

Myanmar's Small & Medium Industrial Development Bank to receive technical support, loan provision from Vietnamese bank

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 2 July— Myanmar's Small & Medium Industrial Development Bank Limited (SMIDB) and the Bank for Investment and Development of Vietnam (BIDV) are implementing Memoranda of Understandings on technical cooperation and loan provision, with a series of meetings between the two banks and the conclusion of a visit by BIDV IT expert team to the Myanmar bank.

"We will have a meeting to discuss terms and conditions of the agreement on loan provision at the BIDV's Representative Office on Thursday," U Tin Maung Htay, managing director of SMIDB, told The New Light of Myanmar on Wednesday.

Following a deal the two banks signed on 6 June, SMIDB and BIDV had principally agreed on cooperation to upgrade the IT system and make greater use of IT applications in the banking services of the Myanmar bank and provi-



Small & Medium Industrial Development Bank's Yangon Branch, the only bank in the country lending to SMEs, will get support for its IT system from Vietnam's BIDV.—PHOTO: YE MYINT

sion of a US\$30 million loan to SMIDB with a 4 percent interest rate for five years.

According to the deal, capacity building and training on banking services will be conducted here and SMIDB staff will be sent to Vietnam for further

training, he added.

The two banks will carry out exchange of IT technicians for technology transfer soon, the managing

director said, adding that the group of Vietnamese IT technicians visited SMIDB a week ago.

(See page 3)

Police disperse hundreds of rioters in Mandalay

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July— Mandalay police force on Wednesday dispersed hundreds of rioters who attacked a tea shop after its owner was prosecuted for a rape case.

A lawsuit under Section 376 of the Penal Code was filed against Nay Win, the owner of Sun Teashop located at the corner of 27th and 82nd Streets in Mandalay.

On Tuesday, some rioters started gathering near the tea shop at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, with the group becoming larger before the attack.

When security forces tried to control them, they moved to the corner of 26th and 86th Streets where they broke windscreens of three cars.

After the mob threw

bricks and bottles at some houses, security forces put up barricades and used rubber bullets to disperse the crowd.

At 2 a.m. on Wednesday, about 450 rioters with sticks and knives gathered between 83rd and 84th Streets. They then blazed a car on 26th Street at 3 a.m.

Mandalay Division Police Chief Zaw Win Aung told reporters on Wednesday that they are taking action.

"We are investigating this riot and will take action against those involved in the mob attack. And we are trying our best to prevent such incidences from happening again and will deploy more police forces until the order is restored," he said.

MNA

Panasonic eyes cooperation with local engineering companies to expand business in Myanmar

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 2 July — Panasonic Corporation is hoping to cooperate with local engineering companies as part of efforts to expand its business-to-business (B2B) and business-to-consumer (B2C) sectors in Myanmar, said President of Panasonic Corporation Mr Kazuhiro Tsuga at a press conference in Yangon on Wednesday.

"I have designated Myanmar as one of the strategic markets with high growth potential to realize an autonomous, locally-oriented management, accelerated by an independent and speedy operation. We aim to provide all-round coverage of services and products to our customers in Myanmar by strengthening both B2C and B2B sectors here," he said.

The company is planning to strengthen development of localized products

and to expand sales in both business-to-business (B2B) and business-to-consumer (B2C) sectors, identifying Myanmar as a strategic market for future growth, said Mr Junichiro Kitagawa, Managing Director of

Panasonic Asia-Pacific.

The company is planning to host its first exhibition displaying the full range of B2C and B2B solutions in Yangon in October this year. The new showrooms exhibiting both B2C and

B2B solutions with service centres incorporated will also open in Yangon and Mandalay later this year.

The new Panasonic Asia-Pacific Myanmar Branch was set up in Myanmar last year.—NLM



Mr Junichiro Kitagawa, Managing Director of Panasonic Asia-Pacific (left) along with President of Panasonic Corporation Mr Kazuhiro Tsuga (centre), says the company is studying the market situation in Myanmar, but does not yet have plans to build factories in the country.—PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

President U Thein Sein's radio message to be broadcast on 3, 4, 5 July

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July — A radio message by U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, will be broadcast on radio on 3, 4 and 5 July.

Myanma Radio, Mandalay FM, Pyinsawady FM, Shwe FM, Cherry FM, Padamya FM, FM Bagan and Thazin Radio will broadcast the message four times a day at 7 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. during the three days.—MNA

Media registration for 47th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting-AMM and related meetings

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July— The 47th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting-AMM and related meetings will be held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-1 in Nay Pyi Taw from 8 to 10 August.

Local and foreign correspondents who wish to cover the news can now register at the homepage www.asean2014.gov.mm and fill out the Media Registration Form. The registration must be completed no later than 31 July. The media accreditation cards

will be issued at MICC-1 on 8 August morning.

The foreign correspondents are to apply for visas at the respective Myanmar embassies to cover the meeting. Please dial 067-412227 and 067-412360 of the ASEAN Affairs Department for further information about the meeting and 067-412126 of News and Periodicals Enterprise for news coverage of local-based foreign news agencies and local media.

MNA

UEC Chairman says elections will be free and fair



Coordination meeting between commissions and political parties in progress, with officials saying the general election in 2015 will be transparent.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July—The Union Election Commission will be fair without bias in the by-election

in 2014 as well as in the general elections in 2015, Chairman U Tin Aye of the commission said at a coor-

dination meeting between the commission and political parties held in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday.

He said that the draft directive (1/2014) concerning the rights to assembly and campaign of parliament candidates aimed to prevent electoral disputes and to provide equal chances for all political parties regardless of their sizes.

The commission, which is assigned to investigate electoral disputes,

would be able to settle them correctly in a fair and disciplined manner as it understands the election processes thoroughly, he added.

He also said that the commission had to warn a few political parties out of the total 65 of their activities and advised them to study laws thoroughly and not to draw conclusions

subjectively.

In conclusion, he urged political parties to clear their doubts and to contribute to the interests of the country and their political parties in accordance with existing laws.

Members of the UEC and officials from 61 political parties attended the meeting.—MNA

Myanmar Gems Emporium in progress



The 9th day of the 51st Myanmar Gems Emporium at Mani Yadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw in progress.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July—The 51st Myanmar Gems Emporium continues on its ninth day at Mani Yadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw, with 1,200 lots of jade selling each day through a tender bidding system, officials said.

From 4 July, a total of 294 more lots of jade will be sold at comparative price for three days, according to an official.

Jade lots and a jewelry market in Shwe Kyar Pin Ward in Nay Pyi Taw have also been opened for

buyers “to ensure long term exploration of natural resources and to maintain the market price,” the official said.

The emporium has seen an influx of foreign visitors, organizers said.

MNA

Outstanding students invited for study trip to Japan

YANGON, 2 July—To mark the sixtieth anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Myanmar, the Myanmar Japan Association (MJA) will send twenty Myanmar students who showed outstanding performance in the 2014 matriculation on an 8-day study trip to Japan in September 2014.

Fifteen students of science and 5 students of

arts will be chosen from states and regions, including the Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

The MJA is now contacting outstanding students who are on preliminary list and the finalists will be chosen among them.

Those who are on the preliminary list can get application forms at state/region education officers' offices or at the MJA in Yangon which must be

submitted to the MJA office by 15 July. The MJA will contact the chosen students for personal interviews.

For further information on the application process, contact the Myanmar Japan Association, No 34/49, third floor, Maha Bandoola Park Street in Kyauktada Township, Yangon, Ph: 01372977-80 (Ext-120), 098700345, 09420018031.—MNA

Yields of Mandalay diamond (Sein Ta Lone) mangoes down compared with last year

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 2 July—Yields of Mandalay Sein Ta Lone (diamond) mangoes are down compared with last year, said Ei Ei Thaw, retail seller in Latha Township in Yangon.

The mango is the most popular fruit on foreign markets and gets exported to China, Singapore, Malaysia and Korea. The mango season in Myanmar is from May to July. Most

mangoes are grown in the Mandalay Region and Southern Shan State. This year, the diamond mangoes from Mandalay have come earlier on the market than mangoes from Southern Shan State, a farmer said.

Ei Ei Thaw said she bought K500 per normal-sized mango from Thiri Mingala wholesale market in Yangon and it

is being sold for around K400 for small-sized fruits, K500 to K600 for normal ones and K700 to K800 for big ones.

She added that the diamond mango is among the most popular in Myanmar.

According to a research, mango has a substantial levels of potassium, provitamin A and vitamin C and is low in fat and sodium.

NLM



Mandalay diamond (Sein Ta Lone) mangoes at a road-side vendor on Maha Bandoola Road in Latha Township in Yangon.

Photo: KHAING THANDA LWIN

NATIONAL

Highlights of President U Thein Sein's radio message

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July—The following is the translation of the excerpts from the monthly radio message of President U Thein Sein.

The government has been focusing especially on the peace issue as it is important for the country. While the peace process is continuing, I myself am also holding discussions on the latest developments with leaders of national races at opportune times. This month, I met with the chairman of the Karen National Union and the delegation in Nay Pyi Taw and held frank discussions on measures being taken for signing a nation-wide ceasefire and measures to be taken as preparations for the subsequent political dialogue.

It can also be seen that decentralization and enhancement of the capacities of state/region governments are also issues of special importance. On the other hand, it is necessary to make efforts to develop a better

people-inclusive administrative system by keeping in touch with township committees, township development committees and civil societies that are basic for reaching to the grass-root level. I have given guidance to union ministers and state/region governments to always meet and hold discussion with the public and civil society organizations across the country.

I would also like to express some of my opinions about the National Education Bill currently under discussions at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw. The National Education Bill and education policies have been widely discussed since last year, and these are the results of the concerted efforts of all those who should participate in the discussions. What I would like

to highlight here is that the National Education Bill should not be considered as a perfect one and it should be regarded as the fruit of the first steps taken for education reform.

On 19 June, a meeting on the development of the health sector was held. The main point is that it is necessary to develop an all-inclusive and affordable healthcare service system and the government is taking initial steps to that end. Although a healthcare system affordable for all is the goal, it is impossible to develop such a comprehensive system overnight. Therefore, I would like to inform the public that people-centered healthcare systems are being implemented simultaneously.

What our government has been placing emphasis on since we took office is the political stability from

which smooth transition and reform processes can be implemented step by step. Meanwhile, there have been instability and challenges naturally accompanied with reform especially in Rakhine State. The issue is related with internal as well as international situations, we have had to deal with the issue carefully. I am making efforts for the stability, life security and an end to conflicts in Rakhine State.

As our country is a multi-racial and -religious nation, the current reform process will be successful only when stability is maintained through the co-operation of all the citizens by living harmoniously with one another. For the reform to be successful, I would like to urge all to avoid instigation and behaviour that incite hatred among our fellow citizens.

President U Thein Sein sends felicitations to Belarus

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Alexander Lukashenko, President of the Republic of Belarus, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Belarus, which falls on 3 July 2014.

Similarly, the President has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Mikhail Myansnikov, Prime Minister of the Republic of Belarus.—MNA

FM felicitates Belarusian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 3 July—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Prepublic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Vladimir Makei, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Belarus, which falls on 3 July 2014.—MNA

Myanmar embassy to better protect migrant workers in Singapore

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July—The Myanmar Embassy in Singapore vowed to help Myanmar nationals, including young maids who have gone to the island through various means and have been living under various stay permits, to enjoy labour rights within the framework of law, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Counsellor U Thet Tun, First Secretary First Secretary Daw Htwe Hteik Tin Lwin of the Consular Section and Third Secretary U Myat Nyi Nyi Min met with job agencies in Bukit Timah

Shopping Centre, where prospective employers can select Myanmar maids.

Counsellor U Thet Tun is also planning to meet with officials from the Ministry of Manpower of Singapore to lodge a complaint that displaying maids at a shopping centre to potential employers and some activities by the agencies hurt human dignity.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Myanmar is also working with the Embassy of Singapore in Yangon on the issue.

MNA

Myanmar's Small & Medium Industrial Development...

(from page 1)

SMIDB that started its banking operations in 1996 is a public limited bank run under the supervision of the Ministry of Industry. It is the one and only bank lending to SMEs through its loan program financed by the Myanmar Economy

Bank (Branch-4) with a credit line of K 30 billion at 8.25 per cent.

"Through SMIDB loans to SME with an 8.5-per cent interest rate, the bank lent K10 billion to 62 local entrepreneurs during the 2013-14 FY. Lending to small businesses will continue in July with the use of the remaining K20 billion, the official voiced.

According to the bank's annual report for the fiscal year on March 31, the 19-year-old bank with over 50,000 shares amounting to more than K26 billion had made about K5.5 billion not profit.

Among the list of banks that paid tax for the 2012-2013 FY, SMIDB ranked third and stood twelfth in the top 500 taxpayers list for the fiscal year.

Lower House MP U Aye Mauk, the well-wisher, handed over documents related to the building to Head of Mandalay Region Health Department Dr Than Win.

The hospital building is 11 feet high, 82 feet long and 68 feet wide. Well-wisher MP U Aye Mauk donated one ambulance, 100MVA x-ray machine, ECC machine and other hospital equipment to the hospital.—Kyaw Oo

Thai court awards 4.6 m baht in compensation to abused Kayin domestic worker

By Aung Khin

YANGON 3 July—The Kamphaeng Phet Provincial Court in Thailand on Monday awarded more than Bt4.6 million (US\$ 180,000) in compensation to a Kayin girl who served as a housemaid for two Thai employers where she was subjected to serious physical abuse, according to a press release of the Human Rights and Development Foundation (HRDF) on Tuesday. The now 13-year-old girl, identified as Air, disappeared in 2009 from the house of her parents, who were Myanmar migrant labourers working in a sugar-cane plantation in

Kamphaeng Phet Province.

Air was protected by Thai officers after she managed to escape from her employers on 31 January 2013, according to HRDF.

In her statement, Air said that she had been abducted by former employers of her parents, and since then she had been forced to work as their maid. She suffered serious injuries such as burns from boiled water deliberately poured and other torture practices.

The HRDF, a Bangkok-based rights group, provided legal representation to Air who filed a case against the couple for inflicting cruel treatment, enslaving a child below 15, and human trafficking.



Photo from July 2013 shows Air receives a cheque for some compensation from Thai employers.

PHOTO: PRESIDENT'S OFFICE FACEBOOK

The Court ordered the two defendants to collectively award the girl for incurred medical treatments, future medical treatment, and damages for the inability

to reproduce and disability for at least 50 years.

NLM

Mahlaing People's Hospital gets new building, ambulance

MANDALAY, 2 July—A ceremony to inaugurate the new building identified as Aye Myitta was held at People's Hospital (50-bed) in Mahlaing of Meiktila District in Mandalay Region on 28 June.

Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint explained progress of the region after unveiling the signboard.

Community-based mobile clinic serves people with health care services in Pyinmana Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July—The Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association opened a community-based mobile clinic for providing health care services to the people of rural and urban areas in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area as of 2010.

On Saturday, a mobile clinic delivered health care to local people in Gy-

sein Village of Pyinmana Township. The task was supervised by MMCWA Joint Secretary-2 Dr Gyo Gyo San and CEC member Dr May Soe Oo, Director-General Prof Dr Myint Han of Food and Drug Administration and specialists from Nay Pyi Taw General Hospital (1000-bed).

Officials of the mobile clinic gave talks on health

and social affairs for the aged, purpose of the mobile clinic, systematic care for pregnant and birth-spacing plans.

They presented medicine and nutritious feeds to the aged, textile, iodized salt and nutritious foods to the expectant mothers and gave medical treatment to the local people.

MNA

Religious association in Pyay invites donations

PYAY, 2 July — Religious association of Pyay Shwesandaw Pagoda in central Myanmar is now collecting donations during the Buddhists' rainy retreat season. Last year it collected over K 27 million and handed it over to the Pagoda Board of Trustees. Those who wish to donate cash may contact the association in Pyay.

U Shwe Win

Ayeyawady Bank introduces iBanking service

YANGON, 2 July — The Central Bank of Myanmar has given green light to Ayeyawady Bank to start operation of iBanking services starting from 16 June. With the service, customers will become familiar with the digital banking system, said Managing Director U Phyto Aung of Ayeyawady Bank.

Through the internet, customers will be able to check their balance in the cash book and ATM cards and enjoy other banking services. Remittance can be made at inter-Ayeyawady banks which has a network between 71 major banks and 6 minor ones.—Aung Thuya



TODAY'S MYANMAR NEWS SITES

Tree growing ceremony hails Myanmar Women's Day

MAWLAMYINE, 2 July —As a gesture of hailing the Myanmar Women's Day which falls on 3 July 2014, the collective tree growing ceremony was held in the compound of No 12 Basic Education High School in Myaing-thaya Ward of Mawlamyine in Mon State recently.

Chief Minister of Mon State U Ohn Myint, officials, and students participated in cultivation of over 400 saplings at the designated places.

Mon State IPRD



Chief Minister of Mon State U Ohn Myint plants a sapling in Mawlamyine of Mon State to mark Myanmar Women's Day which falls on 3 July 2014.



Rural clinic opened:
A rural clinic built at a cost of nearly K5 million was opened in Nyobin village of Lewe Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 1 July. The clinic will provide health care to villagers from Nyobin village and nearby villages.

ZAW MYO NAING

Branch school upgraded into High School

MYINGYAN, 2 July — Taloke village in Myingyan Township of Mandalay Region in central Myanmar will in future have access to a basic education high school as the old building has been upgraded from a high school branch. During the opening ceremony on 29 June, wellwishers donated exercise books to the school.

The school is a ground for pursuing education for over one thousand children from the surrounding villages. It has a good reputation of producing outstanding students.

U Zaw Min Naing
(Myingyan)



Mandalay Region Chief Minister's Cup Soccer Tourney:
Myingyan hosted the Myingyan zone soccer tournament for Mandalay Region Chief Minister's Cup on 1 July. Officials said they want to support a new generation of footballers with more events. In the first match, Taungtha team beat Myingyan 1-0.

U ZAW MIN NAING



REGIONAL

Thai military government looks to neighbours for support

BANGKOK, 2 July — Thailand's military government is shoring up diplomatic ties with Asian neighbours to provide a counterweight to criticism from the West about its seizure of power in May and its reluctance to set an early date for a return to civilian rule. In the latest move, acting Foreign Minister Sihasak Phuanketkeow reassured Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen on Tuesday that Cambodian workers who had fled home after the coup, fearing a crackdown on immigrants, would be welcomed back.

He returned from Cambodia on Wednesday, bringing with him Thai activist Veera Somkwamkid, an ultra-nationalist jailed there on charges of espionage and illegal entry for pressing Thailand's claim to a disputed ancient temple on the border.

The 22 May military takeover drew swift international condemnation and both the United States and European Union have downgraded diplomatic ties. The military's National Council for Peace and Order has played down these moves, focusing instead on strengthening its relationship with China and others in Asia.



Veera Somkwamkid (centre L), a Thai ultra-nationalist jailed for eight years for espionage and trespassing, and Thailand's Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs Sihasak Phuanketkeow (2nd R front) arrive at Phnom Penh International Airport on 2 July, 2014.—REUTERS

Last month, a Thai army delegation visited China and Malaysia's defence minister came to Thailand, the first visit by a foreign minister since the coup. Myanmar's army chief is due in Bangkok on Friday. The military authorities also claim support from Vietnam.

Veera received a he-

ro's welcome at Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi Airport on Wednesday from supporters shouting "Veera! Fight! Fight!" as he made his way through a media scrum.

Cambodia's pardon for the Thai activist suggests a thaw in relations between old foes and a 180-degree change in stance by veteran Cambodian Prime Minister

Hun Sen. Hun Sen rattled Thailand in 2009 when he appointed former Thai premier Thaksin Shinawatra as an economic adviser and refused to extradite him. Thaksin was ousted by the military in 2006 and fled Thailand to escape a graft conviction in 2008.

"This is a gentleman's agreement between

Cambodia and Thailand's military government not to interfere in each other's politics," said Kan Yuenyong of the Siam Intelligence Unit think tank.

"Cambodia has no reason to interfere in Thailand right now but in the past Hun Sen used politics to manipulate the land dispute issue."

Thailand and Cambodia have been locked for decades in a dispute over land surrounding the Preah Vihear temple. The International Court of Justice ruled in 2013 that Cambodia had sovereignty over the immediate area around the temple.

"Regional neighbours in Asia know that it is of economic benefit to them to take a soft approach to the Thai military," analyst Kan added.

Thaksin's sister, Yingluck Shinawatra, won a landslide election victory in 2011 but, after months of street demonstrations aimed at toppling her, she was forced to step down on 7 May when a court found her guilty of abuse of power. Attempts by her government to secure Veera's release had proved unsuccessful despite cordial relations between Yingluck's government and the authoritarian Hun Sen, in power since 1985.

The junta has cracked down hard on dissent, briefly detaining hundreds of activists, journalists and politicians critical of the regime, a disproportionate number of them members of the pro-Thaksin "red shirt" movement.

Reuters



Indian Minister of External Affairs Sushma Swaraj (R) shakes hands with Law K. Shanmugam, Singaporean Minister for Foreign Affairs and Law, in New Delhi, India, on 1 July, 2014.—XINHUA

India summons senior US diplomats over snooping allegation

NEW DELHI, 2 July — India has summoned senior US diplomats to lodge a strong protest over reported claims that America's National Security Agency (NSA) snooped on the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in 2010, highly-placed sources said on

Wednesday.

The Indian External Affairs Ministry has summoned the US diplomats in the national capital and even sought an assurance from Washington that it won't happen again, the sources said.

According to media

reports, the NSA spied on the BJP among six other political parties in 2010.

The media reports cited classified documents leaked by US whistle-blower Edward Snowden, now in Russia.

The BJP was in opposition when the

alleged snooping took place.

The claims have surfaced just months before Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is to visit the US where he may hold talks with President Barack Obama.

Xinhua

US welcomes Japan decision on collective self-defence

WASHINGTON, 2 July — The US government praised the Japanese Cabinet's reinterpretation of the Constitution on Tuesday paving the way for Japan to use its military forces to come to the aid of an ally.

"The White House welcomes the Japanese announcement and policy of collective self-defence," said Deputy National Security Advisor Ben Rhodes, lauding the policy as "part of a continued maturation of (the US-Japan) alliance."

The policy "creates

space for Japan to play an even greater role as a security partner of the United States and as a country that upholds international order," he added.

Responding to concerns some countries in the region have expressed about the decision, he stated the United States "would welcome (Japan's) continued efforts to engage in diplomatic consultations with the neighbours, particularly the Republic of Korea."

China and South Korea, which suffered under Japan's

militarism before and during World War II, have been less enthusiastic about the decision by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's government. Collective self-defence, if pursued in "a transparent fashion" in consultation with neighbouring countries in the region, "can contribute ultimately to stability and security to the Asia-Pacific region," Rhodes said.

US Secretary of Defence Chuck Hagel also praised the move, stating that the decision is "an important step for Japan as it seeks to make a greater contribution to regional and global peace and security. Hagel also said the new policy "will enable the Japan Self-Defence Forces to engage in a wider range of operations and make the US-Japan alliance even more effective."

It "complements our ongoing efforts to modernize

our alliance," Hagel added, referring to the guidelines for US-Japan defense cooperation currently under revision. Successive Japanese governments held the position that the country was not allowed to exercise the right to collective self-defence in light of the war-renouncing Article 9 of the Constitution, which took effect in 1947. Under the reinterpretation, the SDF would be permitted to defend allies, such as the United States, even if Japan is not directly attacked in a conflict far from its borders.

Though the Constitution was originally drafted under US influence after the war, the United States has in recent years expressed hope for a bigger SDF role amid budgetary constraints, in the face of increasing security risks to US interests in the Asia-Pacific region.

Kyodo News

54.4% opposed to Japan's use of right to collective self-defence: Kyodo poll

S Korea says Xi, Park to discuss peninsula denuclearization, cooperation



President Park Geun-hye and Chinese President Xi Jinping.

SEOUL, 2 July — South Korea's senior presidential secretary said on Wednesday that visiting Chinese President Xi Jinping and South Korean President Park Geun-hye will talk about detailed measures on the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula during their upcoming summit talks. Ju Chul-ki, senior foreign affairs and security advisor to Park, told a Press briefing that the two leaders will discuss detailed plans to push for the common goal of denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.

Xi and Park will ex-

change views over cooperation for peace on the Korean Peninsula and materialize the so-called Trust-Building Process on the Korean Peninsula, advocated by President Park to improve inter-Korean relations by building trust between the two Koreas.

Xi will make a two-day state visit to Seoul to hold a summit with Park on Thursday and meet with National Assembly Speaker Chung Ui-hwa and Prime Minister Chung Hong-won on Friday. The Chinese leader will also deliver a speech at a local university and attend

economic and trade events during his stay.

The upcoming China-South Korea summit talks were anticipated to empower efforts to solve the Peninsula nuclear issue and deter possible provocations from the DPRK, the presidential advisor said.

Ju said that Xi and Park will also exchange views on mutual interests for peace, stability and prosperity in the Northeast Asia and the world, indicating the two leaders will talk about Japan's recent provocative acts.

The Japanese cabinet,

headed by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, decided on Tuesday to reinterpret its 67-year-old pacifist constitution to allow itself to exercise collective self-defence right.

It was feared to enable Japan to actually wage war in case there are so-called "clear dangers" detected in Japan or even "countries with close ties."

Japan also provoked South Korea on 20 June by unveiling the results of its review on the Kono Statement, which acknowledged and apologized for its wartime sex slavery.—Xinhua

North Korea fires more short-range rockets ahead of Xi visit to Seoul

SEOUL, 2 July — North Korea fired short-range rockets into the sea off its east coast on Wednesday morning, South Korea's Yonhap News Agency said, one day ahead of a state visit by Chinese President Xi Jinping to Seoul.

North Korea, which tested two short-range missiles on Sunday in violation of a UN ban, is expected to be high on the agenda when Xi meets his South Korean counterpart, Park Geun-hye.

Xi, who is due to arrive in Seoul on Thursday in his first visit to South Korea since taking office last year, is reciprocating Park's visit to China a year

ago.

North Korea's nuclear and missile programme, and its plans to hold a fourth nuclear test, will dominate the agenda, officials in Seoul said.

A South Korean Ministry of Defence official was unable to confirm what kind of weapon was fired, but said they were assumed to be 300 mm rockets launched from one of the North's many Multiple Rocket Launchers.

UN resolutions prohibit North Korea from procuring and using ballistic missile technology, but short range rocket launchers are not included in the ban.—Reuters

Cargo plane with four crew crashes in Nairobi — Kenyan Airports Authority

NAIROBI, 2 July — A cargo plane with four crew members crashed into a commercial building in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi, shortly after taking off from city's main airport on Wednesday, the Kenyan Airports Authority (KAA) said.

"A Fokker 50 cargo

plane with 4 people on board has this morning crashed at a commercial building in Utawala after taking off from JKIA," KAA said on its Twitter feed.

Kenyan media reported all four crew members were killed in the crash.—Reuters

Sunnis, Kurds shun Iraq parliament after no Maliki replacement named

BAGHDAD, 2 July — Sunnis and Kurds walked out of the first session of Iraq's new parliament on Tuesday after Shi'ites failed to name a prime minister to replace Nuri al-Maliki, dimming any prospect of an early national unity government to save Iraq from collapse.

The United States, United Nations, Iran and Iraq's own Shi'ite clergy have pushed hard for politicians to come up with an inclusive government to hold the fragmenting country together as Sunni insurgents bear down on Baghdad. The leader of the al-Qaeda offshoot spearheading the insurgency, the Islamic State, has declared a "caliphate" in the lands it has seized in Iraq and Syria. Its leader vowed

on Tuesday to avenge what he said were wrongs committed against Muslims worldwide.

Despite the urgency, the Iraqi parliament's first session since its election in April collapsed when Sunnis and Kurds refused to return from a recess to the parliamentary chamber after Shi'ites failed to name a prime minister.

Parliament is not likely to meet again for at least a week, leaving Iraq in political limbo and Maliki clinging to power as a caretaker, rejected by Sunnis and Kurds.

Under a governing system put in place after the removal of Saddam Hussein, the prime minister has always been a member of the Shi'ite majority, the speaker of parliament a Sunni and the largely

ceremonial president a Kurd.

The Shi'ite bloc known as the National Alliance, in which Maliki's State of Law coalition is the biggest group, has met repeatedly in recent days to bargain over the premiership but has so far been unable either to endorse Maliki for a third term or to name an alternative.

Fewer than a third of lawmakers returned from the recess. Sunni parties said they would not put forward their candidate for speaker until the Shi'ites pick a premier. The Kurds have also yet to nominate a president.

Osama al-Nujaifi, a leading Sunni politician, former speaker and strong foe of Maliki, warned that "without a political solution, the sound of

weapons will be loud, and the country will enter a black tunnel". He said his bloc did not have a candidate for a speaker so far and was waiting to see who the National Alliance

would nominate for prime minister. "If there is a new policy with a new prime minister, we will deal with them positively. Otherwise the country will go from bad to worse," Nujaifi said.

Shi'ite lawmakers sought to shift blame to the Sunni and Kurdish blocs, saying the premiership was the last position to be named in the constitutionally-defined process.—Reuters



A Russian Sukhoi Su-25 fighter plane arrives at Iraq's al-Muthanna military airbase at Baghdad airport, in Baghdad, on 1 July, 2014. — REUTERS

WORLD

France's Sarkozy faces corruption probe in blow to comeback hopes

PARIS, 2 July — Former French President Nicolas Sarkozy was placed under formal investigation on Wednesday, the prosecutor's office said, on suspicions he tried to use his influence to thwart an investigation of his 2007 election campaign.

The step, which often but not always leads to trial, is a major setback to Sarkozy's hopes of a comeback after his 2012 election defeat by Socialist rival Francois Hollande. The conservative politician denies all wrongdoing in a string of investigations in which he is

either directly or indirectly implicated.

Investigating magistrates are looking to see whether Sarkozy used his influence to secure leaked details of an inquiry into alleged irregularities in his victorious 2007 election campaign. He is suspected of influence peddling, corruption and benefiting from "the breach of professional secrets," the prosecutor's office said.

Sarkozy, 59, was held in police custody in the Paris suburb of Nanterre for nearly 15 hours before being trans-



Former French President Nicolas Sarkozy

ferred to a Paris court, where he met with investigating magistrates. He was released around midnight GMT.

Sarkozy's attorney and a judge involved in the case were similarly placed under formal investigation on suspicion of influence peddling, their attorneys said.

"These events only rely on phone taps ... whose legal basis will be strongly contested," said Paul-Albert Iweins, the attorney for Sarkozy's attorney, Thierry Herzog. "There's not a lot in this dossier, since none of the material elements of what I've seen, and what we could contest, support the accusations," he said. Placing a suspect under formal

investigation means there exists "serious or consistent evidence" pointing to probable implication of a suspect in a crime.

Influence-peddling can be punished by up to five years in prison and a fine of 500,000 euros (\$682,000).

It was the second time the ex-president, who lost presidential immunity from legal prosecution a month after he left office in June 2012, was placed under such a judicial probe. The first occurred in 2013 but magistrates later dropped the case against him.—Reuters

Abe to decide on lifting sanctions depending on N Korea's "sincerity"

TOKYO, 2 July — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said on Wednesday he will see if North Korea is ready to tackle the issue of its abductions of Japanese nationals with sincerity before his government decides whether to lift some of its sanctions on Pyongyang. Abe told reporters in Iwate Prefecture, northeastern Japan, that he will make a decision on the sanctions after going back to Tokyo later Wednesday and hearing from a Foreign Ministry official who attended the previous day's Japan-North Korea talks in Beijing.

North Korea informed Japan in the Chinese capital of the organizational structure of an abduction probe unit it is to launch.

"I will see if North Korea is sincere," Abe said during a one-day trip to Iwate to see how recovery work has progressed in the prefecture that was hit by a massive earthquake and subsequent tsunami in March 2011.

Kyodo News

Prosecutors urge judge to keep accused bomber's trial in Boston



Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, 19.

BOSTON, 2 July — Federal prosecutors on Tuesday urged a judge to reject accused Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev's request to move his trial outside of the city, saying there was no evidence that it would be impossible to select an impartial jury.

Prosecutors noted that, in making their request to hold his trial outside the district where three people were killed and 264 injured by the April 2013 bombing, defense attorneys had cited negative media coverage but presented no specific examples.

They also challenged in papers filed in US District Court in Boston a poll commissioned by the defense that found that 57.9 percent of Boston respondents regarded the 20-year-old Tsarnaev as "definitely guilty" and more than half said they had participated in the race in some way or knew someone who had.

Prosecutors noted that the Eastern District of Massachusetts, from which a panel would be selected, is home to more than 5 million people.

Reuters

Israel demolishes home of Palestinian charged with killing Israeli

JERUSALEM, 2 July — Israel on Wednesday demolished the home of a Palestinian, Ziad Awad, arrested this month on charges of shooting dead an off-duty police officer April, the army said.

Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Lerner, an army spokesman said the demolition was intended to serve as a deterrent.

"The implementation of the demolition order

serves to deter and conveys a severe warning to terrorists and their accomplices that their actions will bear severe consequences," he said.

On Monday, Israel's high court rejected an appeal by an Israeli rights group to the army decision to demolish the home in the village of Idhna, close to the city of Hebron in the southern West Bank.

Israel's army blew

up or demolished militants' homes for decades, but stopped the practice in 2005, saying it was counter-productive in their effort to discourage attacks.

"They came at three in the morning and had finished destroying the house at seven. I had thought they would just tear down my brother's house, but now everything's gone and we also have nowhere to go," said Ziad's brother Mo-

ammed, who lives in the same small building which housed 15 other members of their extended family.

HaMoked Centre, an Israeli rights group, said the ruling violated international and Israeli law "that a person must not be punished for the acts of others".

"Chief victims are the occupants of the demolished house rather than the alleged perpetrator," it argued.—Reuters

Kiev, separatists fret at gun law in Ukraine's rebel regions

DONETSK, 2 July — Firearms stores in the separatist-held city of Donetsk in east Ukraine stand empty, the guns that once lined the shelves now sold out or stolen at gunpoint.

"In a time of war, everyone wants a weapon. There are just none left to sell or even give away," said manager Alexander Lutsevich in the wood-paneled office of his downtown store. The ousting of local authorities in east Ukraine by pro-Russian rebels, and a flood of weapons into the region, have led to a breakdown in law and order that further complicates Kiev's efforts to reassert control.

The rebels, who oppose the pro-Western authorities in Kiev, count on the local population for support but some residents and local businesses are angry that the power vacuum is allowing criminals to thrive. German wholesaler



Armed pro-Russian separatists enter a captured Ukrainian National Guard compound at the city of Donetsk, on 28 June, 2014 file photo.—REUTERS

Metro became the biggest victim in May when rioters broke into the store and looted it after fighting around a nearby airport.

Pictures were posted

on the Internet of people wheeling goods away on shopping carts and stories spread that looters had emptied the store's liquor section in a matter of hours.

Metro spokeswoman Olesya Olenytska said security concerns had prevented the company assessing damage at the store, which has been closed

since 26 May.

The leadership of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic (DNR), which describes its armed uprising in terms of democracy and self-determination, is aware of the dangers of being associated with lawlessness in parts of the region. The rebels' regional prime minister, Aleksander Borodai, has threatened to punish people who brought stolen goods from Metro to DNR headquarters as well as those extorting money from people and businesses in the name of the self-styled republic. "In some residential areas of the Donetsk People's Republic, there are various gangs that are using the symbol of the DNR and my name to extort a 'tax' from individuals and businesses," he told reporters. "In fact, they haven't even the slightest thing to do with the DNR."

Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 3 July, 2014

Life in Myanmar's mountains a struggle

By Aung Khin

Myanmar has a wide diversity of ethnic races. The majority of them are residing in mountainous regions of far-flung areas. The number of ethnic people is about 27 percent of the country's total population. Most of their livelihoods depends on the exploration of natural resources such as logging, mining and fishing.

tion of natural resources such as logging, mining and fishing.

Although some roads and bridges have been constructed in these remote areas, people in these regions have not seen progress or development of their livelihoods. Many of them have to seek greener pastures in neighbouring countries by crossing the borders legally or illegally.

In the mountainous and undeveloped areas, dense forests have been cut down, and bulldozers have destroyed the flora and fauna. Their rivers are affected by mega projects. The entire ecosystem is endangered.

When the sources of their livelihood is getting extinct, tribes living in remote areas of the country have to migrate from their native lands to other places, leaving their families and cultural identities behind.

ties behind.

The livelihoods of ethnic minorities should be safeguarded by the ecotourism sector without having a negative impact on the environment. Their cultural identities should be promoted to attract foreign visitors. Only then Myanmar can prevent the extinction of ethnic characteristics, and the influence of neighbouring countries on them. Taking care of ethnic people could then help to form a state of peace and unity.

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email wallace.tun@gmail.com with your name and title.

DISCIPLINE

Kyi Mun

The Meanings of Discipline

- (1) The practice of training people to obey rules and orders and punishing them if they do not; the controlled behavior or situation that results from the training: **The school has a reputation for high standards of discipline. Strict discipline is imposed on army recruits. She keeps good discipline in class.**
- (2) A method of training your mind or body or of controlling your behavior; an area of activity where this is necessary. **Yoga is a good discipline for learning to relax.**
- (3) The ability to control your behavior or the way you live, work, etc; **He'll never get anywhere working for himself-he's got no discipline.**
- (4) (Formal) an area of knowledge; a subject that people study or are taught, especially in a university.

-The Oxford Dictionary

The Most IGNORED WORD

The three words most unpalatable to most people are: **Discipline, Duty, and Dedication.** Of the three, discipline is the most disliked, the most widely ignored and the most frequently violated by most people. But, DISCIPLINE is a most beautiful, most necessary and most beneficial requirement in everyone's life. The following are the reasons why it is so.

The Original Meaning of Discipline

"In Latin, to discipline means to learn or to teach."

The manual goes on to state, "This climate of discipline is a function of morale, esprit de corps, and open communication channels so that the Marine can communicate upward and receive accurate communications from above."

"Discipline is not suppression. It is the teaching of correct ways expected of Huns... Without discipline, Huns cannot behave with common action Discipline does not mean a loss of individuality Morale results from pride in being a Hun. Discipline brings about morale."

"Consideration, courtesy, and respect from officers towards enlisted men are not incompatible with discipline. They are parts of discipline. **Without initiative and discipline no man can expect to lead.**"

How To Understand Discipline

Discipline is the individual or group attitude that insures prompt obedience to orders and starting of proper actions in the absence of orders. Discipline is an internal attitude that motivates men to conform to the informal and formal requirements of their leaders and the service. **It is a state of mind that produces a readiness for willing and intelligent obedience and for proper conduct.** Discipline insures stability under stress: it is prerequisite for predictable performance.

True discipline, accordingly, is the result of volition

and is gained through building willingness, enthusiasm, and cooperation-never through fear of punishment. It exists not only while men are under the eyes of their superiors but while they are off duty, because they want to do the things a soldier should do. This discipline is voluntary; it is based on knowledge, reason, sense of duty, and idealism.

Sustaining Discipline

George Washington believed: Discipline is the soul of an army. It makes small numbers formidable, procures success to the weak, and esteem to all. Three elements are important for effective discipline: (1) defined roles and responsibilities so that employees know what is expected; (2) clear rules and guidelines so that employees understand what is acceptable behavior; and (3) effective methods and procedures for taking corrective action. Discipline problems include permissiveness, rigidity, and inconsistency.

Permissiveness results in an untrained, poorly organized and unproductive workforce. People need to know that they are responsible for their actions. Performance problems that go unaddressed can reduce the morale of good employees and lower the performance of the entire work group.

Rigidity, on the other hand, may cause employees to fear or hate authority and to feel anxious or overly guilty about making mistakes. If people feel that conditions are too restrictive, counterproductive measures such as slowdowns, sabotage, and strikes may result.

Inconsistency should be avoided because it makes it difficult for employees to understand what behavior is appropriate and what is not allowed. When people are punished one time and ignored or even rewarded the next time for doing the same thing, they become confused. Inevitably, this confusion results in resentment, lowered morale, and reduced productivity.

Discipline

When an employee's performance regularly isn't up to par or if an employee consistently ignores the organization's standards and regulations, the manager may have to use discipline as a way to control behavior. What specifically do we mean when we use the term discipline? It refers to actions taken by a manager to enforce the organization's standards and regulations.

The Hot Stove Rule of Discipline

The *hot stove rule* is a frequently cited set of principles that can guide managers in effectively disciplining an employee. The name comes from the similarities between touching a hot stove and being disciplined. Both are painful, but the analogy goes further. When you touch a hot stove, you get an immediate response. The burn you receive is instantaneous, leaving no doubt in your mind about the relation between cause and effect. You have am-

ple warning. You know what happens if you touch a hot stove. Furthermore, the result is consistent. Every time you touch a hot stove, you get the same result; you get burned. Finally, the result is impersonal. Regardless of who you are, if you touch a hot stove, you will get burned. The analogy with discipline should be apparent.

Vision and Discipline

"Discipline is paying the price to bring that vision into reality. It's dealing with the hard, pragmatic, brutal facts of reality and doing what it takes to make things happen. Discipline arises when vision joins with commitment. The opposite of discipline and the commitment that inspires sacrifice is indulgence — sacrificing what matters most in life for the pleasure or thrill of the moment."

"Discipline is just as important as vision, though it is second in the chain. Discipline represents the second creation. It's the executing, the making it happen, the sacrifice entailed in doing whatever it takes to realize that vision. **Discipline is willpower embodied.** Peter Drucker once observed that the first duty of a manager is to define reality. Discipline defines reality and accepts it; it is the willingness to get totally immersed in it, rather than deny it. It acknowledges the stubborn, brute facts of things as they are."

"Without vision and a sense of hope, accepting reality may be depressing or discouraging. Happiness is sometimes defined as the ability to subordinate what you want now for what you want eventually. This personal sacrifice, the process of subordinating today's pleasure for a greater longer-term good, is exactly what discipline is all about."

Most people equate discipline with an absence of freedom. "Shoulds kill spontaneity." "There's no freedom in 'have to.'" "I want to do what I want to do. That's freedom, not duty." In fact, the opposite is true. Only the disciplined are truly free. The undisciplined are slaves to moods, appetites and passions. **Discipline comes from being "disciple" to a person or a cause.**

(To be continued)

U Kyi Mun residing in Yangon is a consultant of NAING Group Capital Co., Ltd.

GOLD PRICE, FE RATE (2-7-2014)

Yangon Gold Price

Buying K678,700 per tical: Selling K679,300

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K678,900 per tical: Selling K679,500

FE RATE

USD Buying K972 - Selling K977

SGD Buying K775 - Selling K783

Euro Buying K1322 - Selling K1335

NATIONAL

Parliament discusses future loans from World Bank, Int'l Fund for Agricultural Development



Discussion on a US\$100-million loan from the World Bank and a US\$36-million loan from International Fund for Agricultural Development among the topics discussed at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session on Wednesday. —MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July— A US\$100 million loan from the World Bank and a US\$36 million loan from International Fund for Agricultural Development were discussed at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session on Wednesday, with

Gov't reviews implementation of Nay Pyi Taw Accord of Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum-MDCF



Mid-term review meeting on Myanmar Development Cooperation in progress.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July—The Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Thane has called for more efforts to gain concrete achievements in reforms at the meeting on the mid-term review of the Myanmar Development Cooperation Forum-MDCF.

At the meeting, the Union minister said aids from development partner countries should be in conformity with the priorities of the country.

He also stressed the

importance of the role of non-governmental organizations in carrying out reforms in the country.

The government's third-wave reform comprises two targets of laying down foundations for a democratic system and implementing tasks which should be carried out immediately for the improvement of livelihoods, said U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister at the President Office at the meeting.

During the meeting,

U Tun Tun Naing, Director-General of the Foreign Economic Relations Department, discussed the Guide to International Assistance and Mr Leigh Mitchell, an expert from European Union, discussed Aid Transparency and Myanmar's Aid Information Management System.

The meeting was participated by 102 officials from the governmental departments and 22 representatives from development partner countries.—MNA

a Union budget report for the second six-month period from October to March presented by the Union minister for Finance.

Regarding the Green Project aimed at developing the living standard of rural people and poverty alleviation that was started as a pilot project in 1,150 villages, Deputy Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development said the government will inject K34.5 billion from

the budget for 2014-2015 FY, allowing K30 million to each village.

Implementation of the project will be of great benefit to over 300,000 households in rural regions, thereby contributing towards job creations, he added.

One of the clarifications made by Union Minister U Win Shein and Dr Kan Zaw and Deputy Minister U Ohn Than at the parliamentary session was

the World Bank's \$100 million loan to the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation to implement four irrigation projects in the country.

The deputy minister also elaborated on IFAD's loan to the ministry for a comprehensive agriculture development project, seeking the parliament's green light for receiving loans from the two international organizations.

MNA

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services meets Myanmar diplomats in Manila

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July— Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visited the resi-

dence of the Myanmar Ambassador to the Philippines U Ye Myint Aung on Monday.

The senior general

and delegation gave presents to the families of the embassy officials before enjoying dinner.

MNA

Forest Dept, EU delegation discuss export of timber products to EU

NAY PYI TAW, 2 July— Myanmar is taking steps to sign an agreement on ensuring forest law enforcement, governance and trade, with a meeting with an EU delegation at the Representative Office of the European Union in Yangon recently.

The Myanmar side led by the director-general of the Forest Department of the Ministry of Environ-

mental Conservation and Forestry held talks with the EU delegation led by Director-General Ms. Giuliana Torta.

The process of signing the agreement will contribute towards minimizing and ending illegal timber extraction and ensuring sustainable forest management, said officials, adding that participation of all parties concerned in the pro-

cess is imperative.

In order to legally export wood products to the EU, it is required to sign a voluntary partnership agreement with the bloc.

The signing of VPA with the EU will be of great benefit to the local wood-based industries, bringing job opportunities to the people, ministry officials said.

MNA

Benghazi attack suspect has been talking to US interrogators

WASHINGTON, 2 July — A Libyan militant accused of involvement in the 2012 attacks on US government installations in Benghazi, Libya, has been talking to US interrogators, US officials familiar with the matter said.

Ahmed Abu Khatallah, captured in Libya on 15 June by a US military and FBI team, has been interrogated both before and after he was advised of his right under US law to remain silent, they said.

Abu Khatallah was transferred over the weekend to a federal prison in Alexandria, Virginia, from the US Navy ship where he had been held since his

capture, the officials said.

While aboard the *USS New York*, Abu Khatallah was interrogated first by a team of elite counterterrorism experts, known as the High Value Detainee Interrogation Group (HIG), without being read his “Miranda Rights”, a procedure in US criminal cases under which a suspect is advised that he has the right to remain silent and to consult a lawyer. He was later advised of his rights, the officials said. On Saturday, he was brought into federal court in Washington, where he pleaded not guilty to a terrorism conspiracy charge related to the Benghazi attack.



A US Federal Marshal stands guard as a black car believed to be carrying Ahmed Abu Khatallah speeds away from the US federal courthouse in Washington on 28 June, 2014.—REUTERS

One of the officials familiar with the case said US authorities believed Abu Khatallah led the attack. Another official said he was “not the only ring-leader.”

Evidence linking Abu Khatallah to the attack includes video images, two officials said.

Abu Khatallah, in media interviews before his arrest, denied involvement in the Benghazi attacks.

The United States has not arrested any other suspects in the attack on a US consular compound and CIA base in Benghazi on 11 Sept, 2012. Four Americans, including Christopher Stevens, the US ambassa-

dor to Libya, were killed in the attack.

A spokesman for the US Marshals Service declined to discuss where Abu Khatallah was being held, saying it was the agency’s policy not to discuss the locations of high-profile prisoners.

However, other sources said that he was being held in Alexandria in the same prison where Zacharias Moussaoui, a French citizen linked to the 11 September, 2001, attacks on New York and Washington, was held during proceedings against him at a nearby federal courthouse.

Reuters

Uganda says Seleka now its enemy as it hunts LRA in Central African Republic



Seleka fighters take a break as they sit on a pick-up truck in the town of Goya on 11 June, 2014.—REUTERS

KAMPALA, 2 July — Uganda’s army said on Tuesday the mainly Muslim Seleka group in Central African Republic was now its enemy as the fighters were “in bed” with the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) rebels they are hunting there.

A spokesman for the Ugandan army said its forces in CAR had clashed for the first time with Seleka, killing 12 and suffering one casualty.

A Seleka official told *Reuters* on Monday that 15 of their fighters and three Ugandan soldiers were killed. “Seleka had never tasted our fire.

I think it was important that they taste our fire so that they are careful,” Paddy Ankunda, spokesman for Uganda People’s Defence Forces (UPDF) said, when asked about clashes on Sunday and Monday in CAR.

The LRA, led by Joseph Kony, is using CAR as one of its rear bases for attacks across regions straddling CAR, South

Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Uganda heads a 5,000-strong African Union force tracking down the rebels but has no specific mandate to confront Seleka, which seized power in CAR in March last year and was pushed out under international pressure in January.

“We know we don’t have that mandate but since they are in bed with our enemy, we’ll treat them as such,” said Ankunda, accusing Seleka of forcing civilians to give food and medicine to the LRA and trading ivory and minerals with them.

Seleka’s time in power in Bangui was marked by rights abuses, prompting mainly Christian self-defence militia to spring up across the country.

Nearly a million people — around a quarter of the population — have been forced from their homes in cycles of sectarian violence.

Tit-for-tat killings continue and Seleka fight-

ers still occupy pockets of the country.

Colonel Christian Djuma Narkoyo, deputy spokesman for Seleka’s armed wing, dismissed Uganda’s claims as “lies.”

“If they have proof, let them show it. ... There is no reason for us to collaborate with the LRA,” he said.

Narkoyo accused Uganda’s troops, whose mission to hunt down LRA fighters across the region has received support from US Special Forces, of plundering CAR for gold, diamonds and ivory.

US State Department spokesman Will Stevens said Washington was aware of reports of incidents between Ugandan forces and Seleka rebels, but added that “US forces were not present during the incident, nor were they involved in the planning or support of the Ugandan mission that may have led to the incident.”

Independent researcher Ledio Cakaj, who specialises in monitoring LRA activity, said some members of the LRA and Seleka had been in contact over the last year in CAR but there was no formal relationship, largely as both groups are very fragmented.

Cakaj said the relationship was more about protecting local and personal interests than a strategic alliance.

LRA fighters have sought sanctuary and food in the area, while Seleka leaders hoped to get diamonds, gold and ivory in return, he said.

Reuters

Bomb kills 20 in Nigeria market, girls’ abduction suspect held

MAIDUGURI (Nigeria), 2 July — A bomb in a van carrying charcoal exploded in a busy market in north-east Nigeria on Tuesday, killing at least 20 people in the latest suspected attack by Islamist militants, witnesses said. The blast from the vehicle bomb wrecked cars and taxis that were unloading passengers and wares on a road adjoining the market in the Borno state capital of Maiduguri. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the blast. But in recent months, the Islamist group

Boko Haram has embarrassed President Goodluck Jonathan’s government with a spate of bombings and spectacular raids, mostly in northeast Nigeria, including the mid-April abduction of more than 200 schoolgirls.

The military said earlier on Tuesday that it had arrested a number of suspected Boko Haram collaborators including a Maiduguri businessman it said was involved in the abduction of the schoolgirls.

Boko Haram has also struck at Abuja, the capital

of Africa’s biggest economy, with three bombings in three months. Nigeria’s defence headquarters said in a statement on its Twitter account that “a van loaded with charcoal and IED exploded” in Maiduguri’s Monday Market on Tuesday. IED means an improvised explosive device.

Musa Sumail, a local human rights activist in Maiduguri who reports on the violence there, told *Reuters* he counted 20 bodies at the scene of the market explosion.

Reuters

South Africa’s striking NUMSA union says to resume wage talks



Members of the National Union of Metal Workers of South Africa (NUMSA) protest on the streets of Durban on 1 July, 2014.—REUTERS

JOHANNESBURG, 2 July — The head of South Africa’s striking NUMSA union said on Wednesday wage talks with an employers group will resume on

Thursday night after more than 200,000 workers in the engineering and metals industry downed tools on Tuesday.

“We will be meet-

ing for talks on Thursday night, the principle is a double-digit increase,” Irvin Jim, NUMSA’s general secretary, told *Reuters*.

Reuters

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Olympus begins consolidating US medical device output at new site



During a tour of Olympus Corp's new facility in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota on 24 June, 2014, Scott Larson, vice president of operations, talks about the advantages of consolidating the company's medical device production from five buildings in a nearby city to a larger building. The US medical technology unit of Japan's Olympus Corp began moving to the new site on 1 July by relocating five production lines there. — KYODO NEWS

NEW YORK, 2 July — The US medical technology unit of Japan's Olympus Corp on Tuesday began consolidating its production from five separate facilities to a new, larger site in a suburb of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The company transferred the first five of 23 production lines to the Brooklyn Park facility on Tuesday with plans to con-

tinue the relocation through next year. The new site will officially open next spring when the majority of operations have moved there.

Olympus broke ground on the 16,700 square meter facility last December after choosing the site to consolidate its existing US operations from five separate buildings in the nearby suburb of Maple Grove.

The new facility is

built around a 2,230 square meter production room where more than 250 medical device products, such as surgical cutting instruments, will be made once the relocation is complete.

With the production room located at the center of the building instead of the current facility's two separate rooms, the company hopes the new layout will contribute to innova-

tion as all employees will be able to see into the room.

About 300 employees currently work at Olympus in the Midwest state and the company says it may add about 100 jobs as it expands production at the larger site.

Known for its endoscope instruments as well as digital cameras, Olympus has been in the Minneapolis area since buying Gyrus Group PLC, which had operations there, in 2008. When deciding to set up a new site to consolidate its US business, it chose to stay in the region to take advantage of the bustling medical device industry there and the geographic benefits of being in the center of the country.

"There is an abundance of medical device talent here in the Minneapolis area with a great infrastructure and plenty of companies to support our industry," Scott Larson, Vice President of Operations for the Maple Grove and Brooklyn Park sites, told a group of Japanese reporters during a tour of the new facility on 24 June. "It's a pretty significant list of benefits to having our business in this region."

Kyodo News

Deep frozen testicle tissue used to produce babies in mice

LONDON, 2 July — Scientists have for the first time produced live offspring from testicle tissue that has been cryopreserved, or deep frozen, and say a similar technique might one day be used to preserve the fertility of boys facing cancer treatment.

In a study published in the journal *Nature Communications* on Tuesday, Japanese researchers said their experiments using mice led to eight healthy offspring being born from sperm produced by previously frozen and thawed testicle tissue.

"The cryopreservation of testicle tissue may be a realistic measure for preserving fertility," the team, led by Takehiko Ogawa of Japan's Yokohama City University Association of Medical Science, wrote in the study.

Infertility is one of the adverse side effects of certain types of cancer treatment, and, as cure rates for childhood cancers are increasing, fertility has become an important concern for patients and their families.

Freezing sperm itself to preserve it for future use

is only possible for boys who have reached puberty, so scientists have been seeking ways of helping prepubescent boys have a chance of producing their own children even after cancer treatment.

Ogawa and colleagues said they had previously developed an organ culture system that can induce complete spermatogenesis — the process by which sperm is produced by the testes — in mice.

In this latest experiment, they cryopreserved the testicular tissues of newborn mice, either by slow-freezing or vitrification — a specialized fast-freezing technique.

After thawing, the tissues were cultured — or grown in a lab dish — and spermatogenesis induced. The scientists found the thawed tissues was able to produce sperm just as efficiently as comparable unfrozen sperm tissue. The team then used micro-insemination — where sperm is deposited directly into immature egg cells — with tissues that had been cryopreserved for more than four months.—Reuters

Microsoft sides with Qualcomm in showdown over connected home

SAN FRANCISCO, 2 July — Microsoft Corp has joined Qualcomm Inc and other technology companies in a bid to establish standard ways for household devices like light bulbs and thermostats to talk to each other.

The Qualcomm-backed AllSeen Alliance is among a growing number of efforts for companies working alone or in groups to promote protocols for how smart devices should work together in a trend increasingly referred to as the Internet of Things.

Microsoft on Tuesday joined 50 other members in the AllSeen Alliance, including major consumer electronics players Panasonic Corp, LG Electronics Inc and Sharp Corp, the group said. But chipmakers that compete with Qualcomm plan to launch a rival standards consortium as early as next week, an industry source who was familiar with the plans but not authorized to discuss



A shadow of a man using his mobile phone is cast near Microsoft logo at the 2014 Computex exhibition in Taipei on 4 June, 2014.—REUTERS

them, also told Reuters on Tuesday. Battle lines are being drawn as manufacturers roll out growing numbers of Internet-connected burglar alarms, televisions and baby monitors. But like the early days of video cassette recorders, many of the smart home products being launched are incompatible with each other.

Qualcomm and other tech companies believe the quick establishment of standards across home-connected gadgets, cars and

wearable computing devices will accelerate the introduction of new devices by manufacturers.

Making it easy for software developers to design apps that let household devices work together in useful ways, like making living room LED light bulbs flash red when food is burning on the stove, may also stir more interest from consumers who have yet to become excited by smart products currently on offer, the companies hope.—Reuters

Google buys music streaming service Songza

SAN FRANCISCO, 2 July — Google Inc has acquired streaming music service Songza, the Internet search company's latest move to play a bigger role in the fast-growing online music business.

Google said on Tuesday it would explore ways to incorporate aspects of Songza into its existing streaming music service over the coming months. For now the four-year-old Songza service, which creates "expert-curated" music playlists intended to match users' activities and tastes, will remain unchanged for existing users.

Google did not provide financial terms of the deal, though a report in the *New York Post* earlier this month citing unnamed sources said Google had offered to buy the company for \$15 million.

The deal comes one month after Apple Inc acquired Beats for \$3 bil-

lion. Apple's purchase of Beats, which also touted its expertise curating music playlists, was viewed as an effort to jump-start Apple's position in the fastest-growing segment of the music market.

Sales of digital music downloads have declined in recent months, while streaming services such as Pandora Media Inc and Spotify have become increasingly popular with

consumers.

Google launched a \$9.99-per-month Play All Access subscription music service in 2013, and the company said last month its YouTube video website was preparing to launch a paid streaming service.

Google would not say how many employees Songza had but it said the company would continue to work from its base in New York.—Reuters



A Google logo is seen at the garage where the company was founded on Google's 15th anniversary in Menlo Park, California on 26 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

China military bases threatened by luxury villas, fake tourists — state media



Soldiers exercise during a training session at a beach on Xisha islands, Hainan Province on 26 Aug, 2009.—REUTERS

BEIJING, 2 July — The security of Chinese military bases is being threatened by illegally built high-rise buildings, and in one case villas built inside a base,

and fake tourists seeking access to sensitive sites to spy, state media said on Wednesday.

Only a tiny fraction of the 4,800 local govern-

ment and military bodies which are supposed to protect such facilities are currently doing their jobs properly, the official *China Daily* cited senior military

officers as saying. “Fake companies or sight-seeing tours are often used as pretexts by outside entities to approach sensitive Chinese facilities for the purpose of

gathering military secrets,” officer Song Xinfei told the newspaper. One government on the southern resort island of Hainan, a province which has responsibil-

ity for the disputed South China Sea, allowed villas to be built by a foreign firm inside a base, it added, quoting the military’s *People’s Liberation Army Daily*.

Air bases have also been disturbed by high-rises built too close for safe flying operations, the *China Daily* added.

“There are more than 1,000 high-rises that exceed their approved heights inside the flight security perimeters of our air bases, leading to the closure of nearly 20 bases and about 100 accidents,” another officer, Shan Shaoli, was quoted as saying.

The government hopes to address these problems by strengthening a law to protect military bases which was approved by China’s largely rubber stamp parliament last week, the newspaper added.—Reuters

Hong Kong protesters lifted kicking and screaming from downtown rally

HONG KONG, 2 July— Hundreds of Hong Kong police forcibly removed kicking and screaming protesters from the Central business district on Wednesday, holdouts of a mass rally demanding greater democracy from Communist Party rulers in Beijing.

The pro-democracy march on Tuesday, which organizers said attracted more than 510,000 people, and a subsequent sit-in by mainly student groups could be the biggest challenge yet to China which resumed control over the former British colony in 1997.

Many of the more than 1,000 protesters linked

arms in a bid to resist efforts to remove them but they were taken away one at a time, in some cases by three or four police, as activists kicked, screamed and punched before being bundled on to buses.

“I have the right to protest. We don’t need police permission,” the crowd chanted as they sat sweltering in Hong Kong’s summer heat and humidity.

Some remained defiant even after their arrest.

“Civil disobedience is not a one-time matter. I will come out to protest again, because it is the only way Hong Kong can change,” said To Chun Ho, who was released on Wednesday without charge.

Activists who refused to leave were taken in buses to the police training school in Hong Kong. More than 500 people were arrested, with some charged with participating in an unauthorised assembly and obstructing police.

It was unclear how long they would be detained. About 50 were released without charge.

“Our purpose is first universal suffrage and second to let the government respond to Hong Kong citizens’ voice for democracy,” said Frank Chio, a representative of the Hong Kong Federation of Students. “This is only step one. There will be other steps.”—Reuters



Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen (R) meets with visiting Thai foreign affairs ministry permanent secretary Sihasak Phuanketkeow, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 1 July, 2014. Hun Sen met on Tuesday with Sihasak Phuanketkeow to discuss current situation in Thailand and cooperation over migrant workers.—XINHUA

Suicide bomber kills eight, wounds 13 in Afghan capital

KABUL, 2 July — A suicide bomber killed eight people and wounded 13 on Wednesday in an attack on a bus carrying military personnel in the Afghan capital, Kabul, officials said.

The explosion happened in the heavily secured downtown area near Kabul University at a time of increasing attacks by the

Taliban and other insurgents around Afghanistan, where the outcome of a presidential election is still not known.

At least five of the dead were air force personnel, said Hashmat Stanekzai, a spokesman for Kabul’s police chief. Stanekzai said the bus had been the bomber’s target.

Heavy fighting is still underway in the strategically important Sangin district of southern Helmand Province. Many Afghans fear overall security is deteriorating. The bulk of NATO troops are due to withdraw this year and Afghan security forces have taken primary responsibility for securing the country. The violence

comes amid heightened political tensions over the disputed second round of the presidential election.

One of the two candidates, former foreign minister Abdullah Abdullah, has complained that extensive vote rigging had taken place to the advantage of his rival, former World Bank official Ashraf Ghani.—Reuters



Officials investigate at the site of a suicide attack in Kabul on 2 July, 2014.—REUTERS

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REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES— FIRMS SELECTION)

**The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Myanmar Electric Power Project**

Credit No: 5306-MM

Assignment Title: Environmental and Social Management consultant for Thaton Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) Power Plant

Reference No.: MEPE-CS-5

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Electric Power Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for environmental and social management consulting services.

The environmental and social management consulting services ("the Services") are in support of the Project's investments in new gas-fired power generation capacity and include the following scope:

1. Execution of an Environmental, Health & Safety (EHS) due diligence audit at the Natural Gas Turbines Power Plant in Thaton, Myanmar;
2. Preparation of an EHS Management System (MS) for the Thaton Power Plant and support towards its international accreditation;
3. Advisory services to Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise (MEPE) and the Thaton Power Plant management regarding implementation of the Project's Environment and Social Management Plan (ESMP, which has been prepared as part of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment for the site investments), the EHS-MS and EHS requirements by the contractor for installation of the new power generation units in Thaton.
4. Advisory services to MEPE regarding establishing environmental and social safeguards capabilities within its organization.

The Services are expected to be carried out over a period of 24 months, starting in November 2014.

The MEPE now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services Interested Consultants should provide information

demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:

1. The interested consulting firms should have at least 10 years of experience in the area of environmental and social advisory services to the power sector, relevant references for gas fired power stations are advantageous;
2. A strong record in environmental and social impact assessments; environmental due diligence audits; development and supporting accreditation of environmental, health and safety management systems;
3. At least 3 contracts of similar nature and complexity, or more complex and relevant, that the firm has successfully completed in the past 8 years; and
4. Experience of working in the Client's country or similar country environment.

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's *Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers* dated January 2011 ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality- and Cost-Based Selection method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 10:00 to 15:00 hours.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by July 15, 2014

Myanmar Electric Power Enterprise

Attn: U Win Myint, Chief Engineer
Building-27

Ministry of Electric Power

Nay Pyi Taw

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Tel : 095-67-410-556

Fax: 095-67-410-557

E-mail: -gtceoffice@gmail.com

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV NOBLE BREEZE VOY NO (048)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NOBLE BREEZE VOY NO (048) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.7.2014 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 INTERASIA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV EVER APEX VOY NO (429)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EVER APEX VOY NO (429) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.7.2014 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 EVERGREEN SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

Weather Report

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observation at (12:30) hrs MST today, a low pressure area over North Bay of Bengal still persists. Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

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REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
Department of Rural Development
Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development
National Community Driven Development Project
Assignment Title: Township Level Technical Assistance

Reference No: C4.1 XXX** Township, Nay Pyi Taw Territory
 C4.6 XXX** Township, Yangon Region

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has received financing from the World Bank to implement the National Community Driven Development Project (NCDD) under the Department of Rural Development (DRD) of the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development. The Government intends to apply part of the Grant proceeds to hire consulting services for new townships to be covered starting Cycle 2 of project implementation. The consulting services (the "Services") include:

- Assisting the township DRD office in planning, implementing and monitoring project activities in the township in line with guidelines contained in the Project Operations Manual and directions received from DRD union office.
- Assisting villages and village tracts in the preparation and annual revision of development plans; sub-project technical design, cost estimation and social safeguards implementation; review and approval of sub-projects; procurement of labor and materials; construction supervision; and organization of annual social audits.
- Assisting village tract project support committees to manage project funds in a transparent and accountable manner.

The Services will be carried out in one township each (there will be two assignments with two separate contracts) in

- XXX** Township, Nay Pyi Taw Territory (C4.1 /14),
- XXX** Township, Yangon Region (C 4.6/14),

by a Consultant Team of seven (7) Experts, all but one of whom will be Myanmar nationals: (a) Lead CDD, Participation and Training Specialist, (b) International CDD Specialist (short-term), (c) Finance Officer, (d) Procurement Officer, (e) Monitoring and Evaluation and MIS Officer, (f) Infrastructure and Safeguards Specialist, and (g) Social Accountability and Gender Specialist. In addition, the Consultant will also locally recruit CFs (average of 1 CF per 2 village tracts) and TFs (average of 1 TF per 3 village tracts). The Consultant will be engaged for a period of 24 months starting September, 2014.

DRD now invites eligible consulting firms or NGOs ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services in one or more of the townships in the aforementioned locations. Consultants may associate with other NGOs/firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications.

Expressions of Interest must be submitted in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by July 21, 2014. A consultant will be selected in accordance with the QBS method set out in the Consultant Guidelines. The short-listing criteria are:

- Past experience with community based development activities in similar conditions as in Myanmar, with prior experience in Myanmar preferred;
- Availability of staff with relevant expertise;
- Size of relevant assignment contracts over the past five years.

Further information and a copy of the detailed 'Terms of Reference (TOR)' may be obtained from the NCDD Project webpage: <http://www.cdd.drdmyanmar.org> or the address below during office hours from 0900 to 1600, Monday through Friday, except public holidays.

Attn: U Khant Zaw (Deputy Chief Engineer)
 NCDD Project Secretariat Office
 Department of Rural Development
 Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development
 Office No. 14, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
 Tel: & Fax: 067- 409413
 Email address: drdmyanmar@gmail.com

Megan Fox: Hard to be a Working Mom

LOS ANGELES, 2 July — Actress Megan Fox says she is finding it difficult to strike a balance between her family and career.

The 28-year-old mother of two boys — two-months-old Bodhi and 19-months-old Noah — recently hinted that she may leave showbiz, reported contactmusic.com. Megan and Brian Austin Green have been married for four years now.

"I've never been an extraordinarily ambitious girl or career-oriented, but especially once I got pregnant with my first son and now (having) my second, it's so hard to be a working mom, especially when your heart is not in your work, when your heart is with your family," she told *Parents* magazine. —PTI

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY HOLIDAY NOTICE

As the wharves, warehouses and chellan Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 11th JULY 2014 (FULLMOON DAY of WASO) and 19th JULY 2014 (Martyr's). Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

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Pierce Brosnan likely to join expendables franchise

LONDON, 2 July — Hollywood star Pierce Brosnan may be featuring in an upcoming instalment of the *Expendables* franchise. He says he's been offered a role in a sequel and he is up for it.

If the deal goes through, Pierce Brosnan will be the first James

Bond actor to sign on for the series, which will see him working with Sylvester Stallone and Jason Statham, reports independent.co.uk.

Pierce made the revelation to *Shortlist* magazine, saying that talks about his role have already taken place with his *Survivor*

producer Avi Lerner.

"Oh, the offer has come in for the next *Expendables*. I just worked over in Bulgaria with Avi Lerner who makes them. He said, 'Would you like to be in *The Expendables*? I would love to have you', and I said, 'Why not?' So we will see," Pierce said.

PTI

Pythons leave them singing at London reunion show



Members of British comedy troupe Monty Python (L-R) Eric Idle, John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Michael Palin and Terry Jones pose for a photograph during a media event in central London, on 30 June, 2014.

REUTERS

LONDON, 2 July — An audience of 16,000 cheered for the dead parrot and the Spanish Inquisition, and sang along to "Always Look on the Bright Side of Life" in

London's O2 arena on Tuesday for the premiere of what has been billed as Monty Python's last stand.

For tickets that cost up to 95 pounds (\$160), and

were sold out in 44 seconds, Python fans saw Eric Idle, John Cleese, Terry Jones, Michael Palin and Terry Gilliam, all in their 70s, perform together for what they have said is probably the last time.

The first of 10 nights of "Monty Python Live (Mostly): One Down Five to Go" was pretty much what it said on the tin - a medley of famous sketches performed by the people who created them. The last show, on July 20, will be broadcast worldwide.

The Pythons were

aided and abetted by a live orchestra and a chorus line of singing and dancing men and women. Carol Cleveland, the only woman who made regular appearances in the 1960s show, which brought a new style of British humour to a global audience, was there to reprise her popular roles.

Graham Chapman, the sixth Python, who died in 1989, appeared on film clips, along with some of the original television footage of Python sketches shown on a huge video display.

British theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking, a professed Python fan, made a guest appearance on film while the popular British comedian Stephen Fry was on stage for the Pythons' spoof television game show "Blackmail," in which dark secrets of viewers are revealed unless they mail in large sums of money.—Reuters

Shraddha Kapoor is Ek Villain's calculator

MUMBAI, 2 July — The grand success of *Ek Villain* has validated that good girls do often fall for bad boys. And while all the bad boys who featured in the movie were busy partying and celebrating, actress Shraddha Kapoor was keeping an eye on the box office figures. "I am the *Ek Villain* calculator. I am tracking the box office collections regularly," she said.

Actor Riteish Deshmukh, who played a negative role for the first time, was elated by the response from movie-goers. Riteish said about his straight-faced character, "I asked Mohit Suri (director) 'what should my eyes express' and he said 'nothing'. It is great that people are looking so much into my performance."

The movie also overturned the chocolate boy image of actor Sidharth Malhotra. His intense performance won him a congratulatory call from megastar Salman Khan. "It was very sweet and supportive of him to call and congratulate. I requested him to join us and he did. He enjoyed with us at our movie's party, which most actors would not have done. Hats-off to him," said Sidharth.

Brushing off rumors that she had skipped the party to celebrate the success of *Ek Villain*, Shraddha said "All of us were ecstatic and danced on songs from Salman Khan's old movies. It was a lot of fun."—PTI



Shraddha Kapoor

GENERAL

Daw Khin Hla Myint

Age: 94

(Donor/ Sponsor of Pagodas, Monks and Monestries)
Passed away peacefully at Sydney, Australia, on 30-June-2014 (Monday).

Beloved wife of late U Thein Maung, Sydney, Australia.

Beloved daughter of late U Bar Bar and Daw Kyin Oo.
Beloved elder sister of late Daw Tun May.

Dearly missed and forever cherished by her beloved:

Children:

Dr. Myint Myint Thein - U Tin Tun (Australia)

Dr. Khin Thein - Dr. Ni Ni Khin (U.S.A)

Dr. Tun Thein - Dr. Nilar (U.S.A)

Dr. Maisie Dong - Dr. James Dong (Australia)

Dr. Hla Hla Thein (Canada)

Grand Children:

Dr. Wint Than Aye, Min Dong, Dr. Thant Zin Thein, Sai Shai Wan, Sandy Dong, Kimberly Tin, Amy Thein. Cremation will be held at Castle Brook Memorial Park, Windsor Road, Rouse Hill, NSW 2155, Australia on 04-July-2014 (Friday) at 17:00 hr local time.

Friends and relatives are kindly invited to attend donation service held for our late beloved mother at Pan Di Ta Yama Monastery, 70, Market Street, Smithfield NSW 2164, Sydney, Australia on 06-July-2014 (Sunday) at 06:00 - 10:00 a.m local time.

Bereaved Family

Hit by slime, Caribbean corals could vanish in two decades

OSLO, 2 July—Most coral reefs in the Caribbean could vanish in the next two decades, hit by the loss of fish and sea urchins that eat a slime of coral-smothering algae, a UN-backed study said on Wednesday.

The review, the most comprehensive to date of Caribbean reefs that are vital tourist attractions for many island nations, said climate change had played only a minor role in the reefs' demise, despite past speculation it was a main

cause. "With only about one-sixth of the original coral cover left, most Caribbean coral reefs may disappear in the next 20 years, primarily due to the loss of grazers in the region," according to the study by 90 coral experts.

Bright-coloured parrotfish and sea urchins are the two main grazers on algae — microscopic plants that can choke polyps, the tiny animals that build reefs with their stony skeletons.—Reuters

Home comforts a bonus for Watson at The Greenbrier



Bubba Watson tees off on the eighth hole during the third round of the Travelers Championship at TPC River Highlands.—REUTERS

LONDON, 2 July—Masters champion Bubba Watson will look to make the most of his recently acquired home advantage as he bids for a third PGA Tour victory of the year at Greenbrier Classic in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.

The American world number three moved into the luxurious resort at The Greenbrier with his family only a month ago and has played several practice rounds on the Old White Course over the past fortnight. "It's nice being here, nice being able to sleep in your own bed, it's pretty cool," Watson told reporters on Tuesday as he prepared for Thursday's opening round. "I'm excited about the week."

Asked what had

prompted him to move his family into the mountains of West Virginia, the American left-hander replied: "You're always looking for a great temperature, always looking for a great place to live."

"When you look at what The Greenbrier has to offer, or West Virginia has to offer, you have family atmosphere, you have great golf. The mountains are nice views. When you add that all up, it comes to an easy place to decide to move to."

Watson, who has produced the most consistent season of his PGA Tour career with the highlight being his second Masters victory in April, has enjoyed getting to know the Old White Course a little better.

Reuters

MYANMAR TV

(3-7-2014, Thursday)

- 6:00 am**
* Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 6:30 am**
* Physical Exercise
- 6:35 am**
* Song of Yester Years
- 7:00 am**
* News
- 7:20 am**
* People Talks
- 8:00 am**
* News/ International News
- 8:30 am**
* TV Drama Series
- 9:30 am**
* Shwe Yin Khone Than
- 10:00 am**
* News
- 11:15 am**
* Sing & Enjoy
- 12:00 pm**
* News/ International News/ Weather Report
- 13:20 pm**
* Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competition
- 14:10 pm**
* Fine Arts-Bosom of Dramatic Performance
- 15:00 pm**
* News
- 16:15 pm**
* Mono Classical Songs
- 16:35 pm**
* University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - Second Years (Chemistry)
- 17:30 pm**
* TV Drama Series
- 18:00 pm**
* News/ Weather Report
- 18:25 pm**
* Approaching Science Discovery World
- 19:25 pm**
* TV Drama Series
- 20:50**
* Current Affairs
- 21:00 pm**
* News
- * Documentary

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(3-7-14 07:00 am~
4-7-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Myanmar Women Forum
- * World News
- * Kyaikhteeyoe: My Father The Porter
- * Local News
- * Sai Htee Hseng Or An Exceptional Music Star From Shan Plateaus (Episode-3)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Women's Day
- * Local News
- * Mosaic Painting (Precious Stones & Gems)
- * World News
- * In the Studio: Sunee
- * Local News
- * News Extra (Dr.Stiles)
- * World News
- * Doctor Painter
- * Local News
- * Charity in Myanmar: The Wacht Jivitadana Sanga Hospital
- * World News
- * Myanmar Harpist
- * Local News
- * Sai Htee Hseng Or An Exceptional Music Star From Shan Plateaus (Episode-2)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Railways City Circular Train
- * Local News
- * SPECIAL PROGRAMME: Director: Kyi Phyu Shin
- * World News
- * Hip-Hop and Design
- * Local News
- * A Journey To Southern Shan State (Episode-1)
- * World News
- * In the Studio- Pyi Soe or Hay Thin

Kyrgios too hot for Nadal, Sharapova bows out



Russia's Maria Sharapova returns a shot during the women's singles fourth round match against Germany's Angelique Kerber at the 2014 Wimbledon Championships in Wimbledon, southwest London, on 1 July, 2014. Sharapova lost the match 1-2. —XINHUA

LONDON, 2 July — This time there was no escape for world No.1 Rafael Nadal.

For the fourth match in a row at this year's Wimbledon he got his fingers

burned when losing the first set — only this time he was engulfed by player with dynamite in his strings.

How the tournament organizers must be slapping

themselves on the back for handing Australian upstart Nick Kyrgios a wildcard.

On Tuesday the 19-year-old world number 144 took his dream Wimbledon debut to dizzy new heights with a spellbinding display on Centre Court to outplay the twice champion using a barrage of aces and crunching baseline winners. His 7-6(5), 5-7, 7-6(5), 6-3 win was the first by a player ranked outside the top 100 over a world No 1 at a grand slam since Jim Courier lost to Andrei Olhovskiy in 1992.

Olhovskiy never did much else but Kyrgios's victory, sealed with a 37th ace, felt as though it could be a seminal moment in the evolution of men's tennis — a warning shot to the "big-four". Yes, Lukas Rosol and

Steve Darcis, also ranked outside the world's top 100, ended Nadal's previous two Wimbledon campaigns, but they played probably the matches of their careers to do it. Kyrgios's career is just beginning and the way he overwhelmed Nadal with a fearless brand of tennis, who knows where his first Wimbledon adventure could end up? "He is acting to me like he can win the whole tournament," three-times Wimbledon champion John McEnroe said after witnessing a match that will enter Wimbledon folklore.

Czechs dominated the bottom half of the women's draw where Lucie Safarova's 6-3, 6-1 defeat of Ekaterina Makarova set up a semi-final clash with compatriot and 2011 champion

Petra Kvitova who defeated unseeded Barbora Zahlavova Strycova 6-1, 7-5. With a Czech finalist guaranteed, the top half of the draw took a further twist when Russian firebrand Sharapova, despite saving six match points, had her hopes of celebrating the 10th anniversary of her sole Wimbledon triumph with a sequel, rudely ended by dogged German Angelique Kerber. The screaming fifth seed threw everything in her formidable arsenal Kerber's way, but after recovering from a wasteful opening set tiebreak to level, she went down 7-6(4), 4-6, 6-4. Though not the victory the French Open champion craved, she showed true champions' spirit to haul back a 5-2 deficit in a thrilling finale to a match she

might have gone on to win had she taken a point to level at 5-5. Instead, despite blowing a 0-40 advantage in the final nerve-jangling game Kerber sealed victory when Sharapova flailed a backhand over the baseline.

"I was a little bit nervous because I was thinking, you know, if it's now 5-5, everything starts from zero," Kerber, who faces 20-year-old rising star Eugenie Bouchard in the quarter-final on Wednesday, said.

A day after Bouchard became the first Canadian to reach a Wimbledon quarter-final in the professional era, compatriot Milos Raonic underlined the country's upward curve with a four-set victory over Japan's 10th seed Kei Nishikori.

Reuters



Argentina, Belgium through after extra-time drama

Goalkeeper of the US Tim Howard (1st L) attempts to block a shot by Belgium's Marouane Fellaini (1st R) during a Round of 16 match between Belgium and the US of 2014 FIFA World Cup at the Arena Fonte Nova Stadium in Salvador, Brazil, on 1 July, 2014. Belgium won 2-1 over the US after 120 minutes and qualified for quarter-finals on Tuesday.—XINHUA

BRASILIA, 2 July — Argentina scored in the 118th minute to beat Switzerland and Belgium clung on to defeat the United States in another heart-stopping period of extra time to reach the World Cup quarter-finals amid more extraordinary drama on Tuesday.

Angel Di Maria struck with two minutes of the extra period remaining to give Argentina a 1-0 win over stubborn Switzerland, who still had time to hit the post amid unbearable tension in Sao Paulo.

Belgium took a 2-0 extra-time lead through Kevin De Bruyne and Romelu Lukaku but, after Julian Green pulled one back, they had to survive an extraordinary end-to-end finale as the US threatened an equaliser before winning 2-1.

"Football is brutal, brutal, brutal. Unfortunately, we didn't quite have enough strength at the end to get through extra time," Switzerland's assistant coach Michel Pont told reporters as the tournament continued to surpass itself for drama and emotion.

Argentina and Belgium will meet in Brasilia on Saturday (1600 GMT) after completing a quarter-final line-up which will feature all eight group-stage winners with four teams each from Europe and Latin America.

Hosts Brazil face Colombia in Fortaleza on Friday (2000), preceded by France against Germany in Rio de Janeiro (1600) and the Netherlands take on rank outsiders Costa Rica in Salvador on Saturday (2000).

The Dutch, runners-up four years ago, will almost certainly be without hard-tackling midfielder Nigel de Jong for the rest of the tournament after he was ruled out for two to four weeks with a groin injury.

Off the field, Cameroon's football federation (FECAFOOT) said it would investigate claims that seven players were involved in match-fixing at the World Cup, centred on the 4-0 defeat by Croatia when Alex Song was sent off in the first half.

"Recent allegations of fraud around Cameroon's three 2014 World Cup games, especially Cameroon v Croatia, as well the existence of 'seven bad apples (in our national team)'" do not reflect the values and principles promoted by our administration," FECAFOOT said in a statement.

The allegations against Cameroon came from convicted fraudster Wilson Raj Perumal, who it emerged during a discussion with German magazine *Der Spiegel* had accurately forecast the result and the fact that a player would be

sent off

Penalties Looming

Twice champions Argentina dominated the last-16 game against Switzerland but their attacks lacked variety and too often ended with hopeful crosses into the penalty area.

Switzerland were expertly marshalled by veteran coach Ottmar Hitzfeld who had already announced that he would retire after the tournament.

With penalties looming, Angel Di Maria stroked the ball home from the edge of penalty area to put the finishing touch to a trademark Lionel Messi run, sparking wild celebrations among the South American team and their fans in Sao Paulo.

The celebrations nearly proved premature when Swiss substitute Blerim Dzemaili headed against the post from point-blank range and the ball rebounded on to his knee and went centimetres past the post.

With goalkeeper Diego Benaglio joining the attack, Switzerland won a free kick on the edge of the area but, amid extraordinary tension and with Argentine substitutes praying on the bench, Xherdan Shaqiri sent his effort into the defensive wall.

"It was a game that we deserved to win in 90 minutes," Argentina coach Alejandro Sabella told re-

porters.

"It was even during a first half in which they had two clear chances to score, but in the second half we were clearly superior, we had five or six shots at goal and in extra time we also had more chances."

Belgium dominated normal time and were frustrated by an inspired Tim Howard in the US goal but struck early in extra-time when De Bruyne collected the ball before turning and

firing home an angled shot from seven metres.

Substitute striker Lukaku powered home a second on 105 minutes after a clever De Bruyne pass before Green's volley at the start of the second period set up a pulsating finale in which Clint Dempsey almost sneaked an equaliser.

The US could have sealed it at the end of normal time but substitute Chris Wondolowski skewed his effort horribly

wide from five metres.

"We had about 15 chances, we were controlling the game I think it is largely deserved even though at the end we conceded one," Belgium coach Marc Wilmots told reporters.

Howard felt heart-broken to lose.

"We left it all out there but we lost to a really good team. It hurts but hats off to Belgium they were fantastic," he said.—Reuters



Switzerland's goalkeeper Diego Benaglio (5th L) attempts to pluck the ball during a Round of 16 match between Argentina and Switzerland of 2014 FIFA World Cup at the Arena de Sao Paulo Stadium in Sao Paulo, Brazil, on 1 July, 2014.—XINHUA



World Cup 2014 Results

Match 55	Argentina	1 - 0	Switzerland
Match 56	Belgium	2 - 1	USA
Belgium & Argentina win after extra time			