Special economic zone a product of growing trust among Mekong countries: president

By Ye Myint
YANGON, 3 July — Peace negotiators from the government and ethnic armed groups agreed Friday in Chiang Mai, Thailand, to continue their meeting for a second day amid optimism that roadblocks in the ceasefire process can be cleared, according to a senior advisor on the government side.

The talks were the first meeting between the government’s peace negotiating team and a new 15-member senior negotiating team appointed by the ethnic groups at the LawKheeLar summit in early June.

“TThe meeting was set as a preliminary meeting instead of informal talks, as had been requested by the ethnic side,” U Hla Maung Shwe of the Myanmar Peace Centre told The Global New Light of Myanmar via phone.

A draft nationwide ceasefire accord between Myanmar, Japan and Thailand are engaged in discussion on extension of the railroad network to Dawei. An environmental conservation law is being written with the intention of limiting environmental damage likely to result from industrial and economic zones, President U Thein Sein said.

The Mekong-Five countries are Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam, whose combined population runs to 230 million.

Last year, Japanese investments in the Mekong region amounted to US$6.8 billion, equal to its investments in China.

In the afternoon, Japanese Emperor Akihito hosted a tea party for leaders of the Mekong region. Present at the tea party together with President U Thein Sein were Cambodia’s Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen, Laos’ Prime Minister Thongloun Sisoulith.

President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo together with leaders of Mekong countries at Mekong-Five Economic Forum in Japan. MNA

For “quality growth” of the Mekong Region

I am pleased to welcome the leader of your country to Tokyo and hold the Seventh Mekong-Japan Summit Meeting on July 4, to further enhance the vibrancy and attractiveness of the Mekong region.

This year is a historic milestone that will mark the launch of the ASEAN community. In light of this, it is very important for me to hold frank discussions with leaders of the Mekong region countries on the partnership between the Mekong region and Japan, which will grow together, and mutually affirm that we will continue to work together even more closely.

Based on the “New Tokyo Strategy 2015” that will be adopted today, I would like to convey Japan’s wholehearted support to the Mekong region countries, moving on to the launch of the ASEAN community.

From the airplane I saw vast lands with abundant greenery. Traveling to different towns, I witnessed vibrant markets and offices, as well as cultural elements.
Pyithu Hluttaw discusses irrigation facilities and allowance for far-flung areas

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July — The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has been properly maintaining the irrigation facilities around the country and providing agricultural water to farmland, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw said at the Pyithu Hluttaw session on Friday.

In addition, the ministry has been carrying out prevention of salt infiltration and flooding and building sluice gates depending on the availability of budget funds, according to the deputy minister.

The government is reviewing the list of 110 far-flung towns with ten criteria at region/state level and national levels, Deputy Minister for Finance Dr Lin Aung told the Pyithu Hluttaw session.

MP U Nu of Yangon Region constituency No 10 asked about construction of low-priced housing on the plot.

U Phone Myint Aung of Yangon Region constituency asked where is a plan to allow private entrepreneurs to operate traffic lights in the municipal area of Yangon.

The deputy minister replied that private entrepreneurs will not be allowed to erect commercial billboards in traffic light areas while operating the lights through tender.

Deputy Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry No 3 asked where the availability of budget from the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has been provided.

Rural Development U Tin Ngwe replied to a query raised by U Aung Nyin of Magway Region Constituency No 2 on upgrading In-taw-Yagyibyin Road in In-taw village, Yananyo Township, Magway Region. The deputy minister said the Rural Development Department has no plan to upgrade the 15-mile long road this fiscal year.

Nay Pyi Taw

For “quality growth” ...

(from page 1)

and traditions that have been handed down over time. After being appoint-ed as Prime Minister in 2012, my first international visit was to the Mekong re-gion. On that occasion, and every time I have visited the Mekong Region since then, I am captivated by wherever I go.

The peace and stabili-ty of the Mekong region, which is in a key location for ground and maritime transportation, is of great importance to Japan, and I hope that the Mekong countries will co-exist with Japan as partners that hold enormous potential for growth. To date, our pre-decessors have spared no effort with regard to initia-tives in the Mekong region, ranging from peace build-ing to improving regional connectivity. Many people

from Japan have worked on these initiatives, and have transferred capitals, tech-nologies, and experience from Japan to this region. Japan’s ongoing efforts in the Mekong region, such as the construction of Economic Corridors, have been making steady progress. Looking at this year so far, NoiLai In-ternational Airport Terminal 2 and NoiTaN Bridge were completed in the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in January, and the Toufan Bridge was opened in the Kingdom of Cambodia in April. Going forward, Japan intends to provide the people of the Mekong Region with a wide range of experience and technologies in an even more proactive manner.

Cooperation, not only regarding infrastructure development, but also soft aspects is one of the pillars of the New Tokyo Strategy.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinjiro Koizumi held a meeting with finance ministers and dele-gates from 57 ASEAN member countries on establish-ment of the bank.

At the special meeting, they discussed election of the president for the bank, financial programme and acceptance of new mem-bers. A total of 22 Asian countries signed the MoU on establishment of AIIB on 24 October 2014. Coor-dinators held meetings five times for establishment.

At present, the AIIB was formed with 37 regional countries and 20 outsiders.

AIIB, an international financial institution, will contribute to investment and regional economic development in economic infrastructure and other de-velopment projects.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw

Myanmar signs Articles of Agreement-AOA for AIIB

Finance ministers and delegates to signing ceremony for article of AOA pose for documentary photo.—MNA

Chinese President Xi Jinping held a meeting with finance ministers and dele-gates from 57 ASEAN member countries for establish-ment of Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank in Beijing, People’s Republic of China, on 29 June.

Japan intends to proactively cooperate with each country in the areas of cultivating human resources and develop-ing legal systems as well. The Government of Japan has announced the “Partnership for Quality Infra-structure,” and will pro-vide “quality infrastructure investment” in Asia, with a total scale of approximately 110 billion dollars over five years, in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The Mekong region will certainly be the top-priority region in this initiative. Let us continue to grow the fruits of these in-vestments together.

I look forward to seeing the future of growth in the Mekong region. There is a need to upgrade infrastruc-ture and social systems in or-der to respond to the expan-sion of energy demand and increase in automobiles. In order to cope with the press-ing issue of the aging of soci-ety, it is essential to enhance the functions of health-care and medical treatment services. It will be important to address these numerous challenges in innovative ways. Japan, as an island nation with few resources, has taken on challenges with regard to increasing energy efficiency. Japan has repeat-edly dealt with natural dis-asters such as earthquakes and tsunamis. We would like to share with you our experience in these areas. We hope to realize a “green and sustainable” and contribute to quality growth. This is our sincere wish. While Myan-ma is taking steps to bring about democratic reforms, bilateral relations between Japan and Myanmar have reached a stage of develop-ment anew. Japan, through government-private coop-eration, has been providing an assistance to Myanmar for its reform efforts in the country. I am of the view that it is of vital importance for Myanmar citizens to be able to feel that they will prosper if reforms meet with success. From this view-point, Japan has been co-operating with Myanmar to develop the Thilawa Special Economic Zone in suburban area of Yangon and it is ex-horting Myanmar to strive to increase job opportunities and bring about economic development. Moreover, so-cio-economic reforms and internal peace are indispen-sable to bring about democ-ratization and development in Myanmar. The process of peace talks between the government and armed eth-nic groups has reached an important moment and the Government of Japan has determined to provide firm assistance to Myanmar for its efforts to achieve peace in the country, by joining hands with Non-Governmental Or-ganizations. In conjunction with this summit meeting, representatives who would like to debate the Myanmar government’s Bill and the bill amending the evi-dence law the bill for manu-facture of oil wells and approved the Border Areas and Eth-nic National Races Devel-opment Law.—MNA

MNA

Myanmar Women’s Day marked in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July — Honorary patron of Myan-mar Women’s Affairs Federation Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of the president, presented prizes to 2015 ASEAN Women’s Entrepreneur award winner Daw Khaing Zaw and Dr Daw Thet Khin and SEA Literary Award winner Daw Khin Than Win (Kyu Kyu Thin) at the ceremony to mark the Myanmar Wom-en’s Day, here, on Friday.

Patron Daw Nan Shwe Hmon, wife of the vice president Dr Sai Mauk Kham, also presented prizes to 2014 outstanding police-woman Police Major Khin Lay Myint, Myanmar wom-en’s football team and 2013 national literary award (selected short stories) winner. Union Minister Dr Daw Myaung Myo and officials awarded outstanding persons in the photo and short story contest and out-standing women.

They viewed documen-tary films and photos related to women’s affairs.—MNA

MNA

The ceremony was attended by the president, the chairman of the Union Parliament, the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw, the vice president Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Prime Minister, State Counselor and Foreign Minister Dr Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Deputy Speaker, the ministers, the speakers of various parliaments, the chairmen of the regional and municipal assemblies, the leaders of the government ministries, the union secretaries, the secretaries of the departments and the deputies of the union parliament.

At the end of the ceremony, the Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw presented the prizes to the winners.

The winners MP’s to discuss the artifacts preservation bill, the ancient buildings protection bill, the union government law, the attorney-general of the union law, the union auditor-general law, the union civil services board law, the Nay Pyi Taw council law, the union judicial law, and the constitutional tribunal of the union law.—MNA

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President U Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to United States of America

Special economic zone...

(from page 1)

Nay Pyi Taw, 3 July—A ceremony to launch the campaign for reduction of mother and child mortality rates was held at the City Hall in Magway on Friday, with an opening speech by Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham.

In his speech, the vice president said that Myanmar is included in the lowest of life expectancy in Southeast Asia due to high mortality rates in states and regions where mortality rate hits 36.43 percent in 2015. Although Myanmar has a life expectancy of 66.8 years, that of Magway Region stands at 60.6 years while its mortality rates for children under the age of one and of five are the highest in the country, according to the vice president.

The vice president added that almost 65,000 children under the age of five die in Myanmar in one year, causing losses for families as well as the country.

Then, the vice president urged different levels of departmental officials, the public, UN agencies and civil society organizations to cooperate for the reduction of mortality rates in the region.

The ceremony included a workshop on reduction of mother and child mortality rates, prevention of TB, HIV, Diabetes, heart disease and many other diseases.

After the vice president’s speech, Magway Region Chief Minister U Phone Maw Shwe and Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint reported to the vice president on plans to reduce the mortality rates.

After the ceremony, the vice president cordially greeted the attendees.

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 July—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to the Honourable Barack Obama, President of the United States of America, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Independence Day of the United States of America which falls on 4th July 2015.

MNA

Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham urges local officials to reduce mortality rates of children and mothers

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Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits Bahtoo Station

Nay Pyi Taw, 3 July—There is no reason for the Tatmadaw to deviate from the political path to multi-party democracy, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing told cadets at the Officer Training School in Bahtoo Station on Friday.

Also present were Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Admiral Thura Thein Swe, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Khin Aung Myint, senior officers from the Office of Commander-in-Chief (Army), Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Aye Win, and officers and instructors from the Bahtoo Station.

Then, the senior general presented Shwe Phi Oo instant coffee and books for the cadets while Lt-Gen Aung Than Htut presented sport equipment for the trainee officers.

Later, the senior general and party cordially greeted the cadets and proceeded to the military hospital in Bahtoo, where the senior general comforted patients and provided food and cash for them.

Union FM sends message of felicitations to USA

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 July—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to the Honourable John F Kerry, Secretary of State of the United States of America, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Independence Day of the United States of America, which falls on 4th July 2015.

MNA
Farmers receive new techniques for cultivation of premium cotton strain

Pyawbwe, 3 July — A demonstration on cultivation of Ngwetchi-9 long staple cotton was held in Thitseintpin village in Pyawbwe Township, Mandalay Region recently. The high-quality cotton strain was cultivated on a 3-acre plot of farmer U Kyaw Win. The new strain is tipped to yield 1,600 kilos per acre. The Ngwetanun-9 strain has a higher per-acre yield and greater pest resistance than some widespread strains.

Post-primary school upgraded to middle school branch in Tatkon Tsp

Tatkon, 3 July — A ceremony to open an upgraded basic education middle school branch was held in conjunction with the handing over of a new school building in Yeayee village in Tatkon Township on 2 July.

Officials of Nay Pyi Taw Council and Township Education Officer U Tin Hsint cut the ribbon to open the new school.

Local people contributed to construction of the school building at a cost of Ky7.7 million.

Officials of Nay Pyi Taw Council and Township Education Officer U Tin Hsint unveiled the signboard of the school.

Local farms have admitted 771 students from Shaukkon village and eight nearby villages.—Tin Soe Lwin (Tatkon Township IPRD)

Earth works prevent flooding of farmland

Pyu, 3 July — To prevent flooding of farmland, the Irrigation Department recently used heavy machinery to dredge silt from creeks and drains in Nyaungbintha and Kanyukwin regions, as well as Pyu Township in Bago Region.

Local farms in years past have been damaged by the flooding of the Sittoung River and silted creeks. Following the construction of an embankment along the river, farms in the area have been free from floods this year.

Local farmers can fetch about K3.5 million per ton from sales of A-grade coffee products.

A total of 7,165 acres of coffee plantations in Ywangan Township yield about 400,000 viss of coffee yearly.

Tree-planting ceremony aims to make urban area greener

Mandalay, 3 July — Mandalay City Development Committee held its third tree-growing ceremony in front of the University of Dental Medicine in Chanmyathazi Township on 1 July.

Mayor U Aung Moung planted a teak sapling while other attendees also grew saplings.

The ceremony was also attended by leader of the advisory group of MCDC U Po Myint, Rector of Mandalay University of Dental Medicine Dr Daw San San Win, officials of MCDC and staff.

They planted 867 saplings in total.

Coffee growers receive latest farming knowledge

Taunggyi, 3 July — Staff of Shan State Industrial Crops Development Department made a field trip to Alechaung village in Ywangan Township in the last week of June to share knowledge about modern agricultural methods with about 70 local farmers.

Officials of the department explained that Ywangan Township is the most suitable for cultivation of coffee plants in Shan State. Local growers can fetch about K3.5 million per ton from sales of A-grade coffee products.

Naing Tun (TGI)
Nursing students participate in skill demonstrations

Mandalay, 3 July — Students from first to third-year nursing courses demonstrated skills at Mandalay University of Nursing on 2 July.

Rector of the university Dr Thida made a speech while Pro-Rector Professor Dr Daw Khin Win explained disciplines for the skill demonstration.

Rector of Mandalay University of Medicine Prof Dr Khin Maung Lwin, Medical Superintendent Dr Kyi Lwin of the Orthopaedic Specialty Hospital and officials viewed the demonstration. The students will continue the skill demonstrations until 9 July. Fourth-year students will give demonstrations on 10 July.—Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Townships prepare for football, volleyball, Sepak Takraw tournaments

Mandalay, 3 July — Mandalay City Development Committee donated cash to community associations at its hall on 2 July. The MCDC provided cash to 14 social welfare associations, eight funeral service associations, three philanthropic associations and 11 civic society organizations through representatives.

At the ceremony which opened with a speech by Mayor U Aung Aung, a total of 36 associations received K300,000 each.

Mandalay Region football officials discuss federation setup

Mandalay, 3 July — The Myanmar Football Federation, former players and coaches held a get-together at Win Yadana Hall on 12th Street in Mandalay on 2 July.

Joint general secretary of the federation U Tin Myint Aung spoke about the organizational setup of the federation and future plans.

U Aye Maung Gyi, technical adviser to the Myanmar women’s football team and Deputy Director U Wai Zin discussed formation of committees.

Tractor station branch opens in Kanbalu Tsp

Kanbalu, 3 July — The No 40 tractor station opened its branch in Ywama village, Kanbalu Township, recently to provide agricultural services to local farmers.

The station branch will have four Sonalika tractors, one combine harvester and other agricultural machinery. Local farmers may hire the machinery from the branch. The branch offers local farmers fair prices, Head of Township Agricultural Mechanization Department U Bo Aye said. “We used farming cattle in our agricultural tasks in the past,” said a local farmer. “Those who had no farming cattle needed to hire oxen from other farmers for farming works. Now, thanks to the station branch of Township Agricultural Mechanization Department, we can hire modern agricultural machinery at fair prices.”

Myo Win Nyo (Kyanhla)

Road works force temporary relocation of market

Mandalay, 3 July — Mandalay City Development Committee on 2 July decided to temporarily relocate Myoheung Market in Chanmyathazi Township while road works are carried out. Opened in 1991, the market between 82nd and 83rd streets in Tamapwady Ward has more than 400 vendors.

MCDC officials earlier inspected a section of 82nd Street west of the market that has been damaged by heavy usage.—Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)

Tin Maung (Mandalay)
Advanced HIFU cancer treatment comes to Myanmar

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

Yangon, 3 July — An advanced, non-invasive surgical procedure for people with cancerous tumours is now available in Myanmar, a doctor from a new Health Ministry treatment centre said Wednesday.

High-intensity focused ultrasound “is a type of cancer treatment that gives off high frequency sound waves to kill cancer cells,” Dr U Aye Chan Maw said in an interview with The Global New Light of Myanmar.

The new HIFU Centre is located within the compound of the 500-bed Specialist Hospital in downtown Yangon. The health ministry bought the HIFU machine from ACS Myanmar Medical Co. at a cost of US $2.8 million.

“Five local people with liver cancer have received this treatment free of charge after establishing the centre,” Dr Aye Chan Maw said.

“It doesn’t have as many side effects as other types of cancer treatments already in use,” Dr Aye Chan Maw said. “The machine might be able to treat cancers including prostate cancer, kidney cancer, liver cancer, breast and ovarian cancer, but it is not a suitable treatment for some cancers such as brain tumours and lung cancer.”

Managing Director U Sithu Aung of ACS Myanmar Medical Co. said the company plans to import more high intensity-focused ultrasounds from China in the future.

Myanmar has high rates of liver cancer, while ovarian cancer is the fastest-growing health problem for women.

According to a report, cancer is the leading cause of death in developed countries. Each year, about 4 million people die from cancer worldwide while more than 6 million people are diagnosed with cancer.

1. At the 29th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, Switzerland, a resolution on Myanmar was tabled by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and adopted by the Council on 3 July 2015.
2. The resolution infringes on the sovereignty of Myanmar. It also contains allegations on human rights and interfering with issues which fall within domestic jurisdiction of Myanmar. Additionally, it carries languages that mislead the people in their views on freedom of religion being practiced and allowed in the country. It is a subjective act abusing the Human Rights Council on religious grounds.
3. It is considered as an attempt to harm existing peace and unity among the people of different faiths in Myanmar’s pluralist society. In a broader sense, it is a step which constitutes a beginning that would detrimental to the present harmony among the religions of the world. In the contrary, this harmony should be preserved and promoted by all.
4. When the Human Rights Council took action on the resolution, Permanent Representative of Myanmar strongly rejected the unacceptable terminology mentioned in it. He further rejected paragraphs in the resolution one by another. Then, he firmly stated the stand that Myanmar dissociates itself from the resolution.
5. Myanmar will continue efforts on better promotion and protection of human rights, and also for the people of different faiths to keep on living harmoniously and peacefully in the country.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Nay Pyi Taw
Dated: 3 July 2015
Images of President U Thein Sein’s Japan visit

President U Thein Sein delivers speech at working luncheon of Mekong-Japan Parliamentary Friendship Association.—MNA

President U Thein Sein and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe enjoy Myanmar Fashion and Handicrafts Show at Minamiaoyama Idol.—MNA

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe warmly welcomes President U Thein Sein at Minamiaoyama Idol.—MNA

President U Thein Sein receives Shintaro Ambe, Vice President of Mitsui Co. Ltd. —MNA

President U Thein Sein shakes hands with Komeito Party Leader Natsuo Yamaguchi at Hotel New Otani in Tokyo.—MNA
Choose Cooperatives Choose Equality

By Myint Win Thein

On honour the co-operators and members of cooperative movement in the World who are going to participate in the celebration of International Day of Cooperatives on 4th July 2015 (Saturday).

Concern for the Community: is the Seventh Cooperative Principle for Cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members.

Historically, cooperatives have been used as a tool to alleviate housing shortages in times of crisis. Cooperative housing has a long history as a vehicle for home ownership and resident control since the early 1900s. Housing cooperatives play an important role in the world’s housing and shelter development to build better. On average, 10% of Europeans live in housing cooperatives. They show that living in housing cooperative provides many advantages in terms of economic, social and environmental sustainability. Housing cooperatives often manage to provide housing at costs that are below the price of a similar home in the open housing market. The reason for this is that the prime objective of living in housing cooperatives is to provide good quality and affordable housing in the interests of their members, and not to maximize profits for developers or shareholders.

One man one vote is the democratic essence of forming and functioning of cooperatives and to support the Second Cooperative Principle: Democratic Member Control. Cooperatives are democratic organisations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women, serving as elected representatives, are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives, members have equal voting rights (one member one vote), and cooperatives at other levels are also organised in a democratic manner.

Open and voluntary membership is the First Cooperative Principle: Voluntary and Open Membership. Cooperatives are voluntary organisations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, religious or political or religious discrimination, for all cooperative societies in the world.

Survival, sustainable success and significance are the 4 Ss for the progress and expansion of our cooperative movement.

Economic Participation of Members is the Third Cooperative Principle: Memory Economic Participation: Members contribute equitably, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the cooperative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing their cooperative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least works undivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

Cooperation among Cooperatives is the Sixth Cooperative Principle: Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the Cooperative Movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures. Ownership is very important for the individual members of cooperatives (any organization) to steward and steer the cooperative identity and entity.

Organizational Development (OD) is important for the advancement, betterment, comfort, development and enhancement (ABCD) of any cooperative society. Peoples’ Centered Development needs to be focused for the sustainable development of cooperatives.

Endurance, efficiency, economy, effectiveness are 4 Es required for gaining the best performance of our cooperatives.

Responsiveness, predictability, efficiency and effectiveness, consensus orientation, follows the rules of law, transparency, accountability, participatory, equity and inclusiveness are the main elements for ensuring good cooperative governance for the success of cooperative societies.

A cooperative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically controlled enterprise. (The ICA’s Definition of a Cooperative in 1995)

The cooperative model of enterprise contributes to youth employment not only by providing salaried employment, but also facilitating job creation through self-employment. The model lends itself to both rural and urban areas and for persons of all academic and skill levels including recent graduates who have limited prospects of finding jobs.

Independence and Autonomy is Fourth Cooperative Principle: Autonomy and Independence: Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organisations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organisations, including government, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative autonomy.

Vicissitudes: “the eight ups and downs of life” (āttha lokadhānā). (These are: gain and loss (ābhāvālābhā), blame and honour (ayaso yaso ca), insult and praise (nindā pasamā), delight and depravity (sukha ca duk-khaññā) are natural law for all human beings so that cooperative members need to cultivate “Equanimity” (upekkhā) or our ability to remain calm and unruffled when we face “the eight vicissitudes” and be resilient when facing financial, economic, political crisis, natural and man-made disasters.

Equal access to goods and services is meant Equality—The United Nations have recognized as a critical strategy, at the national level, that of ensuring equal access to goods, basic goods and services, the very purpose of a cooperative.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of Post-2015 Development Agenda and its indicators are important goals and indicators for cooperative societies in the world to make concerted actions and efforts for achieving the targets within the time frame.

Cooperatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and Solidarity. Cooperative members, in the tradition of their founders believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others. (ICA’s Basic Cooperative Values)

Happiness can be attained through the practice of Four Sublime States or Divine Abodes (Brahma-Vihāra): a) Loving Kindness (Mettā); b) Compassion (Karāma); c) Appreciative (Altruistic) Joy (Muditā); and d) Equanimity (upekkhā) (an attitude of impartiality and an ability to remain calm and unruffled).

Our vision and our responsibilities are to end extreme poverty in all its forms in the context of sustainable development and to have in place the building blocks of sustained prosperity for all. (UN Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals) (See page 9)
OCBC aims to strengthen financial sector through cooperation with local banks

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 3 July — The Overseas-Chinese Banking Corporation signed memorandum of understanding with 10 Myanmar banks Thursday at the official opening of its Yangon branch, agreeing to collaborate with the local lenders in training and capability building.

Singapore-based OCBC said its partnership with the Myanmar banks aims to boost their capabilities in cash management, trade finance and treasury solutions, thereby supporting the anticipated growth in trade and foreign direct investments into Myanmar.

According to a press release, the three state-owned banks signing the MoU on Thursday were Myanmar Economic Bank, Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank and Myanmar Investment and Commercial Bank. OCBC also signed MoUs with seven private commercial banks — Asia Green Development Bank Limited, Ayeyawady Bank, Co-operative Bank, Kanbawzaw Bank Ltd, Myanmar Apex Bank, Myanmar Oriental Bank Ltd and United Amara Bank.

OCBC Chairman Mr Ooi Sang Kuang said the bank set two significant milestones on Thursday that would contribute to a stronger financial sector in Myanmar.

OCBC was granted a banking license from the Central Bank of Myanmar together with eight other foreign banks last year.

GNL

Witnessed by Central Bank of Myanmar Governor U Kyaw Kyaw Maung (left), Singapore Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Teo Chee Hean (centre) and Union Minister for Finance U Win Shein, officials from OCBC Bank and 10 domestic banks sign agreements on collaboration in training and capability building in Yangon on Thursday. — Photo: OCBC Bank

Choose Cooperatives Choose...

(from page 9)

Over a thousand school co-operatives recently took part in the Schools Cooperative Day in Malaysia for young entrepreneurs, which was themed ‘Creativity and Innovation Empowers School Cooperatives’. Co-operatives have been established and encouraged in schools in Malaysia for over 50 years as a way of introducing young people to the co-operative values and principles and fostering the culture of co-operatives. The Education Ministry in Malaysia aims to have co-operatives in all secondary schools, and so far 2,090 of the 2,190 secondary schools in the country have established co-operatives. Of these, 1,835 have registered as members of Angkasa (the Malaysian Cooperative Commission), meaning they have access to programmes and trainings.

Co-operatives have been seen as an effective way of training and preparing young people to become effective leaders of tomorrow. The Education Ministry, has been running the Schools Cooperative Day, which is organised by ANGKASA and the Education Ministry, every year since 1995. Participants take part in activities such as a quiz, essay writing and drawing competitions, seminars themed around co-operatives and the co-operative movement and a petanque tournament. Prizes include visits to co-operatives and universities in other countries and the opportunity to experience first-hand the co-operative movement around the world.

SMART is an acronym for setting objectives of co-operatives’ action plan, Specific, Measurable, Attainable (Achievable), Realistic and Time-bound need to be considered in planning the cooperatives’ operational activities to produce good results.

Equity (Pro-Poor), Employment (Pro-Job), Empowerment (Pro-Women) and Environment (Pro-Nature) are four considerations for Human Development in order to enlarge the choices of the people in this planet.

Environmental preservation and sustainable management of natural resources is one of the Sustainable Development Goals of 2015 Development Agenda. Quantity is important and quality is much more important for cooperatives in carrying out their production, services and trading activities to efficiently and effectively produce outputs, outcomes and impacts using Results-Based Management techniques.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, both among the peoples of Member States themselves and among the peoples of territories under their jurisdiction has been proclaimed by UN General Assembly. All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood. Ambition, Attitude, Authority, Appearance and Audacity are 5As for achieving multi-level marketing objectives.

Leadership is, most fundamentally, about changes. What leaders do is create the systems and organizations that managers need, and, eventually, elevate them up to a whole new level or . . . change in some basic ways to take advantage of new opportunities. — (John P. Kotter)

In cooperation with the United Nations, the Member States of the UN have pledged themselves to achieve, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms the peoples of United Nations reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and have determined to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom.

Training, Education and Information is the Fifth Cooperative Principle: Education, Training and Information: Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees, so that they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public – particularly young people and opinion leaders – about the nature and benefits of cooperation.

Youth of today are leaders for tomorrow so that the cooperative societies have responsibility to nurture and train youth in their communities to be ready for future Cooperative Leaders and Good Co-operators. The democratic nature of the cooperative enterprise encourages participation, broadens ownership and fosters empowerment of youth. Indeed, young people often cite that it is the cooperative values and principles that make cooperatives attractive to them both a means to create their own enterprises or as a potential employer who will provide them “decent work”.

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About the author: U Tin Hnin
Freelance Management and Development Consultant, Former International UNCHS/LIOI/UNIDO Cooperative and Small Business Specialist in Malawi and Kiribati /UNDP Community Empowerment and Development Specialist in Bangladesh

Discussion focuses on formation of Myanmar Media Council

YANGON, 3 July — Ministry of Information and Myanmar Press Council (Interim) held a meeting on formation of the Myanmar Media Council in line with the Sub-rules (a) and (b) of the Media Rule-5, at the hall of the council at Yuzana Tower, here, on Friday.

At the meeting, Deputy Minister for Information U Pike Htway said that the ministry and the council will cooperate in formation of the Myanmar Media Council and the ministry will provide necessary assistance for the tasks.

Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department U Ye Tint discussed election of members of the media council while the attendees spoke about the future plans. — MNA

Union Minister U Aung Min-led government’s peace negotiating team holds talks with senior delegates of ethnic armed groups in a preliminary meeting to revive stalled peace talks. — PHOTO: CREDIT TO NYO OEN MYINT

Gov’t team, ethnic armed...

(from page 1)

“We proposed to hold further talks about who the NCA signatories should be and to ink the ceasefire deal with 15 ethnic armed groups first.” At the Law Khee Lar summit, the ethnic side decided all members of the NCCT, a coalition of 16 ethnic armed groups, must be included in the signing process.

Nai Hong Sar, the former NCCT leader who is also a member of the new ethnic negotiating team, told The GNL in Yangon last month that signing of the ceasefire must be all-inclusive, and the deal must guarantee lasting peace.

U Hla Maung Shwe ended the phone interview to the GNL by calling for flexibility in peace talks, hoping to hear good news at Saturday’s 3 p.m. meeting. — GNL

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GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

NATIONAL
Death toll from capsized Philippine ferry rises to 41, divers halt search

MANILA, 3 July — The death toll after a ferry capsized in the central Philippines rose to 41 on Friday when rescuers recovered three more bodies, but bad weather was hampering the search for another 12 people still missing, the coast guard and police said.

The motorized, wood-en-hulled MBCA Kim-Nirvana carried 187 passengers and crew when it rolled over on its side and turned over minutes after leaving the port of Ormoc City on Thursday. There were 134 survivors.

High waves and strong currents on Friday forced divers to postpone efforts to search the sea floor off Ormoc but rubber boats continued to scour the surface for survivors, Philippine National Police Director Asher Dolina said.

Part of the upturned ferry’s hull was still visi-ble above the surface of the water on Friday, a Reuters witness said.

Search and rescue operations continued through the night, with coast guard personnel reinforced by a Philippine navy ship and two air force planes.

A marine casualty in-vestigation into the cause of the sinking will begin on Saturday.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe apologized for LDP lawmakers’ anti-media remarks

TOKYO, 3 July — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe apologized on Friday for remarks made last week by some lawmakers of his Liberal Democratic Party calling for pressure to be applied on media critical of the government. “It was extremely inappropriate,” Abe told a session of a House of Representa-tives committee. “I apologize for (the remarks) that may have hurt the feel-ings of people in Okinawa Prefecture,” he said, refer-ring to remarks at an LDP meeting that the two major newspapers in Okinawa have been “torn over by left-wingers” and should be “destroyed.”

Abe had been asked about remarks made in June by one of his party’s junior lawmakers that Okinawans should “be destroyed.”

Reports said Abe had invited the session as the featured speaker, and said the two Okinawa papers should be “destroyed.” Abe did not attend the meeting. But he said on Fri-day, “Since the study ses-sion was held at the party’s headquar ters, I am ultimately responsible. “Those remarks were very regrettable and thoughtless,” the premier said, adding that they “significantly damage people’s trust and are not acceptable.”

Yuki Edano, secretary general of the main oppo-sition Democratic Party of Japan, told the same Diet session, “It should never be allowed for public authorities to put pressure on the media.”

Thai gov’t says Omani MERS patient fully recovered from disease

BANGKOK, 3 July — The Public Health Ministry said on Friday a 75-year-old Oma-ni man who tested positive for the Middle East Respira-tory Syndrome coronavirus after entering Thailand last month and was the country’s only MERS patient has fully recovered from the disease.

“The patient has recov-ered from MERS — he has no fever, he can breathe by himself, and he can walk a short distance,” the medical team agrees to let him return home,” Public Health Minis-ter Rachata Ratchatanawin told a Press conference. The man and his three relatives are scheduled to leave for Oman later Friday.

The man, who entered Thailand on 15 June to un-dergo treatment for a heart condition at a Bangkok hos-pital, was confirmed to be infected with MERS three days later. He was in an iso-lation unit of the ministry’s Bamranaradon Infections Disease Institute for the past two weeks, during which his condition improved consid-erably under treatment. His relatives who were traveling with him tested negative for the disease, the ministry said. Now that the two-week incubation period of the dis-ease has passed, the ministry will also stop monitoring 176 people who came into contact with the man. Kyodo News

Singapore navy launches 1st Littoral Mission Vessel

SINGAPORE, 3 July — Singapore’s Minister for Defence Ng Eng Hen on Friday officially launched “Independence”, the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN)’s first Littoral Mis-sion Vessel (LMV), which marked a significant mile-stone for the LMV pro-gramme.

Ng said the LMV is not just another new ship, instead it will lead the way in how Singaporeans use technology to overcome operational demands. That is the ethos of the country as Singapore celebrates its Golden Jubilee this year.

The Ministry of De-fence decided to build eight “uniquely Singapore” LMVs and signed a contract with Singapore Technol-ogies Engineering Ltd for the construction in 2013. The eight new LMVs will replace the RSN’s Fear-less-class patrol vessels (PVs), which have been in service for 20 years.

According to introduc-tion of Lieutenant Colonel Chew Chun-Chau, Head of Littoral Mission Vessel Project Office RSN, the new LMVs will be “smart-er, faster, sharper” com-pared with the previous ships.

Col Chew said they want to design a ship that’s smarter and can operate efficiently with a smaller crew size as the RSN have been increasingly tasked to do many new operations with tight personnel. Thus, Customizing a ship which can meet their demands rather than buying a one seems a better choice.

The new LMVs are designed and equipped with advanced combat capabili-ties and technologies to fur-ther strengthen RSN’s abil-ity in the seaward defence of Singapore and protecting sea lines of communication.

One of the key features of the RSN is the Integrated Command Centre where the ships Bridge, Combat Information Centre and machinery Control Room are co-located, said Chew. The centre integrates and synergizes the man-agement of navigation, engineering, and combat functions to achieve greater operational effectiveness and efficiency, especially during maritime security operations.

The LMVs also have greater endurance and are able to stay at sea for up to 14 days (3,500 nautical miles). The LMVs ability to respond rapidly to maritime security incidents is further enhanced with its faster speed in excess of 27 knots and the ability to support a medium-lift helicopter.

In addition, the LMVs are versatile and can be quickly configured to take on a wide spectrum of operations, such as con ducting maritime security operations, supporting hu-manitarian assistance and disaster relief and search-and-rescue operations.

Following the launch-ing, installation of combat systems on board “Inde-pendence” will commence before it undergoes sea trials. Independence is ex-pected to be delivered to the RSN in 2016 and will be fully operational by 2017. All eight LMVs are expect-ed to be fully operational by 2020.
No breakthrough in talks between Iran and nuclear watchdog

VIENNA, 3 July — No breakthrough was reached between the UN nuclear watchdog and Iran on unresolved questions around Teheran’s nuclear programme, the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said on Friday after a visit to Teheran. Teheran and world powers are pushing for a final deal at nuclear talks in Vienna, under which Iran would agree to scale back its atomic research — which it denies is aimed at developing a bomb — in exchange for a lifting of sanctions.

The IAEA will play a crucial role in monitoring and verifying any final deal. The agency’s investigation, running parallel to the political talks, into possible military dimensions of Teheran’s past nuclear work.

Yukiya Amano, the IAEA’s director general, on Thursday met Iran’s President Hassan Rouhani and the secretary of Iran’s Supreme National Security Council Major General Ali Shamkhani, in Teheran.

“The purpose of the visit was to advance work towards the resolution of all outstanding issues regarding Iran’s nuclear programme, including clarification of possible military dimensions,” Yukiya Amano said in a statement.

“I believe that both sides have a better understanding on some ways forward, though more work will be needed.”

Reuters

Japan, Cambodia agree to work closely on developing Mekong region

TOKYO, 3 July — The Japanese government has sent a senior diplomat to Russia to coordinate Russian President Vladimir Putin’s visit to Japan later this year, government sources said on Friday.

Hajime Hayashi, director general of the Foreign Ministry’s European Affairs Bureau, is expected to discuss a visit to Russia by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and the leaders of five Southeast Asian nations known as Mekong states — Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and his Cambodian counterpart Hor Namhong agreed on Thursday to keep working together over infrastructure development in Cambodia and four other countries along the Mekong River, Japan’s Foreign Ministry said.

The two met ahead of a summit in Tokyo on Saturday that will gather Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and the leaders of five Southeast Asian nations known as Mekong states — Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

Japan will continue to provide assistance for infrastructure building in Cambodia and help boost intraregional connectivity, Kishida was quoted by the ministry as saying during their talks at his office.

Hor Namhong, who is also Cambodia’s deputy prime minister, said the development of the Mekong region will contribute to connecting more of the entire region covering members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the ministry said.

Pushing for infrastructure development in Cambodia, which is one of the least-developed members of ASEAN along with Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam, is in line with the Japanese premier’s investment initiative announced in May to provide $110 billion over five years to promote “quality infrastructure” in Asia over the next five years.

Kishida and Hor Namhong also said they will continue to cooperate in efforts to build the so-called ASEAN Economic Community, the ministry said. With the launch of the regional economic bloc by the end of this year, barriers to the flow of people, goods and money across ASEAN member states’ borders will be lowered.

The five Mekong states belong to the 10-member regional grouping, which also includes Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore.

Kyodo News

Senior Japan diplomat sent to Russia over Putin’s Japan visit

SEOUL, 3 July — A group of aides to former South Korean President Kim Dae-jung is scheduled to hold talks with North Korean officials on Monday at the North’s border city of Kaesong to continue arranging a visit to North Korea by Kim’s widow Lee Hee Ho, South Korea’s Unification Ministry spokesman said on Friday.

The talks between five people from the Kim Dae Jung Peace Centre, dedicated to the former president, and officials from the North’s Asia-Pacific Peace Committee will be the second of its kind after the first round was held on Tuesday.

At the previous meeting, the South Korean side conveyed the 92-year-old former first lady’s wish to visit the North this month. The two sides agreed to continue talking to finalize details like the timing, itinerary and size of her entourage.

Any South Korean who wants to visit North Korea must gain permission from the South Korean government.

Attention is focused on whether Lee will be able to meet with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un during her visit at a time when inter-Korean relations remain tense.

North Korea has further heightened tensions by threatening retaliation against South Korea for the opening last week in Seoul of a UN office on monitoring human rights violation in the North.

Lee met Kim in December 2011 when she traveled to Pyongyang to express condolences over the death of then North Korean leader Kim Jong Il, father of the current young leader.

She had sought to travel to the North in December last year, but the plan was cancelled mainly due to her declining health. In 2000, Kim Dae Jung held a landmark summit with Kim Jong Il in Pyongyang and agreed to promote national reconciliation and economic cooperation. Kim Dae Jung died in 2009.

Kyodo News

Two Koreas to meet again on ex-S Korean first lady’s visit to N Korea

Thailand raising alarm over M6.1 quake jolts central, southern Philippines

MANILA, 3 July — An earthquake with a magnitude of 6.1 shook the central and southern Philippines on Friday, but there were no reports of damage or casualties, the state volcanology and geophysics bureau said. The quake’s epicenter was located 41 kilometres northwest of Burgos town in Surigao del Norte Province facing the Pacific Ocean, at a depth of 30 kilometres. The quake was felt on the islands of Cebu and Leyte in the central Philippines as well as in the provinces of Surigao del sur, Surigao del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Dinagat Island and Davao City in Mindanao island. No injuries are expected, the bureau said.—Kyodo News

Bangkok, 3 July — Thailand’s navy is seeking to acquire three submarines from China in a deal that would be worth 36 billion baht ($1.1 billion), its top commander said on Thursday.

Adm Krasorn Chansuwanit told a Press conference that if Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Prawit Wongsuwan approves the procurement request, it would be submitted to the Cabinet for deliberation.

Besides China, a special committee also considered buying submarines from Russia, Germany, France and Sweden, he said.

Thailand’s navy currently has no submarines in its fleet.

Kyodo News

Thai navy seeks to buy three Chinese submarines worth $1 bil

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Hajime Hayashi, director general of the Foreign Ministry’s European Affairs Bureau, is expected to discuss a visit to Russia by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and the leaders of five Southeast Asian nations known as Mekong states — Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

A senior Japan diplomat was sent to Russia over Putin’s Japan visit.

Austria’s President Heinz Fisches (C) and Foreign Minister Sebastian Kurz (L) welcome Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif for a bilateral meeting in Hofburg Palace in Vienna, Austria, on 3 July, 2015.—Reuters
Solar-powered plane breaks solo flight record across Pacific to Hawaii

HIRONOUCHI, 3 July — A Swiss man attempting to circumnavigate the globe with an aircraft powered only by the sun’s energy has broken a world record for the longest non-stop solo flight, the project team said on Thursday.

The Solar Impulse, which took off from Japan on Monday on the seventh leg of its journey and is expected to land in Hawaii early on Friday, shattered the solo-flight record threshold of 76 hours while crossing the Pacific.

The aircraft, piloted alternatively by Swiss explorers Andre Borschberg and Bertrand Piccard, set off on its 22,000-mile (35,000-km) journey around the world from Abu Dhabi on 9 March.

“Can you imagine that a solar powered airplane without fuel can now fly longer than a jet plane!” said Piccard in a statement. “This is a clear message that clean technologies can achieve impossible goals.”

The plane, which was piloted by Borschberg when it broke the record, weighs about as much as a family sedan and has 17,000 solar cells across its wingspan.

Overall, its trip around the globe was expected to take some 25 flight days, broken up into 12 legs at speeds between 30 to 60 miles per hour (50 and 100 kph).

The plane was expected to land around sunrise on Friday at Hawaii’s Kauai Aloa Airport, a former military base, according to a website listing updates of the journey.

The Solar Impulse 2 initially left Nanjing, China, on 31 May for Hawaii, but was forced to cut short its bid a day later due to what Borschberg termed “a wall of clouds” over the Pacific. It landed in the central Japanese city of Nagoya.

The solo record was previously set in 2006 by American adventurer Steve Fossett, who flew the Virgin Atlantic Global Flyer for 76 hours non-stop.

The Solar Impulse remained airborne three consecutive days and nights, producing its own power with solar energy, the pilots said.

The Solar Impulse 2 is the first aircraft to fly day and night without any fuel, solely using the sun’s energy.

Borschberg navigates alone in an unheated and unpressurized cockpit, sleeping in bursts of 20 minutes while on autopilot. The next leg of the flight will be from Honolulu to Phoenix, Arizona, and then Borschberg and Piccard will fly together across the Atlantic on a return path to Abu Dhabi.

Studies, design and construction took 12 years and is the first version of the craft rolled out in 2009 broke records for heights and distances travelled by a manned solar plane.

“The experience of flight is so intense that I can only focus on the present moment and discover how to deal with my own energy and mindset,” Borschberg said in a statement.

Three dead as 6.4 earthquake hits China’s Xinjiang

BEIJING, 3 July — At least three people were killed and more than 20 injured when a strong 6.4 magnitude earthquake hit a rural part of China’s far western Xinjiang region on Friday, Chinese officials said.

Many traditional houses in the mainly ethnic Uighur region collapsed when the shallow quake struck about 160 km (100 miles) northwest of the southern city of Hotan in the early morning, according to Chinese emergency officials.

“Currently, the earthquake has resulted in three deaths, including a father and son, and more than 20 injuries,” China National Emergency Broadcasting (CNEB) said on its website.

The quake was initially reported at various magnitudes up to 6.5. Several aftershocks were reported, the strongest measuring magnitude 4.8, according to the US Geological Survey.

Residents of the region expressed shock at the intensity of the quake on social media, although authorities said they were optimistic the death toll would not be high.

“If many people are gathered in one place during an earthquake, it can lead to a serious disaster, but in this case, there were relatively few people so it isn’t so serious,” China Earthquake Networks Centre researcher Sun Shihong told state broadcaster China Central Television.

Pictures on social media and state television showed cracks on the walls of buildings and other minor damage.

Earthquakes frequently strike Xinjiang, strategically located on the borders of India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Central Asia, as one of China’s most politically sensitive regions following years of violence, blamed by the government on Islamist militants.

Exiled Uighur groups and human rights activists say the government’s own repressive policies and religious and cultural restrictions have provoked unrest, an accusation the government denies.

For the semifinal match, it was the team’s previous six games in the tournament. — Kyodo News

Parrot predicts Japanese victory in Women’s World Cup final

UTSUOMIYA, 3 July — Olivia, a grey parrot kept at a zoo in eastern Japan, predicted on Friday that Japan would beat the United States in the Women’s World Cup final on 5 July. The 10-year-old parrot had accurately predicted the outcomes of the team’s previous six games in the tournament. — Kyodo News

Parrot predicts Japanese victory in Women’s World Cup final

BEIJING, 3 July — A Chinese documentary on how Germany and Japan reflected on their wartime atrocities has been translated into eight languages, and is available on major news portals.

The Chinese version of the 90-minute, four-episode documentary, “Truth and Denial: Germany and Japan’s Postwar Reparation”, was first aired on China Central Television in early June.

Produced by the Institute of World History under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, it has been translated into English, Russian, French, German, Japanese, Korean, Spanish and Arabic.

The documentary details how the two major countries in the war reflected on their actions post-World War II.

While Germany earned respect through concrete efforts, Japan irked its Asian neighbours by denying its war crimes. Jiang Youxi, the director and producer of the documentary, said the documentary offered a new Chinese perspective on WWII.

“There are many articles on the contrasting attitudes Japan and Germany’s different attitudes following WWII, but they did not answer my question: Why did they embarked on different paths.” — Xinhua

Type text here.
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV LANTAU ACE VOY NO (004N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV LANTAU ACE VOY NO (004N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.7.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T 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 MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: MS YANG MING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KUN YUAN VOY NO (001)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KUN YUAN VOY NO (001) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.7.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T (4) 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 MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY AGENT FOR: MS COSCO SHIPPING CO. LTD

Phone No: 2301186

Five dead, one missing in explosion accident of S Korean chemical factory

SEOUL, July — Five workers have been identified dead, with one missing, in an explosion accident near a waste disposal facility of a Hanwha Chemical factory in the country’s southeastern city of Ulsan, YTN and Yonhap News Agency reported on Friday.

The explosion occurred at about 9.19 am (0019 GMT) at the second plant in Ulsan of the chemical unit of South Korea’s conglomerate Hanwha Group. Five workers, who were welding the upper part of the waste pool, were killed with the explosion, and one has been missing, leaving the possibility for a rise in death toll.

Regional Police Officer, Faisal Shakhar, contradicted the minister’s statement saying the collapsed bridge is a hundred-year-old and was in a dilapidated condition due to which it collapsed when a 27-bogey train crossed it.

The relief train carrying medical staff and technicians has been dispatched from Lahore city to the incident site.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif expressed concerns over the incident and directed the officials with Pakistan Railways to reach at the site.

He also directed the officials to repair the track in the quickest possible way to restore the railway traffic.
Comicon International to stay in San Diego for now, spurning LA

San Diego, 3 July — Comicon International will remain in San Diego through 2018, despite an effort by the city of Los Angeles to attract one of the world’s top conventions for comic books and pop culture, officials said on Thursday.

Its roots date back to a 1970 event in San Diego that drew 300 attendees. It is the longest continuously running convention of its kind in the United States, contributing an estimated $136 million to the regional economy.

The annual event, which draws more than 100,000 people, has become increasingly important to Hollywood film studios over the last decade as a platform for announcements tied to superheroes and science-fiction film franchises.

Comicon had previously only committed to staying in San Diego until 2016, and there had been concerns among city officials that it could move to Los Angeles or Anaheim in Orange County. But under the agreement, the event will stay in San Diego for two more years.

“Fans near and far can rejoice that their favourite superheroes and celebriti es will continue to gather under the San Diego sun,” Mayor Kevin Faulconer said in a statement.

Comicon spokes man David Glanzer said in a statement that his group was pleased to stay in the city where the event has grown up.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti said in April that Wondercon, a smaller sister event to Comicon International, would be held at the Los Angeles Convention Centre in 2016. At the time, he expressed hope that the larger event would stay in San Diego.

Wondercon was last held in Anaheim.

This year’s Comicon International will kick off with a preview night on 8 July and continue through on 12 July.

New York, 3 July — The independent US cable network Reelz will televise the Miss USA pageant on 12 July, the company announced on Thursday, stepping in after NBC dropped plans to broadcast the show because of inflammatory remarks about Mexican immigrants made by co-owner and US presidential candidate Donald Trump.

“The decision on the part of Reelz to acquire the rights to the Miss USA Pageant was based on our belief that this special event, and the women who compete in it, are an integral part of American tradition,” CEO Stan Hubbard said in a statement.

The fate of the pageant’s English-language broadcast had come into question after Comcast Corp-owned NBC announced on Monday it would no longer air the event “due to the recent derogatory statements by Donald Trump regarding immigrants” the company said in a press statement.

Several judges and guests have also scrapped plans to take part in the event.

Trump, in announcing on 16 June that he was seeking the Republican Party nomination for the 2016 presidential election, described immigrants from Mexico to the United States as drug-runners and rapists.

“They’re bringing drugs, they’re bringing crime, they’re rapists, and some I assume are good people,” the billionaire developer said in opening his campaign at Trump Tower on Manhattan’s Fifth Avenue.

Spanish-language Univision [UVN.U] last week cancelled its contract to broadcast the Miss USA and Miss Universe pageants, co-owned by Trump, calling his remarks insulting.

“EXHIBITIONISM” will run from April to September 2016 at the Saatchi Gallery in the British capital, with some of the objects said to be from the band’s personal archives and never seen before by the public.

Among the items on display from the legendary rock group which formed in London in 1962 will be costumes, dressing room paraphernalia, instruments, audio tracks as well as un seen video clips, according to organizers.

Original poster and album cover artwork as well as personal diaries will also feature.

A similar kind of exhibition dedicated to British singer David Bowie’s career opened in London in 2013 at the Victoria & Albert Museum, drawing huge crowds.

“We’ve been thinking about it actually for quite a long time, collecting things, thinking ‘We better save this because we want people to see it’,” lead singer Mick Jagger said.

“It is a kind of look at your career, I think it’s an interesting time to do it. We have enough stuff, in fact too much stuff.”

“EXHIBITIONISM” is said to have taken three years of planning and will spread over two floors at the gallery.

Tickets go on sale on 10 July. — Reuters

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Trump’s Miss USA pageant finds new broadcaster after NBC drop show

London, 3 July — Veteran rockers The Rolling Stones will put on their first major exhibition looking at their more than 50 years in music at a London gallery next year, showcasing some 500 items including original stage designs, guitars and costumes.

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The Greatwall Sino-US film set to wrap

Beijing, 3 July — “The Greatwall”, a Sino-US co-production, will finish shooting in August, said director Zhang Yimou on Thursday.

The fantasy film, featuring Chinese and Hollywood stars such as Matt Damon, Willem Dafoe, and Andy Lau, centres on mankind’s resistance against demon monsters.

To fight evil, an international elite force turns the Greatwall into a weapon to ward off monsters trying to devour humankind, said the director.

All scenes were shot in China, said Zhang Yi-

wood, adding that he had been driven by a desire to promote Chinese culture through the iconic Greatwall, with the help of Hollywood.

The film is slated for worldwide release on 23 November, 2016. —Xinhua

Inspired by Spice Girls, Britain’s Little Mix eye movie next

London, 3 July — Taking inspiration from the Spice Girls, whose popularity en- dures 15 years after the group split, Brithish all-girl pop band Little Mix say they would like their version of the 1997 “Spice World” movie.

Their two albums, a perfume and the kudos of being the first group to win Britain’s talent show “The X Factor” to their name, Little Mix are eying a movie and world tour next.

“We want a movie really badly and a world tour,” member Jesy Nelson told Reuters in a recent interview. “We have so much more we want to do so hopefully this will be the year.”

Asked what a Little Mix movie would entail, fellow band member Leigh-Anne Pinnock said: “It would not just be com- ical, you would see our sensitive side (too).”

“We wear our hearts on our sleeves, what you see is what you get, and we would love to put that into a film and show everyone the real Little Mix.”

The foursome, which also includes Perrie Edwards and Jade Thirlwall, met on “The X Factor” 2011 show where they had auditioned individually before being put together as a band. They won, becoming the first group to do so in Britain.

Their two albums since made it into the UK and US top 10 with “DNA” entering the US Billboard 200 chart at No 4, the highest debut position for a British female band’s first album.

With a third album slated for later this year, their latest single “Black Magic” is out on 10 July.

“This time it was a bit of a struggle because obviously ‘Wings’ was a massive song, (single) ‘Move’ was completely differ- ent ... so we knew we had to nail it again with this one,” Thirlwall said.

“It did take a bit longer but we got there in the end and I feel like this is one of our favorite songs we’ve done.”

Reuters


The Greatwall Sino-US film set to wrap

Leading casts of the “The Great Wall” pose for photo during the Press conference of the movie in Beijing, capital of China on 2 July, 2015. Directed by Zhang Yimou, the movie is expected to hit the global screen in November next year.—Xinhua

People wait to enter the convention centre during the 2014 Comic-Con International Convention in San Diego, California on 25 July, 2014.—Reuters

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The Greatwall Sino-US film set to wrap

Leading casts of the “The Great Wall” pose for photo during the Press conference of the movie in Beijing, capital of China on 2 July, 2015. Directed by Zhang Yimou, the movie is expected to hit the global screen in November next year.—Xinhua

People wait to enter the convention centre during the 2014 Comic-Con International Convention in San Diego, California on 25 July, 2014.—Reuters
United States asks Swiss to extradite seven in FIFA inquiry

ZURICH / GENEA, 3 July — The United States has asked Switzerland to extradite seven FIFA officials arrested in an investigation into a global bribery scandal at football’s governing body, the Swiss Federal Office of Justice (FOJ) said on Thursday.

The move marks the start of a legal process expected to last several months during which the officials, who have been in jail since their detention on US arrest warrants in May, will either fight extradition to the United States or agree to go.

The arrests of the seven, including two then-members of FIFA’s executive committee, took place in a raid on a luxury Zurich hotel on 27 May, two days before FIFA’s annual congress, pitched the organization into turmoil.

US prosecutors say their investigation — which is looking into millions in untaxed incomes and tens of millions in complex money laundering schemes — exposes FIFA leaders and officials, and that it is likely the tip of an iceberg.

The US Department of Justice (DOJ) said on Thursday the interim head of FIFA’s executive committee, Jeffrey Webb, the former president of CONCACAF and Eugenio Figueredo, who sat on the executive committee at the time of their arrest, had been arrested.

The FOJ said it would rule on the extradition requests within a few weeks, based on statutory hearings and the responses of the FIFA officials.

Edward O’Callaghan, a New York-based lawyer in charge of Webb, declined to comment on the extradition request and a lawyer for Figueredo did not respond to requests for comment.

The US Justice Department did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Under a bilateral treaty, US authorities had up to 40 days to file an extradition request — which is expected to last several months — which could come from Switzerland’s Federal Office of Justice (FOJ).

“Great powers say their investigation is only just starting and they are going to try to seek that the Swiss tribunal not go forward with the extradition,” said Laureano Gonzalez.

“If that fails, we’re appealing to the internationally high-warrior instance that could extend Rafael Esquivel’s stay in Switzerland,” he added.

Esquivel is represented by a group of lawyers led by Gorka Villar, the son of the Spanish football federation president and FIFA executive committee member Angel Maria Villar.

Wimbledon ‘all-white’ clothing rule is too strict — Federer

LONDON, 3 July — Players’ efforts over the years to get Wimbledon’s “all-white” clothing rule relaxed got a boost on Thursday when Roger Federer said he thought the policy as it stood was “quite extreme”.

Federer, whose remarks carry more weight than some other players because as a former champion he is a member of the All England Lawn Tennis Club (AELTC) that runs Wimbledon, said he did not object to white clothing.

But he said he thought the AELTC was pushing it by ruling out garments that are less than pristine white — which could come from repeated washes — and he spoke wistfully of the days when players like John McEnroe and Boris Becker wore striped T-shirts and colourful jackets that are no longer allowed.

“I mean, that’s all white, we’re all for it. We get that. I just find it quite extreme to what extent it’s got to be white. We’re talking white like it was in the ’50s. If you look at the pictures then, it was all white,” Federer told a news conference after his second-round win over Sam Querrey of the USA.

Federer said that he would almost never wear coloured jackets. So I feel it’s actually gotten stricter,” Federer said.

“I would still be in favour of keeping it a little bit, but then again, it is what it is. You know, I’m happy, I’m proud to be here. So whatever, it’s okay,” he said.

The undercurrent of resistance to the all-white rule this season has included a woman player wearing a black bra which she concealed by wearing a white one over it.

Then American Bethanie Mattek-Sands, who is one over it.

Several players had previously said they would contest extradition.

Proceedings under the treaty are relatively straightforward, with the US authorities having the right to appeal along the way, legal experts say.

If the FOJ orders extraditions, defendants may appeal to Switzerland’s Federal Criminal Court in Bellinzona.

The detainees were provisionally banned by FIFA’s own ethics committee following the arrests. FIFA has said that it is cooperating with the investigation.

A Swiss court last month rejected one official’s request to be released on bail, citing the risk he might flee.

Rafael Esquivel, 68, the former head of the Venezuelan Football Association, is among the seven FIFA executives held since the Zurich arrests.

At a news conference on Thursday, the interim head of the association said Esquivel’s lawyers had received the extradition request on Wednesday and were already moving to block it.

“The lawyers are going to go to try to seek that the Swiss tribunal not go forward with the extradition,” said Laureano Gonzalez.

“If that fails, we’ll appeal to the internationally high-warrior instance that could extend Rafael Esquivel’s stay in Switzerland,” he added.

Esquivel is represented by a group of lawyers led by Gorka Villar, the son of the Spanish football federation president and FIFA executive committee member Angel Maria Villar.

Miyama, Ariyoshi shortlisted for Women’s World Cup MVP awards

VANCOUVER, 3 July — Japan captain Aya Miyama and teammate Saori Ariyoshi are among eight players shortlisted by FIFA for the Golden Ball award for the tournament’s best player at the Women’s World Cup in Canada.

Aya Miyama (Japan)
Megan Rapinoe (US)
Celia Sasic (Germany)
Lucy Bronze (England)
Ayumi Kaihori (Japan)
Julie Johnston (US)
Saori Ariyoshi (Japan)
Lucy Bronze (England)
Amandine Henry (France)
Carli Lloyd (US)
Aya Miyama (Japan)
Megan Rapinoe (US)
Celia Sasic (Germany)

Golden Glove
—

Trend of Kachin Dress

‘FIFA asks Swiss to extradite seven in World Cup investigation’

— Reuters

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Roger Federer of Switzerland hits a shot during his match against Sam Querrey of the USA at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London on 2 July 2015. Reuters

Federer told a news conference after his second-round win over Sam Querrey of the USA.

“The thing is, when I came on tour, when I was watching on TV, I still have the pictures in my mind where (Stefan) Edberg and Becker and all those guys, they had more colour. There were iconic T-shirts, iconic moments, I thought,” said Federer, who was ordered by FIFA officials not to wear orange-soled Nike shoes on court in 2013 when he was the defending champion.

He said when he joined the tournament the garments were “90 percent” white but could still have some light blue or black.

“But then it got to a point where stripes would be borderline here. I find that a bit of a pity because you can’t do anything with it. No cream colour, no this, no that, fine.

“I would still be in favour of keeping it a little bit, but then again, it is what it is. You know, I’m happy, I’m proud to be here. So whatever, it’s okay,” he said.

The undercurrent of resistance to the all-white rule this season has included a woman player wearing a black bra which she concealed by wearing a white one over it.

Then American Bethanie Mattek-Sands, who is ranked 158th in the world and whose headshot for her WTA profile shows her with her hair tied turquoise and lime green, turned up the volume after she upset seventh-seed Ana Ivanovic on Wednesday.

She said the all-white rule had “gotten a little excessive” and was disappoint-
Japan, US have revenge on their minds in World Cup final

EDMONTON, 3 July — Defending champions Japan and the rival United States are gearing up for the Women’s World Cup final in Vancouver on Sunday where both teams will have the added motivation of trying to avenge a past loss to the other.

For the Americans, it is all about averting their loss to Japan in the 2011 World Cup final where the latter triumphed on penalties after the game finished 2-2 after extra time. For the defending world champions, the game represents a chance to get one back on the Americans for their 2-1 win in the gold medal game at the 2012 London Olympics.

“The Americans took the Olympic gold medal but we aren’t going to hand over the World Cup. That is the kind of spirit we will play with,” said Japanese midfielder Aya Miyama.

Many Japanese fans will still clearly recall the referee’s controversial failure to award a penalty during the gold medal game when midfielder Tobin Heath handled inside the area.

Heath, on the other hand, will still have painful memories of her penalty being saved in the 2011 shootout after teammates Carli Lloyd and Shannon Boxx had also failed to convert.

All three of those players are in Jill Ellis’s current US squad and will be keen to erase those memories by winning the country’s third World Cup title and first since 1999.

“These are two talented teams with a lot of history and rivalry, and I think it will be a classic match-up,” said Ellis.

“Both teams have a lot of the same players from 2011, but that said, this is a different team on a different journey, and I know all 23 players and our staff are tremendously excited for this next challenge.”

For Japan coach Norio Sasaki, a win which will offer a clear contrast in styles between the clever, short-passing game of the Asian champions and the more robust, direct approach of the Americans, would be another thriller.

“In 2011, both teams had a wonderful game in the final and for women’s football in the world, I hope that we will have a wonderful game like the way we did then,” said Sasaki.—Reuters

Nadal loss sends shockwaves round Wimbledon

LONDON, 3 July — The untroubled advance of the heavy hitters at Wimbledon was spectacular halted on Thursday when twice champion Rafa Nadal was bundled out by German qualifier Dustin Brown who played the match of his life.

Roger Federer, Andy Murray and Petra Kvitova all cruised into the third round with straight-sets victories as the tournament meandered serenely through its fourth balmy day.

But the calm was shattered by the final match on Centre Court when Brown, a man until now on Centre Court when Brown, a man until now untroubled in a 6-4, 6-2, 6-4 demolition of American Sam Querrey.

Seeking a record eighth Wimbledon singles title, the Swiss was on cruise control from the off. On one rare occasion when he did find himself out of position he managed to manufacture a lob from between his legs that climbed over his 6ft 6ins (1.98m) opponent.

“In grand slams you have to try to conserve energy when you can really because the two weeks can be quite draining physically and mentally,” Murray told reporters.

Federer was equally untroubled in a 6-4, 6-2, 6-2 mauling of American Venus Williams, who played the match of her life.

The day’s explosive finale was in marked contrast to the early matches which went exactly to form.

Murray led the way by polishing off Dutchman Robin Haase 6-1, 6-1, 6-4 in 87 minutes with barely a misplaced shot.

“In grand slams you have to try to conserve energy when you can really because the two weeks can be quite draining physically and mentally.” Murray told reporters.

Defeat continued Nadal’s wretched run at Wimbledon since he lost the 2011 final to Novak Djokovic.

“Tobin handles in midfield when midfielder rules, will still have pain-ful memories of her penalty being saved in the 2011 shootout after Carli Lloyd and Shannon Boxx had also failed to convert.

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Portugal winger Nani to have Fenerbahce medical

LISBON, 3 July — Portugal’s winger Nani has been set to join Fenerbahce from Manchester United with the Turkish club saying negotiations were underway and he will be in Istanbul on Sunday for a medical.

“Fenerbahce has begun talks with Luís Nani and his club Manchester United to transfer the player,” the Turkish league runners-up said on their official Twitter feed.

The 38-year-old joined United in 2007 from Sporting Lisbon, where he spent last season on loan scoring 11 goals. He has been told he is not part of United manager Louis van Gaal’s plans. Nani, who won four Premier League titles and the Champions League at United, signed a five-year deal in September 2013.—Reuters

Japanese women seek revenge on US in World Cup final

JAPAN midfielder Mizuho Sakaguchi (6) and England forward Toni Duggan (18) fight for the ball during the first half in the semifinals of the FIFA 2015 Women’s World Cup at Commonwealth Stadium, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada on 1 July, 2015.—Reuters

Japanese women seek revenge on US in World Cup final

JAPAN midfielder Mizuho Sakaguchi (6) and England forward Toni Duggan (18) fight for the ball during the first half in the semifinals of the FIFA 2015 Women’s World Cup at Commonwealth Stadium, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada on 1 July, 2015.—Reuters

Japan women's world cup semi-final match

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