

Press conference held on removing “illegally residing” monks from Mahasantisukha Monastery

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 11 June — Hours after monks and laypersons, who reside at the Mahasantisukha Monastery in Natchaung ward of Yangon's Tamway Township, were taken away by officials, local media gathered at a press conference at the Yangon Office of the Ministry of Religious Affairs near Kaba-Aye Pagoda in Yangon on Wednesday.

During the press conference, officials confirmed that seven monks and 32 laypersons were removed, who illegally resided at the monastery owned by the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee—the highest office of Buddhist monks in the country—on Tuesday night at about 11 pm. Officials added that the 32 laypersons were released on Wednesday morning, while the monks are still being held for further questioning.

Responding to a question on why the incident occurred at night, the head of Yangon Region Religious Affairs Department said the mission was conducted at night to avoid possible conflicts.



Officials explain why some monks were removed from Mahasantisukha Monastery at a press conference in the Yangon Office of the Ministry of Religious Affairs.—PHOTO: YE MYINT

“Abbot Penang Sayadaw U Pannavamsa has no right to privately own the property as the government had already handed it over to the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee,” said officials.

The government supervised the monastery construction that cost K8.5 billion, with contributions made by the departments concerned and donors as well as a K2 billion loan from Yangon City Development Committee Bank,

they said.

Mahasantisukha Buddhist Missionary Centre was inaugurated on 17 December, 1999 and Abbot Penang Sayadaw resided there until he went overseas for more than a decade. The monastery was put under the control of the Sangha Committee in 2002 following the handover of the monastery to the committee by the government. An ownership dispute over the property erupted last year while the Sangha commit-

tee declared that it legally owned the monastery, with Penang Sayadaw—who returned to the monastery last year—claiming ownership of the land with the proof of some documents.

In his statement at the press conference, U Khine Aung, acting Director-General of the Religious Affairs Department, said the then government, the State Peace and Development Council, decided to allow the Sangha Committee to assume control of the prop-

erty in 2002, saying that Penang Sayadaw tried to seize ownership and expel the board of trustees of the monastery.

The incident of removing monks and laypersons, said to be followers of Penang Sayadaw, from the monastery by officials occurred while Penang Sayadaw, aged 86, was absent on a mission to Japan.

Supporters of Penang Sayadaw, who were present at the press conference, told the media that the

statements made by officials were “totally wrong” and that they will fight for the truth.

Regarding the incident, the 88 Generation Peace and Open Society issued an announcement on Wednesday evening, urging the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, Union Government and Yangon Region Government to handle the matter gently and fairly.

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Myanmar to transform current Commercial Tax to Value-added Tax system within two to three years

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 11 June—The Ministry of Finance and Revenue will transform its current Commercial Tax to Value-added Tax system within two to three years as part of tax reforms, said an official of the Internal Revenue Department for the Ministry on Wednesday.

During the clarification on the Tax of the Union Law at the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Yangon, U Zeya Kyi Nyunt, Head of staff from Large Taxpayers' Office-LTO said the department has given the changing from Official Assessment System (OAS) to Self-Assessment System (SAS) and from Commer-

cial Tax to Value-added Tax and Special Commercial Tax its priority.

The LTO is also drawing the Key Performance Indicators and Guidelines and Rulings for taxation, he added.

Current taxation in Myanmar comes from Commercial Tax, Income Tax, Stamp Tax and Lottery Tax.

In his clarification, U Tin Tun Naing, Director-General of the Internal Revenue Department has invited complaints from the taxpayers on the Tax of the Union Law to parliament through respective delivery units if they think that the new law is not helpful for them.

The law was enacted on 28 May 2014.

The ministry is planning to implement a Unique Taxpayer Identification Number-TIN and to establish a Data Centre to store the records of tax payers, according to the officials.

Meanwhile, the ministry has also planned to open three or five Medium Taxpayers' Offices in some areas and urged the taxpayers to cooperate with its reforms.

The new tax law has guaranteed the newly established small and medium sized enterprises whose income does not exceed K 5million for three years in a row, including the year of commencement of business, not to pay income tax.



Taxpayers are urged to send complaints over the new tax law to complaint units if they do not find the new law helpful.—PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

First National Crisis Management Centre of Myanmar launched in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 11 June—The first National Crisis Management Centre of Myanmar was launched here on Wednesday to help local authorities react more quickly and effectively to emergencies.

The centre will be ready for 24/7 service, and work together with the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance and other crisis management centres from member countries of the bloc in emergency situations, according to an official statement of the centre.

The centre is sponsored by the European Union under an agreement be-

tween Myanmar and the EU on cooperation in emergency management programmes which was signed by Myanmar Ambassador U Paw Lwin Sein and Dr Agostino Miozzo, the Managing Director of the Crisis Response Department in the European External Action Service (EEAS) during President U Thein Sein's tour of Europe.

Roland Kobia, EU ambassador to Myanmar, said: "Emergency response is a very complicated thing that needs a lot of coordination between different services.

The EU is also providing training on how to operate such a facility.—MNA



Union Minister Lt-Gen Ko Ko speaking at meeting of National Crisis Management Centre of Myanmar.—MNA



Union FM felicitates Philippine counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 12 June—On the occasion of the 116th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Republic of the Philippines which falls on 12 June 2014, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Albert F Del Rosario, Secretary of Foreign Affairs to the Republic of the Philippines.—MNA

Japan to help upgrade inland water transport system

NAY PYI TAW, 11 June—Myanmar has been drawing the final draft of a comprehensive master plan for national transport sector development with the help of Japan, said Deputy Minister for Transport U Han Sein at the second coordination meeting of transport deputy ministers from Myanmar and Japan held in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday.

The union deputy minister also expressed his hope that Japan will provide technology and assistance for the implementation of the master plan.

At the meeting, Deputy Minister Mr Ryuji Masuno of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan promised to further strengthen the friendship between the two countries and to help in upgrading of inland water transport of Myanmar. Myanmar has started installing air safety and security equipments in major airports and provided three meteorological radars and automatic weather forecasting equipments.

The first coordination meeting was held last year.

MNA

Myanmar, UNOCHA see humanitarian aid for IDPs in Rakhine and Kachin States

NAY PYI TAW, 11 June—Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin received UN Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator Ms Kyung-Wha Kong and delegation at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday. They exchanged views on progress of cooperation between the ministry and the UNOCHA during the period from the post-Nargis period to date, humanitarian aid for internally displaced persons in Rakhine and Kachin States and long-term way to solve



Union Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin meets UN Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator Ms Kyung-Wha Kong.—MNA

the problem, experiences of the ministry and UNOCHA in the 2013 Mahasen

cyclone, a plan to build 10 cyclone shelters in Rakhine State and resettlement for

IDPs from Rakhine and Kachin States.

MNA

SOM on ASEAN plus Three Responsible for Information held in Nay Pyi Taw



Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Htut with delegates to Third Senior Officials' Meeting of ASEAN Plus Three Responsible for Information (SOMRI+3).—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 June—The Third Senior Officials' Meeting of ASEAN Plus Three Responsible for Information (SOMRI+3) was held in Nay Pyi Taw on

Wednesday. Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Htut and senior officials, delegations for ASEAN countries and three dialogue partners including China, Ja-

pan and South Korea attended the meeting, with officials reviewing future plans and work done concerning cooperation in information and media.—MNA

MiG-29 training jet fighter crashes after catching fire in central Myanmar

MAGWAY, 11 June—A training jet of Defence Services (Air) nosedived during a training session on Wednesday morning, said locals.

After catching fire, the airplane nosedived into a farm in Magway Township

and the incident occurred 11 miles southwest of Myothit.

The two air force officials, Lt-Col Hlaing Myint and Captain Kyaw Zin Thant, could survive by using parachutes. There was no damage and casualty in the incident.

The MiG-29 fighter aircraft was designed in the era of the Soviet Union, and developed by the Mikoyan design bureau as an air superiority fighter during the 1970s.

Magway District IPRD



NATIONAL

President U Thein Sein sends message to Myanmar National Disability Conference

NAY PYI TAW, 11 June—President U Thein Sein sent a message to the opening ceremony of the Myanmar National Disability Conference that began on Tuesday in Yangon and will be held through Thursday.

In his message, U Thein Sein said, “As the

conference reflects on equal rights and non-discrimination and to recognize the dignity of people with disabilities, I appreciate the event.”

He also said that such a move is important to ensure equal human rights in society. Myanmar signed the Convention on the

Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) on 7 December 2011, which was approved at the 61st session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2006.

He said that the Ministry of Social Welfare, Rescue and Resettlement is drafting a bill for legal protection and guarantee of

human rights for disabled persons.

The ministry SWRR in cooperation with a disabled advocacy group, is making plans to organize an event to mark a disability arts festival of local disabled persons by inviting popular artists, the president said.—MNA

Roads of international standards to be built if budget is increased: deputy minister



Representatives attending Lower House in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 11 June—As only about K 100 billion are allotted each year to build roads and bridges, the ministry of construction can afford to build 20 miles per year if

roads were to be built in accordance with international standards, Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint told the ninth session of the Lower House in Nay Pyi Taw on

Wednesday.

As a result, the ministry has spent only K 600 million per mile, one-eighth of the costs for building one mile of a road meeting international

standards, the union deputy minister explained in the Lower House. The deputy minister promised to build roads in accordance with international standards if the budget is raised in the

Plans announced to export crops to markets in Thailand, US, Japan, Europe

NAY PYI TAW, 11 June—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing inspected Paletwe paddy plantation near the Hotel Zone in Dekkhinathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on Wednesday, with the aim of boosting exports.

He instructed officials to distribute quality paddy seeds to farmers for next year's cultivation.

Together with CT Prosper Group President Dr P Prayoon of Chiang-mai Frozen Foods Public Company of Thailand and

Mr Mong Kool of Big-M Company, the Union minister also visited organic vegetable plantations. The Union minister held talks

with officials from Thai companies to export crops to markets in Thailand, the US, Japan and Europe on a wider scale.—MNA



Union Minister U Myint Hlaing and officials of Thai companies view export fruits.—MNA

President U Thein Sein sends felicitations to the Philippines, Russian Federation

NAY PYI TAW, 12 June—On the occasion of the 116th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Republic of the Philippines which falls on 12 June 2014, U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Benigno S Aquino III, President of the Republic of the Philippines.

The President also sent messages of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Vladimir V. Putin, President of the Russian Federation and His Excellency Mr. Dmitry A. Medvedev, Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, on the occasion of the National Day of the Russian Federation, which falls on 12 June 2014.

MNA

U Win Naing presents Credentials to Pakistani President

NAY PYI TAW, 12 June—U Win Naing, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, presented his Credentials to His Excellency Mr. Mamnoon Hussain, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, on 5 June 2014 in Islamabad.—MNA

future.

At Wednesday's session of the Lower House, officials concerned replied to questions concerning the construction of six hydro-power dams on the Thanlwin River and the murder of a Myanmar migrant worker in Korea.

At Wednesday's session of the Upper House, the bill committee submitted the national education bill and the bill amending the leave and holidays act

1951. The representative further debated the proposal for introducing proportional representation in any parliament elections in the future.

The Upper House decided to approve the proposal but the Upper House formed a commission to study the advantages and disadvantages of the election systems according to the advice of the speaker of the Upper House.

MNA

World Malaria Day held in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 11 June—Half the population of Myanmar lives in areas infested with malaria and Myanmar is one of the countries with most ma-

laria cases in Asia, Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin told at an event marking the World Malaria Day in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday.

The union minister said that Myanmar was able to achieve the aim of halving the number of malarial deaths in 2005 thanks to the cooperation of the

Ministry of Health, government departments, international organizations and local communities.

In conclusion, he urged all of them to further cooperate in the combat against malaria.

Officials of the MoH, social organizations, NGOs attended the event.

MNA

Deputy Information Minister meets delegates from Japan, China

NAY PYI TAW, 11 June—Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Htut received Director-General Mr. Soichiro Seki of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan and Deputy Director-General Mr Xu Ying of

State Council Information Office of China at Myanmar International Convention Centre-II in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday morning to discuss cooperation in the information sector between the two countries.—MNA

Over 1 million tourists visit Myanmar from January to May 2014

MANDALAY, 11 June—"Arrival of tourists to Myanmar has reached 2.04 million in 2013 compared with 1.02 million in 2011," said Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Dr Sai Kyaw Ohn at the Mekong Tourism Forum 2014 with the theme of Tourism & the Future of GMS Heritage at Mandalay Hill Resort Hotel in Mandalay on Wednesday.

A total of 1.2 million tourists has visited Myanmar from January to May this year, he added.

The deputy minister called for focusing on the tourism industry to develop economy of the Greater Mekong Sub-region countries. Acting Minister of



Thai Tourism and Sports Dr Suwat Sidthilaw and officials delivered speeches. The forum was attend-

ed bdelegates from GMS countries and students totalling over 170.

After that, the depu-

ty minister and delegates opened souvenir shops and food stalls.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Thabeikkyin grows 700 saplings as part of environmental conservation

THABEIKKYIN, 11 June—The tree growing ceremony took place in Thabeikkyin of Mandalay Region on 5 June, aimed at conserving environment, said Staff Officer U Khin Maung Swe of the Township Forest Department.

As part of public ac-

tivity, Mandalay Region Hluttaw MP U Than Aung, departmental officials and local people, totalling 350 grew 700 saplings at the departments in the town and along both sides of roads.

Soe Naing Win (Thabeikkyin)

Villagers of Myaung Tsp expect high per-acre yield of summer sesame

MEIKTILA, 11 June—Summer sesame plantations are thriving in Nyaungkayar village of Myaung Township in Sagaing Region, although farmers started growing

sesame too late this year, locals said.

"We irrigated the sesame plantations with water from Ayeyawady River. Many acres of farmlands were put under summer

sesame in Nyaungkayar, Ywapale and Thayettaw villages. Per-acre yield of the sesame depends on agricultural techniques of the farmers, but we expect good results" said a

The patients are to register at the hospital as of 16 June to receive medical treatment and operations.

The abbot of Hsipaw Maha Muni Buddha Image board of trustees will provide the patients with travel allowances and food.

Sai (Hsipaw)

local of Nyaungkayar village.

The village located in the northwest of Myaung Township uses water from Ayeyawady River to irrigate summer sesame, groundnut, maize, chilli and wheat all the year round.

Chan Thar (Meiktila)



Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee constructed four-foot-wide sidewalks in Ottarathiri Township in June to improve traffic safety recently.—KYAW THURA (NAY PYI TAW)

Group fixtures for Sepak Takraw Tournament arranged in Katha

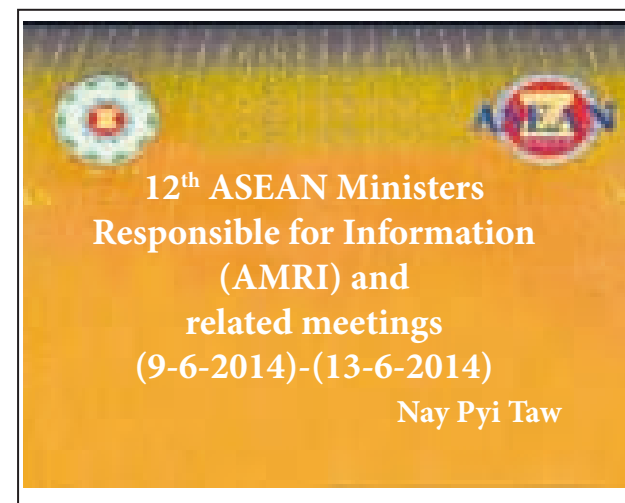
KATHA, 11 June—The Katha Township Management Committee Chairman's Cup Sepak Takraw Tournament will be held in Katha of Sagaing Region from 15 to 17 June.

The group fixtures were arranged at the sports ground in Katha on Thursday.

On behalf of the chairman of the management committee, Staff Officer U Ye Win Hlaing of the Sports and Physical Education supervised the group fixing arrangements.

20 teams from wards and villages will take part in the tournament.

Lay Hnyin Hmwe (Katha)



Free eye surgical operations to be performed



REGIONAL

Thai Army delegation visits China amid Western reproach of coup

BANGKOK, 11 June — A delegation of Thai military commanders traveled to China on Wednesday for talks on regional security and joint training exercises amid Western unease over the Thai army's seizure of power in a coup last month.

General Surasak Kanjanarat, deputy permanent secretary for defence, said the meeting was aimed at mapping out "future plans of action" with the Chinese Army, one of its oldest regional allies. He did not elaborate on the plans.

The bid by Thailand's military rulers to strengthen ties with China comes after Western powers, including old ally the United States, criticised the May 22 coup. The junta has said it has China's support. "This meeting will be to talk about ties ... and future plans of action and exchange views on regional security," Surasak, the head of the delegation, told reporters.

"We will discuss in which areas we could increase military training. We will not talk about the situation in Thailand because it is not relevant."

Surasak was due to meet the deputy chief-of-staff of the China's army, Lieutenant-General Wang Guanzhong. The coup was the latest convulsion in a decade-long conflict between the Bangkok-based royalist establishment



Prayuth Chan-ocha (C), Chief Gen. of the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO), speaks at the meeting of NCPO with Thai ambassadors at Royal Thai Army head quarter in Bangkok, Thailand, on 11 June, 2014.

XINHUA

and former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra and his allies. The ousted government had been headed by the self-exiled, former telecommunications tycoon's sister, Yingluck Shinawatra. Several foreign government have voiced disapproval of the coup, including the United States, which scrapped joint military programmes days after the generals took power.

In contrast, Thailand's armed forces chief met China's and Vietnam's ambassadors in Bangkok last

week in what the junta said was a show of support.

On Monday, in the first major corporate deal since the coup, state-owned China Mobile Ltd agreed to buy a 19 percent stake in Thai telecoms group True Corp for \$881 million.

The Thai regime's engagement with China comes at a critical time for the United States, which is shoring up ties with Asian allies and building stronger relationships with countries like Vietnam and Myanmar to counter China's growing

assertiveness. Perhaps with that over-arching strategy in mind, the US response to Thailand's coup has, for now anyway, been limited to the suspension of about \$3.5 million in military aid and the cancellation of various training exercises and visits by commanders.

For a decade Thailand has been caught up in a political tug of war between supporters of Thaksin in the north and northeast and middle-class Bangkok residents aligned with the royalist establishment. Thak-

sin was ousted in a 2006 coup and has lived abroad since 2008 to avoid a corruption sentence.

He remains hugely popular among rural voters. The army stepped in after more than six months of debilitating protests against Yingluck's government saying it had to act to prevent bloodshed.

China's top newspaper on Monday warned against aping Western-style democracy, pointing to Thailand as an example of the kind of chaos the system can bring.

As part of the Thai junta's reform plans, it has moved to sideline civil servants and senior police officers seen as loyal to Thaksin in what his supporters see as part of a bid by the establishment to permanently exclude him from politics.—Reuters

Curfew removed in more regions in Thailand, excluding Bangkok

BANGKOK, 11 June— Thailand's junta on Tuesday lifted a curfew in 20 provinces in addition to several famous resort areas that saw it removed earlier, but Bangkok still remains subject to the restrictive measure.

The curfew was removed in all areas of 17 provinces and some districts in three more provinces, according to the National Council for Peace and Order, which currently rules the country. They include popular tourist destinations such as Rayong, Chanthaburi, Trang and Mae Hong Son.

The move was apparently made in light of improved safety conditions and aimed to ease restrictions on people's lives. The NCPO earlier said the curfew lifting would be considered in more areas, based on security factors.—Kyodo News

Philippines captures top al-Qaeda-linked militant

MANILA, 11 June — Philippine security forces captured on Wednesday a top al-Qaeda-linked Islamist wanted by the United States and involved in the kidnapping of Western tourists, and hailed the arrest as a major blow to his militant network.

The Christian-majority Philippines has a Muslim minority largely based in its resource-rich southern islands where Muslim rebels have been fighting for autonomy for years.

The head of military intelligence, Major-General Eduardo Ano, said the captured militant, Khair Mundos, was an expert bomb-maker and the "spiritual leader" of the Abu Sayyaf faction, which

rose to notoriety early last decade by kidnapping foreigners.

"This is a big blow to their organisation," Ano told reporters. "They lost one of their leaders and they now feel insecure. We will try to get them one after another, we will not stop."

The United States had offered a \$500,000 bounty for the arrest of Mundos. The Philippines offered 5 million pesos (\$114,400) for his re-capture after he escaped from prison in 2007.

Mundos fled from the southern Philippines as security forces closed in on him and had been in hiding for months with relatives in the Manila suburb of

Paranaque City, Ano said.

Soldiers and policemen swooped on his hide-out and grabbed him early on Wednesday. Security forces seized four guns as well as training manuals used by the Indonesian militant group Jemaah Islamiyah.

"We finally tracked him down," said Benjamin Magalong, head of police criminal investigation group. "This is a product of two months surveillance work."

Mundos had raised funds for the Abu Sayyaf in the Middle East and funneled money from al-Qaeda for bombings in the southern Philippines before his first arrest in 2004.

Reuters



Reuven Rivlin (2nd, R) poses for photos at the Knesset (Israeli parliament) in Jerusalem, on 10 June, 2014. Former Israeli parliamentary speaker Reuven Rivlin was elected as Israel's new president on Tuesday in a runoff vote by the Israeli Knesset (parliament). —XINHUA

Iraqi PM asks parliament to declare state of emergency after insurgents seize Mosu



**Iraq's Prime Minister
Nuri al-Maliki**

BAGHDAD, 11 June — Iraq's Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki has asked parliament to declare a state of emergency after Sunni Islamist insurgents seized control of most of the country's second largest city, Mosul.

Militants from the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and their allies overran a military base and freed hundreds of prisoners early on Tuesday in a spectacular strike against the Shi'ite-led Iraqi government.

Reuters

Sunni insurgents close in on Iraq's biggest oil refinery

TIKRIT, (Iraq), 11 June — Sunni insurgents from an al-Qaeda splinter group extended their control from the northern city of Mosul on Wednesday to an area further south that includes Iraq's biggest oil refinery in a devastating show of strength against the Shi'ite-led government.

Security sources said militants from the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) - Sunni militants waging sectarian war on both sides of the Iraqi-Syrian frontier - drove into the town of Baiji late on Tuesday in armed vehicles, torching the court house and police station after freeing prisoners.

The militants offered safe passage to some 250 men guarding the refinery on the outskirts of Baiji, about 200 kilometres south of Mosul, on condition they leave.

Iraq's Foreign Minis-

ter Hoshyar Zebari called on his country's leaders to come together to face "the serious, mortal" threat. "The response has to be soon. There has to be a quick response to what has happened," he said during a trip to Greece.

Zebari said Baghdad would work with forces from the nearby Kurdish autonomous region to drive the fighters from Mosul.

Baiji resident Jasim al-Qaisi said the militants had also asked senior tribal chiefs in Baiji to persuade local police and soldiers not to resist their takeover.

"Yesterday at sunset some gunmen contacted the most prominent tribal sheikhs in Baiji via cell-phone and told them: 'We are coming to die or control Baiji, so we advise you to ask your sons in the police and army to lay down their weapons and withdraw before (Tuesday) evening



Burning vehicles belonging to Iraqi security forces are seen during clashes between Iraqi security forces and al Qaeda-linked Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in the northern Iraq city of Mosul, on 10 June, 2014.

REUTERS

prayer'."

The Baiji refinery can process 300,000 barrels per day and supplies oil products to most of Iraq's provinces and is a major provider of power to Baghdad. A worker there said the morning shift had not been allowed to take over and the night shift was still on duty.

The push into Baiji began hours after ISIL overran Mosul, one of the great Sunni historic cities, advancing their aim of creating a Sunni Caliphate straddling the border between Iraq and Syria.

Reuters

Iraq says to work with Kurdish forces to retake Mosul

ATHENS, 11 June — Baghdad will cooperate with Kurdish forces to try to drive militant out of Mosul, Iraq's foreign minister said on Wednesday, a day after an al-Qaeda splinter group seized the country's second biggest city.

"There will be closer cooperation between Baghdad and the regional Kurdistan government to work together and flush out these foreign fighters," Hoshyar Zebari said on the sidelines

of a EU-Arab League meeting in Athens.

He did not give details about the cooperation between the two forces. The Kurdish Peshmerga have long been a force in the jockeying between Shi'ites, Kurds and Sunnis for influence and control of northern Iraqi oilfields.

Describing the fall of Mosul as "dramatic", Zebari called on all Iraqi leaders to come together to face the "serious, mortal" threat

to the country.

"The response has to be soon," he said. "You cannot leave these people to stay there to entrench themselves for a long time." Earlier on Wednesday, security sources said militants from the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), an offshoot of al-Qaeda, advanced into the oil refinery town of Baiji, setting the courthouse and police station on fire. —Reuters

Thailand sends 7,507 illegal migrant workers back to Cambodia: spokesman

PHNOM PENH, 11 June — Thai authorities have sent 7,507 illegal Cambodian migrant workers back to Cambodia since the start of this month, a Cambodian spokesman said on Wednesday.

"Within nine days from 1 to 9 June, Thai authorities have sent 7,507 illegal Cambodian migrant workers back to Cambodia," Koy Kuong, spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said in a statement.

The repatriation was largely due to the Thai military coup in May, which made companies to stop employing illegal migrant employees, said the spokesman.

He dismissed news reporting that Thai military had shot Cambodian workers.

"The Cambodian Embassy to Bangkok had already investigated it and found that there was no such information," he said.

Xinhua

Australia says seeking military technology cooperation with Japan



Australia's Defence Minister David Johnston speaks during a plenary session at the 13th International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) Asia Security Summit: The Shangri-La Dialogue, in Singapore on 31 May, 2014.—REUTERS

TOKYO, 11 June — Australia wants greater military technology cooperation with Japan, and in talks between the two on Wednesday, wants to take a step paving the way for a possible agreement for Japan to supply it with stealth submarine designs, Australia's Defence Minister said.

"We are taking small and determined steps down that path," David Johnston told Reuters in an interview in Tokyo. "We are looking to push the relationship a little further along, carefully and discreetly, as to how

we might better inter-operate." Johnston is meeting Itsunori Onodera, along with the foreign ministers of Australia and Japan, Julie Bishop and Fumio Kishida, in Tokyo on Wednesday for talks to bolster ties.

Industrial cooperation, Johnston said, could also lead Japan and Australia to "compare notes" on Lockheed Martin's F-35 fighter, which both nations have bought, to help them better sustain a programme that will be at the core of their air defense strategies in the next few decades.

Reuters

WORLD

Thousands raid South Korea church in futile search for ferry family boss

ANSEONG, (South Korea) 11 June — Thousands of South Korean, police and prosecutors raided a sprawling religious compound for a second time on Wednesday in their search for an elderly businessman linked to a ferry disaster that reduced the nation to tears.

Helicopters flew overhead as officers moved from building to building at the site, believed to cover the size of a dozen soccer pitches, with church members in pursuit, some singing hymns, others chanting “Let’s fight with prosecutors and police!”

But the businessman, Yoo Byung-un, also a photographer who was once jailed for fraud and is now South Korea’s most wanted man, was nowhere to be found.

Brazil’s Rousseff loses support ahead of Oct vote



Brazil’s President Dilma Rousseff

RIO DEIRO, 11 June — Support for President Dilma Rousseff continues to slip ahead of October’s elections, according to a poll released on Tuesday, but she remains comfortably ahead of her two main rivals.

Rousseff, a leftist from the ruling Workers’ Party, would receive the vote of 38 percent of those surveyed by pollster IBOPE, compared with 40 percent in May.

Aecio Neves, the senator from the centrist PSDB party who is Rousseff’s biggest rival, was backed by 22 percent of those polled, up from 20 percent.

Eduardo Campos, governor of the northeastern state of Pernambuco and the candidate for a rival leftist party, polled 13 percent and was also up two points from 11 percent in May.

Reuters



Kim Byung-kwon (R), a representative of family members of victims onboard sunken ferry Sewol, speaks to the media after attending a hearing at the local court in Gwangju on 10 June, 2014. — REUTERS

Yoo, in his 70s, co-founder of the church which owns the website www.god.com, is wanted on charges of embezzlement,

negligence and tax evasion stemming from a web of business holdings centred on I-One-I, an investment vehicle owned by his sons that ran the shipping company, Chonghaejin Marine. Chonghaejin owned the Sewol which sank off the southwest coast

on 16 April on a routine journey from Incheon on the mainland to the southern holiday island of Jeju. Of the 476 passengers and crew on board, 339 were children and teachers from the same school. Only 172 people were rescued and the remainder are all presumed to have drowned.

The raid came a day after 15 crew went on trial in a court packed with angry parents of the children who died. Four crew face homicide charges after they were seen escaping the sharply listing vessel as the children stayed in their cabins as told.

It also came a day after President Park Geun-hye, whose government was sharply criticised over its handling of the disaster, said “it made no sense” that such an extensive search

operation had failed to catch Yoo.

Church members grow organic produce, run a fish farm and hold religious services. Yoo is believed to keep a photography studio inside. As the search operation went ahead, some church members handed out organic ice cream to police and journalists in the sweltering heat.

Yoo and his sons, one of whom is based in the United States, have eluded a police manhunt for nearly a month.

Yoo is a co-founder of the Evangelical Baptist Church that runs the Anseong compound, a two-hour drive south of Seoul. The prosecution has frozen the Yoo family’s assets, but news reports said there may be more yet to be identified.

Reuters

Clinton ‘dead broke’ remark prompts partisan pushback

NEW YORK, 11 June, — Accused of being out of touch after making comments about her finances, likely presidential candidate Hillary Clinton headed for a speaking engagement on Tuesday that could earn her up to \$250,000.

Clinton’s address to food trade groups in Chicago comes as she takes heat for comments that her family was “dead broke” when it left the White House in 2000, despite the considerable income she and former president Bill have earned subsequently along with the luxury real estate assets they have managed to acquire. Her annual salary as secretary of state was \$186,600.



A bus for Hillary Clinton is seen outside her book signing for her new book “Hard Choices” in New York on 10 June, 2014. — REUTERS

“Between their million-dollar mansions in New York and Washington and her ridiculously expensive speaking fees, it’s clear nobody could be more out of touch than Hillary Clinton,” said Republican National Committee spokesman Jahan Wilcox.

The fuss over her comments in an ABC News interview released on Monday overshadowed the launch in New York on

Tuesday of Clinton’s latest book, “Hard Choices,” seen as a prelude to a campaign for the 2016 presidential election.

The early favourite to win that race, Clinton made no reference to her finances in remarks at a midtown Manhattan book store where hundreds gathered for signed copies of the book. Some had lined up outside all night.

She made conciliatory comments on Tuesday, telling ABC’s “Good Morning America” that she appreciates “how hard life is” for many Americans.

After the book event, Clinton was to fly to Chicago to address a food conference at a joint session of the United

Fresh Produce Association and the Food Marketing Institute, two trade groups.

Similar speeches have likely earned her up to \$250,000 each since she left the State Department last year, according to sources familiar with speaking fees for public figures.

Her Chicago address is sponsored by Wonderful Brands, the makers of POM Wonderful pomegranate juice, which is owned by longtime Democratic donors Lynda and Stewart Resnick.

Liberals have criticized Clinton for taking money from financial institutions, including Goldman Sachs, for speeches they say make her beholden to big business.—Reuters

After Ukraine, US trains more special forces in eastern Europe

WASHINGTON, 11 June — As NATO refocuses on its eastern borders after Russia’s annexation of Crimea, the United States is quietly deploying more troops to train special forces in former Soviet bloc states anxious about Moscow’s intentions. Major exercises began last month in Poland, Slovakia and the Baltic states of Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia involving several hundred personnel from US special forces, the US European Command (EUCOM) said in a statement to Reuters.

Long-term plans include further training drills that will consistently keep about 100 US elite troops on the ground at any one



Troops from Canada’s 3rd Division, composed with a platoon of 3rd Battalion and Princess Patricia’s Light Infantry, participate at a NATO-led exercise “Orzel Alert” held together with the US Army’s 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team and Poland’s 6th Airborne Brigade in Bledowska Desert in Chechlo, near Olkusz, south Poland on 5 May, 2014. — REUTERS

time in NATO states close to Russia, with teams working in several countries, US official said.

The events in eastern Ukraine, where Russian-speaking insurgents using sophisticated weapons threaten to split the country, have put the whole former Soviet bloc region on alert and eager for NATO reassurance.

EUCOM says its Special Operations Command Europe (SOCEUR) increased the size and scope of its planned exercises after Ukraine flared into violence, reinforcing Washington’s message to Moscow that it would stand by its allies.

Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 12 June, 2014

Flood mitigation, emergency measures must be planned

By Aung Khin

Torrential rains caused floods in Myanmar in 2013, forcing thousands to flee their homes and flooded hundreds of thousands of acres of paddy fields. Flood-prone areas include Ayeyawady delta region, and the lower and south-eastern parts of Myanmar.

After the heavy monsoon rains and overflowing rivers last year, an estimated 40,000 people in Kayin, Mon and Rakhine States, as well as in

Taninthayi and Ayeyawady Regions were severely affected. Great suffering occurs each year during the monsoon period, which ends in October.

During this period, countries that share the Mekong River are affected by floods, but countries with good emergency measures do not suffer heavy losses. Myanmar often has a hard time with floods during monsoon season, but the floods have become worse since 1997, according to statistics.

Although flood victims can move to temporary relief camps such as schools, monasteries, and churches, they have to abandon their homes and properties. Most of them cannot break free from the cycle of poverty as their livelihoods are damaged almost every year.

Some casualties occur due to electric shocks, landslides and collapse of trees. Preparedness measures for the floods should include provision of drinking water, medical aid, water purification tablets and Non-Food Items (NFI) kits.

Moreover, the residents in these areas need other livelihoods apart from the agricultural sector which is vulnerable to natural disasters. The development of the living standard in remote areas is related with disaster management programmes.

Cyclone Nargis devastated Myanmar's southern delta region in 2008. Locals are still suffering many hardships in the aftermath of the deadly disaster. Support by the government, INGOs and donors could not recover their losses and relieve the suffering. Therefore, relevant humanitarian organizations should get involved more to help with measures to prevent huge losses in the event of disasters.

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Media law and ethics must be abided by

Wai Yan Maung

The role of the media

Reforms that have taken shape after the democratic government came to power include the repeal of censorship on the press, permission for the publication of dailies, and the formation of literary associations.

It is acknowledged that the media, which is regarded as the Fourth Pillar, is responsible for maintaining a system of checks and balance on the three other pillars: legislative, executive and judiciary. It is also responsible for serving as a means of communication with the general public, known as the Fifth Pillar.

On top of that, the media is now playing a critical role in informing the people of democratic reforms in the country as part of helping the government implement its community-based initiatives.

A paradigm shift in the media

It is encouraging to witness that objective steps are being taken to help the media grow into a **responsible media during the transition to democracy**.

The old system practised in the times of the previous government took a tight grip on the media. It was a system in which all instructions that came from above had to be followed and any criticism of the government led to punishment.

The media, as long as it follows journalism ethics and standards, is entitled to criticize the government to serve public interest. In order to protect democracy, the media has the responsibility to keep the public in-

formed with unbiased news and to make prompt responses to community needs and interests. In other words, now is the time for the media to practise self-regulation.

What if there were no reporters?

U San Aung, aged 90, a former reporter with The Myanmar Alinn, has said that **"there is no way to know about the developments in the world if there were no reporters"**. His words reflect how important the role of the media is.

With this in mind, the interim Myanmar Press Council was formed on 17 September 2012, with the majority of members journalists.

Promotion of media with the interim Myanmar Press Council

The interim MPC has carried out the following, including a plan to run a journalism course designed to improve the skills of journalists and therefore the quality of content.

(a) A media law written by the council was passed by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 14 March 2014.

(b) The Ethics of Journalism were published on 13 October 2012.

(c) The Journalist Code of Conduct was approved on 3 May 2014, which coincides with World Press Freedom Day.

The Media Law recognizes the press as the Fourth Pillar and describes the rights and responsibilities of journalists.

Coverage

There are several ways for journalists to obtain news. Three of them are coverage of

- (a) Disasters
- (b) Meetings and press conferences
- (c) Accidents

Journalists are to pay heed to an accurate, thorough, impartial and timely account of events before the news get into print. As the late American news publisher Joseph Pulitzer put it, there are three principles for every journalist to follow: "accuracy, accuracy and accuracy".

Accuracy

The State Constitution has granted freedom of expression to the press, but mistakes can be made as journalists have to work against the clock. The code of conduct has to deal with questions arising from mistakes, either intentional or unintentional. Information must be verified and corrections published without delay.

Fundamental principles

John Hersey, a novelist and reporter who covered the news about the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, commented that there is a highly respectable rule, which reads journalists must not invent stories.

Code of Conduct

The Myanmar Dictionary published by the Board of Myanmar Language defines the press as 'an umbrella term for newspapers, journals and magazines and the code of conduct as 'a set of standards to be followed at work'. In other words, the Journalists Code of Conduct is a set of standards that members of the press, including newspapers, journals and magazines, are to follow.

Journalism Code of Ethics

Following is the jour-

nalism code of ethics prescribed over time;

- (A) The eleven codes of ethics issued by the Burma Press Council in 1962
- (B) The fourteen codes of ethics issued by the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association in 1988
- (C) The sixteen codes of ethics issued by the Governing Body of Public Service Media on 17 September 2012
- (D) The fifteen codes of ethics issued by the Myanmar Press Council (Interim) on 13 October 2012.

These journalism ethics have clearly mentioned accurate coverage and the need to correct errors. Regarding news presentation, the ethics of Myanmar Press Council (Interim) said:

- (A) All information provided shall be closely scrutinized to be accurate, correct and as flawless as possible, or the actual information must not be omitted or left out.
- (B) In the event of fixing mistakes and inaccuracies, the respective media agency shall fix mistakes and re-publish the correct version as soon as possible. The agency shall place explanatory notes concerning such incidents distinctively on the closest page of the incident.

The Code of Ethics by the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) in 1996, which is widely accepted by most journalists across the world include that journalists should test the accuracy of information from all sources and exercise care to

avoid inadvertent error, and deliberate distortion is never permissible. **SPJ also mentions mistakes and inaccuracies are to be admitted and corrected promptly and honestly.**

The journalism ethics of the MPC (Interim) include publications or broadcast news must be in accord with the journalism code of ethics. Journalists are responsible for covering accurate news and for correcting mistakes.

Why do journalists need to follow the code of ethics?

Journalists get the trust of the public by adhering to the code of ethics.

Ethics define what should be done or what should not be done and shows the level of professionalism.

- (A) Ethics relate to the dignity of journalists
- (B) Ethics reflect the conscience of journalists
- (C) Ethics reflect the concept and beliefs of journalists
- (D) Ethics are the basic principle of a profession
- (E) Ethics have the ability to promote professional relationships
- (F) Ethics protect from not deviating from the trend
- (G) Ethics reflect the values of journalists

Media ethics

In the recently enacted media law, every media person is responsible for abiding by ethics.

- (A) All information provided shall be closely scrutinized to be accurate, correct and as flawless as possible.
- (B) In the event of fixing mistakes and inaccuracies, the respective media agency shall fix mistakes and re-publish the

correct version as soon as possible.

- (C) Ethics, regulations, road maps, and decisions concluded by the press council must be abided by.

The law

Law is a matter to be abided by all citizens under its protection.

The code of ethics and regulations which are included in both journalism ethics and media law should be seriously observed.

The influential power of newspapers

Newspapers have a crucial role in the media industry and are regarded as the fourth pillar in some countries.

The newspapers which focus on the welfare of the public should follow media ethics. Only then these publications will be worth being called the fourth pillar.

Ethics must be followed strictly

- The Myanmar news media industry has seen an upswing of reform processes together paired with responsible perspectives.

- The Myanmar Press Law has mentioned to turn the media industry into a fourth pillar on the path of democratic reform.

- Journalists should abide by media ethics and regulations to be respected by the executive pillar, legislative pillar and judicial pillar. Such practices would be the most practical for the development of the media industry in the country.

Reference: (1) Statements of Myanmar Press Council (Interim)
(2) "Introduction of Journalism" written by Kyi Thar Tun

Translation: KTY+AK

LOCAL NEWS

Local bridges illuminated with solar panels in Kalay Tsp



KALAY, 11 June—Solar lamp-posts have been installed at Seikkantha bridge, TadaU bridge and Nankalein creek bridge in Kalay of Sagaing Region,

Agricultural technology explained to farmers in Magway Region

MINBU (Sagu), 11 June—A discussion on agricultural technology was held at Theingon agricultural farm in Minbu Township of Magway Region on Monday.

The Head of the District Agriculture Department talked about the cultivation of short-term crops depending on the weather forecast and agricultural policy. Other officials discussed the use of quality strains of crops and production of quality seeds, systematic use of fertilizers, infection of pests and the technique of using pesticides. The discussion was attended by 94 agricultural staff and local farmers.

Than Htay (Minbu)



officials said. The District Management Committee and towns elders jointly funded electrification for five lamp posts at Seikkantha bridge, three at TadaU bridge and two at Nan-

kalein bridge. Each solar lamp post costs K800,000, said U Aye Cho, member of the township development committee. Kalay has been developing quickly in the last three years, ac-

cording to officials who said that many high rising buildings and roads have been constructed, with offices, markets and banks now located in downtown Kalay.—Linlet Kyel Sin

Matriculation exam results in YeU show declining performance



YE U, 11 June—The pass rate of the matriculation examination slightly declined in YeU Township of Sagaing Region, in comparison with last year's pass rate, said a source.

Out of 2,358 students only 1,137, or 48.22 per

cent, passed the examination according to officials from five exam centres of the township.

However, YeU Township retains its first title in Sagaing Region with the

highest pass rate for three successive years, and YeU Basic Education High School No 2 is still maintaining its best pass rate in the township.

Than Htaik (YeU)

Langkho District GAD presents cash assistance to children of staff

LANGKHO, 11 June—Langkho District General Administration Department in southern Shan State presented cash assistance for children of staff on Tuesday.

The deputy commissioner of the district GAD gave stipends to six chil-

dren and K10,000 each to primary and middle school students and K15,000 each to high school and university students.

The move was aimed at improving the motivation of students to continue their studies.—Hsaung Hnin Latt (IPRD)



TODAY'S MYANMAR NEWS SITES

Police force provides stipends to students in Wetlet

WETLET, 11 June—Wetlet Township police force provided stipends and stationery to children at the meeting hall in Wetlet of Sagaing Region on Tuesday.

“As the union government is arranging free education for primary and middle school students, the township police force gives stipends and stationery to

offspring of servicemen as part of welfare tasks,” said Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Htay Aung.

Shwebo District Police Force handed out K78,000, 24 dozens of copy books to 39 basic education students and the township police force, with another K935,000 given to 45 students.—Nan Myint



Mawlu Development Market Committee to demand tax from vendors

MAWLU, 11 June—The Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development has adopted a plan to upgrade markets, with the aim of collecting more tax from vendors.

In Indaw Township of Sagaing Region, the Mawlu Development Market committee was formed

with 13 members on Sunday, with officials saying the committee will join hands with workers of the township development affairs committee to supervise security measures, fire prevention, construction of a concrete floor and sanitation.

Nyo Min Htet

Lonmin may need capital injection as South African strike continues

LONDON, 11 June—Platinum producer Lonmin may soon need to raise capital to survive South Africa's longest and costliest mining strike, which has paralysed its operations and slashed its revenue.

As prospects dim for a quick resolution to the strike, Lonmin risks running out of cash towards the end of the year, possibly forcing it to shut up shop unless it gets a fund injection and takes steps to save money, analysts and market sources said.

"I think they are the worst off among the producers and they will have to get capital soon. They could do that through a rights issue if that works," an industry source said.

Anglo American Platinum AMSJ.J and Impala Platinum are also suffering from the strike but Lonmin, the smallest of the world's three top producers of the precious metal, is vulnerable as most of its operations are in South Africa's platinum belt.

"If they carry on the way they are they would have to start to implement a capital injection in the next 3-4 months," Liberum analyst Ben Davis said.



Miners on strike chant slogans as they march in Nkaneng township outside the Lonmin mine in Rustenburg on 14 May, 2014. —REUTERS

The strike over wages, called by South Africa's main mining union AMCU and now in its fifth month, has taken out 40 percent of global platinum production and is tilting Africa's largest economy into recession.

A Lonmin spokesman declined to comment for this story but the company said last month it had lost

a third of its annual production due to the strike which the chief executive described as a "bleeding" that might lead to the firm's death if not stopped in time.

Hopes of quickly resolving the impasse between the producers and South Africa's main mining union were dashed on Monday, when the newly

appointed mining minister abandoned the deadlocked talks after failing to mediate an agreement.

The strike is estimated to have cost the three companies 18.6 billion rand (1.03 billion pounds) in lost revenue and employees over 8 billion rand in wages, according to an industry web site that constantly up-

dates the tally.

All of Lonmin's main operations are in the strike-affected Rustenburg area and unlike its peers, it cannot rely on mines in other areas of the country or abroad.

Even though before the strike it had the most solid financial position among the three producers, ana-

lysts said its balance sheet is now deteriorating more quickly than the others.

Chief Executive Ben Magara said last month the London-listed company was losing cash at a rate of \$60 million (35.8 million pounds) per month. At the end March it had net cash of only \$71 million, compared with \$194 million a year before.

To gain breathing space Lonmin drew down all its debt facilities last quarter which brought the total cash in its coffers up to \$660 million. With mining operations still at a standstill these funds will run out quickly unless steps are taken.

Adding to the companies' problems is the muted response of platinum prices to the heavy supply cut which they may have hoped would make the metal more expensive.

The workers downed tools in January demanding their wages be doubled to 12,500 rand (\$1,200) a month basic wage in four years which the companies have said is unaffordable given high production costs. The employers are offering pay increases of up to 10 percent.—Reuters

Yemeni armed forces defuse explosive devices

ADEN, 11 June—The Yemeni armed forces managed to defuse two vehicle-born improvised explosive devices (VBIED) in the southeastern province of Shabwa early on Wednesday, a security official told *Xinhua*.

A joint force of the army troops and supporters of anti-Qaeda militiamen discovered two VBIEDs near a public hospital in Ataq, the provincial capital of Shabwa, the local security official said on condition of anonymity.

The police experts of anti-bomb disposal unit later defused the VBIEDs that were designed to create significant carnage, the security source added.

Xinhua

Libyan renegade general agrees to ceasefire during on 25 June election

TRIPOLI, 11 June—A Libyan renegade general has agreed to observe a ceasefire in his declared war on militant Islamists during national elections on 25 June, his spokesman said on Tuesday.

Libya's elections commission called the vote after parliament agreed to dissolve itself under popular pressure. Many Libyans blame lawmakers for the widespread lawlessness that has marked the country's transition towards democracy since the uprising that ousted autocrat Muammar Gaddafi in 2011.

Retired general Khalifa Haftar month-old campaign against Islamist mil-



Ex-general Khalifa Haftar speaks during a news conference after surviving an assassination attempt, in Al Marj, east of Benghazi on 4 June, 2014. —REUTERS

itants, among the many armed factions defying state authority, in the eastern city of Benghazi triggered heavy clashes that

have killed more than 100 people. His forces have used jets and helicopters to attack suspected militant camps. Haftar says the cen-

tral government in Tripoli has failed to stop Islamists such as Ansar al-Shariya which run their own checkpoints in Benghazi, where several oil firms are based.

To allow Libyans to vote in the parliamentary election set for 25 June Haftar's forces agreed to a truce that day brokered by a committee of wisemen, his spokesman Mohamed El Hejazi said. Libya has been in almost chronic turmoil for three years, with successive prime ministers struggling for legitimacy, various armed groups paralyzing governance and a loss of vital oil export revenue due to a blockade of ports by rebels.—Reuters

Suspected Nigerian militants kidnap up to 30 women

ABUJA, 11 June — Suspected Islamist Boko Haram militants have kidnapped up to 30 women from nomadic settlements in Nigeria's northeast, close to where the group abducted more than 200 schoolgirls, residents and Nigerian media said.

Villagers from Chibok, where the schoolgirls were grabbed in April, told *Reuters* on Tuesday they had met nomads fleeing last week's raids and saying the kidnappers were demanding cattle in exchange for the women.

"One of them named Mohammed told me Boko Haram held the men at gunpoint and moved from hut to hut taking the women," said Yahaya Musa. "The abductors told them to bring a ransom of cows," said farmer Yakub Chibok.

Police and army spokesmen said they could not confirm the accounts that women were taken on Thursday in areas outside Chibok.

The *Daily Trust* newspaper, citing unnamed officials, said the nomadic settlements hit included Bakin Kogi, Garikin Fulani and Rigar Hardo.

Reports that kidnapping has continued, in the face of an army offensive and an international outcry over the girls, will increase political pressure on a government struggling to contain the fighters.

President Goodluck Jonathan has accepted military and intelligence help from Washington and other powers to help find the girls. But the militants have only upped their attacks.

Nigeria's government and army say they are doing all they can to free the schoolgirls, and know where they are being held. They have ruled out exchanging them for militant prisoners and say any bid to force their release could lead to a bloodbath.

Reuters

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Scientists use GM method to wipe out malaria

LONDON, 11 June — Malaria is spread by female mosquitoes, which bite humans. An international research team modified mosquitoes to produce sperm that only create males, pioneering a new approach to eradicating malaria.

The study, published on Tuesday in the *British scientific journal Nature* Communications, was a collaboration of British, Italian and American scientists.

They tested a genetic method that distorts the sex ratio of *Anopheles gambiae* mosquitoes, the main transmitters of the malaria parasite, so that the female mosquitoes are no longer produced.

The new method involved injecting mosquitoes with a gene from slime mould, which attached itself to their X chromosome during the male's sperm-making process, and

effectively shredded part of the chromosome's DNA.

That process could cause the vast majority of their offspring to be male, which would ultimately make the malaria-carrying mosquito population die out within a few generations. In the first laboratory tests, about 95 percent of the eggs laid hatched into males.

"Malaria is debilitating and often fatal and we

need to find new ways of tackling it. We think our innovative approach is a huge step forward." Lead researcher Professor Andrea Crisanti from Imperial College London said.

"For the first time, we have been able to inhibit the production of female offspring in the laboratory and this provides a new means to eliminate the disease," the professor added.

Xinhua

New Zealand microbe tests offer hope for Antarctic food chain as climate changes

WELLINGTON, 11 June — Microbes from the Antarctic and subantarctic Southern Ocean can withstand significant temperature rises, offering hope for their ability to adapt to global climate change and the survival of other species, New Zealand scientists said Wednesday.

Incubation experiments by Victoria University biologists indicated that microalgae and bacteria from the bottom of the food chain could prove "relatively robust" as the sea ice around Antarctica melted, said Dr Andrew Martin.

In one experiment, light-dependant microalgae that normally grew at

minus 2 degrees centigrade were incubated in the dark at 4 degrees.

"They were completely fine. It was only when we got to unrealistic temperatures of 10 degrees that we saw a decline in performance," Martin said in a statement.

Microbes were crucial to the survival of many species because they were the start of the food chain in the ocean.

"Penguins, whales and seals make up very little of the overall organic matter in the ocean. If you took everything out of the Southern Ocean and put it on scales, 95 percent would be microbes," said Martin.

Xinhua

Rookie astronaut takes to Twitter to share life in space



The International Space Station crew member Reid Wiseman of the US looks on during his space suit check at the Baikonur cosmodrome on 28 May, 2014.

REUTERS

CAPE CANAVERAL, (Fla) 11 June — First-time astronaut Reid Wiseman arrived at the International Space Station two weeks ago, but zero gravity still surprises him.

"Laughed so hard, I cried yesterday during dinner. Tears don't run down your cheeks in space," wrote Wiseman, who is sharing his observations and pictures with a growing following on Twitter.

"Still adjusting to zero g. Just flipped a bag upside down to dump out its contents. #doesntworkhere," Wiseman tweeted last week.

His favourite picture so far is a view of the northern Australian coast. "The way the clouds and the red desert met the ocean, it's burned in my mind," Wiseman said during an inflight interview with CBS News broadcast on Monday.

"This will go in my living room," he tweeted along with the picture.

Wiseman is one of six men living aboard the station, a \$100 billion research laboratory that flies about 260 miles (418 km) above Earth. So far, the rookie astronaut has about 74,000 Twitter followers. More than 40 current astronauts from the United States, Europe, Japan, Russia and Canada use the so-

cial media service, sharing perspectives 140 characters at a time.

Tweeting astronauts include two-time shuttle veteran and Hubble Space Telescope repairman Mike Massimino, who has 1.3 million followers, and former station commander Chris Hadfield of Canada, with nearly 1.1 million followers. — Reuters

Huawei sees stronger sales growth for enterprise division

MILAN, 11 June — Chinese telecoms group Huawei Technologies [HWT.UL] has increased its sales growth rate target at its enterprise business this year to 40 percent, board member and head of strategy William Xu said on Tuesday.

The world's second-largest telecoms equipment maker had previously forecast that sales at its enterprise division would grow 30 percent in 2014 from the previous year's 15,263 million yuan (\$2.45 billion) - more than 6 percent of its total revenue.

"Last year we reached



Journalists attend the presentation of the Huawei's new smartphone, the Ascend P7, launched by China's Huawei Technologies in Paris, on 7 May, 2014.

REUTERS

a (sales) growth rate of 32.4 percent and this year we expect to see 40 percent," said Xu, who also heads the enterprise division.

This division is the smallest of the Shenzhen-based group's three major business groups. Its products include data services and building private telecoms networks for companies and organizations.

The other two businesses are the consumer division, which includes smartphone manufacturing, and the network business, which accounted for almost 70 percent of sales last year.

Speaking at an event organized by Huawei in Milan, Xu said the focus of its enterprise business globally was on customers in the finance and transportation industries as well as

energy and media.

Turning to the US market, where Huawei has been blocked from certain projects because of security concerns, he said the major focus for the enterprise business was media and education. But when asked if he could give a US sales target he said: "We will take a step by step approach."

Huawei has set up 28 innovation centres with customers around the world, 18 of which are located in Europe, where it now has more than 7,700 employees, according to a Huawei statement.

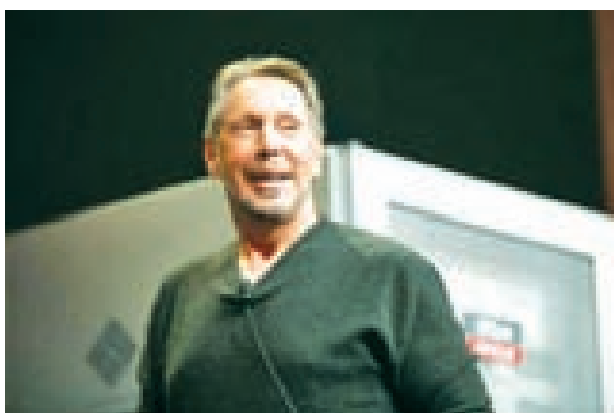
Xu said the group would hire 5,500 more employees in Europe in the next five years and the number of employees dedicated to research and development will double to more than 1,700. — Reuters

Oracle's Ellison debuts technology for faster databases

REDWOOD CITY, (California) 11 June — Oracle Corp (ORCL.N) Chief Executive Larry Ellison on Tuesday launched "in-memory" technology for speeding up data analysis in a bid to beef up demand for his company's software products.

The in-memory features, which Oracle has been talking about for months, allow for faster database queries and transactions as companies collect, store and analyze growing amounts of information across the Internet.

The technology will go on sale in July as an add-on to Oracle's existing



Co-founder and Chief Executive of Oracle Corporation, Larry Ellison introduces the company's latest SPARC servers at Oracle Conference Centre in Redwood Shores, California on 26 March, 2013 file photo.

REUTERS

databases, Ellison said at an event at the company's headquarters.

"It's the ability to run most of your data, all the data you frequently access,

in memory and access that data basically instantaneously," Ellison said.

With rivals like SAP (SAPG.DE) offering their own products that rely on memory chips, instead of slower hard drives, as much as possible for heavy number-crunching, Oracle's new offering is seen as a must-have addition to its software lineup.

"It's another whistle and bell that Ellison and Oracle can talk up to the customer base," said FBR analyst Daniel Ives. "It's all about heavy-duty analytics, queries, big data. That's what customers are focused on." — Reuters

Veggie experts help kids take a shine to their greens

TOKYO, 11 June — Vegetable experts are offering parents a hand in getting their children to eat more vegetables.

The Japan Vegetable Sommelier Association organized an educational programme in Tokyo recently targeting youngsters aged 5 to 9. At the event, its certified sommeliers helped them overcome their aversion to greens.

"I'm becoming interested in vegetables," said 5-year-old Takahiro Iwashita, who participated in the programme with his 38-year-old mother Kaori.

"I didn't like green peppers or carrots, but was able to eat them," he said.

In the programme comprising a total of 12 classes, children study the structure of flowers and

seeds by observing and drawing pictures of vegetables, they grow their own vegetables and they learn how vegetables travel from producer to consumer.

The association said that children can learn while having fun as the programme incorporates quizzes and games, including one that involves guessing what each vegetable is just by touch and smell.

To enroll in the six-month programme, applicants are charged 5,000 yen a month plus 10,000 yen as an enrollment fee.

In each of the classes, the instructors make dishes while showing how to prepare vegetables in way that appeals to children.

For instance, green peppers taste less bitter when they are heated, while tomatoes and eggplants can be easier for children to eat



Veggie experts help kids take a shine to their greens
Photo taken on 11 May, 2014 shows a boy trying vegetables during an educational programme organized by the Japan Vegetable Sommelier Association in Tokyo's Shibuya Ward to help children overcome their aversion to vegetables.—KYODO NEWS

depending on the way they are cut.

Mitsuko Obase, manager of the association, said, "Parents tend to force their children to eat vegetables from their own perspective, but it usually has

only a limited effect."

"Our program is aimed at stimulating children's curiosity through various experiences and helping them to appreciate the joy of eating vegetables," she said. Obase

said that the association is set to train more vegetable sommeliers to be the instructors for the program so as to open classes in major cities across Japan.

Japan's food and beverage maker Kagome Co, meanwhile, has introduced since April a total of 16 different recipes for making juices at home by blending fresh vegetables and fruits into the company's vegetable juice. A smoothie mixing yellow pepper and kiwi with Kagome's mango-flavoured juice will be rich in vitamin C, while a green smoothie can be produced by mixing "komatsuna" leaf vegetables into its tomato-based high-lycopene fruit juice.

To promote these recipes, Kagome also organizes juice-making workshops, inviting parents and children. A 38-year-

old housewife who took part in a recent workshop at the LaLaport Toyosu shopping complex in Tokyo's Koto Ward with her 8-year-old daughter, said, "My daughter doesn't like tomato juice, but drank it up once it was mixed with fruit."

Kagome explained that children can easily make themselves tasty smoothies, as its vegetable juice is already flavoured.

Satoko Uenohori, a dietician who developed the recipes, said, "A juice is an easier way to take nutrients than solid vegetables and will be rich in fiber when fresh vegetables are added."

"We hope that children can become familiar with vegetables through this experience of making juice by themselves," Uenohori said.—Kyodo News

Bolivian man said to be 123 years old dies in Andean village

LA PAZ, 11 June—An indigenous man in Bolivia whose reported age would have made him the oldest person ever known, died on Monday night in his village near Lake Titicaca, his only living son said.

Carmelo Flores, an Aymara Indian, claimed to be 123 years old. Flores carried national identity documents based on a baptism certificate showing his birthday as 16 July, 1890.

But Bolivia only began issuing official birth certificates in 1940 and authorities were never able to confirm or disprove Flores' age.

"He died yesterday at nine at night," his son Cecilio Flores, who is nearly 70, said on Tuesday. "He wasn't able



Aymara Indian Carmelo Flores (R) and his son Cecilio joke during a Reuters TV interview in his hometown of Fragua, 110km north of La Paz, on 16 August, 2013.—REUTERS

to stand up, his foot was swollen. Doctors told me that's how it is with diabetes."

Flores attributed his longevity to eating quinoa seeds and riverside mushrooms, and to constantly chewing coca leaves.

He lived in a straw-roofed hut in Fragua, a 4,000-meter (13,123-feet) high Andean hamlet east of La Paz.

Flores said he fought in the 1932-35 Chaco War between Bolivia and Paraguay, hunting skunks to nourish himself. He also briefly lived in La Paz, but never took to the bustling capital.—Reuters

Japan firms hiring retired top athletes as full-time employees

TOKYO, 11 June—An increasing number of Japanese companies are hiring top athletes as full-time employees after retirement from competition, appreciating their mental toughness and pursuit of success at any cost.

"I wondered if I could work at my desk from 9 am until 5:35 pm," Haruka Ueda, 26, said, recalling her decision to work for Kikkoman Corp after winning a bronze medal as a member of the Japan women's 4 x 100 meters medley swimming relay team in the London Olympic Games in 2012.

Ueda joined the soy sauce maker in 2011 as a contract worker on condition that she would become a full-time employee after retirement. "I could concentrate on swimming until I got burned out because my postretirement job was guaranteed," she said.

Ueda retired from competition at the end of last year and has since been working for the public relations section at Kikkoman.

Tsuyoshi Matsuzaki, head of the personnel department at Kikkoman, said Ueda is "the type of person we need because she made all-out efforts to attain her goal and produced results."

Construction ma-

chinery maker Komatsu Ltd. converted the status of female judo competitors hired as contract employees to full-time staff members in the early 2000s.

The change has made members of the judo club at Komatsu "more connected with the company" and attracted top-notch judokas including two-time Olympic gold medalist Ayumi Tanimoto, 32, said Atsuko Nagai, 40, the section chief in charge.

Nagai was also a judoka and rival of five-time Olympic medalist Ryoko Tani, 38.

Former top athletes maintain a can-do attitude and show respect for senior workers, said Yuichi Ito, deputy head of the personnel department at Komatsu.

Companies used to hire top athletes for advertising purposes. After Japan's economic bubble burst in the 1990s, companies discontinued supporting athletes for the sake of "management efficiency". As a result, athletes found it difficult to continue competing and began to worry about their postretirement life.

In 2010, therefore, the Japan Olympic Committee created the "Athnavi" website to make job arrangements between athletes and



Japan firms hiring retired top athletes as full-time employees Photo taken on 24 April, 2014 shows Haruka Ueda (R), a former competitive swimmer working as a regular employee at Kikkoman Corp in Tokyo's Minato Ward.—KYODO NEWS

companies. The JOC posts data about athletes on the site, and companies can find those matching their needs and hire them on condition they keep them on the payroll after retirement from competition. More than 30 athletes have found employment through the programme.

The Japan Business Federation, the nation's most powerful business lobby, said in March that it will strengthen support for athletes to help them better prepare for the Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo in 2020. Job training and recommending employers are among measures the federation, known as

Keidanren, will consider, it said.

But athletes in low visibility sports are struggling to find jobs even through the Athnavi program because they are hardly in demand for advertising purposes. Retired athletes can make their living as coaches only in a limited number of sports such as judo and volleyball.

"It may be financially difficult for companies to own teams," Shigeru Hatta, a JOC director, said. "But they can support athletes by hiring them on an individual basis. Athletes, who have endured hard training, can be highly useful to them". —Kyodo News

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (070)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (070) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.6.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDERA SHIPPING
LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (389)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (389) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.6.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV BANGKAJA VOY NO (94)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKAJA VOY NO (94) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.6.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T (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.

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN
SHIPPING CO LTD.**

Phone No: 2301186

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV HAN SPIRIT VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV HAN SPIRIT VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.6.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(3) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S HANNARA SHIPPING
(KOREA)**

Phone No: 2301186

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV KULTHARA VOY NO (01/14)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KULTHARA VOY NO (01/14) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 12.6.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(6) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S KULNATEE CO LTD.**

Phone No: 2301186

Taleban gunmen attack Karachi airport academy in second assault



Pakistan Army soldiers patrol on a vehicle in the premises of Jinnah International Airport, after a gunfire attack on a security academy run by the Airports Security Force (ASF) in Karachi on 10 June, 2014. —REUTERS

Palestinian reconciliation pact threatened by disunity

GAZA, 11 June — A leader from the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas accused President Mahmoud Abbas's Fatah party on Tuesday of jeopardising a reconciliation deal, just a week after a unity government was formed to end their feuding.

Problems between the two sides surfaced just days after the new administration took office, when it failed to pay some 40,000 civil servants hired by Hamas in Gaza, saying the employees had to be vetted before receiving their salary. Angry police loyal to Hamas in the Gaza Strip ordered the closure of all banks in the coastal enclave until the issue was resolved, dealing a fresh blow to an already sickly economy.

The tensions shifted to the nearby West Bank on Monday, when Hamas said that security forces loyal to Abbas had used violence to break up a rally organised by the movement and had assaulted senior Islamist leader Hassan Youssef.

"Since the reconciliation pact was signed, the



Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas (R) meets with Palestinian Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah and ministers of the unity government, in the West Bank city of Ramallah on 2 June, 2014. —REUTERS

gap between us and Fatah and the security services has got bigger," Youssef told reporters in the West Bank city of Ramallah on Tuesday.

"This is not a unity. They are doing this to push us to say we do not want reconciliation. We want reconciliation," the Hamas official said, accusing Abbas's policemen of confiscating the Islamists' green flags and detaining the group's supporters.

A security source in the West Bank said police intervened after protesters

began chanting slogans against Abbas's Palestinian Authority, the body that exercises partial rule over the Palestinian territories.

Youssef denied that and called on the Palestinian Authority to say "whether Hamas was a banned group in the West Bank".

In a sign of the mutual animosity that exists between the two groups, Fatah accused Hamas activists of attacking their supporters in the West Bank city of Hebron on Monday, leaving four people needing hospital care.

Azzam al-Ahmed, a senior Fatah official, condemned the closure of Gaza's banks and said the new administration was not to blame for the problem. It could take four months to complete the vetting process, he said. "We affirm our confidence in the unity government and we reject attempts to doubt it or hold it responsible for the problem. The government is not responsible for the latest problem (delay of salaries)," he said.

Israeli authorities have urged foreign allies to shun the unity government because it enjoys the backing of Hamas, which refuses to recognise Israel's right to exist. But Western governments, including the United States, have pledged to work with Abbas's new administration.

Ordinary Palestinians had hoped that after years of failed attempts to end the stand-off between the two factions, the creation of a government of technocrats would pave the way to genuine reconciliation and long-delayed elections.

Reuters

KARACHI, 11 June — Pakistan's Taleban insurgents claimed responsibility for an attack on a security academy at Karachi's airport on Tuesday, less than 48 hours after an all-night siege by Taleban gunmen at Pakistan's busiest airport that killed more than 30 people.

The late Sunday assault destroyed prospects for peace talks between the Taleban and the government of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and triggered speculation that the army might opt for an all-out offensive against militant strongholds.

On Tuesday, a group of gunmen on motorbikes opened fire on an academy run by the Airports Security Force (ASF) and fled after security forces retaliated. No one was hurt, officials said.

"We accept responsibility for another successful attack against the government," Pakistani Taleban spokesman Shahidullah Shahid told *Reuters*.

"We are successfully achieving all our targets and we will go on carry-

ing on many more such attacks."

Ten militants disguised as security force members and armed with rocket-propelled grenades broke into the airport in the first attack, one of the most brazen in a long-running Pakistani Taleban insurgency. At least 34 people were killed.

Reflecting an atmosphere of nervousness, Karachi airport suspended all flights in and out of the sprawling city of 18 million for the second time in two days, although most flights were restored by 0930 GMT.

Earlier on Tuesday, Pakistani fighter jets bombed Taleban positions on the Afghan border.

"Nine terrorist hideouts were destroyed by early morning military air strikes near the Pakistan-Afghan border," the army's press wing said, adding that 25 militants were killed.

The Pakistani Taleban are allied with the Afghan militants of the same name and share a similar jihadist ideology.—*Reuters*

Kris Jenner wants Kourtney Kardashian to tie the knot

LOS ANGELES, 11 June — Reality TV star Kris Jenner reportedly thinks Kourtney Kardashian and Scott Disick should get married. The 58-year-old showbiz matriarch is thrilled the couple — who already have kids Mason, four, and Penelope, 23 months — are expecting their third child together but, as they have been together four eight years, she doesn't understand why they haven't tied the knot yet, reported



Reality TV star Kris Jenner

Hollywood Life. “Committing to parent three kids, when you haven't even committed to each other doesn't cut it in Kris' book. She comes from a time when, if a girl got pregnant and was still single, she got married as soon as possible,” a source said.

“And although she understands times have changed, she still has religious values and feels it's only right that Scott make an ‘honest woman’ out of her little girl,” the source added.

PTI

Pair plead not guilty to burglary of Miley Cyrus' LA home

LOS ANGELES, 11 June — A man and a woman have pleaded not guilty in Los Angeles to burglary and theft among other charges, after a Maserati sports car was stolen from the home of pop singer Miley Cyrus along with jewelry and other items, prosecutors said on Tuesday.

Tylor Scott, 19, and Naomi Charles, 21, both from Arizona, face felony counts of first degree residential burglary, grand theft of personal property, grand theft auto and unlawful driving or taking of a vehicle, prosecutors said. The Los Angeles County District Attorney's office alleges the pair, who entered their pleas on Monday, broke into Cyrus' Los Angeles home on 30 May and made off with purses and thousands of dollars in clothes along with jewelry and the sports car.—Reuters



Actor Tracy Morgan

'The car flipped,' witness told 911 of Tracy Morgan crash

NEW YORK, 11 June — A witness to a collision on a New Jersey highway that critically injured comedian Tracy Morgan and killed one of his associates described it as a “terrible accident” in a 911 call, according to audio recordings released on Tuesday.

“The car flipped. It's on its side,” the unidentified woman also told an emergency operator moments after the crash early on Saturday in which a Walmart tractor trailer slammed into a limousine van carrying Morgan and several other people.

“There was an accident on the New Jersey Turnpike. It happened behind us,” another caller said in 911 recordings released by the New Jersey State Police.

Morgan, 45, best known for his roles on “30 Rock” and “Saturday Night Live,” and two other people riding in the van remained in a critical-care unit on Tuesday, said a spokeswoman at the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Center in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Comic James “Jimmy Mack” McNair, 62, a writing partner of Morgan who was also in the van, died at the scene.

A fifth passenger was lightly hurt and released from the hospital. Morgan's injuries included a broken leg, nose and ribs. He underwent surgery over the weekend, his spokesman Lewis Kay said in a statement on Monday.

Kay dismissed online rumors that Morgan's leg had to be amputated. “Rumors about amputating his leg are completely fabricated,” the statement said.

Reuters

Singer Sarah Brightman plans 2015 flight to space station

CAPE CANAVERAL (Fla), 11 June — British singer Sarah Brightman is scheduled to begin training this year for a 2015 flight to the *International Space Station* where she hopes to become the first professional musician to sing from space, the company arranging the trip said on Tuesday.

Brightman, a famed soprano who starred in Andrew Lloyd Webber's “Phantom of the Opera,” will pay about \$52 million for a 10-day stay aboard the orbital outpost, Tom Shelley, president of privately owned Space Adventures, said.

“She's absolutely 100 percent committed,” Shelley said during a National Space Club Florida Committee meeting. “She's putting together her mission plan now.”

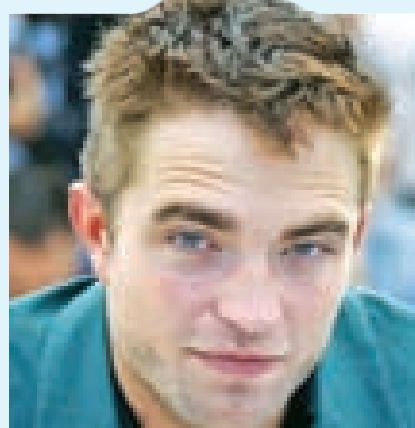
Brightman, who would become the eighth privately funded space tourist,



Sarah Brightman

is slated to fly in September 2015. Her training to fly on a Russian Soyuz capsule is scheduled to begin as early as this fall, Shelley said.—Reuters

Robert Pattinson to star in 'Star Wars 7'?



LOS ANGELES, 11 June — ‘Twilight’ star Robert Pattinson will reportedly play an important role in ‘Star Wars 7’. The 28-year-old actor is tipped to bag the role of younger Han Solo in ‘Star Wars’, reported *Hollywood Life*.

“Everyone has been talking about the possibility that Rob will be the new Indiana Jones, but that is not going to happen,” a source said.

“What has been talked about is a standalone Han Solo film, younger Han Solo before everything that happened in Star Wars and the person who is on the high list to get the part is Robert Pattinson,” it added.—PTI

Michael Jackson's eight posthumous albums to be released?

LOS ANGELES, 11 June — King of Pop Michael Jackson's family is reportedly planning eight posthumous albums as they still have plenty of material.

The late music icon's estate has plans to release albums culled from outtakes and repackaged material, but there is no word on when fans can finally listen to something new, reported *Rolling Stone*.

“We got more surprises coming,” said producer Rodney Jerkins, who worked on the latest posthumous release, *Xscape*. Jackson was famous for over recording and though it cannot be said how many songs are in usable form, there is a lot of material available.

“I'm sure there are a few more great things out there,” says Jerkins, adding, “hopefully, we'll all have a chance to hear them.”—PTI



Michael Jackson

Angelina Jolie, UK's Hague, vow action against sexual violence in war

LONDON, 11 June — Hollywood actress Angelina Jolie and British Foreign Secretary William Hague vowed on Tuesday to ensure the world's first summit on ending sexual violence in conflict resulted in practical action to punish those responsible and help victims.

Up to 1,200 government ministers, military and judicial officials and activists from up to 150 nations are attending the June 10-13 summit that is the result of a two-year partnership between Jolie and Hague to combat rape as a weapon of war.

The summit follows a series of violent incidents against women that was expected to raise pressure for action, including the kidnapping of 200 Nigerian schoolgirls, the stoning of a pregnant Pakistani woman to death, and the gang-rape and murder of two Indian girls.

Opening the four-day summit in London's docklands, Jolie, special envoy of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), said political will was needed globally to treat sexual violence as a priority and tackle a culture of impunity.



Actress and special envoy of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Angelina Jolie, watches as British Foreign Secretary William Hague speaks at a global summit to end sexual violence in conflict, in London on 10 June, 2014.—REUTERS

“It is a myth that rape is an inevitable part of conflict. It is a weapon of war aimed at civilians .. done to torture

and humiliate people and often to very young children,” she said.

“We need to see real commitment and go after the worst perpetrators, to fund proper protection for vulnerable people, and to step in to help the worst-affected countries.” Jolie's involvement in humanitarian issues dates back to 2001 when she traveled to Sierra Leone as a UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador and saw the impact of years of civil war when an estimated 60,000 women were raped.

Her link-up with Hague was sparked by her 2011 directorial debut “In the Land of Blood and Honey” that was set against the backdrop of the 1992-95 Bosnian war in which more than 100,000 people were killed and an estimated 20,000 women believed raped.

Last year the unusual partnership led to the launch of a declaration, now signed by about 150 countries, pledging to end impunity and provide justice and safety for victims but Hague said the summit would take this further.—Reuters

GENERAL

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.

Thank you Mom

Thank you Mom for bringing us into this world.

Thank you Mom for nurturing, caring,
preparing and teaching us,

To conquer whatever life throws our way.

Thank you Mom for showing us how to live a life,

Full of quality, respect and love,
And how to die with dignity, strength,
and neverending hope and faith,

For our Father up above.

So, don't worry Mum, we'll be okay,

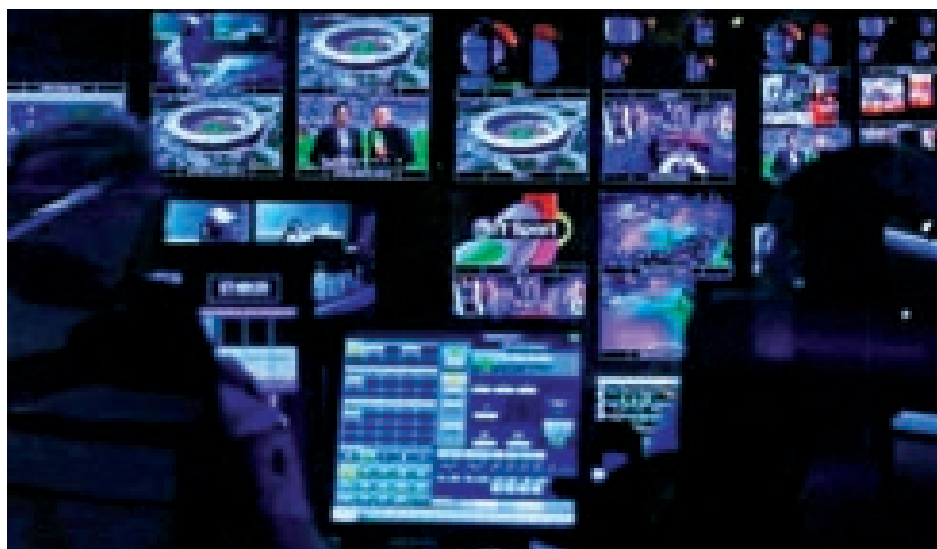
We are who we are because of you today

We will continue to make you proud until
we meet again, In our Father's home someday...

We love you Mom ...

Loving family

Sky ups ante against BT with European football channel



Production staff work in the gallery during the BT Sport channel launch programme at the BT Sport studio in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, in east London on 1 August, 2013. —REUTERS

LONDON, 11 June — Britain's BSkyB (BSY.L) is launching a sports channel dedicated to European football, and is throwing in two years of free broadband, in a fresh assault on BT (BT.L) before its rival starts showing the flagship Champion's League next year.

The channel, which will be free to subscribers, brings together Sky's European football assets, including European qualifiers, Champions League and Spanish football, and adds Dutch live football.

While not offering much new content, analysts

said Sky would use the new channel to sign up subscribers to its latest broadband promotion, which it said was its best to date.

Shares in BT were trading down 2.6 percent at 395.7 pence by 12.14 pm BST, the biggest faller in the FTSE 100 .FTSE, while BSkyB was down 1.2 percent at 865.5 pence.

Analysts at Berenberg said they did not see the channel as a driver of customer growth or upgrades, but they regarded the aggressive broadband offering as confirmation that Sky was upping the ante against

a resurgent BT.

"In our view, the plan for 'Sky Europe' indicates that management, even if not admitting it publicly, understands the UK business is under pressure," they said. Berenberg have a "sell" rating on Sky shares. BT has moved aggressively into sports programming to bolster its broadband services, starting by buying a package of English football Premier League rights in 2012, and later winning an auction to show all UEFA Champions League matches for three seasons from August 2015. —Reuters

2 Cambodian peacekeepers killed by food poisoning in Mali

PHNOM PENH, 11 June — Two Cambodian soldiers, who were on a peacekeeping mission in the conflict-torn West African nation of Mali, died on Tuesday after they ate tainted food, a Cambodian military official confirmed on Wednesday. "I can only confirm that two Cambodian peacekeepers had died in Mali in suspicion of food poisoning," Brig Gen Ken Sosavoeun, deputy director of the military's Peacekeeping Operations Department, told *Xinhua*. "This was the first time that our peacekeepers died on the United Nations peacekeeping mission overseas," he said.

Cambodia sent 309 troops to Mali in February to join a United Nations peacekeeping mission. Mali was plunged into turmoil after a March 2012 coup that led to an Islamic rebel takeover of large swathes of the West African country and France launched a military operation in January last year to oust them.

Xinhua

Thai RSS3 rubber price

BANGKOK, 11 June — The following are the official noon FOB prices of Ribbed Smoked Sheets Grade 3 (RSS3) rubber at Thailand's southern central market in Songkhla Province and in the capital on Wednesday in baht per kg (about 32.38 baht to 1 US dollar): Wednesday, Tuesday Bangkok 67.35- 66.60 Songkhla 67.10- 66.35.

Xinhua

MYANMAR TV

(12-6-2014, Thursday)

6:00 am

* Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw

6:45 am

* Documentary

7:45 am

* People Talks

8:00 am

* News/ International News

8:30 am

* India Drama Series

9:00 am

* News/ International News

9:30 am

* Shwe Yin Khone Than

10:00 am

* News

11:00 am

* Documentary

12:00 pm

* News / International News / Weather Report

1:20 pm

* Documentary

2:20 pm

* Fine Arts-Bosom of Dramatic Performance

3:00 pm

* News

4:45 pm

* University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) Third Year (Physics)

5:00 pm

* News

5:30 pm

* India Drama Series

6:00 pm

* News / Weather Report

6:20 pm

* Documentary

7:00 pm

* News

7:25 pm

* TV Drama Series

8:00 pm

* News/International News/Weather Report

8:35 pm

* Current Affairs

9:00 pm

* News

* Documentary

* CLEVER

* Fashion Show

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(12-6-14 07:00am~
13-6-14 07:00am) MST

- * Local News
- * Stone Of The Heavens
- * World News
- * Ngapali Beach: Fishing Villages
- * Local News
- * Flying Without Wings—My Great Limitless Adventure – Pakokku
- * World News
- * In the Studio: Nyi Voyy
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Mega Factory (EP-2)(I)
- * World News
- * Goldsmith
- * Local News
- * Taung Byone Nat Festival (Episode-4)
- * World News
- * Great Shwedagon
- * 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
- * World News
- * Kyeikhteeyoe: Welcome All



Students hold placards during a march called by Chile's Students Confederation, the Secondary Students National Coordinator, the Secondary Students Coordinator Assembly, the Education Ministry and Professors College in Santiago, capital of Chile, on 10 June, 2014, to demand participation in the Education Reform according to local media. —XINHUA

Group fixtures arranged for Ooredoo Cup Futsal Tournament

The MFF Ooredoo Cup 2014 Futsal Tournament reached the second round group matches.

Federation U Ko Ko Thein, admin director U Soe Moe Kyaw and U Kyi Min

Thein of Futsal committee explained a plan to pick out the selected players. Next, officials arranged the group fixtures.

(A) Group comprises UPT, Shwepaukkan, New Lion, Joker; (B) Group, MIC, SUMI, Infinity, Zwe-gabin; (C) Group, VUC, Myochit Youth, YZN, South Dagon; and (D) Group, Nay Pyi Taw, Lans-downe, Myoma and All Stars clubs will participate in the second round matches from 12 to 17 June.

The quarterfinal will be held on 19 June, the semifinals on 21 June and the third placed match and the final on 23 June.

Nyi Myat Thawda;
Photo: Soe Nyunt



Ronaldo shines in return for Portugal



Portugal's forward Cristiano Ronaldo (7) reacts after he missed a goal off a penalty kick against Ireland in the first half during their international friendly soccer match, ahead of the 2014 World Cup, in East Rutherford, New Jersey, on 10 June, 2014.—REUTERS

EAST RUTHERFORD, 11 June — Cristiano Ronaldo provided Portugal with a major confidence boost ahead of the World Cup when he made a successful return from injury in a 5-1 romp against Ireland on Tuesday.

Playing his first match since the Champions League final, Ronaldo's presence helped reignite Portugal's stuttering attack at MetLife Stadium in New Jersey.

Ronaldo was not among the scorers and was substituted after 64 minutes but showed glimpses of his best and came through the friendly unscathed after missing his country's last two warm-up matches because of problems with his left knee and right thigh.

"I think he did well, considering he has not been playing," said Portugal manager Paulo Bento, speaking through a translator. "Players like Ronaldo are important for every team they play for ... and it's the same for us".

Ronaldo, the World Player of the Year, almost scored in the 18th minute with a dipping free kick that hit the post and again in the 37th minute with a header he directed straight at Irish goalkeeper David Forde.

Hugo Almeida pounced on Forde's rebound to register the second of his two first-half strikes as the Europeans rediscovered their scoring touch after managing just one goal in their two previous friendlies against Mexico and Greece.

Almeida opened the scoring in the third minute when he climbed above the defence and headed a cross from Silvestre Varela into the back of the net.

Reuters

Suarez centre stage in heavyweight Group D battle

RIO DE JANEIRO, 11 June — Luis Suarez's spectacular season for Liverpool went a long way to restoring his tarnished image among English fans but the Uruguayan will again be public enemy No 1 for a game that could decide World Cup Group D.

With England and Italy making it three former world champions in the group and Costa Rica containing enough talent to at least worry their rivals, every match looks enticing and it is a tough call to predict who will go through, let alone find a one-two finishing order.

The fitness or otherwise of Suarez, who underwent keyhole surgery on a knee injury on 22 May, could decide whether Uruguay can match their 2010 achievement of reaching the semi-finals.

Suarez was key to their progress in every sense, teaming up impressively with Diego Forlan in attack and preventing a certain defeat by handling Stephen Appiah's header on the line in the last minute of extra-time in their quarter-final classic against Ghana.

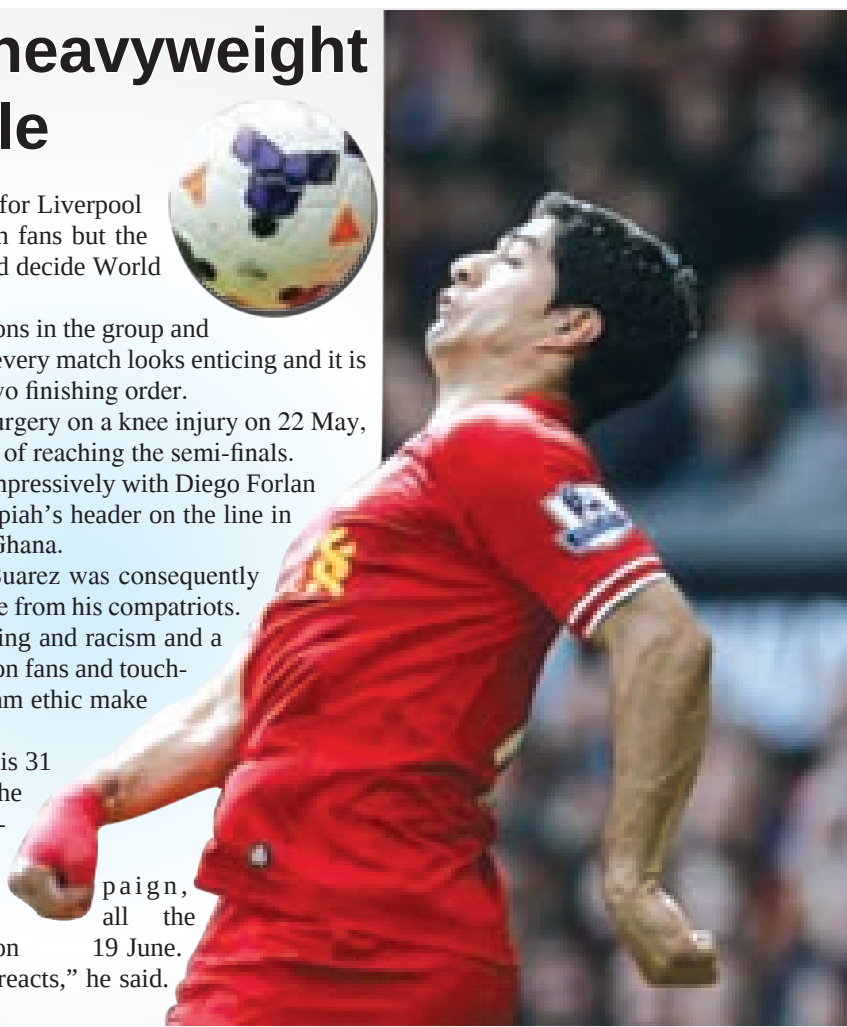
Vilified around the world and certainly throughout Africa, Suarez was consequently banned from the semi-finals but returned home to a hero's welcome from his compatriots.

His club persona is similarly schizophrenic with bans for biting and racism and a history of theatrical diving making him an easy target for opposition fans and touch-line philosophers while his extraordinary talent, work rate and team ethic make him hugely popular among his own.

This season the talent has overcome the problems and, with his 31 league goals helping Liverpool to their best campaign for years, he was voted England's player of the season both by his fellow professionals and the country's journalists.

Suarez, who scored 11 goals in Uruguay's qualifying campaign, is likely to miss their opener against Costa Rica on Saturday but all the indications are that he will be ready to face England in Sao Paulo on 19 June. "You only know for sure as you progress and see how the knee reacts," he said. "When I go on to the pitch I want to go out there ready."

Uruguay coach Oscar Tabarez will hope he has enough firepower from Forlan and Edinson Cavani to get off to a winning start against Costa Rica, piling the pressure on the two European heavyweights who also meet on Saturday, in Manaus.—Reuters



Liverpool's Luis Suarez controls the ball during their English Premier League soccer match against Newcastle United at Anfield in Liverpool, northern England on 11 May, 2014.

REUTERS

Europe tells soccer boss Blatter he's no longer man for the job

SAO PAULO, 11 June — Europe's powerful soccer body told FIFA president Sepp Blatter on Tuesday that he was no longer fit to run an organization mired in allegations of corruption, in a stinging indictment of his reign just two days before the World Cup kicks off.

It was not all bad news

for the 78-year-old Swiss, who earlier in the day all but confirmed his intention to lead soccer's world governing body for a record fifth term in an election to be held next year.

Having won standing ovations from delegates from Asia and Africa on Monday, the embattled president was also infor-

mally endorsed by Oceania, North America and the Caribbean on Tuesday, handing him a solid platform for success.

But the words likely to ring loudest in his ears came from European soccer organization UEFA, where resistance to Blatter has grown in recent weeks since fresh allegations of

corruption surfaced surrounding Qatar's bid to host the World Cup in 2022. "Mr Blatter, this is nothing personal, but if you

look at FIFA's reputation over the last seven or eight years, it is being linked to all kinds of corruption and all kinds of old boys' net-

works things," Michael van Praag, head of the Dutch Football Association, told the FIFA president.

Reuters

World Cup Match-1		
	02:30 MST (13-6-2014)	
Brazil		Croatia