

Air Mandalay inks deal with Japan's Mitsubishi Aircraft to purchase six jets



Air Mandalay founded in 1994 currently operates scheduled flights to domestic destinations to support the country's tourism industry.—PHOTO PROVIDED

By Ye Myint

Air Mandalay Limited, a joint venture company that was incorporated in 1994 to operate as Myanmar's first joint venture airline, has recently signed an aircraft purchase agreement with Japan's Mitsubishi Aircraft Corp., at Farnborough Airshow in

England.

According to a press release The New Light of Myanmar received from Air Mandalay on Wednesday, the agreement is for an order of six Mitsubishi Regional Jets with an option to purchase four more MRJ90s.

Advanced design characteristics, promised

customer support and the reliability and economy of the Pratt & Whitney Geared Turbofan Engine resulted in choosing the MRJ for the company, said Air Mandalay's CEO Gary J Villiard in the statement Tuesday.

According to an article posted online on Wednesday by The Japan

Times, "Mitsubishi Aircraft Corp., developing Japan's first passenger jet, has won an order worth US\$281 million in list prices from Air Mandalay Ltd. in Myanmar. The article continued to say, that "Each aircraft costs US\$46.8 million in list price."

The statement said deliveries are due to start

in 2018 from Mitsubishi Aircraft, which is building 70-90 seat next-generation aircrafts.

Air Mandalay is currently operating flights to 15 domestic destinations and charter services to oil companies.

Following the deal to purchase jets from Mitsubishi Aircraft Company with 325 MRJ on order at UK's top airshow, Yangon-based Air Mandalay has become the first Asian airline outside of Japan to select the aircraft.—NLM

Private banks increase interest rates

By Myint Win Thein

YANGON, 16 July—Private banks in Myanmar are raising the interest rates for saving deposit and fixed deposits, starting from next August, according to sources.

The current interest rate of 8 percent for saving deposits will rise to 8.25 percent in August.

Interest rate for one-month fixed deposits will increase from 8 percent at present to 9 percent starting from 1 August. Similarly, rates for fixed deposits of three, six and nine months will also rise by 0.75 percent, 0.50 percent and 0.25 percent respectively.

However, the interest rate for fixed deposit of twelve months will be the same as the previous rate of 10 percent.

Kanbawza Bank is the biggest private bank in Myanmar and has opened the largest number of branches all over the country.

Recently, another pri-

vate bank, Cooperatives Bank, announced similar increase in interest rates.

It is expected that all other private banks will follow suit in the near fu-

ture.

The Central Bank of Myanmar has allowed private banks to increase their interest rate within a set limit.—NLM



A young customer withdraws money form an ATM of the Kanbawza Bank Ltd.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

INSIDE

Vice President on visit to Singapore learns measures to combat corruption

Page-3

ILO Convention on Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labour to come into force in Myanmar in December

Page-3

Myanmar Airways, ATR Ltd., sign MoU on purchasing aircrafts

Page-2

Upper House approves bill on providing prompt health care services to emergency patients

Page-2

Myanmar needs to create more job opportunities in fight against human trafficking

Page-8

MPT signs MoU with Japanese telecommunication firms

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July—Myanma Posts and Telecommunications under the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology on Tuesday here signed a MoU with Japanese telecommunication firms.

Under the MoU, KDDI Corporation and Sumitomo Corporation will invest US\$ 2 billion in the telecommunication sector here.

The investment of these Japanese firms will

help the state-owned telecommunication department expand network and compete with foreign telecommunication operators in providing services.

The Groupe Speciale Mobile Association (GSMA) and the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology on Wednesday jointly held a workshop on "Mobile Communications as an Agent of Inclusion and Change" in the capital.

(See page 3)

Upper House approves bill on providing prompt health care services to emergency patients

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July—The Upper House approved a bill on providing prompt health care services to emergency patients submitted by Dr Aung Than of Shwebo constituency on Wednesday at the ninth regular session of the

house in Nay Pyi Taw.

During the session, Dr Pe Thet Khin, Union Minister for Health, also discussed Section 25 of the Private Health Care Services Law and Myanmar Medicine Council Law.

He urged doctors to

keep a proper record and to regularly hand over the records to the government hospital.

Dr Pe Thet Khin said the Ministry of Health did not announce orders that the public clinics do not provide medical treatment

to emergency patients in cognizable offence and the bill protects those people wishing to give a helping hand to emergency patients and first-aids trainings are being given to those by Primary Tremor Care.

MNA

Construction of Korea-Myanmar friendship monastery discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July—Union Minister for Religious Affairs U Soe Win received Ven, Mok Tak of Korea at the ministry on Wednesday to discuss arrangements for construc-

tion of a Korea-Myanmar friendship monastery in Hlinethaya Township of Yangon Region.

They also talked about religious affairs.

MNA

Yangon Gallery to open 25 July to create a community for artists

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 16 July—The Yangon Gallery, a contemporary art center, which is located in the People's Park, near the Planetarium and a few minutes away from the famous Shwedagon Pagoda on Ahlon Road, Dagon Township, Yangon, will be opened on 25 July, aimed at eventually building a community where passion and talent

for art will be appreciated, according to an organizer.

"The gallery is also focused on featuring various genres of art and is dedicated to presenting art exhibitions, workshops and events, which reflect the dynamic culture of art and the programs and events of the gallery are devoted to share diverse and beautiful cultures, uncover and encourage tal-

ented artists," Lynn Wutt Hmone, exhibition coordinator of Yangon Gallery, said on Wednesday at a press conference.

The two-month long Monsoon Art Festival, the first programme of the gallery, will be presented on a grand scale from 27 July to 22 September at the Gallery and it consists of nine art events, each of which will last from three to seven days, she added.

Both local and for-

eign artists will be participating in all free events during the festival. The categories include painting, fashion, music, film, literature and photography.

The purpose of the festival is for the audience to experience the beautiful celebration of various genres of art and explore the dynamic culture of art itself.

In his speech at the press conference, Maung Maung Hla Myint, a Myanmar renowned artist, urged local artists to sell their paintings at a fair price during the festival. Photographer Moe Min said he believes that the gallery will get the visitors' attentions and it will be an attractive place for foreigners.

NLM



Participants of press conference on opening of Yangon Gallery pose for documentary photo.

PHOTO:

KHAING THANDA LWIN

Myanmar Airways, ATR Ltd., sign MoU on purchasing aircrafts

YANGON, 16 July—Officials from Myanmar Airways and ATR Ltd., signed an MoU on purchasing six ATR 72-600 aircrafts and establishing a workshop for large aircrafts, on Wednesday at the head office of Myanmar Airways in Yangon.

One new French-made aircraft will arrive in Myanmar in 2015, three in 2016 and two in 2017 that were purchased through the financial assistance of EXIM banks in Italy and

France. The work for establishing workshop will be implemented within three months after signing the MoU, according to an official.

The official said Myanmar Airways, a state-owned enterprise, stopped its international flights from 1993 but is now organizing an international schedule for 2015.

Myanmar Airways is currently operating local flights to 26 townships with 10 aircrafts.—MNA

ASEAN-Japan Centre invites Myanmar entrepreneurs

YANGON, 16 July—The ASEAN-Japan Centre (AJC) invited the Ministry of Commerce to organize about 10 Myanmar entrepreneurs to attend the ASEAN Showcase Business Matching Exhibition, organized by AJC at AJC Hall in Tokyo of Japan from 17 to 21 November.

The exhibition is aimed at promoting agricultural produce, value-added agricultural products and marine products

and foodstuffs for the Japanese market, developing bilateral trade and holding business forums.

The exhibition will showcase dried and wet goods and frozen products.

The entrepreneurs wishing to take part in the exhibition can contact the International Trade Promotion Branch (Yangon) of Ministry of Commerce, Tel: 01-254024, fax: 01-254023 and email: itpic.moc@gmail.com.—MNA

UNHCR to help voluntary repatriation of Myanmar refugees in Thailand

YANGON, 16 July—Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Myanmar on Tuesday said the New Light of Myanmar that the UN organization will focus on an eventual voluntary repatriation of Myanmar refugees in Thailand.

Ayaki Ito said in the report that an eventual voluntary return of Myanmar refugees in Thailand can only take place when the refugees themselves decide in an informed and voluntary way to return; in the meantime, UNHCR will continue sup-

port the Royal Thai Government in their efforts to protect and assist the refugees from Myanmar, as well as the Myanmar Government and communities in their preparedness for an eventual voluntary repatriation; and both governments have reiterated their commitment to a voluntary return in safety and dignity.

The Bangkok Post of Thailand on Monday reported that the source from the 9th Infantry Division (Surasee) said joint working teams consisting of the military, the Mae Fah Luang

Foundation and the office of UNHCR has been conducting interviews and verifying people's nationalities in all nine refugee camps nationwide.

Regarding this, UNHCR said that the survey conducted by the Mae Fah Luang Foundation under Royal Patronage was not designed to verify nationality or to 'sort' the refugees based on their intentions as was incorrectly reported in the media; the aim of the survey was to gather socio-demographic and livelihood profiles and to better under-

stand the various vulnerabilities and the concerns of all the participating refugees in the nine camps.

UNHCR also said that the survey included an important question to get a sense of how refugees see their future; the survey was voluntary — people were free to participate or not — and did not lead to any registration; the results are still being consolidated and will be used by agencies to address the concerns and vulnerabilities of the refugee population and to support efforts in vocational skills

training and humanitarian assistance activities after life in the camp, whatever and wherever that future life may be; the refugees were informed that the preferences for the future that they provided in the survey are only indicative at this point, and quite naturally may change over time as the overall situation back home is also changing; in short, they are not tied to their stated preferences in the survey.

The Thai newspaper reported, quoting an unnamed source, that the UNHCR has offered to provide land and

financial assistance in the first year to refugees who voluntarily return to Myanmar.

UNHCR Myanmar also explained that currently UNHCR's work with the communities, authorities and partners focus on initial preparation for potential return; no concrete discussion or decision has been made regarding assistance and support for returning refugees; UNHCR is not in a position to nor has any authority to provide land in Myanmar.

NLM

NATIONAL

Vice President on visit to Singapore learns measures to combat corruption

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July—Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, who is visiting Singapore, went to the Corruption Practices Investigation Bureau in Singapore on Wednesday morning and studied details of measures to combat corruption, including the functions of the bureau

and school lessons educating children on how to avoid corruption.

Then, the vice president visited the ITE College West and viewed teaching and learning activities with teaching aids and the learning environment that stimulates the interest of learners.

MNA



Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham holds talks with Singaporean officials at Corruption Practices Investigation Bureau in Singapore.—MNA

ILO Convention on Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labour to come into force in Myanmar in December

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July—Convention 182 of the International Labour Organization concerning the prohibition and immediate action for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour will come into force starting from 18 December 2014, Union Minister for Labour, Employment

and Social Security U Aye Myint told the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session on Wednesday.

Myanmar declared at the 102nd Conference of the International Labour Organization held in Geneva on 13 July 2013 that it would implement the ILO convention 182, the union

minister added.

Myanmar joined the ILO in 1948 and has agreed to implement 19 conventions of the organization.

According to the convention, the worst forms of child labour includes slavery or similar practices such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict; the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances; the use, procuring or offering of a child for the

production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties and work which is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

In addition, Myanmar will also be responsible to rehabilitate the abused children by providing free education and creating appropriate environment for them, according the union minister. Other topics discussed at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session on Wednesday focused on amendments of anti-corruption bill, implementation of commitments in ASEAN framework agreement on services and generation of electricity.—MNA

UN Special Rapporteur on Myanmar arrives in Yangon

YANGON, 16 July—A delegation led by Yanghee Lee, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, on Wednesday arrived in Yangon.

She is recognized for her work as member and chairperson of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and has taken an active role in the Strengthening of Treaty Body System Process, including the Dublin Process.

She has earned a B.S.

Degree from Georgetown University, M.Ed. and Ph.D. from University of Missouri-Columbia, and has published numerous articles and books on human rights and children's rights.

She was welcomed by UNFPA representative for Myanmar Janet Jackson and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs and General Administrative Department at Yangon International Airport.

MNA



Yanghee Lee, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar being welcomed at Yangon International Airport.—MNA

MPT signs MoU with...

(from page 1)

This is the third workshop organized by the GSMA to assist the work of the MCIT in creating and implementing mobile-related laws and policies, and forms part of the GSMA's wider commitment towards training and development in mobile sector regulation throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

The workshop, attend-

ed by U Myat Hein, Union Minister for Communications and Information Technology, will focus on ways in which the mobile industry can stimulate economic growth. In particular, it focused on ac-

celerating digital inclusion, including the widespread rollout of mobile financial products, for urban and rural communities alike, and how to deploy the country's radio spectrum assets most effectively.

Tom Phillips, Chief Regulatory Officer of

GSMA said, "We are committed to supporting the Myanmar Government's oversight of the country's mobile sector and ensuring that investment in new and innovative mobile services is maximized through the adoption of regulatory best practice."—NLM

The signing ceremony of MoU between Myanma Posts and Telecommunications and KDDI of Japan to invest US\$2 billion in telecommunication sector in Myanmar.—MNA



Shops of development market checked to remove inappropriate foodstuffs, personal goods



LANGKHO, 16 July—Officials of the Agriculture Department, Development Affairs Department and Food and Drug Administration of Langkho Township on Tuesday inspected the Myoma Development

Market in Langkho of southern Shan State to see whether expired foodstuffs, mosquito coils, meats and fish were sold at the shops.

Officials also gave health talks on the dangers and side effects of

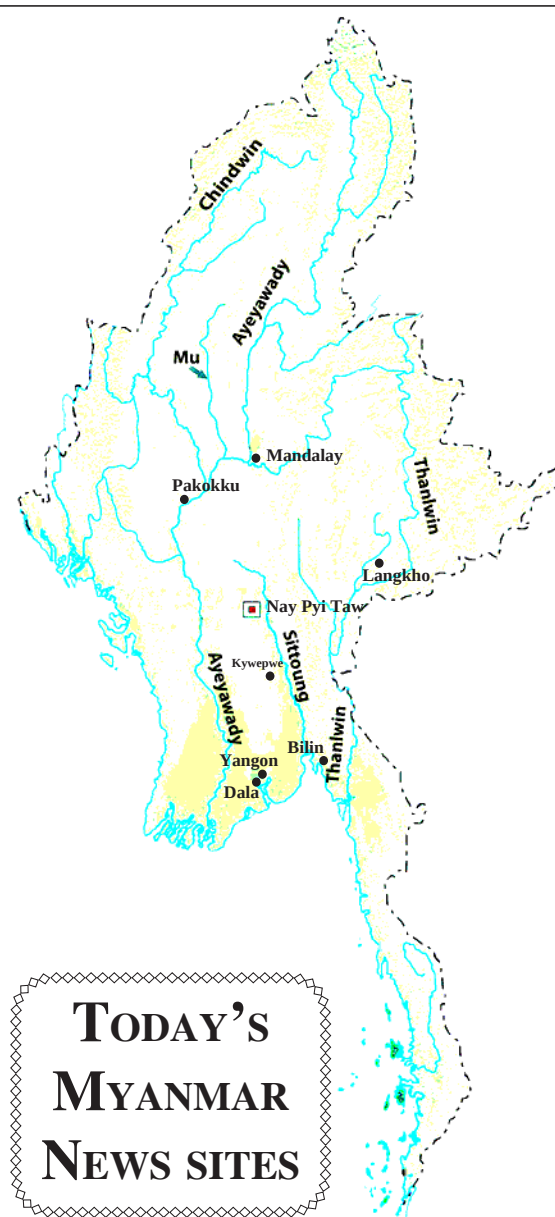
toxic chemicals in foods and meats to the vendors and shopkeepers.

The officials also inspected personal goods and pesticides and urged the shop owners to sell the goods in line with the law. In addition they checked

weight scales used for sale of goods in the market.

They told vendors about the prevention to distribute mosquito coils with dangerous chemicals harmful to the health of the consumers.

Hsaung Hnin Latt



**TODAY'S
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Hybrid maize plantation thriving in Zeyathiri Township

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July—Ottara District and Zeyathiri Township Agriculture Departments help local farmers choose quality paddy and crop strains to double their income and implement the plan of one village-one crop.

Yezin-10 hybrid maize plantations are now thriving

in Thabyebin Village of Zeyathiri Township.

In the past, the maize could produce 30-40 baskets per acre with conventional cultivation methods.

Now, local farmers expect to produce 80 baskets per acre, said farmer Daw Mu.

Local farmers have

planted maize on 2,875 acres of farmlands, exceeding 1,700 acres more than the target.

“Myanmar exports 80 percent of maize from its production to China yearly,” said the head of District Agriculture Department.

Ko Pauk (Okkar Myay)



MANDALAY, 16 July—The Waso Chinlone contest which was held for the 86th time at the Maha Muni Buddha Image festival concluded after 57 days, with cash donations by the participant Chinlone clubs spent on offering gold foils to the Maha Muni Buddha Image on the 1st Waxing every year. The same day, a ceremony to pay respects to aged Chinlone players older than 75 years is held at the Chinlone gymnasium yearly.

This year, foreigner Chinlone players from the US and Thailand participated in the Chinlone contest, with the organizing committee presenting



Golden Chinlone trophies to them.

Chinlone sport is played not only in Myanmar but in Borneo island, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos,

Vietnam and Malaysia, with different techniques.

The Myanmar Chinlone club was officially established in 1947. After 1970, the Myanmar team

Waso Chinlone contest of Maha Muni Buddha Image Festival concludes



played friendly Chinlone games abroad. Last year, Myanmar's Chinlone sport was included in the SEA Games as an international sport. This year, foreigner

Chinlone players from the US and Thailand participated in the Chinlone contest. The organizing committee presented Golden Chinlone trophies to them.

In fact, the Myanmar's Chinlone sport still needs to draw disciplines, law and rules for the its sport.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

REGIONAL

Nepal's oldest communist party gets new leadership

KATHMANDU, 16 July — Nepal's oldest communist party CPN-UML has got a new head after KP Sharma Oli on Tuesday came victorious in the election held for selecting new leadership, the party officials announced on Wednesday.

The election was held during the ninth general convention of the CPN-UML that kicked off on 3 July in Kathmandu.

The party's senior leader, Oli who is also popular for cracking jokes and making witty statements, defeated his rival Madhav Kumar Nepal, the country's former prime minister, by a thin margin.

"Oli secured 1,047 votes while Nepal got 1,003 votes," CPN-UML leader Pradip Gyawali told *Xinhua* on Wednesday.

Sixty-two-year-old Oli is taken as a straightforward politician with an ability of decision-making in crucial political issues.

Xinhua



Indian President Pranab Mukherjee (R) presents the Gandhi Peace Prize 2013 to environmentalist Chandi Prasad Bhatt at the Presidential palace in New Delhi, India, on 15 July, 2014. The Gandhi Peace Prize was instituted by the Indian government in 1995 on the occasion of the 125th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. — XINHUA

S Korea, US kick off joint maritime exercise

SEOUL, 16 July — South Korea and the United States on Wednesday started a joint maritime exercise in southern and southwestern waters of the Korean Peninsula, a South Korean military official said.

The five-day exercise involves the US Navy's aircraft carrier *USS George Washington*, which arrived in South Korea's southern port city of Busan last Friday.

The 97,000-ton super-carrier will also participate

in a trilateral search and rescue exercise with South Korean and Japanese maritime forces in waters south of the southern island of Jeju for two days starting next Monday.

That exercise, known as SAREX, has been held once or twice a year so far on humanitarian grounds. The last such trilateral drills took place in the country's southern sea in October.

Forward-deployed to Yokosuka, Japan, the *George Washington* Strike

Group, which belongs to the US 7th Fleet, has approximately 6,000 sailors assigned to its ships, including embarked battle staff, a carrier air wing and the ship's company personnel.

Reports said the super-carrier will bring some 70 aircraft including the strike fighter *Super Hornet*, the all-weather airborne early warning aircraft *Hawkeye* and the multi-mission helicopter *Sea Hawk*.

Kyodo News

Philippine president appoints new chief of staff of the armed forces

MANILA, 16 July — Philippine President Benigno Aquino III has appointed Lieutenant General Gregorio Pio Catapang, Jr as the new chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), the AFP said on Wednesday.

Catapang will replace General Emmanuel T Bautista who is set to retire on Friday, 18 July.

He will formally assume his post as 45th chief of staff of the AFP in rites

to be presided by Aquino on Friday at the AFP's general headquarters.

Catapang is a member of the Philippine Military Academy's "Dimalupig" Class of 1981. He has served the AFP in various capacities. Prior to his appointment as chief of staff, Catapang served as vice chief of staff of the AFP and was a former commander of the Northern Luzon Command and 7th Infantry Division.—*Xinhua*

India says left-wing Naxalite rebels getting support from Europe bodies

NEW DELHI, 16 July — The Indian government has claimed that the left-wing Naxalite rebels have been getting support from some organizations in Europe, apart from some left-wing parties in the Philippines and Turkey.

India's junior Home Minister Kiren Rijiju has told the Parliament that the Naxalites were getting support from organizations in Europe, including Germany, France, the Netherlands and Italy. "We are taking up the

matter with the European countries," he was quoted by the media as saying on Tuesday.

The minister also said that the left-wing rebels have connections with left-wing parties in the Philippines and Turkey, adding "senior cadres of the Communist Party of Philippines trained Indians in 2005 and 2011."

Rijiju said that ammunition of foreign origin recovered from the Naxalites pointed out to the links abroad. — *Xinhua*

Typhoon kills 10 in Philippines, shuts Manila, prompts mass evacuations

MANILA, 16 July — A typhoon killed at least 10 people as it churned across the Philippines and hit the capital, prompting the evacuation of almost more than 370,000 people and shutting financial markets, offices and schools, rescue officials said on Wednesday.

The eye of Typhoon Rammasun, the strongest storm to hit the country this year, passed to the south of Manila on Wednesday after cutting a path across the main island of Luzon, toppling trees and power lines and causing electrocutions and widespread blackouts.

Major roads across Luzon were blocked by debris, fallen trees and electricity poles. The storm uprooted trees in the capital where palm trees lining major arteries were bent over nearly double by the wind as broken hoardings bounced down the streets.

Richard Gordon, chairman of the Philippine National Red Cross, said there was minimal damage in the



A man assisted a motorcyclist after he fell along a main road after strong winds brought by Typhoon Rammasun, locally called Glenda, battered the capital, metro Manila on 16 July, 2014.—REUTERS

capital but staff were trying to rescue people trapped by fallen debris in Batangas City to the south where two people were electrocuted.

"We have not received reports of major flooding in Metro Manila because the typhoon did not bring rain, but the winds were strong,"

he said.

The number of evacuated people had reached more than 370,000, mostly in the eastern province of

Albay, the first to be hit by the typhoon, the disaster agency said. They were taken to schools, gymnasiums and town halls con-

verted into shelters.

At least four southeastern provinces on Luzon declared, or were about to declare, a state of calamity, allowing the local governments to tap emergency relief funds.

The storm brought storm surges to Manila Bay and prompted disaster officials to evacuate slum-dwellers on the capital's outskirts. More surges were expected as the storm headed west.

Some 85 percent of areas serviced by the country's biggest power distributor, Manila Electric Co, in Luzon were without power and were unlikely to be back up within the day, a company spokesman said.

Parts of the Philippines are still recovering from Typhoon Haiyan, one of the biggest cyclones known to have made landfall anywhere. It killed more than 6,100 people last November in the central provinces, many in tsunami-like sea surges, and left millions homeless.—*Reuters*

Japan nuclear plant clears safety hurdle toward restarting

Tokyo, 16 July — Regulators said on Wednesday a nuclear plant in south-western Japan cleared an initial safety hurdle, in what is seen as a major step for it to become the first nuclear facility to restart among the country's 48 offline commercial reactors since the 2011 Fukushima nuclear crisis.

The Nuclear Regulation Authority's decision-making panel approved a draft report required to resume the operations of two reactors at Kyushu Electric Power Co's Sendai plant in Kagoshima Prefecture.

The 420-page report — which concluded that the plant's proposed countermeasures against earthquakes, tsunami and other possible risks meet the standards — will be finalized after a monthlong public consultation period through 15 August. The new standards were introduced in July last year. But the regional utility is not expected to reactivate the plant before this fall as it still needs to secure local consent and complete some other procedures.

With Japan experienc-



An employee of Kyushu Electric Power Co walks in front of reactor buildings at the company's Sendai nuclear power plant in Satsumasendai, Kagoshima prefecture on 3 April, 2014.—KYODO NEWS

ing its first summer without nuclear power in nearly half a century and utilities' fuel costs for thermal power generation surging, the government of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is keen to restart reactors after their safety is ensured.

At a press conference on Wednesday morning,

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga reaffirmed the government's stance on promoting nuclear power generation, which supplied some 30 percent of the country's electricity before the Fukushima crisis.

More than half of respondents in a Kyodo News survey conducted last

month, however, said they oppose the reactivation of nuclear plants.

Currently, all 48 commercial reactors in Japan remain offline, as the nuclear crisis at Tokyo Electric Power Co's Fukushima Daiichi complex, the worst since the 1986 Chernobyl disaster, has made it diffi-

cult for utilities to resume their operation after mandatory regular checks.

To be restarted, reactors need to pass the regulatory body's safety assessments based on the new standards.

Kyushu Electric was among the first utilities to apply for the agency's safe-

ty screening when the new regulations took effect. The Sendai plant emerged as the leading candidate for resumption after clearing key hurdles for earthquake and tsunami hazards that could affect the coastal complex.

The new regulations require plant operators to implement measures in light of the lessons learned from the Fukushima nuclear disaster, triggered by a massive earthquake and tsunami on 11 March, 2011. Under what the government calls the world's toughest nuclear regulations, utilities are obliged to put in place countermeasures against possible severe accidents such as reactor core meltdowns and huge tsunami, as well as terrorist attacks.

While some experts have argued that Kyushu Electric is underestimating possible volcanic eruptions that could affect the plant, the agency supported the utility's claim that such risks are "small enough."

Kyushu Electric and eight other utilities have applied for safety screenings for a total of 19 reactors so far.

Kyodo News

Pakistan military captures Taliban commander Suspect in S China bus explosion

detained



A rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) is seen at an army observation point while trucks carrying refugees fleeing the military offensive against the Pakistani militants in North Waziristan, enter Bannu, located in Pakistan's Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Province on 22 June, 2014.—REUTERS

DERA ISMAIL KHAN, (Pakistan), 16 July — The Pakistani military has captured a Taliban commander who once tried to blow up former president Pervez Musharraf, security officials said on Tuesday.

Adnan Rashid, who was captured on Friday in South Waziristan in northwest Pakistan near the Afghan border, is the first well-known Taliban commander taken since the military launched an offensive in neighbouring North Waziristan last month.

He was injured in a shootout during his capture in a house where he was living with his family in the Wana area of South Waziristan, the officials said.

The Pakistan army has said it will drive Taliban insurgents from their key strongholds in the region and indicated on Tuesday that it would expand its offensive into the Bajaur tribal region, further north. The Pakistani Taliban, meanwhile, said it would continue to ramp up attacks on Pa-

kistani security forces in Bajaur, along the Afghan border.

Rashid, believed to be in his mid-30s, is a former Pakistani air force officer who tried to become a suicide bomber before he was jailed for a 2003 attempt to blow up then-President Musharraf. He escaped from jail in 2012 along with nearly 400 other militants. Following his release, he claimed responsibility for masterminding another jailbreak that freed 250 prisoners. He also made a series of YouTube videos and wrote an open letter attempting to justify the assassination attempt on schoolgirl activist Malala Yousafzai.

The Pakistan military's offensive follows years of pressure on Islamabad by NATO allies to crack down on Taliban havens in North Waziristan. Since the offensive began a month ago the military has seized control of Miranshah, the capital of North Waziristan and claims to have killed hundreds of militants.

Also on Tuesday, three Pakistani soldiers and six Taliban militants were killed in a gun battle in the village of Fateh Khel near the town of Mir Ali in North Waziristan.

The Taliban have killed more than a dozen members of the security forces in Bajaur in the past two months, a military official said.

In a sign that the violence may spread, two senior members of the Pakistani Taliban told *Reuters* the attacks were a response to the offensive in North Waziristan.

In response, the military has decided to launch another, more limited offensive in Bajaur and asked some residents to vacate their houses and villages.—*Reuters*

GUANGZHOU, 16 July— Police in south China's Guangzhou have detained a suspect involved in a bus explosion that killed two and left 32 injured, local police said on Wednesday.

The suspect, surnamed Ou from central China's Hunan Province, was caught on Wednesday morning. The 25-year-old man has confessed to the violent act and is currently in police custody, according to the municipal public security bureau.

Two people died and 32 were hospitalized with injuries after a bus explosion in Guangzhou, capital of Guangdong Province, on Tuesday evening.

Most of the victims suffered burn-related injuries and were being treated at three hospitals in downtown Guangzhou, a spokesman with the municipal public security bureau said.

Of the eight critical cases under intensive care, four suffered burns exceeding 80 percent of the body surface, he said. "Doctors say it might take two to four weeks for the severest cases to be out of danger."

Police received reports of the explosion at 7:46 pm, and the flames were put out at 8:03 pm, he said.

The site of the explosion was Guangzhou Avenue, a pivotal road linking the northern and southern parts of the city.

On 5 July, a 34-year-old man was suspected of setting fire to a bus packed with tourists in Hangzhou in east China's Zhejiang Province, injuring 32 people.

Xinhua

WORLD

Israel targets top Hamas leader as Gaza ceasefire collapses

GAZA/JERUSALEM, 16 July — Israel resumed its air strikes in the Gaza Strip on Wednesday a day after holding its fire in deference to an Egyptian-proposed ceasefire deal that failed to get Hamas militants to halt rocket attacks.

Attacks in the Gaza Strip killed at least seven Palestinians in the early hours of Wednesday, Gaza health officials said, and destroyed the house of Mahmoud Zahar — who is believed to be in hiding elsewhere — in the first apparent targeting of a top Hamas political leader.

The week-old conflict seemed to be at a turning point on Tuesday, with Hamas defying Arab and Western calls to cease fire and Israel threatening to step up an offensive that could include an invasion of the densely populated enclave. The Israeli military said on Wednesday it had sent out warning messages to residents in the northern Gaza Strip to evacuate their homes by 0800 (0600 BST) ahead of renewed attacks.

Palestinian officials



Israeli soldiers ride an armoured personnel carrier (APC) outside the Gaza Strip on 15 July, 2014. —REUTERS

said residents in two Gaza City neighbourhoods had received the warnings but Gaza Interior Ministry told people not to heed the Israeli messages and dismissed them as psychological warfare. Gaza militants kept up rocket salvos into Israel, firing more than 150 rockets at Israel since Tuesday, when the truce was to begin.

Under the blueprint announced by Egypt —

Gaza's neighbour and whose military-backed government has been at odds with Islamist Hamas — a mutual "de-escalation" was to have begun at 9 am (0700 BST), with hostilities ceasing within 12 hours.

Hamas' armed wing, the Izz el-Deen al-Qassam Brigades, rejected the ceasefire deal, a proposal that addressed in only general terms some of its key

demands, and said its battle with Israel would "increase in ferocity and intensity".

But Moussa Abu Marzouk, a Hamas political official who was in Cairo, said the movement, which is seeking a deal that would ease the Egyptian and Israeli border restrictions throttling Gaza's economy, had made no final decision on Cairo's proposal.

Israel, citing the per-

sistent salvos, resumed attacks in Gaza six hours after implementation of the truce was to have begun. The military said it targeted at least 20 of Hamas' hidden rocket launchers, tunnels and weapons storage facilities.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in broadcast remarks late on Tuesday that Israel had no choice but to "expand and intensify" its campaign on Hamas, though he did not specifically mention the possibility of a ground incursion. The Israeli security cabinet which met into the early hours of Wednesday had discussed a limited ground operation, an Israeli official said.

Gaza medical officials say 195 Palestinians, including at least 150 civilians, among them 31 children, have been killed.

One Israeli has been killed in the fighting. Israel's Iron Dome anti-missile system intercepted 20 of the Hamas projectiles, including two over the Tel Aviv area, and the rest caused no damage or casualties.

Reuters

Ukraine leader urges EU to take tough action against Russia



Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko

KIEV, 16 July—Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has urged the European Union to take tough action against Russia over the separatist conflict in Ukraine's eastern regions at a summit of EU leaders in Brussels on Wednesday.

Poroshenko's website said he had spoken to Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council, after intensified fighting in the east, in which Kiev has alleged Russian involvement in an air strike on a residential area and the downing of a military transport plane. Poroshenko informed Van Rompuy of new evidence of rebel fighters crossing into Ukraine from Russia along with heavy military equipment and arms, his website said.—Reuters

Ukraine sees Russian role in air strike on town

KIEV, 16 July—Ukraine has made fresh charges of Russian involvement in its conflict with separatist rebels, suggesting Moscow may have had a role in an air strike on Tuesday that killed 11 people.

The accusations come a day before European Union leaders meet to discuss the crisis, where they might consider adopting fresh sanctions against Russia.

"Tomorrow in Brussels, the heads of state and government will again assess the situation on the ground and, should it be required, adopt necessary decisions," the bloc's enlargement commissioner Stefan

Fuele told the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

In other fighting in the three-and-a-half month conflict with separatists in the Russian-speaking east of Ukraine, government forces said they had lost another six soldiers in attacks on their positions near the border with Russia.

In all, since the start of the government's "anti-terrorist" operations in mid-April, a total of 258 Ukrainian servicemen have been killed, 922 injured and 45 are captive, military spokesman Andriy Lysenko said. Hundreds of civilians and rebels have also died.

Reuters



A local woman greets Ukrainian soldiers in central Slaviansk on 15 July, 2014. —REUTERS

Iraq names moderate Sunni parliament speaker in move to break political deadlock



Kurdish "Peshmerga" troops move down a street during an intensive security deployment after clashes with militants of the Islamic State, formerly known as the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), in Jalawla, Diyala Province on 12 July, 2014. —REUTERS

BAGHDAD, 16 July — Iraqi politicians named a moderate Sunni Islamist as speaker of parliament on Tuesday, a long-delayed first step towards a power-sharing government urgently needed to save the state from disintegration in the face of a Sunni uprising.

But after quickly picking Salim al-Jabouri as speaker, lawmakers argued bitterly

for hours over his Shi'ite deputy, suggesting they are still far from a deal on a new government or a decision on the fate of Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki.

Iraq's army and allied Shi'ite militia launched an assault to retake the executed former dictator Saddam Hussein's home city Tikrit from the al-Qaeda offshoot known as the Islamic State

and allied militants, who seized it in mid-June during a lightning assault through the north. The stunning advance by the militants over the past month has put Iraq's very survival in jeopardy even as its politicians have been deadlocked over forming a new government since an election in April.

Maliki, whose State of Law coalition won the most

seats but would need allies to form a government, has ruled since the election as a caretaker, defying demands from Sunnis and Kurds that he step aside for a less-polarising figure.

Washington has made clear that setting up a more inclusive government in Baghdad is a requirement for its military support against the insurgency.

Under Iraq's governing system in place since the post-Saddam Hussein constitution was adopted in 2005, the prime minister is a member of the Shi'ite majority, the speaker a Sunni and the largely ceremonial president a Kurd. Each of the three is meant to have two deputies, drawn from the other two groups.

Picking the Sunni speaker is parliament's first task, but Sunni leaders had previously refused to nominate one until a deal was reached on a prime minister. Parliament now has 30 days to elect a president, who will then have 15 days to nominate a prime minister.

Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 17 July, 2014

Myanmar needs to create more job opportunities in fight against human trafficking

By Aung Khin

The lack of job opportunities here is contributing to the increase of human trafficking in Myanmar. When people try to get jobs with higher incomes in neighbouring countries, they often fall victims of human trafficking rings.

Migration of hundreds of thousands of people has created an opportunity for traffickers who entice and make false promises. In fighting against trafficking in persons, development of the economy is a crucial. Legal and illegal migration of people is also happening regionally and internationally. However, while emigrants from some neighbouring countries are seeking jobs with high incomes in developed countries of other continents, the destination countries for most of the Myanmar migrant workers are just regional countries where democratic practices and labour rights cannot be fully guaranteed.

Trafficked men are very often subjected to forced labour in the fishing and construction industries abroad, while women are found in the situations of forced prostitution and children are in forced labour as street hawkers.

According to the United Nations Inter-Agen-

cy Project on Human Trafficking (UNIAP), the routes of cross-border trafficking are from Kengtung and Tachilek to Mae Sai, Thailand; from Myawady to Mae Sot, Thailand; and from Kawthoung to Ranong, Thailand, and sometimes from these points through to Malaysia. Women from Kachin State and Northern Shan State are trafficked to Yunnan Province, China, via Ruili.

Action taken by anti-trafficking squads is short-term means to eliminate this problem. Economic development plans and creation of more job opportunities are long-term ways to save our nationals from trafficking gangs.

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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.

Farmers start ploughing for cultivation of paddy in South Dagon Tsp

YANGON, 16 July—Farmers joined their works with ploughing farmlands in Dagon Myothit (South) Township of Yangon Region as the monsoon season offers favourable conditions for the cultivation of crops in Yangon Region.

“We will use quality

paddy strains to increase per-acre yield,” said local farmer U Zaw Win.

Farmers in the township started ploughing for cultivation of paddy at No 57 and 71 paddy fields of the township.

Myint Than
(Oxygen)



MOHNYIN, 16 July—As a rain tree, said to be over 100-year old, in front of the railway station in Mohnyin of Kachin State may fall down during strong wind and heavy rain, officials of the Township Development Affairs Committee started cutting its branches this month to ensure safety and will likely be cut down almost entirely. The tree bears significance to Japanese, locals said.

In the Second World War, Captain Mikio Kinohita of the Japanese troops served as a station superintendent of Mohnyin Station. Meanwhile, many of his troops died under the rain tree during bomb blasts of the allied forces.

The Japanese Captain, who survived the war, paid tributes to his fallen troops under the rain tree at the Mohnyin station every year, said local people.

“Every cold season, the Japanese arrives in Mohnyin and stays at our house. He

speaks in Myanmar. My father U Thein Maung taught him Myanmar language. We are now in a sort of family relationship. He donated a water tank to No 2 Basic Education High School of Mohnyin and school furniture to basic education primary schools. He also presented stationery and foodstuffs to the school children,” said teacher Daw Nyein Nyein.

Now, the Japanese is 92 years old. Although daughters and sons-in-law urged him not to visit Myanmar due to his old age, he arrived in Myitkyina by plane in March 2014. But he could not proceed to Mohnyin due to his health condition, and sent his son-in-law to Mohnyin to pay tribute to his fallen troops.

As the authorities plan to cut down the large tree entirely, the Japanese may not get to see it next year when he arrives in Mohnyin, locals said.

NLM-001

Ministry of Sports trains coaches, referees in badminton, table tennis, petanque events

NAY PYI TAW, 16 July—Not only long-term but also short-term plans are being implemented for the development of Myanmar’s sports standard and for achieving victory in the 28th SEA Games, Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan said at the ceremony to open a coaching and referee course at the gold camp in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday.

The Ministry of Sports extends sports and physical education institutes and sports centres for training new generation athletes under local and foreign coaches, he added.

The Union minister



called on the trainees to become qualified coaches and referees to turn out outstanding athletes who

will “bring honour to the State.”

50 trainees are attending the badminton coach-

ing and referee course, 33 the table tennis and 61 the petanque events.—MNA

Old tree with significance to Japanese cut down



LOCAL NEWS

Waso robes offered to monks at university in Yangon



YANGON, 16 July—A Waso robes offering ceremony took place at State Pariyatti Sasana University in Yangon's Mayangon Township on 13 July.

Vice Chairman of All Myanmar Tamil Hindu Foundation (Head Office) U Ba Myint supplicated on offering of Waso robes.

Officials of Depart-

ment for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana, the chairman of the foundation and wellwishers offered Waso robes and alms to Professor and Dean of Myanmar Language in Pitakat Department Agga Maha Ganthavacaka Pandita Bhaddanta Indobhasabhivamsa and members of the Sangha.—Aung Thura

New bus line runs along Pakokku-Magway route

PAKOKKU, 16 July—A new bus line called Ayeyawady is now running from Pakokku to Magway of Magway Region twice a day, officials said.

The new bus line was extended as a branch of the main bus line running from Mandalay to Pakokku to create a transport network among Kyaukhtu, Htilin, Gangaw, Saw and Yaw regions from Gangaw District in addition to Yes-ago, Myaing, Pauk and Seikpyu of Magway and Pakokku Districts.

The bus leaves from its terminal in Pakokku at 5 am and 2 pm and in Magway at 8 am and 5 pm daily, with ticket sold at K5,000 per passenger.

The new bus line runs its routes from Pakokku to NyaungU, Kyaukpadaung, Yenangyoung and Magway.

Aung (Mandalay University)



Mandalarian entrepreneurs meet Chinese Taipei businessmen

MANDALAY, 16 July—Mandalay Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry and entrepreneurs held a meeting with entrepreneurs from 24 companies from Chinese Taipei at Yadanabon Super Centre

at the corner of 78th and 34th streets in Chanayethazan Township on Tuesday.

Chairman of the Chamber U Aung Win Khaing and Director of Business Department of Chinese Taipei Mrs Meng

Chuan Lee introduced several entrepreneurs.

Their discussions focused on mutual cooperation in monetary affairs management, motorcycle spare production, canned fish production, wooden or-

naments, travel bags production, sports gear production, architectural designs, plastic products, eye health care and glass production, leather and shoes production.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



Residents in Kywepwe to get health care services from station hospital

KYWEPWE, 16 July—As Kywepwe town in Ottwin Township of Bago Region is located beside Yangon-Mandalay Highway and Yangon-Mandalay railroad for about 500 years, locals have been having easy access to health care facilities, with Speaker of the Lower House Thura U Shwe Mann inspecting one hospital.

From the 2013-14 and 2014-15 fiscal year, the government allotted K569.7 million for the construction of a one-storey RC building.

The station hospital comprises one 16-bed main building, one operation theatre, one X-ray room, the surgeon residence, staff quarters and the mortuary. Gyobyu Construction



Company is constructing the building with 30 per cent completion. Upon completion, the station hospital will give health care services to 21,758 people from Kywepwe and nearby 10 villages.

Thein Win (Kywepwe)

School health care given to students in Bilin BEPS No 3



BILIN, 16 July—Bilin Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Health Department jointly provided health care services to students on Tuesday.

Officials and staff of the combined team gave personal hygiene services to students and performed a medical checkup at No 3

Basic Education Primary School.

The combined team comprised Assistant Surgeon Dr Ei Ei Kyaw of the Township Health Department, Head of Township Traditional Medicine Clinic Daw Htay and Chairperson of Township MCWA Daw Thinzin Win.

Township IPRD

Basic education students in Dala to receive food supply once a month



DALA, 16 July—Township Education and Health Foundation gave refreshments to students of basic education schools in Dala of Yangon South District on Tuesday.

The foundation plans to feed refreshment to students of three basic education schools once a month. On Tuesday, the foundation gave refreshments to 848 students of Basic Ed-

ucation Primary School in West Arntgyi Ward, BEPS No 14 in Khatmyay Ward and BEPS No 17 in Kamakathwe Ward.

Township Education Officer Daw Than Than Aye and officials visited the schools to view the project and invited teachers to report requirements of education and health to the foundation.

Maung Yin Oo (Dala)

Obama vows intelligence cooperation to Germany's Merkel

WASHINGTON, 16 July — US President Barack Obama spoke to German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Tuesday for the first time since a new spy scandal dented relations between the two allies, and pledged to be in touch about ways to improve US-German intelligence cooperation.

The call followed a difficult period in US-German relations after Berlin told the CIA station chief last week to leave the country after officials unearthed two suspected US spies.

Berlin said last week it had discovered a suspected US spy in the Defence Ministry. That came just days after a German for-

eign intelligence worker was arrested on suspicion of being a CIA informant and admitted passing documents to a US contact.

"The president and the chancellor ... exchanged views on US-German intelligence cooperation, and the president said he'd remain in close communication on ways to improve cooperation going forward," the statement said.

The phrase "exchanged views" may suggest the two leaders were far apart on how they see the issue.

Merkel has said spying on allies is a "waste of energy." The White House, while being circumspect in what it would confirm about CIA activity, has

said the issue should be resolved through diplomatic channels and not through the media.

The United States and Germany are important partners on a host of global conflicts. Obama and Merkel also discussed the violence in Ukraine and talks with Iran about its nuclear programme, the White House said.

The two leaders reiterated that Russia had to take more steps to de-escalate the situation in eastern Ukraine by urging rebels to release hostages and by ending the flow of heavy weapons, equipment, and fighters across the Russian border. "The leaders agreed that to date neither the United States nor Ger-

many has seen Russia fulfill these required actions," it said.

Obama and US officials have held a number of calls with European leaders in recent days about Russia in a sign that Washington is pushing for a new round of sanctions against Moscow.

US Vice President Joe Biden told Ukraine President Petro Poroshenko on Tuesday that the United States was working with European allies on the issue amid what they cited as further acts of escalation from Russia.

"The leaders discussed Russia's ongoing support for the separatists and apparent escalation of the conflict over the last few



US President Barack Obama speaks about the economy at the Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Centre in McLean, Virginia, on 15 July, 2014.—REUTERS

days," the White House said in a statement about the call between the two men. "The vice president told President Poroshenko that the United States was

engaging with European leaders to discuss the imposition of costs on Russia for its continued escalation of the conflict," it said.

Reuters

Car bomb attack kills at least 89 in Afghanistan



Villagers gather at the site of a car bomb attack in Urgan district eastern province of Paktika on 15 July, 2014.—REUTERS

GARDEZ, (Afghanistan), 16 July — A car packed with explosives exploded on Tuesday as it sped through a crowded market in Afghanistan's eastern province of Paktika, killing

at least 89 people, officials said, one of the most violent attacks in the country in a year.

The huge explosion took place not far from the porous border with Paki-

stan's North Waziristan region, where the military has been attacking hideouts of the Pakistani Taliban in the past few weeks, prompting militants to retreat toward Afghanistan.

"The number of victims may increase," said General Zahir Azimi, a defense ministry spokesman.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon condemned the attack as a "despicable criminal act," which was a serious violation of international law, his spokesman said. The attacks took place as foreign troops are gradually withdrawing from the country. The United Nations said last week that civilian casualties jumped by almost a quarter in the first half of this year as hostilities escalated.—Reuters

Famed activist, journalist detained by US Border Patrol

HOUSTON, 16 July — A prominent immigration activist and journalist, who made his name known by chronicling his life as an undocumented immigrant living illegally in the United States for years, was detained at a Texas airport by US Border Patrol on Tuesday, authorities said.

Jose Antonio Vargas, a Pulitzer prize-winning journalist and advocate for immigrants' right, was arrested on Tuesday after attempting to board a plane out of McAllen in south Texas, the Border Patrol said in a statement. The Border Patrol said Vargas was arrested after telling an agent he was in the country illegally. Vargas was held in custody for most of the day and later was released on

his own recognizance with a notice to appear before an immigration judge. Vargas, born in the Philippines, has been living without papers in the country since 1993. He became well-known for narrating his own life story as an illegal immigrant in American main-stream media and in a film.

He lost no opportunity on Tuesday to publicize his campaign. His team used social media and text messages summoning people to call the Border Patrol station to demand his release.

Vargas' arrest came at a politically sensitive time when tens of thousands of unaccompanied minors from Central American illegally crossed the border into the United States. The influx of child immigrants

has overwhelmed US detention facilities and sparked outcries from the public and in Washington. The White House has requested 3.7 billion dollars in emergency funding from Congress to address the problem. But it was quickly met with pushback from Republicans who blamed US President Barack Obama for what they describe as lenient and confusing immigration policies.

Statistics showed that since October last year, more than 57,000 unaccompanied minors have been apprehended crossing illegally into the United States through the southwest border. Most of them are staying at detention centres and processing facilities in Texas, New Mexico and California.—Xinhua

Libyan militia tighten control of Tripoli airport

TRIPOLI, 16 July — Libyan militia fighters with anti aircraft guns and mortars fanned out on Tuesday across Tripoli's airport, transformed into a battlefield by two days of fighting that has cut the Libyan capital off from the outside world.

US Secretary of State John Kerry said Washington was working to help end to violence that has brought the north African country to the edge of chaos three years after the uprising that toppled dictator Muammar Gaddafi.

At least 15 people have been killed in the capital and the eastern city of Benghazi since Sunday.

Fighting between rival militias at the capital's airport damaged the control tower and wrecked 11 civilian aircraft parked on the tarmac. The main terminal building has been turned into a field hospital.

In Benghazi, irregular forces loyal to renegade former general Khalifa Haftar, a former Gaddafi ally, bombarded Islamist militia bases as part of his self-declared campaign to oust militants. Special forces clashed with militia fighters in the city.

The Tripoli airport battle has prompted the United Nations to evacuate its staff from the country, where a new government is struggling to impose order over



A damaged aircraft is pictured after a shelling at Tripoli International Airport on 15 July, 2014.—REUTERS

streets prowled by fighters who rose up against Gaddafi and never disarmed. The airport area is under the control of former fighters from the western town of Zintan who have held it since the fall of Tripoli in 2011. Rival Islamist-leaning militias fought with the Zintanis in recent days, but failed to dislodge them.

For the past three years, the new authorities have tried to rein in militia fighters by putting them on the government payroll. But months of protests at oil fields and ports caused government revenues to collapse last year, leaving the economy in tatters.

Reuters

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

IBM to offer iPads and iPhones for business users

Intel says worst is over for battered PC industry



Apple's iPad devices are displayed at its store in Tokyo on 18 Jan, 2013. —REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 16 July — International Business Machines Corp will partner exclusively with Apple Inc to sell iPhones and iPads loaded with applications geared at enterprise clients this fall, the company announced on Tuesday.

The announcement, just two days before IBM releases its second quarter earnings, comes as the company attempts to shift its focus to software and services as its hardware unit continues to slump, and follows a string of mobile software acquisitions. The company hopes software sales will

contribute half of its total profit by 2015.

The company will release more than 100 apps targeting industry specific issues in retail, healthcare, banking, travel, transportation and telecommunications IBM said on Tuesday.

"We wanted to focus on creating an absolutely irresistible workflow and processes and a design of apps that can be used by every user in the organization," Bridget van Kralingen, IBM's senior vice president of global business services told *Reuters* from Apple headquarters in Cupertino,

California.

"We wanted to remove some of the existing barriers of mobile in enterprise," she said adding that chief information officers worry about security, utilizing cloud and installing apps in mobile devices.

The partnership, which was six months in the making, will offer services geared at security, mobile device management and big data and analytics. The company also plans to develop cloud services optimized for Apple's mobile operating system, iOS. The devices will operate through wireless carriers chosen by the client, she said.

BlackBerry Ltd shares were down 3 percent following the announcement. The Canadian smartphone maker has increasingly targeted its secure software at businesses as part of an effort to turn the company around after losing ground to Apple's iPhone and Samsung Electronics Co.

Apple and Samsung have steadily expanded

their share of the mobile enterprise market in recent years, mostly at BlackBerry's expense, while Microsoft Windows phones have made little headway.

Increasingly, Apple's expansion has been driven by employees bringing in their own devices and requesting corporate support, the so-called bring-your-own-IT trend.

Hooking up with IBM may help address lingering concerns about smartphone software security and data privacy, in the form of a veteran partner that's led in enterprise IT for decades.

"This deal is a very targeted attempt by Apple with the help from IBM to focus on the enterprise, corporate market which has really been the main business of BlackBerry," said Tim Ghriskey, chief investment officer at Solaris Group in Bedford Hills, New York.

IBM shares were up 1.9 percent and Apple shares rose 1.3 percent after the bell following the announcement. —*Reuters*

SAN FRANCISCO, 16 July — Intel Corp (INTC.O) believes the worst is over for a personal computer industry hammered by the mobile revolution. The Santa Clara, California chipmaker forecast third-quarter revenue above Wall Street's expectations on Tuesday, sending its stock 4 percent higher in extended trade.

Investors have pushed shares of PC mainstays Microsoft Corp (MSFT.O) and Intel to decade-highs, partly on bets that the global slump in PC demand that began with Apple Inc's (AAPL.O) launch of the iPad four years ago is hitting bottom.

"PCs have stabilized," Chief Financial Officer Stacy Smith told *Reuters* after Intel's report. He said he expects shrinking demand from consumers in China and other developing countries to rebound, just as it recently has in the United States. From the end of 2010, the year the iPad was launched, to the end of 2013, annual global PC shipments shrank a total of 12 percent, according to IDC. Intel now expects the

market's recovery to help it grow its full-year revenue about 5 percent, slightly higher than prior expectations. Chief Executive Officer Brian Krzanich told analysts on a conference call that improved demand from companies replacing old PCs would last at least through the end of 2014.

Also on Tuesday, Intel increased its share buyback programme by \$20 billion. It plans to repurchase about \$4 billion of stock in the current quarter, underscoring its confidence in a turnaround and a growing crop of "two in one" devices with detachable keyboards and screens.

"My presumption would be that if they're confident enough to boost it that they see this (PC market) upside maintaining," Bernstein analyst Stacy Rasgon said. "God help them if they're wrong." Intel said in a statement it expects third-quarter revenue of \$14.4 billion, plus or minus \$500 million. Analysts had expected \$14 billion on average, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S. —*Reuters*

Yahoo's long goodbye with Alibaba takes heat off Mayer

SAN FRANCISCO, 16 July — Yahoo Inc cannot seem to part ways with Alibaba. And with Yahoo's business continuing to deteriorate, some Wall Street analysts say it is hard to blame the company.

Yahoo said on Tuesday that it would keep a bigger-than-expected chunk of its stake in Alibaba when the Chinese e-commerce company goes public later this year.

That could give Chief Executive Officer Marissa Mayer, who celebrated her two-year anniversary at Yahoo's helm this month, more time to achieve a turnaround that has proven elusive. "It remains a very large fig leaf," Pivotal Research Group analyst Brian Wieser said of Yahoo's Alibaba stake, which he said "obscures" Yahoo's weak results. "A lot of investors will certainly view it very favorably that they're holding on to more" of Alibaba. —*Reuters*

Plumage aplenty: fossil found of 'four-winged' feathered dinosaur

WASHINGTON, 16 July — It was built sort of like a biplane but probably did not fly as well, if at all.

Scientists on Tuesday described a fossil of a strange dinosaur that lived in China 125 million years ago which was covered in feathers, looked like it had two sets of wings and may have been able to glide.

The meat-eating creature, called Changyuraptor yangi, had exceptionally long tail feathers, the longest feathers of any dinosaur, at one foot in length (30 cm). It had feather-covered forelimbs akin to wings as well as legs covered in feathers in a way that gave the appearance of a second set of wings. Changyuraptor is not considered a bird but rather a very bird-like dinosaur. It illustrates that it is not always easy to tell what is and is not a bird. It measured a bit more than 4 feet long (1.3 meters) and weighed roughly 9 pounds (4 kg).

If a person saw Changyuraptor, the reaction likely would be: "Hey! That is a weird-looking bird,"



An artist's rendering shows the newly discovered feathered dinosaur, Changyuraptor yangi, in this image released on 15 July, 2014, courtesy of the Natural History Museum (NHM)'s Dinosaur Institute. —REUTERS

according to paleontologist Alan Turner of Stony Brook University in New York, one of the researchers.

"So, think a mid-sized turkey with a very long tail," Turner added.

Scientists have identified a handful of these 'four-winged' dinosaurs, known as microraptorines. Changyuraptor is the largest.

Birds arose from small, feathered dinosaurs. Crow-sized Archaeopteryx, which lived about 150 million years ago, is considered the

earliest known bird. But many dinosaurs before and after that had feathers and other bird-like characteristics.

"Changyuraptor is very, very similar to Archaeopteryx and other primitive birds. So are many other dinosaurs like Anchiornis and Pedopenna. But they have some traits that birds lack, and lack some traits that birds have," Turner added.

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County paleontologist Luis

Chiappe, who led the study, said Changyuraptor lived in a forested environment in a temperate climate, hunting birds, mammals, small reptiles and fish.

"Animals like Changyuraptor were probably not engaged in powered flight like modern birds. However, Changyuraptor and dinosaurs like it could flap their wings and certainly had large feathered surfaces on both their forelimbs and hind limbs," Turner said.

"So this does raise the

possibility they could glide or 'fly' in a primitive sort of way. The way I like to think of it is: if you pushed them out of a tree, they'd fall pretty slowly," Turner added.

If Changyuraptor were able to become airborne, its long tail feathers may have helped reduce descent speed and enabled safe landings. "This helps explain how animals like Changyuraptor could engage in some form of aerial locomotion — flight, gliding, and/or controlled descents — despite their size," Turner added.

In birds today, feathers can serve multiple functions beyond flight, including display, species recognition and mating rituals. Turner said Changyuraptor's feathers also may have served multiple purposes.

China has become a treasure trove for feathered dinosaur fossils. Changyuraptor was unearthed in Liaoning Province in northeastern China.

The study was published in the journal *Nature Communications*.

Reuters

Kerry confers premature knighthood on departing friend Hague

WASHINGTON, 16 July — US Secretary of State John Kerry on Tuesday heaped praise on William Hague after his resignation as British foreign secretary, and even went as far as conferring on him a premature knighthood via Twitter.

“Will miss working so closely with my friend Sir William — when @WilliamJHague spoke, we all listened,” Kerry said in a tweet on his page on the social media site, to which a photograph of the two men was attached.

Hague has not been knighted — an honour normally bestowed by the British monarch, Queen Elizabeth, and which carries with it the title “Sir.” It is an honor often given to statesmen, as well as other distinguished citizens from business leaders to entertainers.

Hague said on Monday he was stepping down from his post as Britain’s top diplomat after four years in the job, an un-



British Foreign Secretary William Hague (L) sits with US Secretary of State John Kerry (R) as they hold a bilateral meeting at talks between the foreign ministers of the six powers negotiating with Teheran on its nuclear programme in Vienna, on 13 July, 2014.—REUTERS

expected move prompted by a government reshuffle by Prime Minister David

Cameron. He will become the government’s business leader of the House of Commons, coordinating Britain’s parliament.

Earlier, the US State Department spokeswoman, Jen Psaki, said the “excellent working relationship” Kerry had with Hague “exemplified the US-UK special relationship.”

Britain was the first country Kerry visited when he became secretary of state last year and Hague was the first foreign minister to receive him.

Psaki said the United States believed relations with Britain would remain equally strong under Hague’s successor, Philip Hammond, the former defence minister and a prominent Euro skeptic.

Psaki avoided being drawn when asked if the United States was concerned about Hammond’s outspoken criticism of the European Union, a 28-nation grouping Washington supports as an entity.

“I think we’ll leave that to domestic politics in the UK,” she said.

Reuters

Mexico rescues 458 children from squalid refuge amid abuse fears

MEXICO CITY, 16 July — Mexico said on Tuesday it had rescued 458 children from a vermin-infested refuge for abandoned boys and girls, some of whom it believes were sexually abused.

The attorney general’s office said police and army troops raided a home known as “La Gran Familia” (The Big Family) in the western city of Zamora on Tuesday, following at least 50 complaints about its operators.

Infested by rats, bedbugs and fleas, the refuge was run by Rosa Verduzco, who is now being questioned by authorities, the government said.

The refuge was home to 278 boys, 174 girls and six infants as well as 138 adults aged up to 40, the government said.

“We found that there were around 500 children in truly terrible conditions,” Attorney General Jesus Murillo said.

Five complaints by parents that the home would not return their children to them prompted authorities to act, he added.

The children in the refuge had to beg for money on the streets, eat unsanitary food and sleep on the floor among vermin, officials said. Some suffered sexual abuse, they added.

Reuters

One killed, one injured in Arkansas shooting

HOUSTON, 16 July — One person was killed and another injured in a late-night shooting in the US state of Arkansas on Tuesday, local media reported.

The shooting occurred late Tuesday night at a residential address in North Little Rock in central Arkansas, the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* reported.

Police found two men had been shot at the scene. Both were sent to an area hospital where one of them was pronounced dead. The other’s condition is not immediately known.

Scant information has been released by authorities. It’s not clear if any arrest was made in regard to the shooting.

A day earlier, another late-night shooting in Pine Bluff, a city 70 km southeast of Little Rock, the state capital city, claimed a life and injured another. A gunman opened fire when robbing the victims. The suspect was later caught and arrested.

Xinhua

Russia detains two over fatal Moscow metro accident

MOSCOW, 16 July — Russian state investigators said on Wednesday they had detained two Moscow metro workers suspected of safety breaches that may have caused an accident that killed at least 21 people.

More than 150 were also injured in Tuesday’s accident in which three carriages derailed on a train during the morning rush hour. Some media reports put the death toll at 22.

Russia’s federal Investigative Committee said it had detained a track supervisor and an assistant track supervisor suspected of



Members of the emergency services carry an injured passenger outside a metro station following an accident on the subway in Moscow on 15 July, 2014. REUTERS

failing to properly monitor work carried out on a track switch mechanism in an underground tunnel.

“The work was carried out improperly,” the committee said in a statement. “This resulted in the train coming off the rails, the deaths of 21 people and various injuries to more than 150 passengers.”

The accident is the worst in years on Moscow’s overcrowded metro and highlights concerns about Russia’s patchy transport safety record. There was no sign that the incident was a militant attack.—Reuters

14 alive, one out of contact following tunnel collapse

KUNMING, 16 July — Fourteen workers are confirmed to be alive but another one remains out of contact in southwest China’s Yunnan Province after part of a railway tunnel collapsed on Monday afternoon, local authorities said on Wednesday.

As of 7:20 pm on Tuesday, rescuers had drilled a hole in the collapsed tunnel after more than 27 hours of rescue work, and managed to send food, water and flashlights to the workers, according to the local government.



Li Jiheng, governor of Yunnan Province, talks with trapped workers with telephone at the site of railway tunnel collapse in Funing County of Zhuang and Miao Autonomous Prefecture of Wenshan, southwest China’s Yunnan Province, on 15 July, 2014. XINHUA

“Fourteen workers are alive and safe, while the situation of another one remains unclear,” the government said in a statement.

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

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

Xinhua

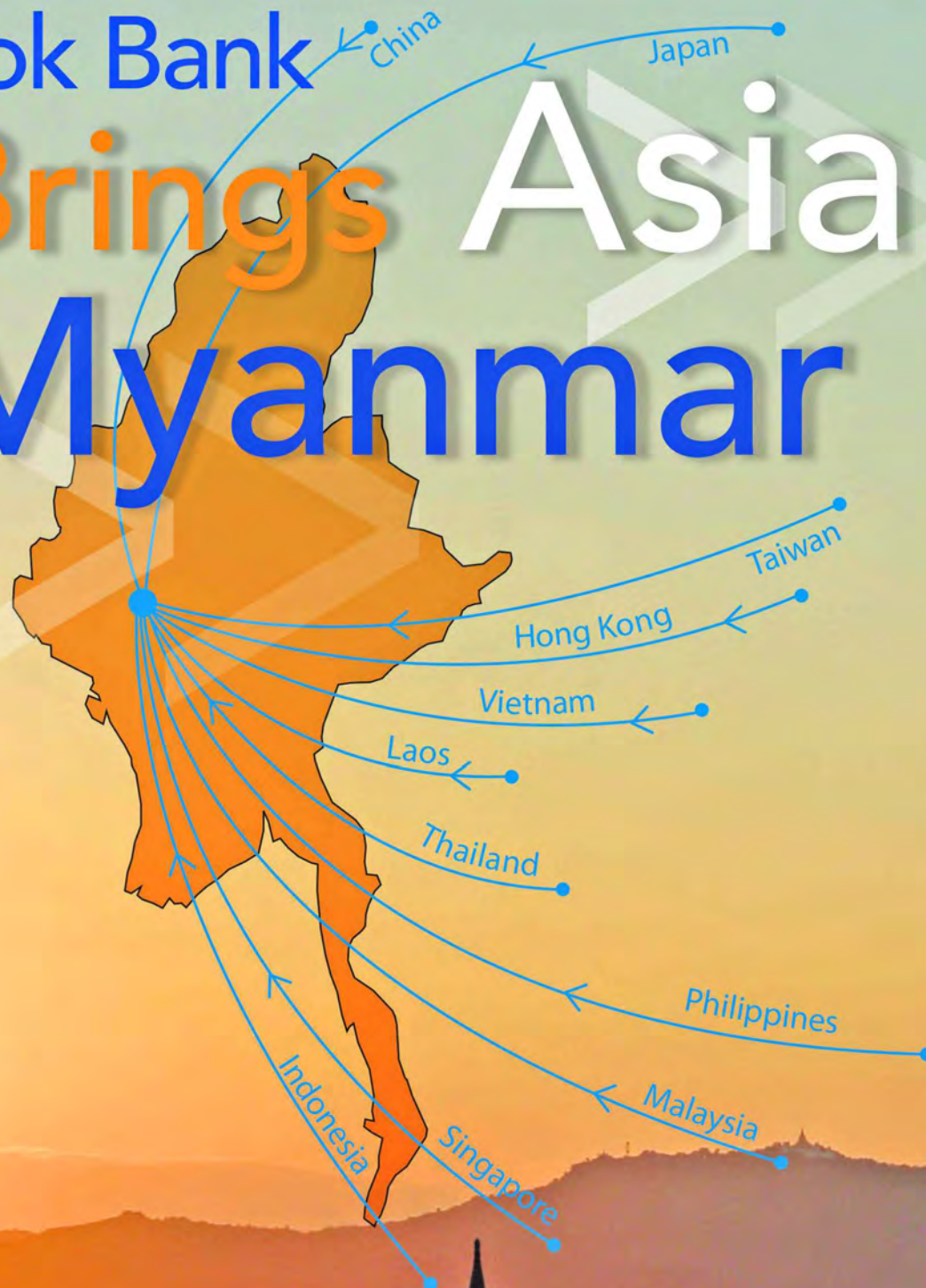
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ADVERTISEMENT & ENTERTAINMENT

Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER

We would like to revise our advertisement in Myanmar Alinn and the Mirror dated July 14, 2014 as shown below. The Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development intends to procure the following packages of motor vehicles, motorbikes, and water supply accessories:

Sr.	Description	Floor Unit Price MMK,00000	Qty.	Remark
Lot (1)				
(1)	Hyundai Mini Bus (29 Seats), D4DD, 2013 Model	490.00	11 Nos	
(2)	Hyundai Mini Bus (29 Seats), D4DD, 2010 Model	385.00	12 Nos	
(3)	Hyundai Mini Bus (29 Seats), 3907CC, 2004 Model	235.00	1 No	
Lot (2)				
(1)	Toyota Hilux Surf, 4WD Auto KDN-215 3000CC, 2004 Model and above them	420.00	1 No	
(2)	Toyota Corolla Fielder Van, 4Seater, 1500CC Petrol, 2004 Model and above them	210.00	4 Nos	
(3)	Toyota SUV, Auto 4WD, 3000CC, Diesel 2004 Model and above them	400.00	2 Nos	
(4)	Toyota Hilux Double Cab, 3000CC, Diesel, 2007 Model and above them	600.00	2 Nos	
Lot (3)				
(1)	Toyota Double Cab, Manual, 3000CC, Diesel, 2004 Model and above them	230.00	31 Nos	
(2)	Single Cab, 2000CC, Diesel, 2004 Model and above them	180.00	18 Nos	
(3)	Toyota Extra Cab, 4WD Manual, 2500CC, Diesel 2004 Model and above them	190.00	222 Nos	
Lot (4)				
(1)	Light Truck, Diesel, 2200 CC, 2WD, 2004 Model and above them	150.00	121 Nos	
(2)	Truck, Manual, 4.1(150 Kilowatt and above them)	500.00	3 Nos	
Lot (5)				
(1)	Motorcycle, 125CC (Gasoline) 2013 Model and above them	6.00	366 Nos	
Lot (6)				
(1)	Drill Rod, 6m long, Outside Diameter 89mm, At least 6.4mm Thickness and Flush Joint with 2 3/8 IF	12.00	400 Nos	
(2)	Airlifting pipe with BQ Thread, 6m long with BQT Outside Diameter 55.6mm	3.50	400 Nos	
Lot (7)				
(1)	DTH Penetration Bit, Hammer bit(152mm)6" (Japan, Korea)	80.00	7 Nos	
(2)	Hydraulic Jack Twin Type 100 Tons, with Base plate, hand pump and Pressure pipe 2 set	10.00	10 Nos	
(3)	6 3/4 " Wing Bit (Drag Bit), USA, Carbide tooth 3 1/2 " REG	5.00	10 Nos	
(4)	8 5/8 " Wing Bit (Drag Bit), USA, Carbide tooth 4 1/2 " REG	10.00	10 Nos	
(5)	6 3/4 " Rock Bit, USA, Steel tooth 3 1/2 " REG, Sealed Bearing type	45.00	10 Nos	
(6)	8 5/8 " Rock Bit, USA, Steel tooth 4 1/2 " REG, Sealed Bearing type	65.00	10 Nos	
Lot (8)				
(1)	Geo-physical Measuring Instrument, Sycal R2, 400m(France)	500.00	1 Set	
(2)	Geo-physical Measuring Instrument, Terrameter LS, 500m(France)	700.00	1 Set	

Where to Get Forms

The Tender Form may be obtained from the Directory of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development, Office No. 36, Nay Pyi Taw and Department of Rural Development, Office No. 14 Nay Pyi Taw during office hours from 0900 to 1600, Monday through Friday, except public holidays, or may be downloaded from the Ministry webpages: www.mlfrd.gov.mm (or) www.drdmyanmar.org or may be requested in writing to: info.mlfrd@gmail.com (or) drdmyanmar@gmail.com

Submission Deadline

Technical and Financial Proposals shall be submitted to the Procurement Committee at Ministry Office No. 36 in person from 0800 to 0900 on August 14, 2014. Proposals submitted after 0900 shall be rejected. All proposals will be opened at 1000 on the same day in front of all attendees. More detailed information may be obtained from the below address during office hours.

Procurement Committee

Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development

Office No. (36), Nay Pyi Taw

Ph: (95) 67 408046, 409214, 409215, 408153, 408224

Fax: (95) 67 408223, 409029

Indian-American boy to play Mowgli in Disney's 'Jungle Book'

LOS ANGELES, 16 July — Disney has found its Mowgli in 10-year-old Indian-American Neel Sethi for its live-action adaptation of Rudyard Kipling's classic tale about a boy who is raised by animals in 'The Jungle Book'.

New York-born Sethi will be the only actor to

appear onscreen in the project which is a combination of live-action and animation, said the Hollywood Reporter. Jon Favreau is directing the film from a script by Justin Marks for a release in 3D on October 9, 2015.

While Mowgli's jungle family will be creat-

ed with the help of CGI, the voice cast boasts Idris Elba as the villain Shere Khan, Ben Kingsley will voice beloved panther Bagheera while Scarlett Johansson and Lupita Nyong'o are also in talks for Disney's take on voice parts.

PTI

INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER

(TENDER NO. 3(T)MPE/MOGAS(1)/2014-2015)

- Open Tender is invited for the Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of Mogas (92-RON) UNL (47,000 ± 10%Barrels).
- Tender Closing Date : 5 - 8 - 2014 at (12:00) noon.
- Tender Opening Date : 5 - 8 - 2014 at (13:00) hrs.
- Delivery Time : End of August 2014
- Tender Documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing 15-7-2014 on payment of the Myanmar Kyat One Hundred Thousand (Kyat 100,000) per set.
- Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director
Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise

Contact Phone no.
067-411108/411193

Grateful for having an active childhood: Jennifer Garner

LOS ANGELES, 16 July — Actress Jennifer Garner has revealed that dancing and swimming as a child has helped her keep in shape as it set her up for an active lifestyle.

The 'Dallas Buyers Club' star believes swimming competitively and ballet dancing as a youngster, reported *Hello!* magazine. "I've always been active. When I was growing up I was a ballet dancer and I also swam competitively, so, although I didn't realise it at the time, I was setting myself up for a lifetime of activity," she said.

Garner, 42, who has three children, Violet, eight, Samuel, two, and Seraphina, five, with her actor husband Ben Affleck, is also grateful to her personal trainer, Valerie Waters,



for helping her stay in shape.

"I have a wonderful personal trainer called Valerie Waters — she's my sunrise sister because we watch the sun rise together and then she puts me through a workout. She's wonderful because I always feel I've had a good workout with her but we also have a good chat along the way."

PTI

Cheryl Cole's family found out about wedding on Facebook

LONDON, 16 July — Cheryl Cole's stepfather Anthony Leighton has revealed that only a small group of people were aware of her wedding plans.

The 31-year-old singer surprised fans by announcing that she had got married last week to boyfriend Jean-Bernard Fernandez-Versini after just three months of dating, reported *Daily Mirror*.

"I am over the moon for her. If she's happy then I'm happy. It is a right surprise. She's lovely and I am really happy for her. "I found out through Facebook, she doesn't bother with us much. She phones her sister and she phones her brother sometimes, but what we hear is just back and forward. This is a bit of a surprise for everyone. I'm pleased for her," he said.

Cole's mother married Leighton when she was 11.—PTI



Cheryl Cole

GENERAL

Back surgery has given returning Woods a fresh perspective

HOYLAK, (England), 16 July — Tiger Woods's back operation in March robbed the former world number one of a quarter of the golf season but at least it has given him a fresh outlook on his career.

The 14-times major champion will be making his second competitive appearance in four months at this week's British Open and Woods is just happy to be back at the venue of his memorable 2006 victory at Royal Liverpool. "With this particular injury with my back I didn't want to do anything," Woods told reporters on Tuesday. "I couldn't get out of bed and I couldn't move around the house. "That made me appreciate just how fortunate I was to be able to play at that high level for the better part of 17 years. It made me appreciate that a lot more."

Woods famously won



Tiger Woods of the US listens to questions during a news conference ahead of the British Open Championship at the Royal Liverpool Golf Club in Hoylake, northern England on 15 July, 2014.

REUTERS

the 2008 US Open, the most recent of his major triumphs, virtually on one leg due to anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) problems that eventually led to surgery.

"When I had no ACL and my leg was pretty trashed I could actually still go out there and play," explained the 38-year-old American. "I couldn't do that with this back injury.

"I couldn't actually enjoy my life...the daily things of just moving around. It wasn't a whole lot of fun."

Woods missed the cut on his comeback at the Quicken Loans National event in Maryland last month but he is delighted just to be pain-free these days.

"The people who have had my surgery, they've

all said the same thing. It changes your whole life, it just takes away all the pain," said the world number seven. "Yeah, you're sore from the incision but you don't have that radiating pain that goes down the leg. Once that was removed, even though I was hurting from the surgery, I knew I could come back and play."

"It was just a matter of time before I got out here and was able to play at elite level again. Once I went through the procedure and I was just sitting in the recovery room and I didn't have that pain any more it was a lot of relief." Former US Ryder Cup captain Curtis Strange told Reuters earlier this month that Woods had to limit his ambitions at Hoylake because of his limited playing time since surgery.

Reuters

MYANMAR TV

(17-7-2014, Thursday)

6:00 am

* Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

7:20 am

* People Talks

8:00 am

* News/ International News

8:30 am

* TV Drama Series

10:00 am

* News

10:20 am

* TV Drama Series

12:00 pm

* News / International News / Weather Report

12:25 pm

* Teleplay

1:45 pm

* Fine Arts Bosom of Dramatic Performance

2:45 pm

* Musical Programme

3:00 pm

* News

3:15 pm

* Teleplay

4:45 pm

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

5:00 pm

* News

5:15 pm

* Documentary

6:20 pm

* Approaching Science Discovery World

6:50 pm

* TV Drama Series

7:00 pm

* News

7:25 pm

* TV Drama Series

8:00 pm

* News/ International News/ Weather Report

8:35 pm

* Current Affairs

9:00 pm

* News

* Clever

* Pyi Thu Ni Ti

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(17-7-14 07:00 am~ 18-7-14 07:00 am) MST

* Local News

* Masterclass: Contemporary Art

* World News

* My Life & My Art

* Local News

* Pagodas: "A Visit to San-Taw-Shin Kyike-Hti-Yo Pagoda"

* World News

* A Glance at A Naga Family Life

* Local News

* Pictures Decorated with Seashells and Gemstones

* World News

* Kay Tu Mar Lar "The Decision"

* Local News

* Cruising to Precious Islands (Part-2)

* World News

* Sagaing Guitar

* 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 MraukU 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



Supplied photo shows a pure gold statuette of Godzilla, to be sold by Tanaka Kikinzoku Jewelry KK commemorating the 60th anniversary of the original Japanese film's release. Measuring around 24 centimetres in height, 19 cm in width and 35 cm in length, the statuette is priced at 150 million yen.

KYODO NEWS

TOKYO, 16 July — The operator of a Tokyo-based jewelry store chain will begin taking orders on Sunday for a pure gold statuette of Godzilla priced at 150 million yen, commemorating the 60th anniversary of the original Japanese film's release.

Tanaka Kikinzoku Jewelry KK will take orders for the statuette at its nine outlets with production expected to take about two months. Fifteen kilograms of pure gold will be used in each statuette. The statuette measures around 24 centimetres in height, 19 cm in width and 35 cm in length. The jewelry store will produce the golden statuette also to mark the screening of the Hollywood version of the Godzilla movie scheduled to start in Japan on 25 July. A statuette will be put on display at the Shibuya Hikarie shopping complex in Tokyo from 20 to 29 July.— Kyodo News

Flooding inundates historical town, stops trains

CHANGSHA, 16 July — Continuous rain in central China's Hunan Province has flooded the historical town of Fenghuang and forced train operations to be suspended.

As of Wednesday morning, more than 1,200 rescuers were helping to move tourists and residents out of the ancient town, said a spokesman with the Fenghuang County flood control and drought relief headquarters.

A match-making festival scheduled for July 20 has been canceled and organizers have joined flood

control efforts, he said.

As of Tuesday, more than 120,000 locals and tourists were evacuated, and more than 4,000 shops in the town were affected.

A shoe shop owner surnamed Kuang said the flooding was the worst the town had experienced. His shop was soaked.

"The floods came so quickly that I didn't have time to move the shoes," he said, estimating his losses would exceed 100,000 yuan (16,110 US dollars).

In Fenghuang's neighbouring Mayang County,

a power substation was flooded. Most of the county seat has been left without electricity since Tuesday. Repair work is under way.

Nearly 80,000 residents have been relocated following heavy rainstorms since Monday, according to the county's flood control authorities.

Affected by the rainstorms in Hunan, 44 trains scheduled from Wednesday to Friday have been canceled, Guangzhou Railway (Group) Corporation confirmed.

Xinhua



Workers pack at the snack factory of Bikaji Group in Bikaner, Rajasthan of India, on 15 July, 2014. Bikaner is famous for sweets and snacks. Bikaji Group is one of India's largest producer of such snacks. — XINHUA

Ecstatic Berlin crowds welcome victorious German team home

BERLIN, 16 July — About a million jubilant Germans welcomed their triumphant national football team home to Berlin on Tuesday, many waving flags and banners saying “We are all World Champions!” as they basked in the nation’s fourth World Cup victory.

Hundreds of thousands of revellers packed Berlin’s “fan mile”, a 1.3 km stretch of road running from the west of the capital up to the Brandenburg Gate, for a huge party. Many more lined the streets in the city centre along the team’s route.

The players danced and sang their way onto a stage at the Gate, a potent symbol of the Cold War, dressed in black T-shirts with the number 1 emblazoned on them and threw footballs into the crowd.

“Without you we wouldn’t be here. We are all world champions,” low-key coach Joachim Loew, affectionately known as Jogi, told the fans, many of them holding red posters with the words “Thanks Boys”.

Young and old fans alike were decked out in Germany shirts, many with their faces painted black, red and gold and with wigs and bandanas in the national colours. Many had started drinking beer hours before the team’s arrival from Brazil.



Fans throng a street in central Berlin to cheer Germany’s 2014 Brazil World Cup squad as they proceed in an open-top bus through the capital during a parade to mark the team’s victory on 15 July, 2014.—REUTERS

Conte stuns Juventus with shock resignation



Juventus’ Antonio Conte celebrates after winning the Serie A championship at the end of their match against Atalanta at the Juventus stadium in Turin on 5 May, 2014.—REUTERS

ROME, 16 July — Antonio Conte, who coached Juventus to three successive Italian league titles, has stunned Serie A by resigning two months after signing a deal for this season.

“I need to announce the decision to mutually terminate my contract with Juventus, which tied us together for this season,” Conte told the Juventus TV Channel. “There was a journey towards this decision.”

Conte, a former Juventus player for 13 years who took charge at the Turin club in 2011, wanted investment in the team in order to mount a serious challenge in the Champions League.

His Serie A champions finished 17 points ahead of second-placed AS Roma as they became the first team to break the 100-points barrier.

The best Conte could muster in Europe, however, was an appearance in the quarter-finals of the Champions League in 2013, when Juve were brushed aside 4-0 on aggregate by eventual winners Bayern Munich.

Last season they crashed out at the group stage before losing their Europa League semi-final with Benfica 2-1 on aggregate.

Reuters

Striker Costa signs five-year deal at Chelsea

LONDON, 16 July — Chelsea’s new striker Diego Costa, a 32 million pound signing from Atletico Madrid at the start of the month, has completed his transfer and signed a five-year deal, the Premier League club said on Tuesday.

“I am very happy to sign for Chelsea. Everybody knows it is a big club in a very competitive league, and I am very excited to get started in England with a fantastic coach and team mates,” Costa, 25, was quoted as saying on the club’s website.

“I know the high quality of the squad

I am joining.

“I would like to thank everybody at Atletico who made me into the player I am. It was an incredible time for me, but now I am starting a new adventure and I hope to win many trophies with Chelsea.”

Powerful and direct, the Brazilian-born striker built a strong reputation in Spain as a fine finisher, scoring 64 goals in 134 appearances for Atletico, and helping them to the Spanish title last season and the Champions League final.

Reuters



Chile’s Gary Medel (bottom) is fouled by Spain’s Diego Costa during their 2014 World Cup Group B soccer match at the Maracana stadium in Rio de Janeiro on 18 June, 2014.—REUTERS

Australia’s former sprint record holder Sullivan retires

MELBOURNE,

16 July —

Former

100 metres

freestyle

world

record holder

Eamon Sullivan

has

retired from the pool

following

medical advice not to swim on to the 2016

Rio Olympics, Swimming Australia said

on Wednesday.

The 28-year-old, who also held the

50m freestyle world record, pulled out of

the Commonwealth Games with a shoulder

injury last month.

Although he won a relay world title in

Melbourne in 2007 and another in Shang-

hai four years later, Sullivan has battled a

succession of injuries in recent years and

finishes his career without an individual title

at any of the major international meets.

“Eamon made his debut onto the Aus-

tralian swim team as an 18-year-old in

Athens and then 10 years later was able

to take out the men’s 50m freestyle at this

year’s Australian championships which

was a remarkable achievement,” Swim-

ming Australia CEO Mark Anderson said

in a statement. “As an athlete he’s been

the world’s best, which is what we are all

striving for as part of the goal to be the

best in the world in and out of the pool by

2020.”—Reuters

Cole says English players afraid to leave home

ROME,

16 July—

Former

Arsenal

and

Chelsea

defender

Ashley

Cole

says English

players

are afraid of

leaving

their comfort zone and playing overseas.

The former England international has

joined Serie A side AS Roma on a two-

year deal after eight trophy-laden years at

Chelsea, having spent last season as second

choice to Spaniard Cesar Azpilicueta.

“English players are probably afraid

to come abroad, they’re in a comfort zone

in England,” the 33-year-old told reporters

at his first news conference in Rome on

Tuesday. “This is a chance for me to try a

different language, culture and way of liv-

ing.” Cole, who retired from international

duty after Roy Hodgson did not include

him in England’s main 23-man World

Cup squad, said he had a good relation-

ship with Chelsea boss Jose Mourinho but

it was clear the Portuguese did not see him

as an integral part of the team anymore.

“As soon as I spoke to (Rudi) Garcia

(Roma manager) and I saw how much they

wanted me here at Roma I jumped at the

chance,” Cole said.

“I’ve always had a good relationship

with Jose Mourinho but I was no longer

useful to his project at Chelsea.—Reuters