

President says ICT plays pivotal role in economy, education, security, social affairs

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July — Information and communication technology is pivotal to the sectors of economy, education, security and social affairs, President U Thein Sein told technologists and experts at the Myanmar Information and Communication Technology Park in Yangon on Sunday, sources said.

Just as Upper Myanmar boasts a cyber-city, careful consideration should be given to the selection of a place convenient for the founding of another cyber-city within the environs of Yangon, he noted.

“When it comes to building a cyber-city, we must take into consideration transport, water and power supplies on top of some infrastructure in choosing a place.”

The president urged the Myanmar Computer Federation to devise a basic ICT system for e-government so that ministries can have a guideline to go by as they differ in their functions.



President U Thein Sein hears reports on progress of ICT sector by technologists and experts at Myanmar Information and Communication Technology Park in Yangon.—MNA

U Thein Sein stressed the importance of immediate action in undertaking ICT-related missions as technology keeps advancing.

“Natural resources are exhaustible, but human resources are never exhausti-

ble,” the president warned, saying that his government’s primary objective is to sustain and, if possible, preserve natural resources for posterity and stimulate economic growth by tapping human resources.

As part of bridging the

digital divide in rural areas, the Myanmar Computer Federation is reported to have planned an e-village project that will cover remote areas, a comprehensive Myanmar font system, and ICT courses.

MNA

Seminar on understanding capital-raising and investing in stocks held

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 13 July— The Ministry of Education needs to include the financial sector as subject for students as the sector in Myanmar is the least developed in Southeast Asia, according to U Zin Win Tun, CEO and chief editor of Myanmar Banking and Finance Magazine-MBF, at a seminar on Sunday.

The public seminar on understanding capital-raising and investing in stocks was organized by the MBF, focusing on investors and capital-raisers who will take part in the Yangon Stock Exchange next year.

From his point of view, U Zin Win Tun said Myanmar has a population of more than 60 million in which one million people should be employed in the financial industry and officials should focus on sharing knowledge on financial literacy to about 5 million people in Myanmar.

During the seminar in Yangon, writer U Kyaw Myo Win explained benefits of stock markets and the differences between public finance and private or corporate finance.

He also urged local companies to check their equity capital and debt capital before extending their markets and to realize a return on investment of foreign companies before making a deal.

The government should take into account allowing the largest companies in Myanmar to list on overseas stock market, the writer added.

Guest speaker Dr Aung Thura also clarified a suitable Initial Public Offering (IPO) process for Myanmar.

According to a recent meeting, local companies that will be listed on Myanmar’s first stock market in 2015 will have at least 100 shareholders.

(See page 2)

INSIDE

Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham pays visit to Singapore to observe Myanmar-Singapore technological cooperation programme

Page-3

National races of different religions of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar living mutually in peace and harmony

Page-8



The heavy rain pours down in Yangon for about three hours as the low pressure area over northwest Bay of Bengal persists on Sunday. Myanmar’s Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced that monsoon is strong and vigorous in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

Aung Thiri Foundation donates cash for health, education and development



Union Minister U Tint Hsan speaking at donation of Aung Thiri Foundation for education, health and regional development in Pobbathiri Township.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July—Aung Thiri Foundation donated funds for education, health and regional development in Pobbathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw for 2014-2015 fiscal year on Sunday.

Patron of Aung Thiri Foundation Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan

Seven dead in collapse of wall in heavy rains in Tachilek

TACHILEK, 13 July—Collapse of the 20-foot-high gravel-filled wall caused damage to the house of U Kyaw Htwe Lin and a three-apartment house at No 6/433 in Myanmar Village of Wamkoun Ward in Tachilek at 2 am on Sunday due to heavy rains that started on Saturday midnight.

Those who died in the collapse were house owner U Kyaw Htwe Lin, 38, wife Daw Yin Nu, 37 and a baby and tenant U Khin Maung Thaung, 45, wife Daw Win Hsan, 25, son Hmon Gyi,

delivered a speech at the donation ceremony. The ceremony was attended by Chairman of the foundation U Thar Htay and members, officials and guests.

The foundation has been donating cash for education, health and regional development of the township for four years

8 and daughter Ma Pauk Tu, 5.

Deputy Commissioner of the district U Tin Win Shwe, Township Administrator U Tun Tun Win, Shan State Hluttaw MP Daw Tin May Tun, departmental officials, military servicemen, policemen, members of Red Cross and Auxiliary Fire Brigades and local people participated in the rescue works.

Officials carried out the cremation of the dead persons and manage rehabilitation of the homeless.

District IPRD

Police arrest 34 suspects in Mandalay riots

MANDALAY, 13 July—Mandalay Region Police Force have arrested 34 suspects for their involvement in the riots of the ancient city, which broke out from 1 to 4 July. Based on initial investigation, those captured until now are 3

persons for murder cases, 10 for arsons, 6 for causing harm, 10 for incitement and 3 with Police Act, and 2 for illegal possession of weapons. MPF is now investigating to arrest remaining culprits involved in these riots.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July—It is necessary to extend cultivation of mangrove forests so as to conserve environment, said Union Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Ohn Myint on his inspection tour of Union national races villages in Yangon Region on Saturday.

He inspected maintenance of the sluice gates at the village and bridges along the ringroad of mangrove forests.

At the Ywathagyi livestock breeding farm in Dagon Myothit (South) Township, the Union Minister met the broiler farm entrepreneurs and fish breeders and explained the ministry provides assistance for development of livestock breeding tasks with inputs.

and plans are underway to donate more in the coming years, according to the patron of the foundation.

Aung Thiri Foundation was founded by seven companies four years ago.

The foundation donated K 2 million each for two hospitals and K 400,000 for medicines, K 500,000 stipend each to 13 outstanding university students, K 500,000 each to seven high schools, K 300,000 each to four middle schools, K 7 million for 140 high school students, K 18.9 million for multimedia language lab in BEHS 20 and K 9 million for the tube-well, pump and lake in Thapyay Tan Village.

MNA

CPG to invite interested firms to submit EOI for Kyauk Phyu SEZ

By Aung Khin

YANGON, 13 July—A Singapore-based consortium led by CPG Consultants will invite interested firms to submit expressions of interests (EOI) this month for phase one development of the Kyauk Phyu Special Economic Zone, according to a statement.

The initial phase of the development project will have three components — a deep-sea port, an industrial park and an integrated residential area.

CPG spokesperson Nina Yang, executive director (urban planning) of CPG Consultants Pte Ltd, said: “It is the window to future urban growth of

Union minister oversees rural development, food sufficiency



Union Minister U Ohn Myint inspects sluice gate in Union national races village.—MNA

He urged them to establish processing plants and wholesale market for food

safety of consumers.

The Union minister viewed round the fish

ponds and livestock breeding farms in Ywathagyi.

MNA



Staff from MAPCO Co., selling the company's shares to public at UMFC-CI office tower in Yangon on Sunday. PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN

Seminar on understanding ...

(from page 1)

A few Myanmar companies, including Myanmar Agribusiness Public Corporation Limited-MAPCO

and Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings Public Ltd, sell their shares to the public.

An official from MAP-

CO said the company has already sold shares worth more than 12 billion kyats to the public and it has also kept the share price at K10,800 per share.

NLM

Myanmar. There are about seven urban centres in the northern part of Myanmar, which is untapped. That's within Myanmar, then it is the window to the south-west of China, and also to eastern India.”

Kyauk Phyu SEZ area has a natural deep-sea harbour capable of receiving large vessels, and port terminals will be located on Made Island and Yanbye Island.

According to the statement of CPG, two industries will be specially incentivized in Kyauk Phyu SEZ—textiles/garment and construction material manufacturing.

The integrated residential area will be on the

north-western shoreline of Yanbye Island.

In the development of Kyauk Phyu SEZ project, the real estate services firm DTZ Debenham Tie Leung (SEA), consultancy Global Maritime And port Services (GMAPS) and Ernst & Young Solutions LLP and will join with CPG consultants.

Yang said, “With CPG's expertise in urban planning and sustainability, and our role in laying the foundation for Singapore's urban planning infrastructure, our master plan offers a similar Singapore development framework for Kyauk Phyu SEZ to grow.”

She added the resource-rich Kyauk Phyu

SEZ, roughly equidistant from the three major cities Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon and Mandalay, can tap the country's emerging domestic market.

U Aung Kyaw Than, joint secretary of the project's bid evaluation panel, said: “It is estimated that the Kyauk Phyu SEZ will create 50,000 jobs in its early phases, most of them in light industry.”

The Myanmar government is undertaking substantial infrastructure investments to upgrade the existing road network in KP SEZ, and a new power plant and power lines are also under construction, CPG said.

NLM

NATIONAL

President U Thein Sein felicitates French counterpart, PM

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent messages of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Francois Hollande, President of the French Republic and His Excellency Mr. Manuel Valls, Prime Minister of the French Republic, on the occasion of the National Day (Bastille Day) of the French Republic, which falls on 14 July 2014.—MNA

Union FM sends felicitations to French counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Laurent Fabius, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development of French Republic, on the occasion of the National Day (Bastille Day) of the French Republic, which falls on 14 July 2014.—MNA

Union minister explains measures for conservation of Pyu ancient cities

PYAY, 13 July — Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu inspected the Rahanda Temple, the Rahanda Lake, the Basbaw Gyi Pagoda, excavation site 53 and Lulinkyaw city entrance in Sri Khestra Pyu ancient city on Friday. Then, the union minister proceeded to the Archaeological Technology Training School (Pyay) and met with staff, instructors and trainees. The union minister



Union Minister U Aye Myint Kyu views excavation of Lulinkyaw city entrance in Sri Khestra ancient city.—MNA

11th China-ASEAN Expo to be held in Nanning

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July—The 11th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) will be held in Nanning, China from 16 to 19 September this year.

The event will be co-sponsored by the ministries of commerce/trade & industry of China and the 10 ASEAN countries as well as the ASEAN Secretariat and organized by the People's Government of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of China.

The CAEXPO up-

holds the objectives of promoting the construction of the China-ASEAN FTA and sharing opportunities for cooperation and development.

Myanmar has taken part the event since 2004, and was awarded as the Country of Honor in the 9th China-ASEAN Expo in 2012. The upcoming event will be held together with the China-ASEAN Business & Investment Summit (CABIS). The Pavilion for Cities of Charm was set up in the second

time of this event.

As theme of event this year is 'Building 21st Century Marine Silk Road' to enhance maritime connectivity and the cooperation among China-ASEAN ports cities, Myanmar will showcase its International Terminals Thilawa of Yangon to meet this year's campaign.

The previous CAEXPO events were joined by the members of Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Indus-

try (RUMFCCI), its associated business firms, Muse-Namkham Border Trade Association and Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited.

Myanmar business firms across the country may contact the Department of International Trade Promotion under the Ministry of Commerce to take part in the event which will be held in the Nanning International Convention and Exhibition Center (NICEC).

MNA

Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham pays visit to Singapore to observe Myanmar-Singapore technological cooperation programme

YANGON, 13 July—Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham left Yangon by air on Sunday morning for Singapore to observe the Myanmar-Singapore technological cooperation programme.

The Vice President was seen off at Yangon International Airport by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Charge d' Affaires of the Singaporean Embassy Mr William Chik Kam Weng and officials.

The Vice President was accompanied by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Tin Oo Lwin, Deputy Minister for Education Dr Zaw Min Aung, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Daw Thein Htay and officials.

On arrival at Changi International Airport in Singapore, the Vice President was welcomed by the met with district level officials, township level officials and local people and explained the measures to



Myanmar Ambassador and party.

MNA

be taken for conservation of three ancient Pyu cities on Saturday.

MNA

Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham being seen off by Yangon Chief Minister U Myint Swe at Yangon International Airport.—MNA

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July—The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has granted Agreement to the appointment of Mr. Kesang Wangdi as the Non-Resident Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Bhutan to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Mr. Kesang Wangdi joined Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bhutan as an Assistant Director in 1982. He completed academic work and trainings in science, economics and international relations. As for foreign assignments, he served at various missions abroad: at Royal Bhutanese Embassy in India (1986-1991); at Consul General of Bhutan in the United States (1992-98); and at the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARS) Secretariat in Nepal (2002-2005). He was appointed as Director-General in Tourism Council of Bhutan from 2008 to 2012 before he became an Ambassador of Bhutan.

Mr. Kesang Wangdi is presently serving as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Thailand, Australia and Singapore. He is married with a son and a daughter.—MNA

OAH starts operation

YANGON, 13 July—A ceremony to launch OAH Co., Ltd took place at Sule Shangri-La in Yangon on Saturday evening, attended by Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe and Chairman of Myanmar-Japan Friendship Association U Hla Min.

The Chief Minister of Yangon Region, OAH Co., Ltd Managing Director U Zaw Weik, OK Myanmar Co., Ltd Managing Director U Kyaw Kyaw Hlaing,

Asahi Sangyo (Thailand) Co., Ltd Managing Director Mr Ito Yoshiyuki and Asahi Sangyo Kaisha Ltd Managing Director Mr Hara Susumu opened the ceremony.

Hitachi Asia (Myanmar Branch) General Manager Mr Takahashi Tsunehiro and OAH Co., Ltd Managing Director U Zaw Weik explained the purpose of opening the company.

MNA

LEWE, 13 July—A ceremony to award the winners in the Knowledge about Buddhology Contest of Myanmar was held for the third time at the hall of Yankin Tawya in Thabyebin Village of Lewe Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on Saturday.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Than Htay supplicated on religious affairs to members of the Sangha. He presented K200,000 to 15 outstanding contestants in the contest and wellwishers, K450,000. The secretary of the organizing committee for the contest explained the purpose of holding the contest.—Min Min Latt (Mann Tekkatho)

Winners awarded in Knowledge about Buddhology Contest of Myanmar



MMCWA donates school building worth K20 million

THABEIKKYIN, 13 July—The Maymay Myitta school building was put into service at Basic Education Post-Primary School in Kyauklebee Village of Thabeikkyin Township in Mandalay Region on 10 July.



Patron of Mandalay Region Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Myat Ngwe handed over documents related to the school building to Township Education Officer U Tin Ko Ko and K3 million donated by Region MCWSC for school furniture and three toilets to the headmistress.

The school building is 90 feet long, 30 feet wide and 12 feet high. The Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association spent K20 million on construction of the school building.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Use of combine harvester demonstrated in Lewe Township

LEWE, 13 July—A ceremony to demonstrate the use of combine harvester of Aung Yadana Phyto Company was held at the Paethwe hybrid summer paddy plantation of farmer

U Tin Ngwe in Thitseintpin Village of Lewe Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 10 July.

Deputy Director-General U Naing Kyi Win of Agriculture Department

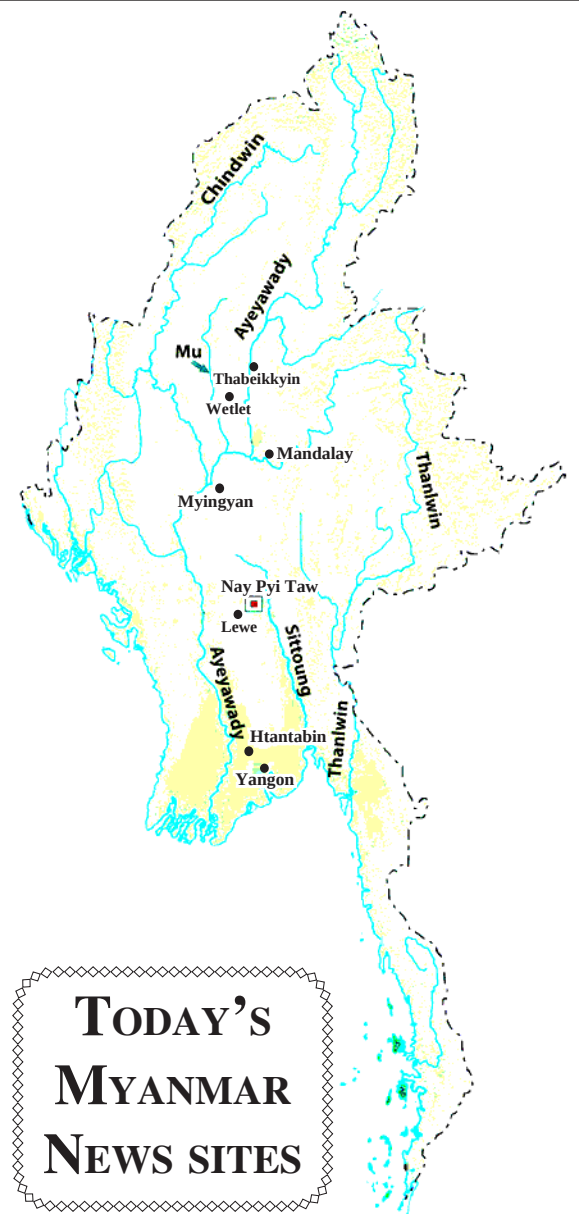
explained the advantages of applying the good agricultural patterns and use of agricultural machinery to do triple-cropping cultivation for earning increased income for the families.



Deputy Township Administrator U Kyaw Lwin also explained the management for selling agricultural machinery to the farmers, use of farming equipment in all villages and demonstration on use of agricultural machinery in the farmlands to enable the local farmers to have valuable knowledge about systematic use of the machinery.

Lewe Township Agriculture Department demonstrates cultivation of high yield crops strains, and systematic growing of monsoon paddy, mung bean and summer paddy as triple cropping pattern in the model plots.

The demonstration at the paddy plantation produced 162.50 baskets of paddy per acre.—Ko Pauk (Okkar Myay)



Sales of food stalls return to normalcy in Mandalay



MANDALAY, 13 July—Restaurants and food stalls resume regular operation at their shops in Mandalay in the second week of July although groceries sales was on high demand in the foodstuffs trading due to the riots that occurred in Mandalay on 1 July.

“After declaring the curfew announcement for the riots, the sales of the restaurant declined to 1.5 folds. The shop is closed earlier due to the curfew. Now, the sales of the shop turn into normalcy. So, it

needs to control the prices of commodities. Higher prices of commodity will cause the decline of consumption,” said a responsible person of Hline Café.

“The sale rate of the shop slightly declined in the last week. Now, the sale rate can be controlled as normal. The declaration of curfew order is good for all. However, higher prices of commodities effect the market,” said a responsible person from Minn Thiha Café.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

REGIONAL

Beijing to enforce use of clean coal in anti-pollution drive

SHANGHAI, 13 July — China's capital city, Beijing, will enforce the use of cleaner low-sulphur coal from on 1 August in a bid to tackle the soaring levels of air pollution that frequently clog the country's major cities, the official *Xinhua* media agency said on Saturday.

Beijing will implement strict controls and targets for airborne sulphur from coal, *Xinhua* said, citing the Beijing Municipal Administration of Quality and Technology Supervision.

This is the first time China has enforced the use of low-sulphur coal across all industries to tackle pollution. Air quality in cities is of increasing concern to China's stability-obsessed leaders, anxious to douse potential unrest as a more affluent urban population turns against a growth-at-all-costs economic model that has poisoned much of the country's air, water and soil.

A *Xinhua* editorial earlier on Saturday called for China's population to "rein in their craze" for exces-



Commuters wearing masks make their way amid thick haze in the morning in Beijing on 26 Feb, 2014. China's north is suffering a pollution crisis, with the capital Beijing itself shrouded in acrid smog. Authorities have introduced anti-pollution policies and often pledged to clean up the environment but the problem has not eased.—REUTERS

sive consumption to help solve the country's growing environmental issues.

Beijing has previously established an array of laws and rules to battle the environmental consequences of three decades of unchecked

growth, but weak monitoring and punishment make it tough to get powerful industrial interests to comply. China unveiled plans at the end of last year to slash coal consumption and close polluting mills, facto-

ries and smelters to cut air pollution.

Beijing has also been pushing the country's steel-makers and power plants to buy higher-quality raw materials to meet tougher pollution targets. —Reuters

One policeman killed, another believed kidnapped by gunmen in Malaysia's Sabah

KUALA LUMPUR, 13 July — A policeman was killed and another believed to have been abducted by gunmen at Malaysia's diving haven of Mabul Island off Semporna in the east coast of Sabah, Malaysia's local English-language newspaper *The Star* said on Sun-

day.

It said marine policeman Kpl Rajah Jamuan was killed while a constable identified as Zakiah Aleip, 26, remains missing after shootout with the gunmen during an ambush at the Mabul Water Bungalows Resort on the island at about

11 pm on Saturday.

Sabah Police Commissioner Jalaluddin Abdul Rahman said the gunmen might have rowed into the area with their boat and then climbed up the resorts jetty from the back of the building.

He said the suspects

were believed to be commandos or militants, who might take revenge attacks against security forces or look for victims for ransom.

A massive air and sea hunt for the gunmen is still going on, with all escape routes off Semporna having been cut off. —Xinhua

Indian PM leaves for Brazil to attend BRICS summit

NEW DELHI, 13 July — Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday left here for Brazil to attend the five-nation BRICS Summit, his first visit abroad since taking office, said official sources.

Modi is accompanied by Indian Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Nirmala Sitharaman and National Security Advisor Ajit Doval.

In a pre-departure statement, Modi said he looks at the BRICS Summit as an opportunity to discuss with his BRICS partners "how we can contribute to international efforts to address regional crises, address security threats and restore a climate of peace and stability in the world."

"I also look forward to our discussions to further advance intra-BRICS economic cooperation and our collective efforts to advance global economic stability and prosperity."

"In particular, I look forward to the successful conclusion of major BRICS initiatives, like the New Development Bank and the Contingent Reserve Arrangement, which have seen significant progress since their launch in New Delhi in 2012."

These initiatives will support growth and stability in BRICS and also benefit other developing countries," he said.

Modi said the Sum-

mit theme, "Inclusive Growth; Sustainable Development," will "enable us to shape the post-2015 Development Agenda being discussed in the United Nations."

He went on to say the Summit "will also be an occasion for my first meetings as prime minister with the leaders of our important global partners — Brazil, China, Russia and South Africa."

I look forward to meaningful meetings with them to intensify bilateral relations and exchange views on global and regional developments."

The prime minister also said he also looks forward to meeting the heads of the South American countries.

"India has traditionally enjoyed close, cordial and mutually beneficial ties with these countries. We share common aspirations and challenges. The Indian Diaspora in these countries also serves as the continent's enduring link with India," Modi said.

"South America's all round progress makes it a potentially important pole of the global economy and a land of enormous opportunities for us. My interactions would enable us to explore new ideas on further consolidating and expanding our ties with South America," he said.

Xinhua

In contested election, Indonesia's democracy on the line

JAKARTA, 13 July — Indonesia's young democracy faces its biggest challenge since emerging from decades of autocratic rule 16 years ago after both candidates claimed victory in last week's presidential election.

It will be up to two key institutions, both with bruised reputations, to decide which of the two men who contested the on 9 July poll has the right to move into the white-pillared presidential palace in central Jakarta and lead the world's third biggest democracy for the next five years.

The first will be the Elections Commission, hit by graft charges in the past, and which is now in the pro-

cess of checking the vote count before it announces the final result by on 22 July.

The camps of the rival candidates — Jakarta Governor Joko "Jokowi" Widodo and former general Prabowo Subianto — have made none-too-subtle suggestions that the other might cheat in the time it takes to declare the official result.

Despite the tensions, there has been no violence, although that is a worry. Hundreds of people were killed in violence that swept the vast archipelago when ironman ruler Suharto was ousted in 1998 after over three decades in office and a shaky but functioning democracy put in his place.

No presidential elec-

tion, and this is only the third through direct voting, has been so close, or so bitter, since Indonesia declared independence in 1945. But officials and poll observers say it is not easy to cheat, given the institutional safeguards that have been built in.

"At the (village) level, that is the place where you can exercise the most effective fraud. It's not easy because you have prominent pollsters saying what the result is," one international election observer said, noting that there are five levels of vote tabulation from the village to national level.

He declined to be identified because he was not authorised to speak to the media.



Election commission official Dedi Saidi (L) checks a document stating the number of votes collected in ballot boxes, at Bendungan Hilir in Jakarta, in this 10 July, 2014 file photo. — REUTERS

Quick vote counts by private groups, which have proven very accurate in the past, put Jokowi ahead by around five points against Prabowo, although the former special forces general

has rejected the tallies.

"What's clear is that seven credible pollsters have released their quick count results. That can be (used)...Even though it's not official," Jokowi told

Reuters.

Prabowo's camp says those pollsters deliberately skewed the quick count in favour of Jokowi and that its own counts put Prabowo just ahead.

Based on the counts, which provide a sampling of the roughly 130 million votes cast, analysts estimated the losing side would need to fraudulently reverse 6.5 million or more votes to come out on top.

"You would have to mass manufacture votes at the village level which is hard because of the amount of scrutiny there is," the election observer said.

Votes are counted on election day in public and in daylight.

Reuters

US Navy maintains grounding order for F-35 fighter jets

RAF FAIRFORD, 13 July — The US Navy on Friday maintained a grounding order for F-35 B-model and C-model fighter jets built by Lockheed Martin Corp, saying it was still not clear what caused a massive engine failure on an Air Force F-35 jet on 23 June.

“At this time, I do not have sufficient information to return the F-35B and F-35C fleet to flight,” Vice Admiral David Dunaway, who heads the Navy’s Air Systems Command, said in an update to a fleetwide grounding order issued by US officials on 3 July. A copy of the document was obtained by Reuters.

Dunaway said in the document that he was committed to returning the F-35 fleet to flight as soon as possible, but there was “no discernible event that represents a root cause.”

In the incident last month, the Pratt & Whitney engine on an Air Force F-35 A-model jet broke apart and caught fire while a pilot was preparing to take off from Eglin Air Force Base in Florida air base.

Until the grounding is lifted, the US Marine Corps and Britain will not be able to ferry four F-35B aircraft to Britain for the fighter jet’s planned international debut at two air shows there this month —



A US Air Force version of the F-35 Lightning II flies at Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base, Texas, in this 20 April, 2010 file photo.—REUTERS

the Royal International Air Tattoo, world’s largest military air show that began on Friday, and the Farnborough air show, which starts on Monday and runs through 20 July.

It would be a huge embarrassment to the United States if the jets are unable

to appear at either air show, and could jeopardize export prospects for the new radar-evading plane just as two initial partners on the programme — Canada and Denmark — are weighing fresh orders.

The engine failure had also prevented the F-35

from making an appearance at the 4 July naming ceremony for Britain’s new aircraft carrier.

Dunaway said the Navy and other services are continuing to investigate the incident, and planned to update the flight directive no later than 16 July - two days after the start of the high-profile Farnborough air show outside London.

Dunaway’s memo-

random did not rule out the possibility that the most advanced US fighter jet could still appear at the tail end of the Farnborough air show, but the prospects of that occurring appeared to be dimming fast. “There are specific additional evaluation conditions required to support the Farnborough air show in the UK, including the ferry flight across the

Atlantic and performance in the airshow itself. Additional work is required in order to understand and mitigate airshow unique risks,” it said. Four Marine Corps F-35B jets are waiting to fly across the Atlantic at a Maryland air base, and a UK jet that had been due to join them remains at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida.

The US jets were qualified and ready to fly as soon as the grounding order was rescinded, said one person familiar with the situation.

Dunaway said the current analysis would have to be refocused to potentially meet the timeline for the F-35’s participation in the Farnborough air show. The jets need a full day in Britain to allow for any maintenance or repairs before they participate in flying demonstrations.

Dunaway said officials were looking at possible operational restrictions for the jets while the issue was still being investigated, and would also likely implement recurring engine inspections to monitor for any indication of a future problem. But those measures would take several more days to complete.

It remains unclear what caused the third stage of the Pratt engine to break apart and burst through the top of the airplane. The incident severed a fuel line, which then caused a fire.

Reuters

Four killed by lightning in E India

NEW DELHI, 13 July — Four people were killed when working in the farmland by lightning in the eastern Indian state of West Bengal on Sunday, said police.

Another person also sustained burn injuries after lightning struck two

places of Jamalpur area in Burdwan district of West Bengal, Superintendent of Police SMH Mirza told the media.

At least 17 people have been killed by lightning in eastern India, as storms raged across the region over the past one month.

The severe weather was brought by what is known as a kalboishakhi, an immense storm which forms ahead of the monsoon rains, with huge storms form bringing heavy winds, torrential rain and plenty of thunder and lightning.—Xinhua

N Korea fires 2 ballistic missiles with 500 km range

TOKYO, 13 July — North Korea apparently fired two ballistic missiles early Sunday, both flying about 500 kilometres northeastward before falling into the Sea of Japan, the Japanese Defence Ministry said. Japan immediately lodged a protest with North Korea via the Japanese Embassy in Beijing after the launch of the missiles, believed to be at around 1:20 am, from the Kaesong area.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said the launch “completely infringes on UN Security

Council resolutions” that ban North Korea from any launch using ballistic missile technology.

The government spokesman also told reporters Japan still intends to continue recently resumed negotiations with North Korea on Pyongyang’s past abductions of Japanese nationals. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe instructed the government to gather information and ensure the safety of ships and planes in cooperation with the United States, South Korea and other countries concerned.

There have been no reports of damage to airplanes or ships, according to the Defence Ministry.

The ministry said it is the fifth such launch by North Korea of apparent ballistic missiles into the Sea of Japan this year.

North Korea fired two short-range ballistic missiles toward the Sea of Japan early Wednesday.

Those projectiles, thought to be versions of the Scud missile, also flew some 500 kilometres, according to South Korea’s Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Kyodo News

Pakistan protests against Afghan cross-border attack

ISLAMABAD, 13 July — Pakistan on Saturday lodged a formal protest with Afghanistan over a cross-border attack that killed at least three border troops, officials said.

Officials earlier said suspected militants, who crossed into Pakistan’s Bajaur tribal region from Afghanistan, attacked a security forces’ vehicle at a check post and killed three soldiers and injured two other soldiers.

According to local authorities, a group of militants entered Pakistani territory from Afghanistan’s Kunar Province and attacked the border post in Ghakhai pass area.

“Pakistan strongly condemns the terrorist attack on a Bajaur Scouts vehicle at Ghakki Pass

in Bajaur Agency today, launched from across the border in Afghanistan. An officer and two soldiers embraced shahaadat (martyrdom) in the attack, while two soldiers were critically injured,” the foreign ministry said in a statement.

The statement said a strong protest has been lodged with the Afghan side in Islamabad and Kabul.

“It has been reiterated that Afghanistan should eliminate the terrorist sanctuaries and not allow its territory to be used against Pakistan.”

The foreign ministry said that at a time when a “monumental effort” is underway through a major offensive to eliminate all terrorists and their hide-

outs in North Waziristan tribal region, Afghanistan’s cooperation remains essential to the success of counter-terrorism endeavors.

The Pakistani forces launched a major operation on 15 June against the foreign and local armed groups and the military has requested the Afghan government to boost security along the border to stop fleeing militants from crossing the border.

The military insists that Pakistani Taliban have crossed into Afghanistan and operate from the Afghan side of the border.

Kabul also claims that Afghan Taliban have taken shelter in Pakistan, planning there attacks in Afghanistan.

Xinhua

WORLD

Merkel blasts US spying, hopes Washington will change tack

BERLIN, 13 July — Angela Merkel said on Saturday that new allegations of US spying showed Berlin and Washington were completely at odds over how they viewed the role of intelligence, and she hoped German action would persuade the United States not to spy on partners.

Her comments to German broadcaster ZDF come two days after her government told the CIA station chief in Berlin to leave the country, in a dramatic display of anger after German officials unearthed two suspected spies. On Friday, White House Press secretary Josh Earnest told reporters “when differ-

ences arise, we’re committed to resolving those differences through the established private channels... we don’t believe that trying to resolve them through the media is appropriate.” The scandal has chilled relations with Washington to levels not seen since Merkel’s predecessor opposed the US invasion of Iraq in 2003. It follows allegations last year that Merkel’s phone was bugged by American agents. Asked how angry she was on hearing of the suspected spies, one of whom worked for German foreign intelligence (BND), the other at the defence ministry, Merkel said, “it is



German Chancellor
Angela Merkel

not about how angry I was. For me it is a sign that we have fundamentally different conceptions of the work of the intelligence services.” “I can’t say in advance if [the measures we took] will have an effect, of course I hope something will change. But the important thing is to show how we view things .. and it is not a co-operative partner-

ship when such things take place.”

Merkel said there were far more critical things on which to spy, and snooping on friends eroded trust.

“We are not living in the Cold War anymore and are exposed to different threats. We should concentrate on what is essential,” she said.

She added however, that German intelligence agents continued to work well with Americans and she hoped this would continue. She also ruled out any disruption to negotiations between the European Union and the United States on a free trade agreement because of the row.

US officials familiar with the matter told *Reuters* on Friday that the German defence official under investigation was in contact with a US State Department officer rather than American intelligence agencies, raising questions about whether any espionage occurred. He has not been arrested.

The other man is in custody after being arrested for espionage. He has told investigators he passed documents to the CIA, and US officials have privately acknowledged he did so, and that the CIA believed his information was valuable. The latest row comes a year after revelations of mass US surveillance

based on documents leaked by former US National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden, sparked outrage in Germany.

Surveillance is a sensitive issue in a country where the memory of the Nazi’s Gestapo secret police and communist East Germany’s Stasi means the right to privacy is treasured.

White House spokesman Earnest said on Friday Washington valued its security relationship with Germany. He added: “Allies with sophisticated intelligence agencies are aware of the activities and relationships that are included.”—*Reuters*



Photo taken on 12 July, 2014 shows the newly-built Terminal 2 of Lukou Airport in Nanjing, capital of east China’s Jiangsu Province. The T2 of Nanjing’s Lukou Airport was officially put into use on Saturday. With the new terminal building in service, the annual passenger volume of Lukou Airport is expected to hit 30 million by 2020. — XINHUA

Kerry arrives in Vienna for Iran nuclear talks

VIENNA, 13 July — US Secretary of State John Kerry arrived in Vienna on Sunday for talks with foreign ministers from the six powers negotiating with Teheran on its nuclear programme.

Kerry arrived in the early hours after clinching a deal in Kabul with Afghanistan’s presidential candidates to end the country’s election crisis.

Iran and the powers — the United States, France,

Germany, Britain, Russia and China — aim to reach a long-term deal to end the decade-old nuclear standoff by a 20 July 20 deadline. Many diplomats and analysts believe an extension may be needed in view of the wide gaps in negotiating positions.

Among his meetings on Sunday Kerry will meet with his German counterpart Frank-Walter Steinmeier, who has said he wants to discuss new ac-



US Secretary of State John Kerry addresses a news conference after the Geneva-2 peace talks in Montreux on 22 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

cusations of US spying on Berlin.

Germany asked the CIA station chief in Berlin to leave the country following fresh charges of US

spying on Berlin.

Also, France has said it wants to discuss the latest Israeli-Palestinian conflict in the Gaza Strip during talks in Vienna.—*Reuters*

Belfast parade ends without clashes for first time in years

BELFAST, 13 July — A flashpoint Protestant parade in Northern Ireland’s capital Belfast ended without violence for the first time in decades on Saturday when marchers agreed to turn around before passing a Catholic area.

Pro-British Protestants hold marches every 12 July in the British-ruled province to mark the 1690 victory by King William of Orange that sealed Protestant domination, a tradition seen as provocative by Catholic Irish nationalists.

Marchers from the Protestant Orange Order passed the mainly Catholic Ardoyne estate in North Belfast every year from a 1998 peace deal until 2012, prompting annual rioting by nationalist residents.

The province’s independent Parades Commission last year ordered marchers to stop short



A police officer dressed in riot gear stands near a barrier erected by the police to prevent an Orange Order parade passing the mainly Nationalist Ardoyne area of North Belfast, on 12 July, 2014.—REUTERS

of the Catholic estate, sparking rioting among pro-British youths when police blocked the road.

This year the com-

mission again ruled the parade should stop short of the estate, but marchers agreed to stop at a line of Orange Order marshals

just short of a police barricade.

After a brief speech and three traditional songs, the parade turned

around.

Pro-British member of parliament Nigel Dodds told journalists the decision to disperse was a

“watershed” in attempts by the Protestant community to secure their rights without resorting to violence.

Sinn Féin, the largest Irish nationalist party, also welcomed the peaceful dispersal of the parade and called for talks about a long-term resolution to violence in the area.

A 1998 peace deal, which established a power-sharing government largely, ended three decades of violence between the province’s Catholics and Protestants — which killed over 3,000 people.

But some of the worst rioting in years was sparked 18 months ago by a decision to limit the number of days the British flag flies in Belfast.

The brief arrest of nationalist leader Gerry Adams in May for questioning over a 1972 murder also fueled fears of a worsening of cross-community relations.—*Reuters*

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 14 July, 2014

Make a sweet home

By Aung Khin

Home is a place where we expect peace and the sweet. When someone could not enjoy their expectations at home, they have to leave home to create a comfortable living. Sr Oliver Wendell Holmes said that 'Where we love is home-home that our feet may leave, but not our hearts.'

About 6 million of Myanmar's population are working now overseas. Although these migrants are contributing their work in the development of destination countries, there are a lot of abuses of workers in these countries. Through

tolerance and endurance, Myanmar workers abroad have to continue their jobs amidst inhumane treatment by some of their employers.

Indubitably, they want to establish safe and secure lives at their home. They would try to take part in the development of their native land. Myanmar needs stability in terms of politics and economy to welcome their citizens back warmly. The country should have enough firm policies to attract its overseas workforce.

Benjamin Franklin said, 'A house is not a home unless it contains food and fire for the mind as well as the body'. Home should be an attractive place for Myanmar migrant workers. The country's has a lot of natural resources to take over economic development from neighbouring countries. It is strategically located between two large consumer markets.

Myanmar has a lot of potential for the tourism industry, the industrial sector and agricultural projects. The infrastructural development,

transparency for ethical investors and right decisions are the necessities for the future of country.

The Bangkok Post reported, quoting Thai army chief General Prayuth Chan-ocha, that Thailand and Myanmar will work together to send more than 130,000 Myanmar refugees back to their home country.

It is certain that these Myanmar refugees will hope for a sweet home for themselves. Who will fulfill their wish? Although there is an intention to prevent border crimes, livelihoods of the refugees are uncertain.

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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.

National races of different religions of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar living mutually in peace and harmony

Ba Sein (Religious Affairs)

In accordance with existing adopted principles of the freedom of religion in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the separate, Ministry of Religious Affairs is in established in order to effectively extend necessary assistance and requirements to respective religious communities in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Present population of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar stands at over 60 millions. Altogether multifarious national races have been living mutually in peace and harmony in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar since dawn of history of Myanmar. Different religions such as Buddhism, Christianity, Islamism, Hinduism, Animism and others have existed since then.

At present, there are over 51,622 Buddhist monasteries, 5,200 Churches, 3,215 Islamic mosques, 1,010 Hindu temples and other religious buildings which are standing side by side throughout the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and it is a significant symbol of freedom of religion. All the national races of different religions of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar are living mutually in peace and harmony, and any problems of the conflicts never arise among them.

They share equal rights and responsibilities for freedom of religion in accordance with teachings of their respective faith. In exactly the same way, they are sharing equal rights and justice of culture, social, economic and religious affairs in their daily life. Likewise, financial grants and other necessary requirements are supported and provided by the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in order to promote and flourish their religions.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar the Ministry of Religious Affairs is undertaking all responsibilities related to different religions which are believed by different national races of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. There are many religious organizations and Boards of trustees of different religions which are officially recognized by the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. The Ministry of Religious Affairs always solves and settles peacefully religious disputes which occasionally arise among them. Five leading Islamic religious organizations, four leading Christian religious organizations and one leading Hindu religious organization are officially recognized by the Ministry of Religious Affairs. There

are also Township, State and Regional religious organizations throughout the country. All these leading religious organizations always deal with the Ministry of Religious Affairs in order to effectively carry out their religious affairs and matters throughout the country. The Ministry of Religious Affairs always extends assistance and necessary requirements to all these religious organizations to promote and flourish their religions. In addition, authorities concerned and responsible personnel attend and grace the ceremonies of their religious holy days and other social and cultural activities which are often held. In accordance with existing rules and regulations of the State, talks and messages on their religious holy days are allowed to be broadcast, and besides magazines, journals, periodicals and other books on their religions are freely published and distributed throughout the country. And also, travelling free-posts are issued to leaders of these religious organizations in order to visit their respective religious communities within the country.

Necessary arrangements and requirements are made every year by the Ministry of Religious Affairs on behalf of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to send religious pilgrims to the sacred places of their respective religions such as

India (Mijjhima Region) and Nepal (the Birthplace of the Buddha) for Buddhist pilgrims, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for Islamic pilgrims. Multifarious Buddhist people from the Union of Myanmar visit India (Mijjhima Region) and Nepal (the Birthplace of the Buddha) to pay deep homage to the four sacred places of Inspiring Awareness and Apprehension of the Buddha there. And also Islamic pilgrims from the Republic of the Union of Myanmar visit the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for Haj. Besides, many religious leaders of religious organizations and their followers are allowed to go abroad to attend and participate in their international meetings, conferences and seminars held there.

All these noble functions of the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar highlight freedom of religion for all national races in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Although national races of different religions of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar are having common interests and benefits by contributing their utmost efforts to building a new modern developed nation under the effective and prudent guidance and leadership of the new Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Staff urged to step up process of Third Wave



BOKPYIN, 13 July—A clarification on acceleration of the Third Wave process, organized by the Ministry of Information, took place at the office of Bokpyin Township Information and Public Relations Department in Taninthayi Region recently.

Staff Officer Daw Kyin Kyin Than of Kawthoung District IPRD explained the instruction of the Union Minister for Information on transparency, respon-

sibility and accountability for emergence of the good government, implementation of projects for uplifting living standards of the people, changing mindset for disseminating the information to the people in time. She also clarified instructions of the directors-general for respective sectors to the heads and staff of Bokpyin Township, Karathuri and Pyigyiman-daing Sub-townships.

Bokpyin IPRD



SANITATION CARRIED OUT: Ahlon Township Administrator and officials of Township Development Affairs Committee supervised sanitation, spraying and dredging of drains along the strand road in Hsinmin Ward of Ahlon Township on Saturday.

TIN MAUNG OO (AHLON)

LOCAL NEWS

Basic education teachers have opportunity to get certificates from Cambridge University



MANDALAY, 13 July—The capacity building course for basic education teacher kicked off at the hall of No 16 Basic Education High School on 80th street between 32nd and 33rd streets in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay Region on Saturday.

“Reform in education sector plays an important role for implementing the

economic reform process of the nation,” said Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint at the opening ceremony of the course.

He stressed the need to enhance the capacity of the basic education teachers so as to smoothly implement the educational reform. The region government made an arrangement for conducting

the teaching knowledge test course for uplifting the capacity of the teachers in a short time, he add.

Course organizer U Win Pe Maung explained systems of the teaching knowledge test course and course instructor Mr Richard Truitt, international education sector.

Altogether 180 trainees from Basic Education

High Schools in Mandalay and PyinOoLwin Districts and those of private high schools are attending the three-month course.

On completion of the course, the trainees are to sit for the TKT test to be conducted by Cambridge University of England to get the completion certificate.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

KBZ Bank Ltd wins two banking awards of the year in Myanmar 2014

SINGAPORE, 13 July—A ceremony to presented the Best Domestic Retail Bank of the Year in Myanmar 2014 and the Best Core Banking System Initiative of the Year in Myanmar 2014 to Kanbawza Bank Ltd was held at the Convention Centre in Marina Bay Sands in Singapore at 6.30 pm local time on 10 July.

Officials of Singapore-based the Asian Banking and Finance presented the Best Domestic Retail Bank of the Year in Myanmar 2014 to Chairman of KBZ Bank Ltd U Aung Ko Win and the Best Core Banking System Initiative of the Year in Myanmar 2014 to Director of the Bank Ltd Daw Nang Leng Kham.



The Asian Banking and Finance is formed with high level officials of Price Water-House Coopers (PWC), KPMG, Deloitte and Ernst & Young which play top role in the world accountancy companies.

KBZ Bank Ltd won the Best Domestic Retail Bank of the Year in Myanmar

2014 due to promoting of banking services, extension of bank branches, creation of linkages with international banks, occupying more shares of market, increase of income and profit, development of modern banking services and technology, contribution to economic development of the

nation and paying most tax to the State.

The board awarded the Best Core Banking System Initiative of the Year to the KBZ Bank Ltd with the assessment on upgrading the conventional Core Banking System of Myanmar to Oracle Flexcube Centralized Core Banking System of the US, giving banking services to the customers in Myanmar in a short time through oracle flexcube core banking system and training the staff to have the modern communication technology.

Kyemon

Two barrels of diesel donated to Auxiliary Fire Brigade

MANDALAY, 13 July—A ceremony to donate fuel to fire brigade was held at Eindawya Auxiliary



Fire Brigade in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay on Saturday. Company Commander Aye Ko of the Auxiliary Fire Brigade explained the organizational setup of the brigade and its duty and functions. The brigade operates its tasks spending its own fund.

Wellwisher U Saw Nyein donated two barrels of diesel to the company commander who returned the certificate of honour to wellwisher.—*Tun Hla Aung*

Electricians maintain power lines in Htantabin Tsp

HTANTABIN, 13 July—Township electrical engineer U Aung Myo Tun and electricians carried out maintenance of power lines in Htantabin of Yangon Region on Saturday with the aim of avoiding electrocution and dangers of elec-

tricity in the township.

They also distributed pamphlets on prevention against danger of electricity and cut the branches of trees under the power lines so as to ensure electric safety of people.

Ei Thinn Htaik (IPRD)



Motorcyclists seek income from transport of foodstuffs

WETLET, 13 July—The motorcyclists can earn daily income by transporting snacks to the shops in the villages of Wetlet Township of Sagaing Region.

In an interview, foodstuff carrier U Htay Myint said that he has five family members. Of them, the elder son and daughter

are working at farms for transplanting the paddy saplings. He transported snacks from the confectionary to shops in villages of Sagaing and Wetlet townships.

The foodstuff carrier can earn K5,000 per day on average.

Myo Win Nyo (Kyunhla)



Myingyan Township gets BEMS branch

MYINGYAN, 13 July—A ceremony to upgrade the Basic Education Post-Primary School to the BEMS Branch took place at the school in Gaungkwe Village of Myingyan

Township in Mandalay Region on Saturday.

Township Education Officer U Ba Thit handed over the order of upgrading the school to Headmaster U Lu Maw.

Mandalay Region Minister for Planning and Economic U Aung Zan and officials formally opened the upgraded school.

Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)



Libyan protesters shut down Brega oil port state firm NOC

TRIPOLI, 13 July — Protesters have shut down the eastern Libyan oil port Brega, state firm National Oil Corp (NOC) said on Saturday, days after the government celebrated the reopening of major ports following almost a year of blockage.

NOC spokesman Mohamed El Harari said the state-run Sirte Oil Co would have to shut down its production of 43,000 barrels per day (bpd) if the protest by state oil guards continued, without being more specific about time-frame.

Harari said he did not know what the demands of the guards were. He said Brega port used to export oil but recently had been mostly used to supply the western Zawiyah refinery.

Last week the government managed to negotiate an end to a protest blocking the 340,000-bpd El Sharara field in the southwest. A rebel group also agreed to restart the eastern Ras Lanuf and Es Sider ports they had seized almost a year ago.

The protesters at Brega are members of the petroleum facilities guards (PFG), a force made up mainly of former militia fighters who helped oust Muammar Gaddafi in 2011.

The government in Tripoli has tried to co-opt the militias by integrating them into state forces such as the oil guards, but has been unable to control them

with its fledgling army, which is still in training.

Members of the PFG often seize oil facilities they are supposed to protect to press the central government to meet political and financial demands, part of growing turmoil in the North African country.

Libya used to produce 1.4 million bpd until July 2012, when a wave of protests started. Its current output is 350,000 bpd, following the restart of the El Sharara field, NOC said on Thursday.

Disputes over Libya's oil resources have been among the many triggers for conflict between rival brigades of former rebels and allied political factions since the 2011 civil war ended four decades of Gaddafi rule.

Since then, Libya's government and outgoing parliament have struggled to rein in militias and impose order, not just in the oil sector. It is unclear whether parliamentary elections last month will finally bring greater stability and security.

On Thursday, the United Nations said it had evacuated dozens of foreign staff from its mission in Libya, prompted by a deteriorating security situation.

The US State Department on Saturday expressed worry about the situation in Libya and urged that the new parliament be seated as soon as possible.



An anti-government rebel walks at the oil terminal of Brega, around 300 km (186.4 miles) southwest of Benghazi on 27 Feb, 2011.—REUTERS

“The United States is deeply concerned by the ongoing violence in Libya and dangerous posturing that could lead to widespread conflict there,” spokeswoman Jen Psaki said in a statement, without referring to specific actions.

“Libya's future will not be secured through force of arms but only through a

political accord and national dialogue that allow the state to ensure security and rule of law throughout the country,” she said.

Heavy fighting breaks out near Libya's Tripoli airport

Heavy fighting broke out near the airport of the Libyan capital Tripoli on Sunday, residents and Reu-

ters witnesses said.

Explosions could be heard on the airport road and other parts of Tripoli though it was not immediately clear who was fighting whom.

British Airlines canceled its flight to London, it said on its website. Turkish Airways canceled its flight to Istanbul.

Social media websites said several rockets had hit the parking area in front of the main terminal.

The airport area has been controlled by militia fighters from Zintan in northwestern Libya since the overthrow of Muammar Gaddafi in 2011 though other groups have challenged them. —Reuters

Tribesmen bomb Yemen's oil pipeline, halt crude flows

SANAA, 13 July — Tribesmen bombed Yemen's main oil export pipeline on Saturday, halting crude flows, local officials said, disrupting an important source of revenue for the impoverished state.

Yemen's oil and gas pipelines have repeatedly been sabotaged by insurgents or tribesmen since anti-government protests led to a power vacuum in 2011, causing fuel shortages and slashing export earnings for the country.

The attack took place in the al-Habab area of the central oil-producing province of Maarib, and the tribesmen blew up the pipeline that carries crude from Safer oilfields to Ras Isa oil terminal on the Red Sea, the officials said.

The Maarib pipeline carries around 70,000-

110,000 barrels per day of Marib light crude. It was repaired in late May after a previous attack by tribesmen.

Disgruntled tribesmen carry out such assaults to pressure the government to provide jobs, settle land disputes, or free relatives from prison. Frequent attacks on the crude pipeline cost Yemen around \$400 million in lost revenue in the first quarter of 2014, the Interior Ministry said in May.

Lawlessness in Yemen is also a global concern — particularly for the United States and its Gulf Arab allies — because of the country's strategic position next to oil exporter Saudi Arabia and shipping lanes, and because it is home to one of al-Qaeda's most active wings. — Reuters

KABUL, 13 July — US State Secretary John Kerry convinced Afghanistan's feuding presidential candidates on Saturday to agree to a total recount of last month's presidential election, which has threatened to split the country along ethnic lines.

After two days of intense talks between Kerry, Abdullah Abdullah and Ashraf Ghani, all parties agreed that the best way out of the acrimonious and protracted deadlock was to delay the inauguration and recount all the ballots from scratch.

Preliminary results from the run-off vote on June 14 put Ghani, a former World Bank official, well ahead but Abdullah rejected the result, claim-

ing widespread fraud and calling the outcome a “coup” against the Afghan people.

In a joint news conference with Kerry held just before midnight, the two rivals agreed to abide by the outcome of a UN-supervised recount.

“Both candidates have committed to participate in and abide by the results of the largest and most comprehensive audit,” Kerry said. “Every single ballot that was cast will be audited... This is the strongest possible signal by both candidates of the desire to restore legitimacy to the process.”

The recount was scheduled to begin within 24 hours, but was likely to take several weeks, mean-

ing that a presidential inauguration scheduled for 2 August will have to be postponed.

The dispute has raised concerns about a smooth transition of power in Afghanistan just as US-led troops are leaving after 12 years of fighting the Taliban.

The stakes are high for the United States. Washington hopes to settle the dispute quickly so it can sign a security pact with Afghanistan allowing a contingent of US troops to stay in the country beyond this year.

Unlike incumbent Hamid Karzai, both Abdullah and Ghani have both promised to sign the deal promptly, but the standoff over the vote has delayed

the process.

After his own talks with Kerry, Karzai said he welcomed the initiative and hoped the full audit would start quickly.

“The people of Afghanistan have been patient and they are in a hurry and would like to hear as soon as possible the result of the election and witness their next president.”

Abdullah's support is mainly in the north, among the Tajik minority, while Ghani is supported by Pashtun tribes in the east and south.

Observers have warned that if the dispute is not resolved quickly, Afghanistan could split along ethnic lines, with further violence likely.

Reuters

Disputed Afghan election to be recounted in full

HEALTH & BUSINESS

Japan says Pacific trade talks agree broadly on labour, health issues

OTTAWA/TOKYO, 13 July — Pacific trade talks have reached broad agreement on labour issues and sanitary and phytosanitary standards but some difficult aspects remain to be tackled, Japan's chief negotiator said on Saturday.

US President Barack Obama said last month he aimed to have a free-trade draft he could take to meetings with other leaders in November.

Chief Japanese negotiator Koji Tsuruoka said the 12 member nations of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) made progress

at talks in Ottawa but there was no discussion about the timing of the overall accord in the regional free trade agreement.

"We came to Ottawa so that we would clarify what issues are left (after TPP talks in Ottawa) and find out the direction. We achieved the desired goal," he told a news conference.

But gaps remain to be bridged and further talks are required on issues such as intellectual property, state-owned companies and the environment, he said.

The meeting in Ottawa

would be key to advancing the trade pact talks to their final stage by the end of the year, he had said last week.

But Tsuruoka said the countries felt the situation was not yet ripe to set the timing for a ministerial meeting as talks among officials had not made sufficient progress by the end on Saturday of the talks in Ottawa, which ran about a week. The TPP talks also include countries such as Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam.

Canadian Trade Min-

ister Ed Fast told reporters on Friday he would not put a timeline on when the TPP talks will conclude. "We are bringing all of our efforts to bear to bring these negotiations forward in a timely manner," he said.

Asked to comment on New Zealand's suggestion that Japan should be eliminated from the TPP if it doesn't open its markets to more farm imports, he replied: "I'm not going to comment on what other TPP partners say. All of them are valuable partners; they all bring value to the table." —Reuters



Japan's Foreign Ministry's official Koji Tsuruoka (R) attends the 17th North East Asia Cooperation Dialogue in Tokyo on 10 April, 2006 file photo.

REUTERS

Shire confirms in talks with AbbVie on takeover bid



Vitamins made by Shire are displayed at a chemist's in northwest London on 11 July, 2014.—REUTERS

NEW YORK, 13 July — Shire Plc on Friday confirmed it has held a meeting with US drugmaker AbbVie Inc to discuss AbbVie's takeover bid for the Dublin-based maker of drugs for rare diseases.

Shire, in a release, said it would provide a further update "when appropriate." It added there can be no certainty that any firm offer will be made nor as to the terms of any such offer.

The meeting, between

Shire Chief Executive Flemming Ornskov and AbbVie CEO Richard Gonzalez, took place on Thursday in New York, according to a source familiar with the matter. AbbVie, which is based in suburban Chicago and makes top-selling arthritis drug Humira and other medicines, has offered \$51 billion for Shire, hoping the deal would cut its tax bill and diversify its product line.

But Shire has rejected

three previous proposals from AbbVie, saying they had fundamentally undervalued the company.

Some top investors in Shire have been urging it to engage with AbbVie, after a prolonged silence from the London-listed drugmaker. Shire is a serial acquirer, having done six deals since Ornskov took the helm of Shire 14 months ago. It bought rare disease specialist Viropharma for \$4.2 billion last November in its biggest deal yet — and Ornskov has said further "large" deals were possible.

Drugs for rare diseases are highly lucrative, often commanding prices of hundreds of thousands of dollars a year.

By moving into the field, AbbVie would make itself far less dependent on Humira, which accounts for almost 60 percent of AbbVie's sales.

Reuters

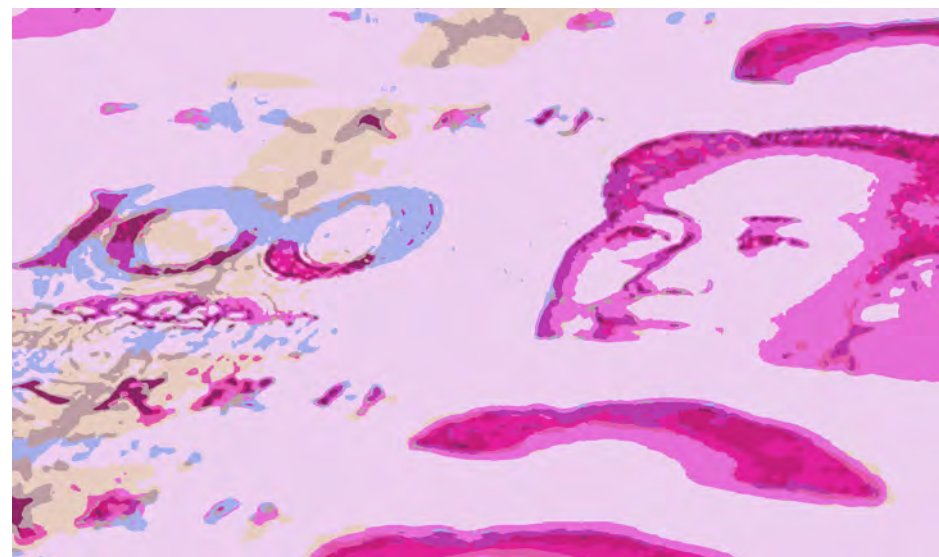
China to issue 2-year treasury bonds

BEIJING, 13 July — China will issue 26 billion yuan (4.23 billion US dollars) in two-year book-entry treasury bonds next week, according to a statement from the Ministry of Finance.

The ministry said the bonds will have a fixed interest rate, which will be decided through competitive tendering on 18 July.

It added that the bonds will be sold on the interbank market between 19

and 23 July and will become tradable on the secondary market on 25 July. Interest calculation will start on 21 July. This is the ministry's 15th issuance of book-entry treasury bonds this year.—Xinhua



Tech earnings take centre stage next week

NEW YORK, 13 July — Earnings from some of the biggest US technology companies will take centre stage next week, giving investors a chance to re-evaluate the sector's health.

Big tech names set to report next week include Intel Corp and Yahoo Inc on Tuesday; eBay Inc on Wednesday and Google Inc on Thursday.

The tech sector has the highest projected earnings growth rate among the 10 S&P sectors for the second quarter at 12.3 percent, its best quarter since the first quarter of 2012. This forecast marks a sharp rebound from a drop of 3.2 percent

just a year ago, according to a Thomson Reuters poll.

Goldman Sachs analysts wrote in a note that the information technology sector "appears to be the

most undervalued sector," giving investors more reasons to be bullish on tech stocks.

The implied earnings-per-share growth for the



Intel processors are displayed at a store in Seoul on 21 June, 2012.—REUTERS

tech sector has been 5.4 percentage points above the S&P 500 on average over the past 10 years, but it is now just 1.0 percentage point above the benchmark index, according to the Goldman Sachs note.

While the Dow Jones industrial average and the S&P 500 have hit record highs recently, the tech-heavy Nasdaq is still more than 700 points away from its all-time intraday high on 10 March, 2000, suggesting to some investors that the sector may have more room to the upside.

The tech sector's earnings are "going to certainly be important because the

market started to gain momentum as economic data got better," said Quincy Krosby, market strategist at Prudential Financial, which is based in Newark, New Jersey.

"We want to hear good solid numbers and if we get that from tech names, it will help."

Nine of the 13 sub-industries in the tech sector are expected to report higher earnings than a year ago, with semiconductors and semiconductor equipment having the highest growth rates within the sector, according to Thomson Reuters data.

The Nasdaq is up 5.7

percent for the year, while the semiconductor index is up 20.3 percent.

Among the 10 S&P 500 sectors, financials have the worst earnings forecast with a decline of 3.5 percent from a year ago, according to Thomson Reuters data. Nine of the sector's 21 sub-industries are expected to post a drop in earnings.

Earnings from some of major banks next week will include JPMorgan Chase & Co and Goldman Sachs Group Inc on Tuesday; Bank of America Corp on Wednesday and Morgan Stanley on Thursday.

Reuters

Israeli commandos raid rocket launching site in northern Gaza

JERUSALEM, 13 July — Israeli Navy commandos raided a facility in the northern Gaza Strip, from which the Islamist movement Hamas fired long-range rockets at Israeli cities, the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) said on Sunday.

During the raid, the commandos were shot at by Hamas gunmen and four commandos were injured lightly, an IDF spokesman confirmed to *Xinhua*.

“The facility was hit and damaged,” he said, adding that all the commandos had returned to Israel.

The spokesman, who declined to be named, denied that the raid indicated the start of a broad military ground offensive, saying that it was only a “special operation.”

Since the IDF launched its “Operation Protective Edge” against Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip last Tuesday, many long-range rockets have been



A Palestinian looks up as he surveys a house which police said was destroyed in an Israeli air strike in the northern Gaza Strip on 12 July, 2014.—REUTERS

fired at Jerusalem and Israel’s largest coastal city of Tel Aviv, both more than 70 km away from Gaza.

Most of the rockets were intercepted by Israel’s Iron Dome anti-missile systems, causing no injuries.

In a statement issued early Sunday, the IDF said it would advise residents in northern Gaza to leave their

homes in face of further Israeli military operation against the coastal enclave.

The Israel Air Force

will disperse leaflets Sunday above locations in the northern Gaza Strip, the statement said, adding that these leaflets ask the residents of Beit Lahiya to stay away from Hamas’ operatives and activity sites that pose a grave risk to their safety.

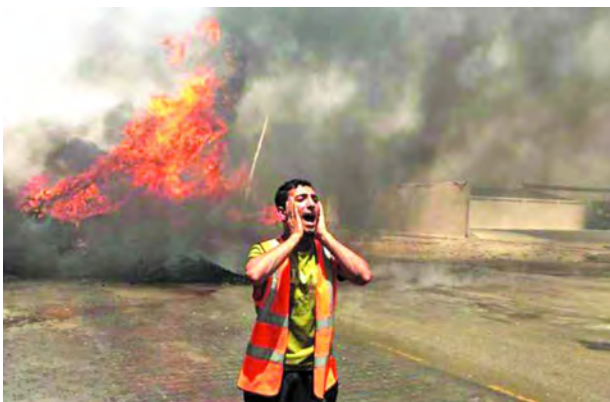
The contents of the leaflet was also conveyed by recorded voice-messages and text-messages.

Since the beginning of the Israeli military operation, more than 800 rockets were launched from the Gaza Strip at Israel, with 635 rockets hitting southern, central and northern Israel, according to figures released by the IDF.

Some 147 rockets were intercepted by the Iron Dome and IDF forces struck some 1,320 targets across the Gaza Strip.

The conflict, which has so far left more than 156 Palestinians dead and over 1,000 others wounded, showed no signs of de-escalation.—*Xinhua*

UN Security Council calls for Israeli-Palestinian ceasefire



A Palestinian calls for fire-fighters to extinguish a fire which police said was caused by an Israeli tank’s shelling in the industrial area in the east of Gaza City on 12 July, 2014.—REUTERS

UNITED NATIONS, 13 July — The UN Security Council called on Saturday for a ceasefire in hostili-

ties between Palestinians and Israelis and expressed serious concern about the welfare and protection of

civilians on both sides.

“The Security Council members called for de-escalation of the situation, restoration of calm, and reinstitution of the November 2012 ceasefire,” the 15-member body said in a statement. It also expressed “serious concern regarding the crisis related to Gaza and the protection and welfare of civilians on both sides” and called for respect for international humanitarian law, including the protection of civilians. Israel rushed an eighth missile interceptor battery into service on Saturday to counter stronger-than-expected rocket fire from

Gaza as the military pounded positions in the Palestinian enclave for a fifth day.

The most recent hostilities were sparked three weeks ago by the kidnapping of three Jewish students in the occupied West Bank, who were later found dead. Then a teenage Palestinian was kidnapped and his burned body found in a Jerusalem forest.

The United States, a close ally of Israel, and Jordan were unable to reach agreement on a Security Council statement on the crisis earlier this week, diplomats said. Council statements have to be agreed by consensus.—*Reuters*

Chinese envoy urges Israeli-Palestinian ceasefire

TEHERAN, 13 July — A Chinese Middle East envoy on Saturday called for an immediate ceasefire between Israel and the Palestinians as their five-day clashes have caused heavy casualties. Special envoy Wu Sike said China is deeply concerned about the escalating conflict between the two sides, which should be resolved through peace talks.

Tensions along the Israel-Gaza border have been mounting after Israel blamed Islamist militant group Hamas in the Gaza Strip for the abduction and murder of three Jewish teenagers last month.

The Israeli airstrikes on the coastal enclave in

retaliation for a barrage of rocket attacks has claimed 156 lives and wounded 1,065 others since Tuesday.

China has been opposed to the use of force against civilians and believed that the tit-for-tat violence will only deepen their hatred and hostility, Wu told the Chinese media in Iran.

The ongoing conflict highlighted the importance and urgency of resumption of Israeli-Palestinian talks, he said, calling on both sides to exercise utmost restraint.

The Chinese envoy is on a Middle East tour, which has taken him to Iraq and Turkey.—*Xinhua*

Iraq headed for chaos unless politicians unite, UN says

BAGHDAD, 13 July — Iraqi soldiers backed by Shi’ite militias fought Sunni rebels for control of a military base northeast of Baghdad on Saturday as a UN envoy warned of chaos if divided lawmakers did not make progress on Sunday towards naming a government.

Forces loyal to Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki launched an early morning push to repel Islamic State militants who fought their way on Thursday into a military base on the edge of Muqadadiya, 80 km (50 miles) northeast of the capital.

Heavy fighting raged for hours and continued on Saturday afternoon, local security sources said.

Sources at the morgue and hospital in the nearby town of Baquba said they had received the bodies of 15 Shi’ite militia fighters transferred after the morning’s fighting.

State TV also reported 24 “terrorists” had been killed. Seven civilians including children from nearby villages

were killed by helicopter gunship fire, police and medics said.

The Sunni militants had moved towards the base after seizing the town of Sadur just to the north, another security source and witnesses said. They were equipped with artillery and mortars and drove vehicles including captured tanks and Humvees.

In the western city of Falluja, a hospital received three bodies and 18 wounded people on Saturday after army helicopters bombed the city, government health official Ahmed al-Shami said.

Kurdish peshmerga security forces attacked Islamic State positions in Jalawla late on Friday, killing at least 15 militants and three Kurdish security personnel, spokesman Halgurd Hikmat said. The town, in the eastern province of Diyala near the Iranian border, was seized by insurgents last month.—*Reuters*



Municipality workers clean up at the site of a bomb attack at a checkpoint in the city of Kirkuk on 12 July, 2014.—REUTERS

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Energy
Invitation to Tender
Thanlyin Refinery Joint Venture Project (TRJVP)
Tender No. (1-TRJVP/2014-2015)

The Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise (MPE), a State-owned Enterprise of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, operating under the Ministry of Energy, announces an Invitation to Tender for the Thanlyin Refinery Joint Venture Project (TRJVP). The purpose of the TRJVP, which will be licensed under the Foreign Investment law, is to operate and carry out the rehabilitation of No. 1 Refinery (Thanlyin) to improve its production capacity. In addition, the TRJVP will undertake the importation, distribution and storage of a wide range of petroleum products.

All interested eligible parties are cordially invited to lodge a submission in accordance with the tender documents.

1. The documentation related to the TRJVP ("the Tender Documents" as further detailed below) can be purchased by any interested parties starting 14th July 2014 upon submission of evidence of payment of a non-refundable fee of 3,000,000 Kyats (Three Millions Kyats) to MPE. The detailed payment information is available in the Ministry of Energy's website (<http://www.energy.gov.mm/index.php/en/information/announcement>).

Any question in relation to the payment of the non-refundable fee can be sent to email address below.

2. The Tender Documents comprise the following:

- a) General Rules and Requirements
- b) Invitation to Tender
- c) Proposed Joint Venture Agreement
- d) Proposed Land Lease Agreement
- e) Information Memorandum including selected detailed financial/operating/importing information with respect to No. 1 Refinery (Thanlyin)

3. Eligibility information is also available on the website of the Ministry of Energy.

4. Eligible applicants shall submit the proposal in response to the tender and in accordance with the specifications set forth in the tender documents to the following address no later than **13th October 2014 at 12:00 noon;**

Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise,
 Building No 44, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

5. There will be opportunity for applicants to perform due diligence and seek written clarification in relation to the TRJVP from 14th July until 12th September 2014.

6. For more information, please contact the following address;

Managing Director
 Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise
 Ministry of Energy
 Building No. 44, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
 TRJV.Project@gmail.com
 Fax: +95 67 411124, +95 67 411126

7. Late inquiries or inquiries via telephone will not be answered.



Image provided by Cubadebate on 11 July, 2014 shows leader of the Cuban Revolution Fidel Castro (R) meeting with President of Russia Vladimir Putin in Havana, Cuba.—XINHUA

Japan firm obliges Filipino women to waive its responsibility for deaths

TOKYO, 13 July — A Japanese nursing-care service provider requires Filipino job applicants sign a statement absolving the company of any responsibility should they die in Japan, the statement obtained by *Kyodo News* showed Saturday.

"...in case of loss of life of the undersigned through natural circumstances while in Japan, I release, waive and forever discharge Juju Corporation, its officers, directors, representatives or employees from any action for sums of money or other obligations arising," the statement said.

There have been

complaints from Filipino employees about harsh working conditions, while another document showed Juju Corp in Higashiosaka, Osaka Prefecture, had one employee work on night duty 13 times one month.

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has started a probe into why the company had its employees sign such a statement, written in both Japanese and English, as well as its working conditions.

Juju operates 13 facilities in Osaka and Nara prefectures in western Japan. It started hiring Filipino women around 2009.

According to Filipino

women and documents regarding their contracts, an organization related to Juju distributed the statement to them when they were interviewed in Manila as part of a recruitment procedure.

A former Juju employee said she could not change jobs when she wanted to because she had owed the company hundreds of thousands of yen in travel and other expenses.

Hidekazu Kobayashi, head of Kyoei Group which has Juju under its umbrella, told *Kyodo News* that he declines to comment on the matter at this point.

Kyodo News

Weather report

Bay Inference

According to the observations at (12:30) hrs AMST today, the low pressure area over Northwest Bay of Bengal still persists. Monsoon is strong to vigorous in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

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Colombia oil pipeline paralyzed by rebel attack

BOGOTA, 13 July — Pumping of oil from one of Colombia's most important pipelines, the Bicentenario, was paralyzed after an attack by leftist rebels, its operator said on Saturday. The attack took place on Friday near the municipality of Fortul, in Arauca Province, on the border with Venezuela. There were no injuries. pipeline, jointly run by a group led by state oil company Ecopetrol and Pacific Rubiales, has capacity to transport 110,000 barrels a day along its 230 kilometres (144 miles) from oil fields in Colombia's eastern plains to the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline.

The company did not provide an estimate for restarting operations. The pipeline crosses areas where there is a strong presence of the two main rebel groups, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, and the National Liberation Army, or ELN. Neither the company nor military sources said which armed group was behind the attack.

Colombia is the fourth-largest producer of oil in Latin America, but its output has been reduced by heavy attacks in recent months by the insurgent groups. There were 259 attacks on oil installations in 2013, the highest number in a decade. Even though the FARC is engaged in peace talks with the government, attacks have continued against economic and military targets.—Reuters

Greek firemen battle wildfire near Athens, two houses burn down

ATHENS, 13 July — Greek firemen battled a raging wildfire near Athens on Saturday evening which has burned down two houses, according to local authorities.

In the first major wildfire in Attica prefecture this summer, firemen faced three separate fronts at Keratea, 40 km south of Athens, which broke out within an hour in forested areas and spread due to strong winds.

More than 100 fire-fighters, assisted by two water-bombing aircrafts and two helicopters sought to keep the flames away from inhabited zones.

Keratea's Mayor Costas Levantis reported two

burned down houses and expressed suspicion of arson, as the fire-fighting forces were still trying to put the fronts under control.

Greece suffers each summer from dozens of destructive wildfires which are linked to scorching temperatures and arson in several cases.

On Saturday, police arrested a 39-year-old man as suspect for two cases of arson in Attica this summer.

In the summer of 2007, in the worst wildfires-linked tragedy in decades, over 80 people died during major wildfires across Greece.

Xinhua

'Fifty Shades' star Dakota Johnson in 'Forever Interrupted'

LOS ANGELES, 13 July — After 'Fifty Shades of Grey', actress Dakota Johnson has landed another plum offer in book-to-film adaptation 'Forever, Interrupted'.

Giddien Media and Good Universe are producing the big-screen adaptation of Taylor Jenkins Reid's acclaimed debut novel, said the *Hollywood Reporter*.

The story revolves around a young woman whose whirlwind marriage is cut short when her husband dies. In coming to terms with the loss, she forms an unlikely relationship with her mother — who doesn't know of her existence.

Johnson plays the role of Anastasia Steele in the adaptation of EL James' raunchy novel 'Fifty Shades of Grey' and its subsequent installments.—PTI



I quit 'Annie' because of my intuition: Willow Smith

LONDON, 13 July — Actress Willow, daughter of stars Will and Jada Pinkett Smith, has revealed she left the Jay-Z-produced musical remake of iconic screen musical 'Annie' as she felt from inside she should not be a part of the movie.

The 13-year-old star said she is connected to her intuition and going by her inner feeling, opted out of the film, reported *The Guardian*. "To be honest, something inside me was just, like, 'Don't'," she said, adding, "I'm very connected with my

intuition."

The film was announced, with Smith, in early 2011, but her part was eventually given to Quvenzhané Wallis, the 10-year-old actor who became the youngest ever Best Actress Oscar nominee for her performance in 'Beasts of the Southern Wild', aged eight. The film, about an orphan who is taken under the wing of a wealthy industrialist in a quest to find her parents, was first a stage musical and then a successful movie in 1982. The remake co-stars Jamie Foxx and Cameron Diaz, and besides Jay Z, it is produced by Willow's parents, Will and Jada Pinkett Smith. —PTI



The superstar couple have recruited the male from the British royal household for general running of their home.—PTI

David, Victoria Beckham hire Buckingham Palace worker

LONDON, 13 July — Former Soccer star David Beckham and his designer wife Victoria have reportedly hired a former Buckingham Palace worker as their new housekeeper.

The superstar couple have recruited the male from the British royal household to help with the general running of their 40 million pounds home, reported *Daily Mirror*. "They needed a new housekeeper and, hands down, he was the best applicant. His CV was pretty impressive and, obviously, having a former Buckingham Palace member of staff is quite a boon," a source said.

"Victoria is delighted, and he is fitting in really well with the family."

David and Victoria have also given the former footman's salary a significant boost from his previous 15,000 pounds pay cheque.

Besides general tidying, cleaning, ironing and dusting, it is said the new employee will also lend a hand with walking and grooming the dogs.—PTI

Czech Karlovy Vary film festival's main prize goes to Georgian film

PRAGUE, 13 July — Georgian film "Corn Island", directed by George Ovashvili, won the main prize Crystal Globe and a 25,000 US dollars cash prize at the prize-giving gala of the 49th Karlovy Vary International Film Festival on Saturday night. The film tells a story of an elderly man who transfers his experience to his granddaughter and contemplates the sense of man's harmonic coexistence with nature and of his respect for others. It was made in coproduction with Germany, France, the Czech Republic and Kazakhstan.—Xinhua

Comedian Tracy Morgan released from rehab centre following NJ crash



NEW YORK, 13 July — Actor and comedian Tracy Morgan was released from a rehabilitation centre to finish his recovery at home from a New Jersey crash in June that left him critically injured and killed a fellow passenger, his spokesman said on Saturday.

The announcement came just days after he sued Bentonville, Arkansas-based Wal-Mart Stores Inc in a New Jersey federal court, alleging the retailer knew or should have known its truck driver, Kevin Roper, was not in compliance with federal regulations designed to combat driver fatigue.

"He asked me to pass along his sincerest gratitude to everyone who has helped him get to this point. He would also appreciate some privacy during this crucial point in his recovery," spokesman Lewis Kay said in a statement.

Reuters

LONDON, 13 July — Angelina Jolie has talked about the importance of battling against sexual violence in an interview and said rape is like a silent killer in a community.

Jolie, 39, and five passionate leaders from all over the world posed together at the Global Summit to end sexual violence in conflict in London for *Glamour* magazine's latest issue.

The five world leaders, who worked together with Jolie are Julianne Lusenge, Jineth Bedoya, Zainab Bangura, Suraya Pakzad, and Whaku Shee. "Everywhere I

went, rape was the silent killer. But it became quickly clear to me that these women were not just the collateral damage of war. Rape was a strategic, organized scheme to destroy entire communities," she said.

One of the leaders, Zainab, praised The 'Maleficent' star saying, "I have never seen anybody so committed. I have been with her at the United Nations. I have walked with her in the Congo. She understands the issues very well, but more important, she listens."

PTI



Sexual violence is a silent killer:

Angelina Jolie

GENERAL

Phelps wins 100m backstroke as comeback continues

CARY, (North Carolina), 13 July — Michael Phelps notched another impressive performance in his comeback when he won the 100 metres backstroke and beat American rival Ryan Lochte for the second successive night in Athens, Georgia, on Saturday.

Phelps clocked 53.88 seconds, less than a second

outside his personal best, while Lochte was a distant runnerup in 54.40.

On Friday, Phelps won the 100m butterfly in 51.67 seconds, the third fastest time in the world this year.

The winner of a record 18 Olympic gold medals, Phelps announced a comeback in April after retiring following the 2012 London

Olympics.

The 'Bulldog Grand Slam' finishes on Sunday, when Phelps is scheduled to swim the 100m freestyle as he tunes up for the 6-10 August US Championships in Irvine, California ahead of the Pan Pacific Championships on the Gold Coast in Australia.

Reuters

Indonesia's volcano erupts again

JAKARTA, 13 July — Mount Sinabung volcano in Indonesia's North Sumatra erupted on Saturday evening, spewing ash into the sky, but no casualty was reported, Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, a spokesman for the disaster management agency, told *Xinhua* over phone on Sunday.

Xinhua

Thomas the Tank Engine runs in central Japan



A full-size Thomas the Tank Engine runs on the Oigawa Line in the city of Shimada, Shizuoka Prefecture, in central Japan, on 12 July, 2014, as Oigawa Railway Co. started operating the fantasy steam locomotive. The train led by Thomas will run until 12 October but tickets have almost sold out.—KYODO NEWS

Longtime newspaper editor John Seigenthaler dies at 86

NEW YORK, 13 July — Longtime editor of *The Tennessean* newspaper, former political aide to Robert Kennedy, and civil rights activist John Seigenthaler has died at the age of 86, the newspaper said.

Seigenthaler, who as a reporter once saved a suicidal man from jumping off a bridge that was later named after the writer, died surrounded by his friends and family at his Nashville, Tennessee, home on Friday, the paper said.

Seigenthaler started his career as a journalist for the paper in 1949, winning a National Headliner Award and later investigating corruption in the Teamsters union.

He ultimately retired as the newspaper's editor, publisher and chief executive officer 42 years later, according to the First Amendment Centre which he founded at Vanderbilt University after leaving journalism.

In 1982, while still acting as an editor at the *Nashville* paper, Seigenthaler became the founding editorial director of *USA Today* and simultaneously served in both positions for roughly a decade, the center's website said.

Earlier in his career, Seigenthaler took a break from reporting to join the US Justice Department as an administrative assistant to then-Attorney General Robert Kennedy in the 1960s.

His work on civil rights at the time led him to be chosen as the chief negotiator during the Freedom Rides with the Alabama governor.

While in talks with the state, he was attacked by members of the Ku Klux Klan for defending black activists and was hospitalized, the centre said.

Former Vice President Al Gore, who came to *The Tennessean* as a young reporter in the 1970s, said it

was Seigenthaler who first suggested he pursue a run for Congress.

"He was one of the most important teachers and mentors and role models in my life," Gore told

The Tennessean.

"He was that influential to me because of the respect he commanded and because of the force for good he represented," Gore said. — Reuters

Canada opens biggest Chinese cultural festival

TORONTO, 13 July — People in Toronto will finally get to see a piece of China without hopping onto a plane as Canada's largest-ever celebration of Chinese arts and culture officially kicked off Friday evening.

The inaugural three-day China Now festival will be bringing roughly 100 multidisciplinary artists, over half of which are traveling from China, straight to Toronto's Harbourfront Centre.

Luo Zhaohui, Chinese ambassador to Canada, was one of the many dignitaries who helped kick-off the festivities on Friday.

With a wide range of performances like paper cutting, dumpling duels, kite-making and much more happening within the three days, Luo said Torontonians will get to see a very different side of China this weekend.

"Over 70 artists came here at the same time to perform.

It's an important window to showcase Chinese culture and will help build the friendship between China and Canada," he said.

But making an event of this scale happen wasn't easy.

Luo praised Harbourfront Centre's efforts

MYANMAR TV

(14-7-2014, Monday)

6:00 am

* Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

7:20 am

* People Talks

8:00 am

* News/ International News

8:30 am

* ASEAN Programme

9:30 am

* Cartoon Series

10:00 am

* News

11:05 am

* Teleplay (Health)

12:00 pm

* News/ Weather Report

12:25 pm

* Myanmar Movie

3:00 pm

* News

3:40 pm

* Joint Performance by State Orchestra and State Traditional Orchestra

4:30 pm

* University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (English)

4:45 pm

* Song Programme

5:00 pm

* News

5:15 pm

* Songs of Yester Years

6:00 pm

* News/ Weather Report

6:20 pm

* Traditional Boxing

7:25 pm

* TV Drama Series

8:00 pm

* News/ International News/ Weather Report

9:00 pm

* News

9:30 pm

* Documentary

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(14-7-14 07:00 am~ 15-7-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Myanmar Traditional Art Bronze Casting
- * World News
- * General Aung San Museum
- * Local News
- * Travelling in Shan Mountain Ranges (Inle PhaungdawU Pagoda Festival) (Part -1)
- * World News
- * Exquisite Myanmar Silk
- * Local News
- * Taste of Myanmar: Noodle Salad
- * World News
- * Writer
- * Local News
- * A Day Out With Sarah (Episode-2)
- * World News
- * Kyaikhteeyoe: Mountain Drivers
- * Local News
- * Home Made: Product of Myanmar — Pottery Business
- * World News
- * The Art of Sand Painting and Its Creator's life
- * Local News
- * The Rising Glory of Myanmar Arts
- * World News
- * Maha Muni Pagoda
- * Local News
- * To The Land of Countless Temples - Bagan Trip (Episode-1)
- * World News
- * In the Studio "Khin Su Shin"
- * Local News
- * Odd Jobs....: Snake Dancer
- * World News
- * Entrepreneur "Kalayar Pyi Wai Shan"



Daley Blind of the Netherlands (L) shoots to score against Brazil during their 2014 World Cup third-place playoff at the Brasilia national stadium in Brasilia on 12 July, 2014.—REUTERS

RIO DE JANEIRO, 13 July — Dreadful defending cost Brazil dear yet again on Saturday as the World Cup hosts slumped to a 3-0 loss to the Netherlands in a playoff for third place, underlining just how far the 'Selecao' have fallen down world football's pecking order.

Four days after a humiliating 7-1 semi-final loss to Germany that shocked the world and left home fans stunned and angry, the hosts' porous defence shipped three more shoddy goals in Brasilia, taking their tally for the tournament to 14.

Sixty-three games have now been played in Brazil and while there were fears protests and demonstrations could disrupt the tournament, the 2014 World Cup has been relatively trouble free.

Concerns that Russia's preparations for the 2018 version could suffer due to the political crisis in Ukraine were dismissed on Saturday by Vitaly Mutko, Russia's sports minister who is also a member of FIFA's executive committee.

"I can't see any major issues," he said in Rio de Janeiro.

ro. "It's a different subject and one that will not interfere in the preparations for the World Cup at all."

While home fans were left disappointed in Brasilia, raining boos down on the players after the final whistle, things could get much, much worse on Sunday with Argentina just one win away from lifting the World Cup at Brazil's sacred Maracana.

The prospect terrifies Brazilian football fans and they are certain to throw their support behind Germany in Sunday's final.

"Tomorrow, we will play the most important match of our lives for our country," Argentina captain Lionel Messi said in a message on facebook.

"Our people, the Argentines, they have carried us here. But the dream is not over yet, tomorrow we want to win and we are ready."

Argentina coach Alejandro Sabella, who seems set to stand down after the final regardless of the result, says his side will have to play a flawless game if they are to beat Germany and lift the World Cup for a third time.

"From the physical, tactical and character points of view, Germany have always been extremely strong," Sabella told reporters on Saturday. "And now they have an elaborate style of play, with passes between lines, diagonal balls to the forwards."

"We need a perfect match to beat them."

If he does decide to leave, Sabella could deliver no better parting gift than winning the World Cup on the soil of their fiercest rivals.

'Life goes on'

His Brazil counterpart Luiz Felipe Scolari is leaving his future in the hands of the country's football federation.

Scolari led Brazil to their fifth World Cup title in 2002 and has lost just four times in 29 matches since taking over in November 2012, but many fans have been calling for his head in the wake of Brazil's heaviest ever World Cup defeat on Tuesday.

"That has to be decided by the president of the confederation," Scolari told a news conference when asked about his future.

"When we started we had a

deadline to make our jobs available at the end of the World Cup regardless of the result," added the 65-year-old.

"And that is exactly what we're going to do with a final report for the president."

Whoever is tasked with the goal of taking Brazil back to the summit of world football faces a massive job.

Minus the mercurial talents of injured forward Neymar, Brazil look bereft of ideas and far short of the level needed to challenge the likes of Argentina and Germany.

Defenders Thiago Silva and David Luiz were guilty of early mistakes on Saturday as the Dutch scored twice in 16 minutes, sparking fears of a repeat of Tuesday's 7-1 humiliation.

Goals from Robin van Persie, Daley Blind and Georginio Wijnaldum secured third place for the Netherlands.

"Today's match ... for us was the best way to end this tournament," said man of the match Arjen Robben. "We also fully deserved this third place the way we played this tournament."

"Nobody expected us to be in the last four."

The Netherlands suffered the heartbreak of a penalty shootout defeat to Argentina in Wednesday's semi-final, but Germany took note of the way they subdued four-times World Player of the Year Lionel Messi.

Coach Joachim Loew is well aware of Messi's talents, though he will not let his players underestimate the rest of the team.

"This team is not just Messi and if you think that then you would be making a mistake," said Loew, who is eyeing Germany's first World Cup trophy in 24 years.

If Germany get their hands on the trophy they would be the first European team to win the World Cup on South American soil. German Chancellor Angela Merkel will be at the Maracana to cheer on her countrymen on Sunday and knows Argentina will present a much stiffer task than Brazil did on Tuesday.

Asked to predict Sunday's score line, Merkel told German broadcaster ZDF, "I don't mind, so long as we win." —Reuters

Van Gaal says success based on Dutch way with novel tweak

BRASILIA, 13 July — Netherlands coach Louis van Gaal said his team's run to third place at the World Cup was proof that there was more than one "Dutch" way of playing the game.

Van Gaal's side played a more defensive, containing style than that preferred by many Dutch coaches.

"We were able to show a kind of football that is rather novel, in the Netherlands at least, with players who cooperate so well," Van Gaal said after ending his World Cup with a 3-0 win over hosts Brazil on Saturday. "A coach has to work based on the quality of his squad and it worked out apart from the fact that we are not world champions but really we were very, very close."

The Dutch dream of winning the World Cup for the first time ended with a

semi-final defeat on penalties to Argentina in Sao Paulo on Wednesday.

Van Gaal will now take over as manager of Manchester United while former Real Madrid and South Korea coach Guus Hiddink will take over the Dutch team for the second time ahead of the Euro 2016 qualification campaign. "The next coach of the team, I heard him say he wants the Dutch way of

playing football. I have always played the Dutch way and I also gave it something else," said Van Gaal.

"Perhaps this will open everyone's eyes in the Netherlands and make people realise that there's not just one system," he added.

Van Gaal repeated his view that the third place game was unfair given that Brazil had an extra day to prepare for the fixture.

Reuters



Netherlands coach Louis van Gaal (R) consoles goalkeeper Jasper Cillessen after their 2014 World Cup semi-finals against Argentina at the Corinthians arena in Sao Paulo on 9 July, 2014.—REUTERS