

Myanmar needs better electricity infrastructure

By Aung Khin

YANGON, 29 July— Electric power consumption (kWh per capita) in Myanmar was measured at around 104, according to the World Bank. The amount was only one-sixth of that in Indonesia, and one-20th of Thailand.

“Over two-thirds of the country does not have access to electricity,”

Kanthan Shankar, the country manager at the World Bank said in a report, “In rural areas it’s less than 16%. So there’s a huge need.”

Although the Ministry of Electric Power is extending cable networks, many of the rural populace has no access to electricity. Only 30 percent of the country’s population has access to electricity with

frequent outages, especially in hottest months of the year, March to May.

Meanwhile, the increasing consumption of electricity in major cities of Myanmar has demanded safer power cables.

An electrician said: “Power is usually transmitted through overhead power lines, while underground power transmission has a significantly

higher cost and greater operational limitations but is sometimes used in urban areas or sensitive locations.”

The decades-old overhead power cables in the country are needed to replace with new ones that are strong enough for high voltage of power supply.

A electricity cable fell on 11 July in a market in Hlinethaya Township, western part of Yangon, killing three women and injuring a kid. Township Electricity Supply Board compensated K1.3 million and Ministry of Electric Power also provided K1 million to each family of victims. An official from the Yangon City Electricity Supply Board (YESB) said an investigation committee would be set up to be able to take actions who are responsible for these incidents.

Advocate U Khin Zaw said: “Lawsuits can be filed for these cases with the Section 304 (A) of the Penal Code.”

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Old power cables in Yangon need replacement with new ones to prevent electrocution and power losses.—PHOTO: NYDAILYNEWS.COM

Republic of the Union of Myanmar President Office

(Order No. 17/2014)

3rd Waxing of Wagaung, 1376 ME

(29 July, 2014)

Union ministers resign

Under Sub-section (b) of the section 235 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Sub-section (a) of the Section 68 of the Union Government Law, the following Union ministers were allowed for resignation of their own volition.

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|---------------------|-------------------------|
| (1) U Aung Kyi | Ministry of Information |
| (2) Dr Pe Thet Khin | Ministry of Health |

Sd/Thein Sein

President

Republic of the Union of Myanmar

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Free funeral provider calls for safety measures and improved hospitals to reduce death toll

By Aye Min Soe

BAGO, 29 July— The free funeral and ambulance service society in Bago has called on the local government to enforce safety measures in various sectors and to upgrade a station hospital in Phayagyi Town to save more lives.

Pyayagyi Town is located at a strategic place, sitting at the junction of the roads to Mandalay and Mawlamyine, only about five miles away from the Yangon-Mandalay Highway and 10 miles from Bago.

“We are prepared to donate blood and oxygen to patients and victims, but the hospital should be upgraded and improved,” said Soe Myint Khaing, the chairman of the ‘Cetanashin’ Free Funeral and Ambulance Service Society. Most of the patients transported by the society

to hospital are people who were bitten by snakes or who were injured during hard labour, he said.

The free funeral and ambulance service society in Phayagyi Town has carried out 1,000 funeral ser-

vices and transported about 900 patients, including victims injured in traffic accidents, in the five years of its

operation.

The voluntary society has to transport five victims and bodies per month on

average from the accidents on the Yangon-Mandalay Highway to hospital, according to the Cetanashin Free Funeral and Ambulance Service Society.

“We are on alert around the clock. Whenever a citizen or the police call us, we go there to help them,” said Ko Min Aung, Secretary of the association.

The society has two ambulances, two cars for funeral services and one vehicle for transporting dead bodies from the location of the accident to hospital. There are about 100 members of the society, who contribute cash on a monthly basis to the society, with several young people volunteering.—NLM

Ambulances are ready to give philanthropic service to locals in Phayagyi Town.

PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE



Union ministers discuss citizenship scrutiny process in Sittway



Union Ministers and officials meet locals in Sittway for fulfilling requirements.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 July — Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Thane supplicated to Buddhist monks on construction of Ponnagyun industrial zone and main power station for electrification in Ponnagyun and Sittway, supply of fresh

water and maintenance of water course in Hsaty-oekya Creek, publishing for Rakhine and Myanmar bilingual newspapers and

Undisciplined vehicles towed by truck for taking action in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 29 July—The roads in six townships of Mandalay City Development Committee are blocked by unsystematic stationary of vehicles in front of the restaurants, tea shops, department stores and grocery shops daily.

The MCDC has announced that staff of the respective shops are to urge the owners and drivers of vehicles to stop their automobiles systematically. If the vehicles cause to traffic

congestions along the road, the Committee will take action against the offenders under the rules and finally close the shops.

The Revenue Department of the committee will levy tax as fine for the long-term stationary vehicles on 80th street, 82nd street, 83rd street between 26th and 30th street, 26th street, 35th street between 80th and 84th street, 30th street between 74th and 78th street.

Moreover, undisciplined stationary vehicles

are pulled by the tow truck for taking action against them.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Mobile vocational training course No 2 kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 29 July—No 4 Mechanical Training School (Pakokku) opened the mobile vocational training course No 2 at Myitchay Village in Pakokku District on Monday.

Experienced trainers will give training on welting, agricultural-used engine and motorcycle maintenance to the trainees. Altogether 50 youths from villages of Myitchay station are attending the course.

The course No 3 will be conducted in Myoma village of Pakokku District.—MNA

MNA

Myanmar needs better electricity

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Such accidents occurred on 23 June in Kamayut Township, the north central part of Yangon, killing a man and a woman, and on 30 June in North Okkalapa Township, the eastern part of the city, with the death of one man.

According to the police records, a total of 20 people died from electrocution in Yangon within 30 days of that period.

An official from the Yangon City Electricity Supply Board (YESB) estimated that the emergency replacement power cable in the city will cost over K37 billion.

Local business persons also expect better

electricity infrastructure to reduce electricity outage which is a blow on their competitiveness in manufacturing sector against foreign products. Factory owners said that their facilities received as little as three hours of electricity a day in the summer months of 2013.

The data show that the 31 industrial zones of Yangon require a daily supply of 250 megawatts of electricity. Some 100 seafood factories were forced to shut down for two weeks as they could not access the electricity they needed to keep products frozen. Hundreds of tons of food were left to spoil as a result.

NLM

Myanmar volleyball players under intensive training for junior volleyball championship

Myanmar volleyball teams are making final preparations for taking part in the South-East Asian Junior Volleyball Championship to be hosted by Myanmar.

Three Myanmar teams

—men's (A) and men's (B) and women's team—will take part in the championship which will be held at

Wunna Theikdi Gymnasium in Nay Pyi Taw from 2 to 6 August.

The men's event comprises defending champion Myanmar (A), Thailand, Myanmar (B), Vietnam and New Zealand. The women's event concludes Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. Myanmar women's team stood third in the 2012 championship.

Players of Myanmar (A) is under training of manager U Myo Wunna Tun and head coach U Kyaw Swa Win, those of Myanmar (B) under manager U Tun Ngwe and head coach U Ye Myint and those of Myanmar women's team under manager Daw Mar Mar Naing and head coach U Thein Swe.—Nyi Myat Thawda



Players of Myanmar men's (A) team seen at gymnasium to take training for the volleyball championship.—PHOTO: KO KO SOE NYUNT

NLD member faces lawsuit for taking voter list away in Tiddim

NAY PYI TAW, 29 July — The Union Election Commission is conducting a pilot project in three areas to get the exact number of eligible voters, a move aimed at ensuring free and fair general elections.

The project covers Ahlon township of Yangon Region, Myitkyina township of Kachin State, and Tiddim township of Chin State.

In Leibwal, a ward in Tiddim, the local election commission put up the list

of voters at its office for public observation. The list was taken away by U Myo Yan Naung Thein, who failed to seek permission from local officials. He is a member of the National League for Democracy.

The election commission of Tiddim Township has filed a lawsuit against him at a local police station.

The township court is reported to hear his case in a matter of weeks.

MNA

Mini branch of Inwa Bank commissioned into service at Zeyathiri Department Store

NAY PYI TAW, 29 July —Nay Pyi Taw Zeyathiri Bank Branch (mini branch) of Inwa Bank Ltd was opened at Zeyathiri Department Store in Zeyathiri Township on Tuesday morning.

Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air)

General Hla Htay Win and officials visited the mini branch of the bank and the 1212 Call Center to be opened soon by Myanmar Economic Corporation.

Nay Pyi Taw Zeyathiri Bank Branch is 36th branch of Inwa Bank Ltd. The branch is installed with an ATM machine. Customers may draw out money from ATM with the use of Inwa ATM Debit Card and enjoy various banking services.

Thanks to the bank branch, local people and staff from Yezin area may draw out and remit money through the bank.

Myawady

NATIONAL

Korean mission calls on Myanmar President



President U Thein Sein with Mr Suh Sang-mok, former minister for Health and Social Affairs and a member of parliament of the Republic of Korea and party.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 July—A Korean delegation led by Mr Suh Sang-mok, a former minister for Health and Social Affairs and a member of parliament, called on U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of

the Union of Myanmar, at the President's Palace here on Tuesday, sources said.

They discussed matters related to the founding of a school in the capital city, initially named Myanmar Development Institute, and

cooperation in research works.

According to officials, the school will run courses on economic growth, public management, policy making and capacity building.

Among dignitaries

present at the call were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Soe Thane, U Tin Naing Thein and Dr Kan Zaw, and Mr Lee Baek-Soon, Korean Ambassador to Myanmar.

MNA

Myanmar in dire need of environmental conservation plans: Vice President

NAY PYI TAW, 29 July—Vice President U Nyan Tun gave a speech here on Tuesday at the second coordination meeting on reduction plans of environmental degradation resulted from explorations of natural resources.

Vice president said that environmental degradation has become noticeable across the country due to exploration of natural resources, and that plans

should be made to reduce the impacts and to conserve the environment.

He also urged: "According to the national environmental policy of the State, systematic plans must be carried out to conserve the quality of environment and to ensure sustainable development, human health, disaster reduction, prevention on pollution."

U Nyan Tun added

that these measures require educative programmes, persuasion, rules and regulations in this move.

Union Minister U Win Tun, chairman of the National Environmental Conservation Committee, then explained that the committee has organized five sub-committees in line with the decision of the first coordination meeting and the report of his committee to region, state and

Nay Pyi Taw Council Area Environmental Conservation Supervisory Committee about ways and means to prevent environmental degradation and pollution.

At the meeting, Union Ministers Lieutenant General Ko Ko, U Zeyar Aung and Dr Myint Aung, deputy ministers and chairmen of supervisory committees in Nay Pyi Taw participated in discussions.

MNA

Intellectual property rights laws under discussions at Lower House

NAY PYI TAW, 29 July—At the Lower House, the Ministry of

Education responded to a question concerning budget allotment to the

purchase of scientific tools for university laboratories. The ministry said sci-

ence laboratories in universities are equipped with necessary tools, adding that measures are being taken to put in practice a system like ASEAN University Network Quality Assurance (AUN-QA) and that university faculty members are occasionally sent abroad for further studies.

Lower House representatives participated in the discussions on application of Proportional Representatives (PR) in

Representatives focusing on various issues at Upper House.—MNA

President U Thein Sein felicitates Moroccan King

NAY PYI TAW, 30 July—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Majesty King Mohammed VI of the Kingdom of Morocco, on the occasion of the National Day of the Kingdom of Morocco, which falls on 30 July 2014.

MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar President Office

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(29 July, 2014)

Appointment of deputy minister

Under Section 234 of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Section 17 of the Union Government Law, Maj-Gen Tin Aung Chit of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) was appointed as Deputy Minister for Border Affairs.

Sd/Thein Sein

President

Republic of the Union of Myanmar



Vice President U Nyan Tun addresses second meeting on reduction plans of environmental degradation resulted from explorations of natural resources.—MNA

Myanmar.

A question of intellectual property rights laws came under discussion at the Upper House on Tuesday, sources said.

Laws relating to innovation property rights, machinery design and trademark were discussed.

The Ministry of Science and Technology said it will take further steps to bring the proposed laws to parliament for approval.

Another query was

concerned with printing pictures containing messages of health hazards on cigarette boxes, either locally made or imported.

The Ministry of Health replied to the query, saying that Myanmar is making efforts to print health-warning messages and pictures on cigarette boxes, as other countries in the Southeast Asian region have done.

MNA



Defence services families donate provisions to Buddhist monks

TATKON, 29 July—Families of Defence Services (Army, Navy and Air) and wellwishers held the cash and kind donation to members of the Sangha from Pariyatti Monasteries in Tatkon Township of Ottara District in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, at U Shaung Hoe Beikman of Ngwetaung Tawya Pariyatti Monastery in Tatkon on 27 July.

Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Tin Aung San, Chief of Staff (Air) Maj-Gen Lwin Oo, senior military officers of the Ministry of Defence, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw



Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Aye, officials and wellwishers donated 590

bags of rice, 141 viss of edible oil and other provisions to members of the Sangha

and K12,998,000 to the fund of the monasteries.

Tin Soe Lwin (Tatkon)

Kunhing gets electricity round the clock

KUNHING, 29 July—The Ministry of Electric Power is implementing the projects for electrification in various parts of the nation.

Thanks to the ministry, people of Kunhing in southern Shan State enjoy electricity round the clock from the power grid of Kengtawng Hydropower Plant as of Monday.

Kunhing is located on Meiktila-Taunggyi-Loilem-Kengtung-Tachilek Union Highway. The Ministry of Electric Power spent the union fund on installation of power lines from Kengtawng Power Station

to Kholan Sub-Township Power Station, from Kholan 66/11 KV MVA sub-power station to Kunhing Sub-Power Station, two miles long 11 KV power line, threemiles long 400 V power line, and construction of two 11/0.4 KV, 315 KVA transformers.

Kunhing relied on supply of electricity from the small-scale hydropower station at Wampang Village in the past. At present, the local people hope for improvement of education, health, social and economic progress in a short time thanks to the electrification.

Kyemon

People's horizon broadened with knowledge about trafficking in persons

TATKON, 29 July—An educative talk on prevention against trafficking in persons was given at No 74 Basic Education Post-Primary School in Aungmyeiktha Village of Tatkon Township in Ottara District of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on Monday.

Chairperson of Township Women's Affairs Organization Daw Khin Hline Wai explained men and women under human trafficking, leader of the Nay Pyi Taw Anti-Human

Trafficking Squad Police Captain Min Naing types of human trafficking, ways of traffickers and important facts and Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Kyaw Lwin Oo crime reduction.

Officials distributed pamphlets bearing prevention against trafficking in persons to attendances including teachers and students, local people and members of social organizations.

Tin Soe Lwin (Tatkon)

Restoring peace and stability for recent riots in Mandalay discussed

MANDALAY, 29 July—Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint received Special Envoy to the United Nations Secretary-General Mr Vijay Nambiar and party at the office of the region government in Mandalay on Sunday.

They discussed restoring of peace and stability by Mandalay Region government for the recent riots in Mandalay and present peace and stability situation.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



Shwekyunbin Maunghnama spiritual beings festival attracts visitors from all corners



SAGAING, 29 July—Shwekyunbin Maunghnama spiritual beings festival kicked off in Mingun Village of Sagaing Township on Saturday, the 1st waning of Wagaung, 1376 ME.

Various goods sold at the festival ran out at all shops due to high demand of visitors.

People residing along the Ayeyawady River such as Sagaing, Wetlet and Ma-

daya townships enjoy the festival. Visitors focus on purchase of agricultural machinery and household goods. That is why the festival is crowded with sellers and buyers.

“People from 14 villages in the alluvial areas of the river participate in the festival. Moreover, those from villages along both banks of the river visited there. They purchase various kinds of goods. Pickled fish is the most famous food at the festival. All the visitors buy it,” artist Ko Su of Mingun Village said.

Vendors sell glazed wares, mat, bamboo trays, baskets, stone pestles and motors, pieces of Thanatkha and pickled fish at the festival. “Over 20 vendors sell over 200 viss each of pickled fish during the festival period, K4,000 per viss,” a woman from Mweshwege Village of Madaya Township. The festival lasts from 1st Wagaung to 4th Wagaung of Myanmar months.

Nanda Min Lwin

Hluttaw representatives to award outstanding students, teachers



MYINGYAN, 29 July—A coordination meeting on awarding of outstanding students for 2013-14 academic year was held at the hall in ward 2 of Myingyan in Mandalay Region on Sunday.

The Lower House MP of Taungtha Township has awarded the students 12 times. This year, the Hluttaw representatives of Myingyan Township will pres-

ent prizes to the students.

At the meeting, the participants discussed prize presentation for 155 distinction winners in the matriculation examination, 62 students from Myingyan Degree College and Government Technological College and 72 outstanding teachers.

Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

REGIONAL



(L-R) Cambodia's Foreign Minister Hor Namhong, Laos's Foreign Minister Thongloun Sisoulith, South Korea's Foreign Minister Yun Byung-Se, Thailand's Foreign Minister Sihasak Phuangketkeow, Myanmar's Deputy Foreign Minister U Thant Kyaw and Vietnam's Foreign Minister Pham Binh Minh attend the 4th Mekong-ROK Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Seoul, South Korea, on 29 July, 2014. — XINHUA

China, Laos pledge to boost bilateral ties

BEIJING, 29 July — Chinese President Xi Jinping held talks with his Lao counterpart Choummaly Saygnasone here on Monday and the two pledged to boost the relationship between the two ruling parties as well as the bilateral ties "no matter how the international situation changes."

During the talks at the Great Hall of the People, Xi lauded the China-Laos all-round strategic partnership featuring a high degree of mutual trust, mutual assistance and reciprocity.

"Currently, both China and Laos face the arduous tasks of reform, development and stability, and there have been many changes in the international and regional situations," said Xi,

also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee.

Xi said the Chinese side stands ready to maintain high-level interactions with Laos, communicate with the Lao side on major issues effectively, and increase party-to-party exchanges to improve the ruling parties' ability of governance. Choummaly is also general secretary of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party (LPRP).

Xi said the two countries should link their development strategies and boost cooperation on agriculture, energy, hydroelectricity and infrastructure.

He also called for closer cooperation on law en-

forcement, management of border areas, terrorism and transnational crime as well as cultural, educational, youth-to-youth and sub-national exchanges.

China is willing to maintain close communication and coordination with the Lao side in international and regional affairs to advance the relationship between China and ASEAN in a healthy way and promote peace, stability and development, Xi said.

Choummaly said Laos and China share common interests and cherish their friendship.

He expressed his appreciation for China's support and assistance, saying that the Lao side will learn from China's experience of

party governance and national development.

Briefing Xi on Laos' internal situation, Choummaly said he is happy to have seen the deepening partnership between the two countries and the increasing exchanges between the two parties. The cooperation with China has strongly helped the development of Laos, said the Lao leader.

The LPRP will continue increasing exchanges with the CPC and looks forward to more Chinese assistance in Laos' push to develop its railways, agriculture and internet.

After the talks, the two presidents witnessed the signing of a series of cooperative deals between the two governments.—Xinhua

LDP's No 2 man eyed for new Cabinet post for defence legislation

TOKYO, 29 July — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe plans to replace Shigeru Ishiba as No 2 man in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and has sounded him out about assuming a newly created Cabinet post for defence legislation, a party source said on Tuesday.

The envisioned changes will be part of Abe's Cabinet reshuffle scheduled for the first week of September, his first since taking office in December 2012. The premier, who heads the LDP, will also reshuffle party executives.

Widely regarded as a potential future prime minister, LDP Secretary General Ishiba has refrained from making his stance clear on the proposed move, the source said.

Abe likely broached the idea to Ishiba when they spent about an hour

over lunch last Thursday, hoping to tap the former defence minister's knowledge and expertise in security policy ahead of parliamentary debate on the exercise of the right to collective self-defence, the source said.

Abe has decided to create a new ministerial post in charge of security legislation following the Cabinet's on 1 July decision to reinterpret the pacifist Constitution to allow Japan to use the right to collective self-defence.

The premier, who aims to win reelection as LDP leader in September next year, appears keen to include Ishiba, who he beat in the party presidential election in September 2012, in his Cabinet, political analysts said.

After becoming head of the party, Abe picked



Liberal Democratic Party Secretary General Shigeru Ishiba. —KYODO NEWS

Ishiba to be the LDP's secretary general in a move to boost party unity.

In that capacity, Ishiba helped LDP-backed candidates win the House of Representatives election in December that year and the House of Councillors election in July last year.

Kyodo News

Philippine gov't vows to sustain Mindanao peace process

MANILA, 29 July — The Philippine government reaffirmed its commitment to sustain the peace process in southern Muslim Mindanao region as the country joins the Muslim community in celebrating Eid'l Fitr, the end of the Holy Month of Ramadhan.

In his message on the occasion of Eid'l Fitr, Philippine President Benigno Aquino III said, "the recent signing of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro proved that, even through all the conflicts that we have endured, we remain one nation bounded by a common dream: A new era of peace that will redound to the upliftment of the lives of our kababayans."

He urged everyone to help sustain the gains of positive reform and to be steadfast stewards of unity and development.

Meanwhile, Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Teresita Quintos Deles appealed to the public to continue to support the peace process in spite of the snags in the crafting of the Bangsamoro Basic Law.

"There are difficulties that lie ahead and I am sure that there will indeed be

many more but let us not lose hope.

Keep the faith and work with us in bringing to fruition real peace and development in the Bangsamoro," Deles said.

In a separate message to mark the occasion, Deles said, "this year, we welcomed Ramadhan with much progress and high hopes of the Filipino people in the Mindanao peace process."

The Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB), signed on 27 March, received acclaim from various stakeholders in the country and also abroad as it concludes 17 years of peace negotiations and the decades-old armed conflict, she added.

Deles hoped that the Eid'l Fitr would lead to a more resolve to end the conflict in Mindanao and to continue to pursue with trust the straight path to peace.

She urged Filipino people to work together and support the peace efforts toward the realization of the Bangsamoro which she said is anchored on a collective dream of shared prosperity, peace and good governance.

Xinhua



Meng Jianzhu (L), head of the Commission for Political and Legal Affairs of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, attends the opening ceremony of the second China-Singapore Forum on Social Governance, together with Teo Chee Hean, Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister, Coordinating Minister for National Security and Home Affairs Minister, in Beijing, capital of China, on 28 July, 2014.

XINHUA

Israel strikes house of Hamas Gaza leader, digs in for long fight

GAZA/JERUSALEM, 29 July — Israel's military pounded targets in the Gaza Strip on Tuesday after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said his country should prepare for a long conflict in the Palestinian enclave, squashing any hopes of a swift end to 22 days of fighting.

Gaza residents reported heavy Israeli bombing in Gaza City.

Israeli aircraft fired a missile at the house of Hamas Gaza leader Ismail Haniyeh and flattened it before dawn, causing damage but no casualties, Gaza's interior ministry said.

At least 30 people were killed in Israeli assaults from air land and sea, residents said, in the most widespread night of attacks so far in the coastal enclave.

The Israeli military said five soldiers were killed in a battle with militants who crossed into Israel via a tunnel near the community of Nahal Oz, close to the Gaza border.

Israeli Army Radio said the Hamas gunmen fired a rocket-propelled grenade at the soldiers who were in a watchtower and then tried to drag one of the soldiers' bodies into the



An Israeli mobile artillery unit fires towards the Gaza Strip on 28 July, 2014.—REUTERS

tunnel back to Gaza, but failed when troops fired at them, killing one militant.

Hamas said nine of its fighters carried out the attack.

"They attacked a fortified military watch tower of Nahal Oz where there were a great number of occupation soldiers," the group's armed wing, said in a statement.

The incident on Monday raised to 10 the number of military fatalities for the day.

Hamas said that its broadcast outlets, Al-Aqsa TV and Al-Aqsa Radio, were also targeted. The television station continued to broadcast, but the radio station went silent. Residents said that 20 houses were destroyed during the night

and two mosques were hit.

Israel launched its offensive on 8 July with the aim of halting rocket attacks by Hamas and its allies. It later ordered a land invasion to find and destroy the warren of Hamas tunnels that criss-crosses the border area.

Israel says some of those tunnels reach into Israel and are meant for per-

petrating surprise attacks on residents of nearby towns, while other underground passages in Gaza serve as Hamas bunkers and weapon caches.

In a televised address on Monday night, a grim-faced Netanyahu said any solution to the crisis would require the demilitarization of the Palestinian territory, controlled by Hamas Is-

lamists and their militant allies.

"We will not finish the operation without neutralizing the tunnels, which have the sole purpose of destroying our citizens, killing our children," Netanyahu said.

As night fell, army flares illuminated the sky and the sound of intense shelling was heard. The military warned thousands of Palestinians to flee their homes around Gaza City—usually the prelude to major army strikes.

"We need to be prepared for a lengthy campaign. We will continue to act with force and discretion until our mission is accomplished," Netanyahu said. A number of rockets fired from Gaza were launched toward southern and central Israel, including the Tel Aviv area. At least one rocket was intercepted by the Iron Dome system. No casualties or damage were reported.

"His threats do not frighten either Hamas or the Palestinian people, and the (Israeli) occupation will pay the price for its massacres against children and civilians," Hamas spokesman Sami Abu Zuhri told Reuters.—Reuters

US welcomes Japan's additional sanctions on Russia

TOKYO, 29 July — The United States on Tuesday thanked Japan for unveiling additional sanctions on Russia in the wake of the downing of a Malaysian airliner in an area controlled by pro-Moscow separatists in Ukraine, according to the Foreign Ministry.

Secretary of State John Kerry expressed gratitude in telephone talks with Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida a day after Japan announced a set of additional sanctions on Russia including the freezing of assets held in Japan by individuals or groups directly involved in Russia's annexation of Crimea or the instability in eastern Ukraine.

Kishida told Kerry that the additional sanctions represent Japan's desire to show solidarity with other members of the Group of Seven industrialized nations, the ministry said.

Kyodo News

West agrees wider Russia sanctions as Kiev says forces near crash site

KIEV/DONETSK, 29 July — US and European leaders agreed on Monday to impose wider sanctions on Russia's financial, defence and energy sectors as Ukraine said its forces advanced toward the crash site of Malaysian flight MH17.

The new sanctions, which US President Barack Obama and leaders of Germany, Britain, France and Italy discussed in a conference call, are aimed at increasing the pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin after the Malaysian airliner was shot down over territory held by pro-Moscow rebels in eastern Ukraine.

"It's precisely because we've not yet seen a strategic turn from Putin that we believe it's absolutely essential to take additional measures and that's what the Europeans and the United States intend to do this week," said Tony Blinken, a national security



Armed pro-Russian separatists stand guard on the outskirts of Shakhtarsk, Donetsk region on 28 July, 2014. — REUTERS

adviser to Obama.

The crash earlier this month has led to calls for much tougher action against Russia from Western countries who had previously imposed sanctions but only on small numbers of individuals and firms. EU member states were ex-

pected to try to reach a final deal on Tuesday on stronger measures that would include closing the bloc's capital markets to Russian state banks, an embargo on future arms sales and restrictions on energy technology and technology that could be used for defence.

In Brussels, EU sources said diplomats had reached preliminary agreement on a new list of companies and people, including associates of Putin, to be targeted by asset freezes.

Western states believe that the rebels brought

down Malaysia Airlines flight MH17, with the loss of 298 lives, using a missile supplied by Russia.

"The latest information from the region suggests that even since MH17 was shot down, Russia continues to transfer weapons across the border and to provide practical support to the separatists," said a statement issued by British Prime Minister David Cameron after the leaders' call. "Leaders agreed that the international community should therefore impose further costs on Russia and specifically that ambassadors from across the EU should agree a strong package of sectoral sanctions as swiftly as possible."

Russia has blamed the Ukrainian military for the tragedy, which deepened a crisis that erupted when a pro-Moscow Ukrainian president was forced from power and Russia annexed Crimea in March.

Reuters

WORLD & US

UNSG's Message on World Day against Trafficking in Persons

30 July 2014

Following is UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's message for World Day against Trafficking in Persons, to be observed on 30 July:

Human trafficking is a callous global industry that denies victims their rights and dignity and generates billions of dollars for organized criminal networks. Most of those trafficked are vulnerable women and children deceived into a life of suffering. They are exploited for sex and forced to work in conditions akin to slavery.

This first World Day against Trafficking in Persons is a call to action to end this crime and give hope to the victims, who often live unrecognized among us. To stop the traffickers, we must sever funding pipelines and seize assets. I urge all countries to ratify and fully implement the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocol on Trafficking in Persons.

Enforcement, cross-border cooperation and information-sharing can all be effective, but ending human trafficking also means tackling the root causes. Extreme poverty, entrenched inequality and a lack of education and opportunity create the vulnerabilities that traffickers exploit. Ultimately, the best protection is to accelerate development for all.

Victims of trafficking who are fortunate enough to be freed need assistance to regain their rights and reintegrate into society. The United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, works on their behalf but needs additional funding. I appeal to everyone to support the United Nations campaign "Have a Heart for Victims of Human Trafficking".

Let us open our eyes to this crime and our hearts to the victims. It is time to say no to human trafficking. —UNIC/Yangon

Japan, France strengthen cooperation on defence equipment, exercises

TOKYO, 29 July — The defence ministers of France and Japan agreed on Tuesday to strengthen cooperation on defence equipment and joint exercises amid an ongoing push by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to bolster the country's security role abroad.

Japanese Defence Minister Itsunori Onodera and his French counterpart Jean-Yves Le Drian signed documents on bilateral cooperation at the Defence Ministry in Tokyo.

The agreement "will further strengthen relations between Japan and France in the area of defence," Onodera told Le Drian during the meeting.

The signing came after Abe and French President Francois Hollande reached an agreement in May to start negotiating a deal to jointly develop defence equipment. Abe has been seeking stronger ties with France at a time when China is expanding its economic partnership with the European country.

Japan eased its rules on arms exports in April, hoping to promote exports and joint research and development of defence equipment with foreign countries.

Earlier this month, Japan decided to conduct joint research on air-to-air missiles in Britain.

Kyodo News

5.8-magnitude quake hits 70km SSW of Ialibu, Papua New Guinea — USGS

HONG KONG, 29 July — An earthquake measuring 5.8 on the Richter scale jolted 70km SSW of Ialibu, Papua New Guinea at 07:00:48 Hong Kong Time on Tuesday (23:00:48 GMT), the US Geological Survey said.

The epicenter, with a depth of 10.0 km, was initially determined to be at 6.9048 degrees south latitude and 143.8461 degrees east longitude.—Xinhua



US President Barack Obama speaks during the Presidential Summit for the Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders in Washington DC, capital of the United States, on 28 July, 2014. Around 500 young African leaders are invited to attend this summit and the number will double next year. To show respect for African Hero Nelson Mandela, the Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders changed its name to Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders, announced by Barack Obama during the summit. —XINHUA

US says Russia violated nuclear treaty, urges immediate talks



Russia's President Vladimir Putin

WASHINGTON, 29 July — In another sign of deteriorating relations between the United States and Russia, the US government said on Monday that Moscow had violated the Intermediate Range Nuclear

Forces treaty, and urged immediate bilateral talks on the issue.

The Cold War treaty, ratified in 1988, was designed to eliminate ground-launched cruise missiles with ranges of 500 to 5,500 km (310 to 3,400 miles). "This is a very serious matter which we have attempted to address with Russia for some time now," an administration official said in a statement.

"We encourage Russia to return to compliance with its obligations under the treaty and to eliminate any prohibited items in a verifiable manner," the official said.

The official did not describe how Russia violated the treaty. But the New

York Times had reported in January that Washington informed its NATO partners that Russia had tested a ground-launched cruise missile.

State Department officials had hinted that a formal determination that Russia had violated the treaty could be forthcoming, said Daryl Kimball, executive director of the Arms Control Association, a Washington-based research and advocacy group.

He said the violation would not represent a new military threat to the United States and its European allies, given Russia's existing missile arsenal.

But in an interview, Kimball called the infraction "disturbing."

"It suggests that Russia is moving away from a long US-Russia tradition of restraining the most dangerous weapons even as they have serious disagreements on all sorts of issues," he said. The United States notified Russia of its determination and called for senior-level talks "with the aim of assuring the United States that Russia will come back into compliance" with the treaty.

"The United States will, of course, consult with allies on this matter to take into account the impact of this Russian violation on our collective security if Russia does not return to compliance," the official said.

Reuters

China calls for enhanced peacekeeping cooperation between UN, regional organizations

UNITED NATIONS, 29 July — A Chinese envoy on Monday called for enhanced peacekeeping cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and regional organizations so as to maximize their respective advantages.

Liu Jieyi, China's permanent representative to the United Nations, made the remarks here at the Security Council's open debate on regional partnership and its evolution in UN peacekeeping, which focused on the world organization's rele-

vant cooperation with African regional groups.

Over the recent years, the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations such as the African Union (AU) have increasingly strengthened their cooperation in peacekeeping and have yielded good and recognizable results in peacekeeping operations in Darfur of Sudan, Somalia, Mali, Central African Republic and South Sudan, Liu told the 15-nation body.

"The United Nations

needs to further strengthen cooperation with regional organizations such as the AU in strategic planning, deployment, communication and coordination of peacekeeping operations, so as to effectively support African regional organizations in their efforts to maintain regional peace and security," he said.

Meanwhile, the Chinese envoy noted, the United Nations and regional organizations such as the AU should be guided by the UN Charter in strengthening

their cooperation in peacekeeping operations.

The coordination should also be enhanced to fully display their respective advantages and to bring out synergy, he added.

Many of the African issues are very complicated and require comprehensive solutions. In this regard, regional organizations such as the AU have unique geographical, historical and cultural advantages in dispute mediation and peacekeeping operations, said the ambassador.—Xinhua

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 30 July, 2014

Drugs, Timbers and then Trading on Endangered Species

By Aung Khin

Border areas in many countries are at the rim of law enforcement, resulting in weakness in rule of law there and putting at risk on the societies and stability of countries. The respective governments cannot eradicate illegal trades, trafficking in persons and illicit drugs.

When the governments fight against these

cross-border crimes, many smugglers shifted to another lucrative trade on endangered species which the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) estimated at US\$213 billion annually across the world.

Environmentalists and endangered species specialists are now seriously pointing out the rampant trade in endangered species between Myanmar and China. Some journalists reported that the markets of endangered species are found this crime-ridden border area.

The market of illegal wildlife products are thriving there together with drug trafficking and human trafficking. The sources of these products are forests and jungles of the surrounding countries and regions of India, Nepal, Thailand, Bangladesh, Tibet, Laos and Myanmar.

Endangered species should be saved as they can help maintain biodiversity, and many medicines derived from chemicals come from rare

plants and animals. The wildlife plants and animals have potentials to create antibiotics, anti-cancer agents, pain killers, and blood thinners etc. which are necessary for future generations. Sometimes, wildlife species are effective when used against each other. For example, bats and predator insects can help solve agricultural issues without the use of harmful pesticides.

Educative programmes and supports on livelihoods of people in border areas are also important to eliminate illegal trades on endangered species.

Write for us

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

Sports Ministry enhances capacity of officers for implementation of Third Wave process

NAY PYI TAW, 29 July—Only when the officers and staff have high capacity at work, will the ministry carry out its tasks successfully, said Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan at the opening of officers capacity enhancement course No 1/2014 of the Ministry of Sports at the Gold Camp of Nay Pyi Taw on Tuesday morning.

He stressed the need for offices to change their mindsets to be able to successfully implement the plans of the ministry that step up the Third Wave process.

He noted that success in sports will uplift the prestige of the nation, creating good images in economic and social sectors of

the nation in the international community.

The training course was aimed at sharing theories to officers of the minis-

try to participate in process for betterment of administrative mechanism and emergence of good governance and clean government.

Altogether 72 officers of the ministry are attending the course up to 2 August.

MNA



GOLD PRICE, FE RATE (29-7-2014)

Yangon Gold Price

Buying K674,300 per tical: Selling K675,000

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K674,300 per tical: Selling K675,000

FE RATE

USD Buying K970 - Selling K974

SGD Buying K780 - Selling K787

Euro Buying K1300 - Selling K1315

Health knowledge shared to pregnant women in Falam

FALAM, 29 July—The educative talk on health knowledge was given in conjunction with the feeding refreshments to the pregnant women of Falam at the office of Township Maternal and Child Welfare

Association in Falam of Chin State on Monday.

Chairperson of Falam District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Nyo Nyo Lwin explained facts for expectant mothers and health staff Daw Lal Nipwee translated it into local languages to all.

The chairperson and officials presented detergent power, iodized salt and egg to the pregnant women.

District IPRD

Union Minister U Tint Hsan meets sports officials at training course for uplifting their capacity.—MNA

The Razor's Edge

Kyí Mun

“ You are only one inch ... one step ... one idea ... away from turning onto the boulevard of beauty in your own life.”

-Bob Proctor

The RAZOR'S EDGE is a metaphor. It is a symbolism. Razor's Edge symbolizes “ making a difference”. It is a question of “To Be or Not to Be”.

The Japanese Haiku:

**The old pond,
A frog jumps in;
Plop !**

This Haiku is just a symbolism portraying the act of making a difference. Life is symbolized by “the old pond”. A frog symbolizes a human being. Is a human being as happy to jump into the pond of life as the frog that jumps into the old pond without a hint of worry ? A frog is happier in water than on land. So, it jumps into the pond, making a difference. “To jump or not to jump” is a RAZOR'S EDGE.

Would you promptly jump into the old pond of routine job that is your rice bowl ? Or, would you hesitate, unlike the frog, to jump into the old pond of bread-win-

ning work ? It will make a RAZOR'S EDGE if you have the habit of “DOING SMALL THINGS WITH GREAT LOVE”, as Mother Teresa said.

“One person “just about” starts a project, the other person starts it. One individual “almost” completes a task, the other does complete it. One person sees an opportunity, the other acts on it. One student “nearly” passes the exam, the other does pass it — and although the difference in their marks may be only one percentage point out of a hundred, **it's that one point that makes all the difference.**”

-Bob Proctor

Whether you give love and affection to your family or to your friends through thick and thin is a RAZOR'S EDGE. It will surely make a big difference if you are truly committed to loving and serving your job, your colleagues and your family.

It will be a RAZOR'S EDGE if a company decides to adequately invest in PEOPLE and TECHNOLOGY with an Early Bird's View. It will be a great difference if a business is CUSTOMER-DRIVEN with genuine CARE, ATTENTIVENESS and RESPONSIVENESS, on a win-win basis.

It will make a real difference if the leadership and the

people of an organization abandon ARROGANCE, GREED, COMPLACENCY, INCONSISTENCY and MYOPIA, and establish a culture of mutual respect, excellent performance and caring service.

There will be a great difference in our country, if its PEOPLE are genuinely united in their PASSIONATE STRUGGLE for PEACE, PROGRESS and PROSPERITY. And it will certainly be a RAZOR'S EDGE, if ALL the PEOPLE of our country THINK, SPEAK AND ACT with the BELIEF in the policy of “ONE for ALL and ALL for ONE”.

There will be a great difference in the whole wide world, if the “LOVE of PEOPLE, PLANET and PROSPERITY PREVAILS”.

In conclusion, there will be a tremendous difference if there are :

- **Health** & **Strength**
- **Vision** & **Strategy**
- **Passion** & **Values**
- **Selflessness** & **Service**
- **Character** & **Competence**

in our daily endeavors for personal achievement as well as the organizational accomplishments, including the Corporate Social Responsibility—CSR.

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

LOCAL NEWS

Mandalay Photographic Society honours winners in photo contest

MANDALAY, 29 July—The Mandalay Photographic Society held the prize presentation ceremony in commemoration of its annual general meeting at Oriental House at the corner of 27th and 64th streets in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay on Monday.

Chairman of the society U Frankie Tun Tin presented certificates of honour to members of the panel of judges for the photo contest and entrepreneurs who contributed to development of the society.

Later, patrons of the society gave completion certificates to 18 trainees who attended the photographer course No 13.

Deputy Director U Kyaw Than Tun of Mandalay Region Information and Public Relations Department and officials awarded the winners in the 25th invitational photo contest and championship shields and cash awards to best photographer award winners Soe Than Htaik and Min Min Tun.

Thiha Ko Ko
(Mandalay)



Chin of Buddha image with beehive crowded with pilgrims



MANDALAY, 29 July—Bees unexpectedly built a beehive at the chin of Pyida- waye Dukkharacariya Buddha Image in the precinct of Makkhaya Monastery at the corner of 30th and 62nd Streets in Pyigyimyetshin Ward of Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay at 10.30 am on Monday.

It was the second time of its kind at the Buddha Image. The bees also built a beehive at the same place of the image on 24 June 2014. The beehive is about 4 feet long and 3 feet wide. The image was crowded with pilgrims and people nearby areas of Mandalay.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



50th memorial of late Sayagyi Thakin Kodawhmaing, Maha Hmaing Arts Show held



YANGON, 29 July—In commemoration of the 50th memorial of late Sayagyi Thakin Kodawhmaing, the Maha Hmaing Arts Show is being displayed at the Lawkanat Gallery at No 62 on the first floor on Pan-sodan Street in Kyauktada Township from 9 am to 5 pm from 28 July to 2 August.

A total of 140 artists from Yangon, Mandalay, Pyay, Myingyan, Monywa

and Patheingyi created portraits of Sayagyi Thakin Kodawhmaing and two sculptors display sculptures of the Sayagyi. The documentary photos depicted the life of the Sayagyi and its funeral service.

Granddaughters Daw Mya Mya Aye and Daw Myint Myint of the Sayagyi visited the show, saying that they were very delighted at holding the arts show for the first time in commemoration

of 50-year demise of their grandfather.

The arts show was jointly organized by Sayagyi Thakin Kodawhmaing Peace Network and Sayagyi Thakin Kodawhmaing Tomb Maintenance Committee.

At the show, the postcards and souvenirs in commemoration of the Sayagyi are on sales at the show. In the early July, a similar show was held in Mandalay.

Aung Thura

Entrepreneurs invite locals to do joint venture tasks in rubber farming

THATON, 29 July—Local people obtained their farmlands from the groups of companies who got the permits for cultivation of rubber farms in Mayantaung-Danu areas owned by No 2 Heavy Industries Enterprise under the Ministry of Industry in Thaton Township of Mon State.

Responsible persons of Township Rubber Producers Association held a clarification on mutual co-operation between the State and local people so as to create job opportunities on the confiscated farmlands on 26 July.

Chairman of the association Dr Than Myo said



that it is necessary to give priority to the locals close to the rubber farms for rural development. If they become rubber farm owners on a manageable scale, their living standard will improve, he added.

There are 1,023.28

acres of rubber farmlands in Thaton Township to be conducted as joint venture between the State and the locals. If they have permits, the farm owners will run the farms on a 35-year term.

Thet Oo (Thaton)



Bilin Township Development Affairs Committee Executive Officer U Myo Lwin closely supervises landscaping works along both sides of the roads in the town for keeping it clean and pleasant.
TOWNSHIP IPRD

Huge blaze out of control in Tripoli battle as Libya slides into chaos

TRIPOLI, 29 July — A huge fuel depot in Libya's capital burned out of control on Monday, set ablaze in fighting between rival militias that has driven the country to chaos three years after the NATO-backed revolt that toppled Muammar Gaddafi.

Combat over control of the nearby airport forced firefighters to withdraw, abandoning their attempts to extinguish the blaze ignited by a missile strike that hit millions of litres of fuel.

Foreign governments have looked on powerless as anarchy sweeps across the North African oil producer. Western countries have urged their nationals to leave, shut their embassies and pulled diplomats out, after two weeks of clashes among rival factions of former rebels killed nearly 160 people in Tripoli and the eastern city of Benghazi.

The Netherlands, the Philippines and Austria on Monday prepared to evacuate diplomatic staff. The United States, United Nations and Turkish embassies



A damaged building is pictured after clashes between rival militias, in an area at Alswani road in Tripoli on 28 July, 2014.—REUTERS

have already shut operations after the worst violence since the 2011 uprising.

Two rival brigades of former rebels fighting for control of Tripoli Interna-

tional Airport have pounded each other's positions with *Grad* rockets, artillery fire and cannons for two weeks, turning the south of the capital into a battlefield.

"It is out of control. The second tank has been hit and the firefighters have withdrawn from the site as the fighting has resumed in the area," said Mohamed

Al-Harrai, a spokesman for the national oil company said of the blaze, which choked the sky above the city with black smoke.

Reuters

Afghan president's cousin killed in Kandahar bombing

KANDAHAR, (Afghanistan), 29 July — Cousin of Afghan president Hamid Karzai, Hashmat Khalil Karzai, was killed following a suicide bomb attack in southern Kandahar Province on Tuesday morning, sources said.

"The attacker was among visitors of the Eid-ul-Fitar festival. He made his way into Khalil Karzai's house. He detonated explosive hiding in his turban after approaching Karzai," a source told *Xinhua* anonymously.

He said the blast took place at around 10:00 am local time. The exact number of casualties remained unknown, the source said, adding an investigation was launched into the incident and details will be released afterwards.

Khalil Karzai was a winner in 2014 provincial council election. He was also campaign manager of Dr Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai, a presidential candidate.—*Xinhua*

Medical supplies delivered to Palestinian refugees in Syria for first time since January

UNITED NATIONS, 29 July — For the first time since January, a UN aid agency was able to distribute basic healthcare items and medicines to the Palestinians in need in a refugee camp in Syria, a UN spokesman said here on Monday.

The UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) delivered the hu-

manitarian aid to the Palestinian refugees in Yarmouk camp, south of Damascus, the capital of Syria, the deputy UN spokesman, Farhan Haq, said at a daily news briefing here.

"Despite this positive development, the Relief and Works Agency was forced to halt the distribution of food in the camp over the weekend due

to lack of authorization, interrupting food distributions that have been taking place since 16 July," he said.

The Yarmouk camp is a large district in southern Damascus. Among its 1 million residents, 170,000 are Palestinian. Most of them flee to Syria in 1948 following the establishment of the Israeli state.

The Syrian forces have imposed a siege on Yarmouk for months, blocking the entry of food and medical supplies in a bid to drive out the rebels, who stormed the camp earlier last year and have since entrenched there in hopes to use it as a staging ground for attacks on Damascus.

In January, the Syrian gov-

ernment agreed to allow in a couple of food convoys. But rebels opened fire at the convoys at the entrance.

The Syrian authorities accused the rebels, mostly al-Qaeda linked fighters, of using the civilians as a human shield and causing them immense suffering.

Xinhua

Five killed in Nigeria's bomb attacks

LAGOS, 29 July — Two female suicide bombers on Monday struck in separate incidents in Nigeria's northwest Kano city, capital of Kano State in northern Nigeria, killing three others.

It came barely 24 hours after two bomb explosions in the city.

The spokesman of the police in Kano, Magaji Majiya, said the first incident happened in a petrol station while the second happened at a trade fair complex.

Majiya said the first incident happened around

10:30 am local time at Hoto on Maiduguri Road when the female bomber disguised as a kerosene buyer and joined other buyers on a queue.

He said after joining the queue, she detonated the explosive, killed herself and three others.

The spokesman said seven other persons sustained injuries and were receiving treatment at the Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital.

He said that in the second incident, the 19-year old female suicide bomber was denied access

to the fair ground when she arrived.

He added that when the young lady insisted on entering the trade fair complex, the security insisted on searching her and she detonated the bomb.

Majiya said that six people were injured and were receiving medical attention, urging residents to be vigilant and report suspicious moves to the police.

No group has claimed responsibility for the twin attacks.

Xinhua



Children release doves during the destruction of weapons seized from criminals, in Santo Domingo, capital of Dominican Republic, on 28 July, 2014. The Dominican Republic's Attorney General led the destruction of more than 2,000 illegal firearms that had been seized in raids and operations in different areas of the country, according to the local Press.—XINHUA

HEALTH & BUSINESS

HondaJet eyes expanding market to Latin America, Asia



Photo taken on 28 July, 2014, shows Honda Aircraft Co.'s first production model of the HondaJet unveiled at an air show in Oshkosh, the United States. The roughly 13-metre-long plane powered by two engines installed over the main wings has a spacious interior. —KYODO NEWS

OSHKOSH, (Wisconsin), 29 July — Honda Aircraft Co aims to expand its market for the HondaJet to Latin America within a few years, before moving into China and Southeast Asia, the company's chief Michimasa Fujino said on Monday. Fujino, president and CEO of the aviation arm of Honda Motor Co, suggested the company could also eventually move into Japan as the country gears up to host the Olympic Games.

"I personally hope to

make some contributions toward the 2020 Tokyo Olympics if groundwork is done for the business jet market and support arrangements," Fujino said.

Fujino spoke to *Kyodo News* as his company unveiled its first production model of the HondaJet at an air show in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, giving the light jet its public debut.

The company, based in Greensboro, North Carolina, said it has received orders for more than 100

units in North America and Europe for the jet targeted at wealthy individuals, corporate executives and air taxi services, with delivery expected to start in 2015. It carries a \$4.5 million price tag. In Latin America, Fujino expressed strong interest in Brazil. "We would like to make an entry there as early as possible, because it has a very strong demand for business jets, given a large number of high net-worth individuals." China is also "a very promising market,"

he said, raising hopes for extending its reach to the East Asian country along with Southeast Asian markets such as Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand in five to seven years.

At an air show Press conference, Fujino said, "The unwrapped first production unit is the crystallization of a Honda dream and demonstrates our passion for aircraft."

The roughly 13 metre-long plane is powered by two engines installed over main wings and has a spacious interior, the company says. Its standard model can seat up to six people including the crew.

The company expects to start deliveries to clients after acquiring airworthiness certification from the US Federal Aviation Administration in the first quarter of 2015. At the EAA AirVenture show, scheduled for Monday through Sunday, HondaJet drew a throng of spectators. Among them was Susumu Matsushita, 44, who came from Akashi, Hyogo Prefecture in Japan, with his family on a summer vacation trip. —*Kyodo News*

AstraZeneca taps Roche, Qiagen for new blood-based cancer drug tests



A sign is seen at an AstraZeneca site in Macclesfield, central England on 19 May, 2014. — REUTERS

LONDON, 29 July — AstraZeneca has signed up Roche and Qiagen to develop two separate diagnostic tests, both using simple blood samples, to identify patients who will benefit from its lung cancer drugs.

Currently testing patients to see if their tumors contain genetic mutations that make them suitable for drug treatment involves collecting a sample of tissue by needle biopsy or during surgery.

The new tests are based on smart technology that can detect small fragments of circulating tumor DNA in the plasma taken from patients' blood.

The collaboration

with Qiagen involves developing such a test to accompany AstraZeneca's established lung cancer pill Iressa, while the agreement with Roche is for a companion diagnostic to go with AstraZeneca's experimental successor to Iressa called AZD9291.

AZD9291 targets a genetic mutation that helps tumors evade existing treatments and AstraZeneca believes it could sell as much as \$3 billion a year. The mutation, known as T790M, develops in about half of lung cancers that become resistant to current epidermal growth factor receptor inhibitors like Iressa. —*Reuters*

Even running for several minutes daily reduces risk of death

WASHINGTON, 29 July — Even running for only a few minutes a day can significantly reduce a person's risk of death from cardiovascular disease, a new US study said on Monday.

"Since time is one of the strongest barriers to participate in physical activity, the study may motivate more people to start running and continue to run as an attainable health goal for mortality benefits," said lead author Duck-chul Lee, assistant professor of the Iowa State University.

In the new study, researchers studied 55,137 adults between the ages of 18 and 100 over a 15-year period to determine whether there is a relationship between running and longevity. In the study period, 3,413 participants died, including 1,217 whose deaths were related to cardiovascular disease. In this population, 24 percent of the participants reported running as part of their leisure-time exercise.

The study showed that participants who ran less than 51 minutes, fewer than



6 miles (about 9.6 kilometres), slower than 6 miles per hour, or only one to two times per week had a lower risk of dying compared to those who did not run.

The researchers also found that runners who ran less than an hour per week have the same mortality benefits compared to runners who ran more than three hours per week. Thus, it is possible that the more may not be the better as far as running and longevity as concerned. The researchers also looked at running behaviour patterns and found that those who persistently ran over a period of six years on average had the most significant benefits, with a 29 percent lower risk of death for any reason and 50 percent lower risk of death from heart disease or stroke. —*Xinhua*

Panasonic to initially invest \$200-300 million in Tesla battery plant

TOKYO, 29 July — Panasonic Corp plans to initially invest about 20 billion to 30 billion yen (\$200-300 million) in Tesla Motors Inc's planned lithium-ion battery plant in the United States, a person familiar with the matter said on Tuesday.

The Japanese company, which already supplies batteries for the electric vehicle maker, will ultimately invest about \$1 billion in the planned \$5 billion battery "Gigafactory", the per-

son said.

The figures for Panasonic's investments were first reported by the *Nikkei* business daily earlier on Tuesday.

A Panasonic spokesman declined to confirm the investment figures, saying that while the company has signed a letter of intent to participate in the Tesla battery project and was in talks on the matter, no concrete decisions had been made.

Reuters



A Panasonic Corp's lithium-ion battery, which is part of Tesla Motor Inc's Model S and Model X battery packs, is pictured with Tesla Motors logo during a photo opportunity at the Panasonic Centre in Tokyo, ahead of the 2013 Tokyo Motor Show, on 19 Nov, 2013 file photo. —REUTERS

Wall Street yawns as deal news offsets data; Herbalife sinks

NEW YORK, 29 July — Stocks ended nearly flat on Monday as the latest deal news offset losses following discouraging data on the housing market and some signs of weakness in the services sector.

Dollar Tree Inc (DLTR.O) offered to buy rival discount chain Family Dollar Stores Inc (FDO.N) for about \$8.5 billion. The transaction, including debt, values Family Dollar at about \$9.2 billion. Family Dollar's stock shot up 24.9 percent to \$75.74 and was the S&P 500's biggest percentage gainer. Dollar Tree's shares gained 1.2 percent to \$54.87.

Zillow Inc (Z.O) agreed to buy Trulia Inc (TRLA.N) for \$3.5 billion in stock in a deal that would combine the two most popular US real estate website operators. Trulia's shares jumped 15.4 percent to \$65.04. Zillow's stock rose 0.9 percent to \$160.32.

Investors' optimism, however, was limited by the day's data, among the latest to suggest that momentum in some sectors of the economy was slowing.

An index of pending

home sales unexpectedly fell 1.1 percent in June, the National Association of Realtors said.

The report followed an 8.1 percent drop of new home sales in June, the biggest slump in almost a year. The PHLX housing sector index .HGX declined 1.4 percent.

Investors also turned their focus to the Fed's meeting on Tuesday and Wednesday, when the US central bank's officials could make some subtle changes to their policy statement about how and when they will eventually raise interest rates.

"What they talk about in their statement, particularly with regard to the trajectory of the economy, is going to be important to the market.

So there are probably some investors on the sidelines waiting to see what might come out of that," said Bucky Hellwig, senior vice president at BB&T Wealth Management in Birmingham, Alabama.

The Dow Jones industrial average DJI rose 22.02 points or 0.13 percent, to end at 16,982.59. —*Reuters*

UN blacklists operator of North Korean ship seized in Panama

UNITED NATIONS, 29 July — A UN Security Council committee on Monday blacklisted the operator of a North Korean ship, which was seized near the Panama Canal last year for smuggling Soviet-era arms, and raised concerns about Cuba's military co-operation with Pyongyang.

The North Korea (DPRK) sanctions committee designated Ocean Maritime Management, which operated the Chong Chon Gang, the ship detained a year ago carrying arms, including two MiG-21 jet fighters, under thousands of tonnes of sugar.

The company is now subject to an international asset freeze and travel ban. North Korea is under an array of United Nations and US and other countries' sanctions for nuclear and ballistic missile tests since 2006 in defiance of global demands to stop.

"Ocean Maritime Management Company,



The North Korean-flagged cargo ship Chong Chon Gang is pictured in Fort Sherman Bay, a former US base, on the outskirts of Colon city on 12 Feb, 2014.

REUTERS

Ltd (OMM), played a key role in arranging the shipment of the concealed cargo of arms and related material," the committee said in an implementation assistance notice. "The concealment of the aforementioned items demonstrates intent to evade UN sanctions, and

is consistent with previous attempts by the DPRK to transfer arms and related material through similar tactics in contravention of Security Council prohibitions," the committee said.

After the weapons were discovered on the Chong Chon Gang, Cuba

acknowledged it was sending "obsolete" Soviet-era weapons to be repaired in North Korea and then returned to Cuba.

US ambassador to the United Nations, Samantha Power, described the Chong Chon Gang incident as "a cynical, outrageous

and illegal attempt by Cuba and North Korea to circumvent United Nations sanctions." She said the Security Council committee had "uncovered irrefutable facts that clearly prove Cuba and the DPRK's intentions to violate sanctions by employing highly sophisticated deception and obfuscation techniques."

A UN report issued in March said North Korea has developed sophisticated ways to circumvent United Nations sanctions, including the suspected use of its embassies abroad to facilitate an illegal trade in weapons. The Security Council committee said on Monday that investigation found indications that North Korean officials in Havana helped make arrangements for the Chong Chon Gang shipment. "The committee encourages states to continue to exercise enhanced vigilance over DPRK diplomatic personnel," it said.

Reuters

Britain cuts EU migrants' access to welfare payments



Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron

LONDON, 29 July — British Prime Minister David Cameron on Tuesday set out new welfare rules to cut European migrants' access to social security payments, marking the latest in a string of British measures aimed at addressing voters' concerns over immigration.

Writing in *The Daily Telegraph* newspaper, Cameron said that from November migrants coming to Britain from the European Union to find work would be entitled to claim unemployment and child benefits for three months, rather than the previous six months. Opinion polls show immigration is one of voters' biggest concerns going into a national election in 2015, fuelling a rise in eurosceptic sentiment that has helped the anti-EU UK Independence Party (UKIP) draw voters away from Cameron's Conservatives.

In a bid to stop voters defecting, Cameron has said he wants to cut net migration and has targeted those who he says come to Britain solely to tap its benefit system. "We're ... making sure people come for the right reasons — which has meant addressing the magnetic pull of Britain's benefits system," Cameron said.

He said that by restricting job seekers' welfare access to only three months he was sending a clear message to potential migrants: "You cannot expect to come to Britain and get something for nothing." The opposition Labour party has criticized Cameron for not doing enough to stop low-skilled migrants driving wages down. Other rule changes introduced since January have included tightening the criteria for claimants and mandating longer waiting periods before migrants become eligible for payments.— Reuters

Airlines to push for independent guidance on airspace safety after Ukraine crash

MONTREAL/TORONTO, 29 July — Global airlines will push to get "neutral information" on whether to use or avoid airspace over conflict zones at Tuesday's meeting of the UN aviation agency and other airline bodies, a European-based airline industry source said.

The UN agency, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), has invited the heads of the airline industry, airports and the world's air traffic control networks to the Montreal meeting to discuss what needs to be changed to ensure that airlines are flying in secure airspace after the downing of a Malaysian airliner over Ukraine on 17 July took 298 lives.

The meeting is likely to hear calls for wider international powers to intervene when a country fails to monitor threats to its airspace.

The Malaysia Airlines crash occurred after Ukraine left open air corridors that lay within the range of the missile blamed for destroying the jet.

Airlines, represented by International Air Transport Association, will tell the meeting they urgently



Pieces of the wreckage are seen at a crash site of the Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 near the village of Petropavlivka (Petropavlovka), Donetsk region on 24 July, 2014. — REUTERS

need improved access to "neutral information based on objective criteria," the industry source said.

"Airlines do not have CIA operatives working for them," said the source who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"At the end of the day, airlines have to decide whether to fly or not based on accurate information.

"Yet some countries will never, ever say there is a problem with their airspace even if there really is a problem with their airspace. This does not make it easy for airlines."

On Monday, Emirates Airline announced it would stop flying over Iraq to pro-

tect against the threat of militants on the ground.

ICAO currently has a limited role and cannot open or close airspace. It issued an advisory this year, warning of a jurisdictional risk posed by two sets of air traffic controllers directing traffic over the Crimea region.

Enhancing ICAO's role to give it the authority to tell airlines where to fly, or to tell its members what to do with their airspace, would test rules that dates back to World War One peace agreements and are enshrined in ICAO's founding charter.

It would also require the agency to obtain sen-

sitive information from its member states about their internal military and political affairs.

Diplomats say any attempt to tamper with the sovereignty of airspace could set broader precedents that make quick results unlikely. The United States has already said it is not seeking changes to ICAO's guidelines.

The Civil Air Navigation Services Organization, involved in Tuesday's meeting, has also said it is not pushing for a central body to provide oversight or issue advisories.

While ICAO is unlikely to gain broad regulatory powers, some UN agency insiders and industry experts said the agency could help keep country regulators better informed.

It already publishes a Global Risk Context Statement, which describes risks to airliners in broad terms. The document highlights the risk of shoulder-mounted missiles, for example. But it does not say where in the world these risks are most severe, information of crucial interest to airlines.

One council representative raised the possibility

of expanding the Risk Context Statement to include more details about regional conflicts.

"Nonbinding advisories may be possible," said another source familiar with ICAO. "Airlines want ICAO's involvement as ICAO may have better access to government sources of security intelligence, and thus could help make better information available to airlines."

But governments may not be eager to share sensitive military intelligence, and singling out particular regions could anger some states.

"Where ICAO has success is where they keep out of politics, as much as possible," said David Mackenzie, a Canadian professor who has written a history of the UN agency.

Even if there is a consensus in favor of expanding ICAO's role in some way, it may not last.

"When there are challenges, people want ICAO to get involved," said a second council representative. "But when we are further away from problems, the states would like ICAO to go away."

Reuters

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บริการทุกระดับประทับใจ

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Ministry of Education
Department of Higher Education
(Lower Myanmar)
Patheingyi University

Invitation to the First Myanmar-Japan Symposium

A symposium by the researchers from Patheingyi University and Japan Universities, namely Hokkaido University, National Institute of Technology and Evaluation (NITE), Tottori University, Yamaguchi University and Tamagawa University will be held at Patheingyi University, Ayeyawady Region.

The research papers on the following fields or areas will be presented and discussed at the symposium.

1. Agricultural Science and Environmental Science (Agriculture, Chemistry, Zoology, Botany, Geography, Geology, Mathematics and Physics)
2. Marine Science (Fisheries Science)
3. Microbiology/ Biotechnology

Venue and Date for the Symposium

Venue - Convocation Hall

Date - 30th November, 2014 (Sunday) &
1st December, 2014 (Monday)

Invitation to the researchers

The researchers from all universities in Myanmar, other ministries, private enterprises and various companies concerned with the areas mentioned above are cordially and warmly invited to the symposium.

Those who are interested in these areas and who would like to present their researches have to submit the hard and soft copy of the abstract of the research paper to Dr. Than Soe, the Pro-Rector of Patheingyi University, not later than on 30th September, 2014.

Detailed information can be obtained from the Pro-Rector, the Head of the Academic, and Professors and Heads of the Department of Chemistry, Botany and Zoology of Patheingyi University.

Secretary
The Committee of Myanmar-Japan Symposium

THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(16/2014)

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

<u>Sr.No</u>	<u>Tender No</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Remark</u>
(1)	IFB -072(14-15)	Assorted Sizes of Ball Valves and Accessories (6) Items	US\$
(2)	IFB -073(14-15)	Spares for L-Type /ZW-Type Compressor and Dispenser (56) Items	US\$
(3)	IFB -074(14-15)	Steel Wire Ropes for Sand Line and Casing Line (3) Items	US\$
(4)	IFB -075(14-15)	Spares for KB 150 Well Servicing Truck (10) Items	US\$
(5)	IFB -076(14-15)	14" ERW API 5L Grade X-46, 3LPE Coated Steel Line Pipe (45) Miles & Hot Bends	US\$
(6)	IFB -077(14-15)	3.25mm/4mm/4.8mm Electrode(E 6011)(18) Tons	US\$
(7)	IFB -078(14-15)	14" Ball Valve Complete Set (2) Sets	US\$
(8)	IFB -079(14-15)	Heat Shrinkable Sleeve and Closure Patches	US\$
(9)	IFB -080(14-15)	100 KW Diesel Engine Driven Generating Set (1) Set	US\$
(10)	IFB -081(14-15)	Spares for Kenworth Truck (15) Items	US\$
(11)	IFB -082(14-15)	Spares for ATLAS COPCO Compressor (1) Lot	US\$
(12)	IFB -083(14-15)	30" Foam Pigs (15) Nos	US\$
(13)	IFB -084(14-15)	NDT Services for 30" Domestic Gas Pipe Line	US\$
(14)	IFB -085(14-15)	Cathodic Protection System Installation for 30" Domestic Gas Pipe Line	US\$
(15)	IFB -086(14-15)	Nitrogen Purging Services for 30" Domestic Gas Pipe Line	US\$

Tender Closing Date & Time - 25-8-2014, 16:30 Hr.

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 30th July, 2014 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.
Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph: +95 67 - 411097/411206

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Weather report

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (12:30)hrs MST today, the low pressure area over Northwest Bay of Bengal still persists. Monsoon is generally strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal. STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35-40) m.p.h.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV MOROTAI VOY NO (242)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOROTAI VOY NO (242) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.7.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S CMA CGM LINE**

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV BANGSAKAO VOY NO (23)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGSAKAO VOY NO (23) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 30.7.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN
SHIPPING CO LTD.**

Phone No: 2301186

Sandra Bullock's cowboy birthday

LOS ANGELES, 29 July — Sandra Bullock enjoyed her 50th birthday celebration at a cowboy bar in Wyoming with friends.

The 'Gravity' actress, who reached the milestone age on 26 July, began her festivities by heading to the Million Dollar Cowboy Bar in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, with a group

of female friends, reported *People* magazine.

"There were probably six to ten women in the group. It appeared to be a ladies night. They just came in to listen to the band," a source said.

Though the group, which included Chelsea Handler, did not seem to be dancing, they all had a great time. "It was pretty low key. They all had one drink... And were all dressed casually.

Sandra looked radiant, beautiful and was very sweet. It looked like she was having a blast," the source added. Bullock and Handler have been close friends for years.

PTI



Marvel cranks up sarcasm and 70s sound for 'Guardians of Galaxy'

BURBANK, (California), 29 July — A lead actor known for playing the slovenly sidekick, a director who only made small films, a talking raccoon and a 1970s pop music soundtrack — to-

gether they form an unlikely tableau for a mega-budget space adventure movie.

And yet, Marvel Studios banked on these outliers for its \$170 million launch of the new franchise "Guard-

ians of the Galaxy," a novel combination of sarcasm and sci-fi that opens in US theatres on Friday and could be the late summer's box office hit.

If it delivers on that

promise, "Guardians" will show that the Walt Disney Co studio can score with its more obscure comics like it has with the popular "Iron Man" and "Captain America." — *Reuters*

Nicki Minaj delays 'Anaconda' release

LONDON, 29 July — Rapper Nicki Minaj has postponed the release of her new single 'Anaconda' until next month. Minaj, 31, was due to drop her latest release on Sunday but announced in an Instagram post that it will not be available until 4 August, reported Contactmusic.

"My darlings, I've pushed the release of Anaconda to next week, Monday 8/4. I promise you will understand why before the week is out. Love you (sic)," she said. Minaj previously revealed she going back to her hip hop roots for her new album 'The Pink Print'.

The 'Starships' rapper claimed her latest material will be nothing like previous offerings. "The tracks on 'Pink Print' are back to my hip-hop roots. I don't think it's something that I'm necessarily trying to do (go in a new direction). It's like as soon as I started working on my new album, that's just the songs that I've been writing."

PTI



Rapper Nicki Minaj

I was a mess: Catherine Zeta-Jones on Michael Douglas cancer

LONDON, 29 July — Actress Catherine Zeta-Jones has claimed that she was a mess after husband Michael Douglas was diagnosed with cancer. The couple, who have two children together, recently reunited after a temporary separation, reported Digital Spy.

Speaking about the diagnosis at the International Federation of Head and Neck Oncologic Societies' fifth World Congress, Zeta-Jones said, "I'll be quite frank, I was a mess. When I'm married to a man who has such a conviction for life, he fights to make the wrongs right. For the first time he was fighting for his life." The actor was diagnosed with throat cancer in 2010 and endured seven weeks of treatment that resulted in him losing 40 pounds. — *PTI*



Actress Catherine Zeta-Jones

"Transformers 4" earns 317 mln USD in China



BEIJING, 29 July — "Transformers: Age of Extinction," the fourth installment in the robot movie franchise, earned 1.97 billion yuan (about 317.2 million US dollars) on the Chinese mainland in its month-long run ending on 27 July.

The movie's ticket sales were close to the average market forecast of 2 billion yuan, the *Beijing News* reported on Tuesday.

The paper reported that "Transformers 4" ended its run as scheduled. Though distributors tried to extend its screening, the cost of doing so discouraged them, it added.

Box office earnings for the Hollywood blockbuster have eclipsed those of James Cameron's fantasy "Avatar" to become the all-time top-grossing film on the Chinese mainland. — *Xinhua*

GENERAL

Japan's June job availability up to 1.10, best in 22 years

TOKYO, 29 July — Japan's job availability improved in June to its best level in 22 years, as companies were eager to hire more workers amid labour shortages in a wide range of industries such as health-care and construction, with the economy recuperating, the government said on Tuesday.

The unemployment rate, however, rose for the first time in 10 months to 3.7 percent during the month from 3.5 percent in May, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications said. A ministry official attributed the climb to more women

seeking employment due to economic recovery.

The ratio of employment offers to seekers increased for the 19th straight month to 1.10 in June from 1.09 in the previous month, which means 110 positions were available for every 100 job seekers, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare said. It was the highest level since June 1992, soon after the burst of the country's asset-inflated bubble economy.

The unemployment rate for men increased 0.1 percentage point from May to 3.8 percent, and that for women rose 0.1 point to 3.5

percent, the internal affairs ministry said.

The number of unemployed people rose 110,000, or 4.7 percent, from the previous month to 2.44 million, as those voluntarily quitting jobs went up 3.4 percent to 920,000, and those doing so involuntarily also climbed 1.4 percent to 720,000, the ministry said.

By industry, the agricultural and forestry industry and the manufacturing sector cut jobs from a year earlier in June, though the healthcare and welfare sector, the wholesale and retail sales segment as well as the construction industry

boosted jobs, it said.

"The employment situation has been picking up. We often see a rise in the unemployment rate when the economy is recovering, as more people try to join the job market," the ministry official said.

But Japan's economy has shown signs of slowing down, with the 3-percent-age-point consumption tax hike to 8 percent hurting private spending in the absence of wage growth, dampening corporate profits and worsening the employment situation ahead, some analysts said.

Kyodo News

Iraq lays claim to Kurdish crude cargo in Texas court

HOUSTON, 29 July — Iraq filed suit on Monday in a Texas court to gain control of a cargo of crude oil from Iraqi Kurdistan that Baghdad says was sold without its permission.

The *United Kalavrvta* tanker, carrying some 1 million barrels of crude worth about \$100 million, arrived off the coast of Texas on Saturday but has yet to unload its disputed cargo.

The ship, which is too large to enter the port of Galveston near Houston, was given clearance by the US Coast Guard on Sunday to transfer its cargo offshore to smaller boats that would deliver it to the US mainland.

Iraq, in its filing in US District Court for the Southern District of Texas, asked for an order allowing the cargo to be seized by the US Marshals Service.

Sale of Kurdish crude oil to a US refinery would infuriate Baghdad, which sees such deals as smuggling.

The US State Department has expressed fears that independent oil sales from Kurdistan could contribute to the breakup of Iraq, said the oil belongs to all Iraqis, and warned potential buyers of legal risks.

But it has also made clear it will not intervene in a commercial transaction.

AET Offshore Services, a company in Texas hired to unload the tanker, asked in a separate court filing in US district court on Monday if Iraq's claims were valid. — Reuters

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(30-7-14 07:00 am~
31-7-14 07:00 am) MST

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- * The Legend of An ambulatory Surgeon (Episode-1)
- * World News
- * A Traditional Doctor
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Martial Art (Episode-1) (Bando)
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- * Wedding Planner "Aye Thida Win Aung"
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- * World News
- * Kayah

Arial, Times New Roman ... and now the 'Hugo Chavez' font

CARACAS, 29 July — Supporters of Venezuela's late socialist leader Hugo Chavez on Monday unveiled yet another novel way of keeping his memory alive — a font for typing in "El Comandante's" handwriting style. The distinctive 'ChavezPro' font was launched by a group of young "anti-imperialists" to coincide with nationwide commemorations of the 60th anniversary of his birth. Chavez's bold scrawl became famous to Venezuelans as he used to spend hours on national TV writing and drawing on boards and papers to explain policies, develop ideas and sign deals.

His signature, in red for socialist, adorns T-shirts, baseball caps and the walls of buildings around the nation. The new font can be downloaded for free from



A mural of Venezuela's late President Hugo Chavez is seen at the 23 de Enero neighbourhood in Caracas on 5 March, 2014. — REUTERS

the "Creative Trench" group's web site (www.trincheracreativa.com).

They used letters written by Chavez while he was in jail for a failed 1992 coup attempt to digitalize his

handwriting. "The best president!" enthused one 'Chavista' via Twitter. "The typography of the giant!"

Government opponents roll their eyes at the deification of Chavez, and

his ubiquitous presence in public life. They see it as a cover for the failings of his successor Nicolas Maduro who was elected after Chavez died of cancer last year. — Reuters

Doomed South Korean ferry boss's driver turns himself in

SEOUL, 29 July — The driver of the South Korean businessman wanted over the sinking of a ferry that killed more than 300 people in April turned himself in on Tuesday, potentially unlocking the mystery of the man's final days after the disaster.

Prosecutors in the port city of Incheon said the driver, Yang Hoe-jung, turned himself in at their office, which is leading the investigation into the role of businessman Yoo Byung-un in the sinking of the ferry *Sewol*.

The structurally defective and heavily overloaded ferry capsized and sank on a

routine journey on 16 April, killing 304 people, 250 of them teenagers from the same school on a class field trip. Twelve of their teachers were also killed.

The trial of 15 surviving crew members, including the captain, resumed on Monday with evidence from some of the 75 teenagers who survived South Korea's worst maritime disaster.

The crew members face charges ranging from homicide to negligence for abandoning the ship after telling passengers, including the teenage students, to remain on board.

Yang is thought by authorities to have been with

Yoo, the head of a family that ran a network of companies that included the ferry operator, in the days before his body was found by a farmer at an orchard on 12 June.

Police only identified the badly decomposed body as that of Yoo last week, although an autopsy and other extensive testing failed to indicate how he died or came to be in the orchard, forensic experts have said.

The driver Yang was the last among a group of people close to Yoo who had been wanted for allegedly helping him elude South Korea's biggest man-hunt. — Reuters



People holding yellow umbrellas in support of victims of the mid-April Sewol ferry disaster, carry boxes containing signatures of South Koreans petitioning for the enactment of a special law after the disaster, as they march towards the National Assembly at Yeouido Park in Seoul on 15 July, 2014. — REUTERS

Van Gaal

relishes task of emulating Ferguson at United

NEW YORK, 29 July — New coach Louis van Gaal has welcomed the challenge of trying to emulate the great Alex Ferguson at Manchester United and is confident his record of managing big clubs will stand him in good stead.

Ferguson won 38 trophies in 26 success-laden seasons at Old Trafford and the task of following in his footsteps proved too much for his immediate successor David Moyes.

Moyes was sacked in less than a season after breaking a host of unwanted records as United finished seventh in the Premier League campaign that ended in May.

"I had to follow Bobby

Robson at Barcelona and that year he won three titles," Van Gaal told reporters on Monday during the club's pre-season tour of the United States.

"I have been at Ajax — the biggest club in the Netherlands — I went to Barcelona — the biggest club in Spain — and then I went to Bayern Munich, also the number one in Germany".

"So when Manchester United came I thought I had to say 'yes'".

Van Gaal's winning mentality and intimidating style has brought comparisons with Ferguson.

"I highly respect Alex because there is not another trainer or manager who has won so

many titles," said the 62-year-old Dutchman who led his country to the semi-finals of the World Cup in Brazil earlier this month.

"I have won a lot of titles but he has won so many with one club and that is fantastic. When you compare Alex with me I am very proud". Van Gaal said he would take his time before making up his mind on possible signings. "I don't buy players for the sake of it," he explained. "I buy players to improve my selection. First I must see what I need in all the positions from the system we shall play and, at this moment, I don't know for sure".

Reuters



Manchester United head coach
Louis Van Gaal

Ronaldinho to announce future on Wednesday



Ronaldinho

RIO DE JANEIRO, 29 July — Ronaldinho is set to announce his future on Wednesday after terminating his contract with Brazil's Atletico

Mineiro.

Atletico coach Levir Culpi confirmed the 34-year-old had left the Belo Horizonte-based club by mutual consent.

"I can't call on Ronaldinho anymore," Culpi told SporTV on Monday. "His cycle with us has ended."

"It's unfortunate because he's an idol to all of us. Everyone loves his football, the way he plays and he's a very charismatic person".

"But that's the way it goes. He's leaving and we must move on without him".

Ronaldinho's availability is said to have sparked the interest of Fluminense, Besiktas, Queens Park Rangers and Boca Juniors.

His brother and agent Roberto Assis would not be drawn on the former Barcelona star's future, but ruled out any plans for retirement.

"He will play until he is 42," Assis told *Globoesporte*. "The future we will reveal to you on Wednesday."

Ronaldinho joined Atletico in June 2012 after a turbulent spell with Rio de Janeiro giants Flamengo.

The ensuing 12 months were regarded by many as the playmaker's best period since his Barcelona peak in the mid-2000s, when he twice won FIFA's World Player of the Year award.— *Xinhua*



Leo Messi

Judge proceeds with fraud charges against Messi

MADRID, 29 July — A judge in the town of Gava, close to Barcelona, has turned down the request of the prosecutor to drop charges of tax evasion against FC Barcelona and Argentine footballer Leo Messi, and has given orders to proceed with the case.

The decision means Messi will almost certainly have to defend himself in court alongside his father, Jorge Messi, on three charges of tax evasion.

The judge rejected the prosecutor's request to drop the case against Messi, maintaining it being only against Jorge Messi, because he considers there exist "sufficient indication" to consider that the footballer "could have known and given his consent to

the creation and maintenance of a fictitious society which had the avoidance of fulfilling tax obligations generated from the money earned from his image rights as its only aim."

The Prosecutor for Economic Crimes in Barcelona first charges Messi and his father in June 2013.

They were accused of not declaring 4,164,674.96 euros (about 5,580,664 US dollars) from the years 2007, 2008 and 2009, from money related to Messi's image rights and of diverting this money to fiscal paradises.

March 2014 saw Messi make a payment of around 10 million euros to the Treasury related to his earnings in 2010 and 2011.

Xinhua