

INSIDE

Peaceful coexistence is a norm for international relations: President U Thein Sein



PAGE- 3

Military conducts monsoon mass plantation

PAGE- 3

UEC collects preliminary voter lists

PAGE- 3

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 28 June— Myanmar launched a first-ever credit guarantee insurance for the development of small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs) in the country on Saturday with a press conference at its Head Office in Yangon.

The first-ever insurance will be piloted in Yangon Region only, and Myanmar Insurance offers the insurance service at its Head Office in Yangon coming Monday, Deputy Minister for Finance Dr Maung Maung Thein told the media at the credit guarantee insurance announcement ceremony.

The aim of the new insurance service is to enable people who want loans from the banks but without collateral to have access to financial assets and lenders to reduce risks, said the deputy minister who is one of the leaders of the government's delivery units formed to solve the problems and drive the implementation of reforms.

According to the deputy finance minister, the insurance will be sold to

Myanmar launches credit guarantee insurance service for SME development



Photo shows Myanmar Insurance building where first-ever credits guarantee insurance will go on sale on Monday for SME sector development in the country.—PHOTO: YE MYINT

SMEs wanting to take up loans from financial institutions and banks seeking risk sharing as well, at different premium rates for two types of loans.

For a loan with collateral, premium is two kyats per 100 kyats for the first year, 1.5 kyats for the second year and one kyat for the third year and years that

follows, while premium for a loan without collateral is set at three kyats for the first year, two kyats for the second year and one kyat for the third year and years

that follows, he said.

Myanmar Insurance will reimburse the lenders for a loss up to 60 per cent of the loan in the event of a loan default, he added.

While making clarification on the credit guarantee insurance at the ceremony, the deputy minister called for involvement of private banks in micro-finance banking services, pointing out that it has a huge potential market for banks and financial institutions. Currently only Small and Medium Industrial Development Bank (SMIDB) is lending to SMEs.

He disclosed that an agreement is expected to be signed in October on two- and three-step loan projects for SME development with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), following a visit of Japan's fact-finding mission next month, saying that a grant of \$20 million is likely to come for the first phase.

In Myanmar, licences to operate six types of insurance services including life insurance have so far been issued to 12 firms. But, the credit guarantee insurance service will be operated by Myanmar Insurance, a state-owned firm founded in 1952.

NLM

Future of mobile applications, IP rights in Myanmar discussed



Photo shows the seminar on future of mobile applications and IP rights in Myanmar at UMFCFI office tower in Yangon in progress.—PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 28 June— The rising culture of pirate application is killing My-

anmar developers so they need to have an Intellectual Property Law enacted

as soon as possible, said U Min Tayza Nyunt Tin, a legal consultant of Myanmar Software Alliance, on Saturday at a seminar here on the future of mobile ap-

plications and IP rights in Myanmar.

He pointed out the need to change individual moral and ethic for the increasing number of developers in the country as there is no IP right in Myanmar. Most users buy pirated applications, which has caused Myanmar developers to suffer a heavy loss in production. Most of them have already given up their professions.

The development in the ICT sector plays a crucial role in building a modern, developed country and it needs more cooperation of the government and the public, said U Tun Thura Thet, joint secretary of Myanmar Computer Federation-MCF.

He urged users to in-

stall licenced versions as well as the developers to create high-tech applications.

From an economic point of view, the speakers gave advice to developers to create business applications, which he said are in high demands.

They also provided suggestions to the proprietors of mobile sales and services centres to install applications after explaining to customers the features of the licenced applications and pirated applications.

U Ye Myat Thu, executive committee member of MCF, said ICT organizations should contribute to developers by conducting training and providing financial support.

NLM



Five
Principles
of
Peaceful
Coexistence
photo
gallery

President U Thein Sein delivers an address at Conference Marking the 60th Anniversary of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence in Beijing on 28 June.—MNA



The Hon'ble U Nu, Prime Minister of the Union of Burma and Prime Minister Chou En-lai of the People's Republic of China affixing their signatures to documents in the presence of President U Win Maung at the auspicious ceremony of the exchange of instruments of ratification of the China-Burma Boundary Treaty held at the President's House on January 4.



President U Thein Sein and party pose for documentary photo together with Indian Vice President Mohammad Hamid Ansari and Chinese Premier Li Keqing.—MNA



HISTORIC LEGACY: *Chinese Prime Minister Zhou Enlai (second left) meets with Myanmar President Ba U (second right) in Yangon, Myanmar, on 28 June, 1954 (Xinhua)*



The Hon'ble Prime Minister U Nu of the Union of Burma and Prime Minister Chou En-lai of the People's Republic of China signing the Agreement on Economic and Technical Co-operation between Burma and China and a Joint Communiqué issued by the two Governments following the end of Premier Chou En-lai's seven-day goodwill visit to Burma at the President's House on January 9.

NATIONAL

BEIJING, 28 June—Myanmar President U Thein Sein visited the Buddha Tooth Relic Pagoda in Lingguang Temple in Beijing on Saturday, where he donated a variety of offerings, sources said.

President U Thein Sein paid homage to Jade Buddha Image, a Buddha statue donated by Myanmar and housed at the temple, and received a Buddha statue presented by the Chairman Sayadaw of the Buddha Tooth Relic Pagoda.

The president handed over a case for the Buddha Tooth Relic to be placed in and bronze plaques inscribed in Myanmar and Chinese listing various kinds of jewels donated by Myanmar citizens when the Buddha Tooth Relic was brought to Myanmar for public obeisance.

Reports said the Buddha Tooth Relic from China has been brought to Myanmar four times in 1955, 1994, 1996 and 2011.

President also visited Temple of Heaven in Chongwen District, which was built in Ming Dynasty.

Chinese President Xi Jinping, Myanmar President U Thein Sein, Indian Vice President Mohammad Hamid Ansari and Chinese Premier Li Keqiang gath-

Peaceful coexistence is a norm for international relations: President U Thein Sein

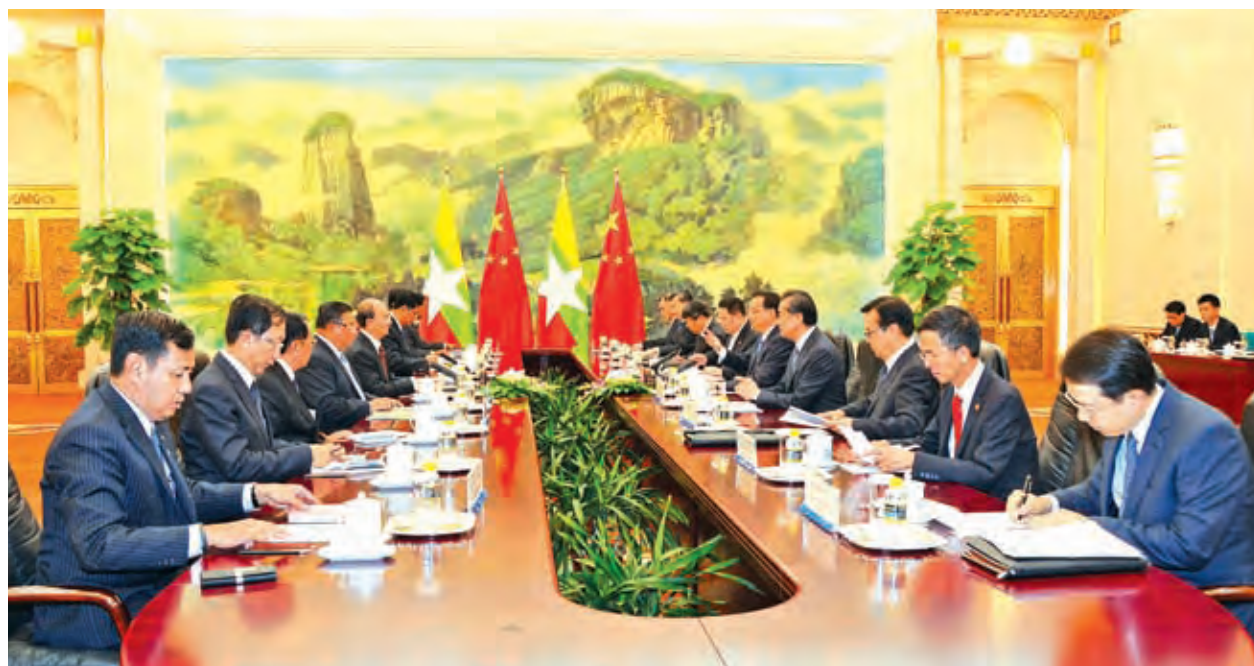
ered in Beijing on Saturday to attend a conference marking the 60th anniversary of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, media reported.

The conference took place at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

In 1954, Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai's visits to Myanmar and India gave birth to the five principles of peaceful coexistence, which cover mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence.

Speaking at the conference, President U Thein Sein over 60 years after the Second World War, countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America thirsted for a new order of international relations that respects sovereignty and territorial integrity and shapes equality and mutual benefit.

"Leaders from newly independent states initiated the five principles of peaceful coexistence, which have now been accepted as a norm for international re-



President U Thein Sein holds talks with Chinese Premier Li Keqiang at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.—MNA

lations," the president said, adding that the ideas embedded in them are found to be included in the United Nations Charter as well as in other international declarations.

Myanmar's independent, active, non-aligned foreign policy is based on the five principles of peaceful coexistence, the president noted. Regarding the friendly relations with neighbouring countries, President

U Thein Sein stressed Myanmar, China and India share a common border, which is miles long, and that they have been good neighbours for hundreds of years, citing the principles of peaceful coexistence.

The president expressed his firm belief that Myanmar, as the ASEAN chair, would be able to bring about security and solidarity between ASEAN countries and China and India as dia-

logue partners.

Indian Vice President Mohammad Hamid Ansari and Chinese President Xi Jinping also addressed the conference. China and India signed an agreement in New Delhi on 28 June 1954 to adhere to the five principles of peaceful coexistence, and China and Myanmar on 29 June in Yangon.

In the afternoon the same day, President U Thein Sein accepted a call by Chi-

nese Premier Li Keqiang at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing and discussed prospects for establishment of Bangladesh-India-Myanmar-China economic corridor, cooperation in energy, Kyaukpyu special economic zone and deep sea port development, promotion of cooperation in economic sector between Myanmar and China and promotion of investment in Myanmar.

MNA

Military conducts monsoon plantation ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 28 June—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and military personnel launched monsoon plantation near the Yezin Dam of Zeyathiri Township here on Saturday.

A total of 5,000 perennial plants were grown today's event to conserve the dam.

Senior General said: "Forest cover area in Myanmar has declined to 46.96 in 2010 from 60.09 percent in 1975, 57.97 percent in 1990, and 52.82 in 2000. Forest degradation has gradually increased due to exploration of forest resource amidst increasing population of the country. Nationwide plantation activities could not restore the forest areas. The consequence of this result such as decline of water resource, climatic changes, global warming and shortage of agricultural and drinking have made negative impacts on livelihoods of the people."

The commander-



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing grows a plant for monsoon tree growing ceremony.—MNA

in-chief of defence services also urged all the military forces across the country to work mass plantations three times at the areas of respective commands

and battalions every rainy season.

He said that the military has grown 2.5 millions of plants from 2010 to 2013, 50 percent of the total plantation

Union ministers meet locals in N. Shan State

NAY PYI TAW, 28 June—Not only the government but all organizations are to participate in development tasks, Union Minister U Soe Thane in meeting with townsmen and local people at the city hall in Lashio of northern Shan State on Friday.

Nowadays, the government accelerates its Third Wave plan in reform process, said Union Minister U Tin Naing Thein, urging that it is necessary to try hard to turn out necessary human resources for the state.

Union Minister U Win Myint said that Shan State

gains development in trade sector thanks to cooperation between the people and the government.

The Shan State minister shared K200 million of development funds to officials of Hsenwi, Tangyan, Kunlong, Mongyai and Lashio townships.—MNA

UEC collects preliminary voter lists

NAY PYI TAW, 28 June—The Union Election Commission is now collecting preliminary data of possible voters for by-elections and general elections which are to be held in Myanmar in 2015, according to announcement of commission.

The move is being carried out in cooperation with 25 social organizations including, including a local NGO The Serenity Initiative (TSI) at Ahlon Township of Yangon, Tiddim Township of Chin State and Myitkyina Township of Kachin State.

These NGOs will also view the computerization of data of eligible voters, will encourage the voters when their names have been men-

tioned in the voter lists, and will educate public about voting process.

They will conduct their educative programmes with ethnic languages in Kachin and Chin states. UEC has expected their preliminary

data collection of voters to finalize at the end of August this year before process is carried out from October 2014 to mid 2015. Further information, may contact 067-404229 and email-in-fo@uec.gov.mm.—MNA

Myanmar calls for broader practice of peaceful coexistence

YANGON, 28 June—Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw addressed a dinner hosted at Sule Shangri-La Hotel here in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the five principles of peaceful coexistence initiated by Myanmar, China and India.

The deputy minister

called for a broader practice of the principles so as to ensure international equity and justice and maintain peace and stability, giving a pledge of further cooperation with China and India as well as other peace-loving countries in braving challenges and threats of today and tomorrow.—MNA

Mandalar College welcomes freshers

MANDALAY, 28 June—The fresher welcome ceremony was held at the convocation hall at Mandalar College in Amarapura Township of Mandalay Region on Friday.

In his address, Deputy Minister for Hotels and Tourism Dr Tin Shwe said that the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism is implementing the master tourism strategic plan. At present, there are over 1000 hotels with over 40,000 suites across the nation, he noted. Tour guide courses

are being conducted to the trainees and tour licences are being issued to the local tour guides. He urged the students to try hard to learn the tourism course as they are new generations for development of the tourism industry.

Students from first and second years courses of the tourism management department of the college performed performances in plays to the attendees.

Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)



Lower House MP meets locals in Myingyan Tsp

MYINGYAN, 28 June—Myingyan Township Lower

House MP U Win Myint met local people at Bogyoke

monastery in Layeindan Village of Myingyan

Township in Mandalay Region on Friday to hold discussions on regional development.

The MP explained he is now providing necessary assistance for village development and he has a plan to fulfill the requirement of the local people.

The locals discussed matters related to Bogyoke boat and repair of roads and bridges and the MP reviewed their discussions. A local expressed thanks for peace, stability and security of the village.

Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)



Action taken against illegal sandalwood trafficker

PYIN OOLWIN, 28 June—A team led by Senior Forester U Khin Zaw searched a vehicle with the load of pieces believed to be red sandalwood in front of Kyaukchaw office in Patheingyi Township of Mandalay Region on Thursday.

The officials checked the pieces at the office of Patheingyi Township Forest Department and found 4.442 tons of dried red sandalwood and 1.431 tons

of wet red sandalwood on board. In further investigation, the vehicle was allowed to carry 331 pieces of dried red sandalwood and 40 pieces of wet one but it exceeded 82 pieces of red sandalwood worth K 26.226 million more than the permitted pieces.

Pyinsa police station opened a file of lawsuit against driver Tin Myo Oo, 46, of Namkham under the law.—*Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)*

Second Myanma Music Day observed in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 28 June—Organized by Mandalay Music Association, the second Myanma Music Day was celebrated at Oriental House at the corner of 64th and 27th streets in Chanayethazan Township on Friday.

Academy U Thaw Zin read the message sent by the chairman of Myanmar Music Association (Central). National literary

award winner writer Hsu Hnget gave talks about Myanma music day.

Troupe of Myoma Band sang the song entitled Doh Bamar. On the occasion, Mandalay Music Association donated cash to the funds of Platform Nursery teaching table, the Home for the Aged and the School for the Deaf and Dump.—*Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)*

Traffic rules, crime reduction lectured at Myingyan GTC

MYINGYAN, 28 June—An educative talks on crime reduction, traffic rules enforcement, drug elimination and anti-human trafficking was given to students at Government Technological College in Myingyan of Mandalay on Friday.

Commander of Myingyan Township Police Force Police Major Aye Myint gave lectures on crime reduction, Head of District Directorate of Road Administration U Lay Naing, do's for motorcyclists, Deputy District Law Officer Daw Khin

Ohn Myint criminal cases and penalties, Head of Myoma Police Station Police Captain Myint Naing prevention against trafficking in persons, Dr Ei Ei Win of District Health Department disadvantages of narcotic drugs, and Police Captain

Khin Maung Cho of District Traffic Police Squad traffic rules for motorcyclists.

After the talk, Police Captain Khin Maung Cho presented helmets to the students.

Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)



LOCAL NEWS

School uniforms, stationery worth K1.5 million donated to students in Pale Tsp

PALE, 28 June—In commemoration of upgrading the BEPS to Basic Education Middle School Branch, Abbot Ashin Man-itacara of No 5 Monastic Education Middle School of Sasana Zawtaka Pariyatti Monastery of Mawlamyine in Mon State donated school uniforms, knapsacks and stationery to students of the upgraded school in Ledhama village in Pale Township of Sagaing Region on Friday.

The Sayadaw recounted his experiences, saying

that he attended the fourth standard at the school, five miles from Ledhama village in his childhood. Whenever he set for the examination, he faced much difficulty due to poor transport. So, he made donations to the students of his native village as much as he can." The abbot donated school uniforms, stationery, mosquito nets, school text books and copy books to 198 students and office equipment worth K 1.5 million to the school officials.—*Myint Thein Soe (IPRD)*



Transport service for Thabeikkyin-Zayatkwins-Shwebo route launched



THABEIKKYIN, 28 June—New bus lines plan to launch their buses from Thabeikkyin to Shwebo crossing Yadana Theinga Ayeyawady Bridge.

Centring at Thabeikkyin, Yadanamyay bus line launched its new bus for

the Thabeikkyin-Zayatkwins-Shwebo route on Friday. The bus line runs its bus line with over 20 vehicles for the Tahbeikkyin-Shwebo route.

"In the past, ships, speed boats and Mandalay-Bhamo vessels docked

at Thabeikkyin but they now do not anchor at jetty of Thabeikkyin. So, the local people could not rely on the waterway transport. Now, thanks to bus lines, the flow of commodity will be swift and domestic products can be exchanged in the market," said a local merchant.

The launch of the new bus line took place at the bus terminal, attended by local authorities. The bus line extended its transport service under the permission of the Mandalay and Sagaing Regions Road and Inland Water Transport Boards.—*Soe Naing Win (Thabeikkyin)*

Expansion of curved road section completed in Thabeikkyin

THABEIKKYIN, 28 June—The curves on the hills at mile posts 1/4 and 3/2 on Mandalay-Thabeikkyin road is being expanded in Thabeikkyin Township of Mandalay Region by Hsu-

htoopan Construction Company and Public Works. Mandalay Region Hluttaw MP U Than Aung, township authorities and engineers supervised the finishing works at the road section.

The curve at the hill on the entrance road to Thabeikkyin was narrow, so the road was expanded for traffic safety of locals.—*Soe Naing Win (Thabeikkyin)*



DRD sinks tube-wells in villages for sufficient water supply to locals

THABEIKKYIN, 28 June—With the aim of supplying sufficiency of water to the locals, the Rural De-

velopment Department is building water tanks and sinking tube-wells.

Head of PyinOoLwin

District Rural Development Department U Than Naing Oo and officials inspected test-running of

a four-inch diameter tube-well in Yinkhatbin Village of Tahbeikkyin Township in Mandalay Region on 24 June.

With the special fund allotted by the Rural Development Department, Silver Mark Company sank the tube-well in the village and the well pumps 1500 gallons of water per hour so as to supply sufficiency of potable water to the locals.

The department has sunk four-inch diameter tube-wells in Zayatkwins, Wetthay, Letpankon and Yinkhatbin villages of the township. At present, the sinking tube-well is being undertaken in Phetshay Village.—*Soe Naing Win (Thabeikkyin)*

Money minded financial literacy training programme conducted in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 28 June—Mandalay Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited, ANZ Bank Myanmar jointly conducted the money minded financial literacy training programme at the Yadanabon Super Centre in Chanayethazan Township

of Mandalay on Friday.

The course was attended by 110 entrepreneurs from 23 companies and businesses. The experts at home and abroad gave lectures to the trainees on systematic spending of salary, banking services on monetary affairs and credit cards. Admission was free.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Specialists deliver health care to rural people in Kalay Tsp

KALAY, 28 June—A 45-member medical team including specialists led by Medical Superintendent Dr Nyunt Than of Kalay General Hospital made a trip to Tinthar Village of Kalay Township

in Sagaing Region recently.

They gave health care services to 419 local people of the village and performed surgical operations at about 300 patients.

Chindwin Thar (IPRD)



Cambodia's ruling party marks anniversary, vows for prosperity

PHNOM PENH, 28 June — The ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP) on Saturday commemorated the 63rd anniversary of its birth, vowing to build a better future for the country and the people. The celebration was presided over by the party's honorary president Heng Samrin, who is also the president of the National Assembly, and Prime Minister Hun Sen, the acting president.

The party's ailing president and head of the Senate, Chea Sim, 82, did not appear at the event.

The CPP has ruled the country since 1979.

"In nearly 36 years, under the CPP's leadership, the Cambodian people have gone through various stages of hardships with success and honour, and we have created numerous historic achievements for Cambodia," Heng Samrin told the gathering of around 10,000 supporters



Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen (2nd R, front), acting president of the ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP), is greeted by party's members during the commemoration of the party's 63rd anniversary in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 28 June, 2014.—XINHUA

at the party's headquarters in Phnom Penh. He urged the Cambodian people to unite as the nation is currently making its energetic and hopeful advancement towards a bright future.

"The CPP is determined to strengthen and expand achievements while making further efforts to build a prosperous future of our country," he said.

CPP, formerly known

as the Khmer People's Revolutionary Party, was founded on 28 June, 1951, aimed at leading the struggle to win independence from the French colonial rule.—Xinhua

Rights group calls for human treatment of migrant workers in Thailand

BANGKOK, 28 June — Thai authorities should treat migrant workers humanely and with compassion even as they pursue their relentless campaign against human traffickers in the country, a human rights activist has said here.

Sunai Pasuk, the Bangkok-based coordinator for the Human Rights Watch, has called on the Thai authorities to treat migrant workers from any foreign country as victims of human trafficking syndicates and therefore should be given assistance instead of being subjected to indignities. Instead of being arrested for illegal entry charges, those migrants should be given humanitarian aid and eventually legalized as foreign workers, he said.

There is an estimated 2.5 million migrants employed for varied jobs in Thailand ranging from unskilled construction workers, factory employees, fishermen, restaurant waitresses and house servants.

These include some 430,000 Cambodians, about half of whom had recently scrambled out across the Thai-Cambodian border in the wake of unconfirmed rumours of a sweeping crackdown on illegal aliens.

However many have begun to return to their former jobs after the military government assured them of their safety.

"Instead of arresting the migrant workers, the authorities should help them for humanitarian reasons and see to it that they will be no longer abused.

Measures should be seriously taken to combat human trafficking in which some abusive employers and corrupt officials may have been involved," he said. The National Council for Peace and Order, the

official name of the military junta that staged the 22 May coup to depose a civilian government, said to have developed close and cordial relationship with Phnom Penh, had dismissed such hearsay about crackdown on illegal foreign workers and recommended that the Cambodian authorities persuade their migrant workers to return to their jobs in Thailand.

Sunai suggested that the authorities plug up legal loopholes to prevent the unscrupulous human traffickers from taking advantage of the hapless migrant workers.

"The authorities have largely failed to clamp down on those law-evading traffickers and colluding officials many of whom were said to have remained at large and even strived to make undue gains by ways of labour abuses," he said.

He disclosed that Thailand used to be second in the United States government's list of countries engaged in trafficking in persons for the past years.

Thailand has been relegated to the third tier due to reported failure to effectually combat human trafficking, which in some cases had culminated in the "slavery" of migrant workers as alleged by US Secretary of State John Kerry.

However, given the stringent measures taken by the ruling military, the country's human trafficking report might be moved up from the lowest tier, Sunai commented. In order to stop the illegal activities of human traffickers, top Thai ruler Gen Prayuth Chan-ocha, who currently heads the military council, has assured the country that the authorities will legalize and regulate the employment of foreign workers.—Xinhua



Rickshaw pullers make their way through a flooded street near Gauhati, India, on 27 June, 2014. Several people were killed due to electrocution and landslides triggered by incessant rains in India's northeastern state of Assam, according to local reports.—XINHUA

China's building materials sector weakens

BEIJING, 28 June — China's building materials sector continued to show weakness in May as the property market cools, according to the latest statistics from the country's top economic planner.

Cement output rose 3.2 percent year on year in May, slowing 5.3 percentage points from the expansion seen during the same period last year, the National Development and Reform Commission

(NDRC) said on its website.

Output of flat glass rose 6.4 percent, down 9.1 percentage points from a year earlier.

Prices are also retreating. Compared with a month earlier, the factory gate prices of cement and flat glasses went down 0.9 percent and 3.4 percent, respectively.

The data was a reflection of the weak property market, a major consumer

of the cement and flat glass. Latest official data showed average home prices in 70 cities slipped 0.15 percent from the previous month, the first drop in more than a year.

Of a statistical pool of 70 major cities, thirty-five saw month-on-month drops in new home prices last month, compared with eight in April. Only 15 cities saw month-on-month increases, substantially down from 44 in April.

Four killed as three-storey building collapses in Indian capital

NEW DELHI, 28 June — A three-storey building collapsed in the northern part of Indian capital New Delhi on Saturday early morning, causing four people killed and many are feared trapped, local media reported. The building collapsed around 9 am in North Delhi's Inderlok area. Three fire brigades have been rushed to the spot.

Twelve people have been rescued so far while four are grievously injured. Many others are feared to be still trapped inside. "A total of twelve people have been rescued and taken to the hospital, while four JCB machines were rushed to the spot to remove the debris. The rescue work is under progress," an official supervising the rescue operations added. "The building was around 50 years old and a number of families lived in it. Search and rescue operations are on. Some more may be trapped in the rubble although the number cannot be ascertained as of now," said Deputy Commissioner of Police(North) Madhur Verma.

Some renovation work had reportedly been undertaken in the 50-year-old building recently.—Xinhua



Firemen try to douse a major fire on the fifth floor of the new administrative building at Chatrapati Shivaji Terminus (CST) of Central Railway in Mumbai, India, on 27 June, 2014.—XINHUA

WORLD

EU signs trade pact with Ukraine, ceasefire extended by 72 hours

BRUSSELS, 28 June — The European Union signed an historic free-trade pact with Ukraine on Friday and warned it could impose more sanctions on Moscow unless pro-Russian rebels act to wind down the crisis in the east of the country by Monday.

Shortly after returning to Kiev from Brussels where he signed the pact, Poroshenko announced on his website that Ukraine had extended a ceasefire by government forces against pro-Russian separatist rebels by 72 hours until 10 pm on Monday.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko came to Brussels to sign a far-reaching trade and political co-operation agreement with the EU that has been at the heart of months of deadly violence and upheaval in his country, drawing an immediate threat of “grave consequences” from Russia.

Georgia and Moldova signed similar deals, holding out the prospect of deep economic integration and



Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko (C) poses with European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso (L) and European Council President Herman Van Rompuy (R) at the EU Council in Brussels on 27 June, 2014.

REUTERS

unfettered access to the EU's 500 million citizens, but alarming Moscow, which is concerned about losing influence over former Soviet republics.

The week-long ceasefire had been due to expire on Friday.

The extension was made, Poroshenko's website said, in line with a

Monday deadline set by EU leaders for the rebels to agree to ceasefire verification arrangements, return

border checkpoints to Kiev authorities and free hostages

including detained monitors of the OSCE rights and security watchdog.

“We expect progress in the next hours,” German Chancellor Angela Merkel

said. “If we don't see any steps forward on any of the points, then we are also prepared to take drastic measures.”

EU leaders said they were ready to meet again at any time to adopt significant sanctions on Russia. Diplomats said they could target new people and companies with asset freezes as early as next week. More than 60 names are already on the list.

Although it has drawn up a list of hard-hitting economic sanctions against Russia, the EU is still hesitating over deploying them because of fears among some member states of antagonizing their major energy supplier.

“We are talking about possible sanctions against Russia but we do not have to introduce sanctions for the sake of sanctions. We do have a need for a dialogue. I hope this dialogue will take place and we will have a real ceasefire,” Poroshenko told a news conference in Brussels.

Reuters

Bulgarian central bank says banking system under attack

SOFIA, 28 June — Bulgaria's central bank said on Friday there was a systematic attempt to destabilise the country through attacks on the banking system and vowed to protect citizens' savings.

Depositors queued in the capital Sofia to withdraw funds from one of the country's biggest banks and its shares slumped, worsening a crisis that has shone a light on weak economic governance in the poorest European Union state.

Last week, the central bank took control of Corporate Commercial Bank (Corpbank) 6C9.BB after a run on deposits sparked by media reports of suspect deals involving the bank and its top shareholder.

The central bank said Corpbank's problems were isolated. Economists and Fitch Ratings agency also played down the risk of contagion, while foreign banks with subsidiaries in Bulgaria — accounting for more than two thirds of the Balkan country's banking system — insisted their operations were safe. But the crisis spread on Friday as the country's third-biggest lender, First Investment Bank 5F4.BB, said it was under an “unprecedented criminal attack”.

Reuters witnesses saw queues of between 15 and 30 customers build gradually after some bank branches opened on Friday in Sofia. By early afternoon, there were around 70 people queuing outside one central branch of First Investment Bank.

The bank said depositors withdrew about 800 million leva (326.34 million pounds) and announced it would close all branches at 1300 BST until Monday for “logistical reasons”. It said it had enough funds to meet clients' demands.

A spokesman said Internet banking services and cash machine withdrawals would continue to function over the weekend.

“I was told to come here and take my money out,” said a 32-year-old woman in one bank queue who did not want to be named. “I hope they do not close the doors in front of our noses.”

Reuters

Japan, China agree to boost people-to-people exchanges



Japanese transport minister Akihiro Ota (L) holds talks with Chinese Vice Premier Liu Yandong at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on 27 June, 2014.

KYODO NEWS

BEIJING, 28 June — Japanese transport minister Akihiro Ota on Friday agreed with Chinese Vice Premier Liu Yandong that the two countries will expand people-to-people and cultural exchanges, although bilateral relations have been badly damaged over territorial and historical issues.

It is the first time a Japanese minister has visited Beijing since Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government was formed in December 2012.

Ota told reporters that

Liu, one of the two women in the Chinese Communist Party's 25-member Politburo, talked especially about the need to improve public sentiment in the two countries toward each other.

“It is important to nurture public opinion friendly for both countries by cultivating friendship through exchanges between people,” Ota, a former leader of New Komeito, junior coalition partner of Abe's Liberal Democratic Party, quoted her as saying.

The meeting between Ota with Liu comes as Beijing has started softening somewhat its stance toward Tokyo in recent months, saying it is open to promoting exchanges with Japanese political parties, companies and local government officials.

Still, China has not toned down the harsh rhetoric from its leadership against Abe and has told various Japanese delegations to Beijing since this spring that the cause of heightened tensions between the two countries

boils down to his hawkish political stance.

“China is placing a great deal of importance on the New Komeito party,” Liu told Ota at the outset of the meeting at the Great Hall of the People. “Although bilateral relations are in an extremely difficult situation, the minister's visit to China has extraordinary significance.”

“I am hoping from my bottom of heart that your visit would actively contribute to the development of China-Japan relations,” Liu said.

She, however, expressed concern over the Japanese government's attempt to reinterpret the pacifist Constitution and enable the Self-Defence Forces to defend allies under armed attack, according to Ota, though he said the two did not discuss the issue in detail.

China has historically maintained close ties with the LDP's junior partner, which is backed by the major lay Buddhist organization Soka Gakkai, as it has pursued dovish foreign and security policies.

Kyodo News

Global power struggle is a threat to development of Asian region

Outstanding personnel honoured for excellent performances in development of region

Equipment delivered for rehabilitation of Baluchaung No 2 Hydropower Plant

School requirements fulfilled in Palauk Sub-Township



Khaing Htoo
(*Myeik District IPRD*)

GALLERY



President U Thein Sein accepts replica of sacred tooth relic of Lord Buddha from the Sayadaw.—MNA

Donations and obeisance to sacred Tooth Relic in China



The sacred tooth relic of Lord Buddha kept in Beijing for public obeisance.—MNA



Various items of jewellery to be donated to sacred tooth relic of Lord Buddha in Beijing of China.—MNA



Photo shows a temple where sacred tooth relic of Lord Buddha is being kept for public obeisance in Beijing of China.

MNA



Various items of jewellery ornaments and gold works to be donated to sacred tooth relic of Lord Buddha in Beijing of China.—MNA

A file photo taken on 6 November 2011 on Buddha Tooth Relic on the way to Uppatasanti Pagoda from Nay Pyi Taw Airport.—MNA



US trims Nigeria surveillance flights seeking abducted girls

WASHINGTON, 28 June — The United States said on Friday it had decreased its surveillance flights in the search for more than 200 schoolgirls abducted by Islamist militants in Nigeria, but added that the overall effort was unchanged due to more flights by other countries.

“We don’t have any better idea today than we did before about where these girls are, but there’s been no letup of the effort itself,” Pentagon spokesman Rear Admiral John Kirby told reporters.

Kirby said the same level of effort was being sustained now through international involvement.

A US defence official speaking on condition of anonymity said US flights had been reduced only after a body of intelligence had been gathered and that



Demonstrators hold signs while chanting for the release of the Nigerian schoolgirls in Chibok who were kidnapped by Islamist militant group Boko Haram, outside of United Nations headquarters in New York, on 22 May, 2014.—REUTERS

the cuts had been offset by British and French support.

Kirby denied a suggestion that US flights over Nigeria had been reduced

to accommodate increased US surveillance over Iraq, where Washington is flying unmanned and manned aircraft to gather intelligence

about Sunni insurgents. He said some of the resources that were being used in Nigeria had been diverted from other missions in

Africa and could now be used elsewhere on the continent. The girls were kidnapped in April by militant Islamist group Boko Haram. Nigeria has been assisted in its search for them by the United States and other countries, including its neighbours.

Officials declined to say how long heightened US surveillance over Nigeria had lasted. Asked whether it was just a week or two, the defence official said, “No. We were ... building this baseline for a good period of time.”

US surveillance flights over Nigeria were now intermittent, the source said.

US military personnel are in Abuja helping to coordinate the effort, and some 80 others were sent to Chad in May to support the surveillance operation. Chad is northeast of Ni-

geria and borders the area in which Boko Haram is known to operate.

In the last month US officials have played down expectations about a swift rescue of the girls and stressed the limitations of intelligence from surveillance flights.

One US official voiced concerns that Boko Haram may have booby trapped areas where the girls could be held, and there have been reports that they may have been split up into small groups that are not being held in one place.

The defence official said surveillance alone would not lead to a resolution. “It will take ... the Nigerian piece of the equation with their own sources and human intelligence coupled with the other forms to really understand the picture.”—Reuters

Venezuela blackout leaves commuters scrambling, silences president



People try to find other modes of transportation after subway services were cut off during a blackout in Caracas on 27 June, 2014.—REUTERS

CARACAS, 28 June — A blackout cut power to much of Venezuela on Friday afternoon, snarling traffic in the capital Caracas and other major cities and interrupting a televised speech by the president in the country’s second nationwide electricity outage in a year.

The blackout affected Caracas for about three hours, panicking commuters anxious to get home before dark in the crime-ridden city, but power was gradually restored by early evening and underground metro trains were running again. Venezuela’s second city, Maracaibo, was also hit.

An outage at a power station in the centre of the country led to other generation centres going offline and disrupting the supply across a broad swath of the Andean nation, Electricity

Minister Jesse Chacon told state television. The OPEC nation has suffered an increasing number of blackouts in recent years, which critics have attributed to low electricity tariffs and limited state investment following the 2007 nationalisation of the sector.

The blackout came mid-afternoon as President Nicolas Maduro was speaking during a broadcast of the awards ceremony for a national journalism prize. On television again in the evening, he said it was not clear what led to the “strange” incident.

“We are going to investigate thoroughly and objectively ... The causes will be known because, be aware, there are no reasons linked to the service itself. There was not more demand than supply ... it was not peak hours,” he said.

Reuters

US special envoy for Israeli-Palestinian talks leaves post

WASHINGTON, 28 June — US special envoy for Israeli-Palestinian negotiations Martin Indyk will be returning to his post at an American think tank, as peace talks have collapsed since April, Secretary of State John Kerry said on Friday.

Kerry expressed “deep appreciation” to Indyk and his team for their “untiring efforts” to promote Israeli-Palestinian peace, and

emphasized the administration’s commitment to continue the effort to achieve “a lasting resolution,” the State Department said in a statement.

Indyk, a former US ambassador to Israel, was serving as vice president and director of the Foreign Policy Programme at the Brookings Institution when he was named special envoy in late July last year, as Kerry restarted peace talks

between the Israelis and the Palestinians.

Kerry had aimed for an agreement on all the core issues including security, border, the status of Jerusalem and refugees by 29 April, but the talks broke down that month after Israel refused to release by late March last group of 26 Palestinian prisoners as agreed, and the Palestinians responded by renewing their efforts to apply

for joining 15 UN agencies and conventions.

“The United States remains committed not just to the cause of peace, but to resuming the process when the parties find a path back to serious negotiations,” Kerry was quoted as saying in the State Department’s statement.

The agency said Frank Lowenstein, Indyk’s deputy, will serve as the acting special envoy.—Xinhua

UN experts trace recent seized arms to Iran, violating embargo

UNITED NATIONS, 28 June — A UN expert panel has concluded that a shipment of rockets and other weapons that was seized by Israel came from Iran and represents a violation of the UN arms embargo on Teheran, according to a confidential report obtained by Reuters on Friday.

The finding comes just days ahead of the next round of negotiations in Vienna between Iran and six world powers aimed at securing a deal that would gradually lift international sanctions on Teheran — including the arms embargo — in exchange for curbs on the controversial Iranian nuclear programme.

Despite Israel’s public statements that the seized arms were destined for Gaza — an allegation that Gaza’s governing Islamist militant group Hamas dismissed as a fabrication — the experts said the



An Israeli Navy boat escorts the Panamanian-flagged cargo vessel Klos C into the Israeli port of Eilat on Saturday after seizing it in the Red Sea on Wednesday, on 8 March, 2014. REUTERS

weapons were being sent to Sudan.

The experts do not speculate in the report about why the arms were being sent to Sudan, a country which Western diplomatic and intelligence sources have told Reuters has in the past been a conduit for Iranian arms shipments to other locations in Africa, as well as the Gaza Strip.

The experts said the

Israeli UN mission wrote to the UN Iran Sanctions Committee on 13 March about “the transfer of rockets, mortars and related materiel from Iran to Sudan.”

The 14-page report on the incident by the UN Security Council’s Panel of Experts on Iran makes no mention of the Gaza Strip as a possible destination for the arms, which were concealed in 20 containers on the Panamanian-flagged

vessel Klos C. The weaponry was seized by Israeli authorities in March.

The UN experts reached their conclusion after investigating the case and inspecting the seized cargo and documentation related to the shipment, which traveled from the Iranian port of Bandar Abbas to the Iraqi port of Umm Qasr, and from there in the direction of Port Sudan.—Reuters

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



China approves pilots for 4G development

BEIJING, 28 June — China on Friday approved two major telecom carriers, China Telecom and China Unicom, to conduct experiments on the LTE FDD and TD-LTE standards of the fourth-generation (4G) mobile network.

The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) said in a statement that it made the approval after the two mobile service operators applied for the pilots.

China Telecom and China Unicom will be allowed to experiment on the joint development of both 4G standards in 16 Chinese cities to “follow the trend of integrated LTE development and promote efficient use of resources.”

Last December, the ministry licensed China Mobile, China Telecom and China Unicom to operate the home-grown TD-LTE standard, or Time Division — Long Term

Evolution, ushering the country into a new era of high-speed mobile service.

“LTE FDD (Frequency Division Duplexing) licenses will be issued when conditions become ripe,” the ministry said.

China is the major promoter of the TD-LTE standard and is also a major owner of the standard’s core patents. LTE FDD is the other international 4G standard and is popular in Europe. — *Xinhua*

Russia calls off debut launch of first new space rocket design since Soviet era

MOSCOW, 28 June — Russia was forced to abandon Friday’s debut launch of its first new space rocket since the Soviet era when the Angara booster cut out during a final countdown watched by President Vladimir Putin via video link from the Kremlin.

Angara is seen as a test of Russia’s ability to turn around a once-pioneering space industry struggling to recover from a loss of highly trained specialists and years of budget curbs. It is also part of a move to consolidate the space program on Russian soil, breaking dependence on other ex-Soviet republics.

A senior military commander told Putin an automatic system had aborted the launch, without giving a reason for the delay, but that it had been put back for 24 hours until Saturday.

More than two decades in the making, the new generation rocket is a centerpiece of Putin’s plan to reform the once-pioneering space industry and launch satellites from a new space port being built in Russia’s far east.



The Soyuz TMA-13M spacecraft carrying the International Space Station crew of Alexander Gerst of Germany, Maxim Suraev of Russia and Reid Wiseman of the US blasts off from the launch pad at the Baikonur cosmodrome on 29 May, 2014.

REUTERS

The video link showed the Angara-1.2PP rocket begin to shake in its start position at the northern Plesetsk military launch pad, but a silence descended on the Kremlin conference room as the seconds stretched out and the launch failed to go ahead.

“The automatic system aborted the launch,” Alexander Golovko, commander of Russia’s Air and Space Defence Forces told Putin, who ordered a report

on the cause of the delay.

The development of the Angara — a new generation of rockets entirely designed and built within post-Soviet Russia’s borders — is intended to break a reliance on foreign suppliers and the Baikonur launchpad Russia leases from Kazakhstan.

“This is the first launch vehicle that has been developed and built from scratch in Russia,” Igor Lissov, an expert with trade

journal Novosti Kosmonavтики. “Everything else we have is a modernization of our Soviet legacy.” Work on the Angara began two years after the break up of the Soviet Union when Moscow lost the maker of its workhorse Zenit and Dnepr rockets in newly-independent Ukraine and its main launch facility in Kazakhstan. For some industry insiders, the crisis in Moscow’s relations with Kiev over its annexation

of Crimea and a separatist rebellion in the eastern Ukraine proves Russia’s need to produce and launch its rockets domestically.

“This (project) decision was made already way back in 1993, with an awareness that our former Soviet allies can ditch us at any moment,” Lissov said.

A potential commercial rival to Arianespace of France and Californian-based SpaceX, the modular launcher is designed to carry military and civilian payloads of up to 25 tonnes.

Its heavier cousin Angara 5, which space officials said is set for a test launch in late December, is to replace Russia’s workhorse Proton rocket, which has suffered an embarrassing litany of costly botched launches.

But both rockets are made by the same builder, the Khrunichev space center, leading to fears that Angara — named after a Siberian river — will suffer similar troubles.

“There is absolutely no guarantee that Angara, which is built by the same industry, by the same com-

pany, by the same people will be immune to these problems,” said Anatoly Zak, editor of the industry website Russianspaceweb.

“Twenty years of development is over but we are at the very beginning of the flight testing.”

Unlike the Proton, powered by toxic hydrazine fuel, Angara uses an ecologically cleaner mix of liquid oxygen and kerosene. Its medium-lift version, Angara-3, is due to complement the Soviet-era Soyuz — currently the only rocket ferrying astronauts to the International Space Station from Baikonur. Years of strapped budgets when many experts quit the space industry have led to long project delays and ballooning costs from Angara. “It became extremely overpriced,” Zak said.

The Angara rockets will probably become commercially competitive only in another decade, he said, if launched from the new cosmodrome Russia plans at Vostochny, closer to the equator, where less energy is needed to carry payloads into geostationary orbit.

Reuters

Slim’s real estate arm to buy AT&T’s America Movil stake

MEXICO CITY, 28 June — Carlos Slim’s real estate firm, Inmobiliaria Carso, will buy AT&T Inc’s equity stake in America Movil, tightening the Mexican tycoon’s control of his flagship telecommunications firm, according to a filing with Mexico’s stock exchange on Friday.

Slim’s Inmobiliaria Carso will buy more than 5.7 billion “AA” shares that have been held by AT&T, equal to 8.27 percent of

America Movil’s stock, the Mexican telecommunications firm said in the filing.

The stake represents 23.81 percent of America Movil’s voting stock.

Inmobiliaria Carso and one of its subsidiaries will also buy 72.8 million shares of commonly traded “L” shares, according to the filing. America Movil did not reveal how much Inmobiliaria Carso will pay for the shares.

“AA” shares do not

frequently trade, but if the whole deal were valued at the current price of “L” shares, it would be worth close to \$6 billion.

Slim’s firms and family already control more than 50 percent of America Movil’s voting stock.

AT&T announced the plan to sell its stake in America Movil in May in order to help it gain regulatory approval for its purchase of DirecTV.

Reuters



The logo of America Movil is seen on the wall of the reception area in the company’s corporate offices in Mexico City on 13 Feb, 2013. — REUTERS

North Korea on agenda as Chinese president visits South

SEOUL, 28 June — Chinese President Xi Jinping will visit South Korea next week, the two countries announced on Friday, with North Korea's pursuit of nuclear weapons featuring prominently on the agenda in summit talks.

It will be Xi's first visit to South Korea as president but his fifth summit with South Korean President Park Geun-hye. South Korea's presidential Blue House said North Korea would be high on the agenda when the two leaders discuss regional security and

cooperation.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang said both countries were important cooperative partners and had achieved great success together.

"China and South Korea have many common areas of interest," Qin told a daily news briefing, though he declined to provide details of Xi's agenda. Xi will be making a single-country trip and not visit North Korea, which regards China as its greatest ally and has relied on Beijing as its economic lifeline through

steadily toughening UN sanctions imposed for its nuclear arms programme.

South Korea has sought to win China's assurance to be more assertive on North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons, but Beijing has been reluctant to take dramatic steps that could destabilize the North.

Xi and Park will likely focus on forging a stronger economic partnership. Despite the relatively short diplomatic ties reached 22 years ago, the two countries have developed into one of the world's biggest trade

partnerships, with two-way trade nearly at \$230 billion.

China is South Korea's biggest trading partner. South Korea is also one of the few developed countries that runs a surplus with China, one in excess of \$60 billion. The two countries are also on the same page on their demand for Japan to take more proactive steps to show it has adequately atoned for its wartime past, when it colonized Korea and ruled parts of China following a 1937 invasion. Both Xi and Park took office early last year and last



Chinese President Xi Jinping

met in March this year on the sidelines of a nuclear security summit in The Hague.—Reuters

Syrian troops agree on ceasefire with rebels in Homs ahead of Ramadan

DAMASCUS, 28 June — The Syrian troops and the armed rebels in a central Syrian district have agreed on a truce during the Muslim's holy month of Ramadan, the pan-Arab al-Mayadeen TV reported on Friday.

The truce in al-Waer district, the last remaining rebel-held area inside the city of Homs, has gone into effect as of Friday, just a couple of days ahead of the commencement of Ramadan, the month of fasting for Muslims.

Last month, the Syrian government declared the old quarters of Homs city free of rebels, after an

agreement took place in that ancient part of the city between the government troops and the rebels.

The deal entailed the evacuation of the rebels from old Homs and in return the government accepted to release some of the imprisoned opposition activists and members of the rebels' families. The rebels also released hostages they had taken before from government-controlled areas and broken a siege they had imposed on pro-government areas in northern Syria.

After last month's deal, the entire city of Homs has been under government

control except the al-Waer neighbourhood and three towns in the northern countryside of Homs, namely al-Dar al-Kabira, Talbiseh, and al-Rastan.

Friday's truce is deemed by observers as a good sign for a near-future deal between the government troops and the rebels.

Homs, Syria's third largest city, was one of the first areas to sympathize with an anti-government movement in Syria. The rebels there took considerable swathes of land, but government troops have stripped them of their territory over the past year.

Xinhua

Thai military leader promises to hold general election in 2015

BANGKOK, 28 June — Thailand's junta leader Gen Prayut Chan-Ocha told the nation on Friday that the military plans to hold a general election in around October next year.

In a televised address, Prayut laid out a more precise roadmap to restoring the country's democracy, saying the junta plans to declare a provisional Constitution in July and draft a formal Constitution in July next year. A rough timeline for democracy was presented just days after it seized power in late May.

"The enactment of a new permanent Constitution is expected to be effective in July 2015 and Thailand will become a completely democratic

country from that point," Prayut said. "It will take three months after having a new charter to organize a general election and the fully elected government will be installed within year 2015."

After the provisional Constitution is instituted this year, the junta will set up an interim government and a provisional legislature in September and launch a national reform council in the following month to promote political reform, the Thai army chief said.

A general election will be held "about three months" after the new formal Constitution is in effect in July next year, he said.

Prayut staged a coup against the caretaker government of former Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra on 22 May. Since then, he has exercised government power as head of the National Council for Peace and Order.

On 30 May, the army chief announced a three-stage roadmap for a return to democracy. The first stage of two to three months is intended for national reconciliation, followed by the second stage with the institution of a new charter, the appointment of an interim prime minister and the launch of a reform organization. It is to be finished up with a general election.

Kyodo News

Panama court orders release of jailed North Korean sailors

PANAMA CITY, 28 June — A Panamanian court on Friday ordered the release of three North Korean ship officers who were jailed after they were caught smuggling Cuban weapons through the Central American country.

The court absolved the captain and two officers, ruling that charges against them fell outside of Panama's jurisdiction, the country's judicial authority said in a statement. The Chong Chon Gang ship was seized in July last year for smuggling Soviet-era arms, including two MiG-21 jet fighters, under thousands of tonnes of sugar.

Thirty-two North Korean sailors and the ship were released back in February. A United Nations



Bags labelled "Cuban Raw Sugar" are seen inside a North Korean flagged ship "Chong Chon Gang" docked at the Manzanillo Container Terminal in Colon City on 16 July, 2013. —REUTERS

report issued in March said North Korea has developed sophisticated ways

to circumvent United Nations sanctions, including the suspected use of its

embassies to facilitate an illegal trade in weapons.

Reuters

African asylum seekers in Israel to cross border into Egypt amid protest

JERUSALEM, 28 June — Hundreds of African asylum seekers in Israel left their open detention centre on Friday and marched toward the Egyptian border in protest of the government's policy against them, local media reported.

Israeli security forces prevented the asylum seekers from crossing the border and distanced them from what the army said was a closed military zone, the Ha'aretz daily reported.

The asylum seekers were protesting their stay at the detention center, their living conditions and the fact that the Israeli authorities had not reviewed their asylum requests as is demanded according to international accords.

"After a few months in Holot (the detention centre located at the southern Negev desert), we realized that Israel was stalling and that is not reviewing our asylum requests," one of the protest organizers told Ha'aretz.

"We've reached the conclusion that there is no difference between Israel and Egypt and that the situation is bad everywhere," he added. "We are not going to stay locked up."

Security forces were asking for reinforcement in order to evacuate the protesters and return them to their detention center, while contemplating the possibility of arresting some of them for trespassing.—Xinhua

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV NINOS VOY NO (1017)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NINOS VOY NO (1017) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.6.2014 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 CHINA SHIPPING LINES**
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (1440)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (1440) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.6.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE)
PTE LTD**
Phone No: 2301185

INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER (MIXED LPG)

1. Open Tender is invited for the Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of Mixed LPG (1,800 MT ± 5%).
2. Tender Closing Date : 3 - 7 - 2014 at (12:00) noon.
3. Tender Opening Date : 3 - 7 - 2014 at (13:00) hrs .
4. Delivery Time : Within July 2014
5. Tender Documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing 25-6-2014 on payment of the Myanmar Kyat One Hundred Thousand (Kyat 100,000) per set.
6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR MINISTRY OF ENERGY MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE (INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER) (14/2014)

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

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB -055(14-15)	Assorted Sizes of Rotary Slips (14) Items	US\$
(2)	IFB -056(14-15)	Spares for Rotary Tong (BJ Type "B" & "C") (14) Items	US\$
(3)	IFB -057(14-15)	Spares for Kobelco Excavator Mark V (11) Items	US\$
(4)	IFB -058(14-15)	Spares for P & H Crawler Crane (20) Items	US\$
(5)	IFB -059(14-15)	Spares for Kenworth Oil Field Truck (15) Items	US\$
(6)	IFB -060(14-15)	Spares for Sumitomo Crane (5) Items	US\$
(7)	IFB -061(14-15)	Spares for Nissan PE-6 Diesel Engine (13) Item	US\$
(8)	IFB -062(14-15)	Spares for Mitsubishi 8D C8 Engine (19) Items	US\$
(9)	IFB -063(14-15)	Spares for Kobelco Excavator Mark VI (16) Items	US\$
(10)	IFB -064(14-15)	Tong Dies (2) Items	US\$
(11)	IFB -065(14-15)	Electrical Spares for D ₃ T ₂ SR I Rig (13) Items	US\$
(12)	IFB -066(14-15)	CNG Compressor Driven By Electric Motor with Complete Package (1) Lot	US\$

Tender Closing Date & Time - 23-7-2014, 16:30 Hr.

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 25th June, 2014 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph: +95 67 - 411097/411206

Kerry, Saudi King discuss oil supply, US official says

SHANNON, (Ireland), 28 June — US Secretary of State John Kerry and Saudi King Abdullah briefly discussed global oil supplies during a meeting on the crisis in Iraq on Friday, a senior State Department official said.

During the talks, Kerry referred to recent comments by a Saudi oil official that the world's largest oil producer would increase supplies should crises in Iraq or Syria disrupt supplies, the official said.

"The secretary noted positively a recent statement from an oil official in the kingdom reflecting the kingdom's desire to do what will be required in the event of any turbulence," said the State Department official, who briefed reporters on the talks.

The official said Kerry believed the Saudi official's

comments were "constructive."

US officials have expressed the belief that concerns in oil markets will ease once a more inclusive government is formed in Baghdad that can deal with a Sunni insurgency threatening to break apart Iraq.

Saudi Arabia was Kerry's last stop in a week-long tour of capitals in Europe and the Middle East, which included a visit to Baghdad,

to address the crisis that threatens to tear apart Iraq. The United States wants the Saudi Arabia to use its influence among fellow Sunnis in Iraq to press them to join the new government.

Brent crude oil was little changed in trading on Friday following one of the international benchmark's biggest weekly falls this year due to reduced concerns over exports from Iraq.—Reuters



Two militants killed in N Afghan police raid

KUNDUZ, (Afghanistan), 28 June — Two militants were killed while four others were detained during a police operation in northern Afghan province of Kunduz overnight, police said on Saturday.

"The special operation police force of Kunduz carried out a raid on a militants' hideout in Zarkharid area in outskirts of provincial capital Kunduz city, killing two militants named Safiullah and Samiullah overnight," a provincial police spokesman, Sayyed Sarwar Husaini, told *Xinhua*.

The militant hideout was destroyed and four militants were captured following the raid, he noted, adding no member of the security force was hurt.

The Taliban-led violence continues in Afghanistan. Security forces have press on to clear the militants in restive provinces.

The Taliban has yet to make comments.

Afghan security forces took the full operational lead from foreign troops in mid-last year. The war-torn country is due to take over the responsibility for its own security from NATO-led foreign troops by year end.

Xinhua

Saudi King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz al-Saud (R) and US Secretary of State John Kerry wait for a meeting at the King's private residence in the Red Sea city of Jeddah on 27 June, 2014.

REUTERS

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China's first e-commerce express to debut

BEIJING, 28 June — China's couriers have joined with the rail network to launch special express trains for e-commerce logistics.

The trains linking Shanghai and Shenzhen, jointly launched by the China Express Association (CEA) and the China Railway Corporation (CRC), will make its debut on 1 July, the association said on Saturday.

Based on a survey of courier companies, CRC has laid on six trains connecting the four first-tier cities of Beijing, Guangzhou, Shanghai and Shenzhen.

China's courier industry has become the world's second largest delivering 9.2 billion packages in 2013, up more than 60 percent year on year.

CEA said less than one percent of goods have been delivered by rail up to now, but it will become the top choice for companies since trains are more energy-efficient and have a larger capacity than trucks and aircraft.

Xinhua

Five killed, 16 injured in Afghan bus accident

MAZAR-I-SHARIF, (Afghanistan), 28 June — About five passengers were killed while 16 others injured Saturday when a long-distance bus crashed head-on with a truck in northern Afghan province of Balkh, police said.

"The accident took place in Durrahi Hyratan area along Kabul-Mazar-i-Sharif highway in the morning, leaving five travelers dead, and 16 others injured," the highway police chief, Asif Sahra, told *Xinhua*.

Police and rescue teams rushed towards the site shortly after the accident happened, he said.

All injured have been shifted to the nearby hospitals. There were women and children among the victims.

The Afghan officials blamed reckless driving for the traffic incidents, saying reckless driving on congested roads and highways is the main cause of road accidents in Afghanistan.—*Xinhua*

Beyonce, Jay-Z unveil their wedding video live in concert

LOS ANGELES, 28 June — Hip-hop supercouple Beyonce and Jay-Z unveiled footage from their wedding for the first time, during the opening night of their 'On the Run' tour.

The couple, who have two-year-old daughter Blue Ivy together, married in a small ceremony in April 2008 and shared intimate footage from the big day at the opening night of their 'On the Run' tour in Florida, reported *Hollywood Life*.

The footage showed Beyonce wearing a traditional white gown—which was designed by her mother Tina Knowles—and veil, with the rapper in a smart tuxedo as they exchanged vows and rings and had matching IV tattoos on their fingers.

Another clip showed the couple walking down the aisle as watching guests threw confetti at them.

The footage was shown towards the end of the couple's 41-song set—which saw them perform both together and separately—as they sang Young Forever.

The 32-year-old beauty previously shared footage of herself trying on her wedding dress as part of a montage in the video for her single I Was Here, which depicted a number of significant moments in her life, including childhood home videos.— PTI

In 'Begin Again,' Keira Knightley tunefully leaves comfort zone

NEW YORK, 28 June — British actress Keira Knightley, known for playing tragic heroines in period dramas, strayed into new territory with her first major singing role in "Begin Again," a feel-good film about the music industry and starting over.

"Begin Again," which opens in limited release on Friday and nationwide next month, was written and directed by Ireland's John Carney, whose 2006 indie musical "Once" nabbed the best original song Oscar for "Falling Slowly."

"Once" was also adapted into a Broadway show and won eight Tony awards, including best musical.

Like its predecessor, "Begin Again" is laced with music and much of it is sung by Knightley, along with Maroon 5 frontman Adam Levine, who makes his film debut.

"The whole thing was out of my comfort zone. I am not a singer. I didn't know how to do that," Knightley, a best actress nominee in 2006 for her role in "Pride & Prejudice," said in an interview.

"A lot of the film was improvised, and I had never done that before. I'd say that those two were major things to be grappling with," added the 29-year-old actress, who took voice lessons to prepare for the film.

Knightley plays Gretta, a British songwriter and reluctant singer, who arrives in New York with her longtime boyfriend Dave, played by Levine, just as he is about to hit the big time.

Fame clouds his judgment and he strays, leaving a bereft Gretta on the verge of returning home when she is discovered by a chain-smoking, down-and-out record producer named Dan, played by Oscar nominee Mark Ruffalo.—Reuters

Vidya Balan: Romance has no age bar

MUMBAI, 28 June — Actress Vidya Balan, who will be seen romancing actor Ali Fazal in forthcoming film Bobby Jasoo, says that romance has no age bar. "Romance has no

age no bar. I don't think age has anything to do with chemistry. I have worked with Naseer sir (Naseer-uddin Shah) in Ishqiya as well. It's all about getting into the character," the 36-year-old told IANS.

Detective comedy Bobby Jasoo revolves around a female character. While Vidya plays the female lead, Ali plays the male lead. The film is directed by Samar Shaikh and is co-produced by actress Dia Mirza and her beau Sahil Sangha.

The film will hit theatres on 4 July.

PTI

Actress
Keira
Knightley

Actress
Vidya Balan

GENERAL

British singer to start training for space trip

Moscow, 28 June — British singer Sarah Brightman is to start training in August or September for her space trip, a senior Russian official said on Friday.

“Sarah Brightman will be trained as a candidate for a short-term mission to the *International Space Station (ISS)*, accompanied with an international crew,” said the official from Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre, located in the Star City east of Moscow. (The 10-day flight onboard a Soyuz spacecraft has been sched-

uled for 2015, he added.

The British soprano reportedly paid up to some 50 million US dollars for the space trip. She hopes to become the first professional musician to sing from space as the eighth space tourist.

Seven tourists, including one female, have so far traveled to the ISS, with each of them paying at least 20 million dollars.

In October 2009, Russia stopped taking space tourists due to lack of room in its three-person Soyuz spacecraft, when NASA canceled its shut-



British singer Sarah Brightman

tles, leaving Russian rockets the only ones capable of bringing crews to the ISS.

Brightman, 53, has become popular in China, after singing the Beijing

Olympics theme song in 2008. She visited China many times in recent years and sang at concerts or other events in several cities during her tours.

Xinhua

Work-related mental illness claims rise to record high in FY 2013

Tokyo, 28 June — The number of people in Japan who claimed workers' compensation for work-related depression or other mental illness rose to a record 1,409 in the past year to March, according to data released by the labour ministry on Friday.

The figure, up 152 from the previous year, has increased over fivefold since fiscal 2001 when the Health, Labour and Welfare Ministry started releasing the data.

Of the past year's applicants, 436 claims were recognized by the labour standards supervision of-

fice, including 63 cases of people who committed suicide due to overwork.

Among the 436 people recognized by the office as suffering from work-related mental illness, 55 said the disease was triggered by harassment or bullying, 28 cited sexual harassment and 17 pointed to troubles with superiors.

Among those whose claims were turned down by the office, 12 people eventually won compensation after reexamination of their cases or through litigation.

“There have been more people feeling stressed because of work,” a ministry

official said. The official also attributed the increasing claims to more employees becoming aware that mental illness is subject to workers' compensation.

By age, people in their 30s accounted for the largest percentage of those filing claims, followed by people in their 40s and 20s.

By industry, nursing care, medical care and the transportation sectors accounted for a large portion of the applicants, the ministry said.

The number of people who claimed workers' compensation due to brain or heart disease declined by 58

to 784 in the past financial year, down for the second straight year. Of the claims, 306 were recognized.

Transport industry workers accounted for the highest numbers of those who applied for compensation due to brain or heart illness as well as those whose claims were recognized.

Among all the recognized cases of brain or heart illness caused by work, the largest number of 106 people had worked 80 to 100 hours of overtime over a month while 34 had worked 160 hours or more.

Kyodo News

MYANMAR TV

(29-6-2014, Sunday)

- 6:00 am**
* Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 6:30 am**
* Physical Exercise
- 7:00 am**
* News/ Weather Report
- 7:20 am**
* MRTV's Youth Programme
- 8:00 am**
* News/ International News
- 8:30 am**
* Amazing World
- 9:00 am**
* News/ International News
- 9:45 am**
* Beautiful ASEAN
- 10:45 am**
* 38 Phyar Mingalar
- 11:00 am**
* Teleplay
- 12:00 pm**
* News/ International News/ Weather Report
- 2:40 pm**
* Musical Programme
- 3:00 pm**
* News
- 4:20 pm**
* University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (Zoology)
- 5:00 pm**
* News
- 6:25 pm**
* Cartoon Series
- 7:00 pm**
* News
- 7:20 pm**
* Weekly Entertainment News
- 8:00 pm**
* News/ International News/ Weather Report
- 8:45 pm**
* Documentary (Women in Myanmar Society)
- 9:00 pm**
* News
- * Tamyethnar Takwetsar
- * Fashion Show

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(29-6-14 07:00am~ 30-6-14 07:00am) MST

- * Local News
- * Myanmar Handicrafts
- * World News
- * Wholesale Fish
- * Local News
- * Family of Toys
- * World News
- * Myanmar Movie Review “At Your Command”
- * Local News
- * Visiting to Mawlamyine Trip
- * World News
- * Short Cuts “Waso Charity Feast”
- * Local News
- * Distinguished Myanmar Ladies “Kalayar Moe”
- * World News
- * Orphanage
- * Local News
- * Great Shwedagon: The Prayer Halls and Buddha Images
- * World News
- * Parents' Day
- * Local News
- * Waso Charity Feast
- * World News
- * Sagaing: Youth Leader
- * Local News
- * Youth of the Future: Young with Colour (Toe Wai)
- * World News
- * Traditional Snacks
- * Local News
- * Rakhine Land: Rakhine: The Land of Sublime Pagodas
- * World News
- * In the Studio: Nyi Voyy

UNESCO working with Mali to protect cultural sites

UNITED NATIONS, 28 June — Two of the World Heritage mausoleums destroyed in Timbuktu, Mali, have now been rebuilt through a partnership with local communities, the UN cultural agency said here on Friday.

The rebuilding efforts will need an additional 8 million US dollars to finish the rehabilitation of the site and of libraries that could again store hundreds of thousands of Malian manuscripts, Lazare Eloundou Assomo, representative of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to Mali, said at a Press conference.

“We are looking for 11 million US dollars,” Assomo

said. The UN agency has been able to gather around 3 million US dollars through bilateral cooperation and other funding, he said, but “if we don't have the 8 million dollars, it would be difficult for us to implement our activities.”

Timbuktu was an economic, intellectual and spiritual capital and a center for the propagation of Islam throughout Africa during the city's golden age in the 15th and 16th centuries.

According to UNESCO, the three mosques and the 16 mausoleums comprising the property are part of the fabled city that was once home to 100,000 inhabitants.

The site was heavily destroyed by occupying ex-

tremists after fighting broke out in January 2012 between government forces and Tuareg rebels.

The conflict uprooted hundreds of thousands of people and prompted the Malian government to request assistance from France to stop the military advance of extremist groups.

In March, local masons working with UN support laid the first earthen brick to reconstruct two of the mausoleums. “It's a long and complex task,” said Assomo, who spoke alongside Vibeke Jensen, director of the UNESCO Office in New York. “The monuments look very simple in their architecture but they are complex structures.”—Xinhua



Chinese workers arrive in Baghdad, Iraq, on 28 June, 2014. All of the more than 1,200 Chinese workers trapped in the northern Iraqi city of Samarra have been safely evacuated to the capital Baghdad, according to the Chinese embassy in Baghdad.

XINHUA



Rafael Nadal of Spain

LONDON, 28 June — World number one Rafael Nadal, into the third round for the first time since 2011, will be hoping for an easier ride on the Wimbledon grass after two tough rounds when he meets Mikhail Kukushkin on Saturday.

He joins three other former Wimbledon champions — Roger Federer, Serena Williams and Maria Sharapova — bidding for a place in Monday's fourth round.

Organizers will be crossing their fingers that the weather forecasters will be proved wrong again. Despite

cloudy skies, the rain expected to disrupt Friday's play did not materialise, but showers are expected on Saturday.

They will not affect play on Centre Court, the tournament's showpiece stage with its retractable roof, where French Open champion Nadal, champion in 2008 and 2010, opens the proceedings against the Kazakh world No 63. Nadal had to fight back from a set down in the first two rounds against Martin Klizan of Slovakia and Lukas Rosol of the Czech Republic.

"To be in the third round here again after two, three

years is very positive news," Nadal said.

Sharapova, like Nadal, hoping to make it a French Open and Wimbledon double after claiming the Roland Garros title earlier this month, takes on unseeded American Alison Riske in Centre Court's second clash.

World No 1 Serena Williams, whose older sister Venus was defeated by another former champion Petra Kvitová on Friday, is first on the roofless Court One, playing Alize Cornet. Serena, a five times Wimbledon champion, exited at the fourth round stage last year.—Reuters

Disgraced Suarez goes home, Brazil feel pressure



A man holds his arm in front of an advertising placard showing Uruguay's striker Luis Suarez flashing his teeth, at Copacabana beach in Rio de Janeiro on 26 June, 2014.—REUTERS

BRASILIA, 28 June—The furore over Luis Suarez's heavy ban for biting filled the void of the first game-free day at the World Cup in Brazil on Friday, with his Italian victim Giorgio Chiellini leading the criticism of the Uruguayan's record punishment.

The Italy defender feared the World Cup-record four-month ban and nine-match international suspension handed out by FIFA would alienate the controversial striker, who

landed in Montevideo to be met by the his country's President Jose Mujica.

As Suarez left Brazil, FIFA paved the way for former Germany World Cup-winning coach and player Franz Beckenbauer to arrive by lifting his 90-day football ban for failing to help an inquiry.

The 68-year-old German had rejected repeated requests to co-operate with an investigation into the awarding of the 2022 World Cup to Qatar but his manager said the "Der Kai-

ser" would now cooperate.

"As you know Franz is someone we all respect and was an amazing footballer and we would love him to have him here at the World Cup," FIFA Secretary General Jerome Valcke told reporters in Rio de Janeiro.

Beckenbauer, however, has indicated he will not be attending the soccer showpiece and will watch from afar like Suarez, who was driven to the small coastal town of Solymar with his family to escape the world's glare.

In the 27-year-old's absence and continued silence, opinions flowed on the eye-catching verdict as his Uruguay team mates prepared for Saturday's last-16 clash with in-form Colombia, which follows hosts Brazil against Chile.

Chiellini, back in Italy after being knocked out by Uruguay following Tuesday's 1-0 Group D loss, feared for the future of Suarez, who has been found guilty of biting opponents on three occasions in a controversial career.—Reuters

Olympics: IOC mulls Tokyo 2020 Olympic venue changes

TOKYO, 28 June — International Olympic Committee concluded its first commission meeting for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics on Friday, with IOC vice president John Coates stressing the importance of making improvements, if any, to the venue plans at an early stage. Coates and other members of the commission were visiting Tokyo for the first time since the Japanese capital won the right to host the Summer Games last September. The IOC, under its new president Thomas Bach, is hoping to rein in costs of future Olympics.

The organizing committee for the 2020 Olympics has recently started to



International Olympic Committee Vice President John Coates (L) and Yoshiro Mori, chief of the organizing committee for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, shake hands following a press conference in Tokyo on 27 June, 2014. —KYODO NEWS

scrutinize the initial plan of locating the majority of venues within an 8-kilometer ra-

dus of the Athletes' Village due to concerns over costs.

Kyodo News

World Cup 2014 Brazil			
 Match-51	 Netherlands	22:30 MST (29.6.2014)	 Mexico
	 Costa Rica	2:30 MST (29.6.2014)	 Greece