thailand, known as the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Co-operation Strategy (ACMECS).

Nearly 175 local and foreign correspondents are expected to cover both meetings, an official said, adding plans are under way to issue security passes and media handbooks to them one day ahead of the meetings.

U Ye Naung, General Manager at the News and Periodicals Enterprise, said 50 computers have been installed at the media centre for reporters to ensure convenient media coverage.

DNM

Holding high the banner of the CSR—Corporate Social Responsibility, Management of all kinds must relentlessly and continuously strive to protect and promote the progress of people, planet and profit.

U Kyi Mun residing in Yangon is a consultant of NAING Group Capital Co., Ltd.
**Merkel’s Bavarian allies say Greeks act like “clowns” in debt talks**

Berlin, 17 June — German Chancellor Angela Merkel’s Bavarian allies have accused the Greek government of not having grasped the seriousness of the situation in the debt talks yet, with CSU Secretary-General Andreas Scheuer calling ruling politicians in Athens “clowns”.

The remarks were the latest sign of hardening positions towards Greece among European politicians, on the eve of a meeting of euro zone ministers that could be the last chance to rescue Greece from default at the end of the month.

Scheuer said in an interview with Rheinische Post newspaper published on Wednesday that Greece had done too little so far to stay in the euro and would be no “careless compromiser” just for the sake of keeping Greece in the single currency bloc.

“The Greek government apparently hasn’t realised the seriousness of the situation yet,” Scheuer said. “They are behaving like clowns sitting in the back of the class room, although they have received explicit warnings from all sides that they might fail to pass to the next grade.”

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Tuesday she was willing to do all she could to keep Greece in the euro zone but insisted the onus remained on Athens and its creditors to break a deadlock and reach a deal.

Merkel is facing growing opposition among her ruling conservatives to granting Greece any further bailout funds. Germany is Greece’s biggest creditor and the biggest contributor to the EU budget and the euro zone bailout fund.

But Peter Gillsch, a dissident lawmaker from Merkels’s conservative party who repeatedly voted against bailing out Athens, told Deutschlandfunk radio on Wednesday that in his view it would be no big deal if Greece were to leave the euro zone.

“This wouldn’t be the end of Europe,” Willsch said.

Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras has accused creditors of trying to “humiliate” his nation, which is set to default on a 1.6 billion euro ($1.8 billion) debt repayment to the International Monetary Fund on 30 June, possibly driving it towards the euro zone exit, unless it receives fresh funds. — Reuters

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**Vucic: Serbia offers best investment conditions**

Belgrade, 17 June — Serbia can offer the best conditions for investors, Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic said on Tuesday at the Business Forum in Zurich, organized by the Chamber of Commerce Switzerland and Central Europe.

Serbia is doing everything to preserve regional stability, was said, stressing it is crucial for foreign investment, said Vucic addressing the potential investors.

He informed the forum participants about the economic reforms, the arrangement with the IMF, the Serbian government’s foreign policy activities and relations in the region.

“The region of West Balkans can only move forward if we all work together,” the prime minister stressed, saying Serbia will continue to invest in regional stability.

Vucic also informed the Swiss investors about the incentives for foreign companies provided by the Serbian government, and bid welcome to all those looking to invest in Serbia, the government’s media office said in a release.

After the prime minister’s address, Serbian Finance Minister Duusan Vujovic responded to questions from Swiss company officials.— Tanjug

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**In Danish election, campaign turns personal in tight race**

Bornholm, (Denmark), 17 June — Dressed in a denim shirt and black jeans, Danish Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt cracked jokes and took selfies with supporters on the island of Bornholm, just days before a 18 June election that could end her political career. It was an unusual performance for the 48-year-old premier, famed for her expensive tastes which earned her the moniker “Gucci Helle” and rather formal, rigid style of speaking.

But her relaxed demeanor reflected her party’s success in making up lost ground to the center-right opposition, whose lead over Thorning-Schmidt’s bloc was some 17 percent two years ago and still seemed unsailable earlier this year at 10 percent.

Now the two blocs are running almost neck and neck ahead of Thursday’s vote — one pollster said you could “toss a coin” to see who will win.

And with both Thorning-Schmidt and opposition leader Lars Lokke Rasmussen, 51, expected to lose politics if they lose, the campaign has taken on a personal intensity.

She and her Social Democrats lose no opportunity to remind voters of Rasmussen’s past financial scandals, albeit minor, and question his credibility saying his policies are “dubious”.

With barbs and bluster, Trump barges into 2016 White House race

New York, 17 June — Real estate mogul and TV personality Donald Trump holds up his financial statement showing his net worth as he formally announces his campaign for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination during an event at Trump Tower in New York, June on 16, 2015. — Reuters

**Republican presidential candidate, real estate mogul and TV personality Donald Trump holds up his financial statement showing his net worth as he formally announces his campaign for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination during an event at Trump Tower in New York, June on 16, 2015. — Reuters**

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**Mexico's sending rapists and other criminals to live in the United States.**

Trump, who owns several hotels and hosts the reality show “The Celebrity Apprentice” on NBC, boasted having $8.7 billion in net worth, a number he says he released so that Americans understands he is not a loser.

Trump has flirted with the notion of running in past elections, but has ultimately backed out each time. This time, he said, the United States needs him to rescue and revive a “dead” American dream. “Our enemies are getting stronger and stronger by the day and we as a country are getting weaker,” he said.

Republican strategists and officials cringe at the thought of Trump grabbing attention away from the party’s more serious candidates as it tries to win back the White House after defeats in 2008 and 2012.

“Donald Trump is a great entertainer and developer, but his ideas of what to do as president won’t grow the economy,” said David McIntosh, president of the influential Club for Growth, a conservative group which advocates for small government.

Trump’s first big challenge is to make it into a Fox News debate of Republicans in August that will be open to only the top 10 candidates in national polling.

As it stands, Trump languishes in 12th place, ahead only of former New York Governor George Pataki, in a Reuters/Ipsos on-line poll of 13 Republicans who have either declared their candidacies or, like Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, are likely to. Bush leads the poll.— Reuters

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**With barbs and bluster, Trump barges into 2016 White House race**

On Tuesday, some 1.5 million Danish households received a letter from Helle, as everyone calls her, imploring them to “say No to Lars Lokke Rasmussen”.

Meanwhile, Rasmussen and his Liberals lost the promises the prime minister broke after the 2011 election including better public transportation and health services.

One ad says: “Back then, she was in a cocksure. Vote for the Liberal Party”.

"The issue of trustworthiness has really come to the front," said Rune Stubager, Professor at Aarhus University’s Department of Political Science.

"Because the government has been in trouble with voters due to their policies, they have seized the opportunity to use the personality of their main contender as one of their key weapons," Thorning-Schmidt’s dignified response following a shooting attack by an Islamist gunman in February and her growing stature within Europe have bolstered her standing, while Rasmussen has stumbled amid questions over his judgment.

The prime minister’s personal rating stands at 42 percent compared to Rasmussen’s 26 percent, a stark reversal from 2013 when he polled 46 percent and she was at 16 percent, according to pollster Epinion. But the bloc of opposition parties are a touch ahead with 50.9 percent compared to 49.1 percent for the ruling parties.

The group that ends up with more parliamentary getters will get the opportunity to form a government.— Reuters

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**German Chancellor Angela Merkel arrives to attend an EU-CELAC Latin America summit in Brussels, Belgium, on 11 June, 2015. — Reuters**
Bahrain sentences opposition leader to four years in jail

**DUBAI, 17 June — Bahrain sentenced opposition leader Sheikh Ali Salman to four years in jail on Tuesday on charges of inciting unrest, a decision that an opposition group said could stoke more protests in the Sunni Muslim-ruled kingdom.**

Salman, 49, is the most senior figure in Shi’ite opposition to be jailed since anti-government protests erupted in 2011, at the height of the region’s “Arab Spring” uprisings.

“The Higher Criminal Court sentenced the secretary general of one of Bahrain’s political societies to four years imprisonment,” advocate general Haroon Al-Zayani was quoted as telling state news agency BNA.

Salman, who was not named in the statement, was convicted on charges of “publicly inciting hatred, an act which disturbed public peace, inciting non-compliance with the law and insulting public institutions.”

Bahrain, which hosts the US Fifth Fleet, has experienced sporadic turmoil since mass protests in 2011 led by majority Shi’ites demanding reforms and a bigger role in government. That uprising was put down with military help from Saudi Arabia.

The al-Wefaq Islamic Society headed by Salman, a Shi’ite cleric, confirmed he had been sentenced.

“The sentence gives a new lease on life to the crisis and gives greater legitimacy to mobilize. The people have no choice but to continue in their peaceful popular movement,” it said in a statement on its official website. “People will not return to their homes and will not relent in their demands.”

Salman was acquitted of the most serious charge, promoting the overthrow of the political system by force, the advocate general said. Salman has denied the charges and has dismissed the trial as a bid to muzzle dissent.

In Washington, State Department spokesman John Kirby said the United States was deeply concerned that Tuesday’s ruling “has the potential to inflame tensions” and that any charges against Salman for engaging in peaceful expression or assembly should be dropped.

Amnesty International called on Bahrain on Monday to free Salman, calling him a “prisoner of conscience” and saying his trial was unfair.

The island kingdom says it has made significant political reforms and increased oversight of security forces. Opponents say abuses continue.

With a political accord between the government and opposition remaining elusive, deadly bomb attacks on Bahraini security forces have increased.

In a statement on Monday, the government said: “Ali Salman’s case relates to criminal charges specifically incitement of hatred, as well as inciting violence. The charges and subsequent trial are wholly unrelated to any political views he may hold.”

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**Protesters hold photos of Sheikh Ali Salman, Bahrain’s main opposition leader and Secretary-General of Al-Wefaq Islamic Society, as they march asking for his release in the village of Jidhafs, west of Manama, in Bahrain on 16 June, 2015.—Reuters**

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**Arab air strikes hit Yemen as peace talks enter second day**

**SANAA, 17 June — Arab air strikes hit military targets throughout Yemen on Wednesday and expanded into one western province for the first time, despite peace talks in Geneva aimed at ending almost three months of fighting.**

The bombings hit army bases in the capital, San'a, and Houthi militia targets in Yemen’s central desert and the mountainous province of Mahweet, one of the last provinces in Yemen not to be bombed since the Arab campaign began on 26 March.

A coalition of Sunni Muslim states led by Saudi Arabia has been bombing Iran-allied Houthis, who hail from a Shi’ite sect, and their allies in Yemen’s army since then. Their aim is to restore Yemen’s exiled president to power and head off what they see as Shi’ite Iran’s expansion in the region.

The Houthis seized San'a in September and pressed on into the country’s centre and south, forcing President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi and his government into exile in Saudi Arabia.

The militia denies any military link to Teheran and says it is winning a revolution against Sunni Muslim militants and a corrupt government.

United Nations-brokered talks among Yemen’s warring factions are entering a second day in Geneva, and the UN’s special envoy to Yemen, Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, began shuttle diplomacy on Wednesday to bridge differences. But the two sides still refused to sit at the same table and laid out clashing agendas.

In a televised speech on Tuesday, Houthis leader Abdel-Malek al-Houthi, held out hope for a resolution but accused his Yemeni opponents of seeking to advance Saudi Arabia’s agenda.

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**At least 279 children killed in last 10 weeks in Yemen**

**UNITED NATIONS, 17 June — At least 279 children have been killed and 402 wounded since the escalation of violence in Yemen, which began on 26 March, said a UN spokesman on Tuesday at a daily news briefing.**

The UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) says that the number of children in Yemen who have been killed as a result of conflict over the last 10 weeks is four times that of all those confirmed to have been killed last year, when 74 were killed and 244 wounded, said Farhan Haq, deputy spokesman for the secretary-general.

UN’s Special Envoy on Yemen, Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, has been meeting with the delegations from Riyadh, capital of Saudi Arabia, and Sa’ana’s capital of Yemen. In the coming days, the special envoy will brief members of the international community on the situation in Yemen, said Haq.

Yemen has mired in political gridlock since 2011 when mass protests forced former President Ali Abdullah Saleh to step down. The three-year reconciliation talks failed to resolve the crisis but created huge power vacuum.

The main fight right now is between forces loyal to the beleaguered President, Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi, and those allied to Houthis rebels, who forced Hadi to flee Sa’ana’s in February. Both President Hadi and the Houthis are opposed by al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula.

The picture is further complicated when a coalition led by Saudi Arabia responded to a request by Hadi to intervene and launched air strikes on Houthi targets. So far, the Saudi-led coalition has been bombing Yemen for more than two and half months. —Xinhua

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**15 dead, 70 injured in Tunisia train accident**

**TUNIS, 17 June — At least 15 people were killed and 70 more injured when a train hit a truck in south of the capital Tunisia on Tuesday, in one of the worst rail accidents in the country’s history, according to the Interior Ministry.**

A large truck hit the train causing 14 dead at first. The 15th victim died on the way to hospital. Most of the dead were passengers on the derailed train, according to the transport authority.

The Interior Ministry said the train was heading from the town of Gafour, some 120 km southwest of Tunis, to the capital during the morning rush hour, when the tragedy occurred near El Fahes, some 60 km to Tunis, at around 6:30 am local time (0530 GMT).

Initial investigation shows that both drivers were over speeding before the collision. —Xinhua
Russia forced by NATO to take steps to protect itself — Kremlin

MOSCOW, 17 June — Russia accused NATO on Wednesday of encroaching on its borders and seeking to change the strategic balance of power, forcing Moscow to take steps to protect its interests secorically.

The comments by Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov came a day after Russia and the West accused one another of endangering global security, adding to tensions over the conflict in Ukraine, in which pro-Russian separatists have seized land in the east after Moscow annexed Crimea in March.

Russia and the West accused one another of escalating tensions after Putin's foreign policy advisor also said on Wednesday that Russia would not be dragged into an arms race with the West as this would hurt the economy.

“Russia is not entering an arms race. Russia is trying to react in some ways to certain threats but nothing more than that. We are not entering any arms race because that would hurt our capabilities in the economic sphere,” Yuri Ushakov said.—Reuters

WikiLeaks marks three years since Assange’s flight to Ecuador’s UK embassy

LONDON, 17 June — WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange will on Friday mark three years stuck in Ecuador’s London embassy where he took refuge to avoid extradition to Sweden over allegations of sexual assault and rape involving two women, accusations which he denies.

Assange entered the South American country’s embassy on 19 June, 2012, to avoid being extradited to Sweden where he was wanted for questioning over allegations of sexual assault and rape involving two women.

WikiLeaks says the 43-year-old Australian has effectively been detained, without charge, in prison, under house arrest and at the embassy for almost five years since he was first arrested by British police in December 2010.

“Until Mr Assange’s right to effective protection from extradition to the US is recognised, he will continue to endure prolonged and arbitrary detention, a legally uncertain and precarious situation,” Wikileaks said in a statement on Wednesday.

“This situation should not be tolerated or, worse still, abetted by any state which subscribes to the most basic human rights protections.”

Ecuador, which has granted him political asylum, has been trying with little success to have Assange at the embassy’s cramped quarters in central London with no access to direct sun or fresh air.

He faces immediate arrest for breaching bail conditions if he leaves, and British police have guarded the embassy round the clock for the past three years at a cost estimated at more than 10 million pounds ($15 million).—Reuters

Russia, Germany call for swift end to fighting in east Ukraine: Moscow

MOSCOW, 17 June — Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier underlined the importance of ending fighting in eastern Ukraine immediately during a telephone call on Wednesday, Russia’s Foreign Ministry said.

In a statement, the ministry said the two ministers “stressed the importance of an immediate cessation of hostilities in east Ukraine and especially the shelling of villages and civilian infrastructure”.

Swiss prosecutor confirms searches in Iran talks spy probe

BERNE, 17 June — Swiss authorities have searched multiple premises in relation to an investigation into allegations that hackers had targeted venues which hosted international negotiations on Iran’s nuclear programme, Attorney General Michael Lauber said on Wednesday.

“We have an open investigation into political espionage in Switzerland,” Lauber told a news conference.

His office was analyzing data acquired during the searches, he said. An aide said the premises searched were hotels.

Russian computer security company Kaspersky Lab said earlier this month a computer virus had been used to hack into hotels used to host talks between Iran and six world powers.

Kaspersky said it had found the software in three European hotels. The suspected virus infections were linked to events and venues related to the negotiations between six world powers — the United States, Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany — and Iran on curbing Tehran’s nuclear programme.

The talks have been held in Geneva, Lausanne, Montreux, Munich and Vienna.

Lauber declined to comment on who might be involved in the hacking.

A hack of Israel, which is worried that an eventual deal may not allay its concerns over Iran’s nuclear capability, last week dismissed as baseless reports that it may have had a connection to the matter. Reuters

Black bear spotted in Indiana for first time in 144 years

LOS ANGELES, 17 June — A black bear has been spotted in Indiana for the first time in more than 140 years, state wildlife officials said on Tuesday.

“Indiana does not have a breeding population of black bears,” said Mitch Marcus, an Indiana DNR wildlife official.

It was the first evidence of a wild bear in Indiana since 1871, the DNR said, adding there was no panic in the state about the unexpected visitor.

The scat pile was found in a driveway just north of South Bend and the paw prints were found in LaPorte County, about 70 miles (110 km) southeast of Chicago, according to the department.

“Young black bears disperse in the springtime as they seek new territory to settle, it said.

Black bears, once a native species in Indiana, are now listed as an exotic mammal and protected under Indiana law.

“Indiana does not have a breeding population of black bears, and we expect this one to turn back north eventually,” Marcus said.—Reuters

Getty oil heir had meth in system, died of haemorrhage

LOS ANGELES, 17 June — Andrew Getty, the grandson of billionaire oil tycoon J Paul Getty, died of an accidental gastrointestinal haemorrhage and also had a toxic level of methamphetamine in his system, a Los Angeles coroner’s official said.

Larry Dietz, watch commander at the Los Angeles County Coroner’s Office, said the drugs, a duodenal ulcer and heart disease contributed to the death of the 47-year-old heir to the Getty oil fortune.

Getty was found dead on 31 March at his Hollywood Hills home. The Los Angeles Times reported that he was found on the bathroom floor by his girlfriend Lanesa DeJonge, although he had recently gotten a restraining order against her.

Getty’s grandfather, J Paul Getty, died in 1976. He had merged several smaller oil companies into Getty Oil in the 1960s.

At one time one of America’s richest men, he was also an avid art collector who established the trust that funds the J Paul Getty Museum and other institutions.—Reuters

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Thursday, 18 June, 2015

WEATHER REPORT

BAY INFERENCe: Monsoon is strong to rigorous in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate elsewhere around the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 18th June, 2015: Rain or thunderstorms will be isolated in Mandalay and Magway Regions, scattered in Lower Sagain Region, Shan and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Upper Sagain and Bago Regions, Chin and Rakhine States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likely to be isolated heavy falls in Tanninshyi Region and Mon State.

Degree of certainty is (80%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough sea will be experienced Deltaic, Gulf of Mottama, off and along Mon - Tanninshyi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) m.p.h. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar water.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Increase in rain in the Lower Myanmar areas.

Russia restores Far Eastern leopard in Primorye

The government said that after learning the two events were taking place in the vicinity of the Sino-North Korean border while visiting China, it had been investigating their whereabouts.

Kyodo News

Greece appoints economics professor as new IMF representative

Previously nominated Elena Panaritis as their representative, but this prompted a backlash from the ruling Syriza party, which said her views clashed with Syriza's programme.

Reuters

N Korea repatriates two S Koreans who illegally crossed border

The victims, most of whom were working in the San Francisco Bay area on temporary visas for the summer vacation, had been celebrating a friend’s 21st birthday on the fourth-floor balcony when the accident occurred, according to local police and Irish government officials.—Reuters

Advertisement & General

Claims Day Notice

MV CONMAR DELTA VOY NO (002W)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CONMAR DELTA VOY NO (002W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.6.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Shipping Agency Department

Myanmar Port Authority

Agent for: MS The Shipping Corp of India Ltd

Phone No: 2301185

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar Ministry of Energy

Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise

(Invitation for Open Tender)

(10/2015)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tender No</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Remark</th>
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<tr>
<td>(1) IFB-021(15-16)</td>
<td>5˝ Drill Pipe (5000) Meter</td>
<td>US$</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2) IFB-022(15-16)</td>
<td>5˝ Heavy Weight Drill Pipe (50) Nos</td>
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<td>(3) IFB-023(15-16)</td>
<td>6 1/2˝, 7 3/4˝ &amp; 8˝ Drill Collars (3) Items</td>
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<tr>
<td>(4) IFB-024(15-16)</td>
<td>13 3/8˝, 9 5/8˝ &amp; 5 1/2˝ Casing Shoe &amp; Collar (16) Items</td>
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<tr>
<td>(5) IFB-025(15-16)</td>
<td>BJ Cementing Unit Sares (30) Items</td>
<td>US$</td>
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<td>(6) IFB-026(15-16)</td>
<td>Assorted Sizes of Casingings</td>
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<td>(7) IFB-027(15-16)</td>
<td>Electrical Sares (22) Items for HDD Rig</td>
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<td>(8) IFB-028(15-16)</td>
<td>Spares for HDD Rig (10) Items</td>
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<td>(9) IFB-029(15-16)</td>
<td>Pump Sares for D3 T2 Drilling Rigs (23) Items</td>
<td>US$</td>
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<td>(10) IFB-030(15-16)</td>
<td>F 1000 Rig Pump Sares Ex D3 T2 Drilling Rigs (23) Items</td>
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<tr>
<td>(11) DMP/L-005(15-16)</td>
<td>Spares for SINO Truck (20 Ton Long Body)</td>
<td>KS</td>
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</table>

Tender Closing Date & Time: 15-7-2015, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 17th June, 2015 at the Finance Department, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise

Ph +95 67 - 411097 / 411206

N Korea repatriates two S Koreans who illegally crossed border

The victims, most of whom were working in the San Francisco Bay area on temporary visas for the summer vacation, had been celebrating a friend’s 21st birthday on the fourth-floor balcony when the accident occurred, according to local police and Irish government officials.—Reuters

Balcony collapse kills six, most of them Irish students, in California

Damage is seen at the scene of a 4-story apartment building balcony collapse in Berkeley, California on 16 June, 2015.—Reuters

Vladivostok, 17 June — A programme to restore the Far Eastern leopard population in Russia, is necessary to create a backup population of Far Eastern leopards in Sikhote-Alin. Specialists have been planning this programme for almost two decades and the WWF has made great efforts to implement it. The most ideal place for the resettlement of the leopards is the seashore of the Japan Sea in the Lazo and Olga regions of Primorsky Krai, and has a total area of approximately 7,000 square kilometres.—Xinhua

Russia restores Far Eastern leopard in Primorye

The government said that after learning the two women had disappeared in the vicinity of the Sino-North Korean border while visiting China, it had been investigating their whereabouts.—Kyodo News

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Canadian rocker Neil Young strikes sour note on Donald Trump’s use of song

LOS ANGELES, 17 June — Canadian rocker Neil Young has lashed out at real estate mogul and TV personality Donald Trump for using his song “Rockin’ In The Free World” when the Republican launched a US presidential campaign on Tuesday in New York.

“Donald Trump was not authorized to use ‘Rockin’ In The Free World’ in his presidential candidacy announcement,” Young, who has long lived on a ranch in California, said in a statement. The statement from Young said the Canadian citizen supports Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders, an independent and one of the most outspoken liberals in Congress, in his campaign for the 2016 Democratic presidential nomination.

A Trump campaign spokeswoman said in a statement that the billionaire’s team through a license agreement with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers paid for the legal right to play the recording during the launch of his campaign to seek the GOP presidential nomination in 2016.

“Nevertheless, we won’t be using it again — there are plenty of songs to choose from,” the statement said. “Despite Neil’s differing political views, Mr Trump likes Neil very much.”

Selena Gomez takes inspiration from Taylor Swift?

LONDON, 17 June — Former One Direction star Zayn Malik’s collaboration with rapper MIC Righteous, “No Type”, has leaked online. 22-year-old Malik’s producer friend Naughty Boy, however, claimed Righteous stole the unfinished song, reported Metro.

“Just wait for the real one… you won’t be disappointed,” tweeted Boy.

Righteous hit back and insisted he had not “stolen” the track. “Tell the truth shah. We recorded them bars in ur studio months ago… Bout ‘stolen hard drive’”, he said.

The song was taken down but Righteous later re-uploaded it, insisting he does not have to “keep the label happy” and was making the song public for Malik’s sake as he isn’t allowed to release music for two years.—PTI

Zayn Malik’s song leaks online

Actor John Hurt reveals cancer diagnosis — agency

LONDON, 16 June — British actor John Hurt, 75, who had starring roles in “The Elephant Man” and “Captain Corelli’s Mandolin”, revealed on Tuesday that he has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer but says he intends to go on working.

“I have recently been diagnosed with early stage pancreatic cancer but says he intends to continue working, with one of his projects in the near future being to record “Jeffrey Bernard Is Unwell” for BBC radio.

Hurt was nominated for Oscars for his roles in “The Elephant Man” and “Midnight Express” and also had a starring role in the space science fiction film “Alien” of 1979.

He has recently finished filming for a new version of “Tarzan” and will appear with Gemma Arterton and Derek Jacobi in “The History of Love”.

Foo Fighters cancel Europe tour as Grohl recovers from broken leg

LOS ANGELES, 17 June — The Foo Fighters will cancel the remainder of their European tour as lead singer Dave Grohl recovers from surgery after breaking his leg while performing last week, the rock group said on Tuesday.

On the band’s website, Grohl detailed the incident that occurred last Friday in Gothenburg, Sweden, saying he dislocated his ankle and snapped his fibula “like an old pair of take out chopsticks” after a 12-foot fall off the stage.

The Seattle-native band has canceled the remainder of its Europe dates, including a headlining slot at England’s Glastonbury Festival on 26 June.

The 46-year-old Grohl said he had a successful operation with six metal screws fitted into his leg, but has been advised to take time out of his performance schedule.

“It kills me to say it ... the doctors have told us to cancel shows. I’m really so sorry, guys. You know I hate to do it, but I’m afraid it’s just not physically possible for me at the moment,” Grohl said in a post, accompanied by photos and X-rays of the injury.

Grohl cemented his rock-star credibility last week after coming back on stage in Sweden with a broken foot to keep performing as medics attended to his injuries and fixed a cast on him.

He called it “without a doubt the single most bizarre Foo Fighters show in the entire 20 years of being a band.”

The band is still scheduled to embark on the US leg of its “Sonic Highways” tour, kicking off in Washington, DC on 4 July.—Reuters

Actor John Hurt arrives for a memorial service for actor and director Richard Attenborough at Westminster Abbey in London on 17 March, 2015.—Reuters

Selena Gomez takes inspiration from Taylor Swift?

Foo Fighters band member Dave Grohl is seen on a big screen talking on a microphone after falling from the stage during the band’s concert at Nya Ullevi in Gothenburg, Sweden, on 12 June, 2015.—Reuters

Taylor Swift & Selena Gomez

Musician Neil Young performs “Blowin’ in the Wind” during the 2015 MusiCares Person of the Year tribute honouring Bob Dylan in Los Angeles, California on 6 Feb, 2015.—Reuters
Japan suffer shock draw to Singapore in World Cup qualifier

Kuala Lumpur, 17 June — Japan’s qualifying campaign for the 2018 World Cup got off to acrippling start as Va-hid Halihodzic’s men drew 0-0 with Asian minnows Singapore in a second-round qualifier on Tuesday.

The honeymoon for Halihodzic came to an un-spectacular end as the 75,533 at Saitama Stadium were left stunned after Singapore, who had only three wins and a draw in 24 previous meetings against Japan, took a histor-ic point off the four-time Asian champions in the Group E affair.

Since 1978, when Sin-gapore last beat Japan, the Japanese had won 11 of 12 with a draw against the Southeast Asians.

After the final whistle, Japan heard it from the fans who are among the kind-est in the world, receiving the loudest boos they have heard since qualifying for the first World Cup in 1997.

“In my entire life, I have never witnessed a game in which a team cre-ates 19, 100-percent chances and their number is one,” said Halihodzic, whose side had scored a combined 11 goals in his three matches in charge. “If you want to crit-i-cize, criticize me. I cannot fault the players.”

“We’re obviously very disappointed by the result. The atmosphere tonight was great. One goal would’ve changed everything. We were motivated, but lacked accuracy in front of goal.”

“Everyone was dying to score.” Singapore coach Bernd Stange said his team had no choice but to park the bus given the difference in quality of the two sides. Japan outshot Singapore 23 to 3 for the game.

“I believe Japan played an attacking game over 90 minutes,” said the German, whose side sit top on the group with four points following Thursday’s 4-0 win at Cambodia. “I like this kind of football, but we were so massive in defense without giving away need-lessly silly fouls. We did not even have a yellow card.”

“What do you expect from a team ranked 154th in the world? We did what we can do. I can be really proud of my team today. The goal-keeper was fantastic — and we had a bit of luck as well.”

Hammam but his position closed” blaming election fe-

With half the first team barely having had the experi-ence of World Cup qualifying, the hosts looked shaky from the start as they set off on their journey to Russia.

Japan, though, still had their share of chances in the first half, but were foiled by an outstanding performance in goal from Izwan Mahbub, who produced a series of saves to frustrate the four-time champions.

Mahbub first palmed away Shini Kagawa’s ef-fort after 12 minutes, kept out captain Makoto Hasebe in the 22nd and then Shini Okazaki a minute past the half-hour to hold Japan at the break.

Kyodo News

Under-fire Soosay quits as AFC general secretary

Kuala Lumpur, 17 June — Suspended Asian Foot-ball Confederation (AFC) general secretary Alex Soosay quit on Wednesday rather than fight to clear his name amid allegations he tried to interfere with a cor-rup-tion probe of the regional governing body.

Soosay was suspended last month by the AFC after Malayan media reported an official at the 46-member confederation had been asked by Soosay to “tamper or hide” documents during a 2012 external audit.

The Pricewaterhouse-Coopers inspection came following the latter ban handed out to former AFC president Mohammed Bin Hammam, by world gov-erning body FIFA for ethic-les brevities. Who Soosay worked closely with.

“The Asian Football Confederation would like to thank Dato’ Alex Soosay for his commitment to Asian football during his extensive 20-year-long career at the AFC and wishes him all the best for his future career,” the AFC said in a statement.

The AFC did not say if the findings of the Soo-say investigation would be made public. The body has also resisted calls to make public the 2012 audit.

Soosay’s deputy Wind-sor John will take over the role until a new general secretary is appointed, the body said.

A former player, Soo-say held the position of AFC general secretary since 2008 following the retirement of his Malaysian compatriot Peter Velappan.

He worked under Bin Hammam but his position appeared fragile when Shai-kh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa, an outspoken critic of the Qatari, was elected AFC President in 2013.

In April, the Malay Mail said it had obtained video evidence in which AFC financial director Bryan Kuan Wei Hong had told investigators in 2012 that Soosay had come to him for help.

“He said based on (what) they have found out, ‘I have committed any crime and will they blame me for anything? Anything that you have... is it possible to either tamper or hide it somewhere?’” Kuan said of his conversation with Soosay.

Soosay told Reuters after the AFC Congress in Bahrain in May the “case was closed” blaming election fe-

Soosay is the latest in a long line of casualties at the AFC since the Bahraini came to power.

Former Bin Hammam allies Manilal Fernando of Sri Lanka, banned for life by FIFA for bribery, and Thailand’s Worawi Makudi have both been voted out of the world governing body’s executive committee in Salman’s tenure. — Reuters

AFC General Secretary Alex Soosay speaks at the Qatar 2011 AFC Asian Cup mascot launching ceremo-ny in Doha on 11 Nov, 2010.—Reuters

Abu Sajid of Singapore (8) battles for the ball with Shini Okazaki of Japan during the first half of a Group E match in the second round of Asian World Cup qualifiers at Saitama Stadium in Saitama, north of Tokyo, on 16 June, 2015.—Kyodo News

Myanmar International

(18-6-2015, Thursday)

6:00 am

• Paritta by Hilly

• Region Missionary

• Sawgaw

6:25 am

• Physical Exercise

7:00 am

• News / Weather Report

7:35 am

• Weekly Entertainment

8:35 am

• Documentary

9:35 am

• Beautiful (ASEAN)

10:35 am

• Documentary

11:35 am

• Science and Technology Programme

12:35 pm

• Hlutaw Image

12:50 pm

• Fine Art-Bosom of Dramatic Performance

1:35 pm

• Teleplay

2:40 pm

• Documentary

3:00 pm

• News

3:30 pm

• H-line News

4:35 pm

• University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) — Third Year (Zoology)

5:00 pm

• News / Weather Report

5:35 pm

• Documentary

6:15 pm

• Documentary

6:35 pm

• People’s Talks

7:00 pm

• News

7:35 pm

• Current Affairs

8:00 pm

• News / International News / Weather Report

9:00 pm

• News

11:00 pm

• Hlutaw Image

0:30 am

• Talk on Old Film (Part-2)

News Channel in Brief

Entertainment Channel

(18-6-2015, Thursday)

6:00 am

• Asian Classical Songs

6:25 am

• Psy Thu Ni Ti

6:45 am

• Fashion Show

7:10 am

• TV Drama Series

7:55 am

• TV Drama Series

8:30 am

• Musical Programme

8:45 am

• Teleplay

9:25 am

• ASEAN-Japan Cultural Show (2013)

9:40 am

• Myanmar Video
Brazil and Serbia set up final date

AKLUND, 17 June — The two finalists at the FIFA U-20 World Cup have been determined, with Brazil and Serbia set to fight for the crown. On FIFA’s 14th annual Anti-Discrimination Day, it was the five-time champions from South America and the dark horses from south-east Europe who were celebrating, come the final whistle in their respective matches, and both now have the trophy in their crosshairs. The two semi-finals were vastly different affairs, with the Seleções excelling, scoring early on before easing to a comfortable victory, while Serbia played through 120 minutes of nil-nil action.

On a day filled with tension, emotions and drama, one youngster in particular also emerged as his team’s hero for the second time in New Zealand. Meanwhile, two African sides that were considered rank outsiders prior to the tournament will go head-to-head in the Play-off for Third Place. Both Senegal and Mali may have lost in the semi-finals on Wednesday, but they can go into their last encounter in Auckland on Saturday with their heads held high.

Results

Semi-finals

Brazil 5-0 Senegal
Serbia 2-1 Mali (aet)

Goal of the day

Senegal — Mali, 1-1, Youssouf Kone (39’)
With Serbia 1-0 up and pushing hard for a second at North Harbour Stadium, it appeared to be only a matter of time before they scored again. Yet suddenly, and against the run of play, Mali defender Kone from French club OSC Lille unleashed a fearsome left-footed drive from the inside-left channel, sending a spectacular 30-yard effort rocketing into the far corner. Serbia keeper Predrag Rajkovic, and everyone else in the stadium, could only look on in amazement as the 19-year-old brought his side level.

Memorable moments

The fight against racism

The gripping encounter in Christchurch and Auckland took place within the framework of FIFA’s 14th Anti-Discrimination Day. Before the anthems were played the team captains read out a message in their native language, emphasising the importance of the fight against racism. Furthermore, the teams in both stadiums lifted huge banners with the words ‘Say No To Racism’ written on them. The four semi-finalists may have been rivalling from different continents and cultures, and from Europe - but they were united in sending out a clear message. As at every match at the tournament, that was underlined by the captains sharing the Handshake for Peace both before kick-off and after the final whistle.

Goal drought over

It is often thought that excitement is guaranteed whenever Brazil take to the pitch, but that is not strictly true. Coach Rogerio Micale’s side failed to score at all in their Round of 16 and quarter-final games, and only progressed after a penalty shoot-out each time. In fact, the last time the Seleções found the net in normal time was in their 3-0 triumph over Korea DPR in their final group game in Christchurch. Yet any concerns that Brazil had lost their goalscoring touch were misplaced, as they needed just five minutes to hit the target back in the metropolis on New Year’s Day. Before the anthems were played the team captains read out a message in their native language, emphasising the importance of the fight against racism. Furthermore, the teams in both stadiums lifted huge banners with the words ‘Say No To Racism’ written on them. The four semi-finalists may have been rivalling from different continents and cultures, and from Europe - but they were united in sending out a clear message. As at every match at the tournament, that was underlined by the captains sharing the Handshake for Peace both before kick-off and after the final whistle.

South Africa and Serbia will now contest the final, with Brazil and Senegal meeting in the third-place play-off. Senegal’s victory over Mali set up a mouth-watering clash between the two African nations, while Serbia’s win over Brazil means they will meet in the final for the first time in their history.

Senegal coach Aliou Cisse said: “We are very happy to be in the final. It’s a dream for all our fans and for all the country. We played a great game against Brazil and we proved that we can compete with the best teams in the world.”

Brazil coach Dunga added: “We played a great game against Mali and we showed that we are a strong team. We are happy to be in the final and we will do our best to win the championship.”

In the women’s tournament, the USA successfully defended their title, defeating Argentina 1-0 in the final. The match was a tight affair, with both teams creating chances but failing to convert. The decisive goal came in the 89th minute, when Mallory Pugh scored the only goal of the game. It was a fitting end to a tournament that had seen the USA collect 10 goals and concede none.

Argentina’s coach Carlos Borrello said: “We were the better team and we had many chances to score. We were close to winning the title, but unfortunately we couldn’t do it. Congratulations to the USA for winning.”

USA coach Vlatko Andonovski said: “We are very happy to have won the tournament. We played well throughout and we were the most consistent team.”

In other news, the FIFA U-20 Women’s World Cup final will take place at North Harbour Stadium on 17 June, 2015 in Auckland, New Zealand. — FIFA

The stat

20 — Brazil’s rout of Senegal extended their unbeaten run at this tournament to 20 consecutive games, meaning they go one ahead of previous record holders Argentina.

The words

“This World Cup has been a great adventure and achievement for us, with this being the first time we have ever qualified at this level. Our goal on arrival was to get out of the group stage and we did that. We have done very well and only lost one match due to our lack of experience. Our team has had a good attitude and you have to know how to lose and we expected that one day we would.” — Joseph Koto, Senegal coach.