The New Light of Myanmar
MYANMAR'S OLDEST ENGLISH DAILY
Volume XXII, Number 51 | 14th Waxing of Nayon 1376 ME | Wednesday, 11 June, 2014

International Labour Organization can help improve industrial sector: Myanmar ILO official

Labour conditions could be improved substantially if the government would comply with ILO guidelines.—Photo: Aye Min Soe

By *Aye Min Soe*

Yangon, 10 June —A member of the International Labour Organization has urged the Myanmar government, employers and workers to make use of the mechanism of the International Labour Organization in order to help improve the industrial sector meeting international standard.

U Maung Maung, member of the governing body of the International Labour Organization, said that "The ILO should not be considered as an organization which places economic sanctions on Myanmar. There is no pressure from the ILO on Myanmar today as Myanmar has already eradicated forced labour by 85%. There needs to be cooperation with the ILO to develop Myanmar."

In order to attract investment and to improve the industrial sector, U Maung Maung said Myanmar should seek assistance from the ILO in terms of technical knowhow and financial assistance.

"It is important for the workers, national employers and the governmet to use the mechanisms of the ILO before huge investment from foreign countries starts flowing into the country to prevent the gap between rich and poor in the country from widening. Small and medium sized enterprises must not be affected in a negative way by foreign direct investment," U Maung Maung said.

The Secretary of the Youth Committee of the Federation of the Trade Unions Myanmar, Ma Sandar urged employers, workers and the government to also get involved as "They can obtain many benefits from the ILO." According to statistics by the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security, over 430,000 labourers work at 17,800 factories in Myanmar. Meanwhile, there are nearly 2,000 basic labour unions across the country, according to the Deputy Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security. The basic labour unions are located at industrial zones and major factories.Meanwhile, the relations between the employers and the basic labour unions are strained, according to FTUM.

Since Myanmar opened up over three years ago, the country has seen freedom of expression among workers and farmers and the number of labour disputes at factories and industrial zones, with several well publicized incidents of employees getting sacked for making complaints.

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JICA Myanmar Chief Rep. responds to NLM article on complaints by former residents of Thilawa SEZ Class A area

By *Ye Myint*

Yangon, 10 June — The Japan International Cooperation Agency on Tuesday sent a response to the New Light of Myanmar regarding an article published on 8 June, which highlighted the plight of locals who had to relocate to make place for the Class A Area of the Thilawa Special Economic Zone, saying that the difficulties "should be solved as soon as possible".

"JICA fully understands the difficulties which the Project Affected Persons (PAPs) are facing," Mr. Tanaka Masahiko, JICA's chief representatives in Myanmar, told The New Light of Myanmar on Tuesday in an email conveyed by JICA staff Thinzar Aung. He said that "quicker actions to improve the livelihood of the PAPs" are expected and that JICA –which provides advice and technical assistance to the government on the resettlement process--- will encourage the government to conduct job training programmes to provide a future for the locals.

Among the problems highlighted by the NLM were lack of prospect for employment and housing, with not even the most basic needs met including clean drinking water.

Dwellers from New Myaing Tha village, which is the new home of 68 households that were relocated from the 400-hectare Class A Area of the Thilawa Special Economic Zone, said that so far only assistance to their children's education has been adequate.

Offspring of the dwellers are now attending a nearby school and each of the students has been provided with an assistance package that includes textbooks, bags, stationary and school uniform, said the mother of an 8-grader on Saturday in an interview with the NLM.

Some dwellers, however, complained about the fact that officials concerned has not been acting in line with JICA's guidelines and that no financial assistance has been provided for setting up businesses, although locals were sent to classes to learn how to run small businesses.

Regarding the issue of undrinkable water in the village, the JICA Myanmar Office's Chief said that the government is addressing the issue by "planning to dig deep wells to obtain better water quality."

New Myaing Tha village became the new home for the 68 households in November last year at the start of the industrial park's development project in Class A Area.

Dark clouds hanging over the Resettlement Process for Thilawa SEZ Class A area, with locals worrying about the lack of employment prospects.
Photo: Ye Myint

Union FM receives UN Assistant Secretary-General

NAY PYI TAW, 10 June—Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin received a delegation led by Ms. Kyung-wha Kang, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs at the ministry, Nay Pyi Taw, on Tuesday.

During the meeting, they discussed and exchanged views on humanitarian assistance and emergency response to natural disasters.—*MNA*

12th SOM on ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information commences

NAY PYI TAW, 10 June—The 12th Senior Officials Meeting on ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information took place at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-MICC in Nay Pyi Taw on Tuesday.

The meeting chaired by Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Htut focused on reviewing the accomplishments of tasks for ASEAN Summits and ASEAN Social-Cultural Community-ASCC, tasks of the ASEAN Culture and Information Committee and the information subcommittee, frameworks for future tasks drawn by Myanmar, standardization for DVB-T2 in the ASEAN region, establishment of single Web portal for the ASEAN and release for the social responsible media accepted by the ASEAN.

In the evening, the deputy minister hosted a dinner for delegates to the meeting and officials of the ASEAN Secretariat.

The 12th ASEAN Plus Three Senior Officials Meeting will be held on 11 June and the 12th ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information on 12 June at MICC.—*MNA*

***The 12th SOM on ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information in progress at MICC.*—MNA**

Israeli embassy in Yangon donates children trolleys, books to Mandalay facilities

YANGON, 10 June—The Embassy of Israel in Yangon donated trolleys to children hospitals and books to a library in Mandalay in the first week of this month, according to a press release by the embassy.

At the donation ceremony, Ambassador Hagay Moshe Behar said, that "Children's specialists agree that hospitalization can be a traumatic disruption to a child's development and to the normal functioning of a family."

He added that this important project, launched by the embassy of Israel, will help in providing one more dimension to the Myanmar medical services, not only by contributing to the patients, but also by facilitating the work of Myanmar medical staff.

The ambassador also made a donation of 'Soul Bird' children book translations to Pyithu Library in Mandalay.

He said the purpose of the education project of the embassy is to promote the reading habits of young generations in Myanmar.

The embassy has donated over 400 translation books in Myanmar and Chin languages this time, according to the press release, and the ambassador has visited and donated the books to public libraries in Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing and Ayeyawady regions, Mon and Kayin States.

NLM

Israeli Ambassador Hagay Moshe Behar donates books to officials in Mandalay.

Saplings grown in Mongphyat Tsp for environmental conservation

MONGPHYAT, 10 June — As part of activities to mark World Environment Day, educative talks on environmental conservation and tree growing took place in the compound of Wampon Basic Education High School in Mongphyat Township of eastern Shan State on 5 June.

Township Administrator U Aung Myint Kyaw and Head of Township Forest Department U Saw Tin Myint explained matters related to environmental conservation.

Shan State Hluttaw MPs, departmental officials, rural development committee members, teachers and students participated in the cultivation of 430 saplings.

District IPRD

Myanmar National Disability Conference kicks off

YANGON, 10 June—The Myanmar National Disability Conference opened at Sedona Hotel in Yangon on Tuesday with international experts and officials discussing the present situation of persons with disabilities among other related topics.

Chief Minister for Yangon Region U Myint Swe, US Ambassador Mr Derek Mitchell and Lower House Social Development Committee member Dr Daw May Win Myint, on behalf of Lower House MP Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, made speeches.—*MNA*

Application for registration of political party

NAY PYI TAW, 10 June—Union Election Commission is allowing application of political parties for registration as a political party. The Khumi (Khami) National Party submitted its application for registration of political party to Union Election Commission on Tuesday.—*MNA*

Public notice for remonstration

1. The Khumi (Khami)National Party, headquartered at No. 6, Seikkantha Road, Reikkha Ward of Paletwa Township, Chin State, applied for registration as a political party on Tuesday in accord with Section 5 of the Political Parties Registration Law. In applying for the registration, the party has submitted its name, flag and seal to be used as mentioned hereunder.
2. It is hereby announced in accord with the Political Parties Registration Rule 14 (d) that those who wish to remonstrate with the Union Election Commission about the party name, flag and seal may do so with firm evidence within seven days from the date of this announcement.

Union Election Commission

Flag of the Khumi (Khami) National Party

Seal of the Khumi (Khami) National Party

President says Third Wave Reform will focus on emergence of new, strong democracy alongside higher living standard

President U Thein Sein talking about the Third Wave Reform aimed at laying the foundation for a better living standard.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 June—As the chair of the Steering Committee for Reforms, President U Thein Sein met vice presidents, union ministers and deputy ministers at his palace here on Tuesday afternoon, urging them to accelerate the Third Wave Reform, which is concerned with ensuring a solid foundation for a new democracy to take root and a higher living standard for people.

The First Wave Reform dealt with the introduction of a multiparty democratic system and the transition from the old to a new system, while the Second Wave Reform put emphasis on strategies for executive, economic, political and social reforms, the president recalled, citing the international cooperation in the declaration of the Nay Pyi Taw Accord.

"Political stability is of paramount importance because it can guarantee peace, prosperity and safety of the people, and therefore the political reform is the most critical and the most subtle of all," the president said, calling on the government bodies and the public to cooperate in order to avoid internal conflicts similar to those of some countries which are in a transitional period. He went on to point out that lengthy conflicts and instability have left Myanmar further behind than others in terms of development, urging political parties to avoid confrontation and enter into negotiation as a gesture of practising political culture for a stable and peaceful political reform.

Speaking of legislative practices carried out in the international community, U Thein Sein said a study shows that world nations tend to practise their constitutions and other laws for some time and make amendments only after a careful review of their strengths and weaknesses. Regarding the measures being taken in line with the Framework on Economic and Social Reforms, the president talked of changes in tax systems, alleviation of some trade and investment rules, arrangements for the launch of an e-government system, and projects for rural development and poverty reduction.

President U Thein Sein called on ministries concerned to implement projects in accord with the National Comprehensive Development Plan.—*MNA*

Myanmar, UN Assistant Secretary-General discuss humanitarian aid for Kachin, Rakhine States

Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and UN officials before discussions on humanitarian aid to Kachin and Rakhine States.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 June—Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham received a delegation led by Ms. Kyung-wha Kang, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator in Nay Pyi Taw on Tuesday to hold talks on providing humanitarian aid to Kachin and Rakhine states and on prospects of the UN and INGOs to overcome the challenges faced here.

MNA

Upper, Lower Houses debate car substitution programme, electoral system

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 June—The eighth day of the tenth session of the first Upper and Lower Houses of Hluttaw on Tuesday discussed car substitution programmes and electoral systems for the next General Elections.

As most vehicles on the roads in Myanmar are several decades old and pose a danger to safety of drivers, the car substitution programme will help car owners to obtain a licence on imported cars and tax them lower if they hand in their old cars.

There is high demand for this programme, said U Chan Maung, Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation at the session of the Lower House of Parliament.

According to the deputy minister, "Discussions are underway with the relevant departments and associations for the substitution of old cars manufactured in local industrial zones."

Myanmar started the car substitution programme in September 2011, with the programme to be expanded.

At the session, U Aung Thein, Deputy Minister at the President Office, also said that Yangon City Development Committee is issuing land grants in accordance with the law, but he denied that the committee did not grant permission to private companies to construct buildings in former parks. Another major topic discussed at the Upper House was the electoral system for the next general elections. Military representative Major Win Thein said that he supports the First-Past-the Post (FPTP) system which was practiced in 2010 General Elections, instead of the Proportional Representation (PR) system which has some weakness, according to him. U Khin Maung Yi, MP of Ayeyawady Region Constituency (6), said that he recommends the PR system as it is being practiced in 90 countries out of more than 160 democratic states.

At the session, four MPs refused to accept the PR electoral system for the next elections. —*MNA*

Trainees from Innovative Institute visit UEC office

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 June—Delegates from the Innovative Institute visited the office of the Union Election Commission here on Tuesday morning.

Four team leaders and 27 trainees of the institute were welcomed by the chairman and the secretary of the UEC.

Dr Daw Myint Kyi, a member of UEC, clarified the structure, its duties and the strategic plans of the commission to conduct free and fair elections in accordance with international norms. UEC chairman U Tin Aye explained pre-election activities, including the collection of voters' lists, and the work of the election commission, as well as organizing early-voting for Myanmar people overseas, and preparations to deal with possible risks in the 2015 General Elections.

MNA

UEC chairman U Tin Aye and officials debate on how to ensure next year's general elections will be conducted successfully.—MNA

Security on football grounds to be improved following workshop

MANDALAY, 10 June—A workshop on security on football grounds was held at the hall of the Youth Training School of Mandalay Football Academy on Monday, where the Myanmar National League will hold football tournaments.

The CEO of the MNL and MNL official U Ye Myo Thein discussed security measures for the stadiums with officials, urging them to implement proposed measures. U Khin Tun of the MNL organizing committee, MNL security official U Aye Cho, Principal of the academy U Soe Nyunt and other officials took part in the workshop.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Job fair in Mandalay sees 700 applications

MANDALAY, 10 June—The Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security, Asia Speed general Service Co., Ltd and Hti Hlaing Shin Group Essential Employment Agencies jointly organized the 2014 Employment Show (Mandalay) at the city hall in Mandalay on 7 June.

A total of 33 local and foreign companies opened their booths to invite applications from visitors, with some government officials inspecting the fair.

33 companies recruited over 700 applicants out of 1,658 visitors, with some companies planning to recruit more people in the near future, officials said.

Job fairs have been held in Mandalay four times, helping 6,209 youths to obtain jobs.

Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)

Chilli yield high in Kyaukse Tsp

KYAUKSE, 10 June—The chilli harvest in Kyaukse Tsp has begun, with green and dried chilly not only sold at local markets, but also being transported to Mandalay and Kyaukse via brokers.

"I grow chilli strains from Thaiwan. Its fruit is smaller than our domestic chilli strains and it tastes sweet and hot. Now, I sell chilli at K2,200 per viss and grow chilli on two acres of land," said farmer U Kyaw Win of Sabadaw village in Kyaukse Township.

Aung Min (Singaing)

Police Captain Myint Oo and delegation from Shwepyitha police station carried out sanitation works in the People's Hospital in Shwepyitha Township of Yangon North District on Sunday, also cleaning the surroundings.

THAR SEIN DAING

Youths seek jobs at 2014 Employment Show (Mandalay) at Mandalay city hall.

Sesame harvested in Kyaukse Tsp

KYAUKSE, 10 June—Farmers from Kyaukse Township started the harvest of sesame, with profit expected to be good in the 2014 cultivation season due to favourable weather.

Brokers buy sesame for K55,000 per basket, with farmers saying that 14-15 baskets per acre are being produced.

Aung Min (Singaing)

Measures on environmental conservation discussed in Ngazun

NGAZUN, 10 June—An educative talk on the use of firewood-substitute fuel and environmental conservation was given to local people in Thabaung Village in Ngazun Township of Mandalay Region on Sunday.

Staff Officer U Bo Tin Lin of Township Arid Zone Greening Department and staff gave detailed explanations on environmental conservation to the people.—*Kyemon-645*

Thai hunger-striker files charges against junta leader

BANGKOK, 10 June — A Thai political activist who has started a hunger strike in protest against last month's coup filed charges on Tuesday against junta leader Prayuth Chan-ocha and members of the ruling military council for defaming the monarchy and acts of treason.

Chalad Vorachat, a retired navy lieutenant and serial hunger striker, argues in a complaint filed with a Bangkok criminal court that the army intervention based on Thailand's Martial Law Act had a shaky legal basis.

"In order to announce martial law, the country must be at war or there must be a violent conflict. Permission must also be granted by the prime minister and the monarch," Chalad told reporters outside the court.

*A protester against military rule gestures during a brief protest at a shopping district in Bangkok on 8 June, 2014.—*REUTERS

"But soldiers pushed ahead with seizing power anyway".

Prayuth took power on 22 May, saying the army needed to restore order after nearly seven months of political turmoil when protesters occupied areas of Bangkok to try to force out the government of Yingluck Shinawatra and wipe out the influence of her brother, former premier Thaksin Shinawatra.

At least 28 people were killed and more than 700 injured during the months of unrest.

The coup was the latest chapter in a power struggle stretching back almost a decade between the Bangkok-based establishment and supporters of Thaksin, whose stronghold is in the rural north and northeast.

The military rulers scrapped the constitution after the coup and Prayuth has said it will take a year or more before a general election can take place.

Chalad, 71, first went on hunger strike in 1992 against unelected Prime Minister General Suchinda Kraprayoon.

Reuters

Hun Sen gives nod to opposition to run own TV channel

PHNOM PENH, 10 June — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said Tuesday the government would allow the main opposition party to indirectly operate a television channel. Hun Sen said registration under the name of a private company is the required condition for the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party to run its own TV channel. Nhem Ponharith, a CNRP spokesman, welcomed Hun Sen's remarks, noting that the party has been demanding reform of the media sector, including with regard to operation of TV channels by political parties. In addition to state-run TVK, Cambodia currently has 12 other channels, most of them in favor of the ruling Cambodian People's Party.— *Kyodo News*

Allied copters kill foreign troops in Afghanistan

KABUL, 10 June — Five foreign servicemen died in southern Afghanistan, the NATO-led coalition forces said on Tuesday, and police and Taleban insurgents said they had been killed by fire from helicopters piloted by their own allies.

The International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) gave no reason for the deaths on Monday in southern Zabul Province, days before a run-off round in a presidential election. The force said it was investigating the deaths.

Local police chief Ghulam Sakhi Roghlewai said: "ISAF troops were returning to their bases after an operation when they were ambushed by the insurgents. The air strike mistakenly hit their own forces and killed the soldiers."

A Taleban spokesman, Qari Yousuf Ahmadi, said insurgents had been attacking the foreign forces when the helicopters intervened and accidentally killed their own troops. Security is being ramped up in Afghanistan ahead of Saturday's run-off vote to replace President Hamid Karzai.—*Reuters*

Modi calls for greater cooperation with China

NEW DELHI, 10 June — Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged greater cooperation with China on Monday and said he planned to visit Beijing soon, underlining his administration's promise to make a new beginning with the country's giant neighbour.

India and China have rapidly expanded commercial relations in recent years but political ties remain difficult, after a dispute over their Himalayan border that led to a war in 1962.

But Modi, who took power last month, is seeking to engage with India's neighbours, including China. A peaceful and stable neighbourhood would help him pursue his economic goals at home.

On Monday, he met Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, who was visiting India as a special envoy of China's president to build ties with the new administration in New Delhi.

On Sunday, Wang had a meeting with his Indian counterpart, Sushma Swaraj, that lasted more than three hours. It was the first high-level engagement between the two countries since Modi assumed office.

*Indian President Pranab Mukherjee (2nd row R), Indian Vice President Hamid Ansari (R, front), Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (2nd row L), Lok Sabha (the Lower House) speaker Sumitra Mahajan (L, front) and others proceed towards Central Hall of the parliament in a procession where President addresses the joint session of Parliament in New Delhi, India, on 9 June, 2014. —*XINHUA

"The two sides will remain in touch through the diplomatic channel to make necessary arrangements for these visits and for other meetings and exchanges of leaders on the sidelines of multilateral summits," the Indian foreign office said in a statement after Wang's meeting with Modi.

It gave no other details. Modi has already invited Chinese President Xi Jinping to visit New Delhi later this year.

India was once viewed as a rival to China's economic juggernaut. Both the economies have slowed in the past two years, but India's slowdown has been dramatic.

Asia's third-largest economy grew 4.7 percent in the fiscal year that ended in March. That was the second straight year of sub-5 percent growth, the longest slowdown in more than a quarter of a century.

Reuters

Hillary Clinton says Benghazi probes won't deter possible White House bid

WASHINGTON, 10 June — Hillary Clinton said the latest round of congressional investigations into the 2012 attacks on the US diplomatic post in Benghazi, Libya, would not deter her from seeking the Presidency. "Actually, it is more of a reason to run because I do not believe our great country should be playing minor league ball," Clinton told ABC News.

"We ought to be in the majors. And I view this as really apart from, even a diversion from the hard work that the Congress should be doing about the problems facing our country and the world," Clinton said in a televised excerpt from an interview airing on Monday with ABC News anchor Diane Sawyer. Republicans have accused Clinton, who was then secretary of State, of not doing more to ensure the safety of Americans in Benghazi. Four Americans, including Ambassador Chris Stevens, were killed in the attack.

Former US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton

In the ABC interview, broadcast on the eve of the publication of her memoir, "Hard Choices," Clinton said she was "ultimately responsible for my people's safety." But pressed on whether there was more she could have done, she said there were limits.

"I'm not equipped to sit and look at blueprints, to determine where the blast walls need to be or where the reinforcements need to be," she said. "That's why we hire people who have that expertise."

Clinton, who is widely considered the Democratic front-runner if she enters the 2016 White House race, said she would decide on a possible presidential bid "when it feels right for me to decide." Asked if it were likely she would not announce a decision until next year, she replied: "I'm not positive about that. But that's probably likely."

Reuters

Russia would react to NATO build-up near borders

MOSCOW, 10 June —Russia would consider any further expansion of NATO forces near its borders a "demonstration of hostile intentions" and would take political and military measures to ensure its own security, a senior diplomat was quoted on Monday as saying.

The comments come amid a deep crisis between Russia and the West over Ukraine and days after US President Barack Obama offered increased military support for eastern European NATO members to ease their concerns over Moscow.

"We cannot see such a build-up of the alliance's military power near the border with Russia as anything else but a demonstration of hostile intentions," Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Titov told *Interfax* in an interview.

Speaking last week in NATO-member Poland, Obama unveiled plans to spend up to $1 billion on supporting and training the armed forces of alliance states bordering Russia.

The White House also said it would review permanent troop deployments in Europe in the light of the Ukraine crisis, but fell short of a firm commitment to put troops on the ground, as sought by Poland as a security guarantee.

"It would be hard to see additional deployment of substantial NATO military forces in central-eastern Europe, even if on a rotational basis, as anything else but a direct violation of provisions of the 1997 Founding Act on relations between Russia and NATO," Titov said.

"We will be forced to undertake all necessary political and military measures to reliably safeguard our security."

Russia has long opposed NATO's eastward expansion as threatening its own security and says Kiev's plan to associate itself more closely with the West — including with the military alliance and the European Union — has forced it to react.

The West accuses Russia of meddling in Ukraine to keep the former Soviet country in its sphere of influences.

Reuters

Saudi Arabia jails 33 for up to 30 years on terrorism charges

ABU DHABI, 10 June — A Saudi court sentenced 33 suspected Islamist militants on Monday to up to 30 years in prison, the official *Saudi Press Agency* said, eight years after their arrest on terrorism charges.

Seventy-one people were arrested in Riyadh's al Nakheel district in 2006 on charges including forming a terrorist cell, possession of weapons and plotting prison escapes. While 33 defendants were sentenced on Monday, the *SPA* report had no information on the status of the other 38.—*Reuters*

China to boost anti-terror cooperation with Central Asia

BEIJING, 10 June — A security bloc led by China and Russia will set up a special unit to fight terror following an upsurge of violence in China's restive far western region of Xinjiang blamed in part on militants outside Chinese borders, state media said on Tuesday. Beijing says separatist groups in Xinjiang are seeking to form their own state called East Turkestan and have pointed to links with militants in Central Asia as well as Pakistan, though experts dispute their influence and reach.

By the end of this year, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization will form a new regional group to combat terror, the official *China Daily* said.

China, Russia and four Central Asian nations - Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan — formed the group in 2001 as a regional security bloc to fight threats posed by radical Islam and drug trafficking from neighbouring Afghanistan.

"Many terrorists who carried out deadly attacks in China watched or listened to video or audio files online with extremist ideological content, but such materials are produced or uploaded outside China," the paper quoted Zhang Xinfeng, director of the bloc's regional anti-terrorist structure executive committee, as saying.

"The regional anti-terrorist structure decided to set up a special unit at the end of 2013 to deal with the new situation," he said at its headquarters in Uzbek capital Tashkent.

The new unit will provide help to China, especially to authorities in Xinjiang, to "eliminate online sources of terrorist and extremist information", the report said. Many experts and rights groups say economic marginalisation of the Muslim Uighurs, who call Xinjiang home, is one of the main causes of the violence, which has killed at least 180 people across China in the past year.

Security personnel stand guard outside a high school during the national college entrance exam in Kunming, Yunnan Province, on 7 June, 2014.— REUTERS

They argue that benefits of development in Xinjiang, resource-rich and strategically located on the borders of ex-Soviet central Asia, largely have gone to majority Han Chinese, stoking resentment among Uighurs. *The China Daily* said that Central Asian countries have become key to assisting China combat the spread of terror.

"Terrorist attacks in Xinjiang are closely related to the activities of terrorist, separatist and extremist forces in Central Asia, so joint anti-terrorist efforts from the member countries are crucial to China's stability, and it is a long-term mission," Zhang said.

Member states of the bloc already share intelligence and information and have been strengthened border security cooperation too, he added.—*Reuters*

Pakistani jets bomb militant hideouts after airport attack

ISLAMABAD, 10 June — Pakistan's air force launched air strikes in tribal areas on the Afghan border on Tuesday, killing at least 15 militants, the army said, two days after Taleban gunmen seized the country's biggest airport and killed more than 30 in an all-night battle.

Militants disguised as security forces stormed into the airport near Karachi, a city of 18 million, on Sunday night. The assault destroyed prospects for peace talks between the Pakistani Taleban and the government of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

"Nine terrorist hideouts were destroyed by early morning military air strikes near the Pakistan-Afghan border," the army's Press wing said.

No other details were immediately available.

The Pakistani Taleban, an alliance of insurgent groups fighting to topple the government and set up a Islamist state, said they had carried out the attack in Karachi in response to air strikes on their strongholds near the Afghan border.

The assault on the airport brought the government a step closer to a broader army operation in the tribal North Waziristan Region where the al Qaeda-linked Taleban are based.

The army has periodically bombed suspected insurgent hideouts in the region, but has yet to launch a major offensive to flush out militants.

At Karachi airport, rescue workers recovered the bodies of seven people trapped inside a cargo building, bringing to 34 the death toll from the attack.

"The bodies are badly charred beyond identification," said a morgue official who asked not to be named.

Reuters

Taxi drivers wait for passengers outside Jinnah International Airport after militants attack in southern Pakistani port city of Karachi on 9 June, 2014. The Jinnah International Airport in Pakistan's southern port city of Karachi reopened to passengers on Monday afternoon following Sunday night's terrorist attack that killed 23 people, local media and officials said. —XINHUA

Britain to host UK-China summit after human rights tensions

Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron (L) and China's Premier Li Keqiang shake hands following a signing ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on 2 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

LONDON, 10 June — Britain will host Chinese Premier Li Keqiang in London next week for an annual summit, Prime Minister David Cameron's office said on Tuesday, two months after a human rights row between the two nations derailed talks.

Li will meet with Cameron at his London residence on 17 June, a reciprocal visit following the British leader's trip to China last year, Cameron's spokesman said.

"The prime minister will meet with Premier Li and their discussion will cover a wide range of bilateral issues, including trade, investment and commercial opportunities and the energy and cultural side," Cameron's spokesman said.

Cameron met with Premier Li in December when the largest-ever British mission of its kind went to China to patch up relations between the world's sixth- and second-largest economies.

A rift over Britain's stance towards Tibet and the Dalai Lama, Tibet's spiritual leader, prompted London to cancel a planned trip by Cameron in 2012 after Beijing said its leaders would not be free to meet him.

Differences surfaced again in April this year when China was angered by a British Foreign Office document criticising China's human rights record.

Reuters

SKorea names new prime minister, spy chief

SEOUL, 10 June — South Korean President Park Geun-hye on Tuesday nominated new prime minister and spy agency chief, presidential office Cheong Wa Dae said.

Moon Chang-keuk, a former journalist at the *JoongAng Ilbo* daily newspaper, was named to replace the incumbent Prime Minister Chung Hong-won, who has offered resignation after the deadly ferry sinking disaster, presidential spokesman Min Kyung-wook told a Press briefing. South Korean ambassador to Japan Lee Byung-ki was nominated as new chief of the national intelligence service (NIS), the country' s spy agency, the spokesman said.—*Xinhua*

You're not human, South Korean ferry crew told as trial begins

GWANGJU, (S Korea), 10 June — Fifteen crew of a South Korean ferry that sank in April killing more than 300 people, mostly children, went on trial on Tuesday on charges ranging from negligence to homicide, with angry and grieving relatives of the dead packing the courtroom.

Most of the passengers were children from the same school on a field trip who stayed in their cabins as they were told while surviving crew members, including the captain, were caught on video abandoning ship.

Mourning family members packed the court in Gwangju, the closest city to the scene of the disaster, as the 15 were led in and seated in two rows of benches. One relative held up a sign that read: "You are not human. You are beneath animals."

An altercation arose between the relatives and court security guards who tried to take the sign away.

The captain and three senior crew members were charged with homicide in May facing a maximum sentence of death. Two are charged with fleeing and abandoning ship that carries a maximum sentence of life in prison. Nine are charged with negligence, that also carries a maximum sentence of jail.

Reuters

A woman reads messages on yellow ribbons dedicated to dead and missing passengers of the sunken ferry Sewol, at Seoul City Hall Plaza in Seoul on 19 May, 2014.—REUTERS

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 11 June, 2014

Flexibility needed to solve problematic situations

By Aung Khin

Flexibility is about not getting locked in to reaching impasse. When we realize that some practices are not working, we need to be more flexible and imaginative in trying something different. Flexible approach means responding to changing or new situations in ways that move us forward.

Being flexible means confrontations can be avoided, as flexible practices do not result in failure. When confronted with negative people, it would be easy to get sucked into their spiral of negativity.

Sometimes, rigid behaviours can turn into opportunities for enemies. But it is possible to liberate from an awkward situation through a flexible approach.

For example, when a baby is crying for something that the parents have prohibited, the latter would react with negative confrontation. Such response would lead to a bad image for the parents. Nearby witnesses would blame the parents whether the latter are right or wrong, resulting in sympathy for the baby and regarding them as uncivilized persons. It is a bad outcome for the parents.

In such circumstances, the parents should choose a flexible approach to the baby. Oppressed children display aggressive behaviours. If they are not oppressed, such behaviours will hardly appear.

Confrontation would make the participants popular or notorious. Confrontation can be avoided too often by using soft power instead of coercion. Most of the reasons to start confrontation are because of fear of failure in one's belief or concept. Psychologically, fear could lead to failure. Therefore, flexibility is sometimes needed to be free from failure.

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Long Lasting old Capital Inwa Part III
Second Inwa under Nyaung Yan dynasty

Maha Saddhamma Jotika Dhaja Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

Second Inwa under Nyaung Yan dynasty [1599-1752 A.D] was as equally peaceful, prosperous and progressive as First Inwa. It was King Tha Lun [1629-1648 A.D], the second son and successor of King Nyaung Yan, who moved his Capital from Hanthawaddy Pegu to Inwa in 1635. His choice of Inwa for his Capital proved right by the history of Second Inwa. Tha Lun learnt the lessons from the history of Toungoo dynasty. Hanthawaddy Pegu was no doubt the greatest Empire of the time in South East Asian Peninsula. It was built and maintained by might and main with the strategic facilities of sea ports, trade and commerce local and foreign, and strength of land and water forces. But lack of sufficient agricultural lands and strategic backbones could not hold its glory and greatness for long. Besides, Nanda Bayin, unworthy son and successor to King Bayint Naung hastened its downfall by his short sightedness and un-statesmanship. Therefore, Tha Lun abandoned "great empire by might and main". He preferred "prosperous kingdom by peaceful policy". Once he revived Inwa as his Capital he began taking advantage of Inwa's facilities—irrigation workers, communication and defence systems and trade and commerce networks.

Time and circumstances were favourable for Second Inwa under Tha Lun to rise to prosperity. At home peoples of both lower and upper Myanmars were tired of successive wars. They Lenged for rest and peace, and were ready to engage in the activities of economic prosperity and progress—agriculture trade and commerce, First Inwa had aheady benefitted.

Internationally, it was the century of Dutch ascendancy in South East Asia. The Portuguese had declined though isolated enclaves of Portuguese strongholds along the sea coasts in the east tired to stick to their last grip on spice trade. This covetous profitable spice trade which the Portuguese first took fron the moons [Arabs] now passed fully into the Dutch hand in the 17th century. The Dutch were purely merchant. Unlike the Portuguese they had no Christian missionary interest in their coming to South East Asia. Their main target was lucrative spice trade and the East Indies [Indonesian islands] were the places which produced abundance of naturally grown spices –cloves, nutmeg, mace and several others, much needed for preserving meat in European countries for winter use. Hence the Dutch did their best to get hold of their interest in these spice islands. As their spice trade boomed, they needed to cultivate spices. They needed farm labourers to grow spices. They recruited farm labourers from slaves they bought at centres of slave auctions at the coastal kingdoms of South East Asia. To feed slave farm labourers they needed rice. The Kingdoms in Myanmar, Rakhine, Mon, Myanmar, MraukU, Hanthawaddy Pegu and Inwa were rice exporting centres to where the Dutch were yearly bound to go for rice purchase.

The arrival of East India Companies in Myanmar

As early as Tha Lun's predecessor King, his elder brother Anauk pet Lun the Dutch East India company had arrived in Myanmar and set up their factories [Trading centres] at Hanthawaddy Pegu and Inwa. Not Long after, the English East India company followed, and the two began in rivalry. In Rakhine the Dutch East India company had their main office at MraukU. [An old brick building of Dutch factory in ruin at MraukU was preserved by Rakhine branch of Myanmar Archaeology Department during the time of the writer's service as Director-General]. By now the Dutch were well established in the East Indies and the Dutch East-India company in Java (renamed Batavia by the Dutch) was in full swing in its control of spice trade with many branches in nearby main land particulary a medium size peninsular country like Myanmar.

At MraukU in Rakhine kingdom they dealt in slave and rice purchases either at private auction sales or royal auction centres. Myanmar kings kept royal monopoly on revenue earning merchandizes such as rice, precious stones and slave trade. The Portuguese did slave raids and sold them at MraukU auction centres. Rakhine kings levied taxes on slave trade and sold to the Dutch their surplus rice at royal auction centres. While the Dutch brought whatever the kings and his people needed from the west and other places. By 1635 A.D the Dutch factories were well established at Pegu, Syriam [Thanlyin] and Inwa. At Pegu they opened indigo processing industry by employing local labourers in exhibiting blue dye from Myanmar indigo to supply to textile industries abroad.

The amount of rice and number of slaves exports and other minors items exported from Rakhine may be gauged from the available data from the Dutch records as follows:-

Weights and money exchange

1 carra = 420 to 440 Dutch lbs.
1 last = 3000 Dutch lbs.
1 Maund = 42 Dutch lbs.
1 Dutch florin = 1 sh 6£ (English money).
1 tanga (dingar) = 2 sh (English money).

Regarding their factories at Pegu and Inwa the Dutch trade had three major items in their expect merchandize namely rice, cotton and rubies. Among minor items were forest products, timber wood (teak) lac, bee wax, Martaban jars and local handicrafts. Thanks to the peace policy of Tha Lun Second Inwa grew in prosperity. Agriculture developed. Rice production increased with many surplures. Cotton production also could meet local consumption and foreign demand. Cotton was the much needed raw material for textile industries in the west as well as in China. Precious stones especially rubies for which Myanmar was famous since early days of foreign contact, are highly profitable merchandize that required least volume and weight on long sea voyage. Hence the Dutch trading ships came up to Inwa after they did their business at coastal ports of MraukU, Bassein, Dalla, Syrian and Pegu. They knew that Inwa was closer to Mogok Kyatpyin [Kapalan] ruby trading town to the north of Inwa. Besides the Dutch as well as the English merchants heard and knew of a frontier trading town "Bhamo" which "is just about 40 miles away from China where merchants from both sides took their merchandizes on mules and caravans to barter. It was their interest to open their factories at Bhamo where they could Chinese merchandises—silk, velvets, porcelain and other profitable luxuries via back dvor rather than risky, long pirate infested sea routes in south East Asia and South-China Seas. But Inwa Kings were cautious. They would never allow foreigners to go to ruby mine areas and Bhamo which were main sources of their wealth and revenue.

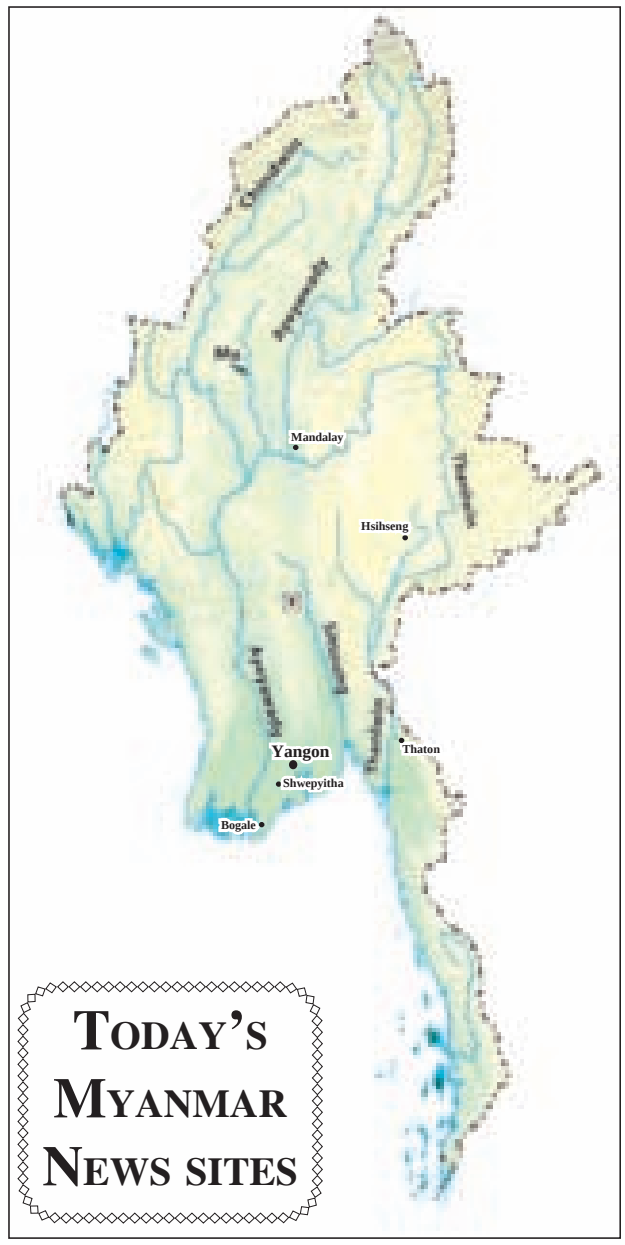
(To be Continued)

Year	Name of Ship	Article of Export	Total value in Dutch florin
1636	Bommel	(a) 1,058 carra of 148 lasts of white rice (b) 210 slaves (male and female) (c)12 chests and 4 baskets of indigo (d) 1 maund or basket of wax and 1 basket of sail yarn	11,933
1642	Neptune	(a) 200 lasts of rice (b) 325 Bengalee slaves (sex unspecified) (c) wax and gumlac [amount unspecified]	3,881 [with out the value of slaves]
1645	Snoeck	(a) 1,575 carra of rice (b) 239 maunds of wax (c) 145 slaves	7,193 [with out the value of slaves]
1657	Trouwe	(a) 390 lasts of rice (b) 163 slaves	14.388
1663	Arnemuyden	(a) 390 lasts of rice (b) 163 slaves	23,943

More machinery use in Thaton Tsp to improve local agriculture

THATON, 10 June—The government is placing emphasis on transforming manual to mechanized farming in order to improve the agriculture sector of the country, with most of the farmers in Thaton Township of Mon State having purchased agricultural machinery with loans from the government this year.

"I bought a power-tiller last year. After ploughing my farms, I accepted offers of other farmers to go and plough their farmlands. Using the machinery can save time and money and is more effective than cattle. Agricultural machinery can be used for ploughing 8-10 acres of farmlands a day but farming cattle can only get one acre done in two days. In addition, the farming machinery can be used for pumping water and winnowing paddy," said farmer U Tin Win of Zaikkaye Village in Thaton Township.—*Thet Oo (Thaton)*



TODAY'S MYANMAR NEWS SITES

Public healthcare provided in Shwepyitha Tsp

SHWEPYITHA, 10 June — A medical team led by Head of Township Health Department Dr Daw Mi Mi Khaing of Shwepyitha Township, Yangon Region, inspected free medical treatment given to local people in the local health centres in wards and villages on 6 June.

The medical team also chlorinated water tanks and wells to prevent dengue haemorrhagic fever during the rainy season.

Locals were informed about health hazards and educated on ways to improve their health.

Thar Sein Daing

Sunglasses donated to traffic police in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 10 June — A wellwisher donated sunglasses to members of the Traffic Police Force of Mandalay Region, as the Traffic Police Corps Nay Pyi Taw on 24 April announced that members are now allowed to wear sun glasses to protect their eyes from the high UV index in Myanmar.

On 5 June, U Hla Myint—Golden Dragon wedding hall—donated 310 pairs of sunglasses to Police Major Thein Ko Ko for members of the traffic police force.

Experts have warned that exposure to the sun during daytime is highly damaging to skin and eyes as the UV index in most parts of Myanmar regularly climbs above 12, which is extreme.

Officials said that although police officers are now allowed to wear sun glasses, no fancy designs are allowed.

Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)

High school upgraded to BEHS in Bogale Tsp

BOGALE, 10 June—A ceremony to inaugurate an upgraded basic education high school was held in Hayman Village-tract of Bogale Township, the seaside town of Ayeyawady Region, on Sunday.

Deputy Township Education Officer U Thaung Myint and Headmaster U Than Tun explained what improvements had been done to the school, school development task and also congratulated outstanding students on their achievements.

The Affiliated Basic Education High School in Hatman Village was upgraded by the Ministry of Education in time for the beginning of this academic year.

Aung Min (Bogale)

Palethwe hybrid paddy seeds presented to farmers in Hsihseng Tsp

HSIHSENG, 10 June—A ceremony to hand over crops seeds for the 2014-15 cultivation season was held at the monastery in Banyin village of Hsihseng Township in southern Shan State on Sunday.

Staff Officer U Kyaw Kyin of the Township Agriculture Department talked about crops for alternative development and other related agricultural tasks, with other officials presenting Palethwe hybrid paddy seeds to farmers from Banyin and Bantbwee village-tracts.

Khun Ye Htwe (Hsihseng)

Libyan court says PM's election invalid, raising hopes of end to stalemate

Libya's Prime Minister Ahmed Maiteeq speaks during a news conference at the office of the Prime Minister in Tripoli on 7 June, 2014. — Reuters

Tripoli, 10 June — Libya's Supreme Court ruled on Monday that parliament's election of Prime Minister Ahmed Maiteeq a month ago was unconstitutional, a ruling that could reduce volatile political tensions in the major OPEC member state.

It also raised hope that some oil ports occupied for 10 months by rebels in Libya's east will reopen. In April, rebels signed an accord with the government of Maiteeq's predecessor to unblock the vital Mediterranean ports but its implementation stalled when they refused to deal with Maiteeq, a businessman.

Port rebel leader Ibrahim Jathran welcomed the Supreme Court ruling, according to a statement.

Maiteeq said he would accept the court decision, which reinstates Abdullah al-Thinni as caretaker premier, according to parliament's deputy speaker.

Libya has had two premiers — Thinni and Maiteeq — with two cabinets since the latter got elected in a chaotic vote by parliament a month ago, compounding a sense of anarchy and drift three years after the uprising that overthrew Muammar Gaddafi.

Gaddafi's one-man rule over 42 years left Libya without credible governing institutions and security services to impose state authority on ex-rebels and Islamist militants, who now use armed muscle to carve out fiefdoms and make demands on Tripoli.

Thinni had originally resigned in April after what he said was a shooting attack on his family home by militiamen, but then refused to hand over power to Maiteeq pending a court decision.

"The ruling stated... the appointment of Mr Ahmed Maiteeq as premier of the interim government was unconstitutional," state television quoted the court as saying, without citing the legal basis of its decision.

Parliament's second deputy speaker Salah Makhzoum told reporters that lawmakers would respect the ruling.

"Abdullah Al-Thinni is the caretaker prime minister until congress (parliament) learns the court's reasons for deciding Maiteeq's election was unconstitutional."

Parliament will discuss the matter further on Tuesday, he said.

Reuters

Eight arrested in Cuba's college test fraud

Havana, 10 June — Eight people, including five teachers, have been arrested in Cuba's capital Havana in connection with a college entrance exam fraud, the official *Granma* daily reported on Monday. The suspects — five senior high school teachers, a methodologist, a print shop worker, and a person not related to the educational sector — were accused of stealing and selling the math exam paper, the daily reported, citing a joint statement from the authorities. As a result, students in Havana had to be retested for the math exam. The print shop worker had also leaked the contents of exams in Spanish and History, but those contents were changed before the exams, the report said.

The accused have "confessed their guilt," the daily added.

Those who willfully discloses the contents of exams to students will be sentenced to between three months and one year of imprisonment. If the perpetrators leak the documents to make money, the prison term can be extended from six months to two years, according to Cuba's Criminal Code.— *Xinhua*

Ukraine sees 'understanding' with Russia on peace moves

Ukraine's President-elect Petro Poroshenko shows the presidential seal during his inauguration ceremony in the parliament hall in Kiev on 7 June, 2014.— Reuters

Kiev, 10 June, — Ukraine said on Monday it had reached a "mutual understanding" with Moscow on parts of a plan proposed by President Petro Poroshenko for ending violence in the east of the country.

Kiev gave no details and Russia did not comment directly but two days of talks, following a brief encounter in France last week that broke the ice between Poroshenko and Russian President Vladimir Putin, have given momentum to peace moves.

German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier said in a statement released in Berlin that there was "some faint light at the end of the tunnel" in the Ukraine conflict for the first time in months.

The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry said in a brief statement in Kiev that Russian and Ukrainian representatives had met three times in the past two days to discuss Poroshenko's plan to end an insurrection by pro-Russian separatists in the east.

"As a result of the work, the sides reached a mutual understanding on key stages of the implementation of the plan and on a list of priorities which will contribute to a de-escalation of the situation in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine," it said.

The talks are being mediated by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Vienna-based security and human rights watchdog, but almost no details of Poroshenko's plan or the talks have been made public.

It was not even clear who took part in Monday's meetings, although the Ukrainian leader was present at Sunday's talks and said that the violence must end this week.

"Each day when people die, when Ukraine pays such a high price, is inadmissible for me," his office quoted him as saying.

Poroshenko, who was sworn in on Saturday, has called for daily meetings of the "contact group" and the Foreign Ministry said the talks would continue.

Scores of people have been killed since April in east Ukraine, including separatists and government forces, and Russian speakers there are suspicious of Poroshenko and the new, pro-Western government in Kiev. But fighting has ebbed in the past few days, despite renewed shelling of rebels in the city of Slaviansk, and Russia and Ukraine signalled last week they hoped to resolve a dispute over the price Kiev pays for Russian gas and its gas debts.

Failure to secure a deal, though, would fuel tension again because Moscow has threatened to turn off the taps on Tuesday if there was no agreement at the latest meeting in Brussels. As the EU gets about a third of its gas imports from Russia, almost half of it via Ukraine, its member states could also suffer from supply disruptions.

In Finland, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said the government in Ukraine and the EU had to work more constructively to end the crisis in Ukraine, but also expressed some hope.

"I believe that the newly-chosen Ukrainian President Poroshenko's contacts (with Western leaders) can lead to violence being stopped and internal dialogue beginning," he told a news conference with Finnish Foreign Minister Erkki Tuomioja.

Putin and Poroshenko had 15 minutes of talks during a World War Two anniversary event in France last week, their first meeting since the crisis flared in February after the overthrow of Ukraine's Moscow-leaning president, Viktor Yanukovich.

Yanukovich fled to Russia, which annexed the Crimea region from Ukraine a month later, deepening Moscow's worst standoff with the West since the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.

Reuters

White House-Congress rift over Bergdahl deal deepens

US Army Sergeant Bowe Berghdal is pictured in this undated handout photo provided by the US Army and received by Reuters on 31 May, 2014. Reuters

Washington 10 June, — A political storm over the trade of five Taliban inmates for a captured American soldier intensified on Monday when Obama administration officials told US lawmakers that up to 90 people within the administration — but no members of Congress — were told in advance about the swap. "It strikes me as unfortunate that they could have 80 to 90 people in the administration aware of what was happening and not be able to trust a single Republican or Democrat in the House or the Senate," Representative Greg Walden of Oregon, a member of the House of Representatives Republican leadership, told reporters after leaving a briefing on the exchange.

The White House has been trying to appease angry lawmakers since President Barack Obama announced on 31 May that Army Sergeant Bowe Bergdahl had been exchanged for the five inmates from the US military prison at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba.

House Republicans said they planned an investigation of the exchange deal. Lawmakers and human rights activists said they expected the furor would make it more difficult to win Congress' backing for Obama's avowed intention to close the detention camp, long criticized by human rights groups and others.

"Congress does not like to be left out of the loop," Texas Representative Gene Green, a Democrat, told *Reuters*. If the White House had called at least the leaders of national security committees, "that would have been much better and maybe we would not have had this controversy," he said.

Republican Senator Ted Cruz of Texas said in a Senate speech on Monday he would introduce a bill this week that would bar any federal funding for Guantanamo transfers for six months. Congressional aides told *Reuters* that similar legislation is expected to be introduced as soon as this week in the Republican-led House, where opposition to closing the Guantanamo prison is far stronger than in the Democratic-controlled Senate.

Members of Congress were not informed about the prisoner swap deal despite US law requiring that the House and Senate be given 30 days' notice before any prisoners are transferred from Guantanamo. Top White House staff have apologized to a few senior lawmakers. They have also held classified briefings including Monday's session for the House and a similar one for the Senate last week.

A classified Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on the matter is planned for Tuesday with senior defence and intelligence officials. Secretary of Defence Chuck Hagel will testify in a public House Armed Services Committee hearing on Wednesday.

Reuters

US says infant formula makers must test for germs, nutrients

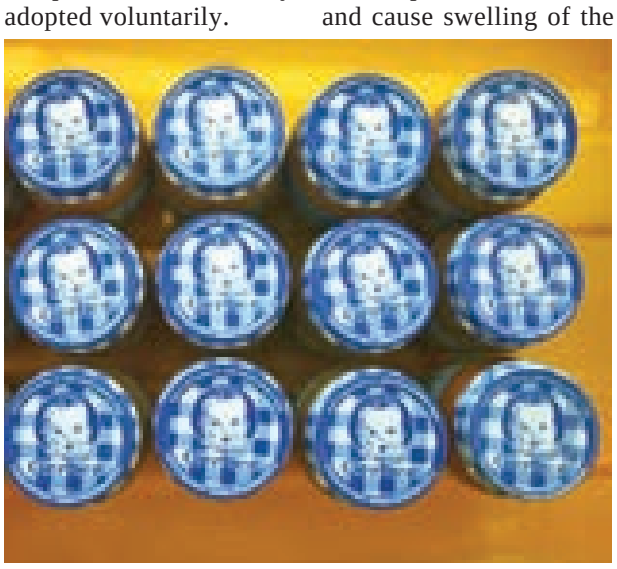
WASHINGTON, 10 June — US health officials on Monday finalized manufacturing guidelines for infant formula makers that aim to ensure products sold for babies meet certain quality controls to keep them safe.

The rule, to be officially released on Tuesday, includes requiring companies to test for salmonella and cronobacter, two bacteria that can cause particularly severe illness in babies, the Food and Drug Administration said.

The move follows several, high-profile nationwide recalls of various formula products in the past several years that have hit the multi-billion-dollar industry, which has increasingly sought to expand by selling formulas aimed at older infants and toddlers.

In 2010, Abbott Laboratories recalled 5 million containers of its Similac products because of possible contamination from insect parts. Mead Johnson Nutrition Co in 2011 saw its shares fall when stores pulled some powdered versions of its Enfamil product over concerns about infection, although the FDA later said a recall was not needed.

While public health officials generally say breast milk is best for babies, they acknowledge that many infants get all or part of their nutrition through formula. The new rule, the FDA said, is aimed at establishing "good manufacturing practices" that many companies have already adopted voluntarily.



Jars of baby food from Gerber, a subsidiary of Nestle, are lined up at a store in Mexico City, on 24 Jan, 2014. REUTERS

It only applies to formula marketed for "for use by healthy infants without unusual medical or dietary problems," the FDA said in a statement.

Under the regulation, companies must screen formula for salmonella, which can cause diarrhea and fever resulting in particularly severe problems for babies. They must also check for cronobacter, which is known to live in dry conditions such as powdered formula and cause swelling of the brain known as meningitis in infants.

While the FDA does not approve infant formula products before they can be sold, companies under the rule must also test their products' nutrient content and show that their formulas can "support normal physical growth," the agency said. The International Formula Council said it strongly supported finalization of the regulation.

"As an industry, we are proud of our record and support any effort that further advances infant formula safety and quality," Mardi Mountford, executive vice president of the industry group, said in a statement.

The American Academy of Pediatrics, which represents physicians who treat babies and children, also welcomed the regulation. Other infant formula manufacturers include Nestle SA, which makes Gerber brand formula, and Hain Celestial Group Inc, maker of Earth's Best. Perrigo Co manufactures many store-brand formulas. — *Reuters*

Black-rind watermelons fetch 350,000 yen at season's 1st auctions

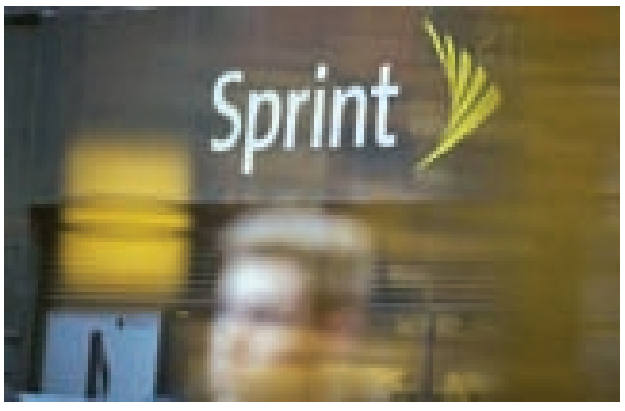
A Densuke watermelon, a specialty of Hokkaido, is sold for 350,000 yen at this year's first auction in Asahikawa, Hokkaido, on 10 June , 2014. Around 70,000 Densuke watermelons will be shipped this summer at around 5,000 yen per piece. —KYODO NEWS

ASHIKAWA (Japan), 10 June — A black-rind watermelon grown in Hokkaido, northern Japan, fetched a winning bid of 350,000 yen on Tuesday in the year's first auction of the fruit at produce markets in Asahikawa and Sapporo. The highest bid for one of roughly 240 Densuke watermelons, a signature product of the town of Toma, was 50,000 yen above last year's top price. The successful bidder at the Asahikawa market was Satoshi Ogino, a 47-year-old fruit and vegetable broker. "Providing little encouragement to the efforts of the farmers, I added 50,000 yen more to the winning price of last year," he said. A farmers' cooperative in Toma said it plans to ship a combined 70,000 Densuke watermelons this year.

While the peak season of the fruit is in July, these are expected to retail for some 5,000 yen apiece. The all-time highest winning bid for the fruit is 650,000 yen, fetched in 2008.

Kyodo News

If Sprint buys T-Mobile, it may have to slash prices



People walk past a Sprint store in New York on 17 Dec, 2012. — REUTERS

WASHINGTON , 10 June — If Sprint Corp acquires T-Mobile US Inc, it could save up to $6.6 billion on network, equipment and operating costs, but it will have to slash its prices to match the target company's steep discounts, analysts said on Monday.

Sprint, under Chairman Masayoshi Son, has been hesitant to join other carriers in cutting fees because a decline in revenue would hurt its stock price, analysts say. Its shares have risen 8 percent since 12 December on speculation it was looking to acquire T-Mobile from Deutsche Telecom AG.

"I think he's realized he's between a rock and a hard place. Sprint's prices are much too high, but if Sprint cuts prices, its stock will fall," said Craig Moffett, lead analyst at MoffettNathanson. "They don't come close to justifying their stock price".

The price differential is just one hurdle that Sprint, which is 80 percent owned by Japan's SoftBank Corp, would face if it pursues a deal to buy T-Mobile.

Son has argued to US regulators that a merger would give the companies leverage to compete against AT&T Inc and Verizon Communications Inc. The new company would boast more than 100 million subscribers, just behind both Verizon and AT&T.

But the Federal Communications Commission, which in 2011 rejected AT&T's bid for T-Mobile, has repeatedly said it wants to maintain four competitors in the wireless industry.

Unease about whether Sprint can overcome regulatory hurdles sent its stock down 9.3 percent to $8.77 since details emerged of a potential bid last Wednesday.

Reuters

Death toll from Ebola in Sierra Leone more than doubles to 12

A doctor works in a laboratory on collected samples of the Ebola virus at the Centre for Disease Control in Entebbe, about 37 km (23 miles) southwest of Uganda's capital Kampala, on 2 Aug, 2012. — REUTERS

FREETOWN, 10 June — The death toll from Ebola in Sierra Leone has doubled to at least 12 in a week, local health authorities said on Monday, deepening the spread of a disease that has killed over 200 people in Guinea and Liberia.

The mounting deaths in Sierra Leone, which had been spared cases for months after Ebola was confirmed in the region in March, underscore the challenges weak health systems face tackling one of the deadliest diseases on the planet.

Amara Jambai, Sierra Leone's Director of Disease Prevention and Control, said all the confirmed deaths in Sierra Leone were in the east, mainly in the Kailahun district on the border with Guinea. "It is very difficult for us to ascertain community deaths at this moment, but the 12 deaths are the ones the hospital can definitely confirm to have died of Ebola," Jambai said.

Jambai added that there were now 42 confirmed cases of Ebola from 113 people tested and new cases had been recorded in the northern district of Kambia.

Ebola was confirmed in a remote corner of Guinea in March and then later spread to Guinea's distant capital, Conakry, and over the border into Liberia.

All suspected cases in Sierra Leone tested negative until last month and Jambai said that the disease was spreading as authorities are struggling to control the movement of people.

International medical experts have been dispatched to Sierra Leone but they face a combination of poor existing health systems and tensions among locals fueled by the lack of understanding over the disease.

Reuters

Train carrying propane derails in Canada, cars intact

TORONTO, 10 June—A regional train carrying propane derailed in the eastern Canadian province of Nova Scotia, but none of the cars appeared to be damaged or leaking, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police said on Monday. Two people were on the train, which is operated by the Cape Breton and Central Nova Scotia Railway, and no injuries have been reported, said Corporal Scott MacRae.

Police have evacuated a handful homes in a 2.5 kilometre (1.5 mile) radius of the accident in West River Station, a rural area about 150 kilometres (93 miles) northeast of Halifax, Nova Scotia.

It was unclear exactly how many cars carrying propane derailed in the accident. Police said five cars were involved, while a company spokesman said seven cars derailed and that all were intact.

The derailment occurred at the 26th car in the 43-car freight train, said Denis Boucher, a spokesman for the regional carrier, which is owned by Genesee & Wyoming Inc. Genesee & Wyoming owns short line and regional freight railroads in Canada, the United States, Australia and Europe.

Police, fire services, emergency responders and environmental officials were on site at the accident and fire services would stay until the scene was cleaned up, MacRae added.

"It's believed the possibility of an explosion or fire is minimal," said MacRae.—*Reuters*

Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung (2nd L) holds a welcoming ceremony for visiting Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi (C) in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 9 June, 2014. —XINHUA

Raging storm in western Germany disrupts transport, kills one

A coal power plant is seen during a thunderstorm in the western city of Weisweiler on 9 June, 2014. —REUTERS

DUESSELDORF (Germany), 10 June — A storm raged over Germany's most populous state late on Monday, causing at least one death, forcing Duesseldorf airport to shut down temporarily, disrupting public transport and making some roads impassable due to fallen trees.

A cyclist aged around 50 died in Cologne after being hit by a falling tree that local police said was probably struck by lightning.

Thunderstorms, strong winds and heavy rain hit the western state of North-Rhine Westphalia, causing Germany's third-largest airport to close for around an hour. Ten incoming flights were diverted while 10 other flights were cancelled. The airport said gusts of up to 150 kilometres an hour (93 mph) were recorded. It opened again at 10 pm local time

Train services were temporarily suspended and fallen trees blocked some streets in Duesseldorf, where trams and underground trains were also stopped due to damaged overhead lines. Some locals reported electrical outages. The storm front moved further northeast and the German Meteorological Service issued weather warnings for regions including Hanover and Bremen for the night.

Reuters

World's oldest man dies in New York at 111

NEW YORK, 10 June — The world's oldest man has died in New York at age 111, according to the senior citizen residence where he lived. Alexander Imich, who was born in Poland in 1903 and survived a Soviet Gulag labor camp, died on Sunday, said Marcy Levitt, executive director of Esplanade Manhattan.

Imich emigrated to the United States in the 1950s and was a scholar of the occult. He edited an anthology called "Incredible Tales of the Paranormal" in 1995 at the age of 92.

He turned 111 in February and, in April, assumed the rank of oldest living man, according to the Gerontology Research Group of Torrance, California. That ranking now goes to Sakari Momoi of Japan, born on 5 February, 1903, one day after Imich, according to the research group.

Dozens of women were older than Imich, according to the group, and the oldest of them, Misao Okawa of Japan, is 116. Imich had credited good genes for his long life.

"But the life you live is equally or more important for longevity," he told Reuters last month in an interview in his apartment on Manhattan's Upper West Side.—*Reuters*

111-year-old Alexander Imich speaks during an interview with Reuters at his home on New York City's upper west side, on 9 May, 2014. —REUTERS

Australian fatal crocodile attack sparks culling debate

SYDNEY, 10 June —A horrific fatal crocodile attack in Australia in which a man was snatched from a small boat before the eyes of his wife has sparked calls for widespread culling of the killer beasts, local media reported on Tuesday.

A 4.6 metre crocodile is believed to have taken the 62-year-old man from the boat near Darwin, in Australia's Northern Territory on Saturday, news.com.au reported.

After the attack some fishermen have called for authorities to start culling the crocodile population, which has soared to an estimated 130,000 in the Northern Territory since culling was banned in the 1970s. In the past year there have been three fatal attacks and at least 19 in the Northern Territory since 1987.

But crocodile expert, Adam Britton, said culling the ancient reptiles was not the answer. "Culling crocodiles always comes up as a topic of conversation whenever this happens, but unless you wipe out every single crocodile there's always going to be some level of risk," he said.

"We know that you also need crocs for healthy fish populations, not to mention tourism and a healthy farming industry, so it's not so simple to just say, 'Let's get rid of all the crocs'."

"Croc populations appear to be leveling out but they're also moving into more freshwater areas, where the name 'saltwater crocodile' can be highly misleading. All crocodiles are freshwater animals at heart, but they're also highly tolerant of saltwater," he saidk.—*Xinhua*

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Public Works
(Invitation for Open Tender)

1. Open tender applying prequalification method is invited by Public Works, Ministry of Construction, Nay Pyi Taw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for upgrading projects with the part of proceeds of the Regional Development Project for Poverty Reduction under JICA ODA Loan, Japan.

Sr.	Name of Work	Type of Work
1.	KyeinPinSae-SetKot-DaNu Phyu-Zalun Road (Ayeyarwaddy Region) (24 miles)	Asphalt Concrete Road
2.	TaYanNar-Pha Yar Gone Road (Mon State) (30 miles)	Bituminous Road

2. Selling period of Prequalification Form - (5.6.2014) to (13.6.2014)
3. Submission period for Prequalificaion Form - (23.6.2014) to (30.6.2014)
4. Distribution of Tender Documents to Qualified Bidders - (28.7.2014) to (31.7.2014)
5. Submission Date of Tender - 1.9.2014
6. Opening date of Tender - 13:00 hours on 11.9.2014
7. Prequalification form can be purchased with (50000/) kyats at the following address and for the detail information, please contact the office within office hours.

Tender Selection Committee. Public Works
Road Department, Office No.(11), Nay Pyi Taw
Tel: 067-407578, 407603, 407583, 407380

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MV KULNATEE VOY NO (07/14)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KULNATEE VOY NO (07/14) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.6.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(2) 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.

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Iran says six-month extension of nuclear talks may be necessary

Geneva / Dubai, 10 June — Iran's talks with global powers on curbing its nuclear programme in exchange for an end to sanctions could be extended for another six months if no deal is reached by a July 20 deadline, a senior Iranian official said on Monday.

US and Iranian officials held talks in Geneva on Monday to tackle ways of breaking a deadlock which has raised the likelihood that the deadline will lapse without a deal meant to head off the risk of a Middle East war over the nuclear issue. The four-month-old round of negotiations ran into difficulty last month with each side accusing the other of making unrealistic demands, sowing doubt about prospects for a breakthrough next month. Western officials say Iran wants to maintain a uranium enrichment capability far beyond what is suitable for civilian nuclear power stations. Iran says it wants to avoid reliance on foreign suppliers of fuel for planned nuclear reactors and rejects Western allegations it seeks the capability to make nuclear weapons under the guise of a peaceful energy programme. Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi spoke of a possible extension to the talks in remarks in Geneva to Iranian media on the sidelines of meetings with senior US officials and the European Union's deputy chief negotiator.

"We hope to reach a final agreement (by 20 July) but, if this doesn't happen, then we have no choice but to extend the Geneva deal for six more months while we continue negotiations," Araqchi was quoted as saying by Iran's state news agency *IRNA*."—*Reuters*

European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton (L) and Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif address a news conference in Vienna on 19 March, 2014.
Reuters

Chinese naval vessels depart for US-led exercises off Hawaii

Beijing, 10 June — Four Chinese naval vessels have left port on their way to participate in a five week-long series of naval exercises with the United States and other countries off the coast of Hawaii, Chinese media reported on Tuesday.

China dispatched a missile destroyer, a missile frigate, a supply ship and a hospital ship for the country's inaugural appearance in the biennial Rim of the Pacific exercise, thought to be the world's largest with 23 countries participating.

The vessels sailed from two ports in the southern province of Hainan on Monday, Chinese media reported.

The ships will participate in humanitarian aid and search and rescue exercises, as well as drills related to maritime security.

Japan, India, Indonesia, the Philippines and South Korea are among the Asian countries also taking part in the exercises.

Xu Hongmeng, deputy commander of the Chinese navy, called the exercises an "important part of the efforts to build a new model of relations between China and the United States," according to the *People's Liberation Army Daily*, the official newspaper of the Chinese military.

What looked like promising efforts between China and the United States to improve military-to-military relations have soured recently over disagreements concerning cyber espionage and China's increasingly aggressive behavior in the South and East China seas.

Kyodo News

Jokowi scores points but no knockout in Indonesia's first presidential debate

Jakarta, 10 June — A month before Indonesia's presidential election, the two candidates traded barbs in their first televised debate on Monday, with Jakarta Governor Joko "Jokowi" Widodo seen faring better than former special forces general Prabowo Subianto.

The two candidates are close in opinion polls ahead of the 9 July election, although Jokowi holds the edge. Up to 40 percent of the voters are undecided, one survey has said.

The winner will lead the world's fourth-most populous nation, which has more Muslims than any other country, for the next five years. Both have promised market-friendly policies to revive growth in Southeast Asia's largest economy, which fell to the lowest in four years in the first quarter.

Jokowi appeared to have scored more points in the debate, but no killer blows, analysts said after the two-hour long discussion, in which the two candidates were accompanied by their vice presidential running mates. Prabowo appeared to be on the defensive about his human rights record, they said.

"I don't think there were any knockout blows," said Paul Rowland, a Jakarta-based political analyst. "I think Jokowi did what he needed to do and that was to perform confidently in a very public venue."

Prabowo, who was formerly married to a daughter of authoritarian leader Suharto, relies on his strongman and nationalistic image to appeal to voters weary of what is perceived to be indecisive leadership under current President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, who is due to leave office in October.

"We want to be a nation that is independent, that is productive. We don't want to just be a market for others," said Prabowo, wearing a white dress shirt and a traditional Indonesian cap. "We want to stand on our own feet." Although relatively cordial, the debate turned tense when Jusuf Kalla, Jokowi's vice presidential candidate, asked Prabowo to address human rights in Indonesia, which the ex-general took as a stab at him personally.

"We had to do what was necessary to ensure the safety of the larger Indonesian society," Prabowo said, raising his voice. "Mr. Kalla, I am responsible and my conscience is clear. I am the strongest defender of human rights in this republic. I have no doubts."

Prabowo was discharged from service by a military council for misinterpreting orders in the abduction of anti-Suharto activists, and has been accused of instigating riots that killed hundreds of people just before Suharto's downfall in 1998.

He denies any wrongdoing and has never been charged.On Sunday, he visited Suharto's grave and sat beside his former wife during a ceremony to mark the strongman leader's 93rd birth anniversary.

"Figures like Suharto and (founding president) Sukarno have left a very long-lasting impression on Indonesia and...Prabowo is a strong believer in both their ideologies," Suhardi, an executive of Prabowo's Gerindra party, told *Reuters*. "The visit (to Suharto's grave) was in some part a family matter and... he wants to show people that he keeps figures like Suharto in mind."

Jokowi, wearing a dark suit and red tie, looked to stress his man of the people image and reputation for good governance.

"Democracy for us is listening to the voice of the people and carrying it out,'' he said. "That's why every day we go to villages, markets, riverbanks, farms and fish auctions. Because we want to listen to the voice of the people."

Jokowi represents a clean break from the elite and often corrupt old guard that has ruled Indonesia for decades. His rags-to-riches story and common man approach have made him popular and he is seen as having a clean, can-do approach that has catapulted him from small-town mayor to governor of the capital and presidential favourite within two years.

Neutrals believed he and Kalla carried the day despite Jokowi's inexperience on the national stage.—*Reuters*

Casper Smart leaves Jennifer Lopez's home after split

The couple allegedly decided to put an end on their two-and-a-half year relationship because of some differences between them. —PTI

Los Angeles, 10 June — Backup dancer Casper Smart was photographed leaving Jennifer Lopez's LA home on the same day as the pair's split was revealed.

The dancer-choreographer, 27, was spotted exiting Lopez's residence on his motorcycle on the midday of 6 June. He donned jeans, a navy T-shirt and wore black sunglasses, reported *Us* magazine.

The couple allegedly decided to put an end on their two-and-a-half year relationship because of some differences between them.

However, the news came amid reports that Casper cheated on the I Luh Ya Papi singer, 44, with a transgender model.

Lopez was previously married to singer Marc Anthony.

PTI

Intruder at actress Sandra Bullock's Los Angeles home arrested

Los Angeles, 10 June — An intruder arrested at the Los Angeles residence of actress Sandra Bullock while the Oscar winner was home is being held on $50,000 bail on Monday, according to county jail records. Joshua Corbett, 39, was arrested on suspicion of burglary, a felony, on Sunday morning at Bullock's property after an emergency call was placed from the home, Los Angeles Police spokeswoman Wendy Reyes said. Police said the actress, best known for films such as "Gravity" and "The Blind Side," was unharmed. A message left with Bullock's publicist was not immediately returned, but a representative for the star told *People* magazine the 49-year-old actress was "fine."—*Reuters*

Actress Sandra Bullock

Kriti Sanon: I am more comfortable facing a camera than walking a ramp

New Delhi, 10 June — After walking the ramp for the likes of Tarun Tahiliani and Rohit Bal, model Kriti Sanon recently made her Bollywood debut with Tiger Shroff-starrer Heropanti. Overwhelmed with the success of her first film, she says acting is much easier than facing the live audience.

"I feel that modelling has groomed my personality and made me a confident person, but even today when I go on the ramp, I get nervous. I am more comfortable being in front of the camera than walking on the ramp," the 24-year-old told IANS.

And the Delhi girl has a reason for that. "While walking the ramp, you face a live audience and those 15 minutes of walk have no retake," she said and added that as an actor even if one is "surrounded by people, you are sure of correcting your mistakes with retakes".

A product of Delhi Public School, R K Puram, Kriti's tryst with the ramp began at the age of five. She has rubbed shoulders with biggies like Madhu Sapre and Milind Soman on the ramp.

However, she describes modelling as a hobby and insists that acting came "naturally" with time. "Modelling has never been a career for me, it was always a hobby. I was modelling while pursuing my graduation. So, the obvious choice after finishing my studies was to do a job. But while I was modelling and doing TV commercials, I really loved being in front of the camera. I enjoyed the shooting process," she said. Heropanti, which released on 23 May, was declared a hit with a box office collection of over Rs 21 crore in the opening weekend.—*PTI*

Kriti made her Bollywood debut opposite Tiger Shroff in the recent hit, Heropanti. —PTI

Angelina Jolie: Helping others make me happy

Los Angeles, 10 June — Angelina Jolie has revealed visiting people in war zones has made her happier.

The 38-year-old actress, who raises children Maddox, 12, Pax, 10, Zahara, nine, Shiloh, eight, and five-year-old Knox and Vivienne with fiancé Brad Pitt, said the travelling she does in her work with the United Nations has stopped her from worrying about her own problems and made her appreciate the things she has, reported Contactmusic.com.

"I'd been through a period where I was more concerned with my own problems and pain. Then I travelled to places where there were landmine victims, I went to my first war zone, to places where you see people in real need," Angelina said.

"You meet people who don't even know where their parents are, or their children, and they haven't got enough food. And you wake up in a moment, you realise how fortunate you are that your concerns are nothing in comparison. You don't worry about yourself, you worry about other people and you just grow up. It helped me get out of my own head. And it's a happier life. To be of service to others creates a happier life," she said. —*PTI*

Angelina said that the travelling she does in her work has stopped her worrying about her own problems. — PTI

Paul McCartney reschedules US tour dates on doctors' orders

New York, 10 June — Former Beatle Paul McCartney, following his doctors' orders as he recovers from a viral illness after falling ill in Japan last month, has rescheduled some US dates on his world tour.

"I'm sorry but it's going to be a few more weeks before we get rocking in America again. I'm feeling great but taking my docs' advice to take it easy for a few more days," McCartney said in a statement released on Monday.

He is expected to make a complete recovery.

The 71-year-old Grammy - winning musician canceled his sold-out "Out There" tour dates in Japan and a concert in South Korea after being hospitalized for the illness.

The tour will resume in Albany, NY, on 5 July. Concerts are scheduled from 14-26 June in Lubbock, Texas; Dallas; New Orleans; Atlanta; Jacksonville, Florida; Nashville, Tennessee; and Louisville, Kentucky, have been rescheduled in October.

All tickets for the original shows will be honoured for the new dates, according to the statement.

Reuters

Musician Paul McCartney and wife Nancy Shevell arrive at the 2014 Vanity Fair Oscars Party in West Hollywood, California on 2 March , 2014.—Reuters

Asleep in Jesus
Teacher Marjorie
(72 years)

Teacher Marjorie, devoted wife of Eddie Khin Maung Thwin, loving Mother of Mi Mi Thwin, (Mg Mg Thwin), Nyi Nyi Thwin, Thiha Soe Thwin and Sundee Soe Thwin, loving grandmother of Krystal Marie Brown, Marc Mg Mg Thwin, (Emma-Rose) and Noel Nyi Nyi Thwin and Emmeline Thiha Soe Thwin, fell asleep in Jesus on 9th June, Monday. Funeral service was held at Yayway Christian Ecumenical Garden Church on 10th June, Tuesday at 2:00 pm- 3:00 pm.
A memorial Praise and Worship service will be held on 14th June, Saturday at 10:00 am at No. 8,.Kabaung Road, 5 1/2 miles, Hlaing Township.

Loving Family

UN chief joins ambassadors for World Cup kickoff

NEW YORK, 10 June — UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon was joined on Monday by representatives from 32 countries at a kick-off ceremony at the international body's headquarters ahead of the Thursday start of the soccer World Cup in Brazil. "Today's gathering is an occasion to celebrate the best values of sport: teamwork, fair play and mutual respect," Ban told the audience, which included 14 student soccer players and representatives of mostly ambassador level from the participating nations.

"Sport has a unique ability to unite us, and to show us what we have in common. There is no better testimony than today's event." Donning jerseys from their respective countries, the representatives, including Japan's Ambassador Motohide Yoshikawa, signed a soccer ball that will be displayed along with the shirts at a lounge where the month-long games will be aired. "I think this is a great opportunity at the peoples' level to understand the country with whom we play," Yoshikawa said.

He said that while Ivory Coast, Japan's first opponents in Group C, is not the best-known African country for Japanese, they will learn much more about the West African nation when Japan face them on Saturday. The envoy said he hopes fans from Ivory Coast will also learn about Japan.

Ambassador Youssoufou Bamba from Ivory Coast, who previously served as a concurrent ambassador to Japan and South Korea and was based in Tokyo, said he looks forward to the Saturday game.

"It will be a very tough match," he said, noting the team is "very consistent" and used to playing together.

Kyodo News

Japan's ruling bloc remains split over collective self-defence

Lawmakers of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and the New Komeito party gather at the Diet Members' No 2 Office Building of the lower house in Tokyo on 10 June, 2014, to discuss the removal of the self-imposed ban on the right to collective self-defense.—KYODO NEWS

TOKYO, 10 June — Japan's ruling parties remained spilt on Tuesday over whether the country should exercise the right to collective self-defence, clouding the outlook on whether Prime Minister Shinzo Abe can secure an early agreement to remove the long-standing ban.

Senior lawmakers from the Liberal Democratic Party and the junior coalition partner New Komeito party haggled over details during their first full-fledged talks on collective self-defence, but one fundamental difference remained over whether, rather than how, Japan should use the right to cope with security threats in the first place.

With no major agreement reached on Tuesday, one of major points of contention was a hypothetical case in which the Self-Defence Forces defend US vessels being attacked on the high seas.

The LDP argues that the exercise of the right to collective self-defence is necessary to deal with the case because Japan itself has not been attacked, while New Komeito takes the opposite stance and maintains the situation should be treated the same as an attack on Japan and thus falls within the exercise of self-defence.

LDP Vice President Masahiko Komura, who heads the security talks, called on the government to present clear examples of what Japan should do in exercising the right to collective self-defence, saying it will "form an importance basis for a draft Cabinet decision."

But his New Komeito counterpart Kazuo Kitagawa remains cautious, saying "We need to share first and foremost what we can and cannot do under the current interpretation of the Constitution." New Komeito is wary of reinterpreting the pacifist Constitution that has banned the use of force to settle international disputes, a step seen as necessary to lift the ban on defending allies under armed attack in collective self-defence.—*Kyodo News*

MYANMAR TV

(11-6-2014, Wednesday)

6:00 am
* Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw

6:40 am
* Classical Song

7:00 am
* News/ Weather Report

8:00 am
* News/ International News

8:30 am
* India Drama Series

9:00 am
* News/ International News

9:30 am
* ASEAN Unity

10:00 am
* News

11:05 am
* Kyae Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than

12:00 pm
* News / International News / Weather Report

12:25 pm
* Myanmar Movie

2:25 pm
* Musical Programme

3:00 pm
* News

4:40 pm
* University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) Second Year (Physics)

5:00 pm
* News

5:30 pm
* India Drama Series

6:00 pm
* News / Weather Report

6:20 pm
* Shwe Yin Khone Than

7:00 pm
* News

7:25 pm
* TV Drama Series

8:00 pm
* News/International News/Weather Report

8:35 pm
* Documentary

9:00 pm
* News

9:30 pm
* Documentary
* Fine Arts Bosom of Dramatic Performance

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(11-6-14 07:00am~ 12-6-14 07:00am) MST

* Local News
* Myanmar Social & Charitable Association (Ep-2)(Jivitadana Hospital)
* World News
* Myanmar Chef (Japanese)
* Local News
* Flying Without Wings-My Great Limitless Adventure - Mandalay & Sagaing
* World News
* Colonial Buildings and a New Yangon
* Local News
* Up Against The Tide
* World News
* Tea
* Local News
* Taung Byone Nat Festival (Episode-3)
* World News
* Kyeikhteeyoe: Welcome All
* Local News
* Travelling to Shan Plateau (Main Ma Ye' The-Khin-Ma Mountain)
* World News
* Parents' Day
* Local News
* Flying Without Wings-My Great Limitless Adventure – Inle lake (Part-2)
* World News
* Hip-Hop and Design
* Local News
* Architecture: The World's Largest Book
* World News
* Scented Buddha Images
* Local News
* Taung Byone Nat Festival
* World News
* Green Grocer

Murray hints at gentler approach with new coach Mauresmo

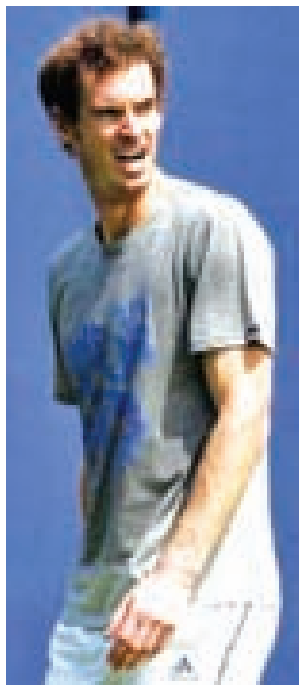
LONDON, 10 June — Brad Gilbert was hired to turn a fledgling Andy Murray into a physical powerhouse, while the Scot turned to Ivan Lendl for some of the ruthless streak that made the Czech-born American a multiple grand slam champion.At different stages of his career both worked wonders for Murray as he broke into the upper echelons of men's tennis and then, after some close shaves, delivered two grand slam titles and an Olympic gold.

While those two appointments appeared self-explanatory, his choice of former Wimbledon women's singles champion Amelie Mauresmo, as his new coach, is an intriguing one and it dominated the chat on Monday as the grasscourt season moved into full swing. "She was a great player, a thinker, and I'm sure any path Andy wants to take she can help him along," former grand slam champion Mats Wilander said at Queen's Club.Murray, too, is a deep-thinker about his tennis, a player who has never been afraid to do things his own way.

While the carrot and stick approach employed by Gilbert, the man who wrote a book called 'Winning Ugly', and Lendl's straight talking helped the 27-year-old Scot take huge strides, it appears he has now reached that stage in his career when he wants a gentler presence in his corner. "I have started to listen to my body a lot more because, over the years, you start to pick up some things," defending Wimbledon champion Murray, who had back surgery last year, told the BBC when the questions inevitably turned to his new coach.

"I think it's important that the people you work with respect and understand and listen, you know, to how you're feeling, as well, because you can't just be pushed extremely hard every single day."

"I need to pick my moments during the year where I really go for it in training. That was one of the reasons... For me, it didn't feel a strange thing to do."



Britain's Andy Murray

So few tennis players, male or female, hire female coaches that Murray's decision was bound to have some scratching their heads. But, he said, he does not care what others think. "A few people have come up to me and sort of asked if it was serious," he said." But I don't really care whether they think it's a good or bad appointment. It's whether it works well for me and my team, and hopefully it will be a good move for my career."

Murray's decision to go with Mauresmo could cause some logistical issues as she will not be allowed in the men's locker room at Wimbledon, where Murray will defend his title later this month. "I mean, obviously, you can't sit down and chat in there, but there's enough places where you can chat. The players' lounge is pretty large," Murray said.

In a quirk of the draw at the Aegon Championships this week at Queen's Club, Murray's first opponent will be Mauresmo's compatriot Paul-Henri Mathieu, who welcomed the news. "I think she has a lot of experience in the game, and for sure, she loves tennis," Mathieu told reporters.

Reuters

The New Light of Myanmar

Three strive for second behind unbackable Brazil

Sao Paulo, 10 June — With Brazil odds-on favourite to top Group A in their home World Cup, there will be a dogfight between Mexico, Croatia and Cameroon to secure the second qualifying place for the last 16 with little between any of them.The Brazilians have played in every World Cup and only once have they failed to make it past the opening round, in England in 1966.

A repeat on home soil is beyond unthinkable and with players such as Neymar, David Luiz and Thiago Silva in the side they are expecting nothing less than to win the trophy.

They may be rusty in the tournament's opening game against Croatia on Thursday but it would be a seismic shock if they did not go on to win the group. So the real intrigue is in the battle for second, with Mexico and Croatia marginally ahead of Cameroon in the betting stakes.The Mexicans were perhaps the luckiest team in qualifying and only squeaked a place in the playoffs thanks to late goals by the US in their match against Panama.

However, new manager Miguel Herrera has instilled a new-found confidence in the side. They spanked New Zealand home and away in the playoffs and have lost just one of their six friendlies since.

Reuters

Myanmar U-19 team to play tune-up matches in Europe

The Myanmar U-19 team is making preparations for taking part in the AFC U-19 Championships to be hosted by Myanmar.

Before the championships, the Myanmar youth team will go on trips to European countries for training. In Germany and England, the Myanmar youth team will receive a three-week training and play tune-up matches.

The Myanmar U-19 team will leave Yangon on 29 June and arrive back on 25 July.

The team formed with 27 players is under training at the camp as of the early April this year.

In recent tune-up matches, Myanmar U-19 beat Japanese U-19 with a 1-0 victory. In early May, the Myanmar youth played against Indonesian U-19 in tune-up matches in Indonesia, with one win and one draw.

By Nyi Myat Thawda; Photo: Soe Nyunt

Nagatomo relishing showdown against Gervinho in World Cup opener

Itu (Brazil), 10 June — Inter Milan defender Yuto Nagatomo admits Japan will have their hands full trying to keep Gervinho at bay but says he is relishing the prospect of slugging it out with the Roma striker when Japan take on Ivory Coast in their Group C opener at the World Cup on 14 June.

"Obviously in the first match Ivory Coast have fantastic players in Gervinho and (Didier) Drogba and as a team we have to try and stop them and hopefully score goals," Nagatomo told reporters after training on Monday. "I want to work to help the team win."

Kyodo News

Brazil shanty-town puts on show 'for the English to see'

Rio Deiro, 10 June — Members of England's World Cup squad made a flying visit to Brazil's largest shanty-town on Monday, yet observers were left wondering if it achieved little more than 'para inglês ver'.

Five England players, Daniel Sturridge, Danny Welbeck, Adam Lallana, Jack Wilshere and Fraser Forster visited Rocinha, a collection of cinderblock buildings, which houses 70,000 people, stacked up the steep side of a jungly, granite mountain.

Security was tight for the visit, which included a demonstration of capoeira, an Afro-Brazilian martial art, and the players kicking a ball with boys and girls on a battered, synthetic pitch. "It puts everything into perspective," Lallana said. "It's great to see this side of Brazil, the kids enjoying themselves. It's great to see the different cultures."The visit, however, felt little more than official glad handling by World Cup organizers, an example of the popular Brazilian saying 'para inglês ver,' a Portuguese phrase meaning 'for the English to see'.More deeply, it means doing something just for show to cover up inconvenient facts and was first used in the 19th century as Brazil tried to pretend it was meeting treaty promises to Britain to end the African slave trade.

At the sports complex, where police and heavily-armed solders stood guard while suitcase-sized, camera-carrying drones buzzed above the event scanning for trouble, the players had at least tried to get into the spirit of the event. Sturridge and Welbeck did their best to join in with the high-kicking, cartwheeling capoeira kids, while English FA official Trevor Brooking said the organisation would make a "five-figure" donation to the sports complex.The money may be well received.Brazil had promised improvements for poor shanty-town residents as a legacy of the tournament, though the crime, violence and unfinished infrastructure projects that sparked street protests over the country's World Cup priorities were not hard to find in the area surrounding Rocinha. Work on an unfinished metro extension snarled traffic - just one example of the promised infrastructure projects in the 12 host cities that remains unfinished. A river of grey sewerage flowed out of the back of the complex to pour into the ocean 100 metres from the team's hotel.

The fact the event was so heavily guarded was little wonder. In 2010 a Rocinha drugs gang took 35 people hostage at the same hotel England are staying at after a gun battle with police.

Asked if Rocinha was getting better and if the event showed his community's real face or merely something "for the English to see" teenage capoeira performers were philosophical.—*Reuters*

(Top L-R) England national team soccer players Fraser Forster, Danny Welback, Adam Lallana, Jack Wilshere and Daniel Sturridge pose with Brazilian dancers during their visit to a sports complex at the Rocinha slum in Rio de Janeiro ahead of the 2014 World Cup, on 9 June, 2014. — Reuters

Bell named England's 2013-14 player of year

London, 10 June — Batsman Ian Bell was named on Monday as England's player of the year for 2013-14 in recognition of his outstanding performances in the home Ashes series victory over Australia last season.

Bell made three centuries and two half centuries as England overcame the Australians 3-0 in the five-test series.

His 562 runs proved the difference between the sides with his 109 in the second test in Nottingham, his second Ashes century, helping his team to a 14-run victory.

Another century in the first innings of the second test at Lord's paved the way for a crushing home win.

Bell, like his England team mates, suffered in the return Ashes series in Australia a few months later, however, failing to make a century as the tourists were thrashed 5-0. —*Reuters*

England's Ian Bell prepares to hit the ball during the one-day international cricket match against Sri Lanka at the Oval cricket ground in London on 22 May, 2014. —Reuters

R/489 Printed and published by the New Light of Myanmar press in Nay Pyi Taw, the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information.

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