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President U Thein Sein urges for collective action to combat climate change in opening speech of 24th ASEAN Summit

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—Myanmar's President U Thein Sein opened the 24th ASEAN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw on Sunday with a speech highlighting Myanmar's action plan to address climate change as extreme weather patterns have affected ASEAN countries with "increased frequencies and ferocity" each year. His other main point focused on ASEAN Community building and poverty reduction.

The president said that the priority of Myanmar's ASEAN chairmanship is to accomplish the remaining tasks of the ASEAN Community building "through undertaking initiatives such as promotion of good governance, working for progress on the ASEAN Agreement for Protection of Rights of Migrant Workers and concluding the ASEAN Communication Master Plan."

He also emphasized the importance of promoting the "resilience of ASEAN economies and equitable economic development," saying this could be achieved by enhancing"productivity, competitiveness and innovation in ASEAN, especially with small and medium sized enterprises, and the establishment of the ASEAN SME Development Fund as outlined in the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint." Large parts of the president's speech addressed the impact of climate change. He said disasters have yet to be dealt with adequately by the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Center and that in order to deal with the issue an ASEAN Rapid Response capacity should be established, including a pool of rescue and relief experts and equipment in each member country that can be deployed quickly in the event of disasters.

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President U Thein Sein and heads of State/Government pose for documentary photo at opening ceremony of 24th ASEAN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

South China Sea issue not the most important topic for ASEAN: DG U Aung Lynn, ASEAN Affairs Department of MOFA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—*Following President U Thein Sein's closing press conference of the 24th ASEAN Summit, Director-General of the ASEAN Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs U Aung Lynn spoke with reporters from international media.*

Q: Please clarify the reasons on why the meeting between ASEAN Leaders and the civil organizations did not take place?

A: According to the tradition of ASEAN, representatives of civil organizations that participate in the meeting with ASEAN leaders are chosen by respective governments of the ASEAN countries. We informed all the governments to send representatives from their civil organisations to participate in the meeting. Therefore, those representatives who would participate in the meeting were to be selected by their respective governments. We, Myanmar, had arranged meetings between ASEAN leaders and representatives of civil organizations. However, the ASEAN Civil Societies Conference/ ASEAN People's Forum 2014 rejected some representatives chosen by some ASEAN member states and some representatives did not agree with the selection by the respective governments. The meeting did not take place in accordance with the set of rules of ASEAN.

Q: Please elaborate on what has been discussed on the South China Sea issue.

A: ASEAN and China hold regular meetings to discuss the South China Sea issue. High ranking officials from ASEAN and China held a meeting last month in Pattaya in Thailand.

Q: Is ASEAN satisfied with the discussions today on the South China Sea issue?

A: Our ASEAN leaders discussed the South China Sea issue today, focusing on peace and stability in the ASEAN region. The South China Sea issue is complex.

U Aung Lynn

As there are bilateral issues between China and the parties concerned, ASEAN is paying attention to the issue.

Q: Has any progress been made on the Code of Conduct?

A: ASEAN and China are making efforts to complete the Code of Conduct for the South China Sea as soon as possible.

Q: Is the South China Sea issue a challenge for Myanmar as it is the chair of ASEAN?

A: The South China Sea issue is not the most important issue. The ASEAN Community is the most important issue for ASEAN and therefore ASEAN is making earnest efforts for building the ASEAN Community.

NLM

ASEAN leaders call for self-restraint in South China Sea, agree on working towards early conclusion of COC: Nay Pyi Taw Declaration

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—With the recent confrontations in the South China Sea between ASEAN member Vietnam and China overshadowing much of the 24th ASEAN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw, the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration issued on Sunday stated that the bloc will "work towards an early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea", without mentioning the incidents.

According to the declaration, the ASEAN leaders agreed to "strengthen cooperation for the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Code of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC)…..calling on all parties to exercise self-restraint and non-use of force, as well as refrain from taking actions that would further escalate tension and to work towards an early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC)" to promote peace, stability and development in the region. Two paragraphs down the declaration states that the leaders agreed to "strengthen ASEAN centrality in the evolving regional architecture through ASEAN-led processes such as ASEAN Plus One".

On the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision, the leaders agreed to "ensure the timely formation in line with the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision". Regarding the realization of the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015, leaders agreed to intensify their efforts and "implement the initiatives to achieve the ASEAN Single Market and Production Base, including the trade facilitative initiatives such as the ASEAN self-certification system and the ASEAN Single Window, the ASEAN Customs Transit System, as well as other measures for the free flow of goods, services, investment and skilled labour and freer flow of capital.

Equitable economic development will be further promoted by assisting ASEAN Member States in meeting the commitments for economic integration, "operationalizing the ASEAN Framework on Equitable Economic Development and advancing the interests of SMEs and entrepreneurs in the region."—*NLM*

President gives press conference on upshots of ASEAN Summit

President U Thein Sein briefs the mediapersons on the 24th ASEAN Summit. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—A press conference concerning the ongoing 24th ASEAN Summit and its related meetings took place at Thanda Hall of Myanmar International Convention Centre here this evening, with a briefing by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, reports said.

The president highlighted efforts to establish ASEAN Community by 2015 in line with the theme 'Moving forward in unity to a peaceful and prosperous community', chosen by Myanmar since it started to take the chairmanship role of ASEAN.

Media reports quoted the president as saying the theme portrays future steps ASEAN will take as well as the country's commitment to the current democratization process and its reconciliation process.

President U Thein Sein stressed the exchange of views on how to fortify ASEAN institutions and ASEAN Secretariat in an effective way in line with the principles embedded in the ASEAN Charter. As regards regional and international issues, the president said ASEAN leaders at the Retreat Session discussed issues pertaining to South China Sea, East Sea, Korean Peninsula, multilateral cooperation in search of the missing MH-370, humanitarian assistance, disaster relief and Middle East. According to the president, the product of the summit is the adaptation of the 'Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on Realization of the ASEAN Community in 2015'.

Speaking of Myanmar's aspiration on ASEAN chairmanship, the president said ASEAN will be strengthened "as a people-centred organization in accordance with the people-centred development strategy", adding that unity is important among the ASEAN countries to maintain credibility.

As the ASEAN chair, Myanmar, U Thein Sein said, has set goals for bringing about peace, stability and prosperity while sustaining security in the ASEAN region. He also pledged a balanced approach to the expansion of relations with ASEAN's dialogue partners.

President U Thein Sein, on behalf of ASEAN, is scheduled to attend G-20 Summit to be held in Brisbane, Australia, from 15 to 16 November this year.—*MNA*

Mediapersons at home and abroad seen at 24th ASEAN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw.—PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

ASEAN first ladies visit gems emporium, handicraft museum

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—Mrs. Hj. Ani Bambang Yudhoyono, the wife of the president of the Republic of Indonesia and Mrs. Ho Ching, the wife of Prime Minister Lee Hsein Loong of Singapore, together with Daw Khin Khin Win, the wife of the President of Myanmar, visited the gems emporium and Myanmar handicraft museum in Nay Pyi Taw on Sunday.

In the morning, the first ladies visited the gems emporium and studied Myanmar gems and jewellery.

Daw Khin Khin Win hosted a luncheon in honour of the first ladies at the Mount Pleasant Hotel.

In the afternoon, they visited Myanmar Handicraft Museum and bought their favourites.

MNA

Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of President U Thein Sein, and wives of Indonesia and Singapore leaders look round gems emporium and Myanmar Handicraft museum in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

President U Thein Sein urges...

(from page 1)

He also proposed the further development of existing early warning system as well as the establishment of a network of research centres to look into ways for the agriculture industry to adapt to climate change and guarantee food security.

As part of Myanmar's action plan to combat the impact of climate change, the president proposed the systematic rehabilitation of mangrove forests, urging member countries to jointly set long-term targets to redevelop mangrove forests. "Mangrove forests not only reduce greenhouse gases but also reduce the impacts of storms and floods in low-lying coastal areas."

Another major point addressed in his speech was poverty reduction. U Thein Sein said efforts needed to be redoubled if poverty is to be halved by 2030 as proposed by Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and that special focus should be placed on women and children.

"As we formulate the post 2015 ASEAN Community Vision, I would like to urge for the inclusion of initiatives that will further enhance the role of women and children," he said, adding that he welcomed the "concrete initiatives for collaboration between the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children and Civil Society Organizations, particularly in implementing the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women and Elimination of Violence Against Children in ASEAN through Dialogue with NGOs and CSOs.

Acknowledging that the tasks ahead are "arduous and challenging" the president concluded his speech by saying that the ASEAN mission can be accomplished if the members work in unity.—*NLM*

Laotian delegates return home

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—A Laotian delegation led by Hon. Pany Yathotou, the President of the National Assembly of the Lao PDR and President of AIPA, left Nay Pyi Taw for Lao PDR on Sunday after attending the 24th ASEAN Summit and ASEAN Leaders' Meeting with Representatives of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly on 10 and 11 May in Nay Pyi Taw.

MNA

Myanmar President meets PMs of Vietnam, Singapore

President U Thein Sein shaking hands with Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung.
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May —President U Thein Sein held separate talks with the prime ministers of Vietnam and Singapore on Sunday at Myanmar International Convention Centre-MICC in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the meeting with the Vietnamese PM, they exchanged views on promotion of relations between Myanmar and Vietnam, cooperation in trade, investment, banking services and energy sectors and issues of regional peace and stability.

With the Singaporean PM, they cordially discussed further strengthening of relations between the two countries, establishing of a vocational training school in Myanmar, provision of technical assistance including legal affairs and cooperation in banking and monetary services.—*MNA*

President U Thein Sein cordially greets Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lee Hsein Loong.
MNA

President meets delegates of AIPA, AUF

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May — President U Thein Sein on Sunday attended the meeting of ASEAN Leaders' meeting with Representatives of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA), and the meeting of bloc's leaders and delegates of ASEAN Youth Forum (AUF) at Sapphire Hall of Myanmar International Convention Center here.

During his meeting with the members of AIPA, the president said that he acknowledges the role of parliamentarians in legislation processes and for the establishment of ASEAN Community by 2015.

He also said that ASEAN Community would be strong and supportive to emerge as an all-inclusive organization by creating into people-centred ASEAN.

President pledged that the results from the meetings will be implemented in the future.

He then met the delegates of AUF at the same venue.

On the occassion, U Thein Sein said that Myanmar is proud of celebrating ASEAN Youth Forum in March in Yangon under the theme of 'One Community! One Strategy! Youth for Unity'.

ASEAN Youth Forum could announce Yangon Declaration during that event.

President also said that the theme of AUF is interelated with the chairmanship theme '*Moving forward in unity towards a peaceful and prosperous community*'.

He said that Myanmar focuses on the important role of youths as it is profitable investment for the future of the region, and that efforts on development of socio-economic life will be fruitful for the new generation.

The closing ceremony of 24th ASEAN Summit was held at Ruby Hall of the same venue and the president extended thanks to all the leaders of member countries for the successful summit.

He pledged that suggestions of member countries to establish ASEAN Community will be implemented.—*MNA*

Press Statement on closing of 24th ASEAN Summit

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—A ceremony to conclude the 24th ASEAN Summit took place at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-I in Nay Pyi Taw on Sunday.

At the closing ceremony, President U Thein Sein expressed thanks to His Majesty and His Excellencies and said that they were able to hold a good discussion on matters that are indispensable for the region; that suggestions and frank views expressed at the meeting are to be put on record and visions of His Excellencies for the establishment of an ASEAN Community will be translated into actions. He also expressed thanks for the support of priority programs of the ASEAN Chair and assured that those programs will continue to be implemented in cooperation with all member countries.

Information Subcommittee

ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Statement on the developments in Thailand

ASEAN Member States continue to follow closely the recent developments in the Kingdom of Thailand and emphasize their full support for a peaceful resolution to the ongoing challenge in the country through dialogue and in full respect of democratic principles and rule of law.

ASEAN Member States reaffirm the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on the developments in the Kingdom of Thailand issued in Tokyo on 14 December 2013 and further underline the importance of democratic process in restoring law and order, promoting national reconciliation and the return of normalcy in Thailand, in accordance with the will and interests of the people of Thailand.

ASEAN Member States expressed confidence in the resilience of the Thai nationals to overcome the present difficulties and stand ready to extend all appropriate support based on the principles provided in its Charter.

MOFA releases Press Statement on 24th ASEAN Summit

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—*The Ministry of Foreign Affairs released the Press Statement on 24th ASEAN Summit on Sunday. The full text of the press statement is as follows:-*

Press Statement on 24th ASEAN Summit

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has assumed the ASEAN Chairmanship on 1st January 2014 for the first time since it joined ASEAN in 1997. In accordance with the ASEAN practice, the Chair of ASEAN hosts and Chairs the main ASEAN Meetings including the Summits, Ministerial Meetings and Senior Officials' Meetings.

As the chair of ASEAN, Myanmar hosted the 24th ASEAN Summit (Plenary) and (Retreat) and related meetings including the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meetings, the 11th ASEAN Political and Security Community Council Meeting and the 14th ASEAN Coordinating Council Meeting, ASEAN Leaders' Meeting with the Representatives of AIPA and ASEAN Leaders' Meeting with the Representatives of ASEAN Youth at Myanmar International Convention Centre-I, in Nay Pyi Taw from 10 to 11 May 2014. The 24th ASEAN Summit was the first in the series of ASEAN Leader's Meetings under Myanmar's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2014 under the theme ***"Moving forward in Unity to a Peaceful and Prosperous Community"***.

The 24th ASEAN Summit Plenary Meeting was held from 10:15 hrs to 11:15 hrs at Ruby Hall, Myanmar International Convention Centre-I on 11th May 2014. The Summit (Plenary) was hosted and chaired by U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Chair of ASEAN and the meeting was attended by the Heads of State/Government of the ASEAN Member States.

At the Meeting, the Leaders discussed the progress of implementation of the Roadmap for ASEAN Community, Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan II, Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) which were submitted by the Secretary-General of ASEAN; the future directions of ASEAN Community by taking into account the progress reports of ACCWG on Post-2015 ASEAN Vision and the High Level Task Force (HLTF) on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs and ASEAN's External Relations.

The Retreat of the 24th ASEAN Summit was held at Pearl Hall from 11:30 hrs to 13 hrs.

At the meeting, the leaders exchanged views on regional and international issues and preparations for the G-20 Summit to which the Chair of ASEAN will represent the ASEAN.

Following the retreat, the ASEAN leaders held series of interface meetings with the Representatives of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly and the Representatives of ASEAN Youth.

The closing session of the 24th Summit was held at the Ruby Hall and after the closing session followed Press Conference of the ASEAN Chair, U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Nay Pyi Taw
11th May 2014

Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on Realization of the ASEAN Community by 2015 11 May 2014

We, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (hereinafter referred to as "ASEAN") namely Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, gathered here on the occasion of the 24th ASEAN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar on 11th May 2014;

Reaffirming our commitment to the aims and purposes of ASEAN as set forth in the Bangkok Declaration of 8th August 1967, in particular to promote regional cooperation in Southeast Asia in the spirit of equality and partnership and thereby contribute towards peace, progress and prosperity in the region;

Adhering to the purposes and principles enshrined in the ASEAN Charter and upholding the Charter of the United Nations;

Recalling the ASEAN Vision 2020 (1997), the Declaration of ASEAN Concord II (Bali Concord II) (2003), the Cebu Declaration on the Acceleration of the Establishment of the ASEAN Community by 2015 (2007), the Cha-am Hua Hin Declaration on the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015), the Bali Declaration on an ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations (Bali Concord III) (2011), the Phnom Penh Agenda for ASEAN Community Building (2012) and the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision (2013);

Welcoming the progress made in implementing the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) as well as other measures and commitments set out in various ASEAN declarations and plans of action;

Recognizing the urgency of the successful establishment of the ASEAN Community by 2015.

Realising that the success of the ASEAN Community can be ensured only by sustained efforts to further deepen and broaden the integration process and to narrow the development gap within and among ASEAN Member States and by enhancing ASEAN's capability in addressing current and emerging issues of common interest and concern in a timely manner;

Commending the on-going efforts of ASEAN in formulating the ASEAN Community's post-2015 vision;

Reiterating our commitment to further strengthen efforts to enhance ASEAN integration and narrow the development gap by building on existing initiatives such as the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI), the Ha Noi Declaration for Narrowing the Development Gap for Closer ASEAN Integration (2001), the Vientiane Declaration on Enhancing Economic Cooperation and Integration among Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam (2004) and the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (2010);

Reaffirming our commitment to working closely with all our partners through various ASEAN-led processes, such as ASEAN Plus One, ASEAN Plus Three (APT), East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), and ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM Plus); **Stressing** the importance of cooperation among ASEAN Member States and the realization of an ASEAN Community that is politically cohesive, economically integrated and socially responsible.

DO HEREBY AGREE:

1. To strengthen ASEAN unity and solidarity as well as ASEAN's central role in maintaining and promoting peace, stability, harmony and prosperity in the region;
2. To further enhance ASEAN cooperation in promoting democracy, good governance and the rule of law, and promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, with due regard to the rights and responsibilities of the ASEAN Member States, so as to further enhance a rule-based community of shared values and norms;
3. To promote and uphold the rule of law in the conduct of relations, including in the peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with universally recognized principals of international law;
4. To promote the sharing of norms, principles and values as enshrined in the ASEAN instruments such as the ASEAN Charter, the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), the Declaration of the East Asia Summit on the Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations (Bali Principles) and the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) for peace, stability and development in the region;
5. To explore the possibility for a regional framework based on the principles contained in the TAC and in line with the Bali Principles on Mutually Beneficial Relations, welcome Indonesia's efforts to propose for an Indo-Pacific framework;
6. To further promote ASEAN's efforts in peace and reconciliation in the region through relevant mechanisms and entities associated with ASEAN, including the ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (AIPR);
7. To strengthen cooperation for the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), in accordance with universally recognized principles of international law including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), especially calling on all parties to exercise self-restraint and non-use of force, as well as refrain from taking actions that would further escalate tension and to work towards an early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC) as reflected in the ASEAN's Six-Point Principles on the South China Sea.
8. To work closely with the Nuclear Weapon States on the early signing and ratification of the Protocol to the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) without reservations by Nuclear weapon States;
9. To strengthen ASEAN centrality in the evolving regional architecture through ASEAN-led processes such as ASEAN Plus One, ASEAN Plus Three, East Asia Summit, ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting Plus, and ASEAN Regional Forum;
10. To expedite the implementation of the remaining action lines under the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015) through concrete programmes and activities;
11. To help strengthen the needs assessment capacity of the ASEAN Member States of identify constraints faced by individual ASEAN Member States in carrying out internal procedures with a view to accelerating to the ratification of ASEAN agreements and ensuring effective implementation of ASEAN agreements and other instruments;
12. To ensure the timely formulation of the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision in line with the Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision;
13. To strengthen ASEAN institutions and mechanisms in order to further improve efficiency and effectiveness, taking into account the expansion of ASEAN activities, the on-going discussion of the possibility of the potential enlargement of ASEAN membership, the geopolitical and geo-economic developments in the region, and growing interest by external parties to engage ASEAN;
14. To further strengthen ASEAN's external relations mechanisms to effectively engage with its Dialogue Partners and other external parties in building a mutually beneficial partnership to contribute to ASEAN's community building process as well as peace, security, stability and development in the region;
15. To intensify our efforts in realizing the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015 and implement the initiatives to achieve the ASEAN Single Market and Production Base, including the trade facilitative initiatives such as the ASEAN self-certification system and the ASEAN Single Window, the ASEAN Customs Transit System, as well as other measures for the free flow of goods, services, investment and skilled labour and freer flow of capital;
16. To continue undertaking concerted action towards realizing regional transport connectivity initiatives including the implementation of the ASEAN Single Aviation Market Agreement and the development of the ASEAN Single Shipping Market framework;
17. To accelerate efforts in enhancing regional connectivity through the implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, which is critical in creating a more efficient regional market, enhancing ASEAN competitiveness and advancing the community building process;
18. To ensure a competitive ASEAN through improved policies and regulations for competition, intellectual property and consumer protection that foster open and efficient markets;
19. To further promote equitable economic development by assisting ASEAN Member States in meeting the commitments for economic integration, operationalising the ASEAN Framework on Equitable Economic Development (AFEED) and advancing the interests of SMEs and entrepreneurs in the region;
20. To expedite the implementation of the IAI Work Plan II by further enhancing technical and development cooperation to narrow the development gap and alleviate poverty, and initiate work on developing the Post-2015 work plan for the IAI;
21. To continue to strengthen ASEAN's external economic integration to advance our collective interests in the region through the on-going ASEAN Plus One Free Trade Agreements (ASEAN+1 FTAs) with Dialogue Partners, and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP);
22. To intensify efforts in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) cooperation in ASEAN, as well as with Dialogue Partners, and promote the productive capabilities of ASEAN Member States to enable our peoples to keep pace with dynamic technological advancement with a view to encouraging a competitive, sustainable and inclusive ASEAN;
23. To enhance efforts to empower women, youth, children, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups by encouraging their active participation in and helping them benefit from the ASEAN community building process;
24. To strengthen and empower the existing ASEAN mechanisms and multi-sectoral actions to improve prevention, preparedness, response, relief and recovery on disasters in a more coordinated manner by utilizing the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) as the main common platform for disaster management in ASEAN and enhancing the capability of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre);
25. To strengthen the environmental resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change of the ASEAN Community by effectively implementing the ASEAN Climate Change Initiative (ACCI) and the ASEAN Action Plan on Joint Response to Climate Change (AAP-JRCC);
26. To expedite the implementation of the Bali Concord III Plan of Action (2013-2017) in all three pillars of ASEAN to raise the profile of ASEAN at the global level;
27. To further promote the sense of belonging to the ASEAN Community among our people through the formulation and implementation of the ASEAN Communication Master Plan to articulate benefits of regional integration and to foster awareness and understanding on the work of ASEAN; and
28. To continue strengthening constructive and meaningful engagement with relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, the academia, parliamentarians, youth and civil society groups, in order to contribute to forging a people-oriented, people-centered ASEAN.

Adopted in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, on the Eleventh Day of May in the Year of Two Thousand and Fourteen.

President U Thein Sein addresses dinner in honour of 11th ASEAN Leaders Forum

NAY PYI TAW, 11 May—The Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute (ASLI) and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) hosted a dinner in honour of the upcoming 11th ASEAN Leaders Forum at International Convention Centre-2 in Nay Pyi Taw on Sunday, with an address by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, reports said. The president expressed his belief that the discussion among ASEAN leaders, industrialists and experts at the forum will be of great help in tackling the challenges facing the ASEAN region and generating new opportunities and visions. He also said the ASEAN community is a region with a diversity of nationalities, religions and cultures but in harmony. While taking the helm of the ASEAN, Myanmar is accelerating its reform processes in the fields of politics, economy and administration, which he believes will be instrumental to better cooperation in the ASEAN region and the international community as well. The president recognized the active role of local experts in nation-building tasks and legislative processes. He also regarded the recent peace talks and peace processes as historic milestones.

In connection with economic changes, foreign investments are encouraged, with the enactment of foreign investment laws aimed at protecting investors, the president stated.

He also said emphasis is placed on reduction of poverty, rural development plans, microfinance loans, and introduction of modern farming methods.

President U Thein Sein called for the need to lay down correct policies for business firms in the establishment of the ASEAN economic circle. The dinner drew the Indonesian president and his cabinet members, and representatives from China, Japan, Korea, the European Union, Canada, Australia and the Middle East.—*MNA*

Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of President U Thein Sein, puts brooch on wife of Indonesian President Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono at the dinner.—MNA

President U Thein Sein shows photo alblum to Indonesian President Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and wife.—MNA

Indonesian President Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and wife present basket of flowers to Myanmar traditional artistes.—MNA

President U Thein Sein and wife, Indonesian President Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and wife and Vice-President Dr. Sai Mauk Kham and wife seen at the dinner.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 12 May, 2014

Impact of climate change may cause new conflicts

By Aung Khin

Climate change results in more frequent and intensive disasters. It has more severe consequences on the food security and livelihoods of agriculture-dependent countries.

A recent Oxfam report shows that each year, on average, almost 250 million people are affected by natural disasters, the vast majority of them climate-related such as hurricanes, droughts, floods and earthquakes.

The report forecast the number could grow by more than 50 percent to an average of over 375 million people affected by climate-related disasters each year because of climate change on the world.

Climate change is possibly to cause new conflicts, leaving more people displaced, and the need for more humanitarian aid. Another recent report estimated that 46 countries will face a 'high risk of violent conflict' when climate change aggravates existing security threats.

As almost all the of Southeast Asian countries are vulnerable to natural disasters due to their geographical locations, climate change is to be considered seriously. Therefore, the regional countries should increase to invest in disaster risk-reduction activities, preparedness and management.

Climate change can have adverse effects on food security and nutrition due to decline in in agriculture production and erosion of vulnerable groups' assets, changes in morbidity patterns and potential declines in human health.

Management of climate risk will be pivotal in protecting livelihoods and food security.

In solving these problems, establishment of a network research centres in ASEAN countries could help to promote food security through sharing knowledge on climate adaptable agricultural products.

Sharing disaster risk management-related experience, knowledge and practical tools help address current threats.

Disaster risk management and climate change adaptation should be linked with national development plans, poverty reduction measures and food security strategies.

Preparedness is key to more effective response to the humanitarian consequences of climate change. In this regard, the the ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance Center (AHA) is suggested to take action in climate change.

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ASEAN community building must be the core issue, inaction on COC not an option: Marty Natalegawa

Indonesian Foreign Minister Marty Natalegawa seen at an interview.
PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Indonesian Foreign Minister Marty Natalegawa said on Sunday at the ASEAN Summit that progress on the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea is a must as "the status quo of the type we have now is a recipe for instability, tensions and uncertainties and therefore all ASEAN countries will be redoubling their efforts to ensure we make progress."

He said that although formal consultations with China are going "quite well" the recent incidents in the South China Sea suggested otherwise, "so we have to ensure the situation at sea is consistent with the diplomatic process and that there is not a gap between the two processes."

ASEAN's common position for the resolution of the issue was by peaceful means and diplomacy in a manner that is consistent with international law, with a military solution not an option, according to Natalegawa.

His view was shared in a separate interview by Sonny Coloma, Secretary of the Presidential Communications Operations Office of the Philippines, one of the ASEAN members heavily embroiled in territorial issues with China.

"Peaceful means by following the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and the ASEAN Declaration on the Code of Conduct must be promoted and President Aquino has been a consistent promoter and advocate of the principles that countries should settle their disputes using a rules-based approach and in the context of ASEAN following the Declaration on the Code of Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea," Coloma said.

While the Philippines and Vietnam had repeatedly called for the adherence to international laws in the run up to the summit, support was made clear in the plenary session, with Coloma saying that "I also heard Malaysia and Indonesia speak with emphasis on the need for supporting these principles."

Apart from the South China Sea issue, the other dominating topic at the summit was the establishment of the ASEAN Community, with Natalegawa saying ASEAN is at a critical junction as the bloc is now "entering the final stretch before the ASEAN Community 2015."

"ASEAN community building must be the core issue and can only be done by ASEAN countries themselves. Community building is not an event it is a process. We have a deadline to meet end of 2015. So far we have been on track, but even after 2015, the process of consolidating the ASEAN community will continue. That's why the leaders have begun to talk about the post 2015 ASEAN community vision. And what needs to be achieved between now and the next summit", he said.

While acknowledging that the roadmap the leaders have set for themselves was "challenging", the Indonesian Foreign Minister said that "Myanmar—although chairing ASEAN for the first time—has displayed the kind of leadership needed to ensure we achieve progress, but it takes all of us to work together, all members, so Indonesia will be part of that effort."

NLM

Secretary-General of ASEAN Le Luong Minh said for the bloc to be able to focus on the community building process—on the development and the striving for prosperity—ASEAN needs an environment of peace, stability and security in the South China Sea.— PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Artistes acting as nationalities of ASEAN countries depicting ASEAN integration at opening ceremony of the 24th ASEAN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 May.
PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

PHOTO GALLERY

Brunei Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah of Brunei Darussalam on arrival at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport on 10 May.—MNA

Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen on arrival at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.—MNA

Indonesian President Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono and wife on arrival at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.—MNA

Laotian Prime Minister Mr Thongsing Thammavong being welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.—MNA

Malaysian Prime Minister Dato Sri Haji Mohammad Najib arrived at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.—MNA

Singaporean Prime Minister Mr. Lee Hsein Loong being welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.—MNA

President Mr. Benigno Aquino of the Philippines arrived at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.—MNA

Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung being welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.—MNA

PHOTO GALLERY

24th ASEAN Summit Retreat Session, 24th ASEAN Summit Plenary Session

President U Thein Sein delivers an address at 24th ASEAN Summit Retreat Session in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 May.—MNA

Heads of State/Government of ASEAN countries attending 24th ASEAN Summit (Retreat Session) in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 May.—MNA

President U Thein Sein addresses 24th ASEAN Summit Plenary Session in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 May 2014.
MNA

Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin and Indonesian Foreign Minister Dr R.M. Marty M. Natelegawa exchange notes at signing of agreement on visa exemption on ordinary passport on 10 May.
MNA

President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win present flower basket to artistes who performed entertainment at dinner hosted to ASEAN leaders on 10 May.
MNA

PHOTO GALLERY

ASEAN SUMMIT OPENING CEREMONY, ASEAN LEADERS' MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

President U Thein Sein addressing 24th ASEAN Summit Opening Ceremony in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 May.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Opening ceremony of 24th ASEAN Summit in progress in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 May.

MNA

President U Thein Sein speaking at ASEAN Leaders' Meeting with Representatives of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 May.—MNA

Union Parliament Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann poses for documentary photo together with representatives of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly in Nay Pyi Taw on 11 May.—MNA

Thai government warns protesters as power struggle deepens

BANGKOK, 11 May — Thailand's beleaguered government on Sunday warned people to stay away from anti-government protests, saying it had to step up security as the two sides in a lengthy political crisis squared off over who is running the country.

The caretaker government loyal to ousted prime minister Yingluck Shinawatra is clinging to power and to the hope of an election in July to restore its authority.

But the government's enemies deride its legitimacy and are calling on the upper house of parliament, the courts and the Election Commission to appoint a new prime minister.

The head of the government team overseeing security during months of demonstrations against Yingluck and her brother, ousted former premier Thaksin Shinawatra, said protest leader Suthep Thaugsuban's call for a new prime minister was illegal.

"We would like to warn all Thais to stay away from the protest sites as we have to tighten our security forces in a bid to avert a crisis," Tharit Pengdit, chief of the Department of Special Investigation, told reporters.

Protesters have used guns and grenades to resist police efforts to clear them off the streets and the government has generally sought to avoid confrontation.

But Tharit's warning could be a sign that the government is feeling increasingly embattled, especially after Yingluck's sacking by the Constitutional Court for nepotism on Wednesday, and is trying to assert its authority.

The sometimes violent protests against Yingluck and Thaksin have sapped investor confidence, frightened off tourists and dented growth in Southeast Asia's second-biggest economy.

Member of the pro-government "red shirt" group holds an umbrella during a rally in Nakhon Pathom province on the outskirts of Bangkok, on 11 May, 2014. REUTERS

A day after Yingluck and nine of her cabinet members were thrown out of office she was indicted by an anti-corruption agency for negligence over a rice subsidy scheme that ran up big losses. The Senate is expected to impeach her for that, which could result in a ban from politics.

But Yingluck's Puea Thai party still runs the caretaker government and it is hoping to organize an election, tentatively scheduled for 20 July, that it would probably win.

Thaksin or his loyalists have won every election since 2001. But his enemies say he is corrupt and buys votes and they want an appointed "people's council" to oversee electoral rule changes to stop the Shinawatras from winning.

Reuters

Sea row not a problem between China and Southeast Asia group, Beijing says

BEIJING, 11 May — The South China Sea dispute is not a problem between China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and China opposes certain member states trying to use it to sow discord, its foreign ministry said.

Southeast Asian foreign ministers voiced "serious concerns" on Saturday over naval clashes between Vietnam and China as the regional group's top official urged Beijing to step up efforts to advance talks on maritime security.

Foreign ministers and heads of state of the 10-member ASEAN are facing a test of unity at their summit this weekend in Myanmar as some members express alarm over China's growing assertiveness in the disputed South China Sea and push for a strong joint statement.

China's foreign ministry, in a statement late on Saturday, said the issue was not "a problem between China and ASEAN".

"The Chinese side is always opposed to certain countries' attempts to use the South Sea issue to harm the overall friendship and cooperation between China and the ASEAN," the ministry said, in apparent reference to Vietnam and the Philippines, two of the most vocal countries on the dispute.

China was ready to work with ASEAN to continue implementing the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea, which was agreed on in 2002 to try to manage tensions in the seas, the ministry added.

"China hopes that the relevant ASEAN (members) will sincerely respect and implement the declaration and make positive contributions to peace and stability as well as maritime security in the sea," the ministry said.

Tensions ratcheted up last week after China positioned a huge oil rig in an area also claimed by Vietnam, with each country accusing the other of ramming its ships in the region close to the disputed Paracel Islands.

China says territorial disputes should be discussed on a bilateral basis. It claims the entire South China Sea, putting it in conflict with Taiwan, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, and Brunei. The last four are ASEAN members.—*Reuters*

A Philippine warship BRP Ramon Alcaraz (PF 16) is pictured anchored in Ulugan Bay near a naval forces camp in Palawan Province, southwest Philippines on 31 March, 2014. —REUTERS

North Korea renews threat of nuclear test

SEOUL, 11 May — North Korea renewed a threat on Saturday to conduct a nuclear test amid heightened concern that the reclusive state with a stockpile of missiles may set off an atomic device for the fourth time on the path to building a nuclear arsenal.

North Korea's official *Rodong Sinmun* newspaper said the country was justified in using all available means at its disposal to counter aggressive challenges by the United States and South Korea aimed at stifling its sovereignty.

North Korea clarifies "its resolute stand that it would take counter-measures including nuclear test to protect the sovereignty and dignity," the newspaper said in a commentary carried by the official *KCNA* news agency.

The threat comes days after statements by South Korea's defence minister that preparations for a new test appear to be near completion although analysis by an American think tank last week suggested a test may not be imminent.

A US official said the United States is "closely monitoring" the situation on the Korean peninsula and urged North Korea to refrain from actions that could threaten regional peace.

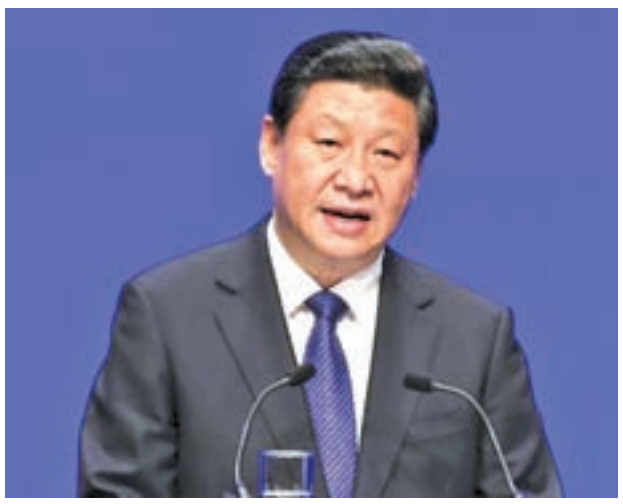
North Korean leader Kim Jong Un

"The United States remains steadfast in its commitment to the defence of its allies and continues to coordinate closely with both the Republic of Korea and Japan," National Security Council spokesman Patrick Ventrell said in an emailed statement.

North Korea had stepped up the threat in March to show off its military strength to counter what it said was hostility led by the United States after the UN Security Council condemned Pyongyang's launch of mid-range missiles into the sea.

"We would not rule out a new form of nuclear test for bolstering up our nuclear deterrence," it said in March.—*Reuters*

China's President Xi Jinping calls for more land transfers



China's President Xi Jinping

Beijing, 11 May — China's President Xi Jinping has called for the acceleration of land transfers to help modernize the country's agriculture, state media reported on Saturday.

Xi said family-run farms should work to raise the scale of their operations.

The Chinese president also said that the fundamentals of China's economic development had not changed, and that the government would continue to manage steady growth, while promoting reform and structural adjustments, while minizing risks. Xi made his remarks on a visit to Henan Province.

Land reform was an important part of the reform directive unveiled at the Third Communist Party Plenum in November.

Chinese leaders vowed that farmers would be granted more control over their land, allowing them to mortgage or transfer rights.

Reuters

Romania asks Russia to explain Deputy PM's remarks on microblog

Bucharest, 11 May — Romania's Foreign Ministry on Saturday called on Russian authorities to publicly state whether the statements by Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin make up Russia's official position of on Romania.

"The Foreign Ministry noted with surprise what Russia's Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin posted today, on 10 May, 2014, on his microblog, according to which 'Romania has closed its air space for my plane, upon the US request, Ukraine doesn't allow me to pass through again. Next time I'll fly on board *TU-160,*'" stated the ministry in a Press release.

"The Foreign Ministry believes the threat to use a strategic Russian fighter jet by a Russian deputy prime minister is a very serious declaration in the current regional context," the ministry stressed in the release.

Rogozin, also Putin's envoy for Transnistrian conflict, participated on Friday at the events of Victory Day in Moldova's breakaway region of Transnistria, media reports said. His journey took place despite of calls from Moldovan authorities to cancel such a trip to the so-called separatist region.

On Thursday, Rogozin entered Moldova by making a detour through Bulgaria and Romania as the Ukraine did not allow his plane to pass the country's airspace.

According to the Romania's Foreign Ministry release, Rogozin's name is included in the list of individuals sanctioned by the European Union after the Ukraine crisis. The Foreign Ministry also pointed out that Romania unequivocally supported and continues to fully support the sanctions imposed by the European Union on Russia.

Xinhua

New York police recruiting Muslim informants: NY Times

New York, 11 May — New York City police have been recruiting immigrants, most of them Muslims, in the years following the attacks of 11 Sept, 2001, to act as informants eavesdropping in cafes, restaurants and mosques, The *New York Times* reported on Sunday.

Citing documents it had obtained and interviews with former and senior police officials, the newspaper said the department had sought to enlist the help of immigrants such as a food cart vendor from Afghanistan, an Egyptian-born limousine driver and an accounting student from Pakistan, most of whom were arrested for minor infractions.

Detectives working for a unit known as the Citywide Debriefing Team conducted 220 such interviews in the first quarter of this year, the *Times* said, citing police officials, and conducted many hundreds of interviews in other years.

Police officials described the interviews to the *Times* as voluntary, but the paper said several Muslim immigrants it spoke to felt shaken by the encounters. John Miller, the deputy commissioner in charge of the Intelligence Division, said the debriefing team emerged from an urgent need for counter terrorism sources following the 11 September attacks, the *Times* said.

"We were looking for people who could provide visibility into the world of terrorism," the *Times* quoted him as saying. "You don't get information without talking to people."

Miller said the historic technique of debriefing prisoners, now being applied to counter terrorism, had been effective.

But the newspaper said many Muslim immigrants had said they felt as though they had little choice but to cooperate.

In one example, Bayjan Abrahimi, a food cart vendor from Afghanistan arrested in 2009 in a parking ticket dispute, said detectives asked him "about al-Qaeda, do you know these people?", the *Times* said. They also asked about his mosque, the nationalities of other Muslims who prayed there and about a brother who drove a taxi in Afghanistan.

Finally they asked if he would be willing to gather information at mosques and possibly travel to Afghanistan, to which, frightened, he said he agreed.

After his release, Abrahimi told the *Times* he never heard from the detectives again, but remained shaken by the matter.

Reuters

Indian election front-runner could curb beef exports

New Delhi/Mumbai, 11 May — India's main Hindu nationalist party says it plans to clamp down on beef exports if it takes power after general elections that end on Monday, threatening supplies from one of the world's biggest shippers of the meat.

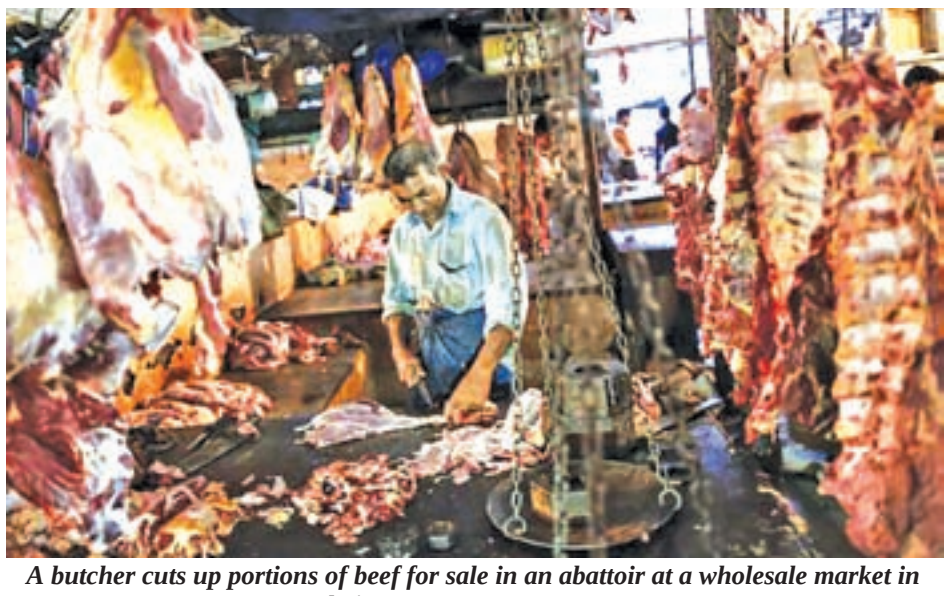
Surprisingly in a country where so many view cows as sacred, India has been poised to become the No 1 beef exporting nation, supplying markets such as Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam and Egypt.

Although most of that is from buffalo, which are not worshipped by Hindus, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) wants to curb exports that jar with the country's vegetarian tradition and to bolster the availability of animals reared to work on farms and for their milk.

A drop in Indian exports could buoy global cattle prices that have come off record peaks this year after the US herd was pegged at its lowest in over six decades.

"If elected, we will crack down on beef exports and we will also review the subsidy the government gives for beef or buffalo meat exports," Satpal Malik, the BJP vice-president who drafted the farm policy section of its election manifesto, told *Reuters*.

To help beef producers and exporters set up abattoirs, the federal government pays 50-75 percent of the cost of construction.



*A butcher cuts up portions of beef for sale in an abattoir at a wholesale market in Mumbai on 11 May, 2014.—*Reuters

The BJP manifesto defines the "cow and its progeny" as integral to India's cultural heritage — appealing to the party's core constituency of Hindus who abhor eating beef.

The party has also said it would outlaw cow slaughter in the only two states where it is currently permitted, and wants to stamp out illegal abattoirs where meat from cows enters the supply chain.

Voting in the country's mammoth five-week general election has nearly finished, with polls showing the BJP taking the most seats and the ruling Congress Party likely to be ousted after a decade in power. Results are due 16 May.

The possibility of a government drive to reduce exports has spooked beef suppliers at India's largest abattoir, which slaughters 300-500 cattle a day in Deonar on the outskirts of Mumbai.

"We have voted for Congress but if the BJP comes to power, we will have to be cautious. They are against our trade and they may come with strict rules," said supplier Mohammad Shareef Qureshi, sitting on an iron cot in a Deonar tea stall.

Beef production is dominated by Muslims, a minority in the country, and can stir sectarian divisions.

Clashes and altercations between some voluntary groups affiliated with the BJP and people involved in beef production and exports are common.

"The situation would get worse for us under a BJP government," said one truck driver who transports livestock. Giving his first name as Guddu, he complained of harassment by some Hindu organizations while on the road.

"We do oppose cow slaughter and we do act against it ... Why should it be allowed when cow is sacred to millions of Hindus?" said Prakash Sharma, spokesman for one leading Hindu organization.

The next government must ban beef exports, added Sharma, whose group, the Vishva Hindu Parishad, or World Hindu Council, is part of an umbrella group of Hindu nationalist organizations that includes the BJP.

Hindu-Muslim relations have been a key election issue, with critics accusing BJP prime ministerial candidate Narendra Modi of not doing enough to protect Muslims in a spasm of religious violence in the western state of Gujarat in 2002 that left at least 1,000 dead.—*Reuters*

Ukraine warns of 'abyss' as rebel east approaches self-rule vote

A man reacts as he stands on top of burnt-out armoured personal carrier near the city hall in Mariupol, eastern Ukraine on 10 May, 2014.—Reuters

Mariupol, 11 May — Ukrainian leader Oleksander Turchinov warned pro-Russian eastern regions they would be stepping into the abyss if they voted for self-rule on Sunday in a referendum that has raised Western fears of a slide to full civil war. Barricades of tyres and scrap metal blocked streets in the port city of Mariupol and in Slaviansk, centres of an uprising that has unleashed the worst crisis between the West and Russia since the Cold War. There was a clash between army and rebels near Slaviansk late on Saturday, but fighting had largely abated.

For a vote on which so much hangs, the referendum in the regions of Luhansk and Donetsk, which has declared itself a "People's Republic", seems a decidedly ad hoc affair.

Ballot papers have been printed with no security provision and the meaning of the question —asking voters if they support state 'self-rule' for the People's Republic of Donetsk—is, perhaps deliberately, unclear.

Some see in it endorsement of autonomy within Ukraine, some a move to independence and others a nod to absorption by Russia in the wake of Crimea, which Moscow annexed in March.

Annexation is favoured by the more prominent rebels, but the ambiguity may reflect their fears a full break would not garner enough support.

The eastern uprising followed the toppling in February of Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich, whose pursuit of ties with Moscow stirred mass protests by pro-Western activists in Kiev.

Rebels seized government and police buildings in the east with very little resistance from security forces Kiev says had been undermined by years of neglect and corruption under successive leaders.

But in recent days, Ukrainian forces have been striking back with shows of force especially in Mariupol, an important industrial and shipping centre. The interior ministry said 20 rebels were killed in fighting on Friday, while hospitals put the number of dead at seven.

Russia denies Western and Ukrainian accusations it has fostered the rebellion. It portrays the Kiev government as hostage to violent anti-Russian nationalists, intent on rooting out the culture and language of the Russian-speaking east.

Acting president Turchinov is attempting to bring eastern political forces into a round table to discuss federal devolution, but says he will not deal with rebel leaders with blood on their hands.

He said secession from Ukraine "would be a step into the abyss for these regions... Those who stand for self-rule do not understand that it would mean complete destruction of the economy, social programmes and life in general for the majority of the population."

The loss of Ukraine's coal and steel belt, which accounts for some 16 percent of national GDP, would be a severe loss for Kiev.—*Reuters*

A voter casts a ballot during a referendum in the eastern Ukrainian city of Slaviansk on 11 May, 2014.
Reuters

East Ukraine referendum raises fears of dismemberment

Mariupol, 11 May — Pro-Russian separatist leaders pressed a referendum on self-rule across eastern Ukraine on Sunday that has raised fears in Kiev and the West of civil war and dismemberment.

Clashes flared anew on the outskirts of Slaviansk, the most heavily defended rebel redoubt, as the first voters appeared at polling stations, making their way through streets criss-crossed with barricades of felled trees, tyres and rusty machinery.

"I wanted to come as early as I could. We all want to live in our own country," said Zhenya Denyesh, a 20-year-old student voting at a three-storey concrete and glass university building.

Asked what he thought would come after the vote, he replied: "It will still be war."

Ukrainian leader Oleksander Turchinov told pro-Russian eastern regions on Saturday that if they move to secession it would be taking a step into the abyss. He said such a move would destroy the economy of the region, that produces 16 percent of Ukraine's GDP.

Kiev and the West accuse Moscow of engineering the crisis, portraying the Ukrainian government as a body hostage to militant anti-Russian nationalists, and backing the rebel fighters with special forces, an allegation Moscow denies. Kiev authorities consider the referendum illegal.—*Reuters*

Venezuela's Maduro rails at 'stupid' US sanctions calls

A small group of anti-government protesters block an avenue with a burning barricade after a march in Caracas on 10 May, 2014.—Reuters

Caracas, 11 May — Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro has reacted furiously to calls in the United States for punitive measures against his government for alleged rights abuses in response to three months of street protests.

Some US lawmakers are urging sanctions on Venezuelan officials, or even wider measures against the economy, but President Barack Obama's government has said that may harm prospects for political reconciliation here.

Anti-government demonstrations since February have led to violence in which 42 people have died.

About 800 people have also been injured and some 3,000 arrested, including more than 400 remaining behind bars, in what Maduro has cast as the suppression of a coup attempt but opponents say is a wave of repression. "Now they're going round with this stupid idea that they're going to sanction us," Maduro said late on Friday, using the word "estupidos" which has a stronger connotation in Spanish.

"It's hardly worth responding to the stupid things the imperialist elites in the north do. They can keep their threats and stupidities," the 51-year-old successor to late socialist leader Hugo Chavez added in a speech to ecologists.

Last week's breakup of four student protest camps in Caracas, with the arrest of 243 youths, has revived tensions across Venezuela just as the movement appeared to be losing steam. Students and supporters were marching on Saturday.

Reuters

Incinerator not to be built without public support

Hangzhou, 11 May — Construction on a waste incinerator will not start in east China's Hangzhou, capital of Zhejiang Province, without public support and before going through legal process, said local authorities on Sunday.

Xu Wenguang, party chief of Hangzhou's Yuhang District, made the remarks responding to extensive public concern over the planned waste incinerator project scheduled to be built in Zhongtai township, Yuhang District.

Hangzhou authoritative department publicized the site of the planned incinerator in April as one of the city's major planned projects to ease its increasing garbage disposal pressure. Residents near the site fear that the project will be harmful to their health and add to pollution. They have gathered several times to protest.

On Saturday, protesters rallied and rushed onto a section of the Hangzhou-Anhui highway, causing traffic interruption. At least 10 protestors and 29 policemen were injured as they clashed. As of Sunday morning, protestors have left the highway and the Yuhang-Lin'an section of the highway was still closed.—*Xinhua*

INVITATION TO BID

The Korea International Cooperation Agency [KOICA] Myanmar Office invites eligible bidders of any firms from any country to express their interest in an International Open Competitive Bid to provide for construction service.
This is to be constructed with the Grant Aid of Republic of Korea Government.
- BID NO. : 2014-01 (Construction for follow-up project of the Hlegu rural development project in Myanmar)

Road pavement	2.5Km(length) x 4m(width), village road concrete pavement
bridge	4m(width) x 13m(length) x 3m(height)
repair on school	Sa Khan Gyi(307m²), Kha Yaung(108m²) school building
school building	Kha Yaung(108m²) school building and restroom
Education supply	playground(2), education materials(desk, chair, blackboard etc.)
village halls repair	Sa Khan Gyi, Kyauk Kha Din, Kha Yaung (each 216m²) village hall
Water-tank repair	6m(height) x 4m(width) x 3m(length)
village sign(3)	1 per each village

- bid type : International open competitive bidding(the fixed lum sum price)
- Expected Budget : USD 400,000(BID NO. : 2014-01)
- Selection of the Successful Bidder
  The one who gets the highest score combining the technical proposal [70%] and the bid price [30%] regarding will be a priority Negotiator.
- Construction Site : Hlegu Township, Yangon, Myanmar
- Bid conference : May 20th, 2014 / 10:00am / Kha Yaung village hall, Hlegu Township, Yangon

(please inform us before May 19th if you want to attend)
Representatives or authorized officer [with authorization letter] of the parties must be present during the bid Conference with their identification card.
Attendance is required for bid
-Please refer the information of bidding on www.facebook.com/koica.myanmar

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Trade, investment "cornerstone" of China-Kenya ties: Premier Li

NAIROBI, 11 May — Visiting Chinese Premier Li Keqiang on Saturday called trade and investment "cornerstone" of China-Kenya ties, reaffirming that China has never pursued surplus in its foreign trade.

Appearing with Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta at a Press conference after their talks, Li said trade situation is determined by market forces, and the Chinese government is willing to promote Kenyan exports to China.

The Chinese leader also said his country encourages competitive Chinese companies to invest more in Kenya's manufacturing sector, take part in the country's construction of industrial parks, and help Kenya improve product processing capability and competitiveness in global markets.

For his part, Kenyatta said the mutually beneficial cooperation between Kenya and China over the years has vigorously boosted Kenya's economic and social development.

The Kenyan side wishes to carry out more diversified cooperation with China and facilitate Chinese investment in Kenya, Kenyatta said, adding Kenya also expects closer cooperation with China in maintaining peace and stability in Africa.

Kenya is the last leg of Li's first Africa trip as premier, which has already taken him to Ethiopia, Nigeria and Angola.

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (1st L) and Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta (2nd L) attend a joint Press conference after their talks in Nairobi, Kenya, on 10 May, 2014.—XINHUA

While in Ethiopia, the premier delivered a speech on China's Africa policy at the African Union headquarters in Addis Ababa. In Nigeria, he also attended the 2014 World Economic Forum on Africa.

Xinhua

Photo taken by a mobile phone shows rescuers working at the accident site in Huangdao Island, east China's Shandong Province, on 11 May, 2014. Eighteen people were killed and another three injured on early Sunday morning after a rainstorm-triggered wall collapsed here, said local authorities.—XINHUA

18 dead in rainstorm-triggered wall collapse in E China

QINGDAO, 11 May — Eighteen people were killed and another three injured on early Sunday morning after a rainstorm-triggered wall collapse in Qingdao in east China's Shandong Province, said local authorities.

At 5:48 am on Sunday, an earth-retaining wall collapsed and fell onto a makeshift house for staff at a processing site of a Shandong renewable resource company at Huangdao Island, said the press office with the Qingdao city government.

The wall collapsed due to waterlogging after a rainstorm. Rescuers soon rushed to the site and conducted a search.

As of Sunday noon, rescue work had finished. Three injured people have been sent to receive medical treatment.

Investigation into the incident is under way.

Xinhua

15 killed in Dubai bus accident

DUBAI, 11 May — A total of 15 people were killed and 13 others injured on Saturday when a minibus crashed with a truck in Dubai, state news agency *WAM* reported.

The minibus, with a license plate from Dubai's neighbouring emirate of Sharjah, hit the backside of the truck that is registered in the sheikhdom of Fujeirah, on the Emirate Road, according to the report.

The minibus was carrying 30 passengers, including 29 expatriate workers, the report said. The two vehicles' drivers, both from Pakistan, survived the accident and have been detained by police, local daily *Gulf News* said.

The report did not reveal all nationalities of the victims, but noted that most of them are Asians, including Bengali and Indian nationals. The Chinese general consulate in Dubai has confirmed that no Chinese nationals were on the bus.

The 13 injured people have been sent to local hospitals. The cause of the accident is still under investigation.—*Xinhua*

Tornado damages or destroys hundreds of homes in Missouri town

KANSAS CITY, 11 May — A tornado destroyed or damaged 200 to 300 homes in a small town east of Kansas City, Missouri, on Saturday but caused no injuries, officials reported.

The tornado touched down in Orrick, Missouri, at 5:45 pm, damaging a school and a Baptist church, said Collin Stosberg, public information officer for the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

Television news footage showed homes with roof and interior damage and others with only their shell standing. The twister flattened other buildings, felled large trees and flipped over cars and campers. Stosberg said police who saw threatening skies and a tornado taking shape were able to sound sirens 10-to-15 minutes before the twister hit.—*Reuters*

Austria's 'bearded lady' Conchita Wurst wins Eurovision Song Contest

Copenhagen, 11 May — Austrian drag queen Conchita Wurst, popularly known as "the bearded lady," won the Eurovision Song Contest on Saturday with the James Bond-theme-like ballad "Rise Like a Phoenix", before a global TV audience of about 180 million people in 45 countries.

Wurst, sporting high heels, butterfly eyelashes and a full beard, topped the Netherlands' modern-country duo the Common Linnets, who sang "Calm After The Storm". Sweden's Sanna Nielsen came in third with her new-age pop song "Undo".

"For me, my dream came true," Wurst, 25, whose birth name is Tom Neuwirth, told a news conference after the win. "But for our society, it just showed me that there are people out there who want to go into the future and go on, you know, not stepping back or thinking in the past."

The Danish organizers had declared tolerance a main theme for this year's event, and the rainbow-coloured flag symbolising gay pride has been flying in many places in Copenhagen during the past week.

"I hope we can change just a few minds," said Wurst's agent René Berto. "It is just a lady with a beard. But it is like we have landed on the moon."

Conchita Wurst (L) representing Austria celebrates after winning the grand final of the 59th Eurovision Song Contest at the B&W Hallerne in Copenhagen on 10 May , 2014.—Reuters

Wurst, Austria's first Eurovision winner since 1966, received the biggest cheers from the audience but also stirred controversy in some countries. Online petitions were started in Belarus, Armenia and Russia—whose government passed a law last year banning "gay propaganda" among minors — to have Wurst removed or edited out of broadcasts in their countries. "We did it. It is the most amazing thing. But I knew she would win. I just knew it," Austrian fan Damel Saric told *Reuters*. "I have travelled to Copenhagen just for this moment."

The Eurovision competition, which has been held annually since 1956, was created to help foster unity after World War Two and is meant to be non-political. But political strife slipped between the cracks at this year's contest. Many in the audience booed when the Russian contestants, the 17-year-old Tolmachevy twin sisters, were presented at Saturday's opening ceremony and again when they were awarded points from other, mostly neighbouring, nations. It was widely speculated that Russia's entry could suffer for the country's annexation of Crimea in March and the government's intransigence on gay rights. Eurovision is hugely popular in the gay community. "The two Russian girls are sweet, and it is not their fault. But this is a party for everybody. Russia doesn't get that," said one of the booing spectators, a gay Dutch fan who identified himself as Xander.

Reuters

Chinese film screening week kicks off in London

London, 11 May — The Screening Week of China International Film Festival opened on Friday night in London, bringing ten popular Chinese films for British movie goers.

Following the first China International Film Festival held in London last December, the organizer plans to hold two screening weeks this year. The first week was launched on Friday evening, nearly two hundred filmmakers, businessmen and officials from China and Britain attended the opening ceremony.

During the first screening week, ten excellent Chinese films, including Lethal Hostage, The Grandmaster, American Dreams in China and Taichi 2, will be showcased for British audience.

"The screening week is launched under the background of 10th anniversary of Sino-British comprehensive strategic partnership and the fruitful results between the two film communities ... I believe that audience would get a glimpse of Chinese history and culture, Chinese livelihood and sentiment, profound changes brought to China after opening up, and colourful natural scenery in China," said Luan Guozhi, deputy director-general of the Film Bureau of China's State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television.

"Film is playing a unique role in enhancing China-Britain bilateral understanding and friendship," he said on the opening ceremony, adding that "I am confident that, with the strong support from governments and concerted efforts from both film communities, bilateral cooperation in film will achieve more on the basis of the existing progress, and in turn inject new vitality to the comprehensive strategic partnership, and write a new chapter to the friendly relations for our two countries."

"Britain and China have talked about potentially putting on screenings of Chinese films in London, for buyers or distributors in Britain, to try to encourage more Chinese contemporary cinemas into the British markets. If there are any young or old, or established Chinese filmmakers want to come to Britain, we can make it very very easy for them," said Amanda Nevill, chief executive of British Film Institute said.

"So, there's the British Film Institute, we can give them any advice they need, and we found an fantastic organization called British Film Commission, they will do everything they can to make it as easier as possible to get permissions and licenses to film in this country," she added.

Xinhua

Actress Kajol

This movie trailer has food, Scarlett Johansson and Sofia Vergara

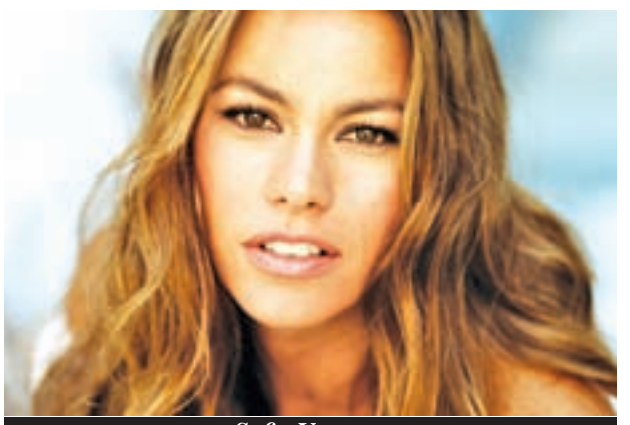
Scarlett Johansson

New Delhi, 11 May — Unless you live in the US, you're not going to be able to watch Chef for some time yet. So watch this trailer instead.

There's food — lots and lots of it, being cooked, being plated, being eaten — there's Scarlett Johansson and there's Sofia Vergara. There's also Robert Downey Jr, Dustin Hoffman and director/writer/producer/star Jon Favreau — the eponymous Chef — but it's really mostly about the food.

Jon Favreau stars as a Los Angeles chef who ends up fired by restaurant owner Dustin Hoffman and then begins driving a food truck around America. Scarlett Johansson plays the restaurant's hostess, Sofia Vergara plays his ex-wife, Robert Downey Jr plays Sofia's other ex-husband, and John Leguizamo and Bobby Cannavale appear as the line and sous chefs respectively.

Chef releases in America on Friday.—*PTI*



Sofia Vergara

Kajol: I have no differences with Karan Johar

Mumbai, 11 May — Actress Kajol denied reports claiming she had differences with her friend and filmmaker Karan Johar post her appearance on his talk show Koffee With Karan.

When asked about it, she said: "No differences at all with Karan Johar."

Kajol, who cut down her movie assignments post motherhood, will next be seen in her home production and added: "I have confirmed this news before and yes, I am doing that project."

The actress, who tries to spend maximum time with her daughter Nysa and son Yug, says the biggest gift her children can ever give her is acknowledgment.

"The biggest gift your children can ever give you is the acknowledgment. When I go back home and my son says I missed you and hugs me, I really love that. That makes my day," said the actress who was crowned 'Mighty Mom' on 9 May by the makers of forthcoming animation movie .

Talking about the children's safety and current scenario, she said the world is not so safe for children anymore.

"As a child I have never watched cartoons as I was busy with physical activity. My mum used to tell me to go out and play, and we didn't use to go out with our maids. Today, world is different if kids go out, we send our maids with them. World has become unsafe today it's different," said Kajol.

PTI

GENERAL

Daw Hnin Mya Kyi (Rose) BA, BA.Ed, MA (Ed) London
Teacher, Educator; Research officer & Education Research Bureau
Aug 29, 1918 - May 5, 2014, Age 95

Beloved wife of the late Professor Maung Kyi (Chief Conservator of Forests); mother of Dr. Min Thaw Kyi MD and the late Daw Tu Tu Mar New York; Dr. Win Maw Kyi MD and Dr.Aye Mya Win MD Dodge City, Kansas; Grandmother of Hagen NY; Chris Ann Kyi MD New York, Katelyn Kyi University of New York Medical School Syracuse Passed away peacefully in her sleep at 5 Am May 5, 2014. She was born to U Pho Nyan (Accountant East India Company) & Daw Kyin.She resided at Blazon Apt 404, U Wisara Road, Kamaryut Township, Yangon. She was a sister to Annie, Lily, Brownie U kwet Nyo, Violet, Daisy & Margarite. She will be cremated at Htein Bin Cemetery on May 13, 2014 at 11:00 AM.

Search for the missing in sunken S Korean ferry halts amid worsening weather

JINDO, South Korea, 11 May — Search operations halted on Sunday for the missing passengers in the sunken South Korean ferry as weather conditions became worse amid high wave and strong wind.

The pan-government accident response centre said that rescue ships with a size of less than 500 tons pulled out from the submerged ferry Sewol, which capsized and sank off the country's southwestern coast on 16 April.

Divers suspended underwater search operations inside the ship, and only 19 large-sized ships of more than 1,000 tons were scouring the waters in the area outside the sunken ferry.

A watch of high sea and strong wind was issued at 9 a.m. local time near the scene, with waves being as high as 2-2.5 metres and winds blowing at the speed of 12-14 metres per second.

The high sea watch was expected to be lifted on Monday morning.

The 26th day into search on Sunday, 275 people have been confirmed dead, and 29 others still remain missing. No survivors have been reported since 172 people were saved from the ship and sea on 16 April.

The search and rescue team was discussing how to get floating obstacles out of the passage on the fourth floor of the five-story vessel where dividers of passenger cabins were at risk of collapsing amid the prolonged exposure to the salt water.

Xinhua

Photo taken on 10 May, 2014 shows the torrents of a river in Shangpa township, Fugong county, southwest China's Yunnan Province. Mountain torrents damaged 14 houses and severed power supply on Saturday as a heavy rain hammered the region.—XINHUA

Massive fire strikes Sharjah industrial district

DUBAI, 11 May — A huge fire broke out on Saturday morning in Sharjah, one of the emirates of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), engulfing a tyre factory and destroying its five warehouses with no human casualties so far, local daily *Gulf News* reported.

The fire started about a quarter to 10 in the morning near UAE highway Mohammed Bin Zayed Road which connects Sharjah with Dubai.

Flames and thick black smoke triggered by the incident at Sharjah's traffic crossing National Paints Roundabout were so huge that they could be seen far from Dubai, the Western neighbour emirate of Sharjah. One fire brigade man was injured during fire fighting.—*Xinhua*

MYANMAR TV

(12-5-2014, Monday)

6:00 am
1. Paritta by Venerable Min Gun Sayadaw

6:35 am
2. Physical Exercise

7:00 am
3. News / Weather Report

7:20 am
4. People Talks

8:00 am
5. News/ International News

8:40 am
6. ASEAN Programme

10:20 am
7. Weekly Entertainment News

11:10 am
8 . New Melody

12:00 am
9. News / International News / Weather Report

12:25 pm
10. Myanmar Movie

2:45 pm
11. Musical Programme

3:00 pm
12. News

3:15 pm
13. Documentary (Women in Myanmar Society)

4:00 pm
14. News/ Weathter Report

4:20 pm
15. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) Fourth Year (Law)

4:40 pm
16. Song Programme

5:30 pm
17. India Drama Series

6:00 pm
18. News/ Weather Report

6:20 pm
19. Traditional Boxing

7:20 pm
20. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm
21. News/ International News/ Weather Report

9:00 pm
22. News
23. Documentary
24. Mono Classical Songs

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(12-5-14 07:00am~ 13-5-14 07:00am) MST

* Local News
* Pan Tamawt… Stone Carving
* World News
* TECH School
* Local News
* Taste of Myanmar (Milk Noodle)
* World News
* Ngapali Beach: Real Paradise
* Local News
* What Have You Done…For the Natural Environment?
* World News
* Hip-Hop and Design
* Local News
* A Trip to The City of Rakkhita, Rakhine
* World News
* The Photographer
* Local News
* Preserving Myanma Handicrafts
* World News
* Myanmar Movie Review "Satan's Dancer"
* Local News
* On the River
* World News
* Short Cut "Not Just a Bridge"
* Local News
* A Visit To San-Taw-Shin Kyike-Hti-Yo Pagoda
* World News
* Kid's Home
* Local News
* National Kandawgyi Garden (Pyin Oo Lwin)
* World News
* Black Gold (Part-I)

Ronaldo out of Real's La Liga game at Celta Vigo

MADRID, 11 May— Real Madrid top scorer Cristiano Ronaldo is out of Sunday's La Liga match at Celta Vigo, coach Carlo Ancelotti said on Saturday.

The Portugal captain, who has been struggling with minor injuries in recent weeks, limped out of Wednesday's 1-1 draw at Real Valladolid with an apparent thigh strain.

With the Champions League final against Atletico Madrid on May 24 looming, it had been decided not to risk aggravating the injury, Ancelotti told a news conference.

"Cristiano Ronaldo is not playing tomorrow because he is not at 100 percent and I prefer not to take risks," Ancelotti said.

Midfielder Angel Di Maria and defenders Pepe, Raphael Varane and Dani Carvajal were also unavailable due to injury, he added.

Real need a win in Vigo to keep alive their faint hopes of pipping leaders Atletico and second-placed Barcelona to the title.

With two games left, Atletico have 88 points, Barca 85 and Real 84 in third after consecutive draws that look to have wrecked their chances of a treble of Champions League, La Liga and King's Cup.

Atletico host Malaga on Sunday and Barca play at Elche and the top two meet at Barca's Nou Camp stadium on the final day of the season next weekend.

"We have to beat Celta and hope because in this league there have been a lot of surprises and there could be more," Ancelotti said.

"We will try to do our best because at this point there is nothing decided in mathematical terms."

Reuters

Liga 2013-2014 Top Scorers

Pos.	Player	Goals
1.	Cristiano Ronaldo *(Real Madrid)*	31
2.	Lionel Messi *(FC Barcelona)*	28
3.	Diego Costa *(Atlético Madrid)*	27
4.	Alexis Sánchez (*FC Barcelona)*	18
5.	Karim Benzema *(Real Madrid)*	17
6.	Adúriz *(Athletic Club)*	16
7.	Antoine Griezmann *(Real Sociedad)*	16
8.	Kevin Gameiro (*Sevilla FC)*	15
9.	Carlos Vela (*Real Sociedad)*	15
10.	Pedro (*FC Barcelona)*	15
11.	Gareth Bale (*Real Madrid)*	14

The New Light of Myanmar

Manchester City 2-0 West Ham: Samir Nasri and Vincent Kompany on target to secure Premier League title on final

MANCHESTER, 11 May —Manchester City have been crowned Barclays Premier League champions after a 2-0 win over West Ham. Manuel Pellegrini's side knew that a victory would seal their second title in three years regardless of what happened in Liverpool's match against Newcastle.

Samir Nasri settled the nerves when he opened the scoring for the hosts with just six minutes remaining of the first half.

Captain Vincent Kompany then slotted home from close range shortly after the re-start to end any danger of City not winning the title.

Liverpool came from one goal down to beat Newcastle, but following City's comfortable win, it wasn't enough to end their title drought which will now stretch into a 25th year. With ex-Liverpool players Andy Carroll and Stewart Downing in their side, as well as Reds fan Kevin Nolan, West Ham did have the personnel to provide one last dramatic twist at the end of a compelling season.

But realistically - with City having a two-point advantage - that was always a long shot and there was never any hint that the nerve-jangling final-day drama of their title win two years ago would be repeated. It was raining heavily at kick-off but the atmosphere was raucous and City approached the game with the confidence of a side that were comfortable and in control of their destiny.

City's top scorer Sergio Aguero was back in their side after injury but not at his sharpest, although on this occasion his brilliance was not needed.

West Ham did play more positively than the previous visitors to Eastlands, Aston Villa in midweek, but the occasions they threatened were still few and far between.

The hosts appealed unsuccessfully for a penalty early on after Mark Noble deflected a Pablo Zabaleta cross onto his hand.

Their first real chance came after David Silva and Aguero combined well on the edge of the box. Yaya Toure's initial effort was blocked before Silva volleyed over from a Zabaleta cross. Zabaleta then wanted a penalty after going down under a challenge from Mohamed Diame before Aguero showed some nimble footwork to spark an attack from inside his own half. The ball was worked across the field and Aguero tried to finish from distance but slipped as he shot and Adrian saved comfortably.

Nasri then had a good cross turned behind and Toure curled a shot narrowly wide as news filtered through that Liverpool had fallen behind in their game against Newcastle.

City maintained the pressure, with Aleksandar Kolarov forcing Adrian to tip over a powerful drive from distance. Nasri finally broke through six minutes before the interval as he took aim from 20 yards and struck a powerful low shot which went in off the post after a possible touch from Adrian.

City fans then increased the volume significantly and Aguero glanced a header wide before Silva saw an effort deflected onto the bar off Carroll.

City truly got the party started four minutes into the second half when Kompany stabbed home from six yards after Edin Dzeko won the ball from a corner. The City captain celebrated with unconfined joy.

West Ham did make a rare charge to the City end but Matt Taylor's mistimed shot bounced wide.

Aguero had two opportunities to extend City's lead but headed wide at the near post and then failed to connect in front of an open goal from a Zabaleta cross.

Aguero appeared to pick up another knock in the closing moments and he showed his frustration by bundling over Noble off the ball.

That sparked an unecessary scuffle between several players of both sides and Aguero was eventually booked, but it could not dampen City's celebrations. They knew the job was completed and the hosts duly played out the closing minutes with little alarm to prompt a pitch invasion and jubilant scenes.

DailyMail.co.uk

Late bogey drops Kaymer into tie for Players lead

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, (Florida), 11 May — Martin Kaymer bogeyed the par-four last to drop back into a tie for the lead with playing partner Jordan Spieth after the pair had dueled in Saturday's third round of the Players Championship.

Germany's Kaymer, who had been a stroke in front of the chasing pack overnight, overshot the 18th green with his approach, chipped up to nine feet and missed the par putt to card an even-par 72 on a breezy afternoon at the TPC Sawgrass. That left the German at 12-under 204, level with American young gun Spieth (71) who had appeared likely to bogey the final hole when his tee shot sailed right into a tree line from where he struck his second shot 56 yards short of the green.

After his third had nestled on the fringe 13 feet past the flagstick, the 20-year-old Spieth nervelessly drained the par putt to remain at 12-under and pumped his right fist in delight. Spaniard Sergio Garcia, the 2008 Players champion, was a further three strokes back after carding a 69, level on 207 with Australian John Senden (68).

Reuters

***Martin Kaymer plays from a bunker on the 9th hole during the third round of The Players Championship at TPC Sawgrass —Stadium Course.—*REUTERS**

Zanetti ends an era with final San Siro appearance

Inter Milan's captain Javier Zanetti (R) celebrates with his family at the end of their Italian Serie A match against Lazio at San Siro stadium in Milan on 10 May, 2014.
REUTERS

ROME, 11 May — Inter Milan defender Javier Zanetti was given a rousing farewell by the club's appreciate supporters after the 40-year-old Argentine ended an era by playing his final match at the San Siro on Saturday.

Zanetti came on as a 52nd minute substitute during a 4-1 win over Lazio that booked Inter's place in the Europa League for next season, a final high for a player who was a rock of consistency in a topsy-turvy two decades at the club.It was his 857th appearance for Inter since signing for the club in 1995, when he became Massimo Moratti's first purchase as Inter president, and he could make one more in their final Serie A match of the season at Chievo next week. "From the moment he arrived at Inter he always honoured the shirt and always made us proud to be Inter fans," former Inter owner Moratti said on Saturday."We have won a lot with him, everything. But I think that a person like him deserves all that and also deserves all of our affection and to be remembered for ever."The Argentine's 614 Serie A appearances is bettered only by former AC Milan and Italy defender Paolo Maldini but is by far and away the most of any foreign player to play in Italy.

Reuters

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