

Amendment of 1923 Workmen's Compensation Act should reflect reality: ministry official

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 15 July—The amendment to the amount of compensation guaranteed by the 1923 Workmen's Compensation Act, which is still in effect, should bring real benefits to workers and should reflect the reality, said an official of the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security.

"The Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security is carrying out the process of amendment to the act, so that the act can become a strong legal framework," said U

Aung Naing, staff officer of Hlinethaya Township Factories and General Labour Law Inspection Department.

"The amount of compensation guaranteed by the compensation act is low and to satisfy the victims, we have to solve the compensation issues not only with the Social Security Law and the compensation act but also on grounds of compassion," he said.

In 2013, two light injury cases, five serious injury cases and five deaths occurred in accidents at factories in Hlinethaya Township, where 14 industrial

zones are established.

According to records of the settlement of compensation disputes in 2013 at factories in Hlinethaya Township, the compensation for an injury case has reached from K600,000 to K650,000, while the compensation for families of a worker who died, has reached from K2.5 million to K3.5 million after the cases were settled on grounds of compassion.

"If workers are registered under the Social Security Scheme of the new Social Security Law, we don't need to settle compensation disputes under

the 1923 compensation act. The 2012 Social Security Law guarantees good benefits to workers. So, workers from both formal and informal sector should register at the social security scheme," U Aung Naing said.

The Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security enacted the Labour Organization Law in 2011, the Settlement of Labour Dispute Law in 2012, the Social Security Law in 2012, the Minimum Wage Law in 2013 and the Employment and Skill Development Law in 2013.

NLM

Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar clarifies "Operation Protecting Edge"



Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar Hagay M. Behar discussing Israel's point of view on the situation in Gaza at the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies in Yangon.—PHOTO: YE MYINT

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 15 July—Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar Hagay M. Behar elaborated on reasons that led the Israeli government to launch "Operation Protecting Edge" which is aimed at ensuring a long-standing solution for the sake of the safety of citizens of Israel during a briefing at the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies in Yangon on Tuesday.

"The purpose of the Operation is to re-establish stability and calm for the citizens of Israel once and for all," the ambassador told the New Light of My-

anmar after his presentation on milestones in the Middle East peace process to attendees, including local media and students specializing in International Relations.

Israel is acting in self-defense to hostilities against Israel's civilian population, he said.

On what will happen next after Israel has accepted the Egyptian truce proposal on Tuesday morning, "the Israel Government will consider the offer of any trusted negotiator that will include the re-establishment of stability and calm to the region, and ensure the security of the citizens of Israel," the am-

bassador voiced.

While expressing the Israeli government's message to the civilians in Gaza, he said that "the message is very clear. We have nothing against the civilians in Gaza. Our operation is against Hamas and other terror organizations". He continued that "Israel's IDF is doing the utmost to reduce to a minimum the harm caused to uninvolved civilians".

Since the conflict between Israel and Hamas, which controls Gaza flared up more than a week ago, air strikes and cross-border shelling have hit Israel and Gaza.

NLM

International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development-ICIMOD scopes partnership in Myanmar

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 15 July—A three-member team from the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) is visiting Myanmar to forge deeper partnership with a number of government and non-government actors, including the media.

It is the ICIMOD's second round of scoping mission to Myanmar from 13 to 18 July followed by the first round in April.

Ms. Nira Gurung, ICIMOD's senior communications officer, who is part of

the three-member ICIMOD team, told The New Light of Myanmar on Tuesday that the ICIMOD team held talks with Dr. Nyi Nyi Kyaw, director-general of the Department of Forestry, and officials in Nay Pyi Taw on Monday. According to her, the director-general who is also the one representing the Myanmar government in ICIMOD's Board of Governors asserted that the cooperation between Myanmar and ICIMOD could be further strengthened and acknowledged that communication is very important to pass

on accurate information to Myanmar people.

According to the ICIMOD team, its primary aim is to meet appropriate agencies to establish long-term knowledge and media partners based on ICIMOD's Knowledge Management and Communication Strategy.

ICIMOD-led projects in Myanmar are Rural Livelihoods and Climate Change Adaptation in the Himalayas in Inlay Lake, Shan State and Brahmaputra-Salween Landscape Conservation and (See page 2)



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY CAMPAIGN IN MYANMAR: The ICIMOD-supported event was organized by Enpower Consultancy at Kandawgyi Park in Yangon on 7 June.—PHOTO CREDIT: ENPOWER CONSULTANCY

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2nd Myanmar Banking Development Conferencing at Sule Shangri-La Hotel from 15 to 17 July



YANGON, 15 July—The Myanmar Banking and Business Development Conference 2014 will be held at Sule Shangri-La Hotel on Sule Pagoda Road, Yangon from 15 to 17 July. U Set Aung, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar,

U Set Aung, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar addresses the Myanmar Banking Development Conference.—PHOTO: THANT ZIN WIN

Dr. Aung Thura, CEO of Thura Swiss, Myanmar, representatives of Myanmar banks and Thailand, Singapore, China participated in the first day of the Myanmar Banking Development Conference and representatives from local banks and foreign attended.

The event is the only strategic banking conference in Myanmar, where banking professionals from across the world discuss global financial integration and the opening up of the banking sector in Myanmar.—Thant Zin Win

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission Nay Pyi Taw

**Notification No. (25/2014)
4th Waning of Waso, 1376 ME
(15 July, 2014)**

Chin League for Democracy allowed to register as political party

The Chin League for Democracy headquartered at No. 1097 on Pyidaungsu Road in Ward 45 of Dagon Myothit (North) Township of Yangon Region was allowed to register as a political party under Section 9 of the Political Parties Registration Law on 15 July 2014.

The registration number of the party was 75.

By order,

(Tin Tun)

Secretary

Union Election Commission

10 fire trucks, 488 reels of hose donated to Fire Services Department

NAY PYI TAW, 15 July—A total of 1,773 fire trucks have been given to 357 fire stations in regions and states, said Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun at the fire truck and hose donation ceremony to the Fire Services Department under the Ministry of Home Affairs at the FSD Office in Nay Pyi Taw on

Wednesday.

The Ministry of Home Affairs is recruiting members for the Fire Services Department and is extending new fire stations under the plan, he said.

Minister-Councillor Mr. Ichiro Maruyama of the Japanese Embassy explained the purpose of the donation under the programme of Grant Assis-

tance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) of the Japanese Government.

Chairman of the Japan-Myanmar Association for Culture & Economic Exchange (JMACE) Mr Osamu Uno handed over documents related to 10 fire trucks and 488 reels of hose to Director-General U Tin Moe of FSD.

MNA



Fire trucks and reels of hose donated by Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) of the Japanese Government.—MNA

By Aung Khin

YANGON, 15 July — A total of 34 illegal Myanmar immigrants was arrested on Tuesday as Thai police raided a house of a human trafficking ring near Mae Tao village of Mae Sot district, which borders Myanmar to the west.

The Mae Sot based JACBA, an advocacy group for Myanmar immigrants in Thailand, told the New Light of Myanmar that, “During the raid, 34 illegal Myanmar immigrants and four members of the Thai trafficking ring were arrested, and two vehicles confiscated.”

U Moe Gyo, chairman

of JACBA, said “Members of human trafficking rings from Thailand and Myanmar are enticing innocent Myanmar people who want to get jobs in Thailand. Although many illegal immigrants have fallen victims to these trafficking rings, only few people could be arrested.”

He added that human traffickers often bribe corrupt Thai police to bring workers into the country.

Section 52 of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of the Kingdom stipulates that ‘whoever commits an offence of trafficking in persons shall be liable to the punishment of an impris-

onment from four years to ten years and subjected to a fine from 80,000 Baht to 200,000 Baht.

The JACBA also remarked that due to the lack of law enforcement, many Myanmar migrant workers are still falling victim to trafficking rings.

NLM

Myanmar migrant workers interrogated by officials of Thailand.

34 illegal Myanmar immigrants arrested in Mae Sot



Workshop on intellectual property rights conducted

NAY PYI TAW, 15 July —A workshop on “international best practice for the role of courts to protect intellectual property” was jointly conducted by the United States Agency for International Development-Economic Reforms

and ASEAN Integration Plan (USAID-ERA), the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and the Supreme Court of the Union at the Royal Ace Hotel here on Tuesday, sources said.

U Soe Nyunt, Judge at the Supreme Court of

the Union, said Myanmar is making arrangements to stipulate laws related to intellectual property rights, adding that courts play a key role in protecting these rights.

The workshop will continue until 17 June.—MNA

International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development-ICIMOD . . .

(from page 1)

Development Initiative, which is jointly implemented by the governments of China, India and Myanmar.

“That’s why continuous communication with our partners in Myanmar is critical for the success of these projects,” said Ms. Anja Rasmussen, ICIMOD’s Knowledge Management and Communication Head.

Myanmar joined the International Centre for Integrated Mountain De-

velopment (ICIMOD) in 1990, placing the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry as focal ministry. It has carried out several activities including environmental conservation, heightening public awareness on sustainable mountain development and capacity building in collaboration with the ICIMOD since then.

The Kathmandu-based ICIMOD, a regional intergovernmental learning and knowledge sharing

centre serving the eight member countries of the Hindu Kush Himalayas—Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal and Pakistan, is working to develop an economically and environmentally sound mountain ecosystem to improve the living standards of mountain populations and to sustain vital ecosystem services for the billions of people living downstream now, and for the future.

NLM

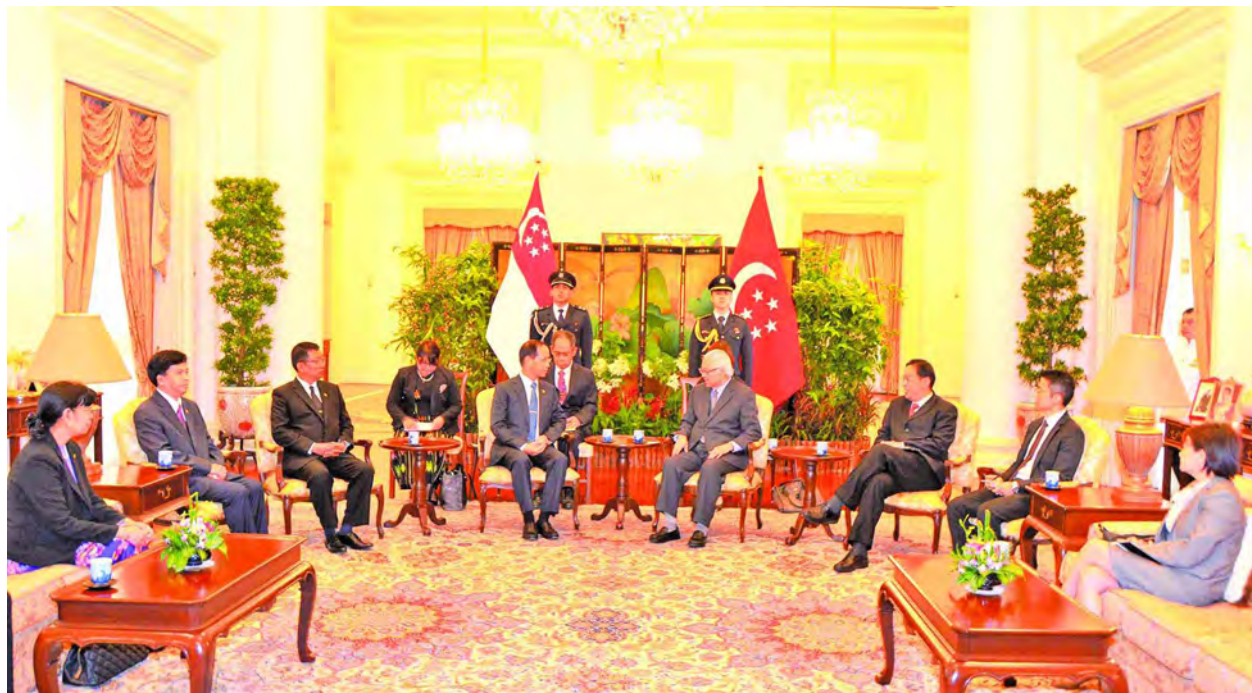
Vice President Dr. Sai Mauk Kham calls on Singaporean President, visits Asian Civilizations Museum

NAY PYI TAW, 15 July—Myanmar Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, who is on a five-day visit to Singapore, called on Singaporean President Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam at the Istana on Tuesday, sources said.

Their discussions included bilateral cooperation in technology, mutual co-operation in enhancing Myanmar's capacity under the ASEAN Integration Plan, Singapore's assistance to the opening of a vocational school in Yangon in 2015, and education and health care reforms in Myanmar.

In the afternoon, Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and his delegation toured the Asian Civilizations Museum, where he received briefings on the aspects of culture and civilization by officials.

Mr Yeo Whee Jim,



Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham with Singaporean President Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam and Singaporean officials, getting inspiration for the reform process in Myanmar.—MNA

Director of the Culture and Heritage Department under the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth,

gave an account of Singapore's cultural background and the development of civilization through the par-

ticipation of civil society, the founding of a national museum, the establishment of the National Arts Centre,

measures to attract school children to culture and arts, and funds for a better civilization.

Similarly, Ms Heedi Tan and officials from the Asian Civilizations Museum briefed the Myanmar delegation led by Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham on the display of Myanmar cultural arts at the museum, which they said is an incentive for Singaporeans to follow the examples the Myanmar people have set.

The cultural artifacts showcased at the museum in Singapore are said to be over 1,500 years old and some of them are sculptures made of gold, bronze and wood, including wall paintings dating back to Sri Khestra and Bagan times.

Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham also viewed paintings, sculptures and statues of India and China at the museum, sources said.

MNA

Union Government urged to halt military operations in Shan State

NAY PYI TAW, 15 July—At the Lower House on Tuesday, an urgent proposal calling for the union

government to quickly halt military operations in Kehsi township of Loilem district, Shan State was issued.

U Sai Um Hsai Mai from Kehsi township said clashes were responsible for the displacement of ci-

vilians, who are now taking refuge in nearby monasteries. Over 200 people have been displaced and among

them Buddhist monks, he said.

In response to him, Deputy Minister for Defence Maj-Gen Kyaw Nyunt explained that the commander-in-chief of defence services has always strived for regional peace and stability, expressing his understanding that civilians are innocent victims of clashes between government forces and armed groups in areas lacking peace. He also pledged prompt action by watching the incident in question closely.

The Upper House on Tuesday approved of a national education bill, calling the bill a national education system bill capable of producing acceptable human resources and promoting the language, literature, culture,

arts, tradition and historical heritage of all ethnic groups residing in the State.

The Upper House also added a definition to the learner-centred approach in the national education bill, which reads the learner-centred approach is a teaching-learning process that requires teachers to employ effective teaching methods to help learners grow in the learning process and shapes a friendly relationship between teachers and students.

Other issues discussed were the prospect of upgrading the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway to ensure a safety and the prospect of landscaping Yangon and Mandalay like the capital city, Nay Pyi Taw.

MNA



The Lower House in Nay Pyi Taw addressing the violence in Shan State.—MNA

Thura U Shwe Mann receives Danish ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 15 July—Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Lower House speaker Thura U Shwe Mann on Tuesday received the Ambassador of Denmark to Myanmar H.E. Mr. Mikael Hemniti Winther at Parliament Building here.

Mr. Mikael Hemniti Winther is the Danish ambassador to Myanmar, Thailand and Cambodia, and his diplomatic mission is based in Bangkok, Thai-

land.

The meeting was also attended by U Hla Myint Oo, chairman of House International Relations Committee, and Daw Aye Aye Mu, member of Legal Affairs and Special Affairs Assessment Commission.

In the afternoon, Thura U Shwe Mann, U Khin Aung Myint, speaker of the Upper House, and the staff members of their offices donated Waso robes to the Buddhist monks at the same venue.

MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Lower House speaker Thura U Shwe Mann hold talks with Ambassador of Denmark to Myanmar Mr. Mikael Hemniti Winther.—MNA



Myanmar-produced vehicles to disappear from Mandalay roads due to safety concerns

MANDALAY, 15 July—The Mandalay Region Directorate of Road Transport has announced that vehicles produced in Myanmar by local companies will have to be handed in as of July 14 as they are of low quality, posing a danger to road safety, officials said. The vehicles include cars from Mandalay Industrial Zone, Shan Star Jeeps from Aye Tha Yar Industrial Zone and jeeps from Monywa and Yenangyoung Industrial Zones and Dagon Jeep from Yangon Industrial Zone, which all have to be handed over to the directorate.

According to estimates, 12,000 vehicles manufactured in various industrial zones are used across the nation and about



3,000 in the Mandalay Region.

In return for handing over the Myanmar vehicles, the directorate will allow the import of vehicles costing less than 15,000US\$ and these ve-

hicles will be levied with a 20-percent tax exemption.

On 1 August, tuk-tuks will also be abolished, officials said. The import of vehicles less than 1350cc will be allowed with a 20-percent tax exemption,

with the price of automobiles likely to decline on the domestic market, according to the Mandalay Pyigy Myetshin automobile dealer market.

Thiha Ko Ko
(Mandalay)

Bridge, library commissioned into service in Mon state



Newly-opened library under title Youth Capacity is ready to give literary service to local bookworms.

BILIN, 15 July—A rural bridge and library were opened in Paingdawei Village of Bilin Township in Mon State on Monday, officials said.

“The newly-opened bridge will make the flow of commodities from our village and six other villages easier to the urban market. The library will also help to improve literacy among local people,” said retired teacher U Saw Tun Tun Oo of Paingdawei Village.

The Department of Rural Development spent K18 million, with locals

paying K6 million on construction of the reinforced concrete bridge which is 40 feet long and 18 feet wide.

The Mon State Government allotted K1 million and Paingdawei monastery Sayadaw and local people K4.5 million for construction of the “Youth Capacity” library.

The Township Administrator, the head of Township Information and Public Relations Department and nine wellwishers donated books and various publications worth K111,500 to the library.

Thet Oo (Thaton)

MINBU, 15 July—Minbu Township Department of Rural Development dredged the rainwater lake in Kanyay Village of the township in Magway Region.

The department spent their water-supply fund on dredging the lake under the supervision of the Head of the Township Department U Aung Phone Lin and local authorities.

Following the operation, rainwater will be stored at the lake in the rainy season.

Thura Tun (Magway)

Winners awarded in impromptu talk contest

SHWEBO, 15 July—Film Academy Director Kyi Soe Tun welcomed participation of students in an impromptu talk contest at the Basic Education Middle School Branch in Padaung Village of Shwebo Township in Sagaing Region on 12 July.

After explaining the purpose of the contest, the film director presented prizes to the winning students.

The impromptu talk contest was organized by the film director with the aim of improving the skills



of the students.

Last year, he opened a village library in the com-

pound of the BEMS branch as Padaung Village is his native village.—U Kyaw Zaw

DRD re-dredging rainwater lake in Minbu Tsp



REGIONAL

Philippines evacuates coastal areas as typhoon aims for Manila

MANILA, 15 July — The Philippines evacuated eastern coastal areas, suspended ferry services and closed schools in parts of the main Luzon island on Tuesday as the strongest storm to hit the country since Typhoon Haiyan last year charted a direct course for the capital Manila.

Typhoon Rammasun, with gusts of up to 150 kph (93 mph) and maximum winds of 120 kph (75 mph) near the centre, was expected to make landfall over the eastern province of Albay and Sorsogon within hours.

Tropical Storm Risk described Rammasun, expected to bring moderate to intense rainfall of up to 25 mm per hour within its 500-km (300-mile) radius, as a category-one typhoon in a scale of one to five.

It is the strongest storm to threaten the country since Haiyan, a



Fishermen secure their boat in Cavite Province, the Philippines, on 15 July, 2014. People prepared for the typhoon Rammasun as the first major storm of the rainy season strengthened into a typhoon on Tuesday.—XINHUA

category-five “super typhoon”, wiped out nearly everything in its path when it crossed the central Philippines in November.

On its current path, it will also be the first to score a direct hit on Manila in at least four years, the weather bureau said.

The storm will pass north of Eastern Samar and Leyte, the provinces worst hit by Haiyan, where some residents are still living in tent cities due to the slow progress in typhoon rebuilding. But these areas may still experience heavy rain and strong winds.

Storm surges of up to three metres were expected in coastal villages, the weather bureau said.

Albay Province has ordered the evacuation of low-lying and coastal areas, as well as landslide-prone villages, the province’s website said.—Reuters

Thai air force approves flexible use of military airspace

BANGKOK, 15 July — The Royal Thai Air Force (RTAF) has agreed to a proposal of allowing commercial flights through restricted military airspace at certain times, local media reported on Tuesday.

The Aeronautical Radio of Thailand (AEROTHAI), which controls the national air traffic, has negotiated with the RTAF about the flexible use of military airspace for more than a decade, AEROTHAI president Sarinee Sangprasit was quoted by *Bangkok Post* as saying.

A joint civilian-military committee and working panels will be established to work out details concerning the proposal, Sarinee said.

AEROTHAI has developed the “Seamless ASEAN Sky” system, which aims at enhancing air traffic management and increasing the flexibility in airspace use, the president said, adding the advanced technology is expected to make possible the flexible use of more airspace in five to 10 years.—Xinhua

Boat with suspected Indonesian illegal workers sinks off Malaysia; at least two dead

KUALA LUMPUR, 15 July — A boat carrying about 80 Indonesians sank early on Tuesday off the southern coast of Malaysia after colliding with a patrol boat out to arrest illegal workers, a Malaysian maritime official said.

A spokesman for the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) said two passengers were confirmed drowned, while around 17 remain missing. Search and rescue operations were still ongoing in the waters off Tanjung Piai in the southern state of Johor, he added.

“We are working with the police, marine officials and public defence department to find the rest,” the MMEA official said.

Local newspapers said the passengers were illegal Indonesian workers and that the boat was en route to Indonesia.

In June, an overloaded boat carrying suspected illegal Indonesian immigrants sank as it left Malaysia’s west coast, killing at least 10 passengers.

Malaysia, one of Southeast Asia’s wealthier economies, has long been a magnet for illegal immigrants from Indonesia and other poorer countries in the region. Many undocumented Indonesians work in Malaysia’s extensive oil palm plantations, a mainstay of its economy.—Reuters

Kim Jong Un supervises rocket launches close to South Korea border

SEOUL, 15 July — North Korea on Tuesday showed detailed photos of Kim Jong Un directing rocket launches from a site close to the South in an apparent act of defiance that puts a personal face of its leader to actions provoking its neighbours.

Satellite imagery and photos released by state media show the rockets were fired several kilometres north of a popular South Korean tourist observatory near the inter-Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ).

The roar of rockets and the burning trails from the Soviet-era projectiles on Monday could be seen rising from clouds of smoke between mountains on the North Korean side, footage filmed by staff members at the observatory and obtained by *Reuters* showed.

It was not immediately clear why North Korea conducted drills so close to the border, but state media has in recent days called the presence of a US Navy air-



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un pays a visit to the construction site of a terminal at Pyongyang International Airport in this undated photo released by North Korea’s Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) in Pyongyang on 11 July, 2014.—REUTERS

craft carrier in South Korea a “sinister interference”.

“They know South Korean officials will report their missile launches so they’ve decided to seize the initiative and announce it themselves,” said Michael Madden, an expert on the

North Korean leadership.

“They’ll get themselves into the news cycle, or attach themselves into a story, rather than let South Korea do so,” he said.

North Korea routinely fires short range missiles or rockets into waters off

its east and west coasts, but state media rarely shows Kim supervising drills so close to South Korea and has only in recent weeks shown the young leader present at short-range ballistic missile and rocket launches.—Reuters

Former US president arrives in western India

NEW DELHI, 15 July — Former US President Bill Clinton on Tuesday arrived in Jaipur, the capital of the western Indian state of Rajasthan, to have a glimpse of an NGO-run mid-day meal scheme for school children.

Sources said that the former president would visit the mid-day meal kitchen on Wednesday and then leave for Lucknow, the capital of the northern state of Uttar Pradesh, on Thursday. Clinton will visit a school and community centre in Lucknow, the Clinton Foundation said in a release.—Xinhua

S Korea to host special summit with ASEAN leaders in December

SEOUL, 15 July — South Korean President Park Geun-hye will host a special summit with leaders of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) later this year in the southern port city of Busan, president of office Cheong Wa Dae said on Tuesday. The special summit will be held from 11 to 12 December to mark the 25th anniversary of the dialogue between the two sides, the presidential office said in a statement.

The office said South

Korea and ASEAN have made great strides in boosting bilateral ties since the two sides set up the dialogue mechanism in 1989.

The Southeast Asian bloc is comprised of Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Vietnam.

ASEAN became South Korea's second-biggest trade partner, and the second-largest destination for overseas investment.

Trade between the two sides reached 134.3 billion

US dollars in 2013, when South Korea spent 3.8 billion dollars on investment in the Southeast Asian nations. South Korea received construction orders worth 14.3 billion dollars from the ASEAN members.

The office said it will strengthen the South Korea-ASEAN strategic partnership further through the special summit. The two sides signed a free trade pact in 2009, and upgraded their relations to the strategic partnership a year later.

Xinhua



US military transfers 1st air tanker to Iwakuni from Okinawa
Photo taken on 15 July, 2014, shows a US military KC-130 air refueling tanker arriving at the Iwakuni base in the western Japan prefecture of Yamaguchi in the first transfer under a bilateral agreement to reduce the disproportionate burden of hosting US bases on Okinawa.—KYODO NEWS

Multilateral ties key to easing tensions with China: Japan navy chief

HONOLULU, 15 July — Japan's top naval officer said on Monday a multilateral framework such as the ongoing US-led Rim of the Pacific Exercise is vital for easing tensions with China over territorial claims in the East China Sea.

"It is hard for Japan and China to talk bilaterally but maintaining communication on a multilateral basis will stabilize" the situation, Adm. Katsutoshi Kawano, chief of staff of the Maritime Self-Defence Force, said in a press conference.

Kawano was in Hawaii to take a look at RIMPAC, the biennial multinational naval exercises running through 1 August with more than 20 countries, including Japan, taking part. China has joined the world's largest maritime drills for the first time.—Kyodo News

Indian parliament adjourned over journalist's meeting with Mumbai terror attacks mastermind

NEW DELHI, 15 July — The Indian parliament was on Tuesday adjourned following ruckus from opposition parties, mainly the Congress, over the recent meeting between a senior Indian journalist and the alleged mastermind of Mumbai terror attacks, Hafiz Saeed, in Pakistan. The Congress alleges that the journalist, Ved Pratap Vaidik, an aide of yoga guru Ramdev, had met India's most wanted terrorist in Lahore as an emissary of the Bharatiya Janata Par-

ty (BJP)-led Indian government which, however, claims it had no role to play in the meeting.

"The man is an RSS (Rashtriya Swamsewak Sangh, the ideological mentor of BJP) man. That is a known fact. We are curious to know if the Indian embassy facilitated this meeting," Nehru-Gandhi scion and Congress vice president Rahul Gandhi told the media outside the parliament. The Congress party wants the journalist be arrested and sedition

charges pressed against him for meeting Saeed, the founder of the banned terror outfit Lashker-e-Toiba.

However, Indian Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said that the government neither facilitated the 69-year-old journalist's meeting with Saeed on 2 July nor has Vaidik any links with the BJP or the RSS. "The government has not sanctioned permission to anyone for meeting him (Hafiz Saeed)," he told the parliament.

Vaidik insists he met

Saeed on his personal capacity and doesn't regret meeting Saeed who allegedly masterminded the Mumbai massacre in which over 170 people were killed by Pakistani militants in 2008. "When I went to Pakistan, a meeting with Hafiz Saeed wasn't planned. Journalists there asked me — you criticize Hafiz Saeed so much, have you ever met him? I have been in journalism 55 years and I have never said no to meeting anyone," he said.

Xinhua

China tells US to stay out of South China Seas dispute

BEIJING, 15 July — China told the United States on Tuesday to stay out of disputes over the South China Sea and leave countries in the region to resolve problems themselves, after Washington said it wanted a freeze on stoking tension.

Michael Fuchs, US deputy assistant secretary of state for Strategy and Multilateral Affairs, said no country was solely responsible for escalating tension in the region. But he reiterated the US view that "provocative and unilateral" behaviour by China had raised questions about its willingness to abide by international law.

China claims 90 percent of the South China Sea, which is believed to contain oil and gas deposits and has rich fishery resources. Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Vietnam and Taiwan also lay claim to parts of the sea, where about \$5 trillion of ship-borne trade passes every year.

China's Foreign Min-



A Chinese Coast Guard vessel (R) passes near the Chinese oil rig, Haiyang Shi You 981 (L) in the South China Sea, about 210 km (130 miles) from the coast of Vietnam on 13 June, 2014. —REUTERS

istry repeated that it had irrefutable sovereignty over the Spratly Islands, where most of the competing claims overlap, and that China continued to demand

the immediate withdrawal of personnel and equipment of countries which were "illegally occupying" China's islands.

"What is regretful

is that certain countries have in recent years have strengthened their illegal presence through construction and increased arms build up," the ministry said

in a statement.

China would resolutely protect its sovereignty and maritime rights and had always upheld resolving the issue based on di-

rect talks with the countries involved "on the basis of respecting historical facts and international law", it added.

China "hopes that countries outside the region strictly maintain their neutrality, clearly distinguish right from wrong and earnestly respect the joint efforts of countries in the region to maintain regional peace and stability", it added, in reference to the United States.

Recent months have seen flare-ups in disputes over rival offshore claims.

Anti-Chinese riots erupted in Vietnam in May after China's state oil company CNOOC deployed an oil rig in waters also claimed by Hanoi.

Relations between China and the Philippines have also been tested in recent months by their dispute over a different area. A Foreign Ministry spokesman in Manila said the Philippines strongly supported the US call for all sides to stop aggravating the tension.—Reuters

WORLD

Obama tells China's Xi wants 'constructive management of differences'

WASHINGTON, 15 July — US President Barack Obama told Chinese President Xi Jinping on Monday he wants US-China relations defined by more cooperation and a constructive management of differences during a phone call in which Iran and North Korea were discussed.

Escalating tensions between China and some countries in the South China Sea and with Japan in the East China Sea, as well as US charges over hacking and Internet spying, have provoked anger on both sides of the Pacific in recent months.

A White House statement about the Obama-Xi conversation did not get into the details of US-China tensions. It came after two days of talks in Beijing that were an opportunity for the world's two biggest economies to lower tensions after months of bickering over a host of issues.



US President Barack Obama

Obama and Xi have tried to develop a working relationship over the past year, meeting for two days in June 2013 at a retreat in the California desert and, more recently, chatting in March at The Hague on the fringes of an international summit.

However, their talks

have done little to resolve festering issues in the Asia-Pacific region. The statement suggested the two leaders would seek to work together when they can despite their disagreements.

"The president reaffirmed his commitment

to developing a relationship defined by increased practical cooperation and constructive management of differences," the White House said. China's official Xinhua news agency said Xi told Obama that the two countries should continue to meet each other half way

and keep strengthening cooperation on key issues like climate change.

Obama told Xi he looked forward to seeing him at an Asia-Pacific summit in Beijing in November. The White House statement said Obama stressed to Xi the need for communication and coordination on actions with China to ensure North Korea meets its denuclearization commitments. China is North Korea's only major ally. Last week, North Korea launched short-range missiles that were in defiance of a UN ban that prohibits Pyongyang from using or procuring ballistic missile technology that could be used in its nuclear or intercontinental ballistic missile programmes.

Xinhua said only that the two leaders "exchanged views" on the situation on the Korean peninsula.

The two leaders also reviewed efforts to persuade Iran to agree to a nuclear agreement by a 20

July deadline. The White House said the two leaders "discussed the need for continued US-China cooperation" in the ongoing international negotiations between Iran and six world powers.

"The president underscored the need for Iran to take the steps necessary to assure the international community that its nuclear programme is exclusively peaceful," the statement said.

China and Iran have close energy and trade ties, and Beijing has repeatedly resisted US-led demands to impose tougher economic sanctions on Iran to curb its nuclear ambitions.

Iran says it is enriching uranium for peaceful energy purposes only. Xi said that China was willing to work with the United States to ensure a comprehensive, lasting solution, despite the difficulties that still needed to be overcome, Xinhua reported.—Reuters

Former central China political advisor expelled from Party

BEIJING, 15 July — Yang Baohua, a former senior political advisor of central China's Hunan Province, had been stripped of Party membership for serious discipline and law violation, the discipline watchdog of the Communist Party of China (CPC) said on Tuesday.

The CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI) said in a statement that Yang was found to have taken advan-

tage of his position to seek interests for others, taken huge bribes and committed adultery.

Yang was former vice chairman of the Hunan Provincial Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

The CCDI said Yang's case has been transferred to judiciary for alleged infringement of law.

Xinhua

Ukraine says Russian army officers fighting alongside rebels



Residents of the Donetsk region in eastern Ukraine prepare to board buses for Rostov-on-Don in Russia from a collection point in Donetsk on 14 July, 2014.

REUTERS

KIEV, 15 July — Ukraine accused Russian army officers on Monday of fighting alongside separatists in the east of the country and said Moscow was once more building up its troops on the joint border. A missile that downed a Ukrainian transport plane carrying eight people near the border was probably fired from Russia, Ukrainian officials said. President Petro Poroshenko held an emergency meeting of his security chiefs after a week-end of Ukrainian air strikes on rebel positions near the border with Russia and charges by Moscow that Kiev killed a Russian man with a cross-border shell. The war of words between

Kiev and Moscow and intense fighting, in which Ukrainian forces say they inflicted heavy losses on the rebels, marked a sharp escalation in the 3-1/2 month conflict in which several hundred Ukrainian servicemen, civilians and rebels have been killed.

"Information has ... been confirmed that Russian staff officers are taking part in military operations against Ukrainian forces," Poroshenko said.

Diplomatic efforts to defuse the crisis have so far made little progress.

However, German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier said a "Contact Group" — which includes Russia, Ukraine and the

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) — aimed to talk to the rebels by video link on Tuesday and meet them in person soon afterwards.

Speaking after what he described as "difficult talks" on the telephone with his French, Russian and Ukrainian counterparts, Steinmeier said all parties were making a "strong effort" for the Contact Group to hold the video conference and agree a venue for the direct meeting. Poroshenko made similar complaints of Russian incursions on Sunday to the European Union with an eye to pushing the bloc to exert greater pressure, and possibly more sanctions, on Moscow.

Poroshenko told his security chiefs that government forces, which lost 23 men in a rocket attack on an army camp last Friday, were now facing a new Russian missile system and there would have to be a change in tactics. He gave no details. Accusing Russia of embarking on a course of escalation in Ukraine's eastern regions, National and Security Council spokesman Andriy Lysenko told journalists: "In the past 24 hours, deployment of (Russian) units and military equipment across the border from the Sumy and Luhansk border points was noticed. The Russian Federation continues to build up troops on the border." NATO said Russia had increased its forces along the border and now had 10,000-12,000 troops in the area.

Lysenko added that three Ukrainian soldiers had been killed and 12 more injured in the fighting in the past 24 hours.

Moscow's response to the cross-border shelling and the Ukrainian reports of Russian troops being moved up to the border raised again the prospect of Russian intervention, after weeks in which President Vladimir Putin had appeared intent on disengaging, pulling back tens of thousands of troops he had massed at the frontier.—Reuters

Envoys from 71 nations to attend Hiroshima A-bomb ceremony

HIROSHIMA, 15 July — The city of Hiroshima said on Tuesday representatives from 71 nations and the European Union are scheduled to attend an upcoming annual ceremony to mark the 69th anniversary of the US atomic bombing of the city.

Cambodia, Cyprus, Liberia, the Maldives and Portugal will send delegates to the on 6 August ceremony for the first time. Among nuclear-weapons

states, Britain, France, India, Pakistan will attend, while China, Russia and the United States have yet to announce whether they will do so.

Israel, a de-facto nuclear-weapons state, and Iran, which is suspected of pursuing nuclear arms, will also attend.

The attendance of North Korea, also thought to be developing nuclear weapons, is to be determined.—Kyodo News

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 16 July, 2014

Onset of peace lies inside us

By Aung Khin

Pace, in terms of psychology, means not letting cling to physical or mental objects which can disturb the mind. Craving for objects harms the development of a peaceful mind as greed arises with envy and jealousy.

If the mind isn't at peace, it will hold onto

things as its self or belonging to its self. Then it will suffer from stress and loss of tranquility. Philosophers have reminded us that when someone has self-confidence, he will not worry about failure in life.

Strong attachment to luxurious things, power, authority or sensual pleasure often comes along with negligence of sympathy, kindness and respect to others. Every cause has its effect though time is not fixed for the outcome.

Internal peace should be developed first as there are many challenges to acquire genuine peace regarding external sources. Harmony and consistency between plans and deeds are the fundamentals for peace. Mutual understanding and respect can eliminate aggression and selfishness.

Most of the ordinary people intrinsically believe that a good result is because of their excellence, while a bad result is due to the inability of others. This perception then turns to arrogance. Every conditioned matter has their underlying cause or causes. The phenomenon of 'existence' and 'cessation' is a common theory.

As onset of peace lies inside us, everybody should release negativity, selfishness, anger, mind chaos and pessimism to create a peaceful and better society.

Write for us

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

Union Minister holds talks with Rakhine nationals in Sittway



Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win and Chief Minister U Maung Maung Ohn meet townsenders in Sittway.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 15 July—Vice Chairman of the Rakhine State Peace and Stability and Development Central Committee Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win and Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Kyaw Kyaw Win held a meeting with Rakhine State Chief Minister U

Maung Maung Ohn at the latter's office in Sittway on Monday.

In meeting with the chief ministers, state ministers and Rakhine national townsenders at the Union level emergency coordination centre in Sittway, the Union minister explained a long-term plan of the Rakhine State Peace and Sta-

bility and Development Central Committee and work committees.

The chief minister invited cooperation and discussions of the local people in implementing a future plan for Rakhine State. Townsellers expressed their opinions for the development of Rakhine State.—MNA

Youths trained for emergency cases during natural disaster

YANGON, 15 July—An instructor course for volunteers for social welfare and natural disaster reduction kicked off at the Social Welfare Institute on Kyaik-waing Pagoda Road in Mayangon Township of Yangon on Tuesday.

At the training course, social welfare techniques, community-based child care tasks, youth and community tasks, natural disaster prevention, relief and rehabilitation measures are being discussed with the 100 youths.

The course aims at producing skillful volunteers who can help in emergency situations during natural disasters with management.

Similar courses were conducted in Ayeyawady, Bago and Mandalay Re-

gions, Kayin State and Nay Pyi Taw Council for seven times.

At the ceremony, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat

Ohn Khin presented K70.273 million to 14 homes for the aged and philanthropic homes and eight self-reliant pre-primary schools of Yangon Region.—MNA



Union Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin speaking at opening of instructor course for volunteers for social welfare and natural disaster reduction.—MNA

Myanmar, Malaysia discuss cooperation in auto industry and rubber and oil palm cultivation

NAY PYI TAW, 15 July—Union Minister for Industry U Maung Myint met Malaysian Ambassador Dato' Dr Ahmad Faisal Muhamad at the ministry in

Nay Pyi Taw on Monday to hold talks about opportunities for cooperation in the economic sector.

They discussed investments in the automobile

industry of Tan Chong Nissan Co and Kyangin Cement Plant, and bilateral cooperation in rubber and oil palm cultivation.

MNA



Union Minister for Industry U Maung Myint holds talks with Malaysian Ambassador Dato' Dr Ahmad Faisal Muhamad.—MNA



Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung and wife being welcomed at the ceremony to mark National Day (Bastille Day) of the French Republic by French Ambassador Mr Thierry Mathou in Yangon on 14 July.—MNA

LOCAL NEWS

Authorities in Tamu Township to generate hydropower



TAMU, 15 July—"Two sites have been chosen at Mahuya Creek that flows from India to Myanmar for generating hydropower and it may generate about three megawatts," said Sagaing Region Hluttaw MP U Myint Aung recently.

The hydropower project will be conducted in cooperation with an Indian company. A MoU has been signed, he said.

One more site has been chosen at Yu Creek in Puttha Village, 13 miles of Tamu in Sagaing Region. It is estimated to generate 25 megawatts from all sites in Tamu Township.

"Five megawatts of hydropower will be sufficient in Tamu. If so, the township will develop," said the Hluttaw MP.

At present, local people have electricity through diesel engines from 7 pm to 10 pm daily, said U Kyaw Thura of Tamu.

Linlet Kyel Sin

Gemological Institute invites new trainees for gemological course



YANGON, 15 July—The Myanmar Gemological Institute will run a short-term course from 2 to 8 August on Applied Gemology which specializes in diamond, jade, ruby and sapphire for the development of the Myanmar jewellery industry and for creating opportunities for geological students and other interested persons.

Gemologists and entrepreneurs will give lectures on the trading of gems, sales of gems at Mogok, Mongshu, Mandalay and Shweli, scrutiny of gems quality, natural characteristics of diamonds, famous diamonds across the world, assessment of rubies and sapphires, and marketing of gems and importation.—MGI/NLM

Myanma Airways purchases new airplanes for its fleet



MANDALAY, 15 July—Myanma Airways under the Ministry of Transport has bought new E-Embraer airplanes to beef up its fleet and expand its schedule.

At present, Myanma Airways offers domestic flights at special rates, because of the monsoon period. Flight tickets are

sold at K35,000 per passenger from Mandalay to Yangon, K55,000 from Mandalay to Myitkyina, K47,500 from Mandalay to Kalay, K46,000 from Mandalay to Bhamo, K61,000 from Mandalay to Hkamti, K74,500 from Mandalay to Kengtung and K59,000 from Mandalay to

Homalin.

The route Mandalay-Yangon is flown daily, the Mandalay-Myitkyina five days a week and the Mandalay-Bhamo, Putao, Hkamti, Homalin and Kengtung three days a week.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Five Mandalay riot suspects released

MANDALAY, 15 July—Mandalay Region police investigated over nine suspects against whom lawsuits were filed by Chanayethazan Township Myoma police station.

They were detained at 34th street between 74th

and 75th streets in Mawragiwa Ward of Chanayethazan Township at 7 p.m. on 12 July.

Following the investigation, five of the nine suspects were found not to be in connection with any riots. On Monday, the five

peoples were handed over to their parents at Mawragiwa ward administrative office.

The remaining four are under further investigation, police officials said.

Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)

Hospital equipment donated to Kyangin Township Hospital



KYANGIN, 15 July—U Tin Naing Tun and wife Daw Aye Myat Myat

Khaing and family of No 53 on Taingtah Mingyi Street in Dagon East In-

dustrial Zone of Yangon on Sunday donated a patient trolley worth K350,000 to Kyangin Township People's Hospital of Ayeyawady Region through Township Medical Officer Dr Zaw Aung.

The wellwisher family also donated K100,000 and 14 sets of overcoats for free ambulance transport of Karuna social association of Kyangin, 100 pieces of jersey to the blood donors youth group, alms to over 40 monks of Nawingon free education school and suits to the teachers.

Htay Min

Locals in Sagaing hope ancient ritual to bring rain

KYUNHLA, 15 July—Locals in Inkaung Village of Kyunhla Township in Sagaing Region recently performed the ancient ritual of tug-of-war which is believed to bring rain and a good harvest.

"A tug-of-war had

never been organized in our village, but local people are urgently waiting for rainwater so their crops can thrive," said a local. "I have four acres of farmlands and 12 acres of croplands but I don't grow paddy yet due to inadequate rainfall. I

have placed croplands under groundnut and maize. We are all waiting for the rainwater," said farmer U Khin Maung Myint. Most of Myanmar's rural people believe in their tradition that a tug-of-war will bring rain.

Myo Win Nyo (Kyunhla)



Bodies found north of Baghdad as Sunni insurgents turn on each other

BAGHDAD, 15 July — Residents of a town north of Baghdad found 12 corpses with execution-style bullet wounds on Monday following fighting between rival Sunni insurgents that could eventually unravel a coalition which has seized much of northern and western Iraq. The incident points to an intensification of infighting between the Islamic State and other Sunni groups, such as supporters of former dictator Saddam Hussein, which rallied behind the al-Qaeda offshoot last month because of shared hatred for the Shi'ite-led Iraqi government.

Police in Muqdadia, a town 80 km (50 miles) northeast of the capital, said residents from the nearby town of Saadiya found the 12 corpses on Monday after fighting overnight between Islamic State fighters and the Naqshbandi Army, a group led by Saddam allies. Since the Islamic State swept through Iraqi cities and proclaimed its leader caliph of all Muslims last month, there have been increasing signs of conflict with other Sunni groups which do not necessarily share its rejection of Iraq's borders or its severe interpretation of Islam.

Washington, which recruited other Sunni fighters



Residents look at the site of a car bomb attack in Baghdad on 14 July, 2014. Two car bombs struck Baghdad on Monday, killing six people and wounding a dozen others, police and medical sources said. — REUTERS

to defeat al-Qaeda during the US surge offensive in 2006-2007, hopes other Sunnis will again turn against the Islamic State and can be lured back into a power-sharing government in Baghdad.

The White House has pressed for an inclusive government but so far Shi'ite Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki has ignored calls from Sunnis and Kurds to step down in favour of a less polarising figure who would allow Sunnis a greater voice.

Saadiya, a mostly Sunni town, was overrun by Islamic State militants on 10 June, the same day the city of Mosul fell to the

insurgents. It is in Diyala, a mainly rural province where lush irrigated fields have long sheltered armed groups that resent the arrival of outsiders.

Residents say the town is a stronghold of Naqshbandi Army fighters who supported the Islamic State when it swept into the area, but have since clashed with the group.

A doctor in the Baquba morgue, where the corpses were taken, said the men all bore bullet wounds to their heads and chest, though there was no sign of torture. He said the men had been dead no more than 24 hours.

The people who found

the bodies said the men were Naqshbandi fighters in their 20s and 30s, and blamed the Islamic State for the execution-style killings. The Saadiya residents brought the corpses to police in Muqdadia because the police in their town fled on 10 June when the insurgents swept in.

Local government official Ahmad al-Zarghosi, who also fled, told *Reuters* that he estimated 90 percent of the town had left to the north. Zarghosi, speaking from the town of Khanaqin, said fighting had been raging for a week between Naqshbandi locals and the Islamic State militants.

Reuters

Al-Qaeda's North African wing rejects Iraq-Syria caliphate

ALGIERS, 15 July — Al-Qaeda's North African wing has rejected the mediaeval-style caliphate declared by a militant Islamist group in Iraq and Syria, and confirmed its allegiance to al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahri, according to a statement posted on social media.

The group calling itself the Islamic State announced last month it was creating a caliphate on lands it has captured in Syria's civil war and during a rapid advance through swathes of Iraq.

In a direct challenge to al-Qaeda, its leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi assumed the title of caliph and issued a message seeking to assert authority over Muslims everywhere and rally them for jihad, or holy war. The Islamic State is an offshoot of al-Qaeda, whose global leadership has disowned it.

The statement attributed to al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) criticized Baghdadi's group for failing to consult with jihadi leaders, according to SITE, an authoritative US-based organization that monitors Islamist militant communiques.

"We confirm that we still adhere to our pledge of allegiance to our sheikh and emir, Ayman al-Zawahri," the statement said, referring to the Egyptian who took on al-Qaeda's leadership after US special forces killed Osama bin Laden in 2011.

AQIM was originally based in Algeria, but has expanded more widely across the Sahel region of North Africa. Its leader Abdelmalek Droukdel has been loyal to the core al-Qaeda leadership alongside other Islamist militant groups in the region.

Reuters

Iraqi army launches new assault on Tikrit — sources

BAGHDAD, 15 July — Iraq's army launched an assault Tuesday morning to try to retake the militant-held northern Iraqi city of Tikrit, an officer and a soldier involved in the attack told *Reuters*.

The attempt to retake Tikrit, which fell on June 12 to Sunni insurgents led by the extremist Islamic State group, began two-and-a-half weeks ago. The army has been saying for two weeks that its forces are on the outskirts of the city.—*Reuters*

Israel welcomes Egyptian-proposed Gaza truce, Hamas suspicious

GAZA/JERUSALEM, 15 July — An Egyptian-proposed deal that would halt the week-old Gaza shelling war was welcomed by Israel on Tuesday but regarded suspiciously by the Palestinian territory's dominant Hamas Islamists, who said they had not been consulted by Cairo.

Hamas's armed wing vowed its attacks would "increase in ferocity and intensity" but Palestinian rocket salvos waned ahead of the mooted 0600 GMT truce, with Israel saying there had been two cross-border launches overnight that caused no damage.

Israel said it bombed 25 sites in Gaza, where Palestinian officials said a 63-year-old man and a 52-year-old woman were killed — bringing the enclave's death toll to more

than 182, most of them civilians.

At Israeli military headquarters in Tel Aviv, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu convened his security cabinet for a vote on the ceasefire. Amos Gilad, a senior Israeli defence official and envoy to Cairo, cast the deal positively, saying Hamas had been weakened by the air and sea bombardment of impoverished Gaza. "Look at the balance, and you see that Hamas tried every possible means of striking at Israel while bringing great and terrible damage on its people, from their perspective," Gilad told Israel's Army Radio. "The Egyptian proposal includes a halt to all kind of (military) activity," he said. "What this proposal, if it is accepted, means is that, willy-nilly, Hamas did not

manage to make good on its intentions."

Sami Abu Zuhri, a Hamas spokesman in Gaza, said the Islamist group had not received an official ceasefire proposal, and he repeated its position that demands it has made must be met before it lays down its weapons.

Hamas's armed wing, the al-Qassam Brigades, rejected the reported text of the truce deal, saying: "Our battle with the enemy continues and will increase in ferocity and intensity."

The worst Gaza flare-up in two years has killed no one in Israel, largely due to its Iron Dome anti-missile system. But the frequent rocket salvos have disrupted life as air raid sirens sent people in much of the country racing to shelters.

In what may have been an effort to upstage Cairo's



Israeli police explosives experts stand next to the remains of a rocket fired by Palestinian militants in Gaza after it landed in a community outside the northern Gaza Strip on 14 July, 2014.—REUTERS

mediation, three rockets were launched from the Egyptian Sinai at the southern Israeli resort of Eilat, wounding four people, Israeli officials said. They said the salvo was likely fired by Islamist fighters hostile to Israel and the Egyptian government.

hold separate talks in Cairo within 48 hours to consolidate the ceasefire with "confidence-building measures".

The Arab League said in a statement it welcomed the Egyptian initiative "to protect the lives of the innocent". Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, who reached an agreement with Hamas in April that led to the formation of a unity government last month, welcomed the proposal and urged its acceptance, official Palestinian news agency Wafa said. US Secretary of State John Kerry will hold talk with Egyptian officials in Cairo on situation on Tuesday, Egypt's state news agency said. In Washington, US President Barack Obama on Monday spoke positively of the emerging ceasefire.

Reuters

HEALTH & BUSINESS

Sixth round of TTIP negotiations kick off in Brussels

BRUSSELS, 15 July — The sixth round of Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations between the European Union (EU) and the United States kicks off in Brussels on Monday.

The new round of talks aimed at removing trade barriers in a wide range of areas were held by EU chief negotiator Ignacio Garcia Bercero and his US counterpart Dan Mullane.

The US and EU leaders have initially set a

timetable for completing an agreement for TTIP by late 2014. But negotiations moved very slowly amid rising political and public resistance to the deal on both sides. The last round of talks was held in Washington in May.

An EU-US trade agreement would cut businesses' costs and generate enough growth and jobs to boost the EU economy by up to 120 billion euros (163 billion US dollars).

Xinhua

Panasonic set to sell off temporary staffing subsidiary



OSAKA, 15 July — Panasonic Corp is set to sell off its temporary staff service subsidiary with a registered workforce of 314,000, sources familiar with the matter said on Tuesday.

The electronic appliance manufacturer is planning to solicit bids for Panasonic Excel Staff Co in the fall and select the final buyer by the end of March 2015, the sources said. It apparently wants tens of billions of yen for the unit.

The move is a part of the Osaka-based group's strategy to concentrate on areas with greater growth potential such as automobile electronics and housing development.

Panasonic Excel Staff, established in 1989, dispatches office workers and engineers to Panasonic group companies as well as such manufacturers as Kyocera Corp. and Nissan Motor Co. It posted annual sales of 64 billion yen in fiscal 2013.

Kyodo News

Nickel in early iPad likely triggered allergy in boy

SAN FRANCISCO, 15 July — Nickel in a first-generation iPad likely triggered an allergic skin reaction in an 11-year-old boy, a case that highlights an increasingly common condition linked to the rapid adoption of consumer electronics, according to a study published by the *American Academy of Pediatrics* on Monday. Dr Sharon Jacob and Dr Shehla Admani, who are both dermatologists, studied severe skin rashes afflicting the unidentified 11-year-old boy for more than six months, before discovering that his daily use of an Apple Inc iPad may have brought on the condition. The boy's iPad, among the first versions of the device launched in 2010, tested positive for nickel, they said. The boy's dermatitis improved significantly after he started using a tablet case and began avoiding known sources of nickel in



A man looks at his Apple iPad in front an Apple logo outside an Apple store in downtown Shanghai on 16 March, 2012 file photo. — REUTERS

general, the study's authors said. The dermatologists said a cover only provides coverage of the screen and leaves the back of the device exposed.

The report was the latest in a series of studies that have linked nickel content in electronics such as computers and smartphones to allergic reactions. Nickel is a common allergy-inducing metal. It's unclear if all iP-

ads contain nickel, or just the first generation of the device, such as the boy's. The researchers said other common sources of nickel exposure for children included ear piercings, clothing fasteners, dental work — which people come into contact with constantly — laptops, cell phones and toys. Apple defended the safety of its products.

Reuters

Doctors find strategies to reduce medication errors among kids

NEW YORK, 15 July — Many kids are not taking their prescribed medications, or take an incorrect dose, due to weaknesses in the chain from prescribing to filling prescriptions to administering medication, according to a new review of past studies.

Between five and 27 percent of all pediatric medication orders result in children being prescribed or taking the wrong amount of the drug, and medication errors lead to approximately 7,000 deaths each year, the authors note.

There are ways to fix the problem, but they will require cooperation between doctors, pharmacists and families, said lead author Dr Michael L Rinke, a pediatrician at Children's Hospital at Montefiore in Bronx, New York.

"There are lots of different ways to do it, lots of different targets," he told



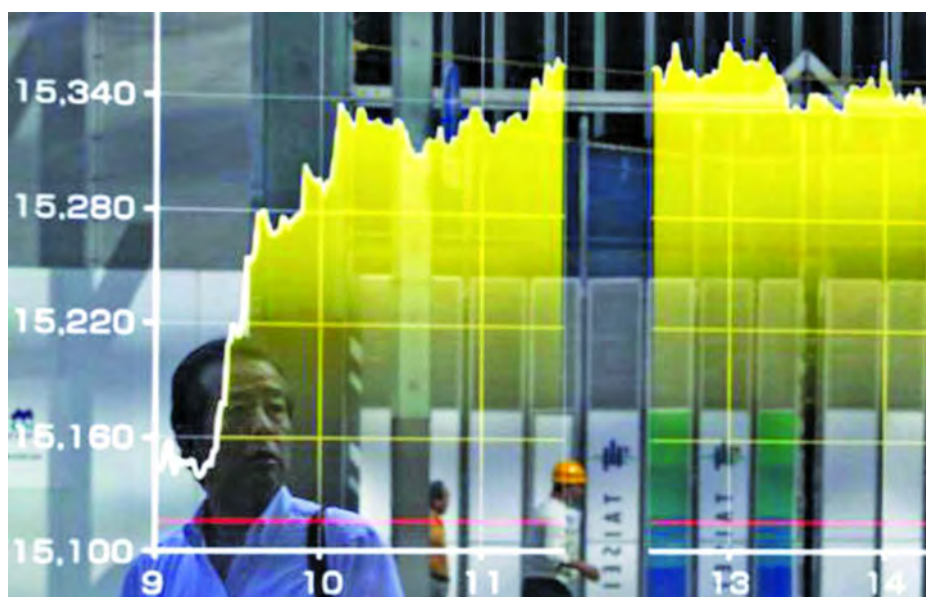
Doctors find strategies to reduce medication errors among kids. — REUTERS

Reuters Health. He and his colleagues reviewed 63 studies looking at such strategies. The differences between the studies made it difficult to say which interventions would work better than others, Rinke noted.

He said there's been more research on how doctors prescribe medications simply because that's easier to study than medication errors at home. For instance, the researchers found that doctors who used preprinted prescrip-

tion order sheets — which can be paper or electronic and are more legible, clear and standardized than handwritten orders — reduced prescribing errors by 27 to 82 percent. Among doctors who entered prescription orders into a computer, those whose software included clinical guidelines, diagnostic criteria and computerized reminders also had fewer prescribing errors, Rinke's team reported in *Pediatrics*.—Reuters

Asian shares gain, count on Fed's support



A pedestrian is reflected on an electronic board showing the graph of the recent fluctuations of Japan's Nikkei average outside a brokerage in Tokyo on 19 June, 2014. — REUTERS

TOKYO, 15 July — Asian shares rose on Tuesday after Citigroup's earnings and a fresh round of merger and acquisition activity in the US healthcare industry lifted global share prices. Yet, with elevated stock prices on Wall Street and elsewhere relying substantially on support from low interest rates, many investors now look to Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen's testimony in a US Senate committee.

"Markets expect her to stick to the stance that she will guide policy by watching the pace of recovery in the job market and the economy," said Hirokazu Kabeya, senior strategist at

Daiwa Securities.

Asian stock markets showed little reaction to stronger-than-expected new loan and money supply data for China. Chinese banks lent 1.08 trillion yuan (\$173.90 billion) worth of new yuan loans in June, beating expectations of 915 billion yuan, central bank data showed on Tuesday, as Beijing stepped up efforts to stimulate the economy. After a shaky start to the year, China's economy has recently shown signs of steadying as a series of government stimulus measures kick in, but many economists believe more policy support may still be needed to sustain a recovery.

Second-quarter GDP data will be released on Wednesday. Japan's Nikkei average rose 0.7 percent while South Korea's Kospi gained 0.8 percent. MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan gained 0.2 percent.

US stocks ended higher on Monday, with the Dow Jones industrial average hitting an intraday record, helped by Citigroup's better-than-expected earnings and more deals in the healthcare sector. Investors also put aside concerns about euro zone banks for now, as Portugal's biggest bank reassured investors of its stability, despite recent difficulties.—Reuters

Shi'ite group hands back army camp to Yemeni government

SANAA, 15 July — Shi'ite Muslim tribesmen handed back an army camp to the Yemeni government on Saturday, a spokesman for the group said, to try to defuse tensions caused by the capture of a provincial capital north of Sanaa this week.

The fall of Omran, some 50 kms (31 miles) north of the Yemeni capital, has drawn condemnation from the UN Security Council and a threat of military action by President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi, who had ordered the army to raise its preparedness level to "carry out any tasks that may be assigned to it".

The spokesman, Mohammed Abdul-Salam, said in a statement on the Houthi website that an army force despatched from Sanaa "had arrived to take charge of the 310 division headquarters and oversee the security presence in Omran Province".

Hussein al-Azzi, a politburo member of Ansarullah (Supporter of God), as the Houthi group is officially known, said all measures had been taken to facilitate the handover of the camp to the army, which he said had come as a result of "understandings reached with official authorities".

"And we are always ready for further understandings about the normalization of the situation in the province," he added in comments posted on his Facebook page.

The fighting has killed at least 200 people, displaced more than 35,000 and sparked widespread fears of further turmoil in the US-allied country of 25 million.

Yemen has been trying to recover from political crisis that started with mass protests in 2011 that forced President Ali Abdullah Saleh to step down.

The Houthi victories



Houthi fighters walk near the wreckage of a five-story building that was destroyed in the conflicts between the Shiite Houthi rebels and the Yemeni army troops in Amran city, the provincial capital of Amran Province in northern, Yemen, on 14 July, 2014. More than 300 people were killed this month in clashes between the army and Shiite rebels in Yemen's northern provinces of Amran and al-Jouf following the collapse of the latest truce. —XINHUA

in Omran have added to instability in the country which is also struggling with a secessionist movement in its south and a threat by militants from

Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP).

The defence ministry's 26 September news website reported that Hadi has replaced the com-

mander of the 6th Military District, which is responsible for the provinces of Omran, al-Jouf and Saadah, apparently following the setback

in the fight against the Houthis.

Hadi also replaced the military commander of the south-eastern Hadramout region, where AQAP had been active with a series of raids on military and government facilities in recent weeks, the website reported.

The Houthis captured Omran on Tuesday after days of fighting against government soldiers and allied Sunni tribal fighters in clashes that had threatened to turn into a sectarian conflict.

The fall of Omran came less than a week after a ceasefire reached on 23 June collapsed with both sides blaming each other. The Houthis, named after the tribe of their leader, said their fight was against rivals loyal to the Islamist Islah party, and they had no intention of attacking the capital Sanaa, just south of Omran.

Reuters

Explosion rocks NW China airport

XINING, 15 July— An explosion rocked a parking lot of Caojiapu Airport of Xining, capital of northwest China's Qinghai Province, at around 1:40 pm on Tuesday. No casualties have been reported yet.

The site has been cordoned off by police, who are investigating the blast, an airport member of staff told Xinhua.

The parking lot has been emptied of vehicles.

Witnesses said the ex-

plosives were settled in a garbage bin at a corner of the parking lot. Cleaners were around when the blast happened.

The operation of the airport has not been affected. Caojiapu Airport is 28 km from downtown Xining. It was built in 1991 as an important transportation hub on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau. The airport handled more than three million passengers in 2013.

Xinhua

Heatwave wreaks havoc in Canada's western coast on Pacific

VANCOUVER, 15 July — The western Canadian region on the Pacific coast has been gripped by heatwave over the weekend, with reports of increased wildfires.

Environment Canada said that temperatures in northern British Columbia were 8 to 10 degrees Centigrade above normal, and record-high temperatures were monitored in four communities over the weekend, with the average high tempera-

ture hovering around 40.5 degrees Centigrade.

There were 63 wildfires burning in the province, and the biggest fires were located in the province's northern areas, said local sources.

In downtown Vancouver, a coastal summer resort on the Pacific coast, the temperature recorded on Sunday exceeded 32 degrees Centigrade and heat wave is expected to continue through Wednesday.—Xinhua

Metro train derails in Moscow, dozens injured

MOSCOW, 15 July — Dozens of people were injured on Tuesday when a metro train derailed in Moscow, local media said.

"At least 50 people were injured, most of them have got bruises. Evacuation of people continues in metro station Slavyansky Bulvar (in west Moscow)," an unnamed law enforcement source told Itar-Tass news agency.

Another emergency agencies source told Interfax news agency that at least 30 people were hurt after three train cars "came off the rail but did not capsize."

Part of the "deep blue" metro line was suspended, and more than 60 buses were sent to carry affected passengers.

The cause of the incident is yet to be determined.

Xinhua

Rockets fired from Egypt at Israeli resort, four wounded

JERUSALEM, 15 July— Three rockets launched from Egypt at the southern Israeli resort of Eilat on Tuesday wounded four civilians, Israeli security officials said.

The said they believed the salvo was fired by Islamist militants in the Egyptian Sinai and meant to upstage Cairo's efforts to mediate a truce ending a week-old shelling war between Israel and the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.

Reuters

Rescue work continues following SW China tunnel collapse

KUNMING, 15 July — Rescue work is continuing in southwest China's Yunnan Province after part of a railway tunnel collapsed on Monday afternoon, local authorities said.

As of 5:10 am on Tuesday, rescuers had managed to drill a hole in the collapsed tunnel and detected some responses, said Li Zhanguo, an official in charge of the tunnel construction.

"We are still trying to make sure of the workers' situations," Li said.

The tunnel collapsed at around 4 pm on Monday in Funing County of Zhuang and Miao Autonomous Prefecture of Wenshan, trapping 15 workers, according to the local government.

The tunnel, known as Funing No 1 tunnel, was on a pivotal railway linking Yunnan with southwest China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

The cause of the accident is still under investigation.

Xinhua



Rescuers work in a collapsed railway tunnel in Funing, southwest China's Yunnan Province, 15 July, 2014. Rescuers were working all out Monday night hoping to reach the 15 workers who had been trapped in the debris of the collapsed railway tunnel in Funing County. The tunnel, known as Funing No 1 tunnel, was on a 710-km railway linking Kunming with Nanning, capital of the neighbouring Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. Part of the tunnel, which was still under construction, collapsed at 4 pm on Monday.—XINHUA

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV PANJA BHUM VOY NO (022)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MVPANJA BHUM VOY NO (022) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.7.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WAN HAI LINES PTE LTD**
Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MOROTAI VOY NO (241)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOROTAI VOY NO (241) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.7.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CMA CGM LINE**
Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV GIANG HAI II VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GIANG HAI II VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.7.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-4 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S RK SHIPPING &
TRADING PTE LTD**
Phone No: 2301191, 2301178, 2301177

**THANK YOU**

Heartfelt thanks to my Relatives, Friends, Working Colleagues and Associates, far and near, for your kind words in congratulating me for the award of one of the highest awards decorated to me, **"THE ROYAL ORDER OF THE POLAR STAR-OFFICER FIRST CLASS"** and **"DIPLOM"** in recognition as **"KNIGHT"** by His Majesty Carl Gustaf XVI, King of Sweden, on the National Day of Sweden, 6th June 2014.

It is indeed a great honor and privilege to receive such a high award of honor which was introduced as early as in 1748 by King Fredrik I of Sweden to citizens, officials and civics with wide knowledge, skill, patriotism and devotion for their dedicated services and outstanding performances for the benefit of the country.

In respect of that, I owe my sincere thanks, gratitude and respect to my beloved Parents for their exemplary support and encouragement given to me in acquiring excellent education, my wonderful and well respected Teachers for their invaluable guidance, professions and teaching skills for acquiring basic as well as advanced knowledge, to my Working Colleagues and Associates for sharing their wisdom, knowledge, skills and experiences in different scientific and engineering disciplines which I truly inspire, to the Myanmar Government for the State Scholarship Award to study abroad and to the Swedish Government for the financial assistance given to me to pursue my higher academic studies in Sweden in 1964, thus enabling me to build up my career with respect, discipline, courage, spirit, goodwill, confidence, passion, trust and cooperation.

Kindly allow me to convey my solemn salute and utmost respect to ALL OF YOU for your loving kindness, assistance, support and encouragement rendered to me all these days with many more to come, and especially in sharing the joy and merit together with my family which I will cherish and treasure throughout my life. Thank you once again and MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

Dr. Myint Han (Honorary Consul of Sweden)

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV PAC AQUILA VOY NO (013)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PAC AQUILA VOY NO (013) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.7.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S VISA SHIPPING LINE PTE**
Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO ()**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.7.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**
Phone No: 2301185

**China bans
teachers accepting
student gifts in
graft crackdown**

BEIJING, 15 July — China has banned teachers from receiving gifts from students and their parents to curb the buying of favours in the education system, often in exchange for giving students special treatment, state media reported. The new measures are the latest move in the government's campaign against corruption, which have engulfed government officials, managers of state-owned enterprises as well as college deans.

Teaching staff are prohibited from asking for or receiving presents, money and other valuables such as securities and vouchers from students and parents, the official *Xinhua* news agency said late on Monday, citing the education ministry. The new rules also forbid teachers from attending banquets arranged by parents that may cloud their judgement in exams and evaluations of students.

They were also not allowed to take kickbacks from helping to sell books, newspapers and magazines to students, *Xinhua* added.

Reuters

**Kerry says has good talks with Zarif as
deadline looms**

VIENNA, 15 July — US Secretary of State John Kerry said he held good and serious talks with his Iranian counterpart on Monday as the two sides raced to narrow wide gaps on Teheran's nuclear programme less than a week before a 20 July deadline to reach a deal.

Seeking to push Iran to make "critical choices"

over its disputed atomic activities, Kerry met Mohammad Javad Zarif for a second day running with both sides complaining ahead of the gatherings that scant progress had been made.

"We are working. We are working very hard. A lot of serious discussions. It was a good meeting," Kerry told reporters after ending a session with Zarif

and European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton.

They are trying to bridge major differences in negotiating positions over a deal intended to end a decade-long dispute over a nuclear programme which Teheran says is peaceful. The West fears it may be aimed at developing nuclear weapons capability. —Reuters

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**Weather
report****Bay Inference**

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

ADVERTISEMENT & ENTERTAINMENT

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY
MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE
EXPORT MARKETING & MILLING DEPARTMENT
INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER

- Myanma Timber Enterprise will sell teak & hardwood round logs and Sawn Timbers by open tenders in US Dollars. Particulars of the open tender sales are as follows:

(a) Date & Time	- (25-7-2014)/(28-7-2014)-(13:00)PM	
(b) Commodities & Volume	- Teak Logs	(1057) Tons
	- Teak conversion & Handsawn	(171) Tons
	- Padauk/Tamalan Logs	(582) Tons
	- Pyinkado/Kanyin/Thingan/Thingadu/Sagawa Logs	(1374) Tons
	- Hardwood Conversion & Handsawn (Padauk/Tamalan/Thinwin/Sagawa)	(990) Tons
(c) Place	- Taw Win Hall, Gyogone, Insein Township, Yangon.	
- For further detailed information please contact Myanma Timber Enterprise Head Office and also visit Myanma Timber Enterprise Web-site (www.myanmar-timber.com.mm).
Open Tender Committee
Myanma Timber Enterprise

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV WAN VOYAGER VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WAN VOYAGER VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.7.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MID-SHIP BEIJING OPERATIONS

Phone No: 2301186



Dave Legeno

'Harry Potter' stars pay tribute to Dave Legeno

LONDON, 15 July — 'Harry Potter' stars Emma Watson and Tom Felton have paid tribute to co-star Dave Legeno following his death in California last week.

Legeno, who starred in the last three instalments of the 'Harry Potter' franchise as werewolf Fenrir Greyback, was found dead in a remote area of Death Valley, California by a pair of hikers. An official cause of death has yet to be released, but he is thought to have suffered from extreme heat-related issues. Watson, who played female lead Hermione Granger in the films, took to Twitter to pay tribute to the actor, writing, "I'm so sad to hear about #DaveLegeno. He was such a lovely man. I hope he is resting in peace." Felton, who played Draco Malfoy, added, "Gutted to hear the sad news about Dave Legeno. He was a true Big, Friendly, Gentleman. Was a pleasure every time we met #Bfg #DaveLegeno".—PTI



A sign is pictured at the entrance Fox Television Centre in Los Angeles, California on 6 Feb, 2014.

REUTERS

Fox shakes up television unit in bid to reverse ratings slip

LOS ANGELES, 15 July — Twenty-First Century Fox Inc on Monday announced a reorganization of its television business as the network sought to push it-

self out of last place among the big US broadcasters.

The company said Fox Broadcasting Company and 20th Century Fox Television will be housed under

a new unit, Fox Television Group, bringing together its TV broadcasting and production units. The move comes almost two months after Fox's top broadcast

executive, Kevin Reilly, left from the network after it lost its top spot among viewers in the 18-49 age group that advertisers covet most.

Reuters

Sotheby's plans live auction bidding via eBay

NEW YORK, 15 July — Sotheby's and eBay announced a partnership on Monday to make it easier to buy antiques, collectibles and works of fine art online. The international auction house and the online marketplace plan to broadcast live auctions from the New York headquarters of Sotheby's that will include real-time bidding from anywhere in the world.

Auctions from other locations could follow.

The deal will connect Sotheby's, with its extensive inventory of fine art, antiques, books, jewels, watches and furniture, with eBay's 145 million active buyers around the world.

"We are joining with eBay to make our sales more accessible to the broadest possible audience around the world," Bruno Vinciguerra, Sotheby's chief operating officer, said in a statement.

The timing of the venture comes as the value of individual sales has escalated to record highs. Francis Bacon's triptych painting "Three Studies of Lucian Freud" sold for \$142.4 million last November in New York, the highest price ever for an item sold at auction.

Total sales in the global art and antiques market rose 8 percent to \$65.9

billion last year, the highest level since 2007, with Asian buyers playing an increasingly important role, according to the European Fine Art Foundation's annual report.

Online sales could grow at a rate of at least 25 percent per year after accounting for around 5 percent of sales in 2013, the foundation said.

Sotheby's said online bidders competed for 17 percent of the total lots it offered in 2013 while the number of lots purchased online jumped 36 percent compared to 2012.

John James Audubon's book "The Birds of America," which fetched \$3.5 million, set the record for an online purchase in a live auction at Sotheby's in April. For eBay, the deal with Sotheby's is a chance to expand into the live auction market.—Reuters

I can get married in a KFC: Jenny McCarthy



Jenny McCarthy

LOS ANGELES, 15 July — Former 'the View' host Jenny McCarthy, who is engaged to Donnie Wahlberg, said she does not want an over-the-top ceremony and can even get married in a KFC. The 41-year-old star feels it is important to have heart in the wedding and rest does not matter, reported *The People* magazine. "I just want to show up. I have Lee Press-On Nails. I'm not that kind of girl. I don't care, as long as the heart is in the ceremony, that's all that matters to me. I could get married in a Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC)," she said. The model said she has decided on a black-and-white theme for the wedding, similar to the one Kim Kardashian-Kanye West chose for their big day.

PTI



MUMBAI, 15 July — an actress Lisa Ray will add sparkle to the fashion India International Jewellery (IIJW) as the showstopper for Khan Ali's show.

"Honoured to have you as my Showstopper darling @Lisaran Looooooooooooooooooooo you (sic)," the designer tweeted on Monday morning.

In reply to her tweet, Lisa posted: "Honoured to be doing the showstopper #FarahKhanFineJewellery #IIJW tonight. Stunning signs, wonderful design

The actress, who was appreciated for her role in the 2001 released 'Kasoor', was diagnosed with cancer of the bone marrow in June 2009. Last 2010, she opted for a bone marrow transplant and announced that her treatment was successful. The Farah Khan Jewellery is one of the end fine jewellery brands in the Indian and International market scenario and is recognised for its quality and craftsmanship. IIJW, a three-day event, is taking place at Grand Hyatt here. — PTI

GENERAL

China pushes for developing world's rights as BRICS summit opens



China's President Xi Jinping

BEIJING, 15 July — China will dedicate itself to “perfecting” the role developing countries play in international affairs to give them better representation and a greater say, President Xi Jinping said ahead of a summit of BRICS nations in Brazil.

China has already started doing this by promoting international development banks which will either be led by China or will have a very strong Chinese role, as opposed to Western-dominated institutions like the World Bank.

Brazil, China, India, Russia and South Africa are due on Tuesday to sign off on a new development bank being launched by the BRICS emerging market nations.

Officials from BRICS nations have said Shanghai will likely be the headquarters, but an official involved in talks on the bank told *Reuters* late on Monday in Brazil there still was no agreement among the five on where the lender will be located.

China is also planning an Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank.

Xi, in an interview with South American media released by China's Foreign Ministry, said China would try to better play the role of a responsible major power and promote the rights of the developing world. “We will ... dedicate ourselves to perfecting the international system of governance and proactively push for expanding the representation and right to speak for developing countries in international affairs,” he said.

“We will come up with more Chinese proposals and contribute China's wisdom,” Xi added, without elaborating.

Reuters



A road is flooded after a rainstorm in Shunchang County of Nanping City, southeast China's Fujian Province, on 15 July, 2014. A torrential rainfall hit the county from 14 July night, flooding some residential buildings and public facilities.—XINHUA

Living treasure Takemoto Gendayu to retire from bunraku theater

OSAKA, 15 July — Takemoto Gendayu, a renowned Japanese traditional “joruri bunraku” puppet play master, will retire due to his health condition, the bunraku association said on Monday.

The retirement of Takemoto, 82, means there will be no puppeteer designated as a living national treasure in the centuries-old joruri bunraku puppet theater after the other living national treasure, Takemoto Sumitayu, 89, retired in May.

The association said it is a “big blow” to lose those outstanding masters for joruri bunraku or one of the leading Japanese



Photo taken in February 2010 shows Takemoto Gendayu, a renowned Japanese traditional “joruri bunraku” puppet play master. Takemoto, 82, will retire due to health reasons, the bunraku association said on 14 July, 2014.

KYODO NEWS

traditional performing arts.

Takemoto Gendayu, who started his career in 1946 as apprentice to Takemoto Oritayu IV, assumed his grandfather's name of Gendayu in 2011 after he was named as a living national treasure by the government in 2007.

He has not taken part in a puppet show since his performance at the National Theatre in Tokyo in May last year because of his health condition.

Takemoto Gendayu said he decided to retire due to the energy and stamina needed for play performances.

Kyodo New

Updated Singapore anti-gambling ad mum on where dad will bet next

SINGAPORE, 15 July — Singapore tried its best to save an own goal on Monday by updating an anti-gambling ad that starred a despairing boy named Andy telling friends his dad had bet his life savings on Germany winning the World Cup.

The National Council on Problem Gambling's commercial was lampooned around the world after Germany thrashed Brazil 7-1 in the semi-finals, sparking jokes that the ad would encourage rather than deter gambling.

The laughs got louder after Germany beat Argen-

tina 1-0 early on Monday Singapore time, with many people taking to social media to congratulate Andy on his family's good fortune. “Andy, okay you can stop smiling. Go get your savings from your daddy. Tell him please don't do this again and you get ready for school,” Minister of State at the Trade and Industry Ministry Teo Ser Luck wrote on his Facebook page.

The council swiftly put up a new version of the ad on its website, making clear Andy's father was unlikely to be spending his winnings on a family holiday. “Your dad's team won. Did you



A man walks past a World Cup anti-gambling advertisement at a taxi stand in Singapore in this on 9 July, 2014 file photo.—REUTERS

get your savings back?” asks Andy's friend.

“No, dad never stops... He wants to bet one more

MYANMAR TV

(16-7-2014, Wednesday)

- 6:00 am**
 - * Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:20 am**
 - * Pyi Thu Ni Ti
- 8:00 am**
 - * News/ International News
- 8:30 am**
 - * TV Drama Series
- 9:30 am**
 - * Documentary
- 10:00 am**
 - * News
- 10:15 am**
 - * TV Drama Series
- 12:00 pm**
 - * News / International News / Weather Report
- 12:25 pm**
 - * Myanmar Movie
- 3:00 pm**
 - * News
- 3:40 pm**
 - * Mono Classical Song
- 4:45 pm**
 - * University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Years (Myanmar)
- 5:00 pm**
 - * News
- 5:15 pm**
 - * Musical Programme
- 6:20 pm**
 - * Shwe Yin Chone Than
- 6:50 pm**
 - * TV Drama Series
- 7:00 pm**
 - * News
- 7:25 pm**
 - * TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm**
 - * News/ International News/ Weather Report
- 8:45 pm**
 - * People Talks
- 9:00 pm**
 - * News /Weather Report
- 9:30 pm**
 - * Documentary

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(16-7-14 07:00 am~ 17-7-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Charity in Myanmar: The Heart Love Influenced -U Hla Tun Cancer Foundation
- * World News
- * Photographer: Kyaw Win Hlaing (YUC)
- * Local News
- * Pagodas: “History of Mrauk U Pagoda”
- * World News
- * Parents' Day
- * Local News
- * Next Weekend
- * World News
- * Myanmar Railways City Circular Train
- * Local News
- * Cruising to Precious Islands (Part-1)
- * World News
- * Hip-Hop and Design
- * Local News
- * Those Who Never Give Up: Zaw Win Myint (I)
- * World News
- * Those Who Never Give Up: Zaw Win Myint (II)
- * Local News
- * Travelling In Shan Mountain Ranges: (Inle Phaung Daw Oo Pagoda Festival)
- * World News
- * In the Studio: “Na Di Htike”
- * Local News
- * Architecture: “Yatana Theinga City and Shwe Bo Yatanamingalar Palace”
- * World News
- * Trishaw Man
- * Local News
- * A Day Out With Sarah (Episode-3)
- * World News
- * Welcome to the Southern Most Part of Myanmar

week it had chosen Germany in the ad to inject a sense of “realism” into its message and that the idea was to deter people from getting carried away by the World Cup hype.

Gambling is hugely popular in Singapore but tightly regulated, with soccer bets only allowed to be placed through state-owned bookmaker Singapore Pools. The government launched the anti-gambling council in 2005 — before it allowed two multi-billion dollar gaming resorts to open in 2010. The commercial will continue to run until 23 July.—Reuters

ESPN, Univision set audience records for men's World Cup final

LOS ANGELES, 15 July — Germany's victory over Argentina in soccer's World Cup final drew record audiences, broadcasters ESPN and Univision said on Monday.

About 26.5 million US viewers on both networks watched Mario Goetze's extra time volley push Germany past Argentina, 1-0, on Sunday in Rio de Janeiro for its fourth World Cup title.

Walt Disney Co's ESPN said its telecast on ABC averaged 17.3 million viewers, while privately held Univision's Spanish-language broadcast averaged 9.2 million.

The networks said those figures were records for a World Cup men's final. ABC's telecast of the 1999 women's World Cup final between the United States and China was watched by 18 million.

The total figure for the men's final was topped by earlier-round matches of the United States and Mexico.

This year's opening round

match between the United States and Portugal drew 18.2 million viewers on ESPN, a World Cup record for the network. Univision set its own record with 10.4 million viewers for Mexico's round-of-16 loss to Netherlands.

Rising US interest in soccer, as well as a favourable time difference with host Brazil, helped boost audience numbers for the tournament's 64 matches.

ESPN's coverage, which includes matches on ABC and ESPN2, averaged 4.6 million viewers per match, topping the average of 3.8 million viewers for the 2010 World Cup in South Africa.

ESPN has lost English-language broadcast rights for the 2018 World Cup in



Germany's Mario Goetze shoots to score a goal against Argentina during extra time in their 2014 World Cup final at the Maracana stadium in Rio de Janeiro on 13 July, 2014.—REUTERS

Russia to Fox, and Comcast Corp's Telemundo has won bidding to televise matches in Spanish.

Reuters

Brazil World Cup “special,” “exceptional,” Blatter says

RIO DE JANEIRO, 15 July — FIFA President Sepp Blatter described the 2014 World Cup as “special” and “exceptional” a night after the tournament ended with Germany winning their fourth championship.

Organizational concerns loomed over the 20th finals ahead of the competition but after 64 matches and all said and done, Brazil came away with largely positive reviews, with many saying it was one of the best World Cups ever.

Blatter agreed, attributing the success largely to the high standard of football displayed by the 32 teams.

“It was my 10th World Cup, fifth as President and it was a spe-

cial World Cup,” Blatter said on Monday. “What makes this special is the quality of football — the intensity of the games.”

“They started this tournament with attacking football, which was new. At the last World Cup in the first phase, generally the teams were absorbing each other, saying, ‘Don’t lose matches because we want to go up.’”

“This time, it was boom, boom — it started aggressive with offensive football and it has been this way throughout the whole competition. Naturally in the second round there was more tactics involved, but there was not one match that didn’t have this intensity.”

“This final cannot be compared to the last final. Last final was a tactical match but this one was a fight. Both teams wanted to win create opportunities.”

“From the field of play, I would have to say this World Cup was exceptional.”

Blatter, who will now turn his sights to Russia for 2018, said Brazil outdid South Africa, hosts of the last World Cup. In wrapping up the 2010 tournament, Blatter gave the organizers a mark of 9 out of 10.

“Out of 10, we came to a 9.25,” he said. “You have improved — Brazil has improved since South Africa. Perfection does not exist. Those at university who have a 10 out of 10 have some arrangement with the professor.”

Kyodo News

Scolari resigns as Brazil manager



Luiz Felipe Scolari

SAO PAULO, 15 July — Luiz Felipe Scolari has resigned as Brazil manager after the hosts suffered two of their worst defeats in World Cup history, the president of the Brazilian Football Confederation said on Monday. Scolari's men were favourites to win the tournament but were demolished 7-1 in the semi-finals by eventual champions Germany. To compound their misery, they lost the third-place playoff 3-0 against the Netherlands. CBF president Jose Maria Marin confirmed Scolari's much expected departure in a statement and thanked the experienced coach for helping “rescue the Brazil team's self-esteem.”

“Scolari and all his back-room staff deserve our respect and thanks,” Marin said in a short statement published on the CBF's website. “They were responsible for returning to the Brazilian people a love for the national side,

even if they did not achieve our highest aim.”

Scolari, who led Brazil to the last of their record five World Cups in 2002, took over the post for a second time in November 2012 and lost just five of his 29 games in charge. He led Brazil to the Confederations Cup last year with a memorable 3-0 defeat of then world champions Spain in the final. He was hugely popular in Brazil for his gruff charm and also with the players, who looked up to him as a father figure. He had the support of the nation going into the World Cup and there was very little opposition to his squad selection, a rarity in Brazil, which is famously known as the “nation of 200 million coaches.” Marin did not say who might take over but said a press conference will be held on Thursday. One Brazilian sports channel reported Alexandre Gallo, the coach of the Brazil under-20 side, would take over until the end of the year. Among the other names mentioned are Tite, who led Corinthians to the Libertadores Cup and Club World Cup in 2012, and Muricy Ramalho, the current coach of Sao Paulo. Brazil have four friendlies planned in September and October against Ecuador, Colombia, Argentina and Turkey. Their next competitive fixtures will be in next year's Copa America in Chile. Howev-

er, there are also calls for a foreign manager to be appointed for the first time in Brazil's history. The CBF has always resisted that idea, with reports they refused to even talk with Spaniard Pep Guardiola before he joined Bayern Munich. “Whoever the new man is, he should live in Europe so he can follow or principal players from close up,” Carlos Alberto Torres, the captain of the legendary 1970 side, tweeted on Monday. Many others believe the malaise goes much deeper than the coach and want reforms of the CBF. —Reuters



FIFA President Sepp Blatter (2nd from L) poses for commemorative photos with the official mascot in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 14 July, 2014, after completing the 2014 World Cup. He described the event as “special” and “exceptional” a night after the tournament ended with Germany winning their fourth championship.

KYODO NEWS